



BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# THE VISITOR

Volume 83, Issue 4

THE TWO STEEPLD CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

April 2019



## Education & Events



## **Easter Breakfast Proceeds to go to UMW Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign**



Well, let's try again this month! Once again our **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Funday** has plans to create a new banner for our sanctuary. Since March got snowed and “slippery’ed-out” the planned banner-making didn’t occur. February and March saw lower attendance in both Sunday School and 2nd Sunday events. With the promise of spring and warmer weather comes the hope for a greater gathering on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> where we’ll assemble a *very unique* banner, reflective of those whose hands create it (you can take that literally), as well as crafting something in anticipation of Easter - which is only a few weeks away. Please feel free to join us, young or old, crafty or not, as we “bond” our intergenerational **Blooming Grove Family** relationships together with fellowship, conversation, cooperation, and real honest-to-goodness glue and adhesive. We’ll be mirroring a kaleidoscope of color on both our banner and our Easter craft, as beautifully unique and colorful as our own church family. You need not bring anything or any special skill set, but please bring yourself and any interested family and friends. (If we get iced or snowed out again, maybe we should plan on a heart-to-heart with God in search of a compromise for upcoming events.)

Please join us in the **Fireside Room**  
**on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 9:30 to 10:15**



A thought to ponder: There are 2 ways of spreading light: to be the candle, or the mirror that reflects it. [Edith Wharton]

The UMW decided this year to donate the proceeds from the Easter Breakfast to the UMW Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign. This fund was established to create an ongoing endowment to pay the operating costs of the national United Methodist Women, so that all funds donated to missions can go where they are intended. From the UMW website:

“United Methodist Women continues to build upon the foundation set forth by our founders almost 150 years ago. Yet the difficulties encountered by women, children and youth around the world continue to sustain separation from life affirming compassionate care and support that heals, restores and empowers. Imagine what is achievable, what is possible, if United Methodist Women had the resources to deepen and expand its mission to transform lives and ignite change in places near and far.

In 2014, the Board of Directors launched the Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign, setting a goal to raise \$60 million. The Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign is both historic and unprecedented, with the campaign's theme, *Together, we are building our legacy*, celebrating the **legacy** of the courageous women who founded this mission movement, as well as the **legacy** that today's members will leave for future generations of United Methodist women, to create their **legacy** to carry the mission of *faith, hope, love in action* forward in the world for years to come.”

We plan to donate our Easter Breakfast proceeds to this fund in honor of the legacy of service built by Eleanor Saufferer, Faye Kanne, and Carol Karsten. By our reckoning, these faithful women have over 184 years of combined service to Blooming Grove, and are wonderful examples of carrying on the mission of faith, hope, and love in action. We hope to live up to their example for years to come. Even if you can't attend this year's Easter Breakfast, please consider a donation to the UMW Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign. Donations may be given to Tracie Spinler, UMW Treasurer.



## Pastor's Message

Ah, spring... It is finally beginning to feel like it outside, and I am grateful. On my recent walks, I noticed some small budding on the trees and it ignited hope in my heart that winter might just be over...or in it's final days! Despite the mud and the muck, spring is one of my favorite seasons.

Spring is a season that reminds us of the power of resurrection. Life lays dormant in the winter-time. Trees appear to be dead, tulips and crocus lie quietly beneath the dirt and the snow, seeds and bulbs sit and wait. But then, with just a few days of warmth and sunshine, life begins to emerge. The world around us turns green and lush, flowers bloom, trees cast shade once again, and life seems to begin anew.

As we look ahead to Holy Week and Easter, we are reminded of the gift that this life is. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are grateful for the gift of life we are given through Christ...new life, freed from sin and death. It is an amazing gift, purchased with Jesus' death upon a cross, and His resurrection from the grave. We recognize that our very lives have been redeemed...saved and restored to right relationship with God through the sacrifice of Jesus. There is nothing that we have done to earn this gift. It is the beauty of grace, an overwhelming gift, given in love.

