

THE BLADE

September & October 2022

“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



Sunday September 25, 2022

10:30 AM

Hillcrest Park, Shelter B

Worship Service Potluck Picnic after



*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

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

**The Church Office
will be closed
Monday, Sept. 5**



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 2022 is \$34.78 (same as last year). 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.

For month of September

Sept 4: Dean & Sharon H, Nelda H, Dennis H & Carolyn C

Sept 11: MK H, Roger & Marvis J, Bob & Jan J

Sept 18: Rev. Norlita K, Dan & Michele K, Don K & Carol G

Sept 25: Delores K, Andrew & Beth L, Ella L

For month of October

Oct 2: Dennis & Vivian L, Pam L, Darwin & Jeanne L

Oct 9: Martin & Sally M, Tom & Jeannie M, Maria M

Oct 16: Mike & Judy M, Rozanne M, Daniel & Carolyn M
(Hannah, Allison, Emma)

Oct 23: Marlys M, Bob & Nancy O, David & Lee P

Oct 30: John P, Harold & Marjorie P, Rose P

Session Update August 4, 2022

Session approved the proposal to send the original minutes books (books 1-8) to the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia for appropriate storage. There is no charge for this service and the books will be retained in a secure, climate-controlled environment. The church will have access to the books, should a need arise.

Session approved the following vacation days for Reverend Kaul: July 18-21 and August 11-18.

The church has received \$1,000 from HyVee for receipts submitted earlier this year and a second \$1,000 is expected soon. Keep bringing your HyVee receipts!

Session continued its interim work by discussing the Town Hall Meeting #2 and planning for Town Hall Meeting #3 (date in October to be determined). They also continued discussion of the book Sailboat Church.

The nominating committee was activated- please contact Donna Flint (chair), Dan Kemp, Rick Salonen, or Roger Jenner if you feel God is calling you to serve as a deacon.

Session received the following **report from the Presbytery commissioner**:

The following changes in minimum requirements for a full-time pastor call were approved by Presbytery to take effect 2023:

- minimum effective salary is \$49,000 (our current is \$46,000)
- minimum mileage \$1200 (we have \$2500)
- minimum continuing education \$2000 (we have \$1500)
- minimum professional expenses \$750 (we have \$1250)
- minimum vacation 4 weeks as 28 days- (we count 4 weeks as 20 days- **will require change in personnel policy**)
- minimum study leave 2 weeks as 14 days (we count 2 weeks as 10 days- **will require change in personnel policy**)

Actions of the General Assembly that reflect the PCUSA stand on current issues:

- Plan for development of resources for ministering to veterans and service personnel
- A resolution to write a new confession- dealing with past oppressive theologies that elevated particular groups and reduced the humanity of others based on race, gender, nationality, sexuality or socioeconomic status.
- Commitment to working for justice in U.S. immigration policy
- Litany of Repentance regarding white privilege
- Resolution condemning the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and crimes against humanity
- Renew commitment to end gun violence by developing 10-year campaign- start is here: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/2019-gun-violence-resources-package/>
- Affirm that women and pregnant people are full moral agents, recognizing that God alone is Lord of the conscience, the PCUSA believes in their moral capacity to decide whether to continue or end any given pregnancy and supports access to contraceptive and abortion care
- Established a permanent advocacy committee for LGBTQIA+
- Recognized that the policies of Israel regarding the Palestinian people fulfill the legal definition of apartheid

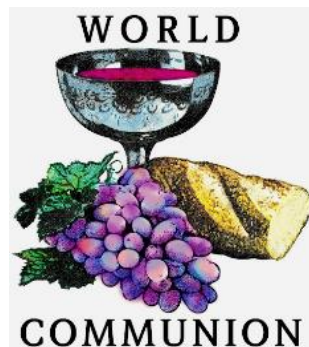


Monthly Financial Report								
2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	To Date
Income	10,809.10	20,706.79	14,882.60	8,442.89	12,928.35	13,307.38	10,450.17	81,077.11
Expense	13,991.56	12,687.94	13,746.67	15,397.83	12,148.82	12,196.48	10,437.47	80,169.30
Difference	-3,182.46	8,018.85	1,135.93	-6,954.94	779.53	1,110.90	12.70	907.81
		adj 125						

September is here, school has started, and the weather is cooling off. It is time to start cleaning out the closets and deciding what you want to keep and what needs to be replaced. The Salvation Army accepts donations of gently used or new winter coats, snow pants, boots, weatherproof gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. Donations can be taken to their office at 410 7th St. Monetary donations can be made on the Salvation Army website (www.SalArmyBrookings.org) or a check can be put in the offering plate with a notation to go to Share the Warmth. The goal of **Share the Warmth Program** is to reduce the cost to families for warm outerwear for grade school children, but the program is open to all. The event will be held on **Wednesday, October 12** at the Old Sanctuary, 928 4th Street.



