



THE VISITOR

Sunday, July 31st Prairie Lakes Parish Combined Worship at Waterville EUMC



Join us on Sunday morning, July 31st, as we gather together for worship with our sister churches in our Prairie Lakes Parish (Janesville UMC and Waterville EUMC) at the Waterville Evangelical United Methodist Church. Worship will take place at 10:30. (There will be no 8:15 A.M. service at BGUMC that day.) Our theme for the day:

*Always open the door for Love,
and let Her enter first*

All singers are invited to join us that morning at 9:30 A.M. at Waterville EUMC for a "Choir from Near and Far" rehearsal! We will be singing two songs at the 10:30 Worship Service ... "Surely the Presence" and "What Does the Lord Require of You", both from our hymnals. Hope to see you there!

June 27th Facebook Note from Pastor Jan Redman Remembrances of BGUMC June 26th Dedication of New Addition



I hadn't worshiped on a Sunday in this building (BGUMC) since June of 2005. Coming back to celebrate the reality of a long-held dream of making this amazing church building handicap-accessible, I noticed the parts deeply rooted in Blooming Grove: the start-up of the old school clock before the service, the ringing of the bell, the four-part harmony of the entire congregation singing like no other as the acoustics wrapped sound around the congregation, the friendly greetings and jovial, loving friendships, the rich history of two

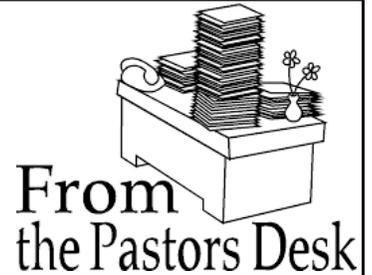
buildings merging in a spirit of hope and togetherness, the gleaming eyes of the congregation as they shared tradition while welcoming what newness God has brought. I also noticed the certainty of those deep roots willing and seeking to spread wider as all are welcomed into their midst, that the building no longer thwarts entry so it can be as welcoming as the church folks themselves. I hadn't heard that rich congregational singing since 2005 when I, as their pastor, would stand up front and close my eyes and be silent just to take in the harmony of that congregational choir. I did that again yesterday, and as I did, I could see and feel the presence of the saints who once sat in those pews and now have their place in the Choir Invisible. I've seen the church folks over the years as dear friends, and now I saw new faces as well as faces and hugs from the ones I had baptized as babies. I heard the messages and blessings given by our Bishop, District Superintendent, pastors past and present, and I marveled. I marveled at all that had come together just because two congregations decided way back when to move one building over three miles of sometimes challenging terrain to link buildings and hearts. How fabulous it is to know that the hopes, dreams, and spirit of unity and inclusiveness held by this congregation decades ago still hold so true today! That I could be even just a smidge of that history is blessing beyond words. What a day. What a church. What a congregation. What a Creator!!!



Photo by Fred Vanderwerf



Focusing on joy



From
the Pastors Desk

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5: 22-23

As we move into the days of August, we know that—soon—our days will move into all the busyness that our fall and winters bring. How are you doing in these “lazy” days of summer? I’ll be honest, I haven’t had many lazy days. I know that families are busier than ever. Our children and youth are playing ball, taking swimming lessons, and participating in the many outdoor activities that we Minnesotans cram into days we can be outdoors in the warmth (☺) of the summer.

For those who have made time to attend our worship services, I’ve shared in my reflection times that we are in our Ordinary Time season—the time when many of us feel called to work on our faith journeys; the time when we are not emmeshed in the celebratory seasons of the church. We are in Year C of our lectionary readings. For those of you who are not sure what that means, churchpublishing.org defines Common Lectionary as: an ecumenical project of several American and Canadian denominations, developed out of a concern for the unity of the Church and a desire for a common experience of Scripture. It was intended as a harmonization of the many different denominational approaches to the three-year lectionary. The Revised Common Lectionary, published in 1992, focuses on Gospel readings in this way:

- Year A: Matthew
- Year B: Mark
- Year C: Luke
- John is read during the Easter Season

Lectionary also includes weekly readings from the Old and New Testaments and Psalms. I am a “lectionary preacher” which means I follow the Revised Common Lectionary to create my weekly reflections. I think there is value in lectionary because it enables conversation in our Christian community where different faith communities share that commonality—hopefully leading to conversations outside of our worship services.

Over the course of my ministry, I have heard that I focus on “feel good” preaching. Guilty! Especially in these days of angst and division, I rely of Paul’s message of love and hope to those he reaches out to in his letters—I believe that to be me, today. I understand that I am born into sin, but I also understand that, through the love of Christ and the gift of salvation, I am given the fruits of the Spirit and I am joyful and celebrate in love and joy. I am called to the work of a disciple in my living. I am called to fruitful living—God wants me to know joy! It is my prayer that each one of us feels good because we live experiencing the fruits of the Spirit! May it be so!

