



# FOCUS

## NEWSLETTER

June 2022

FROM THE PASTOR

### Spread Love



*“Spread love everywhere you go: first of all in your own house. Give love to your children, to your wife or husband, to a next door neighbor....Be the living expression of God’s kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting.” -Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

“Throw kindness around like confetti.” It’s a lovely phrase, and one that an old friend of mine takes literally. Anytime I or anyone else receives a card from Bobbie, we know to open it carefully, because it will invariably explode with confetti! It’s like a little party in an envelope every time she sends a greeting. Because of this, I smile every time I think of her.

Wouldn’t it be amazing if, when the thought of you or me entered someone’s mind that was the response; A smile—perhaps even a little giggle of delight?

I was reminded today of a beautiful word of encouragement from scripture, when the Apostle Paul reminds us that it is God’s *kindness* that leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).

(continued next page)



FIRST UNITED

METHODIST

BROOKINGS

AT THE  
CORNER OF

**CHURCH &  
COMMUNITY**

625 Fifth Street, Brookings

605-692-4345

[www.brookingsmethodist.org](http://www.brookingsmethodist.org)



(continued from page one)

In this chapter, Paul urges the church to refrain from judgment, as so often we find ourselves judging others for things we ourselves so easily do! Rather, it is the *kindness* of God that brings us to a repentant posture. It is God's merciful love that draws us to place of safety and vulnerability so that we might turn (the literal meaning of the root word for "repentance" in Hebrew) toward God in reciprocal love and faith.

Jim, Lucas and I have been blessed by your expressions of kindness toward us over the past two years. I urge you to continue spreading kindness and love like confetti; so much so that when people who know you find out you are Christians, the first thing that will come to mind is a delightful memory of your kindness to them—and not of judgment.

*"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*  
*John 13:35, NIV*

Sincerely,  
*Pastor Krista*

---

## ***Best Wishes Pastor Krista and Thank you***

Help us say a Best Wishes and Thank You to Krista Ducker on June 26<sup>th</sup>. This will be Krista's last day with us as our Associate Pastor. We have been blessed to have Krista share her many gifts with us these last few years and we want to wish her and Jim all the best as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Please join us in the narthex for coffee and treats before and after our church service.

We are gathering thank you cards for Pastor Krista—we will have some blank cards available in the Narthex during the month of June for you to write a note to Pastor Krista, or you can bring a card from home. Please put them in the silver box in the Narthex before June 26.

*Stephanie Bultje* – SPR Chair

## A Word of Thanks

<sup>23</sup> Do your work willingly, as though you were serving the Lord himself, and not just your earthly master. <sup>24</sup> In fact, the Lord Christ is the one you are really serving, and you know he will reward you. (Colossians 3:23-24).



I want to say thank you to everyone who has raised their hand to participate in the life of our church. We are a church that thrives on the spirit of volunteerism, and without you we would not function. I am aware of those who offer hospitality at funerals, who help fold newsletters, who serve on various committees, and who show up as ushers. So many of you “fly under the radar” and do not look for praise. Thank you. That said, I do want to thank those who have stepped into leadership. In particular I would want to thank:

**Krista Ducker:** thank you for your leadership in our church over the past two years. You have brought many gifts with you: your love of music, your passion for the SDSU students, your excellent teaching - flavored with laughter and joy. As you begin a new chapter in your life, may you go with God, and may your family be held in God’s Grace.

**The Office Staff:** Lynelle Hagedorn, Trish Matson Buus, Gretchen Knutson, Vonda Kirkham and Sam Becker are the team who hold the church together. They serve us with compassion and joy. Because of them we are assured of a warm welcome when we visit the church office.

**The Chairs of our Church Committees:** I am grateful to the various committees that ensure that our church can serve our community. I want to thank those who chair these committees: Charlie Schnabel (AdCouncil), Doug Beste (Trustees), Beth Niemeyer (Finance), Brenda Hieb (Worship), Jim Honomichl (Mission), Brenda Buus (Memorial), Russ Daley (Foundation) Steph Hult Bultje (Staff Parish Relations) and Maria Schlueter (Education). I also value the presence of our lay leader LaRon DeBoer. The wisdom and leadership of these people help keep us healthy as a church.

