

THE BLADE

September 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

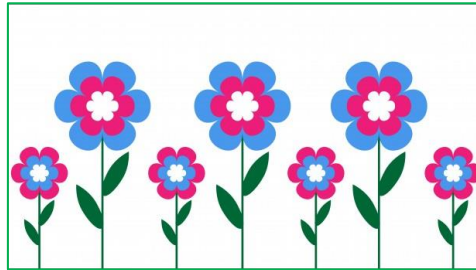
Worship Returns to

10:30 a.m.

September 1



After reviewing feedback from the congregation and discussing the pros and cons of each option, Session has decided that starting September 1, the worship service will begin at 10:30 a.m., and the service will remain at 10:30 throughout the year. Thank you to everyone for your input and prayers.



The Sunday School Kickoff will be at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, **September 8**. Participants of all ages are invited to join in our kick-off event which will include planting flowers at a nearby habitat house, followed by breakfast served by the Men's Brotherhood. The plants will be purchased with the local portion of our congregation's Pentecost offering.

On **September 15**, Sunday School will be starting at its regular time of 9:15 a.m. with music from 9:15-9:30 and Sunday School from 9:30-10:15.

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.



september



THE BLADE

Published Monthly
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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.

Sept. 1: Judy Sebring, Larry & Melanie Shepherd & Abigail

Sept. 8: Richard & Judy Smith, Susan Smith

Sept. 15: Terry & Ann Spitzenberger, Adele Sudlow, Janet TeBeest

Sept. 22: Nancy Thompson, Arlyce Thorne, Francis Trapp

Sept. 29: Stephen & Carrie Van Buren, Arthur & Marjorie VanderWaal, Calvin Vaudrey



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)*



On August 11, Bob and Jan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church. Over 150 friends and relatives from the church and from various towns in which Jan and Bob had resided or worked during their 50 years together joined them. They wish to thank all who attended and added to the joy of memories that were shared. Since their actual wedding occurred on August 17, their celebration continues with each card and phone call they receive. Bless you all! -The Joneses-

Worship on the Farm



The congregation enjoyed Worship on the Farm Aug. 11, with Gary Larson offering the message, Don and Kay Norton leading music, and Elizabeth Fox providing the children's sermon. A great potluck followed!

Thanks to the Foster family for once again opening their home to us for this special time.

Upcoming Events



First Presbyterian Church will be serving the Harvest Table on Monday, September 16, with the Men's Brotherhood cooking. Volunteers will be needed to complete the project. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We anticipate the cost will be approximately \$500 and would request your support of this project. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church will be hosting the South Dakota Presbytery meeting on October 25th. Session is requesting an ad-hoc committee to plan and carry out our part of the meeting. Work will range from planning meals and refreshments and facilities to setting up on the meeting day. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Donna Flint.

FROM SESSION:

As you may have heard, Session is currently seeking an interim Pastor. We should know in the next few weeks whether that search will be successful. Whether or not we find an interim pastor, it is time to start thinking about this: Who are we and what is God's plan for this congregation? This is a conversation for all of us and we all should think about, pray about, and contribute to this conversation over the next few months. Part of your contribution could be to be a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Nominations for this committee should be solicited sometime in September. - Your contribution to this important committee can make a difference in the life of this church.

FROM CE COMMITTEE: Table Grace

The Christian Education committee invites you to participate in our new Table Grace program. Sign-up sheets will be in the bulletin September 1 and September 8. Participants will be notified each month that they are a "Table Grace Group," and then it is up to you to decide when and where you will meet. The group should plan to meet within the month, after which names will again be drawn for new groups. (By changing the groups monthly, we will get to better know more members of our congregation.) There's only one rule, and that is there are NO RULES! Each group is free to decide date and location for the meal, and who brings what. Suggestions might be brunch after church, a midweek "easy-peasy" supper, a meal at a quiet restaurant, a cookout, or even a brown bag lunch. This activity is NOT intended to create too much work for anyone, nor add any stress to our already busy lives. So long as the group is together breaking bread, that's all that matters. It is recommended that one person in the group bring a short devotional to share, but it need not be a prepared Bible Study lesson. For ideas, check out the library display.