Pastor Kathy

August 2022

**Blooming Grove
Morning Worship.....8:15 am**

**Janesville
Morning Worship 10:45 am**

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

	1	2	3	4	5	6
					Pastor's Day Off	
7	8	9	10	11 6 pm Bible and Brew at Half-Pint Brewery	12	13 4:30 pm BBQ Picnic at BG 6-8 pm Johnny Cash Tribute at BG
					Pastor's Day Off	
14	15	16 11:30 Prayer Brunch. Meet at Pastor Kathy's at 10	17	18	19	20
		Steele County Fair				
					Pastor's Day Off	
21	22	23	24 6:45 pm Con- firmation students and parents meeting in Waterville	25	26 6 PM Stillwa- ter Southern Gospel at Christ Com- munity Church,	27
Steele County Fair					Pastor's Day Off	
28 10:30 am Parish-wide service at JUMC with lunch to follow	29	30	Looking Ahead October 2nd World Communion Sunday At Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm			

AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.

- | | | | |
|----|-------|----------|--|
| 11 | Thurs | 6:00 pm | Bible & Brew at Half-Pint |
| 13 | Sat | 4:30 pm | BBQ Picnic |
| | | 6:00 pm | Mitchell Hall Concert |
| 16 | Tues | 11:30 am | Prayer Brunch |
| 24 | Wed | 6:45 pm | Confirmation Student/parent Meeting in Waterville. |
| 28 | Sun | 10:30 am | Parish-wide service at JUMC |



- | | | |
|---|----|-------------------|
| | 4 | Cris VanZuilen |
| | 4 | Mike Nicholson |
| | 7 | Chuck Danks |
| | 11 | Brian Kanne |
| | 11 | Brian Loken |
| | 13 | Cecilia Nicholson |
| 1 | | Bob Jesse |
| 1 | | Emily Howe |
| 3 | | Ben Sutter |
| 3 | | Randy Southworth |
| 4 | | Dawson Gasner |
| | 20 | Mikayla Janke |
| | 25 | Jacob Blake |
| | 25 | Tyler Kosel |
| | 27 | Summer Goldsmith |

Happy Anniversary



- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 4 | Luke & Bobbi Mathern |
| 13 | Brad & Tracie Spinler |
| 17 | Elizabeth & Jeff Bartosch |
| 22 | Jessica & Aaron Buchholz |
| 23 | Chuck & Linda Danks |
| 26 | Kyle & Becky Lustig |
| 28 | Greg & Tanecka Poe |
| 31 | Gerard & Karen LaFond |

Prayer Shawl Ministry
YOU GAVE ME COMFORT



1957-2022

Thank you so very much for the beautiful prayer shawl! That was very thoughtful of you and we really appreciate your kindness! God bless you all!

Kristin Bartelt (Fiancée of Del Brouwers)

Thanks so much for the cupcakes and lovely prayer shawl. My cancer is in remission now and I like to think that prayer had a lot to do with that! Prayer is indeed a powerful thing!

Sincerely, Phyllis Jensen

Treasurer's Report

June 29—July 26, 2022



General Budget Income	\$ 2,320.00
Other Income	
Cemetery	100.00
Total Income	\$2,420.00

Expenses	
Pastor's Salary (salary, housing, Pension, disability)	2,093.48
Pulpit Supply	100.00
Apportionments	1,522.74
Cleaning	165.00
Excel Energy	134.16
Lawn Mowing	1,575.00
Pirkl Gas (pre-buy)	3,980.00
Telephone	49.83
Love Offering	250.00
Ukraine Relief	615.00
Kamisamba Farm	678.83
Total Paid Out	\$ 11,164.04

(Net Income: - \$8,744.04)

Building Addition

Income	
Restoration Income	\$ 400.00
Coffee Cup Sales	40.00
Summer Fish Fry	2,690.00
Total Income	\$ 3,130.00
Expenses	
Loan Payment	3,505.13
Total Paid Out	\$ 3,505.13

(Net Income: - \$375.13)

Restoration Fund Balance	\$81,715.76
Building Addition Loan	\$298,449.21

Parment Colors

The parment color for August is green.



