



First United Methodist Church
625 Fifth Street
Brookings, SD 57006

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FROM THE PASTOR

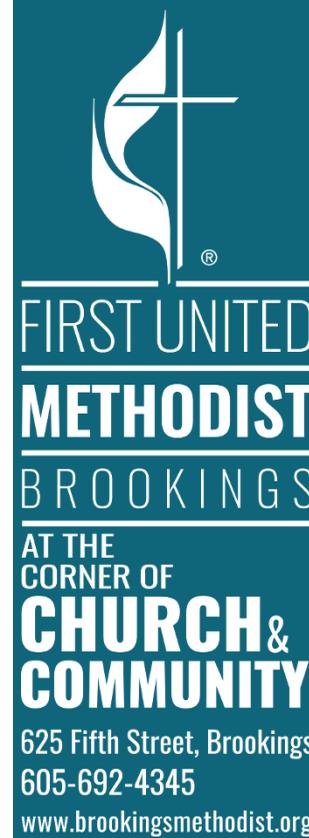
Together

I would like to begin by sharing with you what a privilege it is to serve with you as your pastor during this interim period. Four years ago, I had the same privilege and in the intervening years, Wade and Theta invited me back to lead worship and cover for them during times of vacation. You have always welcomed me with open arms and it has been a joy to share with you in the many ministries of which this church is a part.

Over this last year your congregation has been involved in the TOGETHER campaign. It has been a time of asking questions about how this church can grow in its ministry. I loved that you called this campaign TOGETHER. That title reminds us that the ministry of the church is not about who you have as pastor. It is not about who the church has hired as staff. It is not about a few key lay leaders. The ministry of the church is about what all of us have been called to do together by Jesus.

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, Paul says the church is much like a human body. It is composed of many different parts and that each part is critical for the functioning of that body. This church is the same. We each bring to the body of the church differing gifts, skills, and resources. Each of the gifts is cherished and needed if we are to be the people, the church Jesus calls us to be. We are in this TOGETHER. And life changing ministry happens as all of us share our time, talent, and financial resources. Thank you for what you have done and what you will do in the days that lie ahead.

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

feed your soul • Wednesdays

MANNA in the MIDDLE

Wednesday activities have ended for this school year and will resume next fall. Be sure to watch in the bulletins and newsletters for other ways that you can be involved in the life of the church. We will continue to plan and host "Methodist Day @ the..." activities for all generations.

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](https://www.facebook.com/FUMCBrookings)
www.brookingsmethodist.org

Susan's Saga

For Christians, Easter is not just once a year, but year-round. The miracle of Easter is what we can stake our hope on. The reality of sin is overwhelming, and everyone is under its long, daunting shadow. "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." And the consequences are crushing. "For the wages of sin is death..." No matter how much effort we put into living right, how many material possessions we accrue, how much we learn, or how healthy a lifestyle we maintain, the inevitable end is death. There is no escape.

Yet there is an unexpected turn of events from this dismal prognosis..."but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." Nonetheless, this wonderful relief from the hopelessly depressing weight of sin comes at an extremely high price. "Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood..."

The language used in these verses in some ways seems rather alien to our modern 21st century culture. However, it isn't the Bible that is out of date, but that our culture is no longer aligned with God's truth. In Hebrews it clearly states "without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness." The good news is that Jesus died instead of us, so by trusting that God accepts Christ's sacrifice in place of our death, then we can be part of God's kingdom.

As Paul puts it, Jesus "was handed over to die because of our sins, and raised to life to make us right with God." Thus Easter Sunday becomes our daily experience as we can rejoice that the price of our offenses against God have been fully paid. This reality is the basis of our hope.

Susan Huggins, with Dr. Inga McKendry

Scripture quotes are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Version; Romans 3:23, 6:23, 3:24-25a; Hebrews 9:22b; Romans 4:25

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 April project - Solar Oven Partners - either with monetary gifts or the donation of measuring cups or spoons, or by making potholders!