**THE GOAL IS TO HAVE FUN OVER A SHARED MEAL
AND THANK GOD FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY!**



Time seems to go by so fast. We can almost feel autumn in the air. Our thoughts and love for one another in our congregation is so important in our lives. The Deacons are asking for assistance from the congregation to share some of their time to help us prepare meals for those who have had an illness, surgery, or difficult issue in their lives. You do not need to prepare the whole meal. A casserole, soup, salad, or simple dessert would really help. Food in our culture seems to be a way we show our compassion and love for each other. There will be a sign-up sheet on the volunteer bulletin board. We will call when the need arises.

* **SHARE THE WARMTH:** Believe it or not...cold weather is on its way! And we need to share our warmth. Donate your used/new winter coats, mittens & gloves, winter hats, scarves, snow boots, snow pants...of any size...to the Salvation Army's "Share the Warmth." This county-wide give away is very organized and very well attended. This year there is a change on where you drop off your donations. Look for the Best Choice trucks at the University Mall and the Faith Reformed Church. Donations are accepted between 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. September 1 – October 13. Distribution will be on October 17 from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. at Faith Reformed Church.

* **FOOD PANTRY:** FPC collects items for the Food Pantry the first Sunday of every month and this month will be **Sunday, September 1**. 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



The Christian Education committee, personnel, and Session are pleased to announce that **Susan Smith** has agreed to serve as part-time Youth Director. Susan will be meeting with the youth twice a month, not only to have fun, but to help the youth investigate who they are and what God asks of them in their everyday life. Please join us in thanking Susan for taking on this important responsibility.

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord!

CHOIR PRACTICE will begin Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m. to prepare to sing for the first time this season on September 8th. If you've always enjoyed singing, but never joined a choir, this is a good time to start! If you've been taking a break from choir, come back! If you've heard someone behind you in the pew who should be in the choir, encourage them to give choir a try! Choir practice is not only about singing- it is a time of fellowship and worship which can inspire you throughout the rest of the week!



Image by JenniferWebb from Pixabay

Ding, Dong, The Time has Come!

It is time to think about ringing our bells again. The adult bell choir will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 8. Anyone 18 and older with experience ringing bells is welcome to come to this rehearsal. If you are interested but unable to attend, please contact Elizabeth Fox at Elizabeth.fox@sdstate.edu or 605-691-5211.

For youth and beginning ringers, we will have a meeting after church on Sunday, September 8 to talk about when we want to rehearse. We should be done meeting by noon. Please bring your planners to this meeting so we can find times to meet. This group will focus on the mechanics of ringing to improve the basics and will begin ringing hymns as well as change ringing. Beginning ringers do not need to be able to read music yet. This group will be focused on learning and having fun. The group will perform in church at least once during the year but may play more depending on their confidence and desire.

Handbells such as the ones we have, were originally designed to allow change ringers to practice outside their church towers. Imagine if we had 8 or 12 bells in our church tower and several of us wanted to win at bell ringing competitions. The hours of practice we would put in would be heard throughout the neighborhood. Now imagine you are not one of the ringers but lived a house or two away from the church. Constant practicing would become very tedious. The handbells allowed practice of the music without disturbing the neighbors.

Change ringing is the practice of ringing tower bells in a pattern. If you have ever watched a movie set in Victorian times (or the periods just before or after) that had a wedding in it, you probably hear the bells ringing from high to low in a somewhat rhythmic pattern. If you continued to listen, the pattern would change with repetition. Instead of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, it would become 1, 3, 2, 5, 4 for a couple times and then it would become 3, 1, 5, 2, 4 and it would keep changing in a specific pattern until the ringers ended up with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 again. This should all be done in strict rhythm but when ringing bells in a tower, that is incredibly difficult to do. Change ringing is the practice of ringing a pattern with a change in the repetitions. It takes skill, practice, and a lot of concentration and can be great fun.

If you enjoy television murder mysteries and would like to see one about bell ringers out of control, try the *Midsomer Murders* from the BBC, episode titles *Ring Out Your Dead*.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Andrew L'Amour
September 2019 –



Scripture Reading: John 13:34-35 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Quote: Civility is the recognition that all people have dignity that's inherent to their person, no matter their religion, race, gender, sexuality, or ability. Opal Tometi

Men's Brotherhood Notes: We had Men's Brotherhood in August. Our speaker was Donna Flint who gave us an update on the church. Upcoming MB/Church events: September 8 MB will be serving a breakfast to kick-off the new church year. September 16 the church will be serving the meal at the Harvest Table. Our next meeting will be September 19. We hope to see you then. Spread the word and invite others to join us.