In the quote above, St Paul points out that “*the Lord Christ is the one you are really serving*”. We who serve respond to the call of one who first served us. Jesus’ disciples remind us that “*the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve*” and in this way set an example for us to follow. Let us never tire in serving our community because of our love for Jesus.

*Pastor Pete*

Matthew 20:28 & Mark 10:45

## ***The United Methodist Church the Global Methodist Church***

The beginning of May this year saw the launch of a Global Methodist Church. This is intended to be the new home for members of the United Methodist Church who want a church that does not welcome LGBTQ+ members. Rev Keith Boyette, spokesperson explained: “Theologically conservative local churches and annual conferences want to be free of divisive and destructive debates, and to have the freedom to move forward together”. This is an attempt to create a church where everyone thinks the same and believes the same.

In contrast, the United Methodist Church has embraced a diversity of opinion as our practice: we refer to ourselves as “a big tent” – meaning that there is space for people of different languages, races, cultures, and political positions. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, said that to be faithful to Jesus is not about us all saying the same thing: *‘orthodoxy, or right opinions, is at best a slender part of religion, if it can be allowed to be any part at all,’* The Methodist tradition has been diverse since its inception, holding in tension both conservative and progressive values. At times this creates uncomfortable, divisive debates. However, the conversation between conservative and liberal opinions opens space for ongoing spiritual growth.

For this reason, the Brookings First United Methodist Church will continue to be a place where everyone is welcome. We do not try to make everyone do things exactly the same – in fact our motto is quite clear: *“Open hearts / Open minds / Open doors”*. Everyone is welcome. The thing that binds us is the call of God on our lives to love and serve the world. We are loyal to the traditions of our forebears and are not considering changing our connection with the United Methodist Church. The congregation does not need to vote to remain within the UMC. A vote would only be required if we choose to leave and to join the Global Methodist Church.

Personally, I am unable to fit into the categories of “Conservative” or “Progressive”. I hold to the traditional, universal evangelical beliefs of the Methodist Church. I preach the need to give our lives to Jesus, and I acknowledge the traditional Creeds of the Christian Church. I believe that the Bible contains our faith tradition, and thus needs to be studied diligently. I have learned Hebrew and Greek to do this, and I continue to read my Bible and pray over it every day. At the same time, I believe that the Spirit of God expects us to progress in our faith. I believe that Jesus came to correct the Old Testament view of a vengeful God with a New Testament teaching of a God who loves everyone: *“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love*

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

*your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:44).* For this reason, I oppose the oppression of women, and of people in minority groups (such as LGBTQ+) – even though there were people in the Bible who did so. I believe that we need to work for a Godly justice in our world, which is governed by Jesus' love for all humanity, and his advocacy for those who are oppressed.

For the record: I am a pastor ordained in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa and accredited with the Dakota's Conference of the UMC. I accept the spiritual oversight of my superintendent, Rev Rebecca Trefz, and of the Bishop of the Conference. I am also accountable to Bishop Purity Malinga, who is the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. I am therefore doubly accountable to my calling as a Methodist Pastor. The United Methodist Church, and the Methodist Church of Southern Africa connect with each other through the World Methodist Council and hold each other's teachings and discipline with mutual respect.

Please feel free to connect with me to discuss anything I have written. My door is open to all.

*Pastor Pete*



## *It's time for our New Church Directory!*

We are starting work on a new Church Directory and it won't be complete without you! Photography days are August 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-8:30pm and August 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-4:00pm. Sign up for a time online at [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) using the Church Code 'sd108' and password 'photos', or contact the church office. Look for more information in next month's Focus!



We are also looking for volunteers to contact families, help with sign-ups, and greet families on photography days. If you can help in any of these areas, contact the church office!

*Lynelle Hagedorn*, Office Manager

---

## *Thank you Volunteers!!!*

We are so Thankful for all you do! If you haven't picked up your gift bag of appreciation yet, please do so by the end of June. Thank you!

