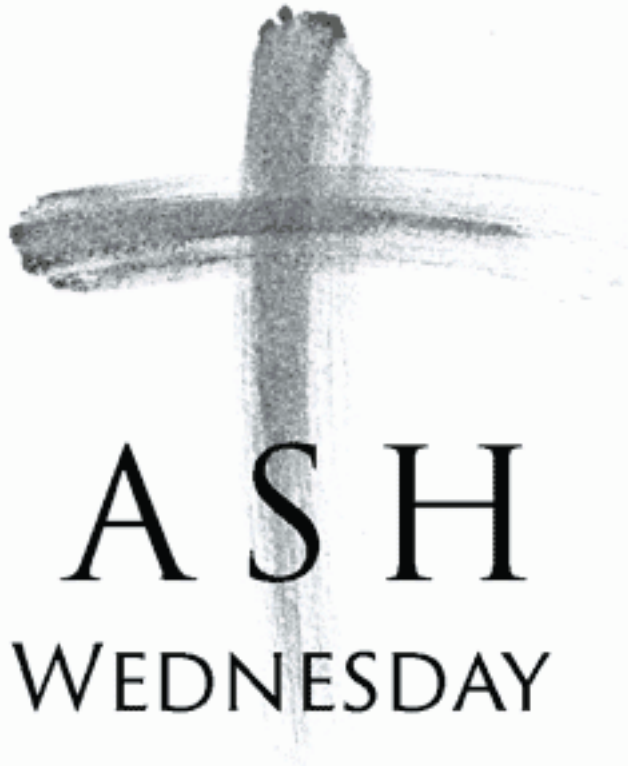


# THE BLADE

February 2018

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” **John 3:16 NRSV**



is February 14.

## Lenten Potlucks Begin This Month

Lenten Potluck soup suppers begin this month. Those attending are welcome to bring soup and light side dishes. The Christian Education Committee will present a program at each supper.

Potluck Soup Suppers start at 6 pm on:

**Feb. 21**

**Feb. 28**

**March 7**

**March 14**

**March 21**



These are enjoyable times of fellowship, engaging programming and delicious soup. Please join us!

**HY VEE**  
RECEIPTS

Remember to Bring in Your  
Hy-Vee Receipts  
**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!**  
Goal: \$150,000.00  
Received to Date: \$48,257.34  
Needed: \$101,742.66

### Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

11:30 am Coffee Fellowship

Lord's Supper - First Sunday  
of each month

### Summer Sunday Schedule

June-August

9:30 am Worship Service

Nursery care is available on first  
floor during Sunday School  
and Worship

### Pastor's Office Hours

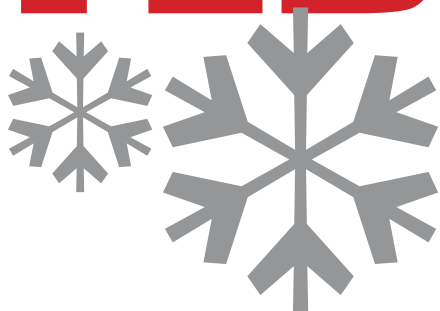
Tuesday - Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

# FEBRUARY



@FPC



## THE BLADE

Published Monthly (June/July & December/January Combined)

First Presbyterian Church  
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Brookings, SD 57006  
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Newsletter assembly  
led by Marlys Kelsey

For regular updates  
and photos, like us  
on Facebook



[www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings](http://www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings)

*Our vision is to see lives changed through joyful worship, supportive relationships, faith formation, and heartfelt service empowered by the mercy, grace, and love of Jesus Christ.*

## Prayer Families

Prayer is an important part of our life as a community of faith. We encourage you to pray for the people listed each week during your time of daily prayer. The families and individuals are selected at random.

Feb. 4: Larry Anderson, Dave & Lucy Barkus

Feb. 11: Linda Barnett, Travis Beller

Feb. 18: Teri Bierstedt, Don & Jan Boe

Feb. 25: Carey & Lisa Bretsch, Chad & Diane  
Broksieck & LaVonne Broksieck



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact any of the prayer chain volunteers: Dolores Canaday, Lee Peterson, Harold & Marge Poppen, Linda Barnett, Ann Spitzenberger, Susan Smith, Judy Smith, Bonnie Foster, and Pastor Nina Westfall.



