

THE BLADE

May & June 2024

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

John 3:16 NRSV

Future Events --Save the Dates!

Saturday, May 4th at 10:30 a.m.



Our annual Church Clean Up Day will be starting at 10:30 a.m. CE/Fellowship Committee will be cleaning in the kitchen while other volunteers will be giving our church a light cleaning, mainly dusting and vacuuming. Many hands make light work!

Sunday, May 5th at 3:00 pm.

We will be hosting a spring concert, with music provided by Advent Capelle. This group of musicians from the Philippines live and work in Flandreau. They have sung at churches and nursing homes in the region and they are excited to present a **Gospel Concert** in our sanctuary on Sunday May 5th at 3:00. A free will donation will be accepted and all proceeds will go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance with a special focus on disaster assistance in the Philippines. We will have posters available for you to spread around town. We are hoping for a large audience for this fun concert!

Disasters in the Philippines in 2023 and 2024: Super typhoon, several smaller typhoons, flooding, landslides, volcano eruption, and two earthquakes.



Saturday, May 18

You are invited to the reception for Tia Glaus's graduation from Sioux Valley High on Saturday, May 18 from 5-7 PM, at her home at 1317 Orchard Drive.

Sunday, May 19 during Worship Service

Recognition of our 2024 high school graduates, Tia Glaus and Dylan Scubelek!

Sunday, May 19 following worship service



CE/Fellowship will host a church picnic in the church basement after church on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024. CE/Fellowship will provide grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, and ice cream so come and enjoy a great meal and fellowship!

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

Pastors

Robby and Donna Flint
605-695-3735 (Robby)
605-695-6787 (Donna)
presbypastor@brookings.net

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am -12 Noon

Office Manager

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" "Susan's Saga" (Wycliffe Bible Translator)



The Church Office will be closed

on Monday, May 27
and Wednesday, June 19
in observance of Federal holidays



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 2024 is \$40.00. 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 5:** Joel & Bonnie F & family Lynn, Paige, Gayle; Neal & Julie F
- May 12:** Elizabeth F, Betty G, Jon & Linda G & family Grace & Lottie
- May 19:** Scott & Jennifer H & family Skylar, Saige, Ramsie; Dean & Sharon H
- May 26:** Nelda H, Dennis H & Carolyn C, MK H

- June 2:** Roger & Marvis J, Bob & Jan J
- June 9:** Dan & Michele K, Don K & Carol G
- June 16:** Delores K, Andrew & Beth L, Ella L
- June 23:** Pam L, Jeanne & Darwin L, Martin & Sally M
- June 30:** Jeannie & Tom M, Maria M, Mike & Judy M

Counting Our Blessings

We have been so excited over the last couple of months with the energy we see growing in this church.

Here are some things that are going on:

Worship and Coffee Hour: Worship attendance is gradually increasing, and people are staying after worship to chat, plan, and encourage one another. Lent, Holy Week, and Easter were full of meaningful worship experiences. We are planning now for the Pentecost service.

Mission project: Your donations of non-perishables are delivered to the charity of the month. You make a difference for the approximately 2400 people in our county who are hungry. Checks are still accepted for the Food Pantry if you prefer.

Mission project: Being good neighbors and supportive friends to the men and women who serve our community at the jail. If you would like to provide goodies or help deliver treats, contact Robby or Nancy Thompson, chair of Mission and Outreach.

Website and social media: 2 people have submitted prayer requests on our website, 3 SDSU students have been contacted through the SDSU link, and many more interact with our Facebook page. If you see something you like on our Facebook page, share it on *your* page! If you have ideas for the website, contact Donna.

Outreach: Working with the ministerial association, our church served at the ecumenical Lent luncheon, with Robby and Donna preaching. In July, Robby and Donna will be preaching at the worship service at the Arts Festival. Articles sent to the Brookings Register for the Thursday church page, spread the Gospel to the people in our community, many of whom do not have a connection with Christ's church.

Music: Nancy leads the choir in worship twice a month- practicing before church the day the choir sings. Nancy also provides sheet music and recordings ahead of time to help prepare prior to the service. The church choir is a small group- what is missing? ur! Contact Nancy Ohnstad if you would like to get in on the fun! Contact Donna if you would like to provide special music!

Serving at funerals: Funeral services in our church not only provide comfort to loved ones, they also are an opportunity to encourage them in their faith- often at the time when they most have a need for hope. Serving at funerals- sound, powerpoint, usher, music, and kitchen help- all help to spread the good news.

