

First United Methodist Church
625 Fifth Street
Brookings, SD 57006

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FROM THE PASTOR

Living While Waiting

As I thought about this time in the life of our church recently, the image that came to mind was that of pregnancy. Waiting for the birth of a child is sometimes challenging, but as families wait, there are the tasks of everyday living that need to continue.

We are in a similar time of waiting. We know who our new pastor will be. But as we wait, we need to continue to live life—we need to continue to be in ministry in our community and beyond. Our fall programming will soon begin. Children will start Sunday School and confirmation and there will be opportunities for adults to grow in their faith. Choirs will be available for all our church family to contribute to worship. There will be opportunities for persons to participate in service and mission work options through the Harvest Table and Meals on Wheels, and teaching children and youth and giving leadership to youth groups. We will need persons to share in the ministry of hospitality. There will be funerals that will require our service and struggling families who will need us to walk along side of them. And all of us are charged with the responsibility of inviting persons who have no church home to join us. Living into our mission and ministry needs to continue.

As we wait, we are trying as best we can to hurry this pregnancy along. We are continuing to work with an immigration attorney and with someone in Senator John Thune's office. Please continue to pray for Pastor Pete and Jenny. And as we wait, know that it is your presence, your gifts, and your service that give life to our ministry.

I want to thank all of you for what you do. And I am grateful for the leadership of this church that seeks to keep us moving forward in the midst of this time of waiting.

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

Wednesdays

- 6:00pm **Manna in the Middle Worship**
Located in the Community Life Center

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

feed your soul • Wednesdays

MANNA in the MIDDLE

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- 3:00pm WAM! (Wednesday Afternoon Music)
- 4:00pm Wednesday Afternoon Childcare
- 4:00pm Chiming Children
- 5:00pm Youth Bells
- 5:00pm Manna Meal
- 6:00pm "Manna in the Middle" Worship
- 6:45pm Men's Study
- 6:45pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 6:45pm Confirmation/MS Youth Group (9/11)
- 6:45pm High School Youth Group (9/11)
- 6:45pm Wed. School (1st-5th graders) (9/11)

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

The last Sunday of the month of August is celebrated as Bible Sunday in Mexico. It is a chance to re-focus on the centrality of God's Word in our lives.

However, if the Bible were only available in the original source languages (mostly Hebrew for the Old Testament and Koiné Greek for the New), then it would be as if this precious book were in chains. One wouldn't be able to open the covers to see what is inside, much less leaf through the pages, reading the content.

Bible translation can be likened to the key that unlocks the padlock holding the chains in place. Without translation, the original text would still be chained.

The majority of the Bible was first translated into English by John Wycliffe, who died in 1384. Later translators, such as William Tyndale and Miles Coverdale, continued the quest of having God's Word accessible to people in English. These early translators suffered for their desire to produce the Bible for English speakers, and many were persecuted and even burned at the stake.

There are now a variety of translations in English. They have the common purpose of making God's Word clear, so that we can grasp the essential life-giving message the Bible contains. However, there are still at least 1600 living languages in the world which do not yet have a translation. It is as if God's Word were still in chains for those people groups. Bible translation today continues to provide the key to unlocking God's Word.

Thank you for your part in being part of the process of providing the key for a group of Mixtec-speaking people in southern Mexico.

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.

#onething 

Thank you to all who have contributed to the #onething **August** project - Back to School supplies to assist classroom teachers!

In **September**, our #onething will be **Share the Warmth**. Please bring new and gently used winter clothing to the onething tubs during the month of September to be distributed to families in need in early October.

We will accept coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and other winter outerwear.

Snowpants and boots are required for children to enjoy recess at school throughout the winter.

Please consider helping keep everybody warm this winter. Over 1,000 coats per year are shared with our area families in need.



Turkey Dinner Volunteers Needed

Signups for the Turkey Dinner will begin on Sunday, September 1. Please stop by the Welcome Centers in the Narthex and CLC before and after services. We need your help to work at the dinner, buy a turkey, or to make pies or salads. The Turkey Dinner will be held on Sunday, September 29, from 11:30a.m.-1:30p.m., with proceeds going towards our mission projects. Thank you so much for signing up! Missions Committee



News from the FUMC Mission Committee

The FUMC Mission Committee has committed to maintaining covenant relationships with two missionaries. They are Teri/Walter Erbele and Ardell/Gorden Graner. Rev. Teri Erbele is a missionary with the GBGM of The United Methodist Church. Teri is assigned as co-pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Ketchikan, Alaska. Ketchikan is located on an island within the Tongass National Forest. Erbele's ministry is deeply involved in local care of the homeless. The second covenant is missionary Ardell Graner with the GBGM of The United Methodist Church serving within the Dominican Republic. Graner's mission focuses the development of Christian education/materials for some 70 Christian churches in the area. Please consider these two missionaries in your prayers and designated financial support.

