

THE BLADE



May 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

Happy Mother's day
to all Moms, Grannies, great
Grannies, step Moms,
Foster Moms, and those
who lost their Mom.
Moms are Priceless!



IN FLANDERS FIELDS by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



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BEHIND YOU,
all your memories.
BEFORE YOU,
all your dreams.
AROUND YOU,
all who you love.
WITHIN YOU,
→→→ all you need. ←←←

*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*



THE BLADE

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006
(605) 692-2416
www.brookingspresbyterian.org
presby@brookings.net

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 12:00 Noon

Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath
presby@brookings.net

For regular updates and photos, like us on Facebook



www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings

Please check the website www.brookingspresbyterian.org for the "Prison Lighthouse Ministry Newsletter"

The Church Office will be **closed** on **Monday, May 29th**



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.

May 7: Dee W, Skip W, Bruce & Lori W

May 14: Dorothy W, Alan & Sue Y, David & Lucy B

May 21: Linda B, Bob B. Teri B, Don B

May 28: Chad & Diane B & family Tate & Trent, LaVonne B

Remembering the family and friends of Art VanderWaal who passed away on April 11, 2023.



Session Update April 2023

	Deacon of the Month	Elder of the Month
May	Nancy O	Dave P

We thank Ope Neimeyer for his gift to the church replacing the flooring at North Entrance of church- if you see Ope, please extend your thanks.

The elevator currently needs the key in order to run- the key is taped in the elevator- please do not remove.

The worship committee has arranged pulpit supply through December 24th- thanks to Ginny Conger for her work on this project.

Session is beginning talks about moving forward- making one final effort to contact the Presbyterian Foundation Project Regeneration, before turning to other possibilities. If you have thoughts you would like to share about where you hope we are going, please talk to any member of the session. These are important deliberations and your input is very much appreciated.

Session members: Donna Flint, Dan Kemp, Mike McCann, Dave Peterson, Terry Spitzenberger, Bruce Westergaard

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Flint
Clerk of Session



In my research for scripture related to praise and thanks I re-found some verses that tell us what God's will is for us. For a couple of years now, we have been asking the question, "Where are you leading us, O God?" I believe that 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 gives us the beginning of the answer. These are not things like, Will we stay in this building? or,

Should we hire a CRE? but instead these are character qualities that God wants to work in each of us. And they are things that we can do right now.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always,

17 pray continually,

18 give thanks in all circumstances;

for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

As we do these things, rejoice, pray and give thanks, God will show us the next steps in our journey with Him.

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 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.



and Outreach Committee

Fellowship/Outreach would like to mention again that there are dishes and silverware in the basement that members and/or friends can take. Please consider these before they are unloaded for good. Contact Roger or Dan for help in locating these items in need of a home.



OUTSTANDING SENIOR PRESBYTERIANS FOR 2022



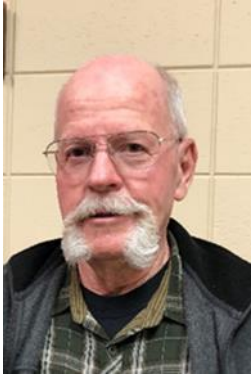
MIKE McCANN

Mike McCann has been a member of First Presbyterian Church since he was baptized as a baby. He grew up in this church so it has been his one true church home. He and his wife Judy were married in this church in 1973. They were blessed with 4 children.

Mike was an attorney getting his law degree from USD. He had achieved his undergraduate degree from Marietta University in Ohio, and then served in the US Navy before going to law school.

Mike has served this church in many capacities: usher, session member, Sunday school teacher, Boy Scout board member and president of Men's Brotherhood. He has always met the ideals of a servant leader, dedicating so very much of his life to his faith, his family and this church. He is a very deserving member of this award.

-Andrew L'Amour, Fellowship/Outreach Committee



DAVID PETERSON

Congratulations to Dave Peterson for receiving the Senior Presbyterian Award 2023. As we know, Dave has been a very active and hardworking member of First Presbyterian Church since first joining in 1985. Three words I would use to describe Dave are: curiosity, integrity, and service. Learning about his story and experiences Outstanding, it's obvious that Dave's faith in God has always taken the form of action and service to others – service to his church as well as his family, community, state, and country.

From his modest childhood on a farm and working the land himself, to enlisting in the Navy and travelling the world, to higher education and teaching, Dave found something to love in every place he lived and worked. After a devastating hailstorm, he decided that farming was too uncertain and decided to attend the University of Minnesota Morris. He enjoyed his classes but for the pragmatic Dave, the cost was just too great at that time. The armed services offered an exciting opportunity for learning, travel, and service for a Midwest farm boy. During his seven years in Navy, Dave visited many European and Caribbean countries aboard the USS Albany and the USS Littlerock. Ask him sometime about a hair-raising drive in a Corvette from Naples to the NATO US Navy Base in Gaeta Italy!

In Maryland before his first deployment, Dave became friends with a family who worked with the servicemen training nearby and he must have made a good impression on the daughter Lee who was “just a kid” at the time. They kept in contact over the years and while aboard ship in the Caribbean Sea, Dave proposed by letter. They were together for only a couple of weeks during that yearlong engagement. After finishing his Naval career, Dave was able to complete his education at the University of Minnesota on the GI Bill majoring in Physics with minors in Math and Chemistry and with an Education endorsement for teacher certification.

Dave and Lee moved to Brookings where he began teaching Physics at Brookings High School. Since Lee grew up Baptist and Dave grew up Lutheran, they took their time to find a church that fit them both. After learning of Dave's computer and electronics training in the Navy, he was quickly asked to help out with the sound system and he has been a sound technician at the church ever since.

Those years were very busy with the birth of their daughter Jessica and many contributions to our church and the Brookings community. Over the years, Dave has served as a Deacon, Elder, trustee, Crossroads class coordinator, personnel committee member, finance committee, Mission & Finance chair and our church treasurer. He will tell you that he is the first non-Fishback to be the church treasurer since the church was founded in 1882.

Over a long career in the Brookings School District, Dave taught the first computer science classes at BHS, ran tech for the theater performances, worked with SDSU, became the assistant superintendent, and served on many local boards and committees. He did all of this while also taking classes in the summer for a Master's degree and enlisting in the South Dakota National Guard. He speaks very fondly of his time as a teacher and said that he learned as much from his students as they learned from him.

After retirement, Dave remains engaged and curious with rewarding hobbies such as travelling with Lee, woodcarving, and ham radio, however it's easy to see that his most prized role is being Grandpa to Lucas (9) and Lance (almost 7). He continues to serve others in our church and community, always helping other people and learning about the world. Thank you, Dave!

-Sue Young, Fellowship/Outreach Committee

OUTSTANDING SENIOR PRESBYTERIANS FOR 2023



MARVIS JENNER

Marvis Jenner has been a member of First Presbyterian Church in Brookings since 1967, the year she and Roger moved to Brookings from Mitchell. Over the years, Marvis has been involved in many different activities. She has served two terms as a deacon and spent many years on the Memorial Committee (currently acting as treasurer). She continues to serve as a member of the counting team.

In the past, Marvis was involved in PW, Martha Circle, and has also been a Blade volunteer. Although not an official member of the Fellowship Committee, Marvis continually lends a hand whenever needed. I would call her a de facto member.

Personally, Marvis and Roger will mark their 60th wedding anniversary this coming October. They have two children who both grew up in this church, Thad and Tammy. In addition, Marvis has two granddaughters and one great granddaughter.

Marvis is very deserving of this recognition, and I congratulate her for being a recipient of the 2023 Senior Presbyterian Award.

-Chad Broksieck, Fellowship/Outreach Committee



ELLA LANE

Ella Lane was designated as an Outstanding Senior Presbyterian for 2023 by the Fellowship/Outreach Committee and she sure deserves the award. After earning her nursing degree from Presentation College, she joined the Air Force and began her nursing career in Germany where she met her husband and started their family. They moved to Brookings in 1972 and Ella joined First Presbyterian Church in 1974. She has been an active member ever since. She has served as a Deacon several times and really enjoyed that service. In fact, she continues to serve today by bringing several people to church that could not come on their own. Ella's

family consists of four daughters and one son that were raised in Brookings where she worked as a nurse at Brookings Hospital for 37 years. After retiring Ella worked with the SDSU Student Health Service for several years before finally giving up her nursing license. She also managed to be a Girl Scout leader in her spare time. First Presbyterian Church is fortunate to have Ella Lane as a member.

-Dan Kemp, Fellowship/Outreach Committee

News You Can Use

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 9: **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
Thursday May 11: **Session Meeting** in **person** at 7:00 PM
Sunday, May 14: **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 May 18 at 11:30 AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House
-**MEN'S BROTHERHOOD** on May 18 at 5:30 PM at the church basement

Serving in May

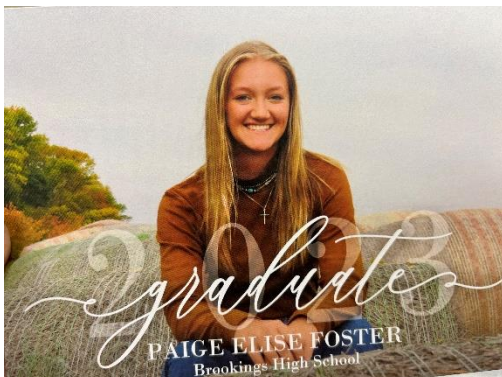
Sunday Coffee Fellowship Sue Young

	Pulpit Supply	Liturgist
May 7	Donna F	Robby F
May 14	Stan G	Terry S
May 21	Dorthy T	Donna F
May 28	Bob O	Mike M

Congratulations to our 2023 High School Graduates!

During our May 28th worship service, we will recognize FPC High School graduates, Paige & Saige.

You are invited!



PAIGE'S GRADUATION PARTY

Saturday, May 27th from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Location: 3911 18th St., Brookings (in the old hog barn)

If unable to attend the party, well wishes can be mailed to Paige at:

3911 18th St.
Brookings, SD 57006

May 2023
Andrew L'Amour



Men's Brotherhood Notes: MB met Thursday April 20 at 5:30. A delicious meal was prepared by Mike and his fellow chefs. Mary Kidwiler presented the program.

If you recall instead of giving something up for Lent I was going to try to be more open with strangers and welcoming to them. It was not my intent to engage in any deep conversations, just saying hello, helping them in the grocery aisle if I could. Maybe complimenting them on what a beautiful baby they had, or just that type of banter. I had fun and the mere thought that this was what I was doing kept me focused and reminded me to do it.

As you all may note I wear different baseball caps representing some of my favorite teams. It has opened up opportunities to visit with folks in addition to and helping with my Lenten obligations. A noted time was when I was at the Post Office to mail some letters and I was wearing my San Francisco Giants hat. A lady I had never seen before actually beat me to the post when she noted my hat and remarked she had not seen many of those around here and we started talking baseball, where she was from, and it gave us both a reason to be happy for having made a connection with a stranger.

It is not that I am necessarily spreading any deep gospel message other than the one where we are commanded to love one another, but it is fun knowing I broke the ice with someone who I might later meet again and we will know we have had something to share.

Even just a simple smile can be helpful to some people. A simple cheery hello and smile might just be what the stranger needs at the moment. We never know what a person might be facing in their lives when we greet them. We can't know the pains another is facing. A bright smile may be just the tonic they need. This is what I had hoped to accomplish this past Lent. I can only pray I made a difference in one person's day.

HY VEE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

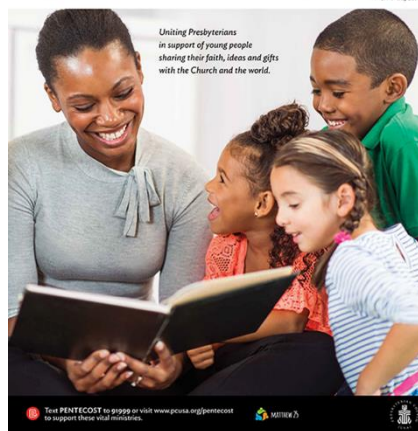
Goal: \$200,000.00
Receipts: \$102,289.75
Needed to Date: \$97,710.25

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; Rozanne will forward it.

BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST.



Donations are being accepted
April 10 - May 28
Please use special envelopes or indicate on your check memo 'Pentecost Special Offering'



Troop 50724

Christine L'Amour

A big thank you to all who supported our troop by buying Girl Scout cookies!

The 2023 PYC Youth Rally was held March 24-25-26 at Camp Rimrock, just outside of Rapid City, SD. Paige and Gayle F attended from First Presbyterian Church.



Quote from Paige: "As a Presbyterian Youth Council (PYC) member / youth leader at Youth Rally, it is so much fun to see the youth at the event stepping out of their comfort zone and being invested in the scripture the keynote speaker is talking about in just a 3-day event. Between the scripture, games, and activities, this is such an amazing event for youth across the state, to grow closer to God in a short amount of time."

Quote from Gayle: "As a first time attendee at Youth Rally, I had a lot of fun. I like that it was different from camp, but still had a lot of the same traditions like energizers and meal songs. Even though it was a short amount of time, I was able to learn and understand God so much more. Being able to see old friends, but make new ones, created an entire new experience for me."

Thank you for supporting the Foster girls and giving them the opportunity to attend and be a part of Youth Rally!

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






**2023 Synod School
July 23-28
Registration opens April 1**

Looking for an enriching experience for the summer? Consider attending Synod School on the campus of Buena Vista University in beautiful Storm Lake, IA. Spend a week with other Presbyterians and choose from a wide variety of classes and worship experiences. The Embry Fund is available to assist with the cost—contact Donna Flint if you are interested.



May 2023



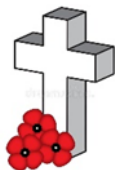
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	3	4	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6
7 10:30 Worship and Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom	8	9 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers Mission/Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom	10	11 9:30 Bible Study Session Meeting at FPC 7:00 PM BIRTHDAY: Bruce W	12	13
14 <i>Mother's Day</i> 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Fellowship/Outreach Mtg following worship BIRTHDAY: Trent B	15  BLADE Articles Due BIRTHDAY: Skylar H	16 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	17 BIRTHDAY: Carolyn M	18 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 AM Sisterhood at Mission Coffee House 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	19 ANNIVERSARY: Scott & Jennifer H	20
21 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	22	23 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers BIRTHDAY: Cliff R	24	25 9:30 Bible Study	26	27 Paige's Party BIRTHDAYS: Saige H/Adam Y ANNIVERSARY: Dean & Sharon H
28 HS Graduate Recognition 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 	29 <i>Memorial Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED  ANNIVERSARY: Dave & Lucy B Bruce & Lori W BIRTHDAY: Carolyn C	30 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers BIRTHDAY: Lori W	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 or 605-692-2416, to notify us.