Exciting things are happening, but it takes persistence for us to continue to make an impact. Talk with Robby, Donna, a member of session, or someone on a committee if you:

1. Would like to take a leadership role in an activity- large or small.
2. Have ideas about outreach activities- heeding Jesus' call to care for others.
3. See something happening in the church and you want to be a part (sound system, powerpoint, building maintenance, quilting, serving coffee, prayer chain, committee...).

God's work CAN be a large effort of one or two people, or it CAN be a small effort from lots of people. However it comes about, it always begins with someone saying "yes"- someone opening their heart to the love and to the call of Jesus Christ.

See you Sunday!
Robby and Donna


Session Update—

	Elder of the Month	Deacon of the Month
May	Joel F	Nancy O
June	Nancy T	Nancy O

Session approved B&G buying a cordless vacuum using Memorial Funds. Bruce has been helping Rozanne use one-drive to store documents. The defibrillator is operational and Bruce will be providing instructions and practice after worship on May 5th. There will also be a church spring work day on May 4th. May 5th is the date for the Advent Capelle concert and the free will offering will all go to a Presbyterian charity for Philippine disaster relief. A church picnic will be held on May 19 (Pentecost Sunday) with CE/Fellowship providing all food. Session approved having July 14 worship at Pioneer Park at 9:00 am as Pastors Robby and Donna are conducting the Summer Arts Festival service.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Kemp
Clerk of Session
First Presbyterian Church of Brookings, SD

<p>PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING Children at Risk, Youth, Young Adults Donations are being accepted April 1 through May 19. Please use special envelopes or indicate on your check memo 'Pentecost'</p>	 A graphic for the Pentecost Special Offering. It features a person sitting on a blue chair with arms outstretched against a background of a sunset or sunrise. Text includes 'PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING CHILDREN AT RISK - YOUTH - YOUNG ADULTS', 'I am coming to you.', and '—JOHN 14:18b'.
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AED Training on May 5

after Worship led by Bruce Westergaard

AEDs are small portable devices which can deliver an electric shock to a person's heart. This shock can help to stop abnormal electrical impulses in the heart and allow it to return to a normal beating rhythm. The combination of CPR and AED use can literally bring a person back to life! Without early CPR and AED use, only about 2.5% percent of SCA (sudden cardiac arrest) victims survive. But the initiation of early CPR and AED use within minutes, can raise a victim's

chance of survival to almost 80%. Here is the 'AED in Action' video

<https://youtu.be/FSiDT5P0ZlI?si=8AlgcaGI2mCuoab7>

News You Can Use

UPCOMING MAY MEETINGS

Sunday, May 5: **Christian Ed/Fellowship Meeting** following worship
Tuesday, May 7: **Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
Thursday, May 9: **Session Meeting** at church, 7:00 PM

UPCOMING JUNE MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 4: **Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
Sunday, June 9: **Christian Ed/Fellowship Meeting** following worship service
Thursday, June 13: **Session Meeting** at church, 7:00 PM
Sunday, June 16: **Worship Committee Meeting** following worship service
Sunday, June 23: **Mission/Outreach Meeting** following worship service

STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

-TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP 9:30ish AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House

-THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 AM in the FPC Center Meeting Room

-PIECES AND PRAYERS will meet on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM at the FPC Quilting Room in May but will be taking the summer months of June through August off

-SISTERHOOD meet on Thursday, May 16 & June 20 at 11:30 AM at the First Lutheran Mission Coffee House

-MEN'S BROTHERHOOD on Thursday, May 16 & June 20 at 5:30 PM at the church lounge

SERVING IN MAY & JUNE

Sunday Coffee Fellowship May: Dan K June: Roger J

Liturgists in May

May 5: Carrie VB
May 12: Rick S
May 19: Dolores C
May 26: Dan K

Liturgists in June

June 2: Tanya S
June 9: Lee P
June 16: Judy S
June 23: Nancy T
June 30: Linda B



Our church uses the Remind App for periodic communication with members. If you sign up for Remind, you receive periodic texts from us with pertinent church information (weather cancellations, special events, etc.).

If you would like to join, send a text to 81010 and text this message: @gkc8gk

Christian Ed and



On, Saturday, May 4, during Church Clean Up Day, CE/F will meet downstairs at 10:30 AM to clean the kitchen. CE/F will be hosting the upcoming Church picnic on May 19 which is Pentecost Sunday. More information about the picnic is on the Future Events page.



Thank you to Mike M for providing 20 containers of soup from the Lenten soup suppers for the Deacons to deliver to shut-ins.

Welcome and thank you, Ella, for volunteering to finish Lee's term as a deacon. 'Once a deacon, always a deacon.'

In May, non-perishable food and hygiene items will be collected for the SDSU Jacks Cupboard. We will be collecting at FPC for the Food Pantry in June.

