



## THE VISITOR

Volume 86, Issue 11

THE TWO STEEPLED CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

November 2022



Pastor Kathy

## Communion Service at Pizza Farm

On Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 64 folks from the three churches of the Prairie Lakes Parish gathered together at the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm for morning worship under a beautiful blue sky, accented by the brilliant colors of fall. Together,

we gave thanks for, and blessed, the wonders of "God's Holy Ground", joined with churches around the globe in celebrating World Communion Sunday, and enjoyed one another's company over a noon lunch of delicious wood-fired pizza. Thank you to Bill and Emily of the Pizza Farm for welcoming us to their beautiful outdoor setting! Thank you to Pastor Kathy King for leading us in worship!

#### 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, sweatshirts/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 during November. If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Kanne.



## Join us for our Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 23rd

7:00 pm at Waterville EUMC

#### Help fill the Sanctuary with

the Sights of Christmas!

Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> – 9:15 A.M.

Join us after church on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> to help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas! That morning, we will be greeted by our beloved backdrop of the hills of Bethlehem, the star shining over the stable, and the light-bathed buildings of the city of Jesus' birth. We will join together to decorate the windows, pews, and altar rails – lovingly place all of the characters in the manger scene, and put up and decorate our tree. Let's fill the sanctuary with sources of light and love that remind us of the birth of the Holy One - who came to earth to bring light and love to all.

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority."

E.B. White (Author of Charlotte's Web and Stuart Little)

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

COLOSSIANS 3:16-17

## Caution One Another to Gratefully Share Gratitude



I just got a call from Sheryl. I spaced-off our BG Prayer Brunch. I made my apologies as Sheryl and I talked as I explained that I have two pastoral duties that I need to prepare for, but I am sad that life's busyness caused me to forget this gathering with friends. Sheryl was kind and reminded me that—since I'm not

present—I can be "talked about." Sheryl was being kind. I know the group is doing what we always do—share life and what's happening in our families; those things that are on our hearts and a part of our prayer lives.

The verse from Colossians 3 that I reflect on for this time tells us that we are to "admonish one another." It's something we avoid in our church families, after all; aren't we told by Jesus to "love one another"? How can we keep peace in our community when we are "admonishing" one another? Admonish means to reprimand, scold, or caution. But, read the entire passage. We are to use our faith's wisdom to share Psalms, hymns, and Spirit songs—all from the gratitude toward God that lives in our hearts. In our sharing through scripture, hymns, and songs, we are cautioning one another of the importance of our gratitude toward God. We are to be people praising God in all that we do *in the name of the Lord Jesus*.

As we enter November, let us hold in our hearts our gratitude. Let our gratitude be so abundant that it can't help but be shared in our praise, in our worship, in our living. We have many opportunities in this time of thankfulness to remind others that we are God's children—God's people—God's Creation surrounds us in all we do.

May we admonish one another with our singing as we gather in Waterville to be another Pop-Up Choir under the leadership of Judy Mahler from our BG community. May we admonish one another with our prayers as we gather our hearts in prayer for those in our community who are living in a time of war; living with illness; journeying through grief; or just living through times of stress due to increasing costs for our daily living necessities. Let our gratitude for our Prairie Lakes Parish and our individual communities of Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville be so abundant that we can't help but tell others about the good stuff happening in our midst.

Dear ones, may your Thanksgiving be a time of family, faith, and fun. Jerry and I are grateful for each one of you.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Kathy

### November 2022

Blooming Grove Morning Worship......8:15 am Sunday School......9:00 am

Janesville Morning Worship 10:45 am Waterville Evangelical Morning Worship...9:30 am