*Two of my poems from First Presbyterian School of Christian Living April, 2002 ...*

### **A Dream**

I dare to dream even today.  
I have hope, love and faith even to this day.

I dream of a world where peace surrounds,  
I hope of a world where love abounds.

You and me working together for a better tomorrow,  
Helping, eliminating suffering, pain and sorrow.

Yes, I dare to dream even today,  
Look and see the sun's bright rays.

### ***And words of inspiration:***

#### **I Have a Dream**

by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at  
the March on Washington

I have a dream today ... I have a dream  
that one day every valley shall be  
exalted, every hill and mountain shall  
be made low. The rough places made  
plain, and the crooked paths will be  
made straight. And the glory of the  
Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh  
shall see it together. This is our hope.



### **A Prayer**

I am now a prayer,  
my whole self,  
my body, my soul.

I became a prayer,  
my heart melted,  
mingled into one whole.

I pray now, not apart  
from my being,  
my existence, my mold.

Prayers of tears, of smiles,  
of moans, sighs and gratitude,  
love all poured out.

I am a prayer now,  
for you, to you;  
total, complete, whole.

*Keep on dreaming,  
keep on praying.*

*Love,  
Pastor Nina*

# Men's Brotherhood Update

By Andrew L'Amour

January 2018

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**Scripture Reading:** Exodus 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain (KJV)

**Quote:** Good deeds and treating people right will never go in vain. God honors that. Don't ever get discouraged. – Unknown.

Men's Brotherhood Notes: At our December 2017 regular meeting we enjoyed a sumptuous repast followed by a discussion of the Scout Troop 14 and Adam Young's Eagle Scout project. It was decided to hold a fundraiser pancake feed in January to help raise funds for the project which is improving a multi-purpose area in the old part of the church basement. January 2018's meeting was held on the 18th. Alan Young gave an additional update on the scout program in the church summer programs and planning for the annual troop fund raiser that will be held on February 18. Next month's meeting will be held February 15.

**Prayer Concerns:** Pray that our lives will be lived to glorify God in all things.

**Action:** Be supportive of one another's efforts as we live our lives in loving service to God and to one another.

When I am doing household chores at the end of the day, cleaning the kitchen, doing the dishes, I like to listen to different speakers on the Internet. There are a lot of excellent discussions presented by people like Neil Degrasse Tyson for one. Presenters on Krista Tippets' show On Being are a favorite source also. One of the people I have recently discovered is Richard Rohr, a Franciscan friar. He has written mostly on progressive religious issues and thought. He is a much sought after speaker and challenges people to think beyond established boundaries of faith.

I was listening one night to him and he said

something that I cannot forget. He spoke of the Hebrew word for God YHVH, which the actual pronunciation was considered unspeakable. He mentioned the word is made by the sound of inhalation and exhalation. What he was saying is that as we take our first breath at birth we are saying God's name. And when we take our last breath when we die, we are saying God's name, and when we take every breath in between we are saying God's name. It was an interesting thought with myriad applications.

Other biblical interpretations of the scripture Exodus 20:7 say not to swear or use foul language, mostly to not use the Lord's name in vain. We often think about this as just swearing, using God's name in some horrific epithet or other crude language. Bad as that is there is more to this. When I looked at this it came to me that as we live and breathe, what ever we do or say, and even as we think, we are breathing. A breath in, a breath out. God's name in and God's name out. Then what we do as we breathe is important that we not do it in vain, or in futility, selfishly, useless. What are we commanded to do in Matthew 22:36-40? Love and serve God and love our fellow person as much as we love ourselves. When we hold the mirror up to the things we say and do and think, are we doing them in vain?

Christ said in Mark 7:7 "In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men." Do not worship God in vain. Do not live your life in vain. Do not live it in a selfish, self-centered way that does not glorify God. Love God, serve God, love your neighbor, serve your neighbor. As we live and breathe this is what we are commanded to do. In all things we should give glory and honor to God. As we breathe in and as we breathe out.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Introducing the new church secretary

Rozanne McGrath has begun working in the church office as a part-time secretary and receptionist. Rozanne also serves her church, Zion Lutheran, in White by preparing bulletins and assisting with their newsletter.

