



August 2021

FROM THE PASTOR

Each One Is A Hero

By: Pastor Pete



I have been following the Tokyo Summer Olympics with keen interest. I cheer on my favorite competitors and feel good when they achieve a medal and groan when they do not make the winner's podium. Because I come from a small country with very few options of medal winners, I freely choose athletes from other countries to cheer on as well.

So here is my thought for today: I am struck by the pressure we put on our chosen athletes to win. It seems to me that their win makes us feel better about ourselves. And suddenly it is no longer me wishing them well – but rather me needing them to win so that I can feel better about myself. I then think I have the right to feel cheated when a participant does not perform well, or even pulls out of an event. “How dare they let us down” becomes the refrain when someone like Simone Biles or Naomi Osaka withdraws. This has nothing to do with their health – and everything to do with my need to back a winner.

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FIRST UNITED
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AT THE
CORNER OF
CHURCH &
COMMUNITY

625 Fifth Street, Brookings
605-692-4345
www.brookingsmethodist.org

FROM THE PASTOR

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Let us remember that our Christian faith does not demand that we become winners to be loved. We are all God's beloved – both those who have the capacity to be out in front, as well as those who struggle through each day. Let us show the same care and compassion for all who compete – every.single.participant. This will then shape my relationships with the people around me. I can learn to cheer my family and friends on in living their lives and make each one feel like a winner.

Pastor Pete

Ministry Opportunities!

By: Pastor Krista

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.*

Isaiah 43:19, NRSV

God is doing a new thing among us! Even as we continue to navigate the surprising twists and turns of COVID, the Holy Spirit has empowered us for ministry and growth. And we are on the cusp of even more new things! We invite you to join in with what God is doing in our midst, by serving in one of the many ministry opportunities at Brookings First, which you can find out about in this issue of the FOCUS and in our weekly announcements. Here are a couple of opportunities related to worship and campus ministry:

We are inviting YOU to participate in our worship ministry! If you play an instrument, sing, or have a knack for the technical side of worship ministry, and are passionate about Jesus and serving others, we would love for you to join. Simply email me at pastorkrista@brookingsmethodist.org and we will get you connected!

Another way to get involved is to support our incoming SDSU students! August 22nd will be a great day in our church life as we welcome incoming freshmen and all students back to campus. We will have an **outdoor worship service** at Pioneer Park at 10am (wear your Jacks gear!). Then our student organization, First On Campus, will have a table at the new student organization expo from 1-4 pm at the

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FROM THE PASTOR

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Student Union. And here is where YOU come in! We will have a walking taco night with music, games and fun the evening of August 22nd from 6-8:30pm! Sign up to come, or to donate supplies by clicking this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ca8ab2ba0fecf8-campus>. There is also a sign up sheet at our welcome center in the CLC. Here are a couple of photos from our recent pizza night! We'd love for you to join in the fun!

Whether you join in with our worship ministry, our campus ministry, or any of the many service opportunities at Brookings First, we are grateful for you and your presence in our church. You make us what we are!

Pastor Krista



CHURCH CORNER

From Staff Parish Relations Committee

SPR is excited to announce the hiring of Sam Becker as the Part-Time Building Manager. Sam started the position in late July. Sam will be working closely with the Pastors and the trustees.

On Sunday, September 12, there will be a Pastor and staff appreciation. More details to follow in the September FOCUS Newsletter.

Cheryl Honomichl, SPR Chair

Weekly Worship Schedule

WATCH ONLINE

Sundays:	9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm All day	Radio Broadcast (on KBRK 1430AM) Sunday Morning Worship (in-person and online) Virtual Coffee with the Pastors on Zoom Virtual Children's Church on Facebook
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Listen to our Podcast!

You can listen to all our sermons and messages every Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon on our Podcast, 'Messages from First United Methodist Brookings!' It's perfect for listening on the go this summer! We are on all major Podcasting platforms, so listen wherever you get your favorite podcasts!

For links to episodes and more info about our Podcast, visit anchor.fm/fumcbrookings !

