

THE BLADE

November 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



The Presbytery of South Dakota held its Stated Meeting on Friday, October 25, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church in Brookings. Rev. Chip Hardwick, Interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, IL was the guest speaker. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful meeting. Whether you brought bars, cooked and served meals, managed technology, or greeted people and helped everyone feel comfortable while they were here, you made a difference in the experience of the commissioners.

We truly are a wonderful community of faith.



Sunday Schedule

September – May

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee
Lord’s Supper—
First Sunday of each month

Summer Sunday Schedule

June - August

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee
Nursery Care is available
on first floor during
Sunday Worship

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
12:00 – 2:30 p.m.

November



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 Membersnav

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.

Nov 3: Larry Anderson, David & Lucy Barkus and family

Nov 10: Linda Barnett, Bob Bartling, Travis Beller, Teri
Bierstadt

Nov 17: Don & Janice Boe, Barb Borstad, Carey Bretsch,
Lisa Bretsch

Nov 24: Chad & Diane Broksieck and family Tate & Trent,
Jan Broksieck, LaVonne Broksieck



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. *(Your concern will not go beyond the prayer team unless you request it be shared with others)*



Congratulations to SDSU students Adam Young and Tate Broksieck, recipients of the Embry Scholarship from First Presbyterian Church of Brookings! Your church family is very proud of you, Adam and Tate, and we wish you God's blessings on your continued academic journey.

"Upcoming Events"

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 3 at 2 p.m.-
remember to turn back your clocks 1 hour on Saturday evening.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY 2019 -- Church Women United will celebrate World Community Day on **November 1, 2019** at First United Methodist Church, 625-5th St, Brookings, at 2:00 p.m. in the Church basement. The theme is "The Time is Now! Resolve to Love." World Community Day focuses on global peace and justice. A regular offering will be taken to support the Church Women United programs. Coffee and fellowship will follow the program. All Christian women and men are invited to this gathering.

CHOIR SINGING AT CARE CENTERS on November 10. More information in the "Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord" article on page 5.

POTLUCK AND PRESENTATION - Have you ever wondered about the process of translating the Word of God to other languages? Join us after worship on Sunday, November 17 for a presentation by Susan Huggins and Inga McKendry from Wycliffe Bible Translators. And of course, we will enjoy a **POTLUCK DINNER** prior to the program! Plan now to attend.

"Donation & Volunteer Opportunities"



FEEDING BROOKINGS will once again be hosting a meal for Thanksgiving. First Presbyterian Church has been asked to donate 175 pkg. of Instant Mashed Potatoes. We will be accepting donations through Sunday, **November 18th**. Thank you for your generosity!

SALVATION ARMY RINGING BELLS - Volunteers are needed to ring bells for the Salvation Army on Saturday, **December 7th** at Lewis Drug from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bell ringing will be inside the entryway. A sign-up schedule is posted on the Volunteer bulletin board. Thank you!



POINTSETTIAS FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - We would like to encourage you or your family to participate in the annual tradition of our members bringing a plant for Christmas remembrances and celebration. We'd love to display your poinsettia throughout Advent/Christmas. Please drop off your plant during office hours. Contact the church office if you need someone to pick up your purchased plant from a local florist or store. If you would prefer someone to purchase a plant for you, please have funds to the office before **November 22nd**.

THE PRAYER QUILT GROUP says "Many hands make light work. Come enjoy quilting with us." Contact Lee Peterson (692-7757) or Nancy Thompson (697-3073) if questions.

PROJECT JOY information will be shared as soon as it arrives.



Youth Group Going Great Guns

The Youth Group practiced target shooting at the Brookings Gun Club with church member Jon Greseth on Oct. 20. Jon volunteered to help the youth members learn how to shoot and provided shotguns for the students to test out. Some of the



members were experienced shots and some were trying it for the first time. The youth practiced with stationary targets and then clay pigeons. Jon

also arranged for the group to have yard games to play for those who weren't enthusiastic shots. The weather was a little chilly but overall the group seemed to have a great time learning a new skill while having fellowship together. Thank you very much to Jon Greseth for providing the space and training and to Bonnie Foster for chaperoning. Tia Glaus, Paige Foster, Gayle Foster, Lynn Foster and guests Aubrey Girard and Jasmine Anawski attended.



