



BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR

Volume 86, Issue 9

THE TWO STEEPLED CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

September 2022



Prairie Lakes Parish Confirmation 2022-2023

As we begin our Confirmation gatherings for 2022/2023, we've set these dates as our gathering times. We'll meet on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. Our gatherings will be approximately 1 hour. Our October meeting will be with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Fred Vanderwerf. Fred will talk to us about his faith journey into serving in the Minnesota United Methodist Annual Conference. We'll gather at Hilltop United Methodist Church in Mankato.

Pastor Kathy will send emails out as soon as the topics for each month's meeting are confirmed. We will meet on the following days.

- September 25, 2022
- October 23, 2022
 - Fred Vanderwerf: Faith and Church Leadership, Hilltop UMC, Mankato*
- November 20, 2022
- December—No Confirmation Meeting
- January 22, 2023
- February 19, 2023
- March 19, 2023
- April 23, 2023
 - PLP Confirmation/Joining the Church/What are my plans/Meal
- May—No Confirmation Meeting
- **Confirmation Sunday May 7, 2023**



September Mission Opportunity

During the month of September, our Prairie Lakes Parish churches will be collecting 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 are in need of restocking many donated items, and request our help in gathering the following:

High Needs list:

- Non-alcoholic mouthwash
- Disposable gloves size large and extra large
- Paper Towels

Ongoing Needs list:

- Paper goods: copy paper, 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

Please leave your donations on/under the table by the bulletin board in the SW corner of the sanctuary during the month of September. Thank you!



Upcoming Opportunity!

You never know what you might find on the Minnesota Annual Conference website. One of our intrepid members found a Church-School Partnership Grant program. This is available for churches to do activities with their local school, such as provide weekend food, reduce lunch debt, backpacks of school supplies, etc. The Council decided to apply for the grant. We contacted Mark Ristau, the superintendent of Medford schools, and have landed on helping them replenish their supply of winter clothes. We will not know until the middle of September if we will receive grant money, but we will still collect winter clothes regardless. More details will be coming as to whether they need to be new or if they can be gently used, and what types and sizes are needed. (Carolyn Kanne)

Thank you, dear Body of Faith, for all your thoughts and prayers during my chemo and radiation treatments! I am finished and feeling very good, and I know it is God's blessings through all who remembered me on this journey.
(Pastor Sharon Nelson)



Community



I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith Romans 1: 11-12

Friends, we find ourselves back in the “ber” (or is that “brr”) months of the year: September, October, November, and December. As we move into another fall season, thoughts of leaves turning, field harvesting, and sweatshirt wearing come to mind. I like fall. I like the cooler days but days when fall flowers hang onto their blooms as long as they can.

We just finished the third of our parish-wide services; opportunities for us to worship as one community in each of our churches. It was a time of coming together to share fellowship and to continue to build our parish community. It's a slow process when we are making new friendships, but it is how Paul so badly wanted to be with the Roman Christians—to come together so that they could mutually encourage one another's faith. That is what's begun in our parish-wide worship services. We gathered to worship together in one another's church homes. Each individual church family shared their spiritual gifts of welcome, nurture, and hospitality. The blessing of being together, makes us stronger in the work we do in our communities and in the example we are to our communities around us. We are the body of Christ, working together to love neighbor and create disciples. And in our gathering, we have encouraged one another's faith journey.

I am encouraged by all that you do to support one another, to support your church, and to support me. I am blessed by you as I look forward to my final Course of Study classes that will conclude in September. I want to thank each member and each church body for all you've done to make my completion of Course of Study possible.

I hope you can join for our last parish-wide service on October 2nd at the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm for our World Communion Sunday worship. Our past Pizza Farm gatherings have been beautiful fall days. If it should rain that day, there is protection from the rain in the “barn.”

Continue to encourage each other! It is Paul's advice to us. May it be so!

