

# THE BLADE

---

*March 2023*

“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*

---



## Lenten Prayer

**GOD OF GOODNESS AND MERCY,**

**HEAR MY PRAYER AS I BEGIN THIS LENTEN JOURNEY WITH YOU.  
LET ME BE HONEST WITH MYSELF AS I LOOK INTO MY HEART AND SOUL,  
NOTICING THE TIMES I TURN AWAY FROM YOU. GUIDE ME AS I HUMBLY SEEK  
TO REPENT AND RETURN TO YOUR LOVE.**

**MAY HUMILITY GUIDE MY EFFORTS TO BE RECONCILED WITH YOU AND LIVE FOREVER  
IN YOUR ABUNDANT GRACE.**

**TRANSFORM ME THIS LENT, HEAVENLY FATHER. GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO  
COMMIT MYSELF TO GROW CLOSER TO YOU EACH DAY.**

**AMEN.**



---

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

# March

## THE BLADE

### 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)

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 12:00 Noon

### Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

For regular updates and  
photos, like us on  
Facebook



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

Please check the website  
[www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org) for the  
“Prison Lighthouse Ministry Newsletter”



**SPRING**

**Daylight Savings Time**  
begins

Sunday March 12 at 2:00AM



Many thanks to our members and friends for your continued financial support. Offerings can still be made by sending a check to the church or to David Peterson.

\*For your information, the per capita per person for 2023 is \$38.00. If you have not done so, we would appreciate your donation.



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact **Jan J at 692-5325, Lee P at 692-7757**, or the church office at 692-2416 who will contact the prayer volunteers. *(Your concern will not go beyond the prayer team unless you request it be shared with others)*

## 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.

**March 5:** Andrew & Beth L, Ella L, Pam L

**March 12:** Jeanne & Darwin L, Martin & Sally M

**March 19:** Jeannie & Tom M, Maria M, Mike & Judy M

**March 26:** Rozanne M, Daniel & Carolyn M & family Hannah, Allison & Emma; Marlys M

## Session Update February 19, 2022

	Deacon of the Month	Elder of the Month
March	Lee Peterson	Dan Kemp

### Committee Assignments:

Building and Grounds- Terry Spitzenberger  
Worship Committee- Bruce Westergaard  
Fellowship and Outreach- Dan Kemp  
Mission and Finance- Dave Peterson  
Christian Education- Mike McCann  
Personnel - Mike McCann

This is a good time to join a committee. If you're interested, contact the elder assigned to that committee and they will help you get connected. Many hands make light work!

Session is considering participating in the South Dakota Presbytery Coaching and Visioning program. Rev. Carolyn Visser described the program, which has the goal of helping congregations who face challenges (such as declining and aging membership) reimagine how they respond to God's call. This would be a continuation in some ways of the interim work Rev. Kaul led while she was with us. The decision will be made next month.

Session recognized with great appreciation the work done by Terry Spitzenberger to repurpose the old nursery into a nice meeting/fellowship room. The proposal from Building and Grounds to refurbish the attached restroom with adult sized appliances was approved and work should be completed by the plumber in the next month or so. Take a look at the new space!

The Building Use Committee approved requests from Julie Scubelek (May 20) and Paige Foster (February 20). Kennedy Nyongbyla's request for transfer of membership to First Presbyterian, Mankato, MN was approved with affection.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Flint  
Clerk of Session



ELDERS INSTALLED  
Bruce W, Mike M, Dave P



NEW DEACONS  
Carol G, Nancy O



As always, the Food Pantry is in continual need of packaged and canned foods. Donations to the Food Pantry can be made on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am to 5pm at their new location, 908 Hope Drive (just north of Brookings First Lutheran Church with ample parking space located off of Harvey Dunn St). The Brookings County

Food Pantry entrance is the left (front) side of the building with a west facing door. (Official signage coming soon) **Monetary donations** can be placed in the offering plate with a notation on the check to go to the Food Pantry.



## Fellowship and Outreach Committee

The Fellowship and Outreach Committee is pleased to announce that there will be three Lenten Potluck dinners after church this season. The first was on Sunday, February 26, the first Sunday of Lent. The others will be every other week: Sunday March 12 (spring ahead that day as it's the beginning of daylight savings time!) and Sunday March 26. Palm Sunday is April 2 and then Easter is on April 9. The potlucks will be immediately after church. Please bring a dish to share if you are able, but please plan to attend in any case as there is always plenty of food. The Christian Education Committee will provide a short program after the meals.



## Worship Committee

**Lilies and Spring Flowers for Easter**—We are accepting monetary donations for lilies and spring flowers to grace and beautify our sanctuary. If you would prefer to purchase and bring your own, we will gladly display them on Easter. If you would prefer to order and have someone else deliver, please contact Eileen at Flowers on Main ( 605-692-6466). Names of those honored or remembered will be included as always in the Easter PowerPoint. Please sign-up (sheet on the office counter) by **Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Special Music for Palm Sunday and Easter:** If you are available and would like to sing with a group for Palm Sunday and/or Easter, please contact Nancy O. at 605-204-0691. Possible rehearsals will be at 9:30 AM on March 26 and April 2. All singers are welcome!

