

THE BLADE

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



October 2021



*“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

How being a Christian
is like being a **pumpkin**.



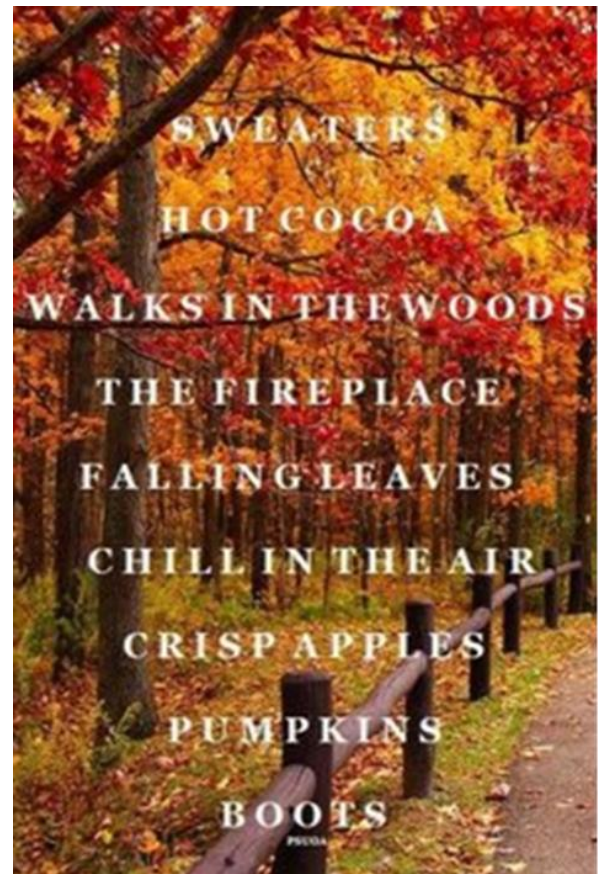
God picks You from the patch and brings You in.
🌿 (John 15: 16) 🌿

Then He washes all the dirt off of You.
🌿 (2 Corinthians 5: 17) 🌿

He opens You up and scoops out all the yucky
stuff. He removes the seeds of
doubt, hate, greed etc.
🌿 (Romans 6: 6) 🌿

Then He carves You a new smiling face.
🌿 (Psalm 71: 23) 🌿

And He puts His light inside You to shine for
all the world to see.
🌿 (Matthew 5: 16) 🌿





THE BLADE

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006

(605) 692-2416

www.brookingspresbyterian.org

presby@brookings.net

Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190

brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com

In office at FPC 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 2:30 pm

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" and "Susan's Saga."



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.

October 3: Maxine D, Bill & Ann D, Mary E

October 10: Evelyn F, Bob & Pat F, Robby & Donna F

October 17: Joel & Bonnie F & family Lynn, Paige, & Gayle, Elizabeth F

October 24: Gene & JoAnn G, Jon & Linda G & family Grace & Lottie

October 31: Dean & Sharon H, Nelda H, MK H



Session Update --September 9, 2021

Congregational Town Hall Meeting and Potluck previously scheduled for October 10th is postponed- a new date will be chosen after the current COVID resurgence has slowed down.

Coffee will become available after worship for those who wish to visit. We still encourage you to wear masks when you are within 6 feet of others outside your household.

Sunday School begins September 12th- thanks to Bonnie Foster, Linda Barnett, Sue Young, Robby Flint, and Kennedy Nyongbela who have volunteered to lead youth Sunday School right after church each Sunday. Adult Sunday School begins on the 12th as well, led by Mike McCann, starting at 9:15 (before church).

While negotiations continue with the company that destroyed the church parking lot, it may be that we will be paying part of the repair cost. If that happens, if you would like to make a special contribution to help defray that cost, those contributions will be welcome.

The nominating committee has completed its work- thanks to those who have agreed to serve as Deacons and Elders. A **congregational meeting** will take place right after worship service on **October 10th** to elect Deacons and Elders.

Session approved a **vacation** request from **Reverend Kaul for October 17-21.**

Session approved a **vacation** request from **Rozanne McGrath for October 7-12.**

Respectfully Submitted
Donna Flint, Clerk of Session



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- TBA **Worship Committee** via **Zoom** at 7:00 PM
- Tuesday, Oct. 5 : **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
- Sunday, Oct. 10: **Congregational Meeting** after Worship (elect church officers)
- Thursday, Oct. 14: **Session Meeting** in **person** at 7:00 PM

STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- SUNDAY** 9:15 AM Adult Sunday School and 11:45 AM Youth Sunday School
- 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
- MEN'S BROTHERHOOD** on October 21 at 5:30 PM at the church basement
- SISTERHOOD** on October 21 at 5:30 PM at Perkins, dutch treat



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.

