



TIME REMINDER

Sunday, December 5th – Blooming Grove UMC and Janesville EUMC Change Worship Times



Beginning December 5th, in order to take advantage of the good driving days from June through November and the potentially more difficult driving days that begin in December, Blooming Grove and Janesville will swap service times. This change will give BGUMC time to assess road and driving conditions for Pastor Kathy – and will provide time for BGUMC to clear the parking lot and sidewalks. Janesville service time will begin at 8:15 am and Blooming Grove will switch to the late service at 10:45 am.

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

9/11/2021 Food Shelf Fundraiser Success!

Thank you to all who made our September 11th Food Shelf Fundraiser Day a success! \$1,083.00 was raised through our annual Run 4 the Loaves 4-mile run/walk. \$657.00 was raised through our first annual Prairie Lakes Parish BBQ Cook-off, with participating BBQ competition teams from Blooming Grove UMC, Janesville UMC, and Waterville UMC - all in the hunt for the best BBQ recipe. The weather was perfect, the exercise and fellowship were awesome, and the BBQ ribs were finger-licking good. All proceeds from the day go to support our area food shelves.



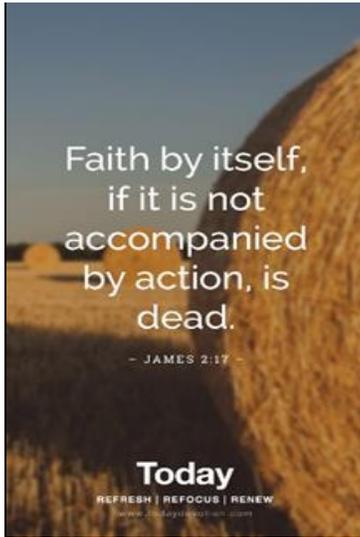
Janesville and Waterville BBQ Stations.



Blooming Grove BBQ Station.



Runners at the race's start.



Called to Care Through Action



James 2:14-17

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same

In these October days, we are reminded of the work done to harvest. This is especially meaningful for those who live in rural America where we see the hard work of farmers who harvest the fields of ripened corn, oats, and beans. I was reminded of that at September's Confirmation meeting when one of the students said that the most important thing for her is the work her farm family does to feed others.

While I remember days on the farm with my Grandma and Grandpa, I lived as a small town girl immersed in life alongside my farming friends. And while I remember Grandpa's long days on his International Harvester tractor planting, plowing, and harvesting, it was far removed from my daily living. But when I visited them on summer vacations, I gained memories of hard work, memories of God's creation as crops were planted and grew; and memories of days immersed in my grandparent's love.

Our New Testament readings for late July, August, and September were from James—words that spoke to Christians through the ages—words that speak to us today! Our churches are in the midst of change—attendance changes, structural changes, and worship changes. James would have us remember that we are called to action in all the ways we can support one another. Our Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville churches moved to action during our recent Run for the Loaves and Bar-be-que Rib Cookoff. This year, "Stang Good Ribs" from the Blooming Grove church took the honors. Through planning and participation, the parish event raised money for our local food shelves. Thank you to Blooming Grove for the incredible work—faith accompanied by action!

We have been blessed with good Sunday weather that allowed us to meet outdoors. We know that we will be heading into our sanctuaries for worship. We'll be moving back indoors after our October 3rd Pizza Farm World Communion Sunday Parish Worship Service. I hope to see a crowd for our time together. We begin ordering pizza at 10. Worship is at 10:30.

Our move back indoors may mean we'll have to do music in a different way until we know congregational singing is okay indoors. We are blessed to have musicians to play for us! Let's care for one another through prayer, through compassion, and through Christ who is our perfect example!

Live kindly!

Pastor Kathy

October 2021

Blooming Grove
Morning Worship...8:15 am

Janesville
Morning Worship 10:45 am

Waterville Evangelical
Morning Worship...9:30 am

					1	2
						5-6:30 pm Chicken and Biscuit Drive-Up Dinner at Waterville
					Pastor's Day Off	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Combined service and Holy Communion at the Pizza Farm starting at 10 am.			6-7 pm Acts 29 Ministries at WV			Callie Nagel and Marcus Deleon wedding
					Pastor's Day Off	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	 <i>Columbus Day</i>		6-7 pm Acts 29 Ministries at WV	6:00 pm "Brew and Bible" at Half Pint Brewing		
					Pastor's Day Off	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3:30—4:45 pm Confirmation at "Make It Waterville"						
					Pastor's Day Off	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			6-7 pm Acts 29 Ministries at WV			
31					Pastor's Day Off	
						