In May, our #onething will be **Mother's Day Blankets for Church World Service**. On Mother's Day, our church has traditionally contributed to CWS to purchase blankets for distribution around the world. The uses for these blankets are many, including warmth, carrying belongings, and protection from the elements. CWS additionally distributes kits similar to the ones distributed by UMCOR. In 2018, over 174,000 blankets and kits were distributed around the world - 54,770 blankets in the US and Puerto Rico.

For just \$10, you can donate a blanket. Coupons will be at the Welcome Centers—names of women you wish to honor will be listed and shared on Mother's Day. You will have the entire month of May to make a blanket donation and drop off at the church office.

"Blanket the World with Love."

Native American Ministries Sunday—May 5

When you support Native American Ministries on Sunday, May 5, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You will also empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ. Dr. Richard Twiss, a member of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate from the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, asked, “Will we be allowed to develop new ways of doing church that honor God’s purposes for the creative expression of our cultures? Will new ministry partnerships and coalitions form? Will you help be a part of this wonderful process of reconciliation, restoration, and release?” **Say yes.** Missions Committee

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 9a.m.-4:00p.m. 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.

Miracle Offering

Again this year, we will receive a Miracle Offering as an expression of our gratitude for God’s boundless blessings and to advance our mission “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” The offering will be received during the 2019 Annual Conference or can be sent to the Dakotas Conference office. (We collect the monies during May to present a check at Annual Conference in June).

The **2019 Miracle Offering: Lead Boldly #fillthegap** provides an opportunity to come alongside and support persons answering God’s call to ministry in two ways. First, we will receive a monetary offering that will be equally divided between the Endowment Fund for Theological Education in the Central Conferences, and a Dakotas United Methodist Foundation Scholarship Fund for undergraduate students planning to prepare for pastoral ministry and individuals training to be licensed local pastors in the Dakotas. There are significant gaps in financial assistance for pastors. The second part of the offering is an opportunity to make a commitment to reach someone who does not know Jesus. Each clergy and lay member of the conference will be blessed to offer to God the name of someone to reach out to in the name of Christ. For more information, check out the following website: dakotasumc.org.

May Friendship Day—May 3

Church Women United will celebrate May Friendship Day on Friday, May 3, at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish at noon, with a salad luncheon and program to follow. The theme for this celebration is ‘The Time is Now! Agree to Differ.’ May Friendship Day focuses on uniting us in the Spirit to carry out God’s work despite our differences, based on Ephesians 4:2-3: “Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep ourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.” The Fellowship of the Least Coin will be collected at this celebration, with this offering being sent to the International FLC, where it is used to support participating ecumenical organizations, women’s projects for justice and peace, and young women scholars around the world. A regular offering will also be taken to support local organizations in our community. **All Christian women and men are invited.**

Faith Community Nurse Note — Get Your Family Moving!

Movement and exercise aren’t just for adults. Try some of these tips for exercise and movement that can be enjoyed together by kids, teens, and adults:

- 1) **Walk More** - build a walk in to your daily schedule with a pre or post dinner walk.
- 2) **Play Games** - choose activities such as riding bikes, playing frisbee, or tag in the yard.
- 3) **Make it Fun** - turn TV commercials into fitness breaks with each family member leading an activity.
- 4) **Dance Around** - get the whole family moving and being silly.
- 5) **Plant a Garden** - involve everyone in the planting, weeding, and harvesting.
- 6) **Learn Something New** - try karate, yoga, or dance. (Church Health Reader- Spring 2014)

Mother’s Day Blankets—“Blanket the World with Love”

