



# YOUR KINGDOM COME

October 28, 2024

Dear Friends and Members of First United Methodist Church in Brookings,

November is a difficult month, with elections, colder weather, and hoping to have an amicable family gathering for Thanksgiving dinner. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says this: "in every situation [no matter what the circumstances] be thankful and continually give thanks to God" (Amplified Version). Perhaps if we lean into gratitude, we might find the silver lining in the thunderclouds on the horizon. For this reason, Brookings FUMC has designated November as our month of Gratitude. We will spend the next three weeks focusing on the Goodness of God, culminating with a Thanksgiving brunch on November 24th.

So let me kick off this month by expressing gratitude to you: thank you for your financial support of Brookings FUMC this year. Because of your generosity we serve the Brookings Community through offering worship, pastoral care and a solid moral witness to the Grace of God. Currently we are breaking even financially, with a small surplus for the months of August and September. So I am writing to thank you for keeping us ahead of the curve.

I have been your pastor for almost 5 years. With each passing day I thank God for the privilege and joy of serving you and this community. The care and kindness you have shown to me and to my wife Jenny has been a real encouragement to us. In addition, the care we show to our community is a great example of Christian love. I love the idea that we are called the "Diaper Church" and celebrate that we aspire to be known as the "church of compassionate welcome for all".

God has blessed us with much. Let us keep passing on these blessings to others.

Sheryl Pappas  
Finance Committee Chair

Pete Grassow  
Pastor



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