Prayer Concerns: Pray for civility in our society. We all have our own opinions on matters. As Christians we need to set examples of how to conduct civil discourse.

Action: Speak out against incivility. Seek understanding.

Do you get on social media to chat with friends, share pictures, life events and maybe check out things that folks you know have posted? Social media can be both a blessing and a curse. It can be fun to see what is happening in friends or relatives' lives. We can enjoy being able to keep up with our loved ones who may be on the other side of the country or globe. What a blessing!

Unfortunately, as with anything else, it can be easy and tempting to engage in ideas or behaviors we might not be so eager to do otherwise. Snide comments, derogatory opinions, and demeaning comments do not reflect well on a Christian.

I admit that I am not without fault in this. It is very tempting to want to make a comment or response to someone else's really dumb comment or idea. But, is it really civil to think that someone else's comment is “dumb”? If we want to be respected by anyone else, we must offer respect to that other person. This does not mean that we have to agree with them. Maybe it means we have to look harder at what we believe ourselves and how to express our ideas in a way that is not offensive, or discourteous.

Jesus said to love one another. Are we loving one another when we treat them with disrespect? Are we seeking understanding, are we really listening? In Proverbs 18: 2 the author said, “Fools find no pleasure in understanding, but delight in airing their own opinions.” Let's enjoy the good fruits of our social media in a loving spirit.



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. Outings will be decided at a later date.

Happy Grandparent's Day on September 8th

HY VEE

Remember to bring in your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts. Our church receives a \$1,000 check from HyVee for every \$150,000 in receipts. We've reached our Goal!

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$1,410.59

Needed to Date: \$149,589.41

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!



FOR SALE

2-wheel trailer received by the Men's Brotherhood. The trailer is sturdy and constructed from a 1952 Studebaker pickup truck box and measures 4 ft. x 6 ½ ft. \$100 OBO

Contact Mike McCann at 605-690-4253

September - National Disaster Preparedness Month.

The theme for 2019 is **Prepared, Not Scared. Be Ready for Disasters.**

The weekly themes are:

- Week 1: Sept 1-7 Save Early for Disaster Costs
- Week 2: Sept 8-14 Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters
- Week 3: Sept 15-21 Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters
- Week 4: Sept 22-30 Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness



Find information at <https://www.ready.gov/september>



Transitions. Change can be a challenge. Some changes are for the better. Others can be difficult and painful. Sometimes it is hard to be in limbo, waiting for a change when we have no control over the exact timing. The unknown can be uncomfortable. Looming changes can seem very daunting. Sometimes change serves to jar us out of our complacency. At times, the prospect for change is exciting, wondering what the next step will bring.

Actually all of life is a continuous transition, a continual interplay of old and new. In the midst of change, it is essential to maintain our focus on God, always the same, yet ever creative, constantly on the move.

God can use change in our lives, to chisel and scour away what is contrary to how God intends for us to be, to shape and mold us according to God's purposes. In this season of transition, may we be open and receptive to the changes God is making in our lives.

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



- And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain." John 6:65; 15:16b

PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER August 2019

God is always at work around us. This is one thing that Henry Blackaby emphasizes in his study, "Experiencing God", (the Bible study we are using at the prison). If we are going to join Him in His work, we will have to adjust our lives and thinking to what He is asking us to do. We have to be available to join Him in His work. It is only in His strength that we do His work. John 15:5 makes it clear, "For without Me you can do nothing." God is always at work in the prison drawing broken people to Himself! The stories I hear from men about their broken and shattered lives, I know only God can fix. I am thankful to be able to give them hope!

One of the men who is in prison temporarily, requested to visit with me. He told me he did 10 years in prison before coming back for a short time. He never was that interested in Christianity during the first 10 years.

This time he found himself thinking more about getting his life right with God. I went over the plan of salvation with him and explained that apart from Jesus Christ there is reason to fear death. Then he said to me, "It is interesting that the other night I was thinking about death and it struck fear in my heart. I do not know what would happen to me if I died and now here, we are talking about how to get rid of the fear of death." His eyes were tearing up when he said, "I really need to get right with God. I went to church growing up, but I never took it seriously." I told him it was the Lord who brought the thought of death to his mind and his need to get right with the Lord. He prayed for Christ to forgive his sins and invited Jesus to be his Lord and Savior! He was very thankful for finding peace with God! Praise the Lord at how He works in the lives of people to draw them to Himself!

