



BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR

Volume 83, Issue 11

THE TWO STEEPLED CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

November 2019

Readers, Greeters & Treats

- Nov 3** Reader: Dick Fisher
Greeters & Treats: Dick and Trudi Fisher
- Nov 10** Reader: Carolyn Kanne
Greeter & Treats: Carol Karsten
- Nov 17** Reader Needed
Cris & Karrie Van Zuilen
- Nov 24** Reader: Cindy Saufferer
Greeters & Treats: Brad & Cindy Saufferer

*Prairie Lakes Parish
BGUMC, Janesville UMC, and WV UMC
Combined Annual Charge Conference*

Sunday, November 10th
3:00 P.M.
At Waterville UMC

Dean Wolf, retired minister serving the Elysian UMC, will be the presiding elder.
All persons within the congregation of BGUMC are invited.

Order Your Pies for

Thanksgiving!



The UMW will be taking orders for homemade Thanksgiving pies over the next several weeks. Available flavors will be apple and pumpkin, cost is \$15 per pie. Funds raised from pie sales will go toward the UMW Scholarship fund for graduating Medford seniors. Pies will be frozen and available for pickup on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, unless you make alternate arrangements. You can fill out the order form below or sign up on the clipboard circulated at church. Orders can be given to any UMW member (Char Frankenberry, Theresa Riecke, Faye Kanne, Carolyn Kanne, Tracie Spinler, Cindy Saufferer). We also welcome donations to the scholarship fund, or donations of/for pie ingredients!

✂ _____

Pie Order - \$15 per pie

Name _____

Phone Number _____

_____ # Apple _____ # Pumpkin _____ Total Cost

TIME REMINDER!



**Sunday,
November 3rd**

Daylight Savings
Time ends.
Remember to set your
clocks **back** one hour
and sleep in a little!

Women's Prayer Retreat



This November 9th, women from Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville Evangelical UMCs are invited to a Prayer Retreat at the Deb Brecht lake home at 2818 Lind Trail, Waterville. The retreat will be a day long retreat beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. We will spend the day sharing through devotions, music, and fellowship centered around prayer. We will have morning coffee refreshments and lunch. Plan to spend a day away; a day to focus on prayer and fellowship.

A November Spirit of Thankfulness!

Pastor's Message



"I thank my God every time I remember you."
Philippians 1:3

Our three churches are moving into our new normal—into our new way of being a Christian community. It warms my heart as I hear you discern ways of considering how we can best support one another. It is our best way of being community!

I want to thank the folks at Blooming Grove for their "Meet and Greet." Jerry and I enjoyed spending time with everyone who attended the Muffin Mixer, Ice Cream Bar, and the Lunch Bunch! A huge thank you to the Janke, Kanne, and Saufferer, Danks, Mahler, and Churchill hosts! You touched our hearts by opening your homes so that Jerry and I had the opportunity to meet folks in fun and delicious ways!

There are busy times ahead as we prepare for our Charge Conference which will be quickly followed by our Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons. In the midst of the busyness, our Blooming Grove and Janesville congregations will switch worship times. I understand everyone's apprehension about the worship time changes. Leadership concerns include our members who are not "morning people" and the confusion that surrounds new worship times. It will be an adjustment but we do not adjust or make changes in a vacuum. Your SPRC team is mindful of your concerns and is vested and ready to listen. We remember that we are surrounded by our faith families and call on the Holy Spirit to walk with us through these changes.

Please call or text me if you would like me to visit or if there is a prayer concern that you prefer to keep private. We are a community strengthened by the power of prayer. We are stronger when we intercede on the behalf of our brothers and sisters in the faith. That does not mean your name needs to be on a prayer list. It means that your Pastor can pray for you and help you in any way you define.

Psalm 66:17-20 "I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!"

Thank you for your care of one another! Thank you for your support for Jerry and I — we are so blessed by each one of you.