		1	6-7 pm WV Acts 29	3	4	5
6		0	9	10	Pastor's Day Off	12
9:15 am Choir practice at BG  Daylight Saving Time Ends		8 4-6 pm Diaper Give-away at WV	11:30 BG Prayer Brunch at Lush Cakes 6-7 pm WV Acts 29 7 pm Choir practice at WV	6 pm Bible and Brew at Half-Pint Brewery	HAPPY VETERANS DAY	10 am—2 pm Southern Prairie District Day at Redwood Falls
					Pastor's Day Off	
13	14	15	16 6-7 pm WV Acts 29 7 pm Choir practice at WV	17	18	9-11 am Diaper Give-away at WV
					Pastor's Day Off	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:15 am Choir practice at BG	6 pm Book Study at BG	22	6:15 pm choir practice at WV	GIVE THANKS	23	20
3 pm Confirmation at WV			7 pm Thanksgiving service at WV		Pastor's Day Off	
27	28	29	30			
9:15 am BG Christmas decorating after			6-7 pm WV Acts 29	Christn	nas Eve S	Services
church 4 pm Prairie Lakes Parish Charge				6:00 pm	Blooming Gro Janesville UN Waterville EU	1C
Conference at JV				Christmas D	Day—Online S	Service Only

#### **NOVEMBER CALENDAR**

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

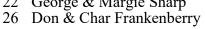
6	Sun	9:15 am	Choir practice at BG
9	Wed	11:30 am	Prayer Brunch at Lush Cakes
9	Wed	7:00 pm	Choir practice at WV
10	Thurs	6:00 pm	Bible & Brew at Half-Pint
16	Wed	7:00 pm	Choir practice at WV
20	Sun	9:15 am	Choir practice at BG
20	Sun	3:00 pm	Confirmation Class at WV
21	Mon	6:00 pm	Book Study at BG
23	Wed	6:15 pm	Choir practice at WV
23	Wed	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Worship at WV
27	Sun	9:15 am	Decorate BG for Christmas
27	Sun	4:00 pm	Charge Conference at JV
		•	C



6 11 11 15	Cathi Gasner Ron Engebretson Nolan Engebretson Lisa Full Kaylee Krell	22 24 26 27	Brady Nelson Jason Kosel Sheryl Brisel Alexandria Morgan Theresa Riecke
15	Paige Hohertz	29	Roger Wilkowske

#### **Happy Anniversary**

- 12 Jim & Chery Southworth
- 22 George & Margie Sharp





#### **Parament Colors**

November 6	Green (All Saints Day)
November 13	Green
November 20	White (Christ the King Sunday
November 27	Blue (Advent)

#### **Prayer Brunch**



Our Prayer Brunch Group met recently at El Molino's in Waseca. Our next outing will be Wednesday, November 9, at Lush Cakes in Waseca at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to join us for lunch, and a time of fellowship.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

September 26, - October 23 2022

General Budget Income	\$ 1,338.00
Other Income	
Food Shelf	30.00
Insurance Refund	788.00
Ruth's House	100.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$2,256.00
Expenses	
Pastor's Salary (salary, housing,	
Pension, disability)	2,093.48
Lawn Mowing	1,080.00
Telephone	52.86
Lift License	100.00
Sunday School supplies	280.14
Website	319.16
<b>Total Paid Out</b>	\$ 3,925.64

#### (Net Income: - \$1,669.64)

#### **Ruilding Addition**

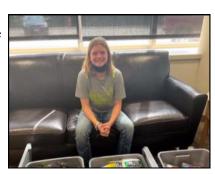
Dunuing Addition			
Income			
Restoration Income	\$ 490.00		
Total Income	\$ 490.00		
Expenses			
Loan Payment	3,505.13		
<b>Total Paid Out</b>	\$ 3,505.13		
(Net Income:	<b>— \$3,015.13)</b>		

Restoration Fund Balance \$75,959.38 \$291,307.11 Building Addition Loan

#### Allina Health Faribault

#### **Medical Center Facebook Page Post**

"This community never ceases to amaze us! For a recent Confirmation Community Project, Raelyn collected clothing and money donations for Allina Health Faribault Medical Center



Emergency Department patients that are in need. Because of her efforts, we have over three bins of new, brand name clothing (for all sizes and genders) that we can give to our patients.