Pastor Kathy

Sunday, October 2nd Prairie Lakes Parish Combined Outdoor Worship & Pizza Lunch at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm

Join us on Sunday morning, October 2nd, as we gather together for worship with our sister churches in our Prairie Lakes Parish (Janesville UMC and Waterville EUMC) to celebrate World Wide Communion 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

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

Watch for more information in your September bulletins!



September 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	2	3
					Pastor's Day Off	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			7 pm BG Ad Board	6 pm Bible and Brew at Half-Pint Brewery		Run For The Loaves at BG BBQ Cookoff At BG
					Pastor's Day Off	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:10 am Rally Sunday at BG 11 am EUMC Fall Celebration Worship					 CONSTITUTION DAY	
					Pastor's Day Off	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:10 am Sunday School begins at BG			6-7 pm WV Acts 29		Pastor's Day Off	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
3 pm Confirmation class meets		11:30 BG Prayer Brunch at Timberlodge	6-7 pm WV Acts 29	6 pm Book Study at BG		

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.
Sunday School 9:10 a.m.
(Starting September 11th)

7	Wed	7:00 pm	Ad Board Meeting
8	Thurs	6:00 pm	Bible & Brew at Half-Pint
10	Sat	8:15 am	Run for the Loaves
		Noon	BBQ Cookoff
25	Sun	3:00 pm	Confirmation Class Meets
27	Tues	11:30 am	Prayer Brunch at Timberlodge
29	Thurs	6:00 pm	Book Study at BG



1	Char Frankenberry	11	Jake Goldsmith
2	Don Frankenberry	11	Deecy Jesse
2	Allison Janke	14	Zander Morgan
2	Walt Nagel	15	Gerard LaFond
3	Hazel Saufferer	15	Jessica Buchholz
3	Jim Southworth	15	Kourtney Remund
6	Dick Fisher	16	Bradley Christesen
6	Annabel Buchholz	16	Patti Ellingson
7	Nathan Carty	16	Penelope Nicholson
7	Jeremiah Mahler	25	Emily Engebretson
9	Stefanie Morgan	26	Carolyn Kanne
		26	Jennifer Kanne
		27	Denise Combs
		28	Alex Spinler



4	David & Jenny Kanne
5	Joe & Kelli Prchal
14	Justin & Kristin Krell
15	Gil & Beth Christesen
15	Brad & Cindy Saufferer
17	Jim & Kristin Nagel
17	Tyler & Alex Morgan
19	Dan & Pam Carty
20	Michael & Ashley Pitzer
22	Walt & Holly Nagel
22	Alex & Lacey Spinler
22	Jim & Mary Karsten
28	Jerry & Patti Ellingson
28	Brandon & Emily Church



Prayer Brunch

Our Prayer Brunch group enjoyed lunch at the Rapidan Dam Store recently. The pies lived up to Pastor Kathy's recommendations. Our next Prayer Brunch Lunch will be Sept. 27th at Timberlodge which is across from Cabelas off I-35. We'll plan to be there by 11:30, so mark your calendar for a delicious time of food, fellowship and fun. (Sheryl Brisel)

Treasurer's Report

July 27—August 28, 2022



General Budget Income	\$ 2,220.00
Other Income	
Cemetery	1,000.00
Total Income	\$3,220.00

Expenses	
Pastor's Salary (salary, housing, Pension, disability)	2,093.48
Cell Telephone	79.51
Continuing Education	185.49
MN Annual Conf. (Registration)	87.50
Hotel (Annual Conference)	74.09
Meal Expense (Annual Conference)	10.79
Mileage	158.99
Music (Kristin Zemke)	61.25
Cleaning	105.00
Excel Energy	167.13
Lawn Mowing	1,075.00
Telephone	50.67
Copyright license	152.60
CVLI License	36.83
Total Paid Out	\$ 4,337.33

(Net Income: – \$1,117.33)

Building Addition

Income	
Restoration Income	\$ 890.00
Johnny Cash Tribute	2,838.00
Total Income	\$ 3,728.00

Expenses	
Loan Payment	3,505.13
Total Paid Out	\$ 3,505.13

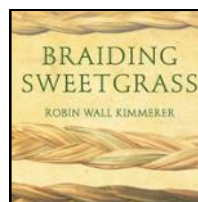
(Net Income: \$222.87)

Restoration Fund Balance	\$81,938.63
Building Addition Loan	\$296,016.87

Parament Colors

The parament color for September is green.

