

THE BLADE

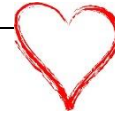
May 2019

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

John 3:16 NIV



OUT OF THE BELIEVER'S HEART



THE SPRING GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the Presbytery was held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church, Brookings, SD with 35 women from all over the state attending. Pastor Ann Spitzenger lead the Service of Worship with Communion and her message was from John 7:38. Jeanne Jones Manzer, a member of the grassroots group of citizens in Brookings welcoming Latinos moving into the country, presented the Message of Mission. Linda Barnett, a PDA-PW Disaster Preparedness Trainer, presented information on Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for individuals, families, and congregations.

It started out with snow and ended with sunshine—
a perfect day!



Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

11:30 am Fellowship Hour

Lord's Supper—First Sunday
of each month

Summer Sunday Schedule

June - August

10:00 am Worship Service

Nursery Care is available
on first floor during
Sunday Worship

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 – 11:30 am

12:00 – 2:30 pm



THE BLADE

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

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006
(605) 692-2416

www.brookingspresbyterian.org
presby@brookings.net

Session Members

Donna Flint (clerk), Dolores Canaday, Rick Salonen, Susan Smith, Terry Spitzenberger, Sue Young

Secretary

Rozanne McGrath
presby@brookings.net

Newsletter Assembly

Volunteers led by Marlys Kelsey

For regular updates
and photos, like us on
Facebook



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.

May 5: Don Hildebrandt; Scott & Jennifer Hinricher and family Skylar, Saige, Ramsie

May 12: Dean & Sharon Hofland, Nelda Holden, Dennis Hopfinger & Carolyn Clague

May 19: Roger & Marvis Jenner, Carol Johnston, Robert & Jan Jones

May 26: Marlys Kelsey, Daniel & Michele Kemp, Don Kleinjan & Carol Glantz, Delores Koepsell



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to be praying for you or a loved one, please contact Jan Jones at 692-5325, Lee Peterson at 692-7757, or the church office at 692-2416 who will contact the prayer chain volunteers: Linda Barnett, Dolores Canaday, Ann Douglas, Robby & Donna Flint, Bonnie Foster, Bob & Jan Jones, Andrew L'Amour, Ella Lane, Lee Peterson, Harold & Marge Poppen, Judy Smith, Susan Smith, Nancy Thompson, and Richard Wilson. *(Your concern will not go beyond the prayer team unless you request it be shared with others)*

"CONFIRMATION SUNDAY"

We will celebrate the confirmation of Saige Hinricher, Paige Foster, Tia Glaus, Malia Glaus, Jolena Glaus, and Dylan Scubelek on **MAY 5** during the worship service led by the students who will be confirmed by Ann Spitzenberger. A reception will follow the worship service to welcome these new members into our congregation.

Schedule Changes

Friends,

*Many members of our congregation have asked-
"Why do we have a time change in the summer from 10:30 to 9:30?"*

We know there was once a reason, but after some conversation, Session has decided that the reason may no longer be here. With your surveys guiding our conversation, Session has decided that beginning in June, the time for worship will change to 10:00 am. We will try this for the summer and see how we like it, then make a decision later about the worship time beginning again in September. If you have any feedback as we try this new time, please share with any member of Session.

Sincerely,

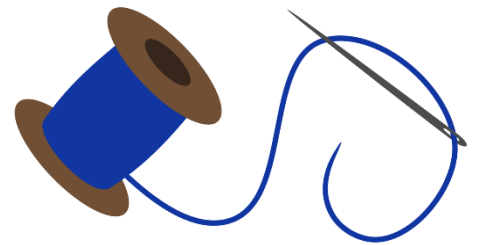
Your Session

- May 19th is the last Sunday for Sunday School which will resume on September 15.
- The church office will be closed on Memorial Day, May 27th.