As we have spent this lenten season looking at the means of grace--ways in which God gives a special measure of grace-- we come to realize that there are ways we can experience the presence and the power of God anew. Much like a seed planted in the soil, we can nurture our faith lives so that we can grow and bear fruit for the Kingdom of God.

Let us spend these spring days together, reveling in the joy of the warmth of the sun, and the new life that is springing forth from the earth. Let us remember to draw near to God, to give thanks in prayers and praise, to seek the Divine through fellowship with one another, to search the scriptures, asking God for wisdom and understanding, to fast from the things that distract us from God, and to celebrate the eucharist moments with one another, with great thanksgiving.

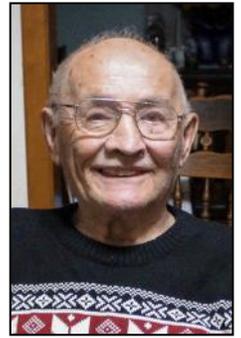
We are praying that you may know the peace of Christ anew this springtime, find hope in the Resurrection and cling to God more tightly than ever before.

Blessings,

*Pastors JJ and Stefanie Morgan*

## With Sympathy

**Robert D. Gasner**, 88, of Ellendale, died Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at New Richland Care Center. He was born November 26, 1930 in Deerfield Township the son of Christ and Mabel (Dartt) Gasner. Robert graduated from Owatonna High School in 1949. He worked on the family farm after graduation and then served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953 where he was a Sergeant Tank Commander in the Korean War. Robert met Christena at the Owatonna Roller Rink as they both were avid skaters. He was united in marriage to the love of his life, Christena Olson, on June 27, 1954 at the Community Lutheran Church in Geneva; sharing 64 1/2 years together. Robert worked at Jostens in Owatonna for 40 years in the tool and die department while also operating a dairy farm near Ellendale. Robert enjoyed drawing, reading, and the outdoors. His most enjoyable moments were the times he spent with his grandchildren. They were his pride and joy and formed a special bond that will live on eternally in their hearts. Robert is survived by his beloved wife, Christena, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, siblings, Duane (Dessie) Gasner of Owatonna, Shirley Burdick of Waseca, Carol Karsten of Medford and many nieces and nephews.



**Lent/Easter Mission Offering**  
**April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sharing Hearts of Love**

This year's Lent/Easter Mission Offering calls us to join hearts with communities and people in great need.

- Nebraska Flooding: Please make your check payable to BGUMC and note "Nebraska Floods" in the memo line. We will send all donations to the Great Plains UMC Conference Disaster Response Fund #975. Follow the recovery work of this UMC conference at <https://www.greatplainsumc.org/great-plains-flood-relief>
- Alabama Tornadoes: Please make your check payable to BGUMC and note "Lee County Tornadoes" in the memo line. We will send all donations to the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the UMC. Follow their recovery work at <https://www.awfumc.org/newsdetail/12775442>

For each \$20 given, we will add a heart to one of the paper-doll cut-outs on the multi-hued paper doll chain that reaches out to encircle our sanctuary with hands and hearts that care!

## APRIL CALENDAR

**Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.**

18	Thurs	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service at BG
19	Fri	7:00 pm Good Friday Services at WV
20	Sat 9:00 am	Clean basement & Set-up for Breakfast
21	Sun 8:30 am	Easter Service followed by Breakfast

### Readers, Greeters, Treats

Apr 7	Reader: Jake Goldsmith G&T: Dave & Sheryl Brisel
Apr 14	Reader & Treats: Patti Ellingson Greater Needed
Apr 21	Reader: Hjordi Churchill Greeter Needed—Easter Breakfast
Apr 28	Reader: Char Frankenberry G&T: Chuck & Linda Danks

### Cleaning

April 14, 28 Nancy & Susan

### Paraments

April 7, 14, 21 Purple  
April 28 White

### Happy Birthday

1	Gillian Needham
4	LeAnn Kanne
6	Luke Ahlman
7	Amy Saufferer
7	Cindy Saufferer
9	Jewell Nagel
9	Stephanie Fyvie
10	Dale Danks
13	Jackson Erickson
14	Brad Saufferer
22	Emily Nagel
23	Grant Needham
26	Olivia Full
28	Lilly Schmitz
29	Zoey Morgan
30	Pam Carty
30	Jan Redman



### Happy Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to Ken & Tena Harren on April 15th and Cris & Karrie VanZuilen on April 22nd.

