

# THE BLADE

March 2017

*"For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

**Hebrews 4:12**



Bring a pot of soup, bread, or a vegetable/ relish tray and join us for our Lenten soup potlucks!

**March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5**  
**@ 6:00pm**



**March 1, 2017 at 7:30 pm**  
Join us for a quiet, prayerful service and the imposition of ashes.



### **Summer Camp!**

Brochures are in the church office or click here:

<http://pioneerrimrock.camp/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017-brochure-RP.pdf>

### **Reminders from Christian Education Committee:**

First Presbyterian Church SDSU Scholarship applications are due March 31st.

Have you completed your background check? All those working with children and youth should do so in compliance with the FPC-Brookings Child Protection policy – forms are in the church office. This is a basic criminal and sex offender background check. Thank you!

## **Remember to Bring in Your Hy-Vee Receipts**

Grocery, gasoline, and prescription receipts count. Our church receives a \$1000 check from Hy-Vee for \$150,000 in receipts. Please make sure the receipts are from the Brookings Hy-Vee Store only.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!**

**Goal: \$150,000.00**

### **Regular Sunday Schedule**

**September - May**

9:00am Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Fellowship Hour

Lord's Supper—First Sunday of each month

### **Summer Sunday Schedule**

**June - August**

9:30am Worship Service

Nursery care is available

on first floor during

Sunday School and

Sunday Worship

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday - Thursday**

9:00am - 12:00pm

1:00pm - 4:00pm

**Friday**

9:00am - 12:00pm

# March

## THE BLADE

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

**First Presbyterian Church**  
405 7th Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006  
(605) 692-2416

[www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org)  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

**Office Manager**  
Melanie Shepherd  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

**Newsletter Assembly**  
Volunteers led by Marlys Kelsey

### Social Media

Like us on  
Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings](http://www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings)

&  
Follow us on  
Twitter  
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*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 a Christian's life in the community of faith. As members of that community you are encouraged to pray for the people listed each week during your time of daily prayer. The families and individuals are selected at random.

March 5: Ginny Conger; David & Louise Crain; Maxine Dornbush

March 12: Susan Dobesh; Bill & Ann Douglas

March 19: John & Robin Eich; Sam Eich; Evelyn Fee

March 26: Jim & Roberta Bailey; Henrietta Gohring

## Prayer Chain



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to be praying for you or a loved one, contact Jan Jones at 692-5325, [bobjon@brookings.net](mailto:bobjon@brookings.net), or any of the other prayer chain volunteers: Dolores Canaday, Arlyce Thorne, Lee Peterson, Karie Rottluff, Harold & Marge Poppen, Linda Barnett, Ann Spitzenberger, Susan Smith, Judy Smith, Bonnie Foster, and Melanie Shepherd.



**Daylight Savings Time  
Begins  
March 12**

**Don't forget to set your clocks ahead!**

## Session Grace Notes –

During this time of transition between pastors, session ruling elders, deacons, trustees and committees are determined to keep lines of communication open to ensure all church members that we are loved not only by our God, but also by other believers in our congregation.



In addition to elders taking turns to assemble Sunday worship services, church boards and committees display vital information on bulletin boards in the church narthex. Church leaders are also taking turns putting together articles for The Blade about our work.

Much is happening at Brookings First Presbyterian!

Church boards and committees post minutes of their meetings electronically on a computer hosting service called Dropbox. That not only saves paper, but it also makes everything easily accessible when session meets.

While complete session meeting minutes will be posted on a bulletin board, here is a summary of our February 9, 2017 meeting.

**Deacons** reported great activity serving the needs of our congregation including distributing with Rev. Val Putnam the sacrament of homebound communion to several church members who aren't able to attend worship. As such, 73 people received communion February 5.

**Clerk of Session** reported that meetings are being held on Mondays with Melanie Shepherd, the church office manager, Dolores Canaday, chair of Deacons, Donna Flint, chair of PNC, David Peterson, church treasurer, and Jeanne Manzer, clerk of session.

**Christian Education** told plans for Game Night February 19 as well as proposing June dates for VBS. They also plan to solicit youth to attend Youth Rally <http://www.presbyteryofsd.org/ministries/youth-rally/>

**Fellowship** plans to coordinate Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers beginning March 8 with different church committees assigned to setup and cleanup.

**Outreach** has been placing ads in campus and community newspapers to spread word of our activity. Inside the church building, plans are to make First Presbyterian Church Brookings brochures available from a wall pocket next to the Welcome banner for visitors as well as members to share.