Food prices continue to rise, and more people are needing help to feed their family. Donations to the Food Pantry can be made on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am to 5pm at 217 4th Street. The top 10 items needed are Cereal, Canned Fruit, Chicken/Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, Chili/Chili Beans, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Heavy Soup, Egg Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Oatmeal/Instant. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate with a notation on the check to go to the Food Pantry. Thank you for your support to these worthy causes. If you have any questions about the programs, please contact any of the deacons.



Sunday, October 2nd



Following worship at Hillcrest Park in Shelter B on Sunday, September 25, 2022, there will be a Potluck picnic. Please plan on staying to eat with us. If you can, please bring a dish to share. There are plug-ins available for hot pots. Coolers will be provided for cold dishes. Fellowship will provide water, juice, coffee, cups, napkins, plates, and utensils for those who don't bring their own.



OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY LUNCHEON

An anonymous donor provided a noon lunch for the Habitat Caravan workers on August 2, 2022. Pastor Norlita attended and provided the devotion and grace before we shared a meal with the workers. It was all very informative and inspirational. **If anyone is interest in providing a meal or part of a meal for Habitat workers**, please contact Ella L. at 605-695-0342.

A Message from Dan McColley, Lead Mission Officer, Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity

I hope you can join me at 7:30 am on October 3, 2022. Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity will be recognizing World Habitat Day with our first annual Hope Builders Breakfast. We are planning an uplifting and inspirational breakfast fellowship at the Mission Coffeehouse. More details, along with your opportunity to RSVP, will follow soon. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend.

News You Can Use

UPCOMING SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

- Tuesday, Sept 6: **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
Wednesday, Sept. 7: **Deacon Meeting** at Mission Coffee House at 11:30 AM
Thursday, Sept 8: **Session Meeting** in person at 7:00 PM
Sunday, Sept. 11: **Fellowship/Outreach Meeting** following worship

Notice about Sunday School

At this time, due to lack of demand, we are suspending adult Sunday School. Hopefully we can establish adult Sunday School again in the future. Regarding Children's Sunday School, because of lack of children, we also are suspending Children's Sunday School indefinitely. Hopefully we can reestablish for children again in the future. Mike M, Christian Ed Chair

UPCOMING OCTOBER MEETINGS

- Tuesday, Oct 4: **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM
Sunday, Oct. 9: **Fellowship/Outreach meeting** following worship
Thursday, Oct 13: **Session Meeting** in person at 7:00 PM
TBA **Congregational Town Hall Meeting**

STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP** 9:30ish AM at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House
- PIECES AND PRAYERS** on 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 Sept. 15 and Oct. 20 at 11:30 AM at First Lutheran's Mission Coffee House
- MEN'S BROTHERHOOD** on Sept. 15 and Oct. 20 at 5:30 PM at the church basement

SERVING THESE MONTHS

SEPTEMBER

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Dan K
Communion Servers:
Elder: Dan K. Deacon: Bonnie S.
Communion Usher: Lee P.

LITURGISTS

Sept. 4: Mike M
Sept 11: Terry S
Sept. 18: Linda B
Sept. 25: Dan K

OCTOBER

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Roger J/Bonnie F
Communion Servers:
Elder: Mike M. Deacon: Bonnie F.
Communion Usher: _____

LITURGISTS

Oct 2: Nancy T
Oct. 9: Rick S
Oct 16: Linda T
Oct 23: Mike M
Oct. 30: Lee P

Volunteers are needed to be a Greeter on Sunday Morning!

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD
September & October 2022
Andrew L'Amour



Men's Brotherhood Notes: Men's Brotherhood met on August 18. But rather than our usual time and place we assembled with the Habitat For Humanity annual thank you to the Brookings community picnic. There were four MB members in attendance. The club had approved a \$200 donation to Habitat for their continued work in our community.