Upcoming Events

MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY: Church Women United will celebrate May Friendship Day on May 3, 2019 at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish at 12:00 noon with a salad luncheon and the program to follow. The theme for this celebration is "The Time is Now! Agree to Differ." May Friendship Day focuses on uniting us in the Spirit to do God's work despite our differences and based on the scripture of Ephesians 4:2-3 "Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace." The Fellowship of the Least Coin will be collected at this celebration. All Christian women and men are invited to this gathering.

PRAYER QUILT SEWING DAY will be held on Saturday, May 11, 9:30-11:30 AM, in the quilt room on the main floor of the church. Anyone interested in sewing or preparing quilts for tying is invited to come and help. How do I get a prayer quilt for someone? The answer is "Just Ask". Prayer quilts can't be bought; they are freely given along with the prayers. Please contact Dolores Canaday, Nancy Thompson, Bonnie Foster or Lee Peterson if any questions.



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Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.

Hosea 6:3



Youth Rally

Allison & Emma Moerke, Lynn & Paige Foster, and Carol Ann, Tia & Malia Glous along with Bonnie Foster attended the Youth Rally, March 29-31 in Pierre, SD. The theme for the rally this year was "LIFE"—the bible verse was *"In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight."* Proverbs 3:6



Team building exercise



Energizers

Lynn Foster was selected to a 2-year term on the SD Presbyterian Youth Council. She will serve along with 11 other youth from across the state. PYC serves the Presby Youth in SD with connecting and planning the annual Youth Rally. Congratulations, Lynn!



*This year's Presbyterian Youth Council
Lynn is front left.*

HAND-CRAFTED CARDS

On April 3, this amazingly talented, creative and artistic group of Presbyterian youth made these fun, hand-crafted cards to be given to members of our congregation. These kids were given ideas on punch art and stamping and they just went with it! Hopefully, we can meet at least once a month and create more cards! I told them the story of how I got into art therapy/card making after Roger died. I also told them I make handmade cards for the Avera chemo therapy center (where Roger took treatment) here in Brookings. I told the kids that it makes me happy to be creative and it makes me happy to give back. So, they all thought it would be a great idea to give these cards to members of our congregation who might need a little lift and a smile.

Teri Bierstedt



Pillowcases for Children

Presbyterian Women of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies has a pillowcase project they would like help with. Many children on the reservations in South Dakota and Montana are taken into emergency foster care. Usually they are taken with no time to pack. In foster care they are given kits (PW also provides some of these kits) containing clothes and necessities. It is believed the pillowcases can be used to carry their belongings with them as they move either home or to more permanent foster care. Currently they carry their things in garbage bags.

If you would like to decorate a pillowcase with love and hope for a child, Linda Barnett will take it to the PW Synod Gathering in Ames, IA. Since the meeting is the end of June, Linda would like the pillowcases by **June 16**. They can be dropped off at the church office.

If you need fabric markers, some are available at the church office. You may check them out from Rozanne or better still use them at the church. Thank you for your help!



Congratulations to Jon & Linda Greseth on the arrival of daughter, Grace



Congratulations to Nick & Suh Raskin on the arrival of son, Finlay born 4/23/19



Thomas Cahill’s *Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus* is a 1999 gem of a read. A great example of historical narrative, this book examines the real world that Jesus entered: its political dysfunction, social disparity, and rampant injustice. Cahill explores Jesus’s life during this chaotic time as a “loving friend, itinerant preacher, and quiet revolutionary” who would forever change how society views humanity and diety.

One reviewer, Marcus Borg, called this book “A work of passion and piety...informed by both imagination and historical scholarship.” Especially meaningful to my understanding of the text were the maps and precious color plate reproductions of Christ’s image from ancient times.

This volume is on loan to our Church Library from my own collection. Please enjoy!

-Kay Norton

BATA Suspension for Summer

The BATA bus will not be providing bus transportation on weekends starting May 2019. Transportation to church services will be provided by the Deacons. Please call Ella Lane at 695-0342 for assistance with rides.