Pastor Kathy

November 2019

Blooming Grove
Worship 8:15 am
Sunday School..... 9:15 am

Janesville
Worship 10:45 am

Waterville Evangelical
Worship 9:30 am

Coding Information SCDC—Steele County Detention Center RC—Rice County					1	2
						11:30 am WV at SCDC
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
 Pastor Kathy on vacation. Sonja Parr Guest Pastor Communion moved to Oct 10	Pastor's Day Off		6:30—7:30 pm WV Acts 29 Ministry & Confirmation	6:30 pm WV at RC Jail		9 am—4 pm Women's Retreat at Brecht Lake Home
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Communion Sunday/All Saint's Day 9:15 am WV Celebration Sunday 3 pm Prairie Lakes Parish Annual Charge Conference at WV	WV PPRC Meeting  Pastor's Day Off		6:30 pm BGUMC PPRC Meeting 6:30—7:30 pm WV Acts 29 Ministry	11:30 am BG Prayer Brunch at Lush Cakes in Waseca 6:30 pm WV at RC Jail		9 am—3 pm Southern Prairie District Annual Conference at Windom UMC
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	7:30 pm Parish SPRC meeting. Team Leads with Pastor Kathy for annual Check-in Pastor's Day Off	Feed my Starving Children at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna	6:30—7:30 pm WV Acts 29 Ministry 7 pm BG UMW at Cindy's	6:30 pm WV at RC Jail		11:30 am WV at SCDC
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Thanksgiving Celebration during morning worship 9:30 am BG decorating the sanctuary for Christmas	Pastor's Day Off	7 pm Thanksgiving Celebration at Janesville UMC. BGUMC and WVEUMC are invited		 6:30 pm WV at RC Jail	Save the Date Sunday, December 1 4:00 pm Waseca Chorale Christmas Concert	
						11:30 am WV at SCDC

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 am
Sunday School 9:15 am

9	Sat	9-4	Women's Prayer Retreat
10	Sun	3 pm	Charge Conference at WV
13	Wed	6:30 pm	BGUMC PPRC meeting
14	Thurs	11:30 am	Prayer Brunch at Lush Cakes
16	Sat	9-3	SE District Day at Windom
18	Mon	7:30 pm	Parish SPRC meeting
19	Tues		Feed my Starving Children
20	Wed	7 pm	UMW at Cindy's
24	Sun	9:30 am	Decorating the Sanctuary
26	Tues	7 pm	Thanksgiving Service at JV

Cleaning

November 10 Nancy & Susan
 November 24 Nancy & Susan

Paraments

November 3 White (All Saint's Sunday)
 November 10, 17, 24 Green

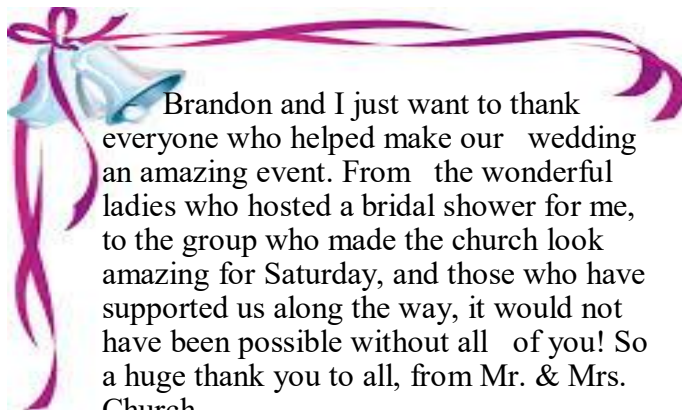
Happy Birthday

2 Cathi Gasner
 6 Ron Engebretson
 11 Nolan Engebretson
 11 Lisa Full
 15 Kaylee Krell
 15 Paige VanZuilen Hohertz
 19 Nelson Brady
 22 Jason Kosel
 24 Sheryl Brisel
 27 Theresa Riecke



Happy Anniversary

12 Jim & Chery Southworth
 22 George & Margie Sharp
 26 Don & Char Frankenberry



Brandon and I just want to thank everyone who helped make our wedding an amazing event. From the wonderful ladies who hosted a bridal shower for me, to the group who made the church look amazing for Saturday, and those who have supported us along the way, it would not have been possible without all of you! So a huge thank you to all, from Mr. & Mrs. Church.

