



First United Methodist Church
625 Fifth Street
Brookings, SD 57006

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FROM THE PASTOR

Waiting

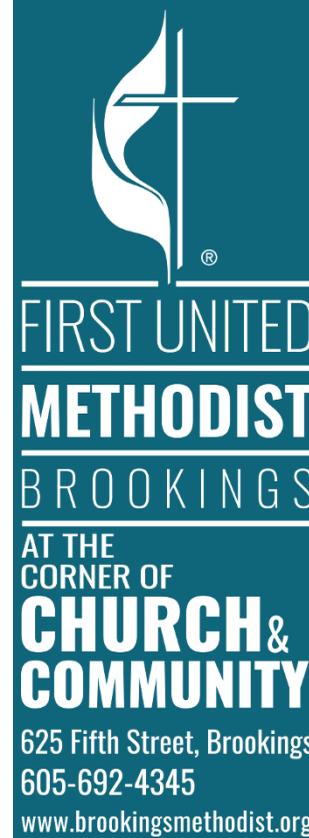
One of the toughest things for me is waiting. Our family has some farm ground and so this year it was waiting for the rain to stop, waiting for the crops to be planted, waiting for the first signs of green in the field, and now we will wait to see if we get enough rain and warmth to get a crop. And I'm not great at waiting.

As a church we are waiting as well. We are waiting for our new pastor to arrive. Even though people have been very gracious in saying that they appreciate my ministry, I also know that they are waiting for Pastor Pete and Jenny to arrive. They want to get to know him. They are anxious to see what gifts he will bring for ministry. They want to hear his vision for our congregation.

Last week I received an email from Pete. He shared that he too is tired of waiting and is wanting to come, to live and work among us. But his sister gave him some perspective. She reminded him that the Israelite people had to wait 40 years before they could enter the promised land after they had escaped from Egypt. Their waiting was not easy. But that time of waiting became a time of growth as they sought to grow into the people that God had created them to be.

Our time of waiting can be a time of growth for us as well as members of our congregation and staff step up into new roles and leadership. There is ministry that needs to be done and it will only happen as all live into the ministries to which God has called us to share. Will it be easy? The answer is no. May it require sacrifice? The answer is perhaps. But as we seek to continue and grow the ministry of our church family, we can be assured that God will be with us in this time of waiting. And if we are willing to be open to new opportunities, God will enable us to grow as individuals and as a church family into the congregation that God created us to be. Waiting— not always easy, but it can be a time of blessing.

Howard Grinager, Interim Pastor



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays

- 9:00am **'The Well' Worship**
Located in the Community Life Center
- 9:30am **Radio Broadcast**
(KBRK 1430AM)
- 11:00am **Traditional Worship**
Located in the Sanctuary

*Missed the Sunday sermon? Find recent messages on our website:
www.brookingsmethodist.org/worship*

Summer Worship Hours

At the last Church Council meeting, members voted to keep our worship hours at their current times throughout the summer months for consistency, and also to allow time between services to get to know our new pastor.

CHURCH STAFF

- Pastoral Staff**
Howard Grinager grinagerh@gmail.com
- Education Director**
Gretchen Knutson education@brookingsmethodist.org
- Worship & Music Director**
Teresa Person music@brookingsmethodist.org
- Community Life Center Director**
Vonda Kirkham communitylife@brookingsmethodist.org
- Office Manager**
Amy Merchant office@brookingsmethodist.org
- Financial Secretary**
JoAnn Lee finance@brookingsmethodist.org
- Faith Community Nurse**
Joanie Holm jholm229@gmail.com
- Tech Coordinator**
Paul Schmidt tech@brookingsmethodist.org

{PR&Y@625}

Join us daily in prayer at 6:25 (a.m., p.m. or both)

Holy God, you know times of change bring an uncertainty to our lives. In this time of transition within our congregation, we ask for your gift of peace for ourselves and our church family. We pray also for our new pastor, Pete, and his wife, Jenny, as they transition not only from one church to another but also from one nation to another. Help us all to sense your presence in the midst of all that is happening. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONNECT WITH US

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-12:00 pm and 1:00-4:30 pm,
Fridays 8:30am-Noon

Need prayer? Email prayer@brookingsmethodist.org and a pastor will pray with you.