## Treasurer's Report

February 18—March 22, 2019



### General Budget Income

**\$3,082.00**

### Expenses

Pastors Salaries	1,663.49
Water for Parsonage	50.79
Cell Phone	35.00
Health Insurance	550.00
Pension	222.46
Parsonage	100.00
Centerpoint Energy	44.39
Electric Parsonage	154.27
Internet	35.77
Mileage	117.74
Pastoral Supplies	56.49
Waste Management	24.05
Cleaning	126.00
Excel Energy	<u>57.65</u>

Total Expenses **\$ 3,238.10**

(Net Income: - \$156.10)

### Other Income Received

Restoration	475.00
Food Shelf	25.00
Pancake Breakfast	374.00
Visitor	35.00



## The Waseca Chorale

Presents

### A Disney Extravaganza

musical fun for the whole family  
with special appearances  
from some Disney favorites

Sunday  
April 28, 2019  
4:00 pm

Central Bldg. Auditorium  
501 E Elm Avenue, Waseca



Tickets are available from Chorale Members,  
Waseca Music, and the Golden Touch Salon and  
at the door.  
Ticket Prices: Adults \$8, children ages 5-12 \$5

Members from Blooming  
Grove UMC include Sheryl  
Brisel, Carolyn Kanne, and Don  
Frankenberry.








## Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

### Physical location:

43089 180th Street, Morristown, MN

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 171 Medford, MN 55049-0171

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

Email: [bloominggroveumc@gmail.com](mailto:bloominggroveumc@gmail.com)

### Pastors:

Pastor JJ Morgan: (507) 995-6623

[pastorjjmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjjmorgan@gmail.com)

Pastor Stefanie Morgan: (507) 995-6624

[stefaniemorganmt@gmail.com](mailto:stefaniemorganmt@gmail.com)

March 29, 2019

To the congregation of Blooming Grove United Methodist Church,

It is the intention of Bishop Bruce Ough to appoint Pastor Kathy King as full-time pastor of Waterville Evangelical, Janesville, and Blooming Grove United Methodist Churches as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – in a new three-point charge.

As you know, United Methodists have an “appointment” process for our clergy rather than a “call” process. The bishop and cabinet (comprised of 5 District Superintendents) move through a prayerful and careful discernment process to match pastor’s gifts to the missional needs of a congregation in consultation with the pastor and the PPRC (Pastor Parish Relations Committee).

On Monday, March 25, Pastor Kathy was invited to an introductory meeting in Waterville, chaired by District Superintendent Fred Vanderwerf. In this meeting, all three church PPRCs were represented, and we collectively discerned if Pastor Kathy was the right “missional match” and if this new three point alignment could be missionally beneficial. Following rich conversation, questions, and prayer, the appointment of Kathy King, as well as the three-church alignment, were affirmed.

Our three-point charge configuration will be as follows, with full-time status averaging 42-45 hrs/ week:

- Janesville UMC: 24% of time and funding
- Blooming Grove UMC: 38% of time and funding
- Waterville Evangelical UMC: 38% of time and funding

Your PPRC members will work diligently and collaboratively with the PPRC members of Janesville UMC and Waterville Evangelical UMC in the months ahead as we find our way together into the great opportunities, as well as challenging aspects, of a three-point charge, including Sunday morning worship. We are in the brainstorming stages regarding many things, and are exploring a number of creative possibilities that will honor the integrity and needs of each congregation.

Continue to pray for Pastor Kathy, as well as our church, as we make our way through this transition. If you have any questions please contact your PPRC persons as listed below.

Pastor Kathy is eager to meet us and learn of our stories, our hopes, and our dreams. Please see her introductory brochure where she shares own story with us.