Food Pantry

FPC collects items for the Food Pantry the first Sunday of every month. For the month of May this will be Sunday, May 5, 2019. The Food Pantry accepts all type of non-perishable food. I hope this note helps you (and me) to remember to bring some items for the Brookings Food Pantry on Sunday, May 5. Thanks – Deacon Dan Kemp

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY, April 28, 2019

Gary Larson (Superintendent)
Susan Smith (Confirmation)
Chad and Dianne Broksieck (High School)
Mike McCann (Adult)
Donna Flint (Music)
CROSSTRAINING (K-5)
Teachers:
Donna Flint
Bonnie Foster
Elizabeth Fox
Susan Smith
Carrie Van Buren
Sue Young
Shepherds:
Kay Norton
Donna Wilson

We would like to say a hearty “Thank you!!” to all those people who each Sunday help the children, youth, and adults of our church learn and think more about how God is working in their lives. Whether you teach every week, or teach periodically throughout the year, you are appreciated.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Andrew L'Amour

May 2019

Scripture Reading: Mark 4:30-32 Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."



Quote: I never lose an opportunity of urging a practical beginning, however small, for it is wonderful how often in such matters the mustard-seed germinates and roots itself. – Florence Nightingale

Men's Brotherhood Notes: April Meeting The Men's Brotherhood met on the 26th. Our new Scoutmaster, Troy White, attended to talk about the scouting program at our church, which the Men's Brotherhood sponsors. **May Meeting** is scheduled for May 16.

Prayer Concerns: Pray for the gift of faith. The faith of Christ.

Action: Go forward in faith doing the work of the Lord. If a door opens, walk through it.

Maybe because it is spring, the time for planting seeds and watching them grow. Taking care that they are cultivated properly. Maybe this is why I have been thinking about the mustard seed. The smallest seed, but it grows into the largest of the plants in the garden, capable of supplying a perch for birds to seek shade.

I intended to write about that power in the mustard seed, the Kingdom of God, that once it sprouts has the capacity to grow in tremendous proportion to the size it began. This is also true of almost any seed but Jesus uses this seed for two of his parables: Faith and the Kingdom of God. I will deal with Faith this month and the Kingdom of God next month

Beginning with faith – Jesus said in Matthew 17:20: "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Where did this faith come from? This power? In Galatians 5:22 the gifts of the Spirit are listed and faith, or faithfulness, is among those gifts.

In my old James Moffat Bible that I used for over 30 years with its torn pages, underlined passages and notes I found this scribbling: Faith – reliance on God's word, trusting God to do that which He has not yet done; faith must precede and therefore is a condition to the possession. And from George Mueller: Faith is the assurance that the things God has said in His word are true; and that God will act according to what He has said in His word. This assurance, this reliance on God's word, this confidence is faith.

See also Hebrews 11. All of the stories in this chapter had the element of faith, the gift God gave them from the Spirit. They believed and trusted in God that whatever He commanded, they should do; it could be done because of the assurance they had that He was faithful in His word. They were not even aware of what God's immediate reasons were for what they do, but they trusted that He was leading them where they should go.

We often think that this faith is our faith. That somehow we have to conjure up this power of assurance in God's word from our own inner weak self. It is not our faith. Praying and praising God, believing in him and accepting the power of the spirit grants us this faith from God. But like anything else we must use it or lose it. Exercising that faith as we do God's will in our treating our fellow brothers and sisters, knowing we are all strangers and exiles on this earth. Imagine the good things we can do in God's name through exercising His gift of faith.



The Boy Scouts Troop 14 will be meeting on Thursdays through May 30 and will resume in the fall after school starts.

HY VEE

Remember to bring in your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$93,414.97

Needed to Date: \$56,585.03

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!



"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish." Galatians 5:17

PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER *April 2019*

Our thoughts are important to God and to us, because they tell us what our mind is set on. Colossians 3:2 says "Set your mind on things above, not on things on this earth." We know that the things of this earth are temporary and will pass away. When I become anxious, I have to remember that He is sovereign over all. Someone once said, "When the waves are over your head they are always under His feet." What we allow in our minds is crucial. If we are going to live in the Spirit, we need to take every thought captive to obey Christ, (II Cor. 10:4-5).