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|---|
| 3 Sun | 10:00 am | Service/Holy Communion at the Pizza Farm |
| 14 Thurs | 6:00 pm | Brew and Bible at Half-Pint Brewing Company |
| 17 Sun | 3:30 pm | Confirmation at Make It Waterville |



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

Happy Anniversary

- 5 JJ & Stefanie Morgan
- 10 Deecy & Bob Jesse
- 19 Brian & Katie Martin

CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER



Waterville EUMC will be having their annual Chicken and Biscuit Dinner from 5:00-6:30pm on Saturday, October 2nd. They will be serving Homemade Biscuits, Chicken, Gravy, Cole-slaw, and Cookies for a free will offering. It will be curb-side only. You come to the church and someone will take your order to be delivered right to your car. Thank you for your support!

“Brew and Bible”

At Half-Pint Brewing Company

6:00 P.M. - Thursday, October 14, 2021
Gather at the big table reserved for this group
Wrap-Up will be around 7:15 or 7:30

For more information, contact
Pastor Kathy King @ 507-382-2483
kking5@hickorytech.net

Treasurer's Report

August 28—September 27, 2021



General Budget Income **\$ 4,978.77**

Other Income Receive

Hay Sold	219.00
Run for the Loaves	1,083.00
BBQ Cook Off	657.00
Kamasamba Farm	81.42

Expenses

Pulpit Supply	100.00
Lawn services	1,030.00
Propane	239.85
Cleaning	232.50
Excel Energy (July and August)	200.36

Giving

U.M.W. (from fish fry)	215.00
Food Shelf (Split between 3 churches)	438.00

Total Paid Out **\$ 2,455.71**

(Net Income: + \$ 4,563.48)

Building Addition

Restoration Income	2,175.00
Nail Cross Income	150.00
Fish Fry Income	50.00
Total Restoration Income	2,590.00

Restoration Fund Balance	\$33,306.19
Building Addition Loan	
Balance to date	\$299,867.72
Monies Dispersed	\$20,701.00
Monthly Loan Payment	\$2,585.00

Parament Colors

The parament color for October is green.



BGUMC Building Project

**We Need Your
Cleaning Help
before 10/9/21!**

We are on the final stretch of construction for the new south addition at BGUMC. Between now and October 9th (Callie Nagel and Marcus Deleon wedding), we will have a lot of deep - all-church - all levels - all rooms - cleaning to do. Contact Brad Saufferer to find out when/where/how you can help.

Eli's Coming

By Brad Saufferer

When you hear "Eli's Coming" many of you who are my age will harken back to the Three Dog Night hit from 1975. Not so in this case. Eli is an Amish gentleman who I met when he insulated the addition many months ago. He arrived with his driver, Eli doesn't drive, and his two sons. I would guess his sons are in the ten to twelve age group. Eli and his sons were all dressed in what I think of as traditional Amish dress. They wore straw hats, blue shirts, dark pants, work boots, and the boys wore wraparound sunglasses. That made me smile. Eli and his boys are hard working and conscientious. Eli told me that if he did not work and contribute to society, he would have no pride. I like Eli.

The reason Eli is coming is that he will be installing the cabinets, trim, doors, and staircase starting this week. This is exciting in many ways. It represents the home stretch in completing the addition, Eli is known for his detail with woodworking, and there is a very good chance the addition will be completed before the October 9th Nagel wedding. No pressure here in Blooming Grove.

Dave Volkman has installed almost all the lights inside and out and when the outside lights are lit at night the building is truly beautiful. I think it also shows the community that the Blooming Grove Church is alive and well and moving forward.

The lift is installed, inspected, and working. One more step completed in making the church assessable to all. James and Kris Nagel have landscaped, laying sod and rock around the church and it's near perfect. This is a very busy time for James and Kris with people clamoring to get landscaping done before winter. This did not deter them in any way, and they made time to landscape and redo the parking lot. Once again, we have fine, giving people in our congregation.

Stop by, take a look, tell your friends. It's a greatly changed and beautiful church building with a pastor and congregation carrying our legacy forward.



**Announcing a
matching gift
program that
supports
Construction
of our new
addition,
bringing full
accessibility to
BGUMC**

Double Your Impact

In the month of October,
dollar for dollar, your
donation to the
handicap accessible
building project will be
matched up to \$15,000!