Yours in Christ,

Blooming Grove UMC Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Allison Janke: 507-456-7840 (cell) [jankema@hotmail.com](mailto:jankema@hotmail.com)

Judy Mahler: 507-456-3937 (cell) [hcjm@charter.net](mailto:hcjm@charter.net)

Cindy Saufferer: 507-363-9380 (cell) [cindy.saufferer@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.saufferer@gmail.com)





# Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Bruce R. Ough, Bishop

Fred Vanderwerf, Southern Prairie  
District Superintendent

Grow in Love of God and Neighbor (the Great Commandment, Matthew 22:37-40), Reach New People (the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20), and Heal a Broken World (the Great Proclamation, Luke 4:16-21)

## Introduction to Pastor Kathy King



### Family:

Husband Jerry (45 years); three sons, Clint (Julie), Jeremy (Tiffany), and Aaron (Trista); eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild; mother: Dee (who is 83 years young)

### Education:

Licensing school for local pastors and two years of Course of Study; one year of Master's program in Technical Communications; Bachelor of Science, Mankato State University majoring in English (minor in Computer Science Applications).

### Appointment history:

Janesville UMC, Janesville MN (Lead Pastor); 2014—present

### Leadership style:

I am a leader who seeks God's presence where I am. I invite others to relationship to discover their gifts and talents, and then facilitate how it is that they might become leaders. I believe our relationships can build walkways where we can meet—regardless of our backgrounds or differences. Together, we are called to be the Church.

### Leadership gifts for ministry:

Executing: I work to achieve goals set in the community.

Influencing: Using a framework around good communication, I like to work within teams and will take the lead to ensure objectives are met.

Relationship Building: I work to create cohesive teams that work together for agreed upon goals. I enjoy working with children and youth and enjoy my visits with the elderly.

Strategic Thinking: I focus on the vision to meet goals. I encourage others to dream about possibilities.

### What do you enjoy doing?

I enjoy flower gardening, reading a good book, taking walks with Jerry and our two dogs, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.



**Other involvement:**

- Past Director of the Board of the Janesville Nursing Home
- Past member of the Janesville Economic Development Committee
- SP LLP Mentor Group
- Janesville Ministerial Association

**Call to ministry:**

I was called to lay speaking when our children were young boys. I pursued my call to Lay Leadership and worked with our Southern Prairie District Lay Speaking team to teach Lay Speaking. I felt God's call and heard that small voice directing me to ministry. God leads me to share my passion for personal divine relationships — relationships where we walk with Jesus. Relationships where we reach out to show his grace to those who so badly need to experience the hope found in our Risen Savior.

**Who's your hero?**

Mom. She devoted her life to raising her 5 children after my father left. Through the deaths of her sons at the ages of 1 day, 4, 23, and 49—Mom continued to dedicate herself to her work and to my sister and I. Mom is the reason I became a United Methodist—even though she is Catholic. There is a story to tell.

**What is your favorite food?**

A grilled steak.

**What is your view of scripture?**

The Bible is our story of faith. The Word, our truth, and our guidelines for living holy lives. It is our history and our hope. As United Methodists, it is important to immerse ourselves in studying the Word, engaging in thoughtful discussion, and letting the Word speak to us through experience. I am continually in awe of the way a well-known verse speaks anew as we live into new experiences in our lives.

**What breaks your heart?**

My heart breaks for:

- ◆ those who don't have enough food
- ◆ for people without a home
- ◆ for children who don't have the love of a caring family
- ◆ for our elderly who do not get visits
- ◆ those who are sick and lose hope
- ◆ those who do not know Jesus Christ.

**Describe your passion for the Church:**

The Church is our gift from Jesus Christ—a gift that is meant to proclaim the story through our lives as we display the joy being followers and becoming disciples brings to each day. The Church is a place where we are fed for the week ahead, a place where fellowship must be genuine, a people who love one another under the umbrella of the Holy Spirit's guidance.