We can be our strongest, our kindest, and our most Christ-like when we are connected. It makes the symbol of a CWS Blanket even more powerful: think of all the individual pieces of thread and wool being pulled together to cover someone with warmth! Without any one of those pieces - without you - the story would not be the same. That’s what happened in Indianapolis last winter. The Midwest gets cold. You don’t have to live on the streets to know that, but for those who do, the deep dives below zero are deadly. Congregations like Central Christian Church (Indy CCC) in Indianapolis don’t want to see their neighbors suffer. So they’re doing something about it...and you’re helping them. Last winter, this meant the church provided heavy-duty CWS Blankets for families without homes. CWS Blankets made bedding, a warm shelter, and hope for life possible. From you to CWS to groups like Indy CCC to strangers on the streets...we’re working together to weave a story of human love and compassion. It’s one where families are protected from the cold, comforted after a disaster, and reminded they’re not alone. **Please see the ‘One Thing’ notice on how to donate.**

TOGETHER Campaign Update

Celebration Sunday for our TOGETHER CAMPAIGN took place one month ago (March 24th). Brookings First United Methodist Church came together and exceeded our \$1,000,000 goal for the campaign. We are grateful that new gifts and pledges continue to be received. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the campaign through your prayers, your time, and your gifts. It is not too late to make your gift/pledge to this effort.

We have already begun to put your gifts to work. Because of the gifts we have received to date, we have been able to pay down our debt by **\$101,000**. This will save the church over \$500 each month in interest payments. We also have enough funds on hand to pay for the tuckpointing of our building. We hope this work will begin soon. Other projects are in the planning stages, and will begin when bids are finalized and more of our pledges have been received. We will update you as soon as we have further information. Thanks again for your support of our church's ministry. TOGETHER we have begun this journey and TOGETHER we will see lives changes in Jesus' name.

Men's Study Group New Meeting Time and Project

The newly formed Men's Study Group that has been meeting on Wednesday evenings has changed their summer meeting time to Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Prayer Garden. They want to have a nice balance of meeting as well as doing projects for and around the church. The first project will be May 4 from 8:00 a.m. to finish. They will be giving the Prayer Garden a much-needed face lift and installing a pathway in the playground, which is always terribly muddy in the spring—all are welcome to help. Feel free to join them in a meeting or project.

Prayer Chain

Do you feel called to pray for others? The church is in need of a few more friends to be part of our prayer chain. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Sharon Anderegg at 692-4925.

Summer Nursery Help

We will offer summer nursery during the 11:00 service this summer. If you would be willing to volunteer your time on occasion, please sign up on the schedule posted on the nursery door, or let Gretchen know at education@brookingsmethodist.org.

Sunday Volunteer Drivers Needed

Would you like to serve in the ministry of helping others attend church? Starting May 5, Sunday morning volunteers are needed to drive a BATA bus to pick up and drop off up to 8 church members who have no available transportation. Sign up sheets have been placed at the Welcome Center—one for volunteers to list which Sundays they would like to drive, the other for members who need a ride to list which Sundays they would like to attend.

Vacation Bible School – Roar!

Roar! Life is Wild-God is Good will be held Tuesday, June 11- Friday, June 14.

Here are some specifics:

- **Ages:** 3 year olds (by August 31, 2018) – 5th grade (present grade)
- **Times:** 5:15–5:50pm – kid friendly meal which family is invited to attend.
7:45–8:10pm – closing
- **Sign up to volunteer:** <http://bit.ly/roarvolunteers>
- **Register:** <http://bit.ly/roarregistration>
- **Staff Meeting:** Tuesday, May 28 @ 6:30

Supply Needed for VBS – please bring your empty toilet paper rolls to the education office by May 31.

Summer Church Camp

It's not too late to sign up for church camp! Even though the early bird deadline is past, you can sign up and receive the church's scholarship all summer long. To receive the church scholarship of 65%, enter [brookingscampers](http://brookingscampers.org) during the check-out process. Go to www.dakcamps.org and find a camp for you!

Summer Mission Trip

You are invited to **Youth19/Urban Plunge** on 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. This year's High School Summer Mission Trip group will be **selling Medary Acres gift cards** in the next few weeks. We will be selling them on Wednesday during the Manna meal, after Manna worship, and on Sundays before and after each worship service. We appreciate your support as this year's mission is both a mission trip and the National UM Youth Convention that happens only every four years. Questions? Contact James Honomichl at jhonomichl@dakotalink.net.