Bringing back that which we have missed

With September right around the corner, we are cautiously looking toward resuming our Chancel Choir and Jubilee Ringers. With respect for each other, the past 18 months and the influence the Covid-19 pandemic has had on our ability to be together, we are hopeful that it will remain safe for fully vaccinated people to participate in group activities. As we all hear and read, it is a fluid situation with the virus effectively mutating in its efforts to survive, thus requiring continued vigilance and review of our protocols for gathering.

Our Chancel choir will return to regular rehearsals at 7pm Wednesday, September 8 in the sanctuary. Please come join us if you love to sing and are fully vaccinated. New singers are most welcome and returning singers, it will be so good to hear your voices again!

The Jubilee Ringers will return to regular rehearsals at 6pm Tuesday, September 7 in the church basement. Please contact me to let me know if you plan to ring handbells this coming year. New ringers are welcome! Again, I ask that you are fully vaccinated to participate in this group activity.

Our church will continue to offer one worship service each Sunday at 10:00am. As musicians we will share the leading of worship through music with a variety of individuals and groups. Singing our faith and playing instruments together as an ensemble, as well as lifting our voices in song with the congregation are “community building” experiences. It will be a treat to hear more voices and instruments together.

Plans are in the works for a back to choir/handbells potluck. Mark your calendars for the evening of August 28. Further details will be coming.

Please contact me with your questions, if you are new to Brookings Methodist and would like to join a choir and if you plan to ring handbells:

bfkhieb@gmail.com or 605-691-9395

I'm looking forward to a wonderful year of making music! I hope you will be able to join us!

Brenda Hieb

Choir director, Handbell director

Recruiting for Sunday school teachers and helpers

It truly does take a village to raise a child – and that includes raising them in the Christian faith. I would like to challenge you to be a part of that village. Please consider teaching or helping in a Sunday school classroom this year.

I will begin calling people in August to find volunteers for our Christian Education program to begin this fall.

Please know that helping with the education program does not mean that you will need to be there every Sunday. Life is busy and it simply isn't possible to be there every week. It is staffed so that it is very possible to be gone when needed.

There is also no upper age limit to helping! Having ‘seniors’ help in the classroom is a blessing – to both the children and the ‘senior’. I apologize if you don’t get a call and would like to help. Just give Gretchen a call or email (education@brookingsmethodist.org) .

Gretchen Knutson, Education Director

Sunday school in person this fall!

We are excited to announce that we will be meeting together in person for Sunday school this fall! That will include all ages! Watch in the next FOCUS for the classes in which you can take part. Likewise – if you have an idea for a class which you would like to see offered, please let me know. Let's see what we can do – suggestions are welcomed!

Old Enough to Attend Sunday School?

If you have a 2-year-old (has turned 2 by August 31, 2021), he/she is old enough to attend Sunday school starting this fall! If you have not received a email introducing you to Sunday school, please contact Gretchen at education@brookingsmethodist.org. We would love to have your 2 year old in Sunday school this fall!

Summer Church Campers

Please pray for the following campers as they attend camp in August.

Camper	Camp	Dates
Steph Vlaminck Nate Buus Taira Buus	Andrew Hahn Riley Ness Libby Vlaminck	Lake Poinsett Summer's Last Blast
Tom Becker	Storm Mountain	August 1-4
	God, Guys, Golf and Gear	August 8-12

Library News

The Church Library Care Committee is making a list of people, organizations or events that we can contribute books to that need a new home. If you have any suggestions, please let me know, and I will put them on the list. The books we are asking you to look through are now located on the library's tables. They are free, and we want them to have a new home.

We are now putting books back on the shelf. They will be in alphabetical order with some special shelves for topics and seasonal materials. Thank you for your patience and assistance in this endeavor.

Linda Kay Hau, Library Committee

WE ARE THE CHURCH
THE CHURCH GOES
WHERE WE GO

Howard E. Butt, Jr.

The Future of our Online Campus

During the last year and a half, our church has built a vibrant online congregation. While it is great to see so many at our in-person services, our services will always be available online, on the radio, and as a podcast. As the hymn 'We Are The Church' says, '*The church is not a building ... the Church is a people.*' Our entire church family is just that—a family, and we will always warmly welcome you however you choose to worship.

Sam Becker, Worship Tech/Media Director

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is active. Please contact Sharon Anderegg at 605-692-4925 with any requests.