Book Study



Please join us at Blooming Grove UMC on September 29th at 6 pm as we discuss *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Kimmerer. The author, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and botanist, weaves indigenous wisdom into the science of plants. We will enjoy a light dinner with discussion to follow. Come, join the discussion, even if you haven't read the book. All are welcome in the circle! (Cindy Saufferer)



A BIG Thank You to the church for helping make Raelyn's community confirmation project a huge success. She received many clothing donations along with \$355 in donations to shop for more items. It was unbelievable all the items she was able to get. Raelyn will be donating these items to the Faribault Hospital on Tuesday, August 23rd. She was able to donate the following count of items.
(Allison Janke)

Men's	Women's	Kid's
18 Underwear	37 Underwear	13 Boys Underwear
40 Pair socks	37 Pair Socks	26 Girls Underwear
53 T-shirts	19 T-shirts	6 Girls Socks
3 Long-sleeve shirts	1 Long-sleeve Shirt	10 Boys Socks
5 Shorts	1 Shorts	5 Boys T-shirts
11 Pants	10 Pants	
	3 Bras	
	2 Sweatshirts	



A Family Affair at the Steele County Fair

It's a family tradition and these gals are starting early. Leah is a 4-H Clover Bud. She had several projects this year including flower gardening, corn, 3 craft projects, swine, poultry, and goats. Looks like Bowen is eager to get started too.

Kaylee also had projects in the open class grains. She received 3rd place with 2021 ear corn and won 1st with soybean sample. She beat Justin in the soybean sample. Perhaps that was Justin's intent.



Mitchell Hall & The Tennessee Trio—Johnny Cash Tribute Concert

On Saturday, August 13th, BGUMC hosted Mitchell Hall and the Tennessee Trio in an outdoor concert on the church grounds. The festivities kicked off with a picnic of BBQ pork, sweetcorn, Marge's Beans, Linda's cookies, and water & lemonade – all served out of the new addition. The Tennessee Trio set up on the west end of the drive-up cement of the new addition where they performed their concert, and a crowd of 150+ people gathered in the south parking lot and south lawn - seated in lawn chairs, around picnic tables, and under a huge tent - to enjoy their delicious food, toe-tapping music, awesome fellowship, and perfect weather. What a great evening! Thank you to everyone that came and supported the building accessibility project through this event. Special thank you to all of our 27+ BGUMC volunteers and all of the donors for the evening!



Thanks to all that made the Johnny Cash Music Night a huge success. Here are some special thanks:

- Alex Spinler—Pork Smoker
- Justin Krell—Smoker and Sweetcorn cooker
- Cindy Saufferer—Cooked the delicious Marge's Baked Beans
- Linda Danks—Cookies
- Tyler Morgan—Use of Tent
- Dave Morris Family—Donation of sweetcorn



Also, a big thanks to everyone that helped serve food, husk corn, park cars, set up, and clean up.

It goes to show what a great group of folks we have at Blooming Grove. It takes "One Piece at a Time" add a "Ring of Fire" and you end up with an "Orange Blossom Special" of an event.

(Brad Spinler)



Rally Sunday, (& Sunday School)

WOW! What a fun and exciting weekend coming up! **Run 4 Loaves, BBQ Cook-Off, & Rally Sunday** all happening the same weekend!

Calling all families – yes, especially the kids – please join us in church on Sunday Sept. 11th for Rally Sunday. We'll be bubbling and bursting with excitement as we prepare to kick off the Sunday School year..... and that's just the teachers! I bet the kids'll be bubbling and bursting with even more enthusiasm than the teachers, whaddaya think? After missing Rally Sunday in 2020 (Covid) and even in 2021 (Covid, led to a delayed start to Sunday School), we're now ready to fully let loose for an explosion of fun. There will be a surprise "something" for each student in church to help get 'em in the mood for a fizzy, popping, bubbling-over great year. Immediately following church, EVERYBODY (yup, parents and all adults, that includes you) stop at the table in our "gathering space" for some delicious cookies and juice/coffee. Let's make this day really **POP!!!**

Sunday School classes start the following Sunday Sept. 18th from 9:10 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. See ya there!