*Lynelle Hagedorn*, Office Manager

---

## *New Member Class June 5*

If you have interest in becoming a member of the church or know of someone who is interested, we will be holding a New Member Class after morning worship on June 5. Please contact the office at 692-4345, or at [office@brookingsmethodist.org](mailto:office@brookingsmethodist.org) for more information.

*Lynelle Hagedorn*, Office Manager



## ***Stop in the Office and say hello!***



We have been busy redecorating and organizing the office and now would like to welcome you to stop in and say hi!

### **Church Office Hours:**

Mon: 9:30am-12:30pm

Tues-Fri: 8:30am-12:00 pm

*Lynelle Hagedorn*, Office Manager

---

## ***Office Volunteers needed***

Current Volunteer needs:

Finance: Sunday Worship Stewards

Office: Attendance entry

Please contact the Church Office if you are willing to volunteer!

Thanks!

*Lynelle Hagedorn*, Office Manager

## Annual Dakotas Conference of the UMC

The twenty-ninth session of the Dakotas Annual Conference will be held June 9-11, 2022, at Bismarck, North Dakota. The gathering will include inspiring worship, business, conversations about who and where we are, and celebrating clergy milestones. Delegates attending from FUMC include Nancy Bohlen, Cheryl Honomichl, Rylee Honomichl and Charlie Schnabel along with Pastor Pete and Pastor Krista. Drawing on Psalm 23 and John 10:10-11, our theme is “**Jesus: Healer**”. We are a people and a world in need of healing beyond our doing. God invites us to come sit by still waters, and to allow God to restore our soul. Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey will deliver the 2022 Episcopal Address during opening worship on Thursday, June 9 at 8:00 a.m., CDT and all can watch via the Livestream on the [Dakotas Conference website](#).



At a Celebration of Life in Ministry worship service Friday, June 10, 2022 at 7 p.m., CDT we will honor friends and colleagues who have died in the past year. We will also celebrate our retiring clergy, clergy being commissioned (including **Teresa Person**), elders being ordained, and news of newly assigned licensed local pastors. You can watch via the Livestream on the [Dakotas Conference website](#). We will collectively gather our resources to make an impact with this annual celebration of God's generosity. Our 2022 Miracle Offering: **Wings for Wellness** is a hope-bringing, spirit-fueled activity that will have a lasting impact on Native American youth served by Tree of Life Ministry and Spirit Lake Ministry of the Dakotas Conference. Our goal for the 2022 Miracle Offering is \$50,000 to be shared with the counseling department at Four Winds School, a partner with Spirit Lake Ministry Center in North Dakota, and the counseling department at Todd County Schools, a partner with Tree of Life Ministry Center in South Dakota.

The closing worship when clergy appointments are set and we remember our baptisms will be June 11, 2022, 11:20 a.m., CDT, and can be watch via the Livestream on the [Dakotas Conference website](#). As your delegates we encourage you to journey with us by using Psalm 23 and John 10:10-11 for your devotions for June 9-11; by watching the inspiring worship services via Livestream June 9 @ 8:00 a.m., June 10 @ 7 p.m. and June 11 @ 11:20 a.m.; by following [Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church](#) on Facebook; and, by lifting us and our work in your prayers. Upon our return ask us about annual conference. We will also be sharing information with you.

*Nancy Bohlen*

## ***Church Staff Needed***

Pastor Krista will be leaving us at the end of June, to begin a new chapter of ministry in Sioux Falls. The Staff Parish Relations Committee has met with Rev. Rebecca Trefz to discuss our pastoral staffing options. Rebecca has pointed out that at this time she does not have an Associate-Pastor available. With that being said, we are exploring other options to fill the needs of the church, and this is by adding staffing appointments to help fill our pastoral needs. The staffing appointments we are looking to add are **Music Coordinator**, a **Community Nurse**, a **Young Person's position** that will help revive our Wednesday afternoon children's programs, and a **part-time Campus Pastor**. These are an ongoing discussion, and we continue to work through the process as we put together the job descriptions for these positions. We will keep the congregation apprised of the developments as they unfold for us. Please feel free to reach out to any of the members of the Staff Parish Committee if you have any questions or concerns.