Brandon and Emily



Treasurer's Report

September 22 –October 25, 2019

General Budget Income \$4,560.72

Expenses

Pastors Salaries	1,393.33
Housing allowance	380.00
Health Insurance	418.00
Pension	212.22
Disability Insurance	17.73
Conference Claims	1,355.84
Cleaning	126.00
Excel Energy	73.27
Mowing	405.00
Sunday School	431.28
Total Expenses	\$ 4,812.67

(Net Income: – \$ 251.95)

Other Income Received

Kamisamba Farm	55.54
Prayer Shawl Ministry	500.00
Restoration	450.00
Run for the Loaves	15.00
Visitor	15.00

Sunday, November 25th
9:30 am

Intergenerational Decorating of the Sanctuary for Christmas



We invite you to stay after church and lend a hand and heart, laughter and fellowship as we prepare our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Many hands are welcomed as we bring down all of the decorations from the attic and adorn the sanctuary with the signs and symbols of Christmas. A special sub-team will work on hanging the backdrop while the rest of us unpack and handle the smaller decorations. Thanks, in advance for joining this wonderful time of community!



Pie Trivia

According to a survey conducted by Crisco, the most popular dessert pie in America is apple, followed by pumpkin and pecan.

We hope you've enjoyed our pie trivia over the past few months. Pies are now available to order!

Education & Events

Our October 2nd **Sunday – Funday!** found us all being “knotty people”, as we once again worked on colorful fleece tied/”knotted” blankets to gift to others. Some carefully smoothed out one fleece layer atop the other, measured, snipped, and the nimblest fingers tied the knots. Throughout each of the classrooms and across several tables, caring busy work was done while caring, concerned conversations were held amongst our Blooming Grove family: voicing concerns about getting crops in.... and the weather challenges; expressing awareness of heavy, dangerous machinery and long, long hours in the fields well beyond the darkest of night; sharing the worries and burdens of health concerns amongst our BG family and beyond, and of family concerns or financial dilemmas. And yet also expressing the joy of being part of this BG family, working together, celebrating big and little happenings, not the least of which is the joyful spark Pastor Kathy and Jerry have ignited in our midst; and celebrating that we have such an abundance of richness in our lives that we eagerly tie knots to enfold this richness, warmth, and love with whomever the recipient of any of the completed beautiful (and each unique) blankets might be. [You may notice in the photos that the youngest nimble fingers took a wee bitsy play-time break!] 2nd **Sunday – Funday!**, in a way, is a worship service in itself. If you’ve not yet experienced a 2nd **Sunday – Funday!**, please consider joining us on Sunday November 10th for another of our intergenerational events. We’re postponing our originally scheduled “BG Believe It Or Not” event, in lieu of more blanket making. We have material for 7 to 10 more blankets, and with winter’s chill in the air, and several locations where donations are needed, we’ve decided to get “tied up” in the activity again. The **8 colorful blankets completed in October** were gratefully received by District One Hospital Emergency Dept. staff, (after sending the blankets through our membership on Sunday to ‘load ‘em up’ with prayers that will envelope each recipient). They had run out of the blankets which they give to youngsters going



through a frightening experience and to lonely/ alone adults and seniors who find themselves in an ER and who have no family, neighbors or others to be with them as they undergo tests and treatments.



Above- the “knotty people” and the 8 completed blankets

Below- District One ER staff receiving the blankets for patients.

Bottom pics- busy, busy fingers, but notice the smiles on everyone’s face!





More busy fingers and smiles - & a little time out for play-doh.

Feed My Starving Children

**Tuesday
November 19**



Tuesday, November 19th will again find a presence of our Blooming Grove UMC family at the remote pack for **Feed My Starving Children**, being held at *Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna*. As of this writing, 12 volunteers have signed up, most of whom are planning to commune together afterward at a local restaurant (yet to be decided just *where* we'll eat).

