



BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# THE VISITOR

Volume 86, Issue 10

THE TWO STEEPLD CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

October 2022



## Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> Prairie Lakes Parish Combined Outdoor Worship & Pizza Lunch at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm

Join with our sister churches in our Prairie Lakes Parish (Janesville UMC and Waterville EUMC) to celebrate World Wide Communion Sunday in the beautiful outdoor setting of the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm.

**10:00:** Check in and place pizza orders

**10:30:** Morning Worship and Communion, led by Pastor Kathy King and Kristin Ziemke, part-time worship musician for Janesville UMC and Waterville Evangelical EUMC

**11:30–1:00:** Pizza Lunch on the Grounds

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for this great day of celebrating God's Holy Ground!

Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm  
Pleasantgrovepizzafarm.com  
41142 160<sup>th</sup> Street  
Waseca, MN 56093  
(716) 523-0857

- Bring your own seating and a portable table (if desired)
- If you plan to stay for pizza lunch, pack a cooler with items such as the following: beverages, any other food you wish to enjoy with your pizza, plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and a trash bag to pack out your garbage when you leave.
- A hand washing station is provided. Also bring your own hand sanitizer, if desired.
- No pets allowed.
- 9 main pizzas and a weekly feature are offered. Check out their website for the detailed menu.
- Directions from BGUMC: Go south on 180<sup>th</sup> St. for approximately .2 miles. Turn right onto 430<sup>th</sup> Ave/County Hwy 10, travel 2.01 miles. Turn left onto 160<sup>th</sup> Street and travel 1.8 miles. Pleasant Grove is on the left.



## November Mission Opportunity: Winter Clothes for Students Project

As mentioned in last month's Visitor, we have partnered with Medford Public School to help replenish their supply of spare winter clothes. The grant we applied for through the MN Annual Conference was not granted, but we can still help out with this project. The social workers at the school have provided a list of items they usually need – although any winter outerwear or monetary donations are welcome. Here's the list:

Sizes needed: Size 5+, smaller sizes for elementary students

Items: sweatpants, leggings, thicker socks, sweat-shirts/zip-ups, long and short sleeved T-shirts, water resistant winter gloves.

This is a great use for Kohl's Cash or credit card reward dollars! We will have a box in the back of the church starting in November. If you have something you want to get in prior to that, contact Carolyn Kanne.



## September Mission Thanks

During the month of September, our three Prairie Lakes Parish churches collected items for Ruth's House (Faribault, MN). Ruth's House provides transitional housing in a safe, supportive and healing environment to help women and families on their way to a new beginning. Since the onset of COVID, they have been in need of restocking many donated items, and requested our help!

Blooming Grove UMC stepped forward with willing hearts to provide a host of supplies, ranging from household items to personal care items.

Thank you to all who reached out to share these tangible signs of God's love with folks within our communities.



## Blessings to Pastor Kathy King!

Congratulations and blessings to Pastor Kathy King, who celebrated the completion of her Native American Course of Study (NACOS) on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – in a Worship and Graduation Service for the NACOS Class of 2022 – held at Messiah United Methodist Church in Plymouth, MN.

Three licensed local pastors from Minnesota were commissioned: Kathy King of our Prairie Lakes Parish, Dawn Houser of Aitkin UMC, and Paula Gaboury of The United Church of Two Harbors.

The evening's worshipping community was called together by the Native American tradition of a Drum Circle, and the service began with all joining in a Native American Friendship Circle Dance. Nyomi Stone (Pastor Kathy's granddaughter) and Pastor Kathy, led the opening prayer – Nyomi - in Ojibway, and Pastor Kathy - in English. NACOS alumni followed in offering prayers and liturgies, based on Native American tradition. The 2022 graduates (including Pastor Kathy) shared Scripture readings taken from the First Nations Version – an Indigenous Translation of the New Testament.

The Commissioning Service and ceremonial offering of Coup Sticks and Shawls were presented by members of the NACOS board and the NACOS Director. The Coup Stick signifies leadership and the shawl wraps the one gifted with the prayers of the community.

Throughout the service, the Drum Circle represented Creator's heartbeat that flows through the circle of life, in which all are equal, as a circle contains no head or tail.