*Stephanie Bultje*, SPR Chair

---

## ***Calling for Hospitality Volunteers***

The Worship Committee is updating the volunteer lists for Sunday Morning Hospitality. This includes those serving as Greeters, Welcome Desk attendant, Coffee Host and Ushers. You are welcome to sign up and serve in this way.

You will find signup sheets at both entrances of the Narthex. We want to include attendees of all ages including families with young children and youth, empty nesters and seniors. We will train you and have guidelines for you so that you know what to do. The most important thing is to be a smiling, welcoming face as people arrive and participate in our Sunday morning worship and activities. For those who spend part of the year away at a vacation home, please note what months you are not regularly available, that way you can serve during the time you are home in Brookings. Thank you for signing up to serve!

*Brenda Hieb*

Chair, Worship Committee

## Church Staff

### Pastoral Staff

Pete Grassow.....pastorpete@brookingsmethodist.org  
Krista Ducker.....pastorkrista@brookingsmethodist.org

### Education Director

Gretchen Knutson..... education@brookingsmethodist.org

### Community Life Center Director

Vonda Kirkham.....communitylife@brookingsmethodist.org

### Office Manager

Lynelle Hagedorn.....office@brookingsmethodist.org

### Financial Secretary

Trish Matson Buus.....finance@brookingsmethodist.org

### Worship Tech/Media Director and Facility Manager

Sam Becker.....media@brookingsmethodist.org

### Tech Coordinator

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

**Organists:** Joan Riessen  
MK Huggins

**Pianist:** Ted DeLange

## Connect with us!

### Church Office Hours:

Mon: 9:30am-12:30pm  
Tues-Fri: 8:30am-12:00 pm

### Finance Office Hours:

Mon & Fri: 9:00am-5:00pm

**Need prayer?** Email  
[prayer@brookingsmethodist.org](mailto:prayer@brookingsmethodist.org)  
and a pastor will pray with  
you.

[Facebook.com/FUMCBrookings](https://www.facebook.com/FUMCBrookings)

[www.brookingsmethodist.org](http://www.brookingsmethodist.org)

## Summer Weekly Worship Schedule



**WATCH ONLINE**

**Sundays:** 9:30am Radio Broadcast (on KBRK 1430AM)  
10:00am Sunday Morning Worship (in-person and online)  
All day Virtual Children's Church on Facebook

Check out our website: [www.brookingsmethodist.org](http://www.brookingsmethodist.org)

## Radio Broadcast Sponsorships

Now is the time to sign up for a radio broadcast sponsorship in 2022. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast in memory, honor, or celebration of a loved one or anniversary, you may:

1. Visit <http://www.brookingsmethodist.org/> and click on:

### **RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS**

1. Contact the office at 605-692-4345
2. Email [office@brookingsmethodist.org](mailto:office@brookingsmethodist.org)

Each broadcast sponsorship is \$60 and airs at 9:30am on KBRK 1430AM.

## ***News from Teresa Person...***

Pending approval by the Clergy Session, I will be commissioned as a provisional elder in the Dakotas Conference at the Celebration of Life in Ministry service on Friday, June 10. The service will be held at the Event Center in Bismarck where Annual Conference meetings take place and will also be live streamed on the Conference website. My seminary journey is also coming to an end as I will graduate soon from Kairos University with a Master of Divinity degree. To celebrate these two milestones in my life, my churches are hosting an Open House Reception at the Riverview UMC Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 12 from 2-5pm. Feel free to stop by and celebrate with me! My Brookings church family has been a major source of support for me over the years as I have lived into my calling, and I would love to include you all in the celebration. Chris is providing cupcakes for the celebration as well!