**Describe your theological perspective:**

I believe in our Wesleyan roots of being a help to the poor, the sick, and the prisoner. I love the story of Wesley bringing the love and grace of Jesus Christ to the hillsides when doors were closed to the common laborer. I recognize the value of small groups gathering to ensure we are caring for our faith journeys—of asking “how is it with your soul?” I find joy in our UM Sacraments—baptism into the family of God, and our Communion Table—open to all.

**What would you say is the hope for the Church?**

The hope for the Church was, is, and always will be Jesus Christ. As the Church moves into closer relationship with Christ, we live into grace—the grace that swaddles us at our birth; the grace that is the reason we embark on a journey of relationship with our Creator; the grace that assures us of our eternity as those who love Christ.

## We've Got Mail

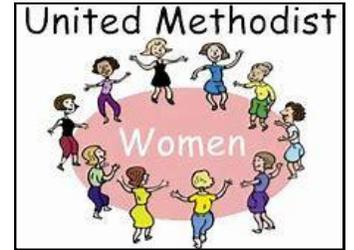
Dear brothers & sisters in Christ,

My sister, Lois Wilkowske Hamilton, forwarded a copy of your "Visitor" and it brought back memories of when the Methodist Youth Fellowship met in homes to type and run off on a hand cranked mimeograph machine and assemble it. WOW! Now it is digital but the word of God still comes through it. We have enclosed a contribution to your church as Cheryl said they do it as volunteers. So now we're on their email list! God's Blessings!

Roger & Marge Wilkowske  
Faribault, MN



## United Methodist Women Minutes



The UMW met at Tracie's on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn shared "It Will Change Your Life" from Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul, relating it to the UMW study on Maternal Health.

Char informed us of a monetary donation to offset Easter Breakfast costs. Due to this, we will not be asking for congregational donations of money, eggs, etc. this year. Instead, we will be asking for donations to the United Methodist Women's Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign (see separate article).

Tracie will get paperware for Easter, as well as the eggs, ham, orange juice, donuts, and milk. Several people will be making French toast bake and scones. We will still need people to cook the eggs before the service. We will be cleaning and setting up the fellowship hall on Saturday, April 20, at 9:00 am.

We discussed fundraising ideas for our scholarship fund. We landed on taking pie orders for Thanksgiving. Please keep us in mind as you make your plans this fall. Watch the Visitor in September/October for more details.



## Waseca Lions Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, April 7

American Legion Club

7:30 am to 12:00 noon

Adults \$7.00

Kids age 12 & under: \$3.00 Toddlers: Free

Proceeds to be used for Waseca Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Scholarships and Lions Eye Bank. (Bring your old eyeglasses and hearing aids.)

## Preparing Our Easter Garden



It is time to start looking ahead, and plan to create a beautiful indoor garden on Easter Sunday. This year you can order: African Violet for \$6.75; Tulip Planter or Pansy bowl for \$12; Easter Lily for \$14.00, Double Easter Lily for \$33.00; Cyclamen, Kalanchoe, Rieger Begonia and Spring Mum for \$16 each; Azalea or Hydrangea for \$25 each. Please indicate if you want a bow included. Greenwald's will select the color based on the best plants they have available. Please make your check out to the church with "Easter flower" on the corner notation. A sign-up sheet will be available at church for those who are able to attend worship. **If you live away from the area and would like to order a flower in memory or in honor of loved ones, please contact Chery at 507-339-3534 (call or text) or email CherySouth@gmail.com. You can then follow-up by filling out the form below and mailing it to the church at Box 171, Medford, MN, 55049 with your payment.** We will place our first order by April 8th for a better selection and add more later as needed.

From:

In Memory/Honor Of:

Flower

\_\_\_\_\_ @ 6.75 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$13 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$16 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Include a bow:  Yes  No

Make check payable to Blooming Grove United Methodist Church with "Easter flower" in the notation line.  
Mail order form and check to PO Box 171, Medford, MN 55049

HOW CAN WE PRAY  
FOR YOU TODAY?