* Just for your information, the per capita per person for 2021 is \$34.78. If you have not done so, we would appreciate your donation.

THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

by David Peterson, Treasurer

The financial report through the end of August could use some explaining. The UCC income was from a six-month agreement (Nov 15 to May 15) we had with the United Church of Christ for sharing a minister. The amount of money was based upon the percentage of time spent at each church and covered salary and benefits for Rev Kaul. Without that income, it appears that our monthly expenses are exceeding our income. This trend may be a concern since we have reduced our expenses as much as we can.

	Monthly Financial Report					
2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Income	11,994.57	13,745.98	13,416.47	9,104.20	11,294.38	12,668.70
UCC	2,196.94	2,196.94		4,393.88	1,098.47	2,196.94
Total Income	14,191.51	15,942.92	13,416.47	13,498.08	12,392.85	14,865.64
Expense	12,611.83	13,243.51	12,918.39	15,232.97	12,687.32	11,563.88
Difference	1,579.68	2,699.41	498.08	-1,734.89	-294.47	3,301.76

2021	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	To Date	
Income	10,263.48	8,169.31					90,657.09	
UCC							12,083.17	
Total Income	10,263.48	8,169.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	102,740.26	102,740.26
Expense	11,543.09	10,993.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,794.89	
Difference	-1,279.61	-2,824.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,945.37	1,945.37

HALL OF FAME 2021
Recognition Given by
South Dakota Senior Games Association
September 10, 2021

I started a program of serious long distance running during my thirties. It turned into an obsession of nearly ten miles per day and more than 3,000 miles per year over a period of ten years, culminating in a national ranking in the marathon at age forty-five, when I ran the Lincoln Marathon in 2 hours and 44 minutes. My bowed legs finally gave out after more than 30,000 miles of pounding the pavement. Knee replacement on one leg and upper tibia osteotomy on the other put an end to that career.

My wife, Judy, and I moved to Brookings in 1999. A few years later, the State Senior Games came to town. Somewhere I saw the schedule and yearned to be able to get back into a competitive activity. I knew that running wasn't in the game for me, but there must be something I could do! So 40 some years after high school I thought I maybe could throw the Discus again. Think again. I couldn't remember how to turn (we call it the spin) or much of anything else for that matter. I accidentally met up with the SDSU throws coach and we started talking. One thing led to another, and she invited me to join up with she and the University throwers. She agreed to help me learn the discus throw. I was an excited and willing student and with her help, I managed to relearn much of the technique well enough to finish third in the Discus that year. I was encouraged and was sixth in the nation in discus for my age group a few years later.

After competing fairly well in the discus throw at Regional and State Games in South Dakota, I explored the possibility of additional events. I had never picked up a shot or a javelin. Those events, still works in progress, have joined with the Discus and I have enjoyed all three for several years.

I have been pleased to serve as a member of the SD Senior Games Board of Directors for several years and have tried to be useful. I am very humbled and honored to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. –“Never quit –Never give up”
Richard L. (Dick) Smith



Congratulations Jon & Linda!
Welcome to
our newest little pumpkin
Lottie Mae
born September 1st



MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

October 2021

Andrew L'Amour

Men's Brotherhood Notes: MB met on September 16. A fine meal was prepared by Mike and his Happy Cookers. Always something good to eat! The program was presented by Simeon Brown who talked about his exploits as an English as a Second Language instructor around the world, both on-site – in foreign countries and on-line. A very interesting program.



Prayer/Action: “Micah 6:8 And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

I have read this scripture many times and nowhere does it say “to amass as much money as you can possibly can in your life.”

As a matter of fact, Jesus does say in Matthew 6:24 “No one can serve two masters. You will either hate the one and love the other, Or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

Jesus also said that the greatest commandment is to love God with our whole heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

God is love. He loves justice. He wants to extend mercy to all. He wants us to be humble in all of our actions. To be humble is to behave as though we are not better than our neighbor. It is not rocket science, as they say, to see what God loves. He loves us. Not just me, but ALL of us. He loves mercy for all. Not just me, but ALL of us. When we love God we are giving up our selfish human desires to become as He is – the embodiment of love.