Blessings to you all,  
Pastor Teresa

Here's the address:

Riverview UMC, 1640 Simmons Ave SE, Huron, SD 57350



---

## ***Prayer Chain***

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



---

## ***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!' 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](http://anchor.fm/fumcbrookings) !



| <b>Sun</b>   | <b>Mon</b>  | <b>Tue</b>  | <b>Wed</b>  |
|--|---|---|---|
|  |   |   | <p>1<br/>8am—TOPS<br/>10am—Health</p>                                   |
| <p>5<br/>9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK)<br/>10am—Sunday Morning Worship<br/>5pm—Ad Council</p>            | <p>6<br/>10am— Communion at the<br/>Neighborhoods<br/>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC)<br/>5:30pm —SPR Meeting<br/>7:30pm— Worship Committee</p> | <p>7<br/>5pm—New Day Al-Anon</p>                        | <p>8<br/>8am—TOPS<br/>10am—Health<br/>7pm—Youth</p>                     |
| <p>12<br/>9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK)<br/>10am—Sunday Morning Worship</p>                              | <p>13<br/>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC)<br/>7pm—Trustee Committee</p>   | <p>14<br/>5pm—New Day Al-Anon</p>                       | <p>15<br/>8am—TOPS<br/>10am—Health<br/>10am—Alzhe<br/>Care Giving S</p> |
| <p>19<br/>9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK)<br/>10am—Sunday Morning Worship<br/>4:30pm—Cross Work Emmaus</p> | <p>20<br/>10am—Communion at ULC<br/>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC)<br/>5:30pm— Finance Committee<br/>6pm—VBS Staff Meeting</p>                 | <p>21<br/>1:30pm—Care Group<br/>5pm—New Day Al-Anon</p> | <p>22<br/>8am—TOPS<br/>10am—Health</p>                                  |
| <p>26<br/>VBS Staff dedication Day<br/>9:30am—Radio broadcast (KBRK)<br/>10am—Sunday Morning Worship</p> | <p>27<br/>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC)</p>   | <p>28<br/>5pm—New Day Al-Anon</p>                       | <p>29<br/>8am—TOPS<br/>10am—Health</p>                                  |

|  | <i>Thu</i>  | <i>Fri</i>  | <i>Sat</i>            |
|--|---|---|-----------------------|
| Healthy Movement (CLC)   | 2   | 3<br>6:30am—Men’s Breakfast<br>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC)  | 4                     |
| Healthy Movement (CLC)<br>Council-Planning Night                 | 9<br>5:30pm—Missions<br>Committee   | 10<br>6:30am—Men’s Breakfast<br>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC) | 11                    |
| Healthy Movement (CLC)<br>Elder’s, Dementia and<br>Support Group | 16<br>10am—Communion at<br>Edgewood Vista<br>10:30am—Communion<br>at Stoneybrook Suites | 17<br>6:30am—Men’s Breakfast<br>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC) | 18<br>9am—Piecemakers |
| Healthy Movement (CLC)   | 23<br>1pm—Tie Quilters  | 24<br>6:30am—Men’s Breakfast<br>10am—Healthy Movement (CLC) | 25                    |
| Healthy Movement (CLC)   | 30  |   |                       |

# Summer Church Campers

Please pray for these campers as they attend camp in June:

| Camper                            | Camp                                | Dates       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Grant Tellekson                   | Wesley Acres<br>Minecraft Camp      | June 12-17  |
| Jaclyn Moore<br>Shaedan Rasmussen | Lake Poinsett<br>Sand, Surf and Son | Jun 12 - 17 |
| Vonda, Kaleb & Kolby Kirkham      | Lake Poinsett<br>Teddy Bear Camp 1  | June 13-14  |
| Steph and Remmi Vlaminc           | Lake Poinsett<br>Teddy Bear Camp 2  | June 15-16  |

*Gretchen Knutson*, Education Director

## Church Camping Weekend

Join in the church camping weekend – Aug. 5-7 at Oakwood Lakes State Park (not to be confused with the Family Camp weekend at Storm Mountain or Lake Poinsett).

This is a weekend of fellowship, food, rest, and conversation.

We will share a couple of meals, have a campfire each night and attend the Sunday morning church service at the park. If you would like to join us to camp for the weekend, email Gretchen at [education@brookingsmethoidst.org](mailto:education@brookingsmethoidst.org). If you'd like to come out for the day/evening, you're welcome to do that too!

*Gretchen Knutson*, Education Director



# Vacation Bible School

Join us for Food Truck Party! July 12-14!