Education & Events

This year we will **not** be holding 2nd Sunday – Funday events. Instead, we'll plan some periodic special church-wide activities and/or events (a re-attempt at snow tubing is on that list, and we still have materials for fleece blankets) so stay tuned for updates on our church-wide events as plans unfold.

We're eager (dare I say "desperate"?) for new members to our E & E Team. Fresh ideas, a new spin on things, different thoughts and experiences can help invigorate the team. We'd love to welcome anyone as a new (or returning) member, as well as suggestions and thoughts shared by anyone and brought to any of the E & E Team members at any time.

If an E & E decision or action is needed between Sept. 16th and Oct 22nd, our "go-to person" for E & E Team will be Lacey Spinler. Of course, now, with a contingency plan in place, the occasion won't arise. You all know about Murphy's laws!!!

(Patti Ellingson)

Eat and Run September 10th



September 10th is the date for the twelfth annual Run For The Loaves four mile run walk and the second annual Holy Hog rib cookoff. Both events benefit area food shelves. Some changes and some controversy may be in store this year.

There is a good chance some to the Waseca women's hockey team will be running this year. One of them texted me the other day, "dude, I can't run four miles". I told her run, walk, or crawl, it's all for a good cause. Cool, I'm a dude now. Controversy with the rib cookoff, you bet. First, for those who missed the cookoff last year, the rules. The cookoff committee provides the ribs the morning of the event and the ribs must be ready by noon. There is no entry fee, and the winner is determined by people dropping money in their basket after sampling all the ribs. The team with the most money in their basket wins the elegant and prestigious Holy Hog trophy. Check out the picture.

Last year team Stang Good Ribs was declared the winner. That would be Brad and Alex Spinler, and Justin Krell. There were some that said they won because of home church advantage, the St. Louis style ribs from the team from the Janesville church were really good, but that is in the past. The controversy this year is the "brain trust" from Stang Good Ribs, that would be Alex and Justin, may be forming their own team. The word on the street is it won't happen because they live in fear of father and father-in-law Brad Spinler. Too soon to tell.



Those of you who would like to run or walk the race or compete in the cookoff, contact me at 507-363-6579 or email me at b_saufferer@msn.com. There will brats, baked beans, and french fries for lunch following the cookoff, a free will offering will be requested. All proceeds will be donated to the area food shelves.

Don't miss it, it's the most fun you'll have at church and there's no sermon. (Brad Saufferer)

Registration at 8:30 am

Kids Run at 9:15 am

4 Mile Walk at 9:30 am

4 Mile Run at 10:00 am



THE Native American Course of Study CLASS OF 2022

Rev. Kathrine King, Rev. Paula Gaboury, and Rev. Dawn Houser

And

The Committee on Native American Ministries

Invites you to attend a Graduation
Worship Ceremony
September 22, 2022

Dinner @ 5:00 pm

Worship Service @ 7:00 pm

Location: Messiah Church
17805 County Road 6
Plymouth, MN 55447

"Everyone who is successful must have
dreamed of something."