Facebook.com/FUMCBrookings
www.brookingsmethodist.org

Susan's Saga

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.

Right now the church is in transition, waiting for a new pastor. Once he is finally able to arrive, more transitions will be in store, as he gets used to a new church, culture, and country, and as everyone gets used to him.

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 a daughter of this church 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.



Thank you to all who have contributed to the #onething **June** project- Habitat for Humanity "Tool Time," and thank you to all the important men in our lives.

In **July**, our #onething will be the **Brookings Back 2School Project**. Please drop off school supplies in the #onething tubs located in the narthex, education unit, or the CLC. Through this program, each student served receives a new backpack, school supplies, personal hygiene items, and a new pair of shoes. In 2018, over 500 students were served!

Most needed school supplies include: thin tip black markers, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, 8/10 pack classic markers, glue sticks, scissors – children's size, pencil pouches, dry erase markers, 12 or 24 pack colored pencils, 3-pronged pocket folders, plain colored pocket folders, 3-ring binders (1", 1 1/2" and 3"), Kleenex, #2 lead pencils, 24 pack crayons, and flash drives. Deodorant is the most needed hygiene item.

Sweet Roll Sundays

Calling all bakers and sweet roll eaters! Methodist women are invited to bake their favorite sweet rolls and/or scones for Sweet Roll Sundays. All money raised will go to local missions. **Come to buy and eat for missions on June 30!** Ongoing dates are to be determined and will be noted in future FOCUS newsletters and bulletins.

Everyone is Invited to Raise Money for Missions

It is time to clean out closets, and everyone is invited to participate in helping out missions! The Methodist Women are planning a **rummage sale on August 16** from 9am-4:00pm at the CLC. Suggested items to bring include: clean clothing in good condition, shoes and boots, kitchen items, nick knacks, towels, bedding, blankets, pictures (home décor), picture frames, jewelry, books, perfume, and small appliances. All items need to fit in a 13 gallon plastic bag—when buyers come, they will purchase a bag for \$5 (this way nothing has to be marked separately). Please bring your items on August 15 to the CLC—ladies will be there to set up and get ready for the sale. To make shopping more relaxing, there will be coffee and cookies offered for \$1 on sale day. All money raised will be used for local mission projects. Your items and your support are greatly appreciated!



Puerto Rico Update—February 8-15, 2020

We are excited that seven servants have signed on for the Puerto Rico mission next February to help alleviate housing problems caused by the devastating hurricane of 2017! It is a construction and listening team. We are partnering with UMCOR, our United Methodist relief agency, which will cover the material and supply costs of reconstruction. Each team member pays for their own expenses while on this journey of compassion and love. **You can still join the mission if interested by calling or texting Lorna Jost at 695-0782.**

The MCPR (Methodist Church of Puerto Rico) & Rehace, Inc., (the social holiness arm of the Methodist Church) has provided the following updates to the repair/rebuild efforts that are on-going due to Hurricane Maria's devastation to Puerto Rico. The Early Response and UVMIM teams started assisting with disaster response in Feb. 2018. At the end of December, we had 108 teams and a total of 1,151 volunteers serve! Currently, there are 35,000 houses still with blue tarps. The MCPR/Rehace 2019, construction completion goal is to close 36 projects per month. During the first three months of 2019 (January - March), 108 houses have been repaired by UVMIM teams (62 teams, 712 volunteers) and others. The year-end goal is to repair 432 houses by Dec. 21, 2019.

Early August FOCUS Deadline—July 22

Due to camping and vacations in July, the deadline for the August FOCUS articles will be Monday, July 22. Please have any articles you wish to include emailed by that time to Amy at office@brookingsmethodist.org.

Update—Will We Be Getting an Associate Pastor?

The answer is that no associate pastor will be appointed to our church for the time being. SPR recommends that we give Pastor Pete a chance to get here, and learn to know our staff and their gifts for leadership and ministry. In addition, he is eager to get to know you, the congregation. This allows him time to figure out what is needed to assist him and complement his pastoral strengths. You will recall that one of our MCCI prescriptions was to complete staff realignment—this time of transition gives us the opportunity to complete this task. SPR will work with Pete to determine what the best structure is for our pastoral leadership and staff positions to meet the pastoral needs and ministry goals/visions for our church.