**Ages for VBS:** 4 year olds (as of August 31, 2021) – 5<sup>th</sup> grade (this school year) are invited to sign up for VBS here: <http://bit.ly/VBS2022FoodTruckParty>.

Preschool groups will consist of children aged 4 year - kindergarten. The elementary children (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) will be in limited mixed aged groups of approximately 5 children.

## Meal:

A meal will be provided on Tuesday and Wednesday for everyone. Thursday evening, we will have food trucks available for the meal.

The director – April Flemming and Gretchen, are presently contacting people to help with VBS. If you would like to help, please let me know: [education@brookingsmethoidst.org](mailto:education@brookingsmethoidst.org).

*Gretchen Knutson*, Education Director



---

## Thank You Teachers/Sponsors!

I inadvertently left out the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in the last FOCUS. They were Ope Niemeyer, Steve Eliason, Penny Eliason and Stephanie Vlamnick. Thanks so much for your dedication to our kids and youth!

I also want to recognize the helpers that so freely gave of their time and love this past year in helping make the Sunday school rooms run smoothly. They are: 2/3 yr. olds – Christi Holbeck, Abby Hawks, Ann Overby, Pre-K/K – Katie Knutson, Mandy Liljegen, Cassandra Peterson, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> – Karen Alfson, Kami Bartels, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> – Maria Schlueter.

*Gretchen Knutson*, Education Director



## Harvest Table

Good News! Harvest Table is planning to start serving meals again in the Community Life Center on September 12, 2022, and every Monday evening (except the major holidays) at 5:30pm. If you are a part of an organization, club, church group, neighborhood, friends, family, or any other group, please contact Vonda and I will schedule a date for you to serve. The first opportunity is December 19, 2022, January 2, 23, and 30 of 2023 and many other dates in 2023. Your group would be responsible for planning a menu, purchasing the

food, preparing the food, serving the meal, and cleanup. If you would like additional information, feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your willingness to serve those in our community.

*Vonda Kirkham*, Community Life Center Director

---

## April Meals on Wheels completed:

The Brookings **Meals on Wheels** program serves nutritious meals to area home bound Seniors and is a demonstration of “God’s Love” by FUMC. Special thanks to the volunteers who delivered Meals on Wheels in April. This round of deliveries was completed by Pastor Pete and Jenny Grassow, Perry and Barb Johnson, Wayne and Colene Reiser, Keith and Betty Allison, Dwight and Bert Combs, Rick and Brenda Hieb, Sam and Kay Becker, Ron and Linda Thaden, Gena Hult, and Bob and Lynnette Smith. FUMC does this 4 times a year. The next round of deliveries will be July 18 - 29th. If interested in helping contact Perry Johnson at [perbar3@mac.com](mailto:perbar3@mac.com).

*Perry Johnson*



## #Onething for JUNE-It's Tool Time!

### Father's Day: June is Habitat for Humanity month!

Honor or Remember your father or beloved male friend/relative throughout June with your #onething donation. All donations will go to the Local Habitat for Humanity Chapter in Brookings. Through the years we have called this offering Tool Time and continue to honor this tradition.



Many from our congregation have or are serving with the local Habitat affiliate with their building skills, feeding the workers a nutritious noon time meal or volunteering to paint. If you are interested in becoming more involved, call the office! In the meantime, donate to their projects through #onething.

Coupons will be at the Welcome Centers for you to list the name of the person you wish to honor/remember. You can drop off the coupon and your donation in the church office. For remote giving, you can donate through the #onething online donation link at the Brookings FUMC website ([www.brookingsmethodist.org/donate.html](http://www.brookingsmethodist.org/donate.html)). If you donate online, please email the church office ([office@brookingsmethodist.org](mailto:office@brookingsmethodist.org)) indicating the names of those you are honoring/remembering. If you wish, put an H by the honoree's name and an R by those you are remembering. (i.e., John Doe - R, Johnny Dow - H). Checks can also be sent to the church office with your list. A list of honorees will be sent out with the July FOCUS.