Yes, you will again receive a memory-jogging reminder postcard from me (Patti Ellingson) approximately a week prior to the event. Hey – can we all wear some BG or UMC attire? Like a Run for the Loaves T-shirt, or BGUMC polo shirt, or a Minnesota Methodist T-shirt?

Although we don't do this for "the good time", I will guarantee that each of you will come away knowing you've had a meaningful, productive good time – and shared it with your BG family. That's a win/win!!



Just like fingerprints, each one is uniquely different.



Save the date!! Sunday Dec. 15th!

No, we don't mean to confuse you. Christmas itself will still be celebrated on Dec 25th. However, the BGUMC Sunday School (et al) Christmas program will be coming to you live during the **10:45a.m.** worship service. All are welcome....

Yes, ALL are welcome! Truly, **ALL Are Welcome**

At the Manger. The littlest child, the most royal wise man, the stinky shepherds, the amazing angels, all the critters (think "I said the donkey shaggy and brown" or "I said the sheep with the curly horn"). ALL are welcome and every single presence offered precious gifts – be it the angelic heavenly choir, the gold or myrrh, the simple shed (or barn or cave), the warmth of their furry bodies, the awe and adoration of shepherds and townsfolk, the rhythmic beat of the little drummer boy's drum, the precious words of the angels which Mary treasured in her heart. We each, like Jesus, entered the world with nothing. Yet now, we each have an opportunity to offer our gifts, our treasures. No matter how anyone else perceives your gift, it is a treasure and valued by God and His Son. What precious gift are you willing to bring to the manger? It's ALL treasured, because we're all his precious children, and the giving – the offering itself is vital. **ALL Are Welcome At the Manger**; please join us.

Building Project

Building Project Corner

In the month of October, the Building Project Team has continued their work or reaching out to local contractors to request bids on the following work:

- Demolition
- Excavation
- Concrete & Fill
- Septic System
- Heating and Air
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Siding

Bid-Taking

In most cases, we requested 2-3 bids per type of work in order to make a good faith effort in comparing ideas and quality of work, as well as price. Please note that our local contractors are facing the same timing concerns as our area farmers this year. The wet and late spring, combined with a wet summer, have put them behind in all of their scheduled work, for which they want to honor their commitments of completing before winter. As a result, their "bid work" is a little delayed, and often needs to wait for a rainy day. We have asked for all bids to be submitted by November 1st. Our building project team will meet in November to review the bids and create a final projected project cost.

Request for Prayer

As always, our team will appreciate your ongoing prayers and support as we continue in all that is left to do before actual building can begin:

- ♦ Gather final bids and brainstorm our way through a multitude of excellent questions from the contractors.
- ♦ Modify building plans per contractor questions and suggestions gathered along the way.
- ♦ Obtain approval of final plans and costs from our council (and/or congregation if needed)
- ♦ Obtain approval from the MN Conference of the UMC District Board of Church and Building.
- ♦ Explore grants and outside funding.
- ♦ Contact all members and friends of BGUMC to invite support of the project and to gather estimates of giving toward the project.



Saturday, 11/16/2019 Southern Prairie District Day & All Church Conference

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
First UMC – 974 6th St., Windom, MN.

Information, as shared by the Southern Prairie District:

- This particular year, due to the popularity of both events, District Day is being merged with the ratifying annual work of the District's Local Church Conferences.
- Participants will have the opportunity to attend to two of eight breakthrough workshops that are geared toward the rural church.
- Local church conference work will be handled in the context of inspiring worship at the end of the day. (Some churches may choose to hold their local church conference work within their own congregations or parishes – such as we are doing on 11/10/2019 – but all are welcome to stay for the time of worship.)
- Pre-registration is required. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Kathy to make arrangements for registration and for carpooling.

Waseca Chorale Presents "International Carols of Christmas"

Sunday, December 1, 2019
4:00 P.M.