Food prices continue to rise, and more people are needing help to feed their family. Your donations of food and hygiene items for May will go to Jacks Cupboard (on campus) and for June will go to the Food Pantry. Monetary donations for the food pantry can be placed in the offering plate at any time with a notation on the check to go to the Food Pantry.



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission Outreach Committee is organizing ways to stretch the hands of our church around those in need: financially and through actions, locally and far away. We strive to have our church available to anyone for worship and growth. If this is an interest of yours, contact a committee member: Nancy Thompson, Andrew L'Amour, Linda Barnett, Kathy Moulton.

Upcoming Mission event: Advent Cappelle Concert fundraiser for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Worship Committee

The guest speakers: May 12 John Stiegelmeier
June 23 Elizabeth Fox



May 19th is Pentecost Sunday—remember to wear something red.

Also on May 19th our high school graduates, Tia Glaus and Dylan Scubelek, will be recognized with a gift from the church.



Dee Watson honored as Senior Presbyterian

This year's Senior Presbyterian Award goes to Dee Watson, who has faithfully served the church in many capacities over the years. Congratulations, Dee!

Dee was born in Mitchell and grew up on a farm there until his years at South Dakota State College. He graduated in 1950 with a degree in agriculture. In December of that year he married his wife, Lois, who was finishing her nursing training. Since Dee had been drafted, the two married a semester before Lois graduated. "I didn't have to ask her dad for permission, I had to get permission from the nursing supervisor," Dee said.

Dee was stationed in Camp Rucker, Alabama. Once Lois graduated in May, she got on a bus and came down. It was a long bus ride with no air conditioning. "She said she never wanted to do that again!"

Dee served two years in the army, including a stint in Germany. During that time, Lois stayed with her parents in Rapid City, and the couple's first child, Michael, was born. After Dee was discharged, the family moved to Mitchell where they farmed for three years. Their son Curtis was born during that time. In 1957 Dee made a career change and began working for the Soil Conservation Service in Martin, SD. Their daughter Susan was born in Martin. In 1962 the family moved to Tyndall to continue the Soil Conservation work, and there their son Kelly was born. In 1976, Dee moved to Brookings for another Soil Conservation job and the family followed closely behind.

The Watsons first began attending a Presbyterian Church while living in Martin, where in 1960 Dee was named Elder. In Tyndall they tried a Baptist church before returning to the Presbyterian Church. In Brookings, they joined First Presbyterian Church in 1977 "and I've been there ever since."

During his time in the church, Dee has served as Elder, Trustee, Deacon, and on the Worship Committee. He spent time in fellowship with a group called Presby Friends. "Once a month we had a meeting, had some devotions, then we discussed, then we had a little lunch. Kind of the middle aged. We had kids, maybe some had grandkids but most not. There were twenty or so in the group, and I really enjoyed that." He also joined the Men's Brotherhood and was involved with that group for many years.

In addition to serving the church in these many ways, Dee also built some items. There is a mail cubby system still in use in the office, as well as a board designed to hold candle lighters. When the church used nametags, Dee built racks for hanging the nametags.

Dee retired from the Soil Conservation Service in December of 1988. Lois retired from her post as nurse at the student health center at SDSU in May of 1989. Then the two enjoyed traveling, wintering in Fredericksburg, TX, and traveling to Mexico and Canada. Lois passed away in 2020 after the couple celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary. In addition to their four children, Dee is proud to have six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

THANK YOU!

I am so honored and proud to be picked for Senior Presbyterian Award. Thank you for considering me. I will try and continue to live up to the expectations of the congregation. Thanks to Tanya for the time she gave helping me with the presentation. Dee Watson



In 2025, we celebrate the 125th anniversary of our building.

If you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact Donna or a member of Session. We are forming a committee to plan and carry out an event to celebrate the anniversary.



Thank You for Donating

PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing: \$563.14

Presbytery Camp Rimrock: \$800

Domestic Abuse Shelter: \$500

Teen Challenge: \$300

Registration has opened at Camp Rimrock, in western South Dakota!

<https://www.rimrock.camp/index.php/camps/>

- Summer Camp (all summer- finishing kindergarten through finishing 12th grade-transportation provided),
- Family Camp (July 11-14)
- Pastor's (and CRE) Retreat (July 15-28)
- Women's Retreat (September 20-22)



Our students have attended Rimrock for years and always give GREAT reviews! There is also a beautiful new Peace Lodge at Camp Rimrock where some of the retreats will be hosted.

If you have questions about summer camp, please talk with Bonnie or one of the Foster kids and they can tell you more about it. The Embry fund is available to assist with cost.



