



BROOKINGS UCC
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**OCTOBER
2025**

Issue
10

Brookings United Church of Christ

Pastor's Corner

As the leaves turn and October winds grow crisp, our culture fills with pumpkins and ultimately ends with the costumes and trick-or-treaters of Halloween. This holiday is often seen as one which is purely secular, but its roots are deeply tied to the Christian calendar. Understanding its history helps us see that this season is about much more than candy and costumes—it is about remembering those who have gone before us and the hope we share in Christ.

The word Halloween comes from All Hallows' Eve—the evening before All Saints' Day. Just as Christmas Eve prepares us for Christmas, so Halloween was once seen as a vigil of prayer and reflection leading into the feast of All Saints. In the early church, Christians honored martyrs who gave their lives for the faith. Over time, this commemoration grew into All Saints' Day (November 1), when the church celebrates not only famous saints, but also the countless saints whose names are known only to God. The next day, November 2, is All Souls' Day. This day is set aside to remember all the departed—our loved ones who have died, whether recently or long ago. Christians have long believed it is right and good to pray for the faithful departed, entrusting them to the mercy of God and giving thanks for their lives. So all Saint's Day is a feast day, and All Souls' Day is a day of prayer and remembrance.

The connection between these days and Halloween comes from the way medieval Christians marked the turning of the seasons. Autumn reminded people of the brevity of life. Festivals included prayers for the dead, vigils in cemeteries, and even plays and customs that used humor and mockery to deflate the power of death. In time, these customs mixed with folk traditions, creating the Halloween practices we know today.

So as you see children at your door or at our church on Halloween dressed as superheroes, ghosts, or princesses, take a moment to remember the saints and souls who have shaped your life. Light a candle, say a prayer, and give thanks that in Christ, death never has the last word.

Pastor Mark

***“Whoever
you are,
wherever
you are on
life's journey,
you are welcome here”***

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Brookings UCC Council Minutes — September 9th 2025

Members present were Linda Langner, Dave Huebner, Jennifer Kemper, Claudia Benson, Dave Dykhouse, Beth L’Amour, Mark Johnsen, Gary Englund, and Mona Dykhouse.

Opening prayer given by Mark Johnsen. Treasurer’s report given by Jennifer Kemper. The July statement was income of \$7863.50 with expenses \$ 8528.99 and net income was -\$665.49. Dave Huebner made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report, seconded by Beth L’Amour. Motion carried.

The Sunday school does not currently have a separate room to use for this purpose due to the daycare rooms are used for the nursery. Currently the Sunday school will be held in the fellowship hall. Mark will be talking to Briley about teaching in the fellowship hall.

Trunk or treat is scheduled for October 31st. The Indivisible group is considering having trunk or treat as well and the church will be working with them on this. The daycare is also having a trunk or treat but it is at a different time. More to come on this event.

The Thanksgiving dinner is approaching. Darlene Dokken has volunteered to be the head of this event. Dave Huebner and Jennifer Kemper have volunteered to be on the committee. Several volunteers will be needed.

The pianist’s stipend needs to be increased. A motion was made by Linda Langner t pay \$90 a week to the pianist. Mona Dykhouse seconded, motion carried.

The SD Conference UCC Annual Meeting is Oct. 3rd and 4th at Placerville. Dave Dykhouse made a motion to pay for the registration . Seconded by Gary Englund, motion carried.

Next meeting will be Nov.11th at 5 PM.

Thank you to Gary Englund, Jim Wilson, Dave Dykhouse, Bruce Watts and pastor Mark for setting up the new daycare play-set. Thank you also to Gary Englund, Bruce Watts and pastor Mark for cleaning up and trimming dead tree branches .

Motion made by Dave Huebner to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dave Dykhouse, motion carried.

MORE BIBLE TRIVIA

Trivia Question: Who was the wisest King on earth?

Answer: King Solomon

Trivia Question: What are the first 39 books of the bible called?

Answer: The Old Testament

Trivia Question: Who was King Solomon’s father?

Answer: King David

Trivia Question: In what book of the bible can you read about Noah’s Ark?

Answer: Genesis

Trivia Question: Who is the son of God?

Answer: Jesus Christ

Trivia Question: In what book of the bible can you find the story of the tower of babel?

Answer: Genesis

Trivia Question: Which of Jesus’ disciples was a tax collector?

Answer: Matthew

Trivia Question: Name the only female judge in the book of judges?

Answer: Deborah

Trivia Question: Name the roman governor over Jesus’ trial?

Answer: Pilate

Trivia Question: What is the longest chapter of the bible?

Answer: Psalm 119

Trivia Question: Who wrote the book of Revelation?

Answer: The Apostle John

Trivia Question: Who wrote the book of Romans?

Answer: The apostle Paul

Trivia Question: Who denied knowing Jesus three times?

Answer: Peter

Trivia Question: What did David use to kill Goliath?

Answer: A slingshot and a stone

Trivia Question: What was the source of Samson’s strength?

Answer: The spirit of God on his uncut hair.





October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Something to Chew On 6:30	2 Brook-ings Indi- visible Mtg 6:30	3	4
5 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	6 Coffee and Conversa- tion 10-11	7	8 Something to Chew On 6:30	9	10	11
12 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	13 Coffee and Conversa- tion 10-11 Bkgs Ind Mtg 6:30	14	15 Something to Chew On 6:30	16	17	18
19 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	20 Coffee and Conversa- tion 10-11	21	22 Something to Chew On 6:30	23	24	25
26 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	27 Coffee and Conversa- tion 10-11	28	29	30	31 BUCC & BAIG TRUNK OR TREAT 4:30-6:30	

October
Birthdays &
Anniversaries



October Birthdays

10 Darlene Ward
16 Claudia Benson
29 John Williams
30 Josh Ward

Anniversaries

15 John & Cindy Williams



TRUNK OR TREAT

October Cause of the Month

This month's cause will be a joint event along with the local Brookings Area Indivisible organization. This group (which is dedicated to caring for the most vulnerable in our society, as well as protecting our democracy) has been meeting at our church twice a month since this Spring. So at our most recent church council meeting and the most recent Indivisible meeting we both agreed to join together in a Trunk or Treat event on Halloween Day from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. For those of you who are not aware, a Trunk or Treat is when a number of people decorate the trunk of their individual vehicles with whatever Halloween type decorations they choose. Then they have distribute candy from their trunk to children who walk past all the cars. So we as BUCC as well as Indivisible will be recruiting folks to decorate their cars and give away candy as we park our cars in our front yard along 8th Street for maximum exposure. The main impetus for both of our organizations is an effort to reach out to younger families and educate them about who we are. And we will have our church brochures in one of the vehicles to hand out to parents. So please look forward to signing up for this fun outreach event!