Christian Education

I not ashamed to say it. I attend adult Sunday school and I love it. I hope that you're having a wonderful day. Like many of you, some days are better than others. Such is life. Life, of course, can and often does get in the way of some things that we might enjoy and truly benefit from ... like say attending a bible study with friends. Mike McCann is currently leading a Sunday morning bible study for adults that follows a new lesson each week. The lessons this Fall are on various aspects of faith. And we love it, the members of our class. You don't need any special training or knowledge, just come as you are. I think that you would enjoy it too. In this week's lesson Jesus will meet a Roman soldier. This is a lesson having to do with our relations with others, character, and faith. You never know where seeds planted will grow. Please come and join (even if it's just to visit) our group in a study of God's word. We meet each Sunday morning at 9:15 before church.

For those of you busy of Sunday mornings, there is another great opportunity for a Bible Study on Thursday's at 9:30. It's a great class too and they will welcome you with open arms and a hot cup of coffee or tea.

Disclaimer. You may not get your dishes washed or your carpets cleaned while you are with friends, but you will be blessed and enjoy the benefits that come from a study of God's word with Christian friends.

Please come and give it a try. Robby

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!

The Choir will sing at The Neighborhoods at 1:45 p.m. and United Living Center at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, **November 10**. We'll be meeting at the facilities. You're welcome to join us as we lead worship at those retirement communities.

On December 1st, we begin the Advent season with the beautiful music of the season. The choir will be presenting the cantata "Night of Miracles" on Sunday, **December 15th**. This is a great time of the year to sing along with the choir!



Bell Choir practice time is now at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. on Sundays.



The Deacons thank each of you for your help in caring for our congregation and community by your donation of items, volunteering time, and offering prayers.

* Thank you for the donation of warm outerwear to "Share the Warmth"

* Thank you to Nelda Holden, Harold and Marge Poppen, Ella Lane, Dolores Canaday, and Nancy Thompson for driving and delivering "60 Plus Dining" meals.

FOOD PANTRY -- FPC collects items for the Food Pantry the first Sunday of every month and this month will be **Sunday, November 3**. The Food Pantry accepts all types of non-perishable food. I hope this note helps you (and me) to remember to bring some items for the Brookings Food Pantry. Thanks – Deacon Dan Kemp

Stewardship for 2020

For your faithful stewardship concerning the ministry of First Presbyterian Church, thank you. Your investment in our church has reaped dividends throughout the years reflecting the following descriptions of Christian stewardship. With God at the center, Christian stewardship begins. Christian stewards seek the heart of God in faithfully, joyfully and gratefully managing all the gifts God has given. As Billy Graham stated "God has given us two hands--one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing." As the apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 9:7, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." It could be said that this Bible verse reflects the sharing of the gifts received in our church. We thank you for what you have done in the past, and ask that you prayerfully consider your church pledge for the year 2020.

- Mission Finance Committee

- **The Fall Congregational Meeting** will take place after the worship service on November 10, 2019, for the purpose of electing officers. The nominating committee will be putting forth the following names: Deacons, Class of 2022: Kay Norton and Nancy Thompson; Elder, Class of 2021: Martin Maca; Elders, class of 2022: Michael McCann and David Peterson.
- **3rd Quarter Statements** are ready to be picked up in the church narthex.
- **Per Capita Amount** is \$33.35. If you have not done so, we would appreciate your donation.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Andrew L'Amour

November 2019

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22: 37-39 '...Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'



Quote: God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.' -- Billy Graham

Men's Brotherhood Notes: The regular monthly meeting of MB was held on October 17. We had a delicious pork loin sandwich, baked beans, and salad. Our program was presented by Linda Barnett regarding her trip to Kenya with the Childfund group. The November meeting time and date will be the 21st.

Prayer Concerns: Pray that in our every action, we reflect the love that God demonstrates to us through the cross of Jesus.

Action: Put into direct practice our love for one another. Be aware of any and all possible opportunities.

Recently I was visiting with a friend, and sharing a cup of coffee, about the two great commands that Jesus expressed in Matthew 22. We were talking about the importance of relationships, people to people ones. It is not always easy or simple task to love one another as we are commanded. I still remember a quote we had in our office many years ago that reflected Christ's teachings on the topic. It said, "People need love the most, when they deserve it the least."