Sacred Heart Church
111 – 4th St. NW, Waseca

Tickets are \$7 for adults
and \$5 for youth age 12 and under

Join in this wonderful way
to begin the season of Advent.

The following BGUMC members are part
of this incredible Chorale: Sheryl Brisel,
Hjordi Churchill,
Don Frankenberg,
Carolyn Kanne,
Judy Mahler.

International Christmas



Please pray for the following persons and situations shared publicly within our community of BGUMC in the past month.

Note from Pastor Kathy King:

Please call or text me if you would like me to visit or if there is a prayer concern that you prefer to keep private. We are a community strengthened by the power of prayer. We are stronger when we intercede on the behalf of our brothers and sisters in the faith. Please know that does not mean your name needs to be on a public prayer list. It means that your Pastor can pray for you and help you in any way you define.

- Wanda Prosch of Waterville EUMC, as she undergoes medical testing.
- Margaret, Faye Kanne's friend from high school, as she faces difficult times in the months ahead.
- Prayers of thanks for successful surgery for Jim Southworth and that he is healing well and is able to be out in the fields in the combine!
- Pastor Kathy's brother-in-law (married to Pastor Kathy's sister), as he undergoes surgery as part of his care plan to treat kidney cancer.
- A co-worker of Marlis Mahler whose family is walking through physical and mental health challenges and concerns.
- The mother of Brad Saufferer's co-worker, undergoing treatment for blood clots in her leg.
- Brian Kosel (and his wife, Linda) as Brian recovers from rotator cuff surgery.
- Jim Golombeski, friend & neighbor of many in the congregation, and his wife Cheryl. Jim suffered a heart attack recently and is undergoing medical follow-up to surround the complexities of his unique heart health.
- Pastor Kathy King, as she celebrates the completion of her classwork for the October session of Native American Course of Study (NACOS) – and as she begins classwork preparation for her next the next NACOS session. We thank her for all the faith stories, perspectives, and insights that she shares with us from the Native American Tradition – including the story of the heartbeat of all creation.
- For Pastor Jan Redman as she works to sell her home in Spicer from the time that she served as pastor there, and as she settles into her family's home farm – and related farm chores - in the Brush Creek area of Minnesota (near Wells).
- Friends of Gil and Beth Christesen, as they work with doctors to address a serious medical condition for their young daughter.
- Pastor Kathy's brother-in-law Jim (Jerry's oldest brother) – and his wife Barbie – as he works with doctors and surgeons to identify the extent of the cancer that has come back and to determine treatment options.
- Mike Nicholson's brother Tom, of California, whose health is changing such that he now is relying on a wheelchair for mobility.
- Cindy Saufferer as she closes out part of a chapter of her service in ministry at the national level of the United Methodist Church this fall, and as she prepares to begin serving in her new role as President of the Minnesota Conference United Methodist Women in January and the role of Alternate Delegate to General Conference next May.
- Don Swift, of Waterville EUMC, and his wife Anita, as they work with doctors to find solutions for Don's complicated heart issues.
- Edna Deering, aunt of Judy Mahler, from University City (St. Louis), MO as she continues her long and slow recovery from a complicated surgery in September. Edna is the youngest sister of Dallas Saufferer-Mahler, Judy's mom.
- Jake Goldsmith's mom, Char, laid up for 6-8 weeks with a fractured vertebrae in her back.
- Prayers of thanks for the ongoing improvement of Emma, Luke VanZuilen's friend, who was injured in a automotive accident in June.
- Cindy Saufferer's brother, Danny, in Oklahoma, who goes in for surgery in the days ahead. Danny is facing many health challenges resulting from all of the medical work he has undergone in his journey of beating the odds to survive pancreatic cancer.
- The family and friends of Lexi Tiegs, a 10th grade student at Waseca Junior/Senior High School, who was killed in a motor vehicle accident in October.
- Theresa Riecke's co-worker Katie's grandmother-in-law as she struggles with aging and health issues.
- All members of our farming community as they work long hours around dangerous equipment in this year's complicated fall harvest.