Upcoming Dakotas Walk to Emmaus Events

The Walk to Emmaus is named so because the experience is very similar to the Bible story in Luke 24:13-34 in which the risen Christ joins the two disciples who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. By walking with Jesus, reflecting on the scriptures, breaking bread together, and sharing their resurrection stories, the disciples experienced Christ's presence and their hearts burned within them. The Walk to Emmaus is your opportunity to walk with the Lord and rediscover God's burning presence in your life. Walk to Emmaus is a 72-hour experience starting Thursday evening at 7:00p.m. and ending around 7:00p.m. on Sunday.

Participants are asked to separate themselves from their daily activities for this time period. There is no "physical walking distance," but rather a "walk" with others in fellowship, learning, and fun. Upcoming 2019 Dakotas Walk to Emmaus: Men's October 3-6, and Women's October 10-13, at Storm Mountain, Rapid City, SD. You can find more information at the website: <http://dakotaswalk.org/> or visit with pilgrims including Steve Eliason, Charlie Schnabel, Linda Hai, Barb Meyer, and Nancy Bohlen.



Together Campaign Update

We would like to thank our church family for their wonderful support of our Together Campaign. To date we have received almost \$480,000 toward the needed improvements in our church and for reducing our debt.

The tuck pointing was paid for and completed in the late spring. As this article is being written, a crew is here removing the old boiler in preparation for the installation of the new one, and because of your generous giving we have all the funds in place to pay for it. Our building debt has been reduced to a little more than \$200,000, and as gifts continue to be received, that number will continue to decrease. We have also received dedicated gifts for some of the other projects that were a part of the campaign, and we are securing bids for those at the present time. None of this would have happened if it had not been for your prayerful financial support.

We continue to seek to be good stewards of the gifts you have entrusted to us. As you continue to fulfill your intended gifts, we will be able to complete more of our Together Campaign goals. If there are those who were not able to make a commitment or a gift to the campaign before, know that your new gifts would be very much appreciated and needed.

Thanks again for all that you do to give life to the vital ministry we seek to be able to do in Jesus' name.
Lynn Darnall, Keith Goehring, and Tom Becker

Radio Broadcast Sponsorships Needed

Starting mid-September, we have several weeks remaining for radio broadcast sponsorship. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast in memory, honor, recognition, or celebration of a loved one or anniversary next year, a sign up sheet is available at the welcome center in the Sanctuary. You may also contact Amy at 692-4345 to sign up. Each broadcast is \$60 and airs at 9:30a.m. on KBRK 1430AM. Sponsors are recognized in the Sunday bulletins.



Home Visiting Volunteers Needed—Put Your Love in Action

The Health Ministry Team is looking for a dedicated group of people to consider visiting with homebound church members. We will provide training and support for this very important mission. Please speak with or email Joanie Holm at jholm229@gmail.com, or let someone on the staff know of your interest. Our current visitors report that the visits are a win-win, with benefits for both the person visited and the person who makes the visit. Put your Love in Action and become a visitor!

Dakotas Conference UMW Annual Celebration

“Celebrating 150 Years in Sisterhood” is the theme for this year’s UMW Dakotas Conference which will be held on October 4-5 at Pierre’s FUMC, located at 117 N Central Avenue. Rooms have been reserved at the Host Hotel—Governor’s Inn for \$67, and Baymont Hotel for \$77 per night. Contact information is below. Make sure to ask for the UMW Dakota’s Annual Celebration rate when you book your room — **reservations must be made by September 6.** Also specify if you need the ground floor. Registration for the celebration is \$15, which includes Saturday’s lunch, treats, and conference materials.

On Friday, October 4, the program will begin at 7p.m. and on Saturday, October 5, registration begins at 8:15a.m., with the celebration starting at 9a.m. Send in your registration form and \$15 check made payable to Dakotas Conference UMW by September 25 to:

Lynda Rustand, 1871 2nd St W, Dickinson, ND, 58601. If you need a registration form, please contact Diane Culver at 690-4443.

Host Hotel—Governor’s Inn
700 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
(877) 523-0080

Baymont Hotel
713 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 224-4140



Library News

The UMW Reading Program has had some changes which include: The *New World Outlook* is no longer being published. *Response Magazine* is now a bi-monthly publication. Reading the books for the different plans has remained the same (e.g. Plan 1: read one book from each of the five categories and read the Response Magazine each month). The five categories are Education for the Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. The church has only purchased thirteen books for the UMW Reading Program this year. They have been processed and are located on the ‘Good Reads and New to the Library’ cart.