August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
8 9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK) 10am—Sunday Morning Worship 12pm—Virtual coffee with pastors	9 9am—Feeding SD mobile food truck 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 7pm—Trustee meeting	10 5pm—New Day Al-Anon 5:30pm—GAP Open House	11 8am—TOPS 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 12pm—Put up sweater Dinner (CLC) 6pm—Weds Bible Study
15 9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK) 10am—Sunday Morning Worship 12pm—Virtual coffee with pastors	16 10am—Communion at ULC 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 5:30pm—Finance Committee meeting	17 1:30pm—CARE Group meeting 5pm—New Day Al-Anon	18 8am—TOPS 10am—Alzheimer's Support Group 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 6pm—Weds Bible Study
22 9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK) 10am—Sunday Morning Worship at Pioneer Park 12pm—Virtual coffee with pastors 6pm—First On Campus Taco Feed at CLC	23 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)	24 5pm—New Day Al-Anon	25 8am—TOPS 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 6pm—Weds Bible Study
29 9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK) 10am—Sunday Morning Worship 12pm—Virtual coffee with pastors 5:30pm—Administrative Council meeting	30 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 7pm—Worship Committee meeting	31 5pm—New Day Al-Anon	Sept 1 8am—TOPS 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC) 6pm—Weds Bible Study
5 9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK) 10am—Sunday Morning Worship 12pm—Virtual coffee with pastors	6 Labor Day—Office closed 10am—Healthy Movement Class	7 5pm—New Day Al-Anon	

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Thu	Fri	Sat
Movement Class (CLC) Sweet corn for Turkey Study (sanctuary)	12 5:30pm—Missions Committee meeting	13 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)
Support Group Movement Class (CLC) Study (sanctuary)	19 10:00am—Communion at Edgewood Vista 10:30am—Communion at Stoneybrook Suites	20 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)
Movement Class (CLC) Study (sanctuary)	26 1pm—Tie Quilters	27 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)
Movement Class (CLC) Study (sanctuary)	2	3 10am—Healthy Movement Class (CLC)
		4

Back-To-School Supplies

The August #onething donations are directed to the local Back-to-School Supplies Project. The easiest way to donate would be to pick up a school supply list (Walmart has printed copies available), and purchase any of the items listed. You may drop your donations off at the church office. Back-to-School Night is August 12th at Faith Reformed Church. Any donations received after the distribution night will be given to the local school counselors for distribution throughout the school year.

James Honomichl, Mission Committee Chair



Volunteers are needed August 11th starting at Noon to put up the sweet corn for the Turkey Dinner. If you are available to help, please contact Keith Goehring at 605-695-9459 or the church office at 605-692-4345.

Upcoming Turkey Dinner

The 2021 Turkey Dinner is planned for Sunday, September 26. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank You for your Tool Time donations!

The Mission Committee wishes to thank and congratulate this congregation for the Fathers' Day Tool Time Offering to Brookings Habitat for Humanity. You gave \$1,020 for local, volunteer construction of affordable houses in the Brookings Community. Those fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers and friends were truly honored or remembered with love and a commitment by your gifts! As a reminder, the Brookings Habitat for Humanity affiliate could always use your elbow grease in construction or feeding a crew with lunch. You can call 605-697-2540 anytime with your willingness to help or donate!

Lorna Jost

#onething

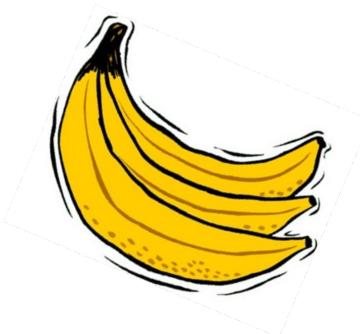


Slush Booth Update

Thank you to everyone who helped create a successful Arts Festival Slush Booth weekend! Volunteers contributed over 200 hours picking strawberries, making slush, setting up and taking down the booth, and working at the booth during the festival. We could not have done it without all of you! And thank you to those that stopped by the booth and supported us by buying a cup (or more) of slush. This year we sold just over 1200 cups of slush and brought in about \$4,000 for missions at home and around the world.

We would also like to thank Sanderson Gardens for providing the strawberries and Hy-Vee in Brookings for their willingness to freeze our slush. Thank you again for your help and support!