Fruit Slush Booth at the 2019 Brookings Summer Arts Festival July 13-14

YES...this is the time of the year to share our Fruit Slush with everyone. We need your help with picking strawberries, making the slush, and working at the booth. **We will have sign-up sheets at the Welcome Centers on Sunday, June 30, and Sunday, July 7.** You can also sign up on Sign-Up Genius. Your donations and the Slush Booth supports the mission projects of Disaster Response and FUMC Local Emergency Fund. **COME JOIN US !!!**



Faith Community Nurse Note—Traumatic Brain Injury

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a serious public health problem in the United States. Each year, traumatic brain injuries contribute to a substantial number of deaths and cases of permanent disability. Please remember to wear your helmet when biking and teach your child to do the same. The best treatment for Traumatic Brain injury is prevention. (CDC.org)

TOGETHER Campaign—July Update

Good things are happening at Brookings First United Methodist Church, and they are happening because of you. For a number of years our building has been in need of some care, and we are able to begin to address those needs because of your gifts to the Together Campaign. In May, the tuckpointing of our building was completed, meaning that we will have use of it for many more years. Through the summer and into the fall our boiler system and its controls will be replaced, resulting in a much more efficient heating of our structure and making us more comfortable, while saving us money at the same time.

The cost of the tuckpointing was \$59,979. The cost of the boiler replacement will be \$260,838. In addition to the work on our building, we have been able to pay down our debt by over **\$102,700**, again saving us interest. Our debt will continue to be reduced as pledges come in over the next 2½ years. In addition to the above projects, we have received gifts for the Hearing Assistance in the Sanctuary and CLC, and for replacement of our hymnals and Bibles. Since starting this campaign, we have learned the new United Methodist Hymnal will not be published until after General Conference in 2024. That may mean we will need to replace a few of our present hymnals which are in bad shape now, and then purchase all new hymnals in 2025. We are presently exploring the options and costs needed to upgrade our hearing assistance system in the Sanctuary, and what will be needed to add this system to the CLC. Those projects will be done as pledges are fulfilled.

We want you to know that to date we have received **\$438,926**. Those gifts have allowed us to do what we have done so far. As pledges continue to be fulfilled, we will begin work on the rest of the projects that are a part of the Together Campaign.

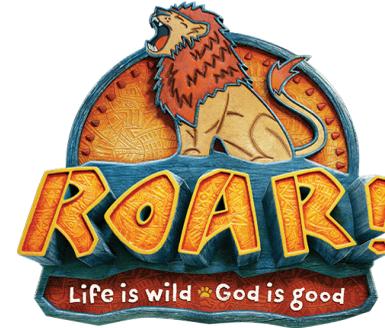
We want to thank you for the gifts you have already given. We are grateful to those who have completed their pledges ahead of schedule, allowing us to have been able to do things earlier. We are thankful for persons and families who have made new pledges to the campaign, for they are both needed and helpful. It is never too late to join in supporting this campaign.

Good things are happening at Brookings First United Methodist Church, and they are happening because of your love of God and your faithful support of the ministries of this, your church.



VBS – Roar! Life is Wild – God is Good

VBS was held June 11-14 with 70+ children attending and over 50 adults and youth volunteering!! The kids had a great week of exploring God's goodness and celebrating a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life.



Approximately 135 people started each evening with a family meal where they were fed delicious kid-friendly food items.

The directors this year were Andrea Glover and Maria Schlueter – they did a great job of organizing and leading! Thank you to the very talented and generous people who gave their time and energy, (LOTS of energy!), to making VBS such a great week.