*James Honomichl*

## 2022 Fruit Slush Booth-Brookings Summer Arts Festival

The church will have a booth at the Arts Festival, July 9-10. Your help with the slush booth is needed and signups for various work options are now becoming available. Proceeds support ongoing mission projects of the church and will be a great way to get involved and reconnected with your church family. We need your help with picking strawberries, making the slush, installing and working at the booth. We will have sign-up sheets starting on Sunday, June 5, until July 3, 2022.

You can sign up at the Welcome Center before & after the service, or on Sign-Up Genius ([www.brookingsmethodist.org/slushbooth](http://www.brookingsmethodist.org/slushbooth)). COME JOIN US!

*James Honomichl*



## ***Finance Committee***

Finance Committee met Monday May 16. With the intention to keep the church informed of our financial balance I want to share that March saw a gain in our operating budget. This gain was not as much as we've seen in other months in the early part of the year. At the end of April, the month ended with a deficit, however, the year-to-date accounting shows we are approximately \$13,000 ahead.

With the summer months approaching, I would like to ask that we all strive to keep our pledges current. Summer is typically a challenging season for the church budget. As we've shared before, we appreciate every contribution made and are thankful for them. The full set of our financial report is available from the church office. Please feel free to ask me or Trish Madson +Buus (our church Financial Secretary) any questions regarding our church finances.

*Beth Niemeyer*, Chair, Finance Committee



2022 Finance Committee Members

## *Trustee Committee*

The Trustees are pleased to report that the May 12<sup>th</sup> storm did not damage the exterior of the FUMC buildings to our knowledge.

Improvements to the boiler room have been completed and the repairs to the basement air conditioning unit will take place soon. This should be completed by the time the basement kitchen renovation project is finished. We are waiting on plumbers and electricians to complete their work. We will then install appliances, clean, and move in. We are looking forward to using the basement again in June!

Plans are underway to install LED lighting in the Narthex and on the exterior of the Community Life Center as part of a lighting upgrade project.

The FUMC Signage Committee, an Ad Hoc committee of the Trustee's chaired by Russ Daly, continues to make progress toward installation of new interior and exterior signage for our church facilities. This will be to fulfill one of the priorities established in our FUMC Together campaign. We will keep you informed as the project proceeds. Please visit with any of the Trustees for more information on any of these activities.

*Doug Beste*, Trustee Committee Chair



The kitchen remodeling is progressing!

# ***Mother's Day Church World Service Blankets***

**Thank you** so much for honoring mothers and other significant women in our lives by purchasing Church World Service Blankets. These blankets provide warmth and shelter, comfort and privacy, and healing wherever God's people may need care. They are a wonderful gift and you can provide a little bit of hope at the same time.

## **Keith & Betty Allison**

In memory of Fern Allison  
In memory of Agnes Sechser

## **Joella Anderson**

In memory of Katherine Huber  
In memory of Marian Anderson  
In memory of Jan Adams  
In memory of Barbara Bernston

## **Ross and Sally Balou**

In honor of Marvel Ballou  
In honor of Clara Rolfson

## **Doug and Cheryl Beste**

In honor of Lois Simmons  
In memory of LaVerna Beste

## **Marj Bohlen**

In memory of Ruth Liebing  
In honor of Lauri TeBeest  
In honor of Patty Sutera  
In honor of Cindy Bohlen  
In honor of Nancy Bohlen  
In honor of Stephanie Bohlen  
In honor of Rachel Hulbiet  
In honor of Jordan Jensen  
In honor of Brenda Hieb  
In honor of Barb Meyer

## **Nate and Taira Buus**

In honor of Barb Matson  
In honor of Lois Buus  
In honor of Brenda Buus

## **Bonnie Busdicker**

In honor of Bail Wild  
In honor of Gwen Lee  
In honor of Lois Crabtree  
In honor of Laura Vostad  
In memory of Peral Lee  
In memory of Dolores May