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Exciting news! Beginning October 1st, Blooming Grove UMC will begin 31 days of an amazing matching gift program in support of construction of our new south addition.

During the month of October, we invite you to be a match-maker to help support the creation of fully accessible entrances, restrooms, and gathering spaces in our new addition. Throughout the month, all financial gifts made toward this project will be matched - dollar for dollar - up to \$15,000. Our sincere thanks go to the anonymous donor who has made this matching gift program possible.

Please make your donations payable to Blooming Grove UMC, with "Building Addition" noted in the memo line. You can place your donations in our Sunday morning offerings or mail them to Blooming Grove UMC @ PO Box 171, Medford, MN 55049-0171. (*)

Questions? Contact us at bloominggroveumc@gmail.com

Thank you, in advance, for your gifts that will help our church be more welcoming and inclusive for all.

(*) As a reminder, if you are 70 and older, and have an IRA, you may wish to consider doing a direct transfer charitable distribution from your IRA to BGUMC. Consult with your tax advisor about possible taxable income benefits this may provide and to see if this is an option for you.

Education & Events

Get Set



Here we GO!!

After an amazingly l-o-n-g time apart, Sunday School will be resuming – **HURRAY!!** Target date for the first day of Sunday School is November 7th (the first Sunday of November) immediately after church (9a.m.) until 9:45a.m. [*When we swap service time to the 10:30 slot, S.S. will happen **before** church; you'll receive notice*].

It's expected that by Nov. 1st the Sunday School curriculum will have arrived and be in the hands of our teachers, and the S.S. classrooms will have been deep-cleaned (a good start has already been made by volunteers) and re-assembled and ready to welcome our young ones into their time of Christian-based learning, fellowship and fun.

Class age divisions remain unchanged:

- Noah's Ark Room – **age 3 through Kindergarten**
- Shepherd Room – **Grades 1 through Grade 3**
- Easter Lily Room – **Grade 4 through Grade 6**

This year's teachers will be Patti Ellingson with the "Littles", a *surprise(!)* teacher with the "Early Grade Schoolers" (as of this writing it's a surprise to us, too, but we'll have it worked out by Nov. 7th), and Mike Nicholson with the "Middle Schoolers."

Substitute teachers are needed.... **might that be you?**

Periodic Adventures and Explorations with our 7-Ups is awaiting an energetic, enthusiastic leadership of 2 or more/many volunteers. Interesting, creative, and youth-friendly ideas are anticipated from **ALL** of you church members to

share with the Education & Events team. Guidance in planning and implementing potential 7-Up activities can come from the E & E team and the activity Leadership, but let's all shake some ideas loose with which we can offer them to work.

Yes, our intergenerational Sunday School, so affectionately named **2nd Sunday – Funday** will still be part of our S.S. time. (Yippee! Can't give that up.) However, we'll kick off **2nd Sunday – Funday** beginning in January, 2022. [*We're already bubbling with a couple nifty ideas...*]

Parents of Sunday Schoolers, you've already received, or will soon receive, a Child Information Waiver. Please make every attempt to return this to church in the coming weeks, or certainly by your child's/children's first day of Sunday School – a separate one for EACH child please.

Now, **IF** we should have to pull back again – that is, if the CDC/Bishop/or 'other powers that be' tell us that church services must be conducted remotely, then classroom S.S. would once again be interrupted and we'd go back to a "mail-out" of Sunday School packets again. That's puttin' Mom and Dad in the S.S. teaching role, once more, on the home front. We're all expecting, all **hoping** that that will be a non-issue, but we're also planning for 'just-in-case.'

Ready or not, Sunday School - here we come. Silly, WE ARE READY!



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
HELPERS NEEDED!**



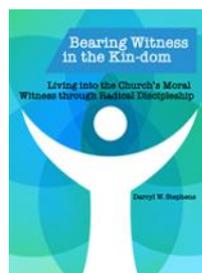
Please pray for the following persons and situations shared publicly within our community of BGUMC



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.