This particular Course of Study program is one of many offered through seminaries across the United States. It is an extension school of the Course of Study School of Ohio at Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and is under the accreditation of the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education. The Native American Course of Study Program is unique in that it focuses on a Native American perspective to training licensed local pastors, while being open to all.

Course of Study is a required theological and leadership education program for licensed local pastors in the United Methodist Church. Students engage in diverse content that includes church history, Bible exegesis, pastoral care, evangelism, UM polity, UM doctrine, and more. The 20 core courses are facilitated in ways that help students apply what they learn to the ministry context they serve. Students benefit from engaging content guided by committed instructors, with an emphasis on peer-learning resulting in a solid foundation of theory and practice. Courses are taught by experts in the field, many of whom are practitioners who are actually doing this work day in and day out. The process provides a space where licensed pastors and others can think deeply and critically about theology and the life of the church.



# October 2022

**Blooming Grove**  
Morning Worship.....8:15 am  
Sunday School.....9:10 am

**Janesville**  
Morning Worship 10:45 am

**Waterville Evangelical**  
Morning Worship...9:30 am

						1
					Pastor's Day Off	
2 10:30 am Community Communion Service at Pizza Farm	3	4	5 6-7 pm WV Acts 29	6	7	8
					Pastor's Day Off	
9	10  Columbus Day	11	12 6-7 pm WV Acts 29	13 6 pm Bible and Brew at Half-Pint Brewery	14	15
					Pastor's Day Off	
16	17	18	19 6-7 pm WV Acts 29	20 Tentative: 6 pm Braiding Sweetgrass book study at BG	21	22
					Pastor's Day Off	
23 3 pm Confirmation class at Hilltop in Mankato	24	25	26 6-7 pm WV Acts 29	27	28	29
30 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	31 					



## OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:10 a.m.

- 2 Sun 10:30 am Community communion service at Pizza Farm  
13 Thurs 6:00 pm Bible & Brew at Half-Pint  
20 Thurs 6:00 pm **Tentative** Book Study at BG  
23 Sun 3:00 pm Confirmation Class Meets at Hilltop Church in Mankato

### Parament Colors

The parament color for October is green

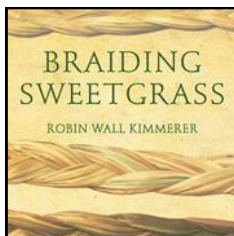


- 3 Elenora Christesen  
4 Cody Blake  
4 Andrew Engebretson  
5 Ashley Pitzer  
6 Tyler Jesse  
6 Thomas Prchal  
9 Karen LaFond  
12 Chery Southworth  
19 George Sharp  
20 Jerry King  
26 Bruce Saufferer



### Happy Anniversary

- 5 JJ & Stefanie Morgan  
9 Marcus & Callie DeLeon  
10 Deecy & Bob Jesse  
19 Brian & Katie Martin



### Tentative:

**Braiding Sweetgrass  
Bookstudy  
Oct. 20  
6 pm at BG**

**Date may change—contact  
Cindy Saufferer as the date gets closer  
if you plan to attend.**

## Treasurer's Report

August 29—September 25, 2022



<b>General Budget Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,515.00</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Food Shelf	2,195.50
Sale of Hay	300.00
Visitor	25.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,035.50</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Pastor's Salary (salary, housing, Pension, disability)	2,093.48
Cleaning	80.00
Lawn Mowing	1,515.00
Telephone	50.65
U.W.I.F. (United Women In Faith)	162.50
<b>Total Paid Out</b>	<b>\$ 3,901.63</b>

(Net Income: + \$1,133.87)

### Building Addition

<b>Income</b>	
Restoration Income	\$ 565.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 565.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Loan Payment	3,505.13
<b>Total Paid Out</b>	<b>\$ 3,505.13</b>

(Net Income: — \$2,940.13)

Restoration Fund Balance	\$78,884.50
Building Addition Loan	\$293,038.53

### Baptism Blessings for Bowen Bradley Spinler

On Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the baptism of Bowen Bradley Spinler, son of Alex and Lacey Spinler. It was a great morning, filled with the wonderful energy of children, as Bowen was surrounded by his mom and dad, Godparents Justin and Krisin Krell, cousins who all helped explore the holy water in the baptismal font, extended family, including grandparents and great grandparents, and members of his "BGUMC family".