**Please keep the  
following people in  
your prayers.**

- Char Frankenberry's cousin, Peggy, who is living her final weeks with magnificent strength and grace.
- Our educators and staff who are waiting to hear if they will have jobs as the schools struggle to adjust the workload to compensate for the student base and the budget.
- Prayers of thanks for all those who kept the church yard plowed during the never-ending snowstorms of this winter.
- Prayers of thanks for the sounds of happy little children and babies throughout morning worship in the past weeks. They bring joy to our hearts and a smile to our faces!
- Theresa Riecke's friend Katie who is recovering from surgery.
- Alicyn Prestegaard, co-worker of Marlis Mahler, who, with her family, is working to reclaim their house from the damage of over four feet of water in their basement after the big rains came when culverts were still frozen.
- Ken and Tena Harren, who are re-constructing their basement after a river of water flowed through their house after frozen culverts diverted the flow of water to their house instead of along highway 13.
- Patti Ellingson's 18 year old step grandson who slipped on the ice and broke his hip. He is now in the midst of a 6 week non-weight bearing recovery period following surgery.
- The family of the mother and little 2 year old from Milwaukee who were both murdered. The body of the little 2 year old was found in the ditch by Blooming Prairie.
- Pastor JJ's mother, Jan, who will undergo surgery on her arm on April 24<sup>th</sup> after dealing with continued pain on an ongoing basis.
- Faye Kanne, as she seeks treatment for sciatic nerve issues.
- Eleanor Saufferer, as she recovers after a fall.
- Persons involved in an accident around which Therese Riecke was diverted in her travels.
- Students of all ages as they take all of the spring achievement tests, and worry about their ability to do well.
- Connie Goslar, and her husband John. John is becoming more and more medically fragile as the days go by. Connie travels hundreds of miles each week to be with him at the Veteran's Center in Luverne, MN.
- Jim and Chery Southworth's former daughter-in-law, Vicki, who re-married a year ago, and whose husband just passed away from cancer.
- Cindy Saufferer's long-time friend, Joni, in Kansas, whose life is becoming more and more fragile in her hospice journey. Joni worked at the hospital in Wichita back when Cindy was in school and is a long-time, and very dear, friend of Cindy's sister Patty. Joni has been fighting Peritoneal Mesothelioma since last spring.
- Cindy Glazier, of Mantorville, MN, sister of Holly Nagel, who has begun hospice care at home after battling an extremely aggressive form of cancer. Also pray for Walt and Holly Nagel as they travel back and forth from Chamberlain, SD to Minnesota each weekend in order to be with Cindy.
- Prayers of thanks for little Penelope, daughter of Tyler and Alex Morgan, who was taken by ambulance to Rochester on March 11<sup>th</sup> after choking. The good news is that Mayo found popcorn in Penelope's lung – and all is well. Pray for continued rest and peace for them all as they recover from their frightening day.
- Tom, nephew of a friend of Judy Mahler and Hjordi Churchill. Tom and his dog Zeus fell 40 feet off a cliff in Montana – in an area where they hike frequently. Tom had brain surgery and is in a medically induced coma. Zeus is recovering, but is badly missing Tom.
- Prayers for traveling mercies for all who are on their way to and from warmer climates!
- Leaders of our country and around the world.
- Caregivers of persons with health concerns.
- Prayers for the safety and well-being of children in the midst of concerning family situations.
- For all of us to remember we are all a part of the community and body of Christ in the world.
- All others who have been lifted in prayer this past month, both aloud, and silently.



## Prayer Shawl Thank You

Thank you from **Julie Retheimer** for the prayer shawl and all of the thoughts and prayers that were wrapped in it as love from the BGUMC congregation after the sudden death of her mother. She kept it at work at Federated Insurance for a long while and now sits with it in her favorite chair at home each morning before work.