So what does Matthew 22 teach us? To love God and love each other. I read in a place I don't recall where now; it might have been a writing by Richard Rohr, a Catholic priest. He said that Christ came not so much to preach us into heaven but to teach us how to live and love each other here and now. To serve each other in a loving, sacrificial way. I wonder if we couldn't create our own heaven on earth if we actually practiced this.

Christ taught us that first we must love God with our whole heart and mind. What does this mean? We must understand the supreme sacrifice of Christ. Christ was divested of all the power of the universe; Christ came to live among us and then was killed so that we might have direct access to God. Christ gave His very existence for us. What are we doing to demonstrate our love and appreciation to God for this? And also what are we doing to show love for each other?

How do we love one another? Be there for them in times of need but this does not mean just showing up when they are suffering through some problem. Love them in good times and bad. Listen, talk, pray with and for them. Build friendships. This takes giving of our selves and our time.

My friend mentioned a way to remind ourselves of Christ's Matt 22 message. It was through the Cross. The upright pole is symbolic of our relationship to God: God at the top of the cross and we below. The crossbar represents all of us on an equal plane: from one end to the other we are connected by the love of God for us and the need for us to love one another. One could say that humanity is at the center part, the heart of the cross, the crossroads. We may well be the central part of all God's creation. To be the best we can be, we have to keep love of God and love for each other central part of our heart and our lives. The Cross is symbolic of the love of God for all His creation and a reminder of humanity's ultimate potential.



The Boy Scouts Troop 14 will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church starting September 5.

HY VEE

**Remember to bring in
your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.**

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$31,170.17

Needed to Date: \$118,829.83

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Thank You

We would like to extend a special thank you to our wonderful church family for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, and phone calls to Roger during his stay in the Brookings Hospital and at home after his recent knee surgery. It is so comforting to know that we have such a special church family that is always there for us when needed. After a few bumps in the road with his recovery, Roger is doing much better now and we know that your prayers have helped with his healing. Thank you so much for being so supportive. We are truly blessed and proud to be members of First Presbyterian Church in Brookings.

-- Roger and Marvis Jenner

Thank you, Lisa Bretsch and Dolores Canaday, for all your help updating the bulletin boards.



Thank you, Cliff Rindels, for the beautiful stained-glass creations. Everyone will enjoy seeing the lamp in the church office and the panel outside the sanctuary.

Thank you for sharing your gift with all of us.

Thank you, Bruce Westergaard,
for bringing Cliff's creation to life.



Wycliffe 

Susan's Saga

For much of this year, I have been going out a couple of times a month to the language area to check Scripture in Mixtec with a group of people who haven't been involved in the drafting and revision of Scripture, to make sure that the translation is clear and understandable to people other than the Mixtec co-translators.

This group of people has been quite receptive and appreciative of having Scripture in Mixtec. One lady in particular, Josephine, is really keen to hear Scripture in her heart language. Although she is a faithful church member, the teaching she has heard for decades is almost exclusively in Spanish, and her mother tongue is definitely Mixtec.

During the checking sessions, she drinks in the Scripture in Mixtec, probably understanding Scripture for the first time. She is almost 80 years old and has trouble with her vision, but she pores over the copy in Mixtec, really putting an effort into reading the text. As others read it out loud, she can hear what the Word is saying. Her usual comments are that it's really good, and she rarely makes suggestions for improvement. She is just content to have God's message in her heart language.

Each time she meets with us, she sidles up afterwards and gives us a huge stack of authentic homemade corn tortillas. I think it is her way of showing gratitude for finally having access to Scripture in her mother tongue. Making handmade tortillas is what she has done all her life, and she gives us a portion of what she best knows how to do.

Thank you for sticking with us through the years, as we strive to make God's Word accessible to this group of people in their heart language.

Susan Huggins

Susan Huggins 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

PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER October 2019



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation...All of this is from God." Cor. 5:17 a-18 a.

An inmate told me years ago that the reason he turned to Christ was because when people turned to Christ as their Savior, their lives changed from the inside out. Another inmate told me some time ago that when he came to Christ everything went from black and white to color in his life. Christ is the only One who can change our old sinful heart into a new heart.