## Winners All



It was a dark and stormy night. I opened the church at six in the morning to hand out ribs to the barbeque contestants so they could have them ready for the noon tasting. I received a phone call from a worried contestant asking if the contest was still on because of the rain. I told him God will watch over us and all will be well. Actually, I told him to get his butt out here it was only misting. It was my son-in-law, I can talk to him like that.

The mist stopped coming down, it was cloudy and cool, perfect barbeque and running conditions. The ribs were handed out, the grills were fired up, the contest was on. There were highlights and lowlights. Highlight, Luke Mathern shared his grill with Bill Olson from Waterville because Bill didn't think his grill would do a good job smoking the ribs. Lowlight, son-in-law Gil served smoked home-made mac and cheese with his ribs. Calls of foul and cheater rang out. Gil explained that he was only enhancing the tasting experience. I observed a team that was jealous because they had not thought of it first.

Coach Chatelaine and the Owatonna cross country team arrived a nine. Once again, a huge thank you to the coaches and the runners, without them the run would not be possible. The twelve and under runners took off at nine fifteen for their quarter mile run. Leah Krell used her long legs and athletic ability to run to a first-place finish. She didn't get that from her dad. Henry Hilgendorf, from the cross country team, finished the four miles in seventeen minutes fifteen seconds. This is a practice for the boys so they don't run all out. I'm always impressed.

We set some records this year. First, a record number, led by Pastor Kathy, rode the sag wagon to the end of the race. Dubious at best. The second, a record number of virtual runners participated. They registered and ran or walked four miles wherever they were. (over)







Thanks to my kids and Cindy's sister Patty and her grandkids, team Pain and Saufferer won the coveted Big Loaf Trophy this year for raising the most money.

Noon arrived and the tasting was on. Tension was in the air. Team leaders affected an "I don't care attitude", but they did care. After thirty minutes and teams were running out of ribs, time was called and Pastor Kathy counted the money raised. Team Trojan Meats, headed by Gil Christesen, was declared winner with \$241.00 raised. For this Gil received the prestigious Holy Hog Trophy. Don't lose it.

I'd like to thank all those who helped make the event a success. Sister Tracie for all the cooking she did. She found I had bought raw brats when I thought they were precooked and she boiled them. I never claimed to be mother Saufferer's brightest child but I have always been in the top five. Weston Janke for driving the lead vehicle and frying french fries. Raelyn Janke for serving food and every other odd job needing done. Linda Danks and Carolyn Kanne for baking cookies. Jim Southworth for pulling the sag wagon. All the others who helped set up, take down, and did everything else that made it possible.

So, one more thing. Maybe twenty years ago, give or take, the Spinler family left daughter Mikayla at church after Sunday Service. They thought she was with Grandma, Grandma thought she was with the family, no one noticed until someone from church called. No big deal. I mention this because her father Brad wrote a thank you to all team Stang Good Ribs members and forgot to mention Mikayla. Mikayla drove seven hours each way to help. When Mikayla joins the brain trust on the team, Alex and Justin, the aggregate I.Q. more than doubles. We love you and won't forget you Mikayla. (Brad Saufferer)



## *A Prayer For Autumn*

*From "Ash & Starlight – Prayers for the Chaos & Grace of Daily Life" by Arianne Braithwaite Lehn*

Gracious God,  
I praise you as the  
Giver and Renewer of seasons.  
The earth's rhythms  
remind me of  
your faithfulness...  
your love...  
your promises...

The sun rising each morning,  
the leaves turning and dropping,  
the stars peeking through  
mists of morning gray,  
then greeting me as  
the day kisses night.

Amidst the cycle, I find  
a rhythm for my soul.  
I hear echoes of that  
ancient and eternal place  
into which you beckon me,  
and I say thank you.

Oh, God, how will you  
show yourself to me today?

I am longing for  
a closer connection,  
a stronger fire,  
a self-forgetting confidence  
that fills me and makes me  
a whole, abundant person.

I want to find myself so full  
of your loving presence  
that it spills and splashes  
over my life's rim,  
blessing and baptizing  
every trip I make,  
every meal I cook  
every task I do,  
every person I meet,  
every smile I share,  
every worry I carry.

Thank you, God, for lifting me  
over the threshold of this season.