Our church is heading into the new church year this month of September. What will the new year bring? Knowing the future has always one of mankind's desires. We won't know exactly no matter how much we desire it. There are some things that are just out of the reach of the span of our abilities.

However there are some things that we can know. For instance if we search the bible for places where it says "if you obey" there are numerous promises God makes to us. One example is found in Leviticus 26. Good things that happen for obedience followed by bad things for disobedience. The following are some of the promises for obedience: rain in due season, which will produce abundant crops; peace in the land; safety from our enemies. Though these good things are wonderful blessings, the fate for disobedience seems longer and more severe. Basically it is a litany of things that do and will happen if one abandons the God of justice.

So there is a way to know the future, to an extent. God makes promises which he will keep. There is a stipulation to them though – we must obey him. God loves us and wants only the best for us. However too often we think we know better than God and we can get in trouble – fast. In Matthew 25 where Jesus outlines the examples of what we must do for eternal life, the Condemned asked when did they see Jesus and not help him. But he answered if you fail to do it to the least of these – the hungry, the immigrant or those in prison you did not do it to him. Again in Matthew we see the future for neglecting to do the will of God to promote justice.

So what will the new year bring? It will certainly bring challenges. Hard decisions too. But remembering to obey God and to seek his will can help in dealing with the challenges we will face.



HY VEE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Goal: \$200,000.00
Receipts: \$27,130.02
Needed to Date: \$173,869.98

Required for \$1,000 donation:
\$200,000.00

Remember to bring in your
Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

HYVEE RECEIPTS

Thank you to everyone for turning in HyVee receipts. We are doing really well. We have received \$1000 from HyVee and waiting on a 2nd \$1000. HyVee has raised the total money needed to be collected from \$150,000 to \$200,000 starting this August. HyVee has also stopped printing out receipts when grocery orders are **done on-line**. You will receive a receipt online. If you can send a copy of the receipt by email to Rozanne at presby@brookings.net, she will pass it on to me for totaling. Thank you, Ella L.

Revelings for September and October 2022



This autumn, we're drawing upon the devotional "The Apostle's Creed, An Ancient, Creed-Like Hymn" by Kurt Selles, for this rendering of my usual Revelings. Since Selles refers to both The Apostles Creed and Philippians 2:5-11, I've included them below for us to read, recall and pray over these texts.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(* catholic-that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places)

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NRSV, Oremus.org)

Glory and humility, these are two attributes we've come to know as being synonymous, one with the other, as we've explored the texts about God's glory and Christ's humility over the last few years. A strange counter-cultural ideology this is, as God continues to stymie humankind, for in our humanness we want to equate humility with anything but gloriousness, or awe or wonder. Yet this is what Jesus understood and shared with his followers, time and again, as they walked the discipleship road with him.

Selles writes,—"Imagine yourself in a worship service 2,000 years ago, surrounded by sisters and brothers in the Lord and singing these words together (the Apostle's Creed). Then reread (or sing) this ancient hymn that has echoed down through the centuries. Reflect and mediate on the deep,

life-changing truths we can celebrate because of “Jesus, Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.” Selles continues, “The bible includes many song texts, our reading from Philipians 2 is one of them. In verses 6-11 is a hymn (or part of one) that was recited and sung by the early Christians in the first century. The apostle Paul uses it to summarize a number of important teachings as he urges readers to “have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” In some ways then, like the Apostle's Creed, this ancient hymn (Phil. 2:5-11), tells us who Jesus is, what he did for us and what will happen when he comes again.”

Oh to hear such recitations of revelation come springing forth, bubbling up in times of worship from the multitude that's gathered together, to praise and thank God for the awesome deeds God has done throughout any given week. Powerful singing it would be, powerful incense as sacrificial perfume it would be as our gift back to God. A powerful and awesome reminder of God at work in our world, it is, showing forth God's glory as fulfilled in the humility expressed by Jesus, ourselves and others each day.