Ron, who I wrote about in my June newsletter, continues to grow in the Lord. I meet with him weekly. In one of our meetings a few weeks ago he said, "I had a job pushing one of my old friends in the wheelchair, but it is getting very difficult to be around him. I try to talk with him about the Lord, but he is constantly putting down Christians. It really hurts me to hear him talking like he does, so I told him I couldn't be his pusher anymore. I went back to my cell and I felt that what he said about Christians was a rejection of me. For the next few hours I felt rejected and hurt by this person. I finally fell to my knees and asked the Lord to take all my negative thoughts and hurt emotions away from me. The moment I cried out to the Lord, a peace came over me that I can't explain!"

The next week when I visited with Ron, he told me "I used to have a great dislike for officers, but now I realize that they are just doing their job. I now understand that the officers are the authority that God has put in place and I need to submit to them. I used to have a grudge against some of them. Now they see my different attitude toward them and ask me what has changed. I tell them I know God has put them in authority and I am to respect them! They are surprised by my changed attitude toward them." What a difference Christ makes in a person who has humbled himself before God. "All this is from God!"
II Cor.5 :18.

An inmate who has done some years in prison in another state told me he has a lot of PTSD because the prison in the other state was a violent place. He said, "That prison I was in for a number of years was a place where I had to watch my back. So now I am not comfortable in crowds and going church is out of the question for me. I have ADHD so I cannot concentrate very easily." I encouraged him to read the Bible only 10 minutes at a time and that I will meet with him weekly to talk about what he has read. He thought that was a great idea. I believe God is at work in this man and will set him free so he can have peace in his mind.

I pray you all have a blessed October! Your gifts and prayers are greatly appreciated!
In Christ,

Harlan Moss

Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Send them to: Prison Lighthouse Fellowship (PLF) or South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association (SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone 605-940-4220 Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org. To listen to inmate testimonies: <https://converge.org/heartland/giving-campaign/sd-prison-chaplains-harlan-moss>.



NOVEMBER 2019 VOLUNTEERS

USHERS

Nancy Thompson, Chad Broksieck, Trent Broksieck, Jeanne Longieliere, Roger Jenner

SOUND: Ginny Conger

SCRIPTURE READERS

Nov. 3 Paige Foster
 Nov. 10 Dan Kemp
 Nov. 17 Lee Peterson
 Nov. 24 Robby Flint

LEADERS OF CHILDREN'S TIME

Nov. 3 Jan Jones
 Nov. 10 Donna Flint
 Nov. 17 Joel Foster
 Nov. 24 Bonnie Foster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">November 3 at 2 a.m.</p>					1 BIRTHDAY: Donna Flint Janet TeBeest	2
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:30 Worship Committee Mtg TBA Youth Group 6:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice	4 7:00 Building & Grounds Meeting	5 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 1:00 Prayer Quilt Group 6:30 Mission & Finance Meeting BIRTHDAY: Rosa Glaus	6 Oral Interp 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. 7:00 Choir practice	7 9:30 Bible Study 5:15 Deacons Meeting	8	9 9:30 Prayer Quilt Group BIRTHDAY: Martin Maca
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship/Communion 11:30 Congregational Meeting 12:00 Session Meeting * Choir at Neighborhoods 1:45 p.m. at ULC 2:30 p.m. 6:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice	11 Veterans Day BIRTHDAY: Doha Rottluff	12 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 1:00 Prayer Quilt Group	13 7:00 Choir practice	14 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood 7:00 Boy Scouts	15 Blade Articles Due BIRTHDAY: Diane Broksieck	16
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Potluck followed by Susan Huggins presentation TBA Youth Group 6:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice	18 BIRTHDAY: Judy Sebring	19 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 1:00 Prayer Quilt Group	20 7:00 Choir practice BIRTHDAY: Robby Flint	21 9:30 Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Anna Pickford	22	23
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Coffee/Fellowship TBA Youth Group 6:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice	25	26 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 1:00 Prayer Quilt Group	27 7:00 Choir practice	28 Thanksgiving Day <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> Office closed Nov. 28 & 29 </div>	29 TBA Lunch Bunch BIRTHDAY: Don Norton	30

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.