—Maricopa

*If you own a ribbon shirt or ribbon skirt
we ask that you wear them for this celebration.*



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

- Carol Karsten's son, Walter, who has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, and who is undergoing specialized treatment at Rochester Mayo.
- Cindy Saufferer's mom, Marge, in Kansas, who remains at home, 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.
- Ongoing prayers for Marlis Mahler's niece, Tamara, who is making wonderful strides in recovering from health concerns in August.
- Rich and Wendy, owners of the grocery store in Waterville, as they work to address health concerns for Rich.
- Marc, acquaintance of Brad Saufferer, who has been battling sepsis in the month of August.
- Little Kinsley, who is responding well to use of a CPAP, and who made one of her first big public outings by joining us at the outdoor BGUMC Johnny Cash Tribute in August!
- Josh, a friend of a friend of Marlis Mahler. Josh is hospitalized in Rochester with a brain aneurysm. He is unable to speak or walk. He is also having other complications which are causing more damage. Please pray for Josh, his wife, and their children.
- The family and friends of Fred, a good friend of Jerry & Patti Ellingson (through their square dance community) who unexpectedly died at home while his wife and daughter went out for a bicycle ride. With the exception of some minor medical issues, he had been healthy and well, and was only 66 years old.
- All those impacted by the most recent variation of COVID, with its high rate of transmission
- Denise Karsten as she recovers from knee replacement
- Family of 8 year old girl who drowned while swimming near Mankato
- Tyler Morgan's sister, Nikki Mullert and her husband CJ, who mourn the loss of their beloved twin babies at birth.
- 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.



On Saturday, August 27th, Connie Goslar and her extended family were able to gather from around the country for a Celebration of Life Service for Connie's husband, John, who passed away during COVID on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at the MN Veteran's Home in Luverne, MN, after a long fight with a debilitating disease.

John Doran Goslar was born to Donald Cletus Goslar and Maxine Dickerson Goslar on 12/16/1947. John's father was a miner, who traveled all over the country doing mining work, including Hibbing in Northern MN, Idaho, and New Mexico. John was born in Wallace, Idaho, during the time that his father was working in the mines there. When John was a little boy, his family moved to Chisholm - on the Iron Range. John grew up in Chisholm, except for the times the family would travel with John's father to wherever his mining job was. John and his family were very involved in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church in Chisholm, and John he taught Sunday School there. He had a strong faith and a deep relationship with God that extended throughout his entire life. During the VietNam War, John served as an air traffic controller, working to ensure the safety of thousands of people as planes took off and landed, first here in the states, and then in Okinawa - where he worked underground - directing air traffic by radar only. During his second year in Okinawa, he served as a heavy equipment specialist, where he could be deployed on a moment's notice to any armed conflict in the world. John's working life after the war always involved opportunities to extend hospitality and welcome to others - and that gift continued during the time that he spent at the MN Veteran's Home, where, even in the midst of a rare form of dementia, he shared his gifts of hospitality and compassion with this new community. Relying on the comforting arms of God, John was able to bring hope and comfort to all with whom he came into contact, residents and staff alike.

John is survived by his wife, Constance (Rupp) Goslar, three children, Wanda (Dave) McCan, Michael (Kristi) Goslar, and Heather Goslar, nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and two sisters - Roxine of Shreveport, LA, and Veda of Albuquerque, NM. John was preceded in death by his parents - Donald & Maxine Goslar, his sister - LaCoe, his nephew - James Black, and his baby granddaughter Stephanie Carr.

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

September 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:

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

Brad Saufferer, Writer

Patti Ellingson, Writer

Cindy Saufferer, Writer

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Run for the Loaves and More

September 10th is the date for this years run/walk for the food shelves. We are again hosting a parish wide rib barbeque cook off. Teams from Waterville, Janesville and Blooming Grove will be barbequing ribs and spectators will have the opportunity to taste the results and vote with their wallets. The team who receives the highest amount of donations will be declared the best barbeque team in the parish, a high honor indeed. All donations will be donated to the Steele/Waseca food shelves.

As always, we encourage you to attend the run/walk. Enjoy the walk or run around the section and feel great about supporting the area food shelves. Registration forms are available at church, or call Brad Saufferer (507-363-6579) for a form or to answer any questions. This will also be a great time to come and see the new addition.

We look forward to seeing you there.



More about the BBQ Cook-Off

Food will be ready at noon!

Come for the BBQ Taste—Testing plus a lunch of brats, fries, baked sweets, water. Picnic table seating is available. Feel free to bring your own lawn chairs to relax and enjoy in comfort.