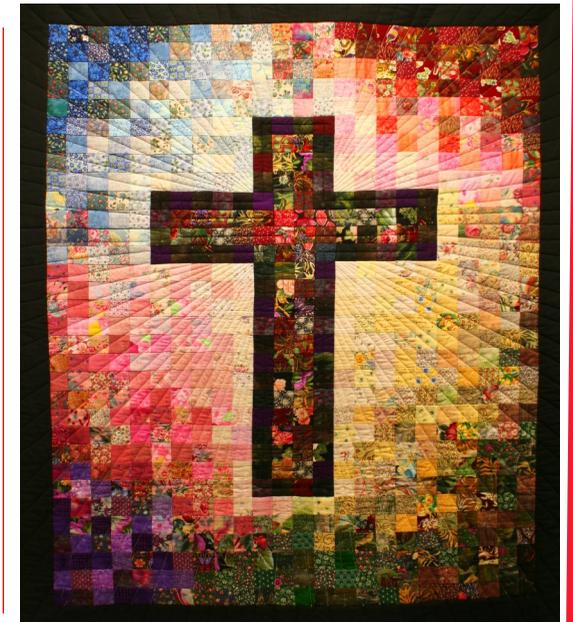
Summer Nursery Help

We will continue to offer nursery care during the 11:00 service this summer. We are still in need of volunteers for this ministry. If you would be willing to provide that childcare, there is a sign up sheet on the nursing door, or email education@brookingsmethodist.org.

Summer Mission Trip

Thank you to all who purchased Medary Acres gifts cards in support of this year's summer mission! **Youth19/Urban Plunge** will be held July 6-14, in Kansas City, Missouri. This event is a National Gathering for thousands of UMC Youth that happens every 4 years. The event focuses on worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and discipleship.

Please keep Rylee and Cheryl Honomichl in your prayers as they attend **Urban Plunge**. This year's mission is both a mission trip and the National UMC Youth Convention that happens only every four years. If you have questions, please contact James Honomichl at jhonomichl@dakotalink.net.



We Need You!!!

Our current photo directory, printed three years ago, is already out of date. Our interim pastor, Howard Grinager, and our new pastor, Pete Grassow, have expressed a desire to get to know the congregation by name. As a welcome gift for each of them, SPR will be putting together a digital photo directory just for their use only. **Here is how you can help:**

- 1) Take a selfie or have someone take a candid picture of you and your family with a smart phone.
- 2) Email the photo to the pastor's computer - PastorHoward@brookingsmethodist.org. **Be sure to include the names of all the people in the picture, including last names.**
- 3) You may submit a printed picture to the church office or Narthex Welcome Center on Sunday mornings. Be sure this is labeled legibly with all first and last names.
- 4) You may request someone take a picture with their smart phone of you and your family on a Sunday at the Narthex Welcome Center. Be sure they have all of the names to be included. Have them email the photo and names to the above address.

This will be an ongoing project; we hope to have everyone included. Thanks for helping us get this done!

Summer Church Campers

Please keep the following in your prayers as they attend church camp in the coming month:

Paige Samuel	Preston VanderWal	Marley Huyck
Dailyynn Schomp	Andrea Hult	Bill/Mandy DeBlonk & family
Ella Tellekson	Cade Christianson	Dan/Amy Merchant & family
Rylee Honomichl	Cale Jones	Eric/Anna Tellekson & family
Riley Ness	Lynn Frederick	Chris/Teresa Person & family
Andrew Hahn	Alison Glover	Tom/Kay Becker & family
Jackson Hahn	Samantha Alfson	Jim/Cheryl Honomichl & family

Church Camping Weekend, August 2-4

The camping spots for the camping weekend at Oakwood Lakes State Park have been reserved! If you like to camp and would like the opportunity to get to know some church families a little better, let Gretchen know you would like a spot. It's a great weekend with lots of time for conversation, rest, play, and whatever else we come up with. We share a couple of meals and attend the Sunday morning service at the park. Anyone who would like to join us for the day or evening is welcome to come out. Let Gretchen know if you would like a spot at education@brookingsmethodist.org, or you may call the church office at 692-4345.

Update—When Will Pastor Pete and Jenny Grassow Arrive?