Therefore, to serve God we need to get our priorities straight. Where we put God ahead of money and materialistic goods. Where we put the well-being of our neighbors on the same plane as where we put our own well-being. Thus we will fulfill the two great laws of love.

HY VEE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Beginning Balance: \$80,712.69

Posted: \$4,820.28

Total: \$85,532.97

Needed to Date: \$64,467.03

Required for \$1,000 donation:

\$150,000.00

Remember to bring in your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

We talked in the worship service this week about answering God's call. Perhaps you feel you have been called to help the church record HyVee receipts. We are looking for a team of people willing to help record the receipts. The time commitment can be as much or as little as you like, and the church earns a thousand dollar for each \$150,000 of receipts! If you are interested, the process is pretty easy and there are only two requirements: 1. you must have a computer with internet and 2. you must have or be willing to set up a free google account.

Please let the church office know if you are willing to join the team. Once we have a group of people, we will arrange a time to meet to help you set up your google account if needed and to train you on how to enter the HyVee receipts.

Many hands make light work, so let's work together!

The Scouts Troop 14

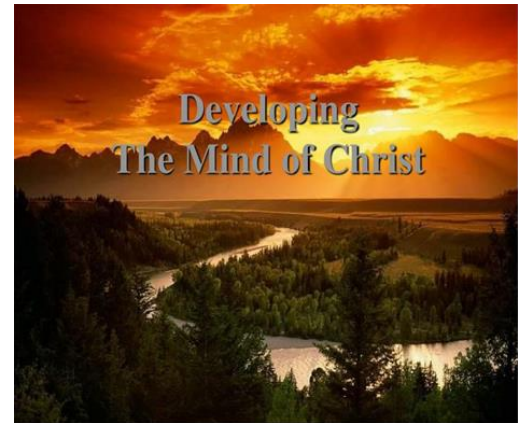
will not be meeting until safety guidelines are decided upon.



Revelings for October

“The Demonstration of the Mind of Christ”

The late Rev. Dr. Eugene Peterson's Message Translation of the Bible, sometimes gets the point of God's Word across to us more clearly, in ways that may just surprise us. That's the case with Philippians 3:4-14 as Paul describes how he'd like for those in this church he founded at Philippi to think, behave and believe. Paul desires that they, like he himself, must “put on Christ,” specifically acquire and put on “the mind of Christ” in themselves and daily. Read the passage below:



Philippians 3:4-14 *The Message 2-6 Steer clear of the barking dogs, those religious busybodies, all bark and no bite. All they're interested in is appearances—knife-happy circumcisers, I call them. The real believers are the ones the Spirit of God leads to work away at this ministry, filling the air with Christ's praise as we do it. We couldn't carry this off by our own efforts, and we know it—even though we can list what many might think are impressive credentials. You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting the church; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book. 7-9 The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness.*

10-11 *I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself. If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it.*

Focused on the Goal 12-14 *I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.*

As we continue with our third lesson of “Equipping for Ministry in the 21st Century” the question, “What does the mind of Christ lived out in a regular person look like?” is asked. That's such a great question for us today. What constitutes then what a regular person looks like, much less the mind of Christ lived out in such person, can become a challenge for/to us. Over and over in scripture we're reminded of how counter-cultural God is and how God works in the world. We're reminded of how counter-intuitive God is and how God works things out for us.

In this lesson from The Layman, Winter 2014 is written, “Paul recognizes the ultimate exchange of his mind for the mind of Christ. He “gets it” that the secret of being content is not all the stuff of the world or the relative happiness we might experience in a fleeting moment. He knows that the joy of being in relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ and living a Spirit-filled and God-directed life is a far more rich and worthy than anything the world can give. Add to that the profound reality that the world cannot take it away and you have the kind of joy Paul experiences in every moment of life, no matter the circumstances. Paul helps us see what the mind of Christ operating in a regular man looks like. It provides a pattern for us to follow.”

I think that the same can and must be said of Jesus too, long before Paul wrote what he did to the church at Philippi. One question that was asked in this lesson above, was, "So, is the same mind in you that was in Paul?" I'll add further, "is the same mind that was in Jesus Christ, the Son of God in each one of us? And one more question from the lesson, "How are you doing that for Christians in the spiritual generation coming along after you?"