Thank you from **Ginger Zierdt** to the BGUMC congregation for the prayer shawl given to Jonathan at the beginning of his cancer journey and for the ongoing prayer support from our community over the 5 years of his cancer journey. Jonathan passed away on March 27<sup>th</sup> after a courageous battle with prostate cancer. We'd like to share excerpts from Jonathan's message on the website for the Mankato Area Foundation - Jonathan Zierdt Cancer Fund:

- Life, and all it has to offer, is to be embraced.
- New experiences, regardless of the form in which they come, and the emotions we experience, well, that's how we know we are truly alive.
- I pray that you learn how to appreciate the smallest of victories and truly know how to live in the moment.
- Be willing to open yourself up to the blessings around you.
- Peace, patience, perseverance. Be fully alive.

## Guest Pastors in the Months Ahead

Please plan to join us as we welcome guest pastors in the months ahead as Pastor JJ and Stefanie Morgan take their final weeks of vacation prior to heading to their next appointment in Hutchinson:

- Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Pastor Sharon Nelson
- Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>  
Sonja Parr

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Carol Karsten's son Jim and his wife Mary who were named "Mr. and Mrs. Eagle" of the Year.



## Building Project Update

The BGUMC Building Project Team and Church Council held a Special Charge Conference on March 19, 2019, with District Superintendent Fred Vanderwerf in attendance.

Building Project Corner

The Building Project Team presented its' proposal to the Church Council and Fred.

Both phases of the project were discussed

1. making our building handicap accessible, including main floor bathrooms and
2. adding a new fellowship hall.

### Discussion included:

- Review of building plans and associated costs.
- Exploration of a plan for funding the project including reviewing funds currently available, securing a short term loan, and securing pledges from BGUMC members and friends of the church before 'breaking ground'.
- The recent decisions made at the United Methodist Church General Conference regarding The Way Forward, including the potential impact on churches in the MN UMC Conference.

After much rich and meaningful discussion, voting members of the Church Council cast their ballots and unanimously voted to move forward with further exploration of the building project.

### Next steps include:

District Superintendent Fred Vanderwerf will take our building project proposal to the MN UMC District Board of Church and Building Location for their consideration and approval. Upon their approval, the Building Committee will seek the input and project approval of BGUMC members. This will be accomplished through written correspondence followed by a formal membership vote. The vote will be taken at a Special Charge Conference, notification of which will be sent to all church members.

The excitement continues to build as we continue to build upon our dream! Please contact Hjordi Churchill (Building Project Team and Church Council Chair) if you have any questions at 507.456.1825 or [Hjordi.hc@gmail.com](mailto:Hjordi.hc@gmail.com).

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED to:  
Box 171, Medford, MN 55049

April 2019

### The • Blooming • Grove • Visitor

Since 1936

#### Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

43089 180th Street, Morristown, MN 55052

(NE corner of Waseca County)

Mail to: P.O. Box 171

Medford, MN 55049-0171

Website: [www.bloominggroveumc.org](http://www.bloominggroveumc.org)

Email: [bloominggroveumc@gmail.com](mailto:bloominggroveumc@gmail.com)

Check us out on Facebook!

#### Pastoral Care and Emergency and General Pastoral Questions:

Pastor Stefanie Morgan's phone: 507-995-6624

Email: [stefaniemorganmt@gmail.com](mailto:stefaniemorganmt@gmail.com)

Pastor JJ Morgan's phone: 507-995-6623

Email: [pastorjjmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjjmorgan@gmail.com)



Requests for Prayer Chain Email:

Chery Southworth at  
[cherysouth@gmail.com](mailto:cherysouth@gmail.com)

#### Visitor Staff:

Chery Southworth, Visitor Coordinator

26651 Elmore Avenue

Morristown, MN 55052

(507) 339-3534

[CherySouth@gmail.com](mailto:CherySouth@gmail.com)

Judy Mahler, Editor

Carolyn Kanne, Writer

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## Holy Week Schedule



### April 14th Palm Sunday

10:30 am Service at  
Blooming Grove  
8:30 am Service  
at Waterville



### April 18th Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm Service at  
Blooming Grove

### April 19th Good Friday

7:00 pm Service at  
Waterville



### April 21st Easter Sunday

8:30 am Easter Service  
at Blooming Grove with  
Breakfast to follow