Celebrating our Graduates

On May 5 during The Well service (9a.m.) in the Community Life Center, we will celebrate our high school seniors as they get ready to go on to the next adventure in life. We will honor them with a special recognition during the service, and also have pictures along with a display of quilts made especially for them by our Piecemakers quilting group.

Please join in celebrating the 2019 class of seniors: Kailee Bartels, Macyn Christianson, Tucker Christie, Celia Dobrenski, Audrey Harms, Andrea Hult, Kaine Hyde, Isabella Mork, Kienan O'Connell, Ryan Treiber, and Courtney Wallenberg.

Foundation News

The First United Methodist Church Foundation is excited to announce more giving to nine ministries we serve. Recently, the Foundation Board wrote a check to the FUMC campers for \$1,845.00 to help fund camping scholarships! We are so excited to help our youth campers and see them grow in their faith. The nine ministries the Foundation supports are: Camping Scholarships, Capital Improvements, Christian Education, Ministerial Scholarships, Missions/Outreach, Music Enhancement, SDSU Campus Ministry, Student Scholarships, and Worship Enhancement.



If you have any interest in supporting the Brookings First United Methodist Church Foundation with your gifts, please contact any of the board of director members: Laura Gerjets, Van Fishback, Margaret Denton, or Rich Howard. We would also like to welcome our newest board member, Russ Daly. He will be joining the board in May.

Commission on a Way Forward

For the last couple of months, leading up to the recent special General Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC), a group of 25-35 adult Sunday School participants have studied the issue of exclusion or inclusion of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, and queer (LGBTQ) community in our church. Led by Pastor Wade and Dr. James Murphy, we reviewed the Biblical passages often cited as evidence for or against inclusion. We invite you to read the letter and share your stories around this issue to be posted on FaceBook. The letter will also be at the Welcome Centers to pick up to read. If you are interested in another class like this, please call the church office at 692-4345 or Lorna Jost at 695-0782.

Children's Musical

"Joseph and the Dream Team Xtreme" will be presented at The Well (9:00 a.m.) worship service in the Community Life Center on Sunday, April 28th. There will only be one performance this year, so be sure to mark your calendars for this awesome event. The kids are excited to share all they have learned about this biblical story.



Library News

The UMW Reading Program has had some changes. The New World Outlook is no longer being Published and The Response Magazine is now a bi-monthly publication. We have purchased and processed two books for the library. These titles include **Pushout** – The Criminalization of Black Girls in School by Monique W. Morris, and **Strength for the Journey** by Diana Butler Bass. The LGBT topic books donated are as follows: **Torn** - Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays – vs Christians Debate by Justin Lee; **Bible Gender Sexuality** by James V. Brownson; **God and the Gay Christian** by Matthew Vines; **Unfair**- Christians and the LGBT Question by John Shore; and **Changing Our Mind** by David P. Gushee.

Other donated books processed: **Miscarriage**; **Common Sense Parenting**; **The Challenging Child**; **First We Imagine**: 22 Creative South Dakotans Speak on the Subject of Creativity; **Bid Our Jarring Conflicts Cease**; **Uninvited**; **For Sabbath's Sake**; **God Unbound**; **The Anatomy of Peace**; **Strength for the Journey**; **Inspiration for a Lifetime**; **Keeping the Last Promise**; **Simple Abundance**; **Faith Over Fear**; and a book on CD **Please Look After Mom**. All books can be found on the shelves or rolling book cart in the library. Sandra Ballou

Church Camping Weekend – Aug. 2-4

Would you like to get to know some people from the congregation and you like to camp? Join us for a camping weekend at Oakwood Lake State park on August 2-4. It's a weekend of fun, conversation, relaxation, and fellowship. We share a couple of meals, attend the worship service in the park, have a fire each night, and roast LOTS of marshmallows. If you'd like to try it, let Gretchen know at education@brookingsmethodist.org. We'll be reserving camping spots in early May. If you don't like to camp, come out for a day, night, or meal!