The date is still in limbo. Pastor Pete and we are anxiously awaiting the immigration process to move forward. All of the paper work for a work visa has been completed and submitted. The time it takes to get approval for immigration requests is variable. The good news is that we have a very nice rental home secured for them to move into when they arrive. It is common when people move from one continent to another that all they bring along is clothing and personal items. We are grateful for the good start we have in acquiring gently used basic furniture and household items due to the generosity of you, our church family. Thank you to all who have responded with donations and household items. We also welcome gifts of cash to put towards the purchase of a queen mattress and box spring set, as well as linens for their home. An account has been set up with our church financial secretary for donations toward set up expenses. If you have other items to offer, you may call or text Brenda at 691-9395 or email bfkhib@gmail.com. Please watch for additional information regarding ways you can participate in welcoming Pete and Jenny.

Office Closing Fridays During Summer/Coverage Needed

Due to camping and vacation schedules this summer, the church office will now be closed the remaining Fridays over the summer. The office is also in need of volunteers to help cover the front desk by answering phones and referring walk-ins to the appropriate staff member for assistance. The following shifts are in need of volunteer coverage:

Morning (8:30am-noon) of Thursday, July 18	Afternoon (1-4:30pm) of Thursday, July 18
Morning (8:30am-noon) of Monday, July 29	Afternoon (1-4:30pm) of Monday, July 29
Morning (8:30am-noon) of Tuesday, July 30	Afternoon (1-4:30pm) of Tuesday, July 30
Morning (8:30am-noon) of Wednesday, July 31	Afternoon (1-4:30pm) of Wednesday, July 31

We greatly appreciate your help!

80th Birthday Celebration

The family of Ruth Anderson would like to invite you to an open house in honor of her 80th birthday. The celebration will take place on her actual birthday, Saturday, July 27, from noon to 2p.m. at the Community Life Center of the First United Methodist Church located at 625 5th Street. A light lunch will be served. No gifts please—let your presence be your gift.

Prayer Garden Thank You

If you haven't already, we encourage you to take a stroll around our relaxing Prayer Garden, and sit and engage in fellowship with God and others among the lovely plants. We would like to thank the men who provided their time and effort to refurbish and beautify the landscaping of the Prayer Garden — it is very much appreciated!

(CLC) = Community Life Center

(Sanc) = Sanctuary

JULY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 30 Sweet Roll Sunday 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 11am—Traditional Worship	1 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by Monday Friends (CLC) 5:30pm—Health Ministry Team (library)	2 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	3 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)	4—Independence Day Office Closed	5 Office Closed 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee)	6
7—DakYouth Urban Plunge 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 11am—Traditional Worship 4:30pm—CrossWork Emmaus (library) 6:30pm—Education Committee (library)	8—DakYouth Urban Plunge 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by Prairie Soul Yoga (CLC)	9—DakYouth Urban Plunge 9am—Memorial Committee (library) 9:30am—UMW Board Meeting 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 7pm—Trustees (library) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	10—DakYouth Urban Plunge 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement) 6:30pm—Confirmation Fall Planning Meeting (Senior High Youth Room)	11—DakYouth Urban Plunge	12—DakYouth Urban Plunge 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	13—DakYouth Urban Plunge Brookings Arts Festival
14—DakYouth Urban Plunge Brookings Arts Festival 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 11am—Traditional Worship	15 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by St. Thomas More Church (CLC) 6pm—Finance Committee (library)	16 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 7pm—Staff Parish Relations Committee (Conference Rm) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	17 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)	18 9:45am—Neighborhoods Communion 10:30am—Edgewood Vista Communion 2pm—Stoney Brook Comm. 3pm—ULC Communion	19 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	20
21 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 11am—Traditional Worship 12pm- Church Council (basement) 4:30pm—CrossWork Emmaus (library)	22 FOCUS Deadline 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 12pm—SOUL Potluck (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by East Central Behavioral Health (CLC)	23 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	24 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)	25	26 Family Fun for All Camp (Storm Mountain) 6:30am—Men’s Breakfast Fellowship (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	27 Family Fun for All Camp (Storm Mountain) 12:00pm—Ruth Anderson’s 80th Birthday Celebration (CLC until 2pm)
28 Family Fun for All Camp (Storm Mountain) 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 11am—Traditional Worship	29 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by St. Thomas More Church (CLC)	30 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 6pm—Finance Committee (library) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	31 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)			