**Worship** committee plans to change paraments for Lent as well as to organize an Ash Wednesday service.

**Mission/Finance** keeps on top of receipts and expenditures. Discussion about improving financial return on Endowment Funds continues along with carefully purging old financial files with help from a professional financial auditor.



The Presbytery has assigned Rev. Putnam to serve as interim for another church in the Presbytery and so Paul Penn, an experienced CRE, has been asked to meet our needs for authorized clergy during our time without a regular pastor.

Submitted by,  
Jeanne Jones Manzer, clerk of session



## Presbyterian Circle

The Women's Circle has been exploring the Beth Moore series titled "JESUS THE ONE AND ONLY." We are viewing the video and discussing it afterward. This has been a very timely study, as we transition to a new pastor for our congregation. Beth always has a message for us but these are speaking to us today right where we stand.

We would like to see more women join us on the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the Central Meeting Room. All women of the congregation are circle members. We have coffee, a Least Coin collection, devotion, and watch the video. We support the Domestic Abuse Shelter by donating articles every month. In March, we will collect paper products. If you cannot join us at circle, there is a basket labeled "Domestic Abuse Shelter" in the coffee area at church and you can put your donation there if you would like to help.

There is so much to do in our "world" today – at home, school, church, community or wherever we find ourselves in this minute. The women are continuing some of the ways our foremothers worked in and for the church, but we could use a little help as well. I challenge you to ask what we do, what you can do, and then pray for our church family.

With God's Blessings and Love,  
Dolores Canaday  
Moderator



## Deacons' Note

The deacons are organized and actively ministering to the needs of our members. A large need of us all is to stay faithful, supportive, and positive during our period of transition. The PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) is busy doing their job of finding us the right pastor, and the board of deacons is busy personally contacting our members. Take a look at the bulletin board by the church office to find your listed name by the picture of your assigned deacon. This deacon will be visiting with you about any concerns or needs you may have.

Communion is offered to our homebound members the afternoon of communion Sunday - the first Sunday of the month. A deacon will accompany the ordained pastor to help administer the sacraments.

Contact the church office if you have questions or have not been scheduled and would like to receive communion.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Thompson

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 2017

Church Women United will celebrate World Day of Prayer on March 3, 2017 at St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church, 1700 8<sup>th</sup> St. S., Brookings, SD at 2:00pm. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement led by Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer and action each year. Join in the prayer service written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of The Philippines and the World Day of Prayer International Committee. The theme of this gathering is "Am I Being Unfair to You?" All church men and women are invited to this World Day of Prayer. An offering will be taken to support the Church Women United program.



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I recently attended an SDSU Wellness Center Staff Retreat. The presentation was given by Holly Hoffman from Eureka, SD. As I was listening, I realized that the presentation was very relevant to what is occurring at First Presbyterian Church. Maybe I felt it was relevant because I had just volunteered to be a deacon and then learned that Pastor Kristie was leaving. I was very overwhelmed with the tasks at hand.



Holly's approach to a situation was given in 5 steps:

- The first is **FAITH**. We need to have faith in God, ourselves, and in our fellow church members that we can work together to accomplish our goals.
- The second is **ATTITUDE**. The only thing we have control over is our attitude. Is the glass half full or is it half empty? With God's help I hope we can all see the glass is half full.
- The third is **OPPORTUNITY**. God has given us an opportunity to work together, to make our church family stronger, and accomplish the task of finding a new pastor. Some may look at this as a challenge and others may look at it as just too much change. We can take this opportunity to strengthen our church family and our faith in each other.
- The fourth is **DETERMINATION**. We should be determined to make a success out of the opportunity we have been given.
- The fifth is **PERSEVERANCE**. We need to never give up, learn from our mistakes and with the help of every member of this church we will succeed. It may not be easy when you look at it by yourself, but if we all join in and give of our talents we will overcome and become a stronger church family. We want everyone to feel welcome, secure, and comfortable working and attending church functions. We need everyone to take this opportunity God has given us be determined, be positive, have faith, and we will persevere.

If you as an individual need any assistance, do not hesitate to contact your assigned deacon or the church office. If your deacon has not been in able to get in contact with you, please reach out to them.

May the love of God be with us,  
Ella Lane

## MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Andrew L'Amour

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 5:47-48 And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.