We have processed the following books that have been donated—the list is as follows: ***Gentle Mercies*** by Hal Haralson – Stories of faith in faded blue jeans; ***Who I Am In Christ*** by Neil T. Anderson – A devotional; ***A B Cs of Healthy Grieving*** – A companion for everyday coping; ***About Dying*** by Sara Bonnett Stein – An open family book for parents and children together; ***The Dyslexia Empowerment Plan*** by Ben Foss – A blueprint for renewing your child’s confidence and love of learning; and ***How Soccer Explains the World*** by Franklin Foer. We thank all those who have donated the books to the library.

Sandra Ballou and Linda Kay Hai

Faith Community Nurse Note—Alzheimer’s Disease

Alzheimer’s disease is the most common cause of dementia among older adults. Although the cause is still unknown, scientists are learning more every day about Alzheimer’s disease and what can be done to prevent and treat this fatal illness. **Prevention Tips—** Some risks factors to brain health cannot be controlled or prevented, like your age or genetics. Other risk factors, like health choices, are under your control. For example, you can:

- Get active and stay active.
- Manage cardiovascular risk factors such as smoking, diabetes, hypertension, & obesity.
- Connect with your family, friends and communities.
- Learn new things.

*Data from the Center for Disease Control

Correction—Grief Support Group Information

This group will be led by Nancy Samuelson, OT, Linda Thaden, RN, and Brenda Hieb, RN. The group will meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month in the conference room, with the first meeting on September 18 at 6:45p.m. A special session, “Surviving the Holidays” will be held on November 17 from 2-4p.m. in the church parlor.

Fall Ministry/Sunday School Begins

Fall Kickoff Sunday is September 8th, and we want to remind all students to bring their backpack for a special blessing at either worship service. For a detailed listing of programs that begin this fall, please refer to the Special Edition FOCUS that was recently distributed. Several study opportunities are available, and we encourage you to find something you can become a part of to further your own faithwalk.

Confirmation and HS Youth

Confirmation will begin soon – September 11 (one week later due to the Middle School delayed start date). Confirmation is for any 6th, 7th, or 8th grader who wishes to more deeply begin to explore their relationship with the Lord. They will meet weekly from 6:45-7:45p.m. If you have a middle school child and have not received any information about confirmation, please contact the office and ask for Gretchen. You have somehow been missed and we apologize!

The High School youth group will also begin meeting on September 11, and they will meet on Wednesdays from 6:45-7:45p.m. in the Sr. High Youth room. All new 9th graders are especially encouraged to attend. As one youth recently said, “I wish everyone would try youth group so they can see how much fun we have!” Come and check it out!

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.

Brookings Salvation Army Fundraiser

The Brookings Salvation Army is holding its first ever Kettle-bration Dinner and Concert Fundraiser. Join them this Saturday, August 31, at 6:00p.m. at Good Roots Farm and Garden for a night filled with good music, good food, and all for a good cause—supper by the 1481 Grille and music by Plum Crazy band. Proceeds will benefit Salvation Army's services in Brookings County, including the Share the Warmth winter coat distribution. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting Brookings Salvation Army on Facebook.

Brookings Church League Bowling

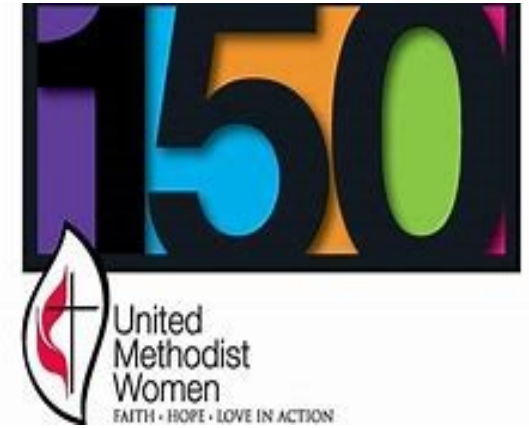
Efforts are being made to start a co-ed church bowling league this Fall. Teams will be made up of 3 people (any combination of men and women) at least 16 years. There will be an introductory meeting with **free bowling** at Prairie Lanes at 6:30p.m. on Monday, September 9. League will start Monday, September 23, at 6:30p.m. and will continue for 9 weeks through November 18. Cost per team will be \$30 per week, with 25% of all proceeds given to local charities. Teams will bowl two games against other churches each week, with scores and standings kept until the end of the season when prizes will be awarded. Please contact Pastor Joe Ganahl at Abundant Life Church at 695-9444 or email joe@albrookings.org with questions.