## **Sylvia Conger**

In memory of Nellie McCormick Conger

## **Jim and Shirly Cooper**

In memory of Marie Jibben

## **Kris Haensel**

## **Rick and Brenda Hieb**

In honor of Anna Klassen  
In honor of Janelle Vande Griedn  
In honor of Kristen Kmetz  
In honor of Lisa Wadell  
In honor of Jenny Grassow  
In honor of Krista Ducker  
In honor of Lynelle Hagedorn  
In honor of Marj Hohlen  
In honor of Lisa Miller  
In memory of Sally Hieb

## **Joanie Holm**

In honor of Carol Jung  
In honor of Linda Kay Hai  
In honor of Lynelle Hagedorn  
In honor of Abby Howard  
In memory of Ginny Smith  
In memory of Jody Holm

## ***Mother's Day Church World Service Blankets (cont.)***

### **Rich Howard**

In honor of Jacque Howard Story  
In memory of Jane Howard

### **Lance Howard**

In honor of Abby Howard

### **Linda**

In honor of Della

### **Lorna Jost**

In honor of MaryLou Pankey Little  
In honor of Jenny Grassow  
In honor of Joanie Holm  
In honor of Lynae Jost Heninger  
In honor of Erica Jost Woodford  
In honor of Jana Krizova, Chechnya  
In honor of Monika Zuber, Poland  
In memory of Stella Pankey Little  
In memory of LaRayne Wahlstrom  
In memory of Lucille Jost

### **Betty Ruth Mennis**

In memory of Lucile Pulscher  
In memory of Gladys Textley

### **Barb Meyer**

In memory of Cleo Carley  
In memory of Mae Meyer

### **Carol Montgomery**

In memory of Dora Rauenhorst  
In memory of Lennis Sigrist  
In memory of Alyce Bradshaw

### **Ope and Beth Niemeyer**

In Memory of Gladys McCracken &  
Our grandmothers  
In honor of Pat Niemeyer

### **Jean Pahl**

In memory of Hanna Sharp

### **Charlie and Voleta Schnabel**

In honor of Voleta Schnabel  
In honor of Emily Schnabel  
In memory of Arlene Harvey  
In memory of Rosetta Schnabel

### **Bob and Lynette Smith**

In honor of Catherine Smith  
In honor of Lucille Smith

### **Roger and Lisa Solum**

In memory of Catharine Whitehead  
In memory of Phyllis Solum  
In memory of M.J. Stanage  
In memory of Arlys Ormseth

### **Doug and Teresa Telkamp**

In honor of Emily, Kate & Emily



# Campus Ministry Update

Congratulations Graduates!

Another academic year has flown by, and several of our number have graduated with their degrees from SDSU! Among the core members of our First On Campus ministry, we say congratulations to:

Parker Bailey (BS, Precision Ag with minors in Agronomy and Criminal Justice); Alexis Schmidt (BS, Agricultural Leadership) and Jocelyn Tanner (BS, Mathematics/Data Science), as well as Rev. Bob Semrad, who graduates with a BA in Fine Arts! (Not pictured below are Maddie Kimbrough, and Elise Becker, who will complete her BS degree in Fashion Studies and Merchandising in December).

Let us lift up these and all amazing grads in our prayers as they continue their journeys; whether it be in internships, new employment opportunities, further study, or as in Bob's case, more lifelong learning! Congratulations Graduates! And thanks to our core First On Campus members for your dedication and faithfulness to our campus ministry; you are amazing disciples and leaders!

*Pastor Krista*



## *Susan's Saga*

As the Mixtec team was revising Matthew's Gospel, it was striking that Jesus uses the powerful authority of Scripture to refute Satan's temptations on each count.

Jesus could certainly have used His own authority as God-incarnate to counter Satan. But each time, He quotes Scripture to back up His rebuttal.

Jesus' use of God's Word serves as an example for us. We can avail ourselves of the Bible when we face temptations. It shows the Word in action as a sharp sword which we can wield as an effective weapon.

This passage is also a resounding reminder of the importance of Bible translation: it is the means of providing access to God's mighty Word to language groups who do not yet have it in their mother tongues.

Thank you for your part in the process of making God's Word available to a people group 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.*



**First United Methodist Church  
625 Fifth Street  
Brookings, SD 57006**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 65  
Brookings, SD**