**Quote:** "Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try." – Jack Canfield

**Men's Brotherhood Notes:** On January 19 we held our regular meeting. The meal was spaghetti and meatballs, salad and ice cream for dessert. The scouts gave the program and we discussed the Men's Brotherhood helping out with the upcoming pancake brunch on February 12. The event was successful. The scouts and MB really thank everyone for supporting this. Men's Brotherhood sponsors our scout troop and it has been a highly successful scouting program over the years thanks to the leadership of Joe Tschetter. **Coming up:** March 16 is the next scheduled meeting. The Domestic Abuse Shelter will give the program. Bring a friend.

**Prayer Concerns:** Pray for unity among all peoples.

**Action:** Reach out to people who are not like us. Expand our range of friendships.

I love potlucks. What I love most about them is making stuff for them. I like to experiment in my cooking and when I get a chance to throw something new together I get excited.

Recently I went to a potluck and I thought I would try a new recipe. I had some sweet potatoes, a couple of really good sized ones. I cooked them up and ended up with about 4 cups of the sweet spud. What to do next. Well I thought I will add some applesauce, that should work. So I put in about a cup of applesauce, added some ginger, cloves and nutmeg. Everything is better with butter so added some butter and a little brown sugar. I was stirring this all up on the stove just to keep it warm and help the butter melt. Things were looking good. After I put it in the casserole dish I thought it needed something extra so I decided to make a topping. More butter and brown sugar, nutmeg, chopped pecans and some dried mixed berries were thrown together, heated up and spread on top. I thought it looked pretty good. I was hoping for success.

So I had this blend of ingredients which I thought should be pretty good. I took it to a potluck dinner and I was expecting to get a taste of it to see if it was any good. I was near the end of the line when I went through and it was all gone! I had to scrape the sides of the bowl and the spoon to get enough where I could get a good taste. It was fabulous if I may say so myself. I am going to try it again soon.

I am often amazed when I try something new and it turns out good. Having had a few years experience in the kitchen I think I can get a sense of what new combos might work and what I might want to stay away from. But one can never tell. I have had failures too!

I try to take this same approach in getting to know people from varied backgrounds and life experiences. Life is not always simple or easy but I find we have more in common when I talk to them about what is important in their lives: their family, their work, maybe their faith. We are all more alike than different when you get to the core. I thank God that we have such differences in the human family. It helps me better appreciate the love God has for us that He gave us such a variety of people to enjoy. Thanks be to God!



## PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

February 2016

*"There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God, the Creator made known through Jesus." Blaise Pascal*

This world offers all kinds of gadgets to satisfy our wants. I have found in my own life that the material things do not satisfy the soul. Only God, through Jesus Christ, can satisfy our soul and give us inner peace! Sometimes a person has to lose everything to find Christ. When Christ is the center of our lives, we can go through any trial because we know He is present with us in the fire.

A young inmate I have been visiting with for the last five weeks is really excited about his new relationship with Christ. I asked him when he came to know the Lord as his Savior. He told me, "The first time I came into your office with another inmate, and as you prayed with him to trust Christ as his Savior, I prayed that prayer as well. I didn't know a person could feel so peaceful inside of prison. When I was arrested I wanted the police to kill me because I felt so empty and alone. I had nothing to live for anyway. Now that Christ is in my life, I cannot help but tell my brother about Jesus, because he is living the way I did on the outside! I get so tired of hearing sinful talk around me, but then I remember that I used to talk that way as well, so I can't get mad at them." As Pascal said, only Jesus can fill the, "God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man."

Some of the men who have come back to prison a number of times feel so defeated and worthless. I found a good video skit and was able to use it in my Bible study. It is about how God does not make any junk, and we are His masterpiece. In it God states that He loves each person too much to leave them the way they are, so He will chisel away at them with His discipline. The chiseling hurts but it is for our good. They go on to say that we are not to judge ourselves by what other people say about us, but by what God says about us. At the end it says that you are God's masterpiece. Some of the inmates have been put down by others for so long that they believe there is no hope for them. One of the men told me, "Watching this skit almost brought me to tears." I continue to encourage them that God is very good at putting broken people together!

Please continue to pray for these men as they struggle with past put downs. Many inmates feel rejected mainly by their fathers who were not around for them. They struggle to understand what a good relationship is. Only Jesus can heal and even restore family relationships!

Thank you for your encouragement through your financial support and prayers! God bless you!

In Christ,

Harlan Moss

Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. The checks can be made out to and sent to: South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association (SDPCA), P.O. Box 90509, Sioux Falls, SD 57109-0509.

