

# November 2025

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

No Kings!

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, about 7 million people took to the streets to protest. No Kings!

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrate Christ the King Sunday (aka the Reign of Christ Sunday). Yes, Christ the King!



In our culture, “king” is a troublesome concept. Our country was founded as a democracy, precisely because of the abuses of a king. Two hundred and 49 years later, the language around “king” and “kingdom” is uncomfortable or misunderstood. Yet on the last Sunday of the church year, we acknowledge that as Christians, there is a King to whom we owe our allegiance: Christ.

Christ is a very different kind of king. Kings throughout history seek to serve themselves first. Decisions which benefit their nation serve to preserve it as a source of their power and wealth. In 1 Samuel 18:10-20, God warns the Israelites, who want a king like all the other nations, that a king will wield the power of life and death over them, taking for himself (in the name of the country) the best of their fields, vineyards, orchards, and livestock. He will amass wealth from their labor and take their children to serve his armies and palace. The Biblical witness, and the witness of history proves this. The security they seek by having a king comes at a high price.

Christ is a very different kind of king. King of all Kings, Ruler of the Universe, Christ lays aside his own glory (Philippians 2:6-1) to become a Servant King, laying his own interests in order to tend to the needs of the people. Christ is the King who cares for the people as a shepherd for the sheep, giving up everything, even his life, for the benefit of the world. In Christ, we find true security and freedom.

When we sing of Christ as King, it is this self-giving King we praise. This is the King to whom we give our allegiance. Thanks be to God!

In Christ's Peace,  
Mother Ramona

## November's Skipping Stones

*Most of us are familiar with skipping stones and the ripples they cause as they skim across the water. Our activities and events are skipping stones in God's hands, creating ripples in our lives and the lives of those in our community!*

**On this All Saint's Sunday, we lovingly remember** the saints who have gone before us, especially the ones who have passed in the last year.

Patricia Kratochvil  
John Taylor

Mark Butterbrodt  
Rita Sholton  
Steve Berseth

Rob Case  
Doug Kuhlman

Rest eternal grant them, o Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.

**Nursery Volunteers Needed:** We're growing and there is a need for a nursery during worship. What a wonderful problem to have! We need volunteers to help staff the nursery, and the idea is to have enough volunteers, so no one serves more than once a month. Each Sunday two volunteers are needed. There is a sign-up sheet in Thorton Hall next to the coffee signup. Caring for the little ones in the nursery is one way to fulfill the promises the congregation made at their baptism and a wonderful gift to the parents.

**Special Thanksgiving Offering!** Feeding Brookings Thanksgiving Meal is asking for donations of money instead of food this year. For every \$8 donated, Feeding Brookings can buy one Thanksgiving box in bulk (which includes turkey breasts, fresh carrots, potatoes, and apples, a frozen pie, dinner rolls, canned green beans and yams, stuffing, gravy, and butter). Donations go much farther this way than if individuals donated items they purchased from the store. St Paul's goal is to raise \$450 by November 16<sup>th</sup>. This will provide 56 families! We will be taking special offerings at church on Nov 2, 9, and 16. If you donate by check, please write Feeding Brookings Thanksgiving on the memo line. Thank you!

**Directory Update!** Over the next month or two, Mother Ramona will be contacting everyone who didn't submit a picture and/or update their directory information. There are still several households who haven't submitted information. We want our directory to be as complete as possible. Thank you..

**Interested in going to TEC?** Would you like to go to family camp June 21-25, 2026? Family camp is open to all ages and all households. Mother Ramona would like to take a group to family camp next summer. If you think you might like to go, please let her know. There's no obligation to register, we're gauging interest.

**Christmas Crafternoon!** Get a jump start on the holiday season. Join us in Thorton Hall at 2pm for some pre-holiday fun and a holiday themed craft. Please RSVP to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone.

**Pub Theology** at the Bank, the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. Join us for fellowship and a discussion of how life and faith intersect. This month's topic is: Divided Times- Grounded in Gratitude. There are a variety of non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages available (George's Pizza delivers, too). All are welcome.

**Third Sunday Turkey Dinner:** This month, the Third Sunday Potluck is our Turkey Dinner. The turkey, mash potatoes and gravy, and cranberry sauce will be provided. For the potluck, please bring stuffing/dressing, salads, or pies.

**EYC Happenings: Nov 5:** 'Tis the Season to Be Thankful, and so we will use this time to prepare for two upcoming special events. We will be baking brownies for our trip to Sioux Falls on Nov. 8 and decorating jars for our St. Paul's turkey dinner on Nov. 16. **Nov. 19:** Our guest will be Hunter Harvey from the Salvation Army office in Brookings. We will assemble laundry packs and plan a float for the Festival of Lights parade (Friday, Dec. 5, at 5 PM). Wednesday, **Nov. 26, 2-4 PM,** Feeding Brookings needs our help packing food at Ascension Lutheran. (We need 10 helpers this day.) **EYC at Church on the Street:** We are going to worship with Church on the Street, a Sioux Falls unhoused ministry. We will leave the church at 9am so we are there in time for the 10am set up. Worship is 11AM, at the Coliseum at the Multicultural Center (515 N Main Ave). Fellowship begins after the worship service, around 11:45. We will help serve the meal after worship. Everyone is welcome to join us!

**Vestry** meets November 11 at 2:30pm.

#### Weekly events

**Monday:** Mother Ramona's office hours, 11am-2pm in the SDSU Student Union

**Tuesday:**

Mother Ramona's office hours

1<sup>st</sup> 9-11:30am, Starbucks 22 Ave S

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 2-5pm at Kool Beans

*Wine and Word* 7pm at Mosaic, Sunday text Bible study.

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 1-4pm at Chocolate

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 1-4pm at Ziggy's Coffee

5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 10am-1pm at Mission Coffee

**Wednesday:** Midweek worship at 1:30pm

1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday: St Paul's Thorton Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday: Cottonwood, Main Street

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday: Edgewood Care Facility

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday: University Lutheran Center

**Sunday** Coffee and refreshments in Thorton Hall 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5th Sunday.

Pancake Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday and Potluck 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Everyone is welcome!

**Mother Ramona's contact information:** [pastorramona@gmail.com](mailto:pastorramona@gmail.com), 605-850-8482 (cell phone)

Website: [stpaulsbrookings.org](http://stpaulsbrookings.org)

Thorton Hall – basement  
Charlies Porch – narthex

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