Support the Hahn's

Lincoln and Emily Hahn are a military family in our church, and Lincoln is now deployed for a year. Emily is single-parenting it now – with 3 children and a busy schedule. Although most of us cannot fully understand what they are going through, we can offer support through gift cards to pizza places, Hy-Vee, any fast food chain, Cinema 8, offers of child-care so that Emily can get a break, help with mechanical work, offers to mow lawn, and help with other household and yard work, etc. If you would like to support the Hahn's, you may bring donations to the office or send them to Emily at 1920 3rd St in Brookings.



(CLC) = Community Life Center

(Sanc) = Sanctuary

MAY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 28 9am—The Well Worship/ Children’s Musical (CLC) 9am—Adult Sun. School (parlor) 10am—Adult Study (basement) 10am—Sunday School (last day) 11am—Traditional Worship 5pm—Church Council (basement)	April 29 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 12pm—SOUL Potluck (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table (CLC) 6pm—Open Door Retired Group (parlor)	April 30 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—BFUMC Foundation (library) 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon (parlor) 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	1 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	2 5:30pm—Missions Committee 6:30pm—Men’s Study Group (prayer garden)	3 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	4 8am—Prayer Garden Project (all day until complete)
5 7:30am—Boy Scout Troop 1 Pancake Feed & Silent Auction (church basement until 12:30pm) 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 9am—Adult Sun. School (parlor) 11am—Traditional Worship 4:30pm— CrossWork Emmaus (library)	6 10am—Healthy Movement 5:30pm—Harvest Table (CLC) 5:30pm—Health Ministry Team (library) 6pm—Open Door Singles Grp 7pm—Open Door Retired Grp 7pm—Staff Parish Committee 7pm—Worship Committee	7 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon (parlor) 5:30pm—FUMC Foundation (library) 6pm—Jubilee Ringers 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	8 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 6:45pm—Chancel Choir Re- hearsal	9 6:30pm—Men’s Study Group (prayer garden)	10 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	11 9am— Piecemakers Quilting Group (basement)
12- Mother’s Day 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 9am—Adult Sun. School (parlor) 11am—Traditional Worship	13 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table (CLC) 7pm—Open Door Retired Grp (parlor)	14 9am—Memorial Committee (library) 10am—Staff Meeting 10am—UMW Board (Sanctuary) 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon 7pm—Trustees (library) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	15 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 6:45pm— Chancel Choir Re- hearsal	16 9:45am—Neighborhoods Comm. 10:30am—Edgewood Vista Com. 2pm—StoneyBrook Communion 3pm—ULC Communion 6pm—UMW Mother/Daughter/ Friend Celebration (CLC) 6pm—UMM (church basement) 6:30pm—Men’s Study Group	17 6:30am—Men’s Fellowship Breakfast (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	18 9am— Piecemakers Quilting Group (basement)
19 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 9am—Adult Sun. School (parlor) 11am—Traditional Worship 4:30pm—CrossWork Emmaus (library)	20 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table (CLC) 6pm—Finance Committee (library) 6pm- Open Door Singles Grp 7pm—Open Door Retired Grp	21 9am—CARE Group (basement) 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon (parlor) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	22 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	23 9:30am—Hannah Circle (basement) 2pm—Naomi Circle (library) 6:30pm—Men’s Study Group (prayer garden)	24 6:30am—Men’s Breakfast Fellowship (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	25 FOCUS Deadline
26 9am—The Well Worship (CLC) 9am—Adult Sun. School (parlor) 11am—Traditional Worship	27—Memorial Day Office Closed 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 12pm—SOUL Potluck (CLC) 5:30pm—Harvest Table (CLC) 6pm—Open Door Retired Grp	28 10am—Staff Meeting 5:30pm—New Day Al-Anon (parlor) 7pm—Movie Night@Cinema 8	29 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	30 6:30pm—Men’s Study Group (prayer garden)	31 6:30am—Men’s Breakfast Fellowship (Hy-Vee) 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	