May I watch for the stars tonight  
and the sun tomorrow,  
finding you in both. Amen

## *A Prayer for the Harvest*

*Modified from "A Prayer for the Harvest"  
found in the MN UMC Conference Website  
– 10/29/2018*



### *Isaiah 55:12 NIV*

*"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. "*

Gracious and Holy God,  
We thank you for the bounty of the land  
and for those who plant and harvest  
that the world might be fed.

We are grateful for the harvest that is to come.  
And, we pray that you graciously watch over  
all farmers as they work in their fields.  
Grant them favorable weather conditions and keep  
them safe.

Where there is anxiety, give peace.  
Where there is depression, restore hope.  
Where there is economic uncertainty, grant protection.

Life-giving God, we trust in your faithfulness  
and your promise to abide with us always.  
So, we are bold to pray that joy and  
gladness be found in this time of harvest in our  
orchards and farms and ranches.

We pray in the name of Jesus, in whom we  
have our hope and salvation. Amen





Please pray for the following persons and situations shared publicly within our community of BGUMC

***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.***

- Carol Karsten's son, Walter, who has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, and who is undergoing specialized treatment at Rochester Mayo.
- Continued prayer for the Morgan family. Dan's daughter, Nikki lost both of the twin boys, Jonah and Isiah. Darla's daughter, Alli, is expecting identical twins in a very high risk pregnancy. She entered the hospital at 26 weeks to wait for their arrival.
- Prayers for Don Frankenberry, Jr. who is having back and hand problems.
- Continued prayer for Patti Ellingson's friend Debbie following the unexpected passing of her husband.
- Cindy Saufferer's mom, Marge, in Kansas, who has moved to a care facility, where she is receiving hospice care. Marge is near enough to "home" that her friends and family can still easily come and visit, and her friends can hold their Bible Studies with her there. Also hold Cindy, and her sister Patty, in your prayers as they continue to care for Marge in partnership with the staff at the care facility.
- Prayers of thanks and healing for little Kinsley, whose 21<sup>st</sup> surgery was successful in providing mobility to her 2<sup>nd</sup> elbow! Additional nasal issues were discovered, but they can be fixed without the 5 additional surgeries as original anticipated!
- Kathy King's daughter-in-law, Julie Weckwerth-King, and Julie's husband Clint, as they mourn the loss of Julie's mother, Nancy Weckwerth, on September 11<sup>th</sup> – the anniversary of the death of Julie's son Jared in a silo accident.
- All who lost loved ones and/or who suffered incredible injury in the 9/11 attacks 21 years ago.
- All who are dealing with recent diagnoses that are frightening in their projected impact.
- Conrad, a graduate of Medford High School, who was critically injured in a motorcycle accident. Pray for strength and courage for Conrad and his family as they travel the long road of recovery together.
- Pray for all those impacted by the hurricane that has devastated Puerto Rico and that is headed for

Florida - and for the safety of everyone there, including family members of BGUMC.

- All those impacted by the most recent variation of COVID, with its high rate of transmission
- All in our faith community who privately hold heavy concerns in their hearts and lives. Help us to reflect God's love and care through our words and deeds that they may know BGUMC as a place of solace, comfort, trust, and support.



## ***In Sympathy***

Darlene E. (McColley) Zander, Age 89 of Burnsville, passed away on September 8, 2022. Born January 19, 1933, to Erven and Emma (Swenson) McColley in Albert Lea, MN.

Darlene married her high school sweetheart, Donald, in 1955. They moved to Burnsville in 1961, living in the same house for 60 years where they raised their 3 children (and a couple of dogs). Darlene was active in the community as a founding member of the Timberland Knolls Garden Club, which later became Sweet Sioux, and continued to be a member for over 50 years, she enjoyed her monthly meeting of Hanna's Circle at Faith Covenant Church and the many years with Dan Patch American Legion Auxiliary. She was a proud grandma who took every opportunity to spend time with her grandkids. She also was an always-available babysitter and day care provider.

When her kids were young, she worked in the school cafeteria so that she'd always be home for the kids. Later she showed her talents as a bookkeeper for several small businesses, including Zander Photography for 30 years. Darlene is survived by her three children: Scott (Karen) Zander, Craig (Leslie) Zander, Sharon (Brad) Heywood., and 8 grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Faye Kanne and sister-in-law Lois Spatenka. She is preceded in death by her husband Donald Zander.