# News You Can Use

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 7: **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM  
Thursday March 9: **Session Meeting** in **person** at 7:00 PM  
Sunday, March 19: **Fellowship/Outreach** following worship service

## STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

-**TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP** 9:30ish AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House  
-**PIECES AND PRAYERS** meet Tuesdays at 1:30 PM at the church to quilt. All are welcome!  
-**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** at 9:30 AM in the FPC Center Meeting Room  
-**SISTERHOOD** on March 16 at 11:30 AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House  
-**MEN'S BROTHERHOOD** on March 16 at 5:30 PM at the church basement

## Serving in March

**Sunday Coffee Fellowship** Bonnie Foster

	<b>Pulpit Supply</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>
March 5	Elizabeth F	Mike M
March 12	Steve V	Robby F
March 19	Lee P	Dan K
March 26	Mark W/Gideons	Nancy T



**Dee Watson and Audrey Gilbertson**  
*2023 Valentine King and Queen*  
*StoneyBrook Suites*

*Congratulations, Ginny C  
on your new grandson!*



**Henry Drew**  
Delivered at 22:33 on  
2/22/23  
7 lbs 1 oz, 20.5"

## MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

March 2023

Andrew L'Amour



**Men's Brotherhood Notes:** Men's Brotherhood met at noon on February 9, the second Thursday of the month because of a schedule conflict with a special Session meeting. After we all enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Mike and his kitchen crew, Dave Peterson presented the program. He is quite the accomplished wood carver. He showed us an assortment of wood carving tools and objects he rescued from the inside of various pieces of wood!

I just finished a book called *Unsettling Truths* by Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah. The topic of the book was the Doctrine of Discovery. Whenever I have talked to people about this, they seem to have never heard of it or if they have, they know very little about its history. Basically the Doctrine of Discovery was a series of Papal decrees governing the activities of the Portuguese and the Spanish as they explored and conquered the New World and Africa. The intent behind the decrees was later usurped by England and France as they explored North America.

The basic doctrine was that any lands the explorers came upon, became the property of a European power plus any peoples they encountered became slaves or they were killed. It is a rather gruesome thing as one studies the events closely.

The main reason for killing or enslaving the peoples they encountered in the New World was because they were not Christians. There is more to the story that I don't have time to cover but basically instead of just proclaiming Jesus and His love and story of His life, they were more intent on personal and national greed. Obviously this is the antithesis of Jesus' proclaiming love to all plus welcoming the stranger in their midst.

This Doctrine of Discovery was carried down through British and French law of landownership. It is yet in effect based on a couple of supreme court rulings, one as recent as 2005. I would encourage all to brush up on this topic. Meanwhile as we prepare for and enter the Lenten season we should be mindful of strangers or anyone we don't know, welcome them into our midst. (I love to chat up people at HyVee who I have never met before.) Show them the love of Christ by personal example.

## HY VEE

### THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

**Goal:** \$200,000.00  
**Receipts:** \$83,643.58  
**Needed to Date:** \$116,356.42

**Required for \$1,000 donation:**  
\$200,000.00

Remember to bring in your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

Email a copy of the receipt from on-line orders to [presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net); Rozanne will forward it.



Donations are being accepted

**Feb. 22 to April 9.**

Please use special envelopes or indicate on your check memo 'One Great Hour'



## Troop 50724

Christine L'Amour

**National Girl Scout Day - March 12!** The "National Girl Scout Day" is when the first-ever girl scout in the history of America was formed by a woman named 'Juliette Daisy Gordon Low.' There were initially 18 girls that gathered in Savannah, Georgia, on 12 March 1912. And now, if we look at the number, the community has grown to around 3.7 million. This is a tremendous achievement for the cause.

The girls, Co-Troop Leader Katie, and I met with the Session on Feb 16 to thank them for the privilege of using the building for our meetings. The girls were very excited about being able to come upstairs and meet them. We do appreciate the church's generosity!

Springtime is Girl Scout Cookie Time!! The cookie program ends on **March 20**. If you want to support our troop specifically, call me at 605-695-6541 or they can go online at:  
<https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/troop50724-478?fpkp=1>

Order your Faves on my Digital Cookie Site Today  
QR Code is:



**FYI:** We split up the sales evenly so that each girl gets credit towards their individual goals. For each package they sell, they earn points which goes towards them getting merchandise from GSA, like charms, stuffed animals, and other trinkets. All the proceeds from any package a girl or troop sells goes to the troop. We're going to use our money to earn some more badges, have a pizza party, and help the Humane Society.



### Upcoming Camp Rimrock events!

Youth Rally- March 24-26

Rimrock Work Camp- May 19-21

### Summer Camp Dates:

Family Camp- July 6-9

Compass Camp- July 9-15, completed grades 9-12

Pathfinder Camp- July 16-21, completed grade 6-8

Men's Retreat - September 8-10

Women's Retreat - September 22-25

### Summer Jobs available:

Head Chef

Kitchen Support Staff

Head Counselor

Counselors

How can you support Rimrock? Volunteer, Pray, Share, Invite, and Donate



# March 2023



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	5Fri	Sat
<b>Daylight Savings Time</b> begins <b>March 12</b> Don't forget to set your clocks ahead!			1	2 9:30 Bible Study	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 10:30 Worship and Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom	6 BIRTHDAY: JoAnn G	7 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers  Mission/Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom  BIRTHDAY: Teri B	8	9 9:30 Bible Study  Session Meeting at FPC 7:00 PM	10	11  Daylight Savings Time begins March 12 at 2AM
12 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom  11:30 Lenten Potluck	13	14 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	15 BLADE Articles Due	16 9:30 Bible Study  11:30 AM Sisterhood at Mission Coffee House 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	17 St. Patrick's Day  	18
19 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Fellowship/Outreach Mt following worship	20	21 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers  BIRTHDAY: David P	22	23 9:30 Bible Study	24  BIRTHDAY: Sharon H	25
26 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom  11:30 Lenten Potluck	27	28 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	29	30	31	



# The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



**Return Service Requested**

**Regular Sunday Schedule**

10:30 am Worship Service

**Church Office Hours**

**Monday -Thursday**

9:00 am – 12:00 Noon

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.

Please contact the church office at [presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net) or 605-692-2416, to notify us.