Thank you, Raelyn, for your generous work and donations!"



## Garbage and My husband the Superhero

(Cindy Saufferer)

My husband Brad and I have a little routine, tradition if you will, of going around the church after worship or meeting and gathering the garbage. We are not alone in this rou-

tine, and it is a way of expressing our gratitude for all that has been given to us. It doesn't hurt that we have a dumpster.

But there has been a growing uneasiness within, which came out as a grumble following a gathering of our Book Study group. We had enjoyed a wonderful dinner together followed by amazing conversation about living with all of Creation. Then came the tradition and one large bag of paper plates, napkins and plastic water bottles. Hence the grumble.

Fast forward one month to our next group meeting and imagine Brad in a super-hero cape, mask and tights carrying up the porcelain plates, cups and silverware from the basement. My hero! We washed and used them for our dinner and loaded the brandnew dishwasher. Easy-peasy and the bag of garbage was much smaller!

#### Our UMC Social Principles states:

"All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect." (UMC Social Principles, ¶160)

The Book Study group is currently reading *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The author tells the story of Nanabozho, First Man, and how he is to live with all of Creation. This traditional Indigenous story speaks of the Original Instructions given to Nanabozho and how he was to walk in such a way "that each step is a greeting to Mother Earth." The story speaks to how he did not understand what this meant and his journey of learning from all of Creation.

This is what we are called to do. To journey and learn from all Creation how each of our steps becomes a

greeting to Mother Earth. We can start by using the dishes and cups that those who came before us in this place left for us. You can find them in the cupboard above the dishwasher.

# Annual Prairie Lakes Parish Charge Conference Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. At Janesville UMC



We invite persons from all three congregations of the Prairie Lakes Parish to come together on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. at the Janesville UMC to care for the annual business of our three churches, and to celebrate and give thanks for the ministry of each church within their local communities. Rev. Dean Wolf (pastor at Elysian UMC), will be leading us in his official capacity as Elder.

Each church is asked to complete, and bring along for distribution, five local church reports that we will vote to ratify that evening. The forms can be found on the Minnesota United Methodist Church website under the "People Portal" <a href="https://mnumc-reg.brtapp.com/!zkY4OrSfHr3QX-">https://mnumc-reg.brtapp.com/!zkY4OrSfHr3QX-</a>

#### $\underline{y09mvCzC9XFjsjfwO4eVKdgHIHAYM}$

- Election of Local Church Leadership
- Approval or Renewal of Certified Lay Speaker, Lay Servant, or Lay Minister if any (Form 2).
- Recommendation or Renewal of Candidates for Ministry if any. (Contact Janet Beard at janet.beard@minnesotaumc.org for Form 3.)
- Removal of Inactive/Unresponsive Members (Form 4).
- Approval of Pastor's 2023 Compensation Package (**Forms 5, 7**, and **8** as needed).

The following forms will also need to be completed by each church and presented to their respective church councils by December 31st:

- Report of the Trustees Form 10
- Checklist for Protection of Church Finances –
   Form 11
- Fund Balance and Certification of Annual Audit – Form 12
- Annual Budget
- Missions Report Form 13
- Appointed or Assigned Clergy Report –
   Form 14

#### Invitation to be part of Prairie Lakes Parish Choir To Sing at 7:00 P.M. Parish Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> – at Waterville EUMC



Hello from Judy Mahler –

We invite all who enjoy singing to be part of our Prairie Lakes Parish Choir, to sing at the 7:00 P.M. Parish Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23 – held at Waterville EUMC.

Our anthem is "Song of Thanks", by Russell Nagy. It is a gorgeous piece, with text that speaks of all good things in our lives and our world that come from God. The song is written in a non-complicated style – but one that will require a number of rehearsals for us all to be comfortable and confident in our singing together. Please listen to it here by pressing the "play" button and by clicking the PDF preview button: <a href="https://beckenhorstpress.com/song-of-thanks/">https://beckenhorstpress.com/song-of-thanks/</a>.