You may have seen her at the Brookings County Finance Department where, for a short time, she processed motor vehicle documents and receipted property tax payments.

Before that, she spent 13 years as a secretary in the SDSU Animal Science Department. She also did secretarial work in the South Dakota Department of Health Family Planning for a

few years after working for a dozen years as receptionist and admitting clerk at the Brookings Hospital.

Such vast, important work assures our congregation that we can look forward to her professional summary that describes her as “confidential and dependable, multi-task-oriented and works as a team player.”

We welcome Rozanne as she helps us maintain a welcoming, professional environment!

You can hear her smile as she answers the telephone, and you will be sure to receive that same warm greeting in person if you come to the office.



Rozanne McGrath began serving First Presbyterian Church as its new secretary in January.

## From Presbytery's New Horizons: Why Per Capita is Important

We can't do it alone.

The work of the church is too big and too complex for just our local congregations to handle. We can't address world poverty, fight for justice in our country, educate and raise up leaders, or develop worship and educational materials just by our lonesome selves. We need the wider church. We need bodies like the Presbytery, Synod,

# Per Capita

and General Assembly.

But for these councils to serve us we need to give them resources. That is why giving to per-capita is so important. These funds aren't about any particular social, political or theological agenda, it is about being true to our values as Presbyterians to remain connec-tional and one body.

Per capita this year is \$29.13.

The Christian Education committee is planning a new format for Vacation Bible School.

**VACATION  
BIBLE SCHOOL  
UPDATE**

Instead of holding the event for a full week, we plan to hold it for four days throughout the month of June. As the lives of our children become more complicated, we seek to keep Christ in their lives. Sometimes that means rethinking our traditional programs and trying to find ways to accomplish similar

goals with new methods. The dates we've chosen are:

Monday June 4	Tuesday June 12
Wednesday June 20	Thursday June 28

The format for each evening will be similar to our traditional VBS—dinner, music, Bible stories, games, and activities. If you are a parent of a child who would be attending VBS or plan to volunteer to help with the program, please check these dates and let any member of the CE committee know of conflicts.



# Jan. 7 GAME NIGHT

A loyal group of game night enthusiasts meet at 6 pm at the church on the first Sunday of the month.

Trying out a new board game or joining the spirited regular game of Rook, like these card

players pictured above, is a great way to while away the winter evening hours. New board games were recently added to the group's inventory! However, there will be no game night on Feb.4 due to the Super Bowl.

# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sound: Ginny Conger	Ushers: John Peterson Janet TeBeest Henrietta Gohring David Peterson	Head Counter: Marlys Jenner		<b>1</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Committees	<b>2</b> Anniversary: Mike and Judy McCann	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 7:00 Bell Choir Practice	<b>5</b> 7 pm Scouts	<b>6</b> 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 6:30 pm Mission & Finance	<b>7</b> 7 pm Choir	<b>8</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study Birthday: Betty Gehring 7 pm Session	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Birthday: Louise Crain
<b>11</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>12</b> 7 pm Buildings & Grounds Committee 7 pm Scouts	<b>13</b> 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday Service	<b>15</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Scout Fundraiser 6:00 Small Group Bible Study 7:00 Bell Choir Practice	<b>19</b> OFFICE CLOSED President's Day 7 pm Scouts	<b>20</b> 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	<b>21</b> 6 pm Soup Potluck	<b>22</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Study Birthday: Robert Fishback	<b>23</b> 11:30 Lunch Bunch	<b>24</b> Birthday: Robert Jones Anniversary: Timothy and Julienne Satterlee
<b>25</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:00 Small Group Bible Study 7:00 Bell Choir Practice	<b>26</b> 7 pm Scouts	<b>27</b> 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	<b>28</b> 6 pm Soup Potluck			

The Blade  
First Presbyterian Church  
405 7th Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006-2018

**Return Service Requested**

**THE BLADE IS  
AVAILABLE  
ELECTRONICALLY!**

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter by email instead of by post mail, contact the church office at [presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net) or 692-2416.