In Sympathy



Dessie Mae Gasner, 88, of Owatonna, passed away on October 20, 2019. She was born May 10, 1931 in Claremont and attended school in Claremont. She married Duane Gasner October 29, 1948 in Owatonna. They lived in Iowa for a time before moving back to Owatonna.

Dessie worked at Federated Insurance and Cashman Flowers. Dessie is survived by her husband, Duane Gasner of Owatonna as well as her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and two brothers. Duane is Carol Karsten's brother.

TIME REMINDER

**Sunday, December 1st –
Blooming Grove UMC and
Janesville EUMC Change
Worship Times**



In this first year of our three-point charge with Blooming Grove UMC, Janesville UMC, and Waterville EUMC, our joint PPRC team has created an experimental 6-month rotation of worship service times, in order to take advantage of the good driving days from June through November and the potentially more difficult driving days that begin in December. The change that takes place December 1st will give BGUMC time to assess road and driving conditions for Pastor Kathy – and will provide time for BGUMC to clear the parking lot and sidewalks. Our ultimate consideration is to provide Pastor Kathy the opportunity to be in worship with each congregation every Sunday morning.

- June – November (45 minute worship services)
 - ◊ 8:15 A.M. – BGUMC Worship
 - ◊ 9:30 A.M. – Waterville EUMC Worship
 - ◊ 10:45 A.M. – Janesville UMC Worship
- December – May (45 minute worship services)
 - ◊ 8:15 A.M. – Janesville UMC Worship.
 - ◊ 9:30 A.M. – Waterville EUMC Worship
 - ◊ 10:45 A.M. – BGUMC Worship



Prayer Shawl Ministry
A Quiet Witness

Thank you very much for the prayer shawl. I keep it on my personal chair at all times. May God bless each one of you.

Larry Karsten

Sunday Mornings at BGUMC

We invite you to join us each Sunday morning as we gather together in community to hear the wonderful message of God's great love for us, and God's call to share that love with others. We invite you to reach out and welcome your friends and family to this gathering of God's beloved community as well!

Here is special news first two Sundays in November

Sunday, November 3rd

Pastor Kathy is on vacation. Our BGUMC friend, Sonja Parr will join us as our guest worship leader. We invite you to come together to hear the unique story of Zaccheus, the little trouble-making man who reached far outside of his comfort zone to climb up in a tree in order to see and hear Jesus!

Sunday, November 10th 8:15 Morning Worship

- Celebration of Holy Communion
- Celebration of All Saint's Sunday
- Noisy Can Sunday – bring your loose change for the Noisy Can Offering! All proceeds will go to the Kamisamba Farm and Training Center in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

9:15 Sunday School

- Intergenerational 2nd Sunday Fun-Day! All ages join together as we cut and tie 10 more fleece blankets to share with persons who are in need to extra comfort and a reminder of God's love during difficult times.

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

November 2019

The Blooming Grove Visitor

Since 1936

Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

Physical Address:

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

Email: bloominggroveumc@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook!

**Pastoral Care and Emergency
and General Pastoral Questions:**

Pastor Kathy King
kking5@hickorytech.net
507-382-2483



Requests for Prayer Chain Email:

Pastor Kathy King at:

kking5@hickorytech.net

Visitor Staff:

Chery Southworth, Visitor Coordinator

26651 Elmore Avenue

Morristown, MN 55052

(507) 339-3534

CherySouth@gmail.com

Judy Mahler, Editor

Carolyn Kanne, Writer

Patti Ellingson, Writer

If you would rather read your copy of the Visitor online, (and in color) check us out at www.bloominggroveumc.org

To unsubscribe or to be added to our email distribution list, contact cherysouth@gmail.com

Thank you.

I dwell upon
The goodness in my life.
Thank you.

I cherish in my heart
Your gift to me.
Thank you.

I notice the blessings
Of life, breath, loving and sharing.
I am so very grateful.

Thank you, Lord.