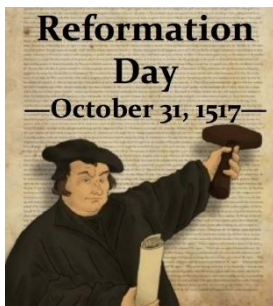
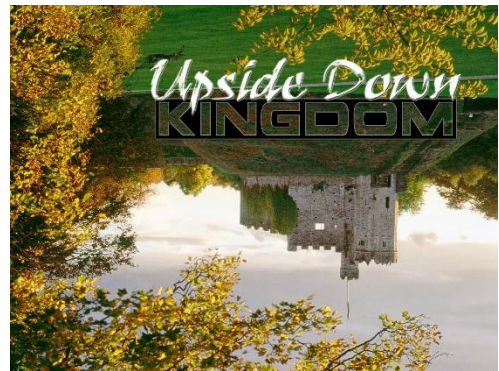
How are we setting the example for those coming after us? As I think of this question, the words as prayer come to mind from the hymn, "As I went down to the river to pray." Let us pray: Refrain: As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way. 1 Oh, sisters/brothers/children/sinners, let's go down, let's go down, won't you come on down. (repeat) to the river to pray. Good Lord show me the way, Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Rev. Norlita

Fall Series #2 The Upside-Down Kingdom

- Oct. 3 "When Children are Blessed" Mark 10:2-16
Oct. 10 "When The Last are First" Mark 10:17-31
Oct. 17 "When the Least are Greatest" Mark 10:35-45
Oct. 24 "When the Blind can See" Mark 10:46-52
Oct. 31 "The Greatest Commandment" Mark 12:28-34



REFORMATION AND ALL SAINTS DAY SERVICE ON OCTOBER 31

Usually these two days in the church year are observed on separate Sundays. This year is special! We will remember our heritage and our friends/loved ones during our worship service this day. Please submit a name/photo for our PowerPoint this day. Also after worship there will be a fun activity as arranged by our Christian Education committee.



SUSAN'S SAGA

October 2021

This nugget of Scripture encapsulates the Gospel message:

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

Yet the shocking fact is that of the 7360 living languages in the world today, less than half have this essential truth in their mother tongue. That means that over 3000 languages have yet to hear of God's amazing love for them.

This gargantuan need motivates us to press on with the task of Bible translation, the Church's assignment to make God's love known to all people.

Thank you for your part in helping one minority language in southern Mexico to have access to God's Word.




Susan Huggins

Scripture quote is taken from the New American Standard Bible. *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*



October 2020



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Rozanne's vacation Oct. 7-12					1	2
Rev. Norlita's vacation Oct. 15-21					OFFICE CLOSED	ANNIVERSARY: Dave & Lee Peterson
3 World Communion Sunday ⁴ 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship and Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:45 Sunday School	<i>Oct 3 continued:</i> BIRTHDAY: Chad Broksieck	5 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers 6:30 Mission/Finance Mtg via Zoom	6 ANNIVERSARY: Roger & Marvis Jenner BIRTHDAY: Jan Jones	7 9:30 Bible Study Rozanne's vacation Oct. 7-12	8	9
10 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom Congregational Mtg 11:45 Sunday School	11	12 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	13 <i>Oct 12 continued:</i> BIRTHDAY: Rozella Potthast	14 9:30 Bible Study Session Meeting at FPC 7:00 PM	15 BLADE Articles Due ANNIVERSARY: Kelly & Tami Watson	16
17 (Pastor Dorothy Tuft) 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:45 Sunday School	18 Rev. Kaul's vacation Oct. 15-21	19 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	20	21 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood 5:30 Sisterhood at Perkins	22 <i>Oct 21 continued</i> BIRTHDAY: Michele Kemp Maria Mason	23
24 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:45 Sunday School	25	26 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	27 <i>Oct 26 continued</i> BIRTHDAYS: Mike McCann Tami Watson	28 9:30 Bible Study	29	30 BIRTHDAYS: Maxine Dornbush Rick Salonen
31 Reformation/All Saints 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:45 Sunday School					Daylight Savings Time ends Nov. 7 at 2:00 AM	

The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



Return Service Requested

Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:15 am Adult Bible Study
10:30 am Worship Service
11:45 am Sunday School

Pastor's Office Hours

At FPC

Mon, Tues, Thurs

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available
as need/desired

Pastor's Sabbath

Friday and Saturday

(in emergencies, please call/text
Pastor's cell #)

Church Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

9:00 am – 2:30 am

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.

Please contact the church office at presby@brookings.net or 605-692-2416, to notify us.