Prayer Brunch group met June 12th at Jonnie Beans in Waseca for lunch and conversation. Our next outing will be August 16th, when we will meet at Pastor

Kathy's at 10:00 to car pool and then go to the Rapidan Dam Cafe. I hear they have delicious pie. Hope to see you for Prayer Brunch Lunch. (By Sheryl Brisel)

Run For The Loaves Registration Form

Blooming Grove UMC Fall Food Shelf Fundraiser



Saturday, September 10th, 2022
4 Mile Run/Walk
Kids 1/4 Mile Run

Registration: 8:30 am
Kids 1/4 Mile Run: 9:15 am
4 Mile Walk: 9:30 am
4 Mile Run: 10:00 am

Registration Fee: \$25.00
Kids Run (12 & Under) \$3.00
Entry fee will be waived if participant submits a
donation of \$50 or more.

“Run 4 the Loaves” T-Shirts will be available on the day of the race for those who register by September 3rd for the 4-mile run/walk. Be sure to indicate your T-shirt size. T-shirts for those who register after the deadline may be sent at a later date. If no size is indicated, the cost of the shirt will be donated.

Prizes: An awards ceremony will commence when the last participant finishes. Awards will be given to the top age-group finishers and the best over-all male/female. A special award will be presented to the participant who raises the most donations for the Food Shelves.



Age Groups:

Under 12 **13-19** 20-29 **30-39** 40-49 **50-59** 60-69 **70+**

Additional Info: Everyone will receive a number at registration which must be worn during the race. Restrooms will be available at the event site. Water stops will be available on the course with refreshments waiting at the finish line.

Course: Utilizing both paved and gravel roads, through the fields of ripening corn and soybeans, the race will begin and end at the Blooming Grove United Methodist Church, located on the Steele/Waseca County line.

Questions: Contact Brad Saufferer
Phone: 507-363-6579

E-mail: runfortheloaves@yahoo.com

Last Name _____ Sex _____

First Name _____ Birthdate _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

Food Shelf: I wish to support _____

T-Shirt Size S M L XL

Waiver: I understand that running/walking a road race is a potentially dangerous activity. I should not enter and run/walk unless I am medically able and properly trained. **I understand that entry fees and donations are non-transferable. I also understand that if the race is cancelled due to inclement weather, my registration fee and/or donation will not be reimbursed but donated to the Food Shelf indicated above.** I assume all risks associated with participation in the event including but not limited to: falls, contact with other participants or spectators, the effect of the weather including heat or cold temperatures, traffic or conditions of the roads, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of our accepting my entry, I for myself and anyone entitled to act for my behalf, waive and release Blooming Grove United Methodist Church from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event even though that liability might arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. **I have read and agree to the above.**

Signature _____

(Parent or guardian if under 18)

Date: _____

Entry Fee _____

Food Shelf Donation (\$50+) _____

For directions to Blooming Grove UMC
“The Two-Steepled Church on the Prairie”
go to www.bloominggroveumc.org

Mail this form/entry fee to:
Blooming Grove UMC
PO Box 171
Medford, MN 55049-0171

Make checks payable to:
Blooming Grove UMC
Denote “Food Shelves” on
the memo line

**Mitchell Hall and the Tennessee Trio
At Blooming Grove United Methodist Church**

**Saturday, August 13th
4:30 pm-6:00 pm — BBQ Picnic
6:00 pm-8:00 pm — Show**



**The Premier Live
Johnny Cash Show!**

The look, sound and energy of Johnny Cash in his early years. Mitchell lives and breathes the Cash way of life. Trains, prisons, love gone bad, westerns and even a boy named Sue! The Tennessee Trio replicates the sound of Johnny's original band.

**Bring your own lawn chairs/
blankets**

**Menu: BBQ Pork, Sweetcorn, Marge's Beans, Dessert
Water and Lemonade**

**Free-will offering with all proceeds going to the
BGUMC Accessibility Project - New South Addition**

**Contact Brad Spinler at
507-461-2354 if you have any questions**

Blooming Grove United Methodist Church
43089 180th Street, Morristown, MN 55052
(NE corner of Waseca County)
Website: www.bloominggroveumc.org
Email: bloominggroveumc@gmail.com
Check us out on Facebook!





Thank You

I would like to thank all those who helped with the second annual Summer Fish Fry. If I listed all those who helped it would be a very

long list. What I would like to do is point out a few that made myself and many others smile. I'll start with the young adults of the congregation, Mikala, Weston, and Raelyn Janke, Jackie Mathern and the youngest, my personal favorite, Elenora Christesen.

They served food, kept everyone from the servers to the cooks supplied, and did anything else that needed to be done. Raelyn and Jackie had way too much fun making and serving root beer floats. I may be biased, but I believe the free will offering sign made by my granddaughter Elenora is truly a work of art.