Mission Committee



BATA Bus Service



If you need of a ride to church on Sundays, we have restarted the BATA bus service. Volunteer drivers are available to pick you up and drop you off back home. Please contact the office at 605-692-4345 if you would like to be on the pick up list (*by Noon on Fridays*) or if you would like to volunteer to be a driver.

From the Trustee Committee

Some of you may have noticed the two elevated planter boxes that are located near the north entrance to the Narthex. They are the work of Samson Storhaug (and crew) as a part of his project to become an Eagle Scout. The project entailed planning and building the planter boxes, as well as maintaining the growing plants for the remaining part of the growing season. Each box has growing trays that can be positioned to change the arrangement. We want to recognize Samson for his special effort and congratulate him for striving to become an Eagle Scout!

With the hot, dry weather this summer, we have been spending extra time to make sure that at least some of the landscape plantings are getting enough water. We have stayed with the city watering schedule to provide weekly applications enough to keep the plantings thriving.

Some of the landscape blocks along the sidewalk near the south sanctuary entrance were becoming loose, thus creating a potential safety hazard, particularly for those who like the challenge of walking along the top of the blocks. This past week we went ahead and re-glued the top layer of blocks to provide stability.

We are progressing with plans for the Sanctuary basement improvements. This month several of us met with a kitchen planner to get some additional input as to the best way to go with plans for that area. Several features of that space such as support columns, electrical service, plumbing, etc will be difficult or impossible to change.

There were no smoke detector devices in the Office area and the upstairs activity rooms of the sanctuary. Besides, the control box for the other smoke alarms and detectors is such that parts may not be available for repairs. We decided to replace the old control center along with installing the additional smoke detectors to make sure that our alarm system is functional and up-to-date. This is only a small step in continually trying to keep our facilities in good condition.

Ron Thaden, Trustee Committee Chair



Finance News

Thank you to everyone who has supported our church financially. Your support has meant that we can continue to bring vibrant worship and compassionate service to people in need. Because of your generosity we provide food and diapers to anyone who requests them, minister online to people via the radio and the internet, and be available for counseling and Christian leadership in our city. Our financial position this year is as follows:

Month-ending financials for July 31, 2021:

Income:	\$61,560
Expenses:	<u>\$45,769</u>
Net balance:	\$15,791

Year-to-date financials as of July 31, 2021:

Income:	\$385,056
Expenses:	<u>\$352,406</u>
Net balance:	\$ 32,650

If at any time you want to see a detailed report on how the finances are used, please contact JoAnn Lee at the church office (605-692-4345), who will happily assist you. A copy of the approved annual church budget is also available from the church office.

Pastor Pete
Matt Miller, Finance Committee Chair

Join our Media Ministry!

As our church is reopening, we need help with our media and tech ministry now more than ever! I am looking for volunteers who are interested in helping with the many ‘behind the scenes’ aspects that go into all of our worship services including: operating cameras and live streaming equipment, running audio, video, and lighting equipment, as well as special events such as weddings and funerals. Our team has a lot of fun using our skills and talents to serve God in a unique way. If you have experience with music, video, or theatre, I’d love to talk to you!

Contact me at media@brookingsmethodist.org or call the church office (692-4345) if you or someone you know is interested in helping with our media ministry!

Sam Becker, Worship Tech/Media Director



Susan's Saga

This nugget of Scripture encapsulates the Gospel message:

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

Yet the shocking fact is that of the 7360 living languages in the world today, less than half have this essential truth in their mother tongue. That means that over 3000 languages have yet to hear of God's amazing love for them.

This gargantuan need motivates us to press on with the task of Bible translation, the Church's assignment to make God's love known to all people.

Thank you for your part in helping one minority language in southern Mexico to have access to God's Word.

Susan Huggins

Scripture quote is taken from Romans 15:4, the New American Standard Bible.

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.

Church Staff

Pastoral Staff

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Krista Ducker.....pastorkrista@brookingsmethodist.org

Education Director

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Community Life Center Director

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Office Manager

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Worship Tech/Media Director

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Tech Coordinator

Paul Schmidt.....tech@brookingsmethodist.org

Organists: MK Huggins

Joan Riessen

Accompanist: Ted DeLange

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