It is a blessing that inmates can watch TBN Christian broadcasts in their cells. We had the opportunity to have the TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network) tour group, called "2nd Chance", put on a two-hour program at the prison. The program was very beneficial for the men as they sang praises, had times of laughter, heard a message from Psalm 1, about the importance of getting right with God. The men were encouraged in the Lord!

Continue to pray for the incoming and outgoing inmates. Pray that the men who come to Christ in prison will grow deep in the Lord! Thank you for your prayers and financial support! You are a blessing!

Harlan Moss

When you write your checks, 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>



SEPTEMBER 2019 VOLUNTEERS

USHERS

Skip & Sharon Webster,
Joel Foster, Paige Foster,
Ella Lane

SOUND: Dave Peterson

SCRIPTURE READERS

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| Sept. 1 | Dan Kemp |
| Sept. 8 | Jan Jones |
| Sept. 15 | Mike McCann |
| Sept. 22 | Dolores Canaday |
| Sept. 29 | Robby Flint |

LEADERS OF CHILDREN'S TIME

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| Sept. 1 | Donna Flint |
| Sept. 8 | Gary Larson |
| Sept. 15 | Elizabeth Fox |
| Sept. 22 | Jan Jones |
| Sept. 29 | Donna Flint |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| 1 <i>Rev. Dr. Carolyn Visser</i> 10:30 Worship Service Communion 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 11:30 Session Meeting BIRTHDAY: Allison Moerke | 2 OFFICE CLOSED for Labor Day | 3 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) | 4 7:00 Choir practice ANNIVERSARY: Tom & Jeanne Jones Manzer | 5 9:30 Bible Study 5:15 Deacons Meeting 7:00 Boy Scouts ANNIVERSARY: Richard & Judy Smith | 6 | 7 BIRTHDAY: Chelsea Barkus |
| 8 <i>Crystal Knock</i> 9:00 Sunday School Kick-off 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 11:30 Worship Committee Mtg 11:30 Youth/Beginner Bell Choir 7:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice BIRTHDAY: Marlys Kelsey | 9 7:00 Building & Grounds Meeting | 10 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 6:30 Mission & Finance Meeting | 11 7:00 Choir practice | 12 9:30 Bible Study | 13 | 14 BIRTHDAY: Arlyce Thorne |
| 15 <i>Elizabeth Fox/Dolores Canaday</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 7:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice BIRTHDAY: Abigail Schuurman | 16 Blade Articles Due Harvest Table BIRTHDAY: Susan Smith | 17 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) | 18 7:00 Choir practice | 19 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood 7:00 Boy Scouts | 20 BIRTHDAY: Jeanne Jones Manzer | 21 BIRTHDAY: Rebekah Schuurman |
| 22 <i>Harlan Moss/Prison Ministry</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 7:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice ANNIVERSARY: Art & Marjorie VanderWaal | 23 BIRTHDAY: Barb Borstad | 24 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) | 25 7:00 Choir practice | 26 9:30 Bible Study BIRTHDAY: Arend Schuurman | 27 11:30 Lunch Bunch BIRTHDAY: Ella Lane | 28 BIRTHDAY: Lynn Riedesel |
| 29 <i>Pastor Dorothy Tufte</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship Coffee 7:00 Adult Bell Choir Practice | 30 BIRTHDAY: Emma Moerke | | | | | |

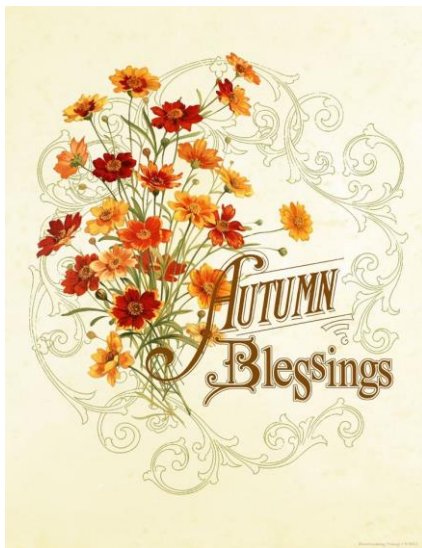
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Return Service Requested



**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.