I would also thank Brad Spinler's fry crew, also known as the brain trust. It was hot, it was humid, and they never slowed down in providing fish and French fries. If you listened to their conversation, you would know why they are called the brain trust.

Everyone from those that packaged the coleslaw to those emptying the trash, helped make the event a success. The folks at the Half Pint, Warren and Carmen, went above and beyond to make everyone who attended, feel welcome.

We served one hundred ninety meals, saw many old friends, and raised some money for the church addition. I can't wait for the third annual fish fry. (By Brad Saufferer)

Help Where You Can on August 13th

Help is needed once again to make our next event successful. August 13th is our BBQ picnic and Mitchell Hall Concert and there are enough jobs available for everyone who can lend a hand. Please contact Brad Spinler to see what job matches up with your talents. (507) 461-2354.



Sharing is Caring

August Mission Opportunity August 1-14

Raelyn Janke will be completing her service project for confirmation this summer to help patients at the Faribault Hospital. She is asking for donations of **NEW** adult size knit pants, plain T-shirts, socks and underwear. The hospital will be accepting all sizes to build up their inventory. ER patients that are delivered in Ambulances need clean clothes in many cases after they are treated in addition to elderly patients when they need help at the hospital. Raelyn will also gladly take donations if you'd like her to do the shopping. A donation basket is set up at church and all items need to be at church by August 14th. Please let Raelyn know if you have any questions.



September Mission Opportunity

The Operations Manager of Ruth's House in Faribault contacted Pastor Kathy to see if our Prairie Lakes Parish would be willing to collect donations for their facility during the month of September. 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 are sadly in need of donations of paper goods, soap, cleaning supplies, and household and hygiene items.

The BGUMC board members have voted to participate in this September drive, along with Waterville and Janesville United Methodist Churches. Ruth's House will contact us in mid-August to let us know of their most urgent needs. In the meantime, they provided the following list of their ongoing needs so that we can be thinking ahead:

- **Paper goods:** Paper towels, toilet paper, printer paper, pull-ups (all sizes), garbage bags (13 gallon)
- **Soap:** Hand soap, laundry soap, dish soap
- **Cleaning Supplies:** Disinfectant wipes & spray, floor cleaner, degreaser, cleaners with bleach, toilet cleaner, sponges
- **Household & Hygiene:** deodorant (men & women's scent), new pillows, towels, over the counter pain & allergy medicine

2022 Minnesota UMC

Annual Conference Highlights

Written May 26, 2022 – by Christa Melund, director of communications for the MN Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Theme: Drawing on Psalm 23 and John 10:10-11, the theme was “Jesus: Healer.” We are a people and a world in need of healing beyond our doing. God invites us to come sit by still waters, and to allow God to restore our soul. At this annual conference, we explored some ways in which we have seen or experienced God’s healing, and ways in which we are providing hope and healing to a hurting world.

Bishop’s Episcopal Address: In his Episcopal Address, Bishop David Bard reminded us of the biblical story of Jesus healing a boy possessed by a demon (Mark 9:14-29). In this story, the pain and suffering are real, and so is the healing. If we’re to let such stories speak to us, we need to grapple with their challenges in the context of lives where healing doesn’t happen or doesn’t happen the way we may want it to. Perhaps for us as a conference, he said, our way into the future is to follow Jesus on a healing journey where our souls are made large, our hearts capacious, our minds expansive, where we can hold together creatively spaciousness and direction, clarity and complexity, and where cure is care and being steeped in the love of God as we know it in Jesus, the grace of God, God’s dream and desire for the world.

Looking back and ahead: Attendees spent time celebrating some of the things our conference has accomplished over the past year, and attendees shared with each other their own hopes and dreams and which step God is calling them to take in living and offering the abundant life movement to all. Many of their hopes and dreams focused on love, connection, unity, being bold, diversity, inclusion, and growth.

Milestones in ministry: At the end of the two days, attendees recognized and gave thanks for 18 retiring clergy who have together contributed 496 years of faithful service.

Diversity and inclusion legislation: Annual Conference members overwhelmingly approved four pieces of legislation focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). One charges to the conference to contract with an outside auditor who has experience in DEI work to perform an equity audit of human resources at the conference level in order to increase equity in hiring practices, employee compensation and procedures, and employee recruiting and retention at the conference level. Another charges the Cabinet to prioritize the recruitment of candidates of color and LGBTQIA+ candidates for open positions in order to create a more diverse conference leadership team. And a third stipulates that the conference’s part-time racial justice organizer position will be made into a full-time, director-level position on the Extended Cabinet by January 2023. Meanwhile, voting members approved by a margin of 339-36 a piece of legislation that calls for the Minnesota Conference to hold a storytelling space before the 2026 Annual Conference that would allow Minnesota United Methodists to tell stories that resulted from the Book of Discipline policy stating that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching.