### **Prayer Shawl Thank You:**



Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl for our boys, Jonah and Isaiah. It is currently used for comfort at night. I hold the shawl to hold my boys with me. Thank you also for all the prayers.

Nikki Mulert



# Blooming Grove Church Council Meeting

September 7, 2022

Carolyn Kanne, Board Secretary



they've gone over. There was an addition from Janesville to replace Del Brower.

- **Communication:** Posters for the Run for the Loaves and the BBQ cookoff; Visitor
- **Worship:** World Communion Sunday will need to be planned.
- **UMF:** Haven't met. Cindy ordered the 2022-23 Program book today.

In attendance: Brad & Cindy Saufferer, Brian & Carolyn Kanne, Michael Kanne, Pastor Kathy King, Chery Southworth, Patti Ellingson

## Opening Prayer

**Review of June 2022 meeting minutes:** approved by consensus

## Financial Report:

- **Treasurer's Report:** approved by consensus
- **Financial Secretary's Report:** Approved by consensus
- **BG Insurance Policy:** we still have the builder's liability coverage. Underwriting will remove it in January. We will then get a refund.

## Trustees Report:

- **Building Projects:** Annual maintenance on the lift was this past week. The phone doesn't work. Brad traced the line, and it looks like the phone company's problem. He will call them tomorrow.
- **Funding/Balance Update:** see the financial reports

## Old Business:

- **Audit:** Brad has talked with Arlene at Waterville.
- **Trustees:** Nothing to report
- **Trustee Chair:** Nothing to report
- **Tech Team:** Kristen added a general budget button to the online giving. At this point, it doesn't follow through to tell Brian which option the donation is for yet.
- **Medford School Grant Opportunity:** Carolyn reported that we heard from the Conference about the grant application a couple of days ago. We didn't receive one this year. We will still go ahead with collecting winter clothes for the school. Carolyn will contact Superintendent Ristau to get particulars.

## Team Reports:

- **Education & Events:** Rally Sunday this week. BBQ on Saturday. They will be meeting soon.
- **PPRC:** They talked about joint services and how

## Pastor's Report:

- **Course of Study:** 9/18 – 9/23 class will meet in person in Plymouth. Graduation will be 9/22 at 7pm. The last two classes will be Bible V: Acts, Epistles & Revelation, and Theological Reflection: Practice of Ministry. Dave Wollin will lead the services on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, since Pastor Kathy won't have much time to prepare after being in class.
- **Reflections/Comments about our joint 2022 services:** all positive comments
- **Confirmation update:** will be starting 9/25 – "Faith and Self-Image"

## Upcoming Events:

- Run 4 Loaves, BBQ cookoff – everything is coming together; there are 24 kids from the CC team signed up, and several virtual participants
- World Communion Sunday Parish Worship at the Pizza Farm – October 2
- Charge Conference – November 12 from 10-2. There are forms that will need to be completed.

## Missions:

- September Ruth's House Collection
- October Waseca County Collection – same sort of thing as above

## Miscellaneous:

- Carolyn mentioned that there will be free furniture available from Federated Insurance tomorrow after work. We agreed to see about getting some tables to replace the serving tables, and some chairs. Brian and Carolyn will pursue this.
- Our Love Through Justice Coordinator intends to get organized this year; hoping to assemble a small committee of interested parties from each church to possibly meet one Sunday a month.
- Pastor Kathy would like to have a Worship Committee mini retreat to plan for the holiday services.

**Next Meeting Date:** December 7<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm

**Closing: Lord's Prayer  
Meeting Adjourned**

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

**October 2022**

**The Blooming Grove Visitor**

*Since 1936*

**Blooming Grove United Methodist Church**

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

Check us out on Facebook!

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

**Pastor Kathy King**  
[kking5@hickorytech.net](mailto:kking5@hickorytech.net)  
507-382-2483



Requests for Prayer Chain Email:

Pastor Kathy King at:

[kking5@hickorytech.net](mailto:kking5@hickorytech.net)

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## *Parish Events*

### **Chicken & Biscuit Dinner**

Biscuits, Chicken, Gravy, Coleslaw and Pie

**Saturday, October 1st, 2022**

**4:30 PM—6:30 PM**

**319 E. Main St. Waterville**



**Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Prairie Lakes Parish**

**Combined**

**Outdoor Worship**

**& Pizza Lunch**

**at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm**

(See page 1 for details)