We will also rehearse the congregational hymn #2036 in The Faith We Sing, "Give Thanks" – as written in 4-part harmony.

Here is our rehearsal schedule, with all rehearsals open to persons from all three of our churches. We request that you attend at least two of the rehearsals prior to the evening of our Thanksgiving Eve Service.

Hope to see you there!



Day	Date	Rehearsal Location	Time
Sunday	11.06.22	Blooming Grove UMC	9:15 – 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday	11.09.22	Waterville EUMC	7:00 – 8:00 P.M.
Wednesday	11.16.22	Waterville EUMC	7:00 – 8:00 P.M.
Sunday	11.20.22	Blooming Grove UMC	9:15 – 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday	11.23.22	Waterville EUMC Rehearsal Prior to the Thanksgiving Eve Ser- vice	6:15 P.M. rehearsal prior to 7:00 P.M. Worship Service









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.

- Pastor Kathy's sister, who is experiencing health concerns.
- All those impacted by the devastation of Hurricane Ivan.
- Prayers of thanks and healing for little Kinsley, who is healing from an unexpected 22<sup>nd</sup> surgery in October to repair her very deviated septum and several other nose/sinus problems and then a follow-up surgery for the ENT doctors to remove a stent they had put in
- Brad and Tracie's employee's husband who was recently diagnosed with cancer.
- Carol Karsten's son, Walter, who continues with specialized treatment at Rochester Mayo for an aggressive form of cancer. Hold him in extra prayer as he deals with the significant side effects of the strong medications.
- Cindy Saufferer's mom, Marge, in Kansas, now receiving hospice care in a care facility near enough to her home farm that her Bible Study group can travel to be with her on a weekly basis. 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.
- Persons within our BGUMC circle of family and friends who are experiencing heart health issues.
- All who are dealing with recent diagnoses that are frightening in their projected impact.
- Joyce, mother of Jodi Olson, of Janesville UMC, who was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. Pray for all traveling this journey with her.
- For all those involved in fall harvest and fall tillage, working long and late hours, that they may have a successful harvest, and that they may stay healthy and safe.
- Please pray for moisture to replenish our dry soils before the winter cold is upon us.
- 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.

#### **Celebrating Char**

#### Frankenberry

In early October, at a Minnesota Conference United Women in Faith gathering, Char Frankenberry was presented with a Recognition Pin in honor of, and in thanks for, her years of



service as historian at the Minnesota Conference level. This has included years under the organizational name of United Methodist Women and, most recently, under the organizational name of United Women in Faith. Please extend your congratulations and thanks to Char for sharing her gifts of faith and service with this important group whose focus is Love in Action.

#### **Welcome Thomas DeLeon**

Callie and Marcus DeLeon are the proud parents of Thomas James DeLeon, born Sunday, October 23rd. He weighed in at 5 lbs. 12 oz. and is 19.5" long. Thomas was four weeks early but mom and baby are doing great!! Grandma and Grandpa Nagel are, of course, so in love already.



# -de sala

## Thank You to Nagel Sod & Nursery:

A huge thank-you to BGUMC members, James and Kris Nagel – and their business – Nagel

Sod & Nursery – for the fantastic landscaping work they completed on the west side of the church!!

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

### 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



#### November 2022

Requests for Prayer Chain Email: Pastor Kathy King at: kking5@hickorytech.net

#### **Visitor Staff:**

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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

## Coming up in December

Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve Services



4:30 pm Blooming Grove UMC

6:00 pm Janesville UMC

7:30 pm Waterville EUMC

Sunday, December 25 Christmas service online only Saturday, December 17 10:00 am to Noon Cookie Walk at Waterville EUMC

It's time again to think about those mouth-watering cookies and fudge. Cookies will sell for \$8.00 per pound. The theme for this year will be a birthday party for Jesus.