Discontinuing and disaffiliating churches: Attendees voted to ratify the terms of disaffiliation agreements made between the conference Board of Trustees and three local churches that have discerned that their path goes a different direction from the Minnesota Annual Conference. In 2019, an amendment was added to the United Methodist Book of Discipline allowing churches to disaffiliate through December 2023 over disagreement about human sexuality. “We have sharp disagreements about the shape of ministry, but we can trust one another to God’s grace,” Bishop David Bard said after the disaffiliation votes. Meanwhile, attendees gave thanks for the ministries and legacies of faith of five churches that have closed over the past year.

Love Offering: Conference members, on behalf of their churches, also gave \$27,206 to the 2022 Love Offering, which will address food insecurity by supporting three MN United Methodist food ministries, and assist those in need in our nation and world by supporting Red Bird Missionary Conference in Appalachia and Volunteers in Mission trips. You may continue to donate throughout 2022.

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.

- Family friends of Tena and Ken Harren, whose one-year-old son was found unresponsive in his crib. Thankfully, paramedics were able to revive him and transport him to the hospital for testing.
- Friends from Waterville EUMC who are recovering from joint replacement surgeries: Audene, Karen, and Arlene.
- Don, as he seeks medical care to find relief for the rheumatoid arthritis in his hands.
- Pastor Sharon Nelson, as she undergoes radiation treatments.
- Little Kinsley, granddaughter of Tena and Ken Harren, who has been undergoing sleep studies to determine if her CPAP can keep up with her oxygen needs, and who has now been struggling with COVID.
- Marlis Mahler's niece, Tamara, who was hospitalized for testing and treatment for serious breathing issues. It has been determined that her health conditions will no longer allow her to live on her own. Her family is in the process of finding living arrangements that can help provide the support Tamara needs.
- Carol Karsten's son, Walter, who has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, and who is working with doctors at Rochester Mayo to determine next steps.
- Cindy Saufferer's mom, Marge, in Kansas, who remains at home, and is in hospice care. Please hold Cindy, and her sister Patty, in your hearts and prayers as they care for Marge. Please also pray for an opening at the care facility they have chosen for Marge.
- Kristin Ziemke, musician for Janesville UMC, as she mourns the death of her grandmother.
- Carol Karsten's nephew, Mike, who recovers from injuries after being struck by a car while riding his motorcycle.
- Carolyn Kanne's mom, who has been impacted by shingles. Pray that they don't enter into her eyes.

- Please hold Carolyn Kanne's aunt, Anita Nelson, in your prayers. Carolyn just found out that Anita has COVID. Anita is Carolyn's remaining aunt.
- 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 Deepest Sympathy

Doris Irene (Lemke) Crabtree passed away at the age of 91, into the Glory of God on July 18, 2022. Doris is the aunt of Carolyn Kanne, and the sister of Carolyn's father.

Doris was born to Emil and Emilie (Musolf) Lemke on the family farm outside of Yale, South Dakota, on June 22, 1931. The family eventually relocated to Spring Valley, Minnesota where Doris graduated high school in 1949. She met her love, David (Joe) Crabtree, in 1954 and were married on February 6, 1955 in Spring Valley. Dave and Doris lived in Columbus, Ohio where they raised 4 children.



Thank You

Thank you to the Janesville UMC and Waterville EUMC congregations for each of their gifts of the beautiful peace lilies for our June 26th Dedication Sunday at Blooming Grove UMC. They are a perfect illustration of our theme for that day of Isaiah 43:19 (CEB)



Look! I'm doing a new thing;
now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?
I'm making a way in the desert,
paths[a] in the wilderness.

The plants are a wonderful and vibrant green with lily blossoms already sprouting forth! They have moved from the sanctuary and are now gracing our front entryway - helping to welcome all as they arrive.

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

August 2022

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:

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



The Lord's Supper
Painting by Kenneth Karsten

Thank you to Carol Karsten for permanently sharing this painting of The Lord's Supper with our congregation. Carol's son, Kenneth had completed this paint-by-number artwork as an adult, and sent it to Carol as a gift. Carol's brother, who is a retired carpenter, then handcrafted the frame. This has been a part of Carol's home for many years and she now shares its beauty with us. It graces the back SW wall of our sanctuary and can be seen each Sunday as we leave worship. We also take this time to honor the treasure that this painting is for Carol, as we remember Kenneth, who passed away in 2007, at age 48, of a massive heart attack.