- Gay Albers and her family, as they mourn the loss of her brother, Dave, who passed away from COVID-19. Gay is a United Methodist minister in MN and friend of a number of us at BGUMC.
- Little Kinsley, granddaughter of Ken and Tena Harren, who underwent her 17th surgery at St. Mary's in Rochester in September. Multiple surgical procedures were involved, but she is now back home and healing. Also hold Kinsley's family in your prayers as they care for their tenacious little girl.
- The two-year-old grand-daughter of a co-worker of Marlis Mahler, who was the victim of a random shooting in August. Pray for her medical staff and family members as they continue in her care during her long hospitalization, which in recent weeks, has now included a collapsed lung, and the need for a tracheotomy.
- Marlon, who is fighting bone cancer. Marlon is Brad and Tracie Spinler's former brother-in-law, and friend, and Dad to Brad and Tracie's nephews.
- A little child in the Waterville area, whose cancer has returned - and is now in his bones. Please pray for his family as they travel this overwhelming journey together with him.
- A co-worker of the Federated employees in our congregation, whose son passed away unexpectedly in September.
- Prayers of celebration for Patti Ellingson's son Ben, and his wife Ashley, who were able to gather family and friends together for their wedding reception after having been married a year! They finally were able to work around COVID!
- Linda Saufferer (married to Curt), whose sister Wendy passed away in September.
- Prayers of thanks for a good medical report for little Bowen, 1 year-old son of Lacey and Alex.
- Prayers of celebration for the baptism of baby Emery, daughter of Justin and Kristin Krell.
- The family of Arlis Wallace, of Waterville, as they hold her memorial service after months of waiting due to COVID.
- Pastor Kathy's daughter-in-law, as she walks through the September anniversary of the death of her son in a silo accident.

- Pastor Kathy's mom, Dee - and all of Dee's family - as Dee continues in hospice care at the skilled nursing care facility in Janesville.
- For all affected by COVID in one way or another.
- For all facing conflict, war, and terror. For those in the path of severe weather, fire, and famine-like conditions. For all working to provide protection, assistance, relief, and rescue to those whose lives are in such danger.
- All in our faith community who privately hold heavy concerns in their hearts. 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, and trust.



Back in Action! Parish-Wide Book Study

The kids are back in school and the Prairie Lakes Parish Book Study group is back in Action! Please join us as we dive into what it means to live out

God's vision of justice.

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom explores our sometimes uneven history of resisting the evil and violence that damage the world. Something we learned in our study on *Massacre at Sand Creek*. *Bearing Witness* empowers us to imagine God's justice and to lead with compassion. The group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month and will be gathering on October 26th at 6:30 pm, location to be determined. Please contact Cindy Saufferer at 507-363-9380 if you are interested and to order a book (\$10.00).

2021 Facebook Post from Kamisamba Farm

We have put sticks inside our fish ponds as part of our security measures. It is always good to guard your investment.



**Blooming Grove Church Council
Meeting September 8, 2021
Carolyn Kanne, Board Secretary**



In attendance: Hjordi Churchill, Pastor Kathy King, Chery Southworth, Brian & Carolyn Kanne, Judy Mahler, Char Frank-embery, Brad & Cindy Saufferer. (Meeting in Kanne garage.)

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Approval of Prior Council Minutes

Approved as submitted.

Finance

- Treasurer and Financial Secretary report: Treasurer's report reviewed – no questions. Financial Secretary – we seem to be on track for this time of year.
- The fish fry was a success. Total raised was \$2,199.00. (A portion of this will go to the UMW for the scholarship fund.)

Building Project

- The round window is in! We are ready for the plumbers and electricians, who are due to start on Friday. We are still waiting for the storm windows. Dahle's are coming in for the septic system, the lift is 90% installed, and Dan the cabinet man is working on the woodwork.
- Grant applications:
 - * We submitted paperwork for both a grant and a loan to MN Builders. We have been approved for a loan, and they have designated BG as their 6-month fund-raising project (which would be a grant). This program will run from October through March. We are also able to apply for another loan after 1/1. The interest is at 2%, which is lower than the bank.
 - * MN Builders East has invited us to resubmit our grant application, which we will do.
- Thank-you notes to donors: Brian will get a list together and Cindy and Hjordi will write up the notes.

BGUMC Website

- The platform that supports our website (Ezekiel) will no longer be supported on 11/30/21. They are willing to transfer churches to another platform (ShareFaith), but it would be quite costly. We discussed hiring someone with expertise in this area to help us out. Holly Sobrack of Medford was suggested. Cindy moved to hire Holly for this purpose, Carolyn seconded, motion carried. It was also suggested to have Kristin Krell take a look at how to make it attractive to younger users.
- On-line giving component: Holly