Southeast District Annual UMW Meeting

All United Methodist women and friends are invited to this year's annual UMW meeting 'Celebrating 150 Years in Sisterhood!' which will be held on Saturday, September 14, at Madison United Methodist Church located at 304 N Egan Ave (corner of Egan Ave and 3rd St). Registration is from 8:45-9:15a.m.; cost is \$8. Guest speaker is Dawn Armstrong, with the Program Advisory Group/Legacy Fund Steering Committee. Childcare will be available upon request. An offering will be taken which will benefit the Southeast District UMW Mission Pledge and the Legacy Fund equally. A memorial service will be held for deceased members. Please RSVP no later than Saturday, September 7, to:

Irma Beukelman
911 NE 3rd St
Madison, SD 57042
(605) 256-2758
oldred@sio.midco.net



Chancel Choir Dessert Party

Did someone say *dessert*? Join the choir for our first rehearsal of the season this Wednesday, August 28th. We will rehearse in the Sanctuary from 6:45—7:45p.m. and then gather in the narthex for desserts. All singers and *wannabe singers* are welcome, young and old, regardless of experience. Come and check us out — even if it's just for the delicious desserts!

Fall Program Start Dates

Pumpkin spice products are already on the shelves, and so it's time to switch gears and settle into our fall schedule. Here are a few important upcoming dates to have on the calendar:

- August 28 — Chancel Choir practice begins in the Sanctuary at 6:45p.m.
- September 4 — Wednesday afternoon programs for kids and Manna in the Middle return
- September 8 — Blessing of the Backpacks/Sunday School begins
- September 11 — Confirmation/MS Youth Group, HS Youth Group, and Wednesday School begin
- September 29 — Turkey Dinner

Be sure to look over the Back-to-School/Fall edition of the FOCUS sent out last week that lists all the details for our programs and activities.



(CLC) = Community Life Center

(Sanc) = Sanctuary

SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Class (parlor) 11am—Traditional Worship 4:30pm—CrossWork Emmaus (library)</p>	<p>2 Labor Day—Office Closed No Harvest Table</p>	<p>3 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—SPR Committee (Conf.) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8</p>	<p>4# 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement) 7pm—Confirmation Sponsor Meeting (Sr. High Youth Rm) *No Youth Groups/Wednesday School/Confirmation</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Blessing of the Backpacks 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Classes (parlor and basement) 10am—Sunday School Begins 11am—Traditional Worship</p>	<p>9 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by Arlington Trinity Lutheran Church (CLC) 5:30pm—Health Ministry Team (library)</p>	<p>10 9am—Memorial Committee (library) 9:30am—UMW Board Meeting 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Grp 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—Trustees Mtg (library) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8</p>	<p>11# 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)</p>	<p>12 5:30pm—Missions Committee</p>	<p>13 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Classes (parlor and basement) 10am—Sunday School 11am—Traditional Worship 4:30pm—CrossWork Emmaus</p>	<p>16 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by First Presbyterian Church (CLC) 6pm—Finance Committee 6:30pm—Open Door Singles Group (Sr. High Youth Rm)</p>	<p>17 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8</p>	<p>18# 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement) 6:45pm—Journey through Grief Group (conference room)</p>	<p>19 9:45am—Neighborhoods Communion 10:30am—Edgewood Vista Communion 2pm—Stoney Brook Comm. 3pm—ULC Communion 6pm—UMM (CLC)</p>	<p>20 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)</p>	<p>21 9am—Piecemakers Quilting Group (basement)</p>
<p>22 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Classes 10am—Sunday School 11am—Traditional Worship 1:45pm—The Neighborhoods Sunday Afternoon Service 2:30pm—ULC Afternoon Service</p>	<p>23 FOCUS Deadline 10am—Healthy Movement 12pm—SOUL Potluck 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by White, Sterling, & Impact UM Churches</p>	<p>24 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon Group (parlor) 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8</p>	<p>25# 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 1pm—Quilting Group (basement)</p>	<p>26 9:30am—Hannah Circle 2pm—Naomi Circle</p>	<p>27 6:30am—Men’s Breakfast Fellowship (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Turkey Dinner (CLC) from 11:30am-1:30pm 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 10am—Adult Classes (parlor and basement) 10am—Sunday School 11am—Traditional Worship</p>	<p>30 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table served by FUMC Missions Committee (CLC) 6:30pm—Open Door Singles Group (Sr. High Youth Rm)</p>		<p>Wednesday Schedule—# 3pm—WAM! (CLC) 4pm—Afternoon Childcare 4pm—Chiming Children 5pm—Youth Bells 5pm—Manna Meal (CLC) 6pm—Manna Worship</p>	<p>Wednesday Schedule—# 6:45pm—Chancel Choir, Men’s Study, Wednesday School, Confirmation/MS Youth Grp, HS Youth Grp</p>		