**Please designate my name in the memo section of your check.** My phone: 605-940-4220  
email address: [hpmoss1@yahoo.com](mailto:hpmoss1@yahoo.com)

## Susan's Saga



Waiting. It's something most of us don't particularly like to do, whether it's a long line or being stopped at a pokey red light when we're running late or being tangled up in traffic. In today's fast-paced life, even TV commercials are quick, geared to people's short attention spans.

But maybe waiting is a relevant topic, even if it's not our preference. It turns out that there is quite a bit of waiting in our lives, even though we squirm, wanting fast solutions to everything, from our computers to our personal problems.

There are plenty of examples of waiting in the Bible, starting in Genesis. The patriarch, Abraham, was 75 years old when he started out for the Promised Land. He had no children. It was another 25 years before his promised heir, Isaac, was born. It was a long wait.

That is an encouraging example in the area of Bible translation, where projects can take a long time. Even though our human nature can be impatient, yearning for quick results, the reality is that it's a process that can't be sped up.

In the New Testament, there is a Greek word that is frequently used: *hupomone* - which is translated as 'perseverance' or 'patient endurance'. We are often admonished to stick it out, to keep on keeping on. The Christian faith isn't necessarily a quick fix; the view is long range.

Whatever our situation, whether the extended challenge of Bible translation, or a sticky problem that defies resolution, or an on-going situation that is difficult, we can gain encouragement from the New Testament writers to keep on persevering, to not give up.

## Susan Hugghins

*Susan Hugghins is serving in full-time ministry as a Bible translator among the Mixtec people of Oaxaca,*

*Mexico. Susan's sending agency, Wycliffe Bible Translators, is a non-denominational organization; she raises her own funds to support this ministry.*



The PNC is working hard and feeling very optimistic! Please keep us in your prayers.

With Love and Grace,  
Donna, Rick, Skip, Susan, Sue, Melanie, and Bruce





**February Volunteers:**      **Ushers: Bob Bartling**      **Counters: Mike McCann**

2017

**Sound: Rick & Bonnie Salonen**      Dolores Canaday

Dave Peterson      **Diane Broksieck**      Rick Salonen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>ASH WEDNESDAY 1</b> 7:30 Ash Wednesday Service	9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Committees	3	BIRTHDAY: Sam Artz
5 Regular Sunday Schedule Greeters: Ginny Conger (East Entrance) Bob Bartling (South Entrance) 1:00 Youth Ice Skating @Larson Ice Arena	7 7:00 Scouts	6 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 1:00 Outreach 6:30 Mission Finance	8 6:00 Soup Potluck	9 9:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Session	10	11
12 Regular Sunday Schedule Greeters: Carolyn Clague & Dennis Hopfinger (East Entrance) Bob Bartling (South Entrance) 6:00 Small Group Bible Study (Center Mtg Room)	7 7:00 Scouts	13 9:30 Coffee Group 6:30 Trustees	14 <b>BLADE ARTICLES DUE</b> 6:00 Soup Potluck BIRTHDAY: Henrietta Gohring	15 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Men's Brotherhood BIRTHDAY: Helen Peterson	16 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Men's Brotherhood BIRTHDAY: Helen Peterson	17 <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b> BIRTHDAY: Hannah Moerke ANNIVERSARY: Robert & Helen Peterson
19 Regular Sunday Schedule Greeters: Roger & Marvis Jenner (East Entrance) Bob Bartling (South Entrance) BIRTHDAY: Harold Poppen ANNIVERSARY: Carey & Lisa Bretsch	7 7:00 Scouts BIRTHDAY: David Crain	20 9:30 Coffee Group 9:30 Presbyterian Circle BIRTHDAY: David Peterson	21 6:00 Soup Potluck	22 9:30 Women's Bible Study	23 9:30 Women's Bible Study	24 BIRTHDAY: Sharon Hofland
26 Regular Sunday Schedule Greeters: Nancy Thompson (East Entrance) Richard & Dolores Canaday (South Entrance) BIRTHDAY: Amir Rottluff 6:00 Small Group Bible Study (Center Mtg Room)	7 7:00 Scouts	27 9:30 Coffee Group	28 6:00 Soup Potluck	29 9:30 Women's Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Delores Koepsell	30 9:30 Women's Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Delores Koepsell	31 12:00 Lunch Bunch @The Pheasant BIRTHDAY: Roberta Bailey

# The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018

**Return Service Requested**



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BLADE  
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