The Lord brought to my mind an inmate, Don (not his real name), who was not coming to church and Bible studies the last few weeks. He has a job that requires long hours every day. When I saw Don come back from work, I called him to the office. He was really uptight about everything going on in his life and at work. It was very plain to me that his mood was not good. Don told me about how he felt that he was overworked and under paid. He was concerned about his young children back home, even though he knew they were in a safe place with his mother.

He said, "Pastor Harlan, I almost got in a fight this morning, but something stopped me from going that far. I am so frustrated over everything. I used to enjoy my job, but now it is a burden. I feel unappreciated at work and I guess I started feeling sorry for myself. Then I worry about my kids. My anger seems to be boiling within me." I reminded Don about how Peter was walking on the water as long as he focused on Jesus, but when he started looking at the waves he began to sink. I mentioned to him that one pastor said, "Feeling sorry for yourself is from the evil one." Don admitted he was letting little things irritate him and build up into bigger things. Don acknowledged that he was going to bed angry at night and how his anger was building. I asked him what he thought he should do about it and he said, "Repent before the Lord", which he did in the office. He was amazed that I had been praying for him that morning and recognized I needed to call him into the office. I told him God is always working things out so we can help one another. He left the office with a smile on his face! God is awesome!

I visited with a middle-aged man who told me this was his first time in prison. He said he was a Christian, but after visiting with him I recognized his understanding of being a Christian was very shallow. I went over the gospel by drawing it out on paper for him. He was thankful for more knowledge about the gospel. When I finished praying with him, he began to weep. He was so thankful for someone to share this with him.

Thank you for your financial support and prayers! I pray you have blessed Easter!

In Christ,
Harlan Moss

When you write your checks, please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Send them to: South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association (SDPCA) or Prison Lighthouse Fellowship. (PLF), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220 Email : harlan@convergeheartland.org. My website with testimonies is: convergeheartland.org/harlan



USHERS

Harold Poppen, Bob Bartling,
Bruce Westergaard, Martin &
Sally Maca

SOUND: Ginny Conger

MAY VOLUNTEERS

SCRIPTURE READERS

May 5 Confirmands
May 12 Andrew L'Amour
May 19 Mike McCann
May 26 Andrew L'Amour

LEADERS OF CHILDREN'S TIME

May 5 Gary Larson
May 12 Carrie Van Buren
May 19 Jan Jones
May 26 Donna Flint

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 Choir (resumes in fall) BIRTHDAY: Samuel Schuurman	2 9:30 Bible Study 5:15 Deacons Meeting 6:30 Worship Mtg 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting 7:00 Session BIRTHDAYS: Bonnie Foster, Lois Watson	3 BIRTHDAY: Diane Anderson John Peterson	4
5 Confirmation Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service/ Confirmation 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 11:30 CE Committee Meeting 5:00 Choir Party	6 BIRTHDAY: Yossry Rottluff	7 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 6:30 Mission & Finance	8 BIRTHDAY: Kay Norton	9 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	10	11 9:30 Prayer Quilt Sew Day BIRTHDAY: Bruce Westergaard
12 Dorothy Tufte, ULC Chaplain 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 11:30 Worship Committee Mother's Day	13	14 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) BIRTHDAY: Trent Broksieck	15 Blade Articles Due BIRTHDAY: Skylar Hinricher	16 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	17 BIRTHDAY: Carolyn Moerke	18
19 Elizabeth Fox 9:00 Sunday School (resumes in fall) 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee	20 ANNIVERSARY: Scott & Jennifer Hinricher	21 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	22	23 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting BIRTHDAY: Cliff Rindels	24	25
26 David Peterson 10:00 Worship-Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee	27 <i>Memorial Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED BIRTHDAY: Saige Hinricher Adam Young ANNIVERSARY: Dean & Sharon Hofland	28 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	29 ANNIVERSARY: Dave & Lucy Barkus Bruce & Lori Westergaard	30 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting (resumes in fall)	31 11:30 Lunch Bunch BIRTHDAY: Lori Westergaard	

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 or 692-2416.