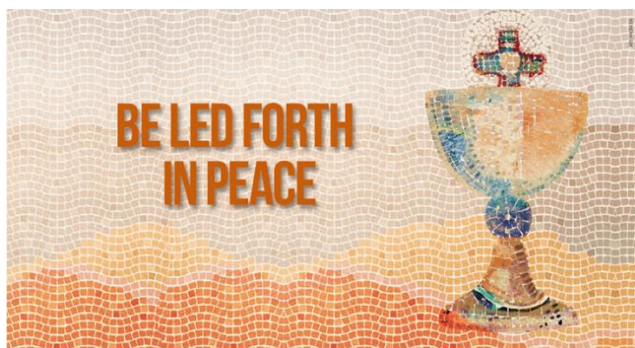
Selles goes on to share that “in your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. In worship services, it is common to sing songs of praise and hymns to God our Savior. In many ways, the Apostle's Creed is like a hymn. It points to and speaks about our relationships that we have with our Triune God and each other. It calls us to be humble, as Christ is humble. Therefore humility isn't a sign of weakness, but rather is a sense of trust, obedience and power, the power of our Triune God back to us for our continued growing. We're being asked to engage in meaningful relationships, to be humble within them, to seek our Living God and through our love, devotion and service not just to or with ourselves, but to and with other human being as well. God calls us to love and serve one another. May we indeed find something to help us be humble, helpful, hopeful, each and every day. See you in church!

Faithfully, Rev. Norlita

Prayer: “Jesus, out of love, you poured out your life for us, now help us, out of love, to pour out our lives for each other, (and for our world). In your name we pray, Amen. “

Fall Series: “What Disciples Do”

September 4	‘God’s House Plans’	Luke 14:25-35
September 11	‘Joy in Heaven’	Luke 15:1-10
September 18	‘Resist Greed’	Luke 16:1-13
September 24	‘Practice Generosity’	Luke 16:19-31
October 2	‘Taking Faith Home’	Luke 17:5-10



SPECIAL OFFERING

September 4 through October 2

Peace begins with each of us.

If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!
Thank you for your participation
in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.



September 2022



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 BIRTHDAY Allison M	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3
4 10:30 Worship and Communion in our Sanctuary/Zoom ANNIVERSARY: Tom & Jeannie M	5 <i>Labor Day</i> CLOSED LABOR DAY ANNIVERSARY: Richard & Judy S	6 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers Mission/Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom	7 11:30 Deacon Meeting at Mission Coffee House BIRTHDAY Chelsea B	8 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session Meeting-FPC	9	10
11 <i>Patriots Day/Grandparents Day</i> 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:30 Fellowship/Outreach Meeting after worship	12	13 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers	14 BIRTHDAY Arlyce T	15 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 AM Sisterhood at Mission Coffee House 5:30 Men's Brotherhood at FPC	16 BIRTHDAY Susan S	17
18 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	19	20 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers BIRTHDAY Jeannie M	21	22 9:30 Bible Study ANNIVERSARY: Art & Marjorie V	23	24
25 10:30 WORSHIP and PICNIC at HILLCREST PARK, Shelter B	26	27 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces & Prayers BIRTHDAY Ella L	28 BIRTHDAY Lynn R	29 9:30 Bible Study	30 BIRTHDAY Emma M	



October 2022



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	5Fri	Sat
					OFFICE CLOSED	1 BIRTHDAY Ann D
2 10:30 Worship and World Communion Day in our Sanctuary/Zoom ANNIVERSARY Dave & Lee P	3 BIRTHDAY Chad B	4 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers Mission/Finance Mtg 6:30 PM via Zoom	5 BIRTHDAY Jan J ANNIVERSARY Roger & Marvis J	6 9:30 Bible Study	7	8
9 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom 11:30 Fellowship/Outreach Meeting after worship	10	11 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	12 BIRTHDAY Rozella P	13 <i>BLADE Articles Due</i> 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session Meeting at FPC	14	15 ANNIVERSARY Kelly & Tami W
16 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	17	18 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	19	20 9:30 Bible Study 11:30 AM Sisterhood at Mission Coffee House 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	21 BIRTHDAY Michele K Maria M	22
23 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom	24	25 9:30 Coffee Group 1:30 Pieces and Prayers	26 BIRTHDAY Mike M Tami W	27	28	29
30 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 10:30 Worship in our Sanctuary/Zoom BIRTHDAY Maxine D Rick S	31				Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday Nov. 6 at 2:00 AM	

The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



Return Service Requested

Regular Sunday Schedule

10:30 am Worship Service

Pastor's Office Hours

At FPC

Mon, Tues, Thurs

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available
as need/desired

Church Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

9:00 am – 2:30 am

Pastor's Sabbath

Friday and Saturday

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

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.

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