2024 Synod School

July 21-26

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 interest.

May and JUNE 2024

Andrew L



Men's Brotherhood Notes: MB met Thursday April 18 at 5:30. A delicious meal was prepared by Mike and his fellow chefs. Susan Huggins presented the program on her work in Oaxaca Mexico with the Wycliffe Bible Translations. She has been working there for 38 years. She is to be commended for her dedication to bringing the Word of God, the Truth of God to the people there.

What is truth? These were words from Pilate when he was talking with Jesus prior to Jesus' crucifixion.

John 18:37-38a: "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." "What is truth?" retorted Pilate.

Truth can be difficult to discern. I sit on one side of the room and see what is behind you. You sit on the opposite side and see what is behind me. I watch the news on one station and get facts of a matter. You watch the news on another station and get other facts of the matter. We might both get knowledge of something that happened, but do we know everything? Do we each form opinions based on incomplete understanding because we lack all the facts?

This is why taking verses in the Bible incompletely or without an understanding of the context of the verse is so dangerous. It is written in the bible that "there is no God." But read on: Psalm 14:1 "The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good." We believe that the Bible is inspired by God, and we consider it God's truth, but we must be careful in our quoting and interpretation of the Bible so that we get as complete an understanding as we can on how we should get along with one another and how we should worship God. One way to do this is to read the whole Bible, to see the whole picture of God's word, not just a part of it.



Girl Scout Troop #57024

The Troop 50724 is looking to an exciting summer. One thing we hope to do is help in some landscaping efforts around the church. We appreciate so much your allowing us to meet here in this beautiful place. Our spring Cookie sale went well. Again we appreciate so much the support the Church in particular, and the membership individually. It was a great effort by all concerned. We look forward to next year with great enthusiasm.

HY-VEE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Goal: \$200,000.00
Received: \$186,846.42
Needed to Date: \$ 13,153.58

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.



May 2024




Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 9:30 Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Bonnie F	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 10:30 Church Clean-Up Day
5 10:00 Worship/Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:15 Christian Ed/ Fellowship Mtg 3:00 Advent Capelle Concert	6	7 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom	8	9 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 PM Session at FPC BIRTHDAY: Liz R.	10	11 BIRTHDAY: Bruce W
12 <i>Mother's Day</i> 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	13	14 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers BIRTHDAY: Trent B	15 BIRTHDAY: Skylar H	16 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 AM Sisterhood 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	17 BIRTHDAY: Carolyn M	18
19 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> 10:00 Worship in Sanctuary/Zoom CHURCH PICNIC following worship service ANNIVERSARY: Scott & Jennifer H	20 <i>May 19 continues</i> Graduates recognized	21 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	22	23 9:30 Bible Study	24	25
26 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	27 <i>Memorial Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED BIRTHDAYS: Saige H/Adam Y ANNIVERSARY Dean & Sharon H	28 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	29 BIRTHDAY: Carolyn C ANNIVERSARY: Dave & Lucy B Bruce & Lori W	30 9:30 Bible Study	31 BIRTHDAY: Lori W.	



June 2024



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					OFFICE CLOSED	1
2 10:00 Worship/Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom	3	4 9:30 Coffee Group Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom	5	6 9:30 Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Alan Y	7 BIRTHDAY: Dolores C ANNIVERSARY: Dan & Michele K	8
9 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Christian Ed/Fellowship Mtg following worship	10 BIRTHDAY: Abby G.	11 9:30 Coffee Group BIRTHDAY: Tate B	12 BIRTHDAY: Violet G.	13 9:30 Bible Study BLADE Articles due 7:00 PM Session at FPC	14 Flag Day 	15
16 Father's Day 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Worship Mtg following worship	17	18 9:30 Coffee Group BIRTHDAY: Bonnie S	19 Juneteenth CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED BIRTHDAY: Lynn F Nelda H	20 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 AM Sisterhood 5:30 Men's Brotherhood BIRTHDAY: Dave B	21	22 ANNIVERSARY: Alan & Sue Y
23 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Mission/Outreach Mtg following worship	24	25 9:30 Coffee Group BIRTHDAY: Lucy B	26 BIRTHDAY: Dylan S ANNIVERSARY: Richard & Dolores C	27 9:30 Bible Study	28	29 BIRTHDAY; Judy M
30 10:00 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom ANNIVERSARY: Dennis H & Carolyn C						

The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



Return Service Requested

Regular Sunday Schedule

10:00 am Worship Service

Church Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Our newsletter is also available electronically by email.

Please contact the church office at presby@brookings.net or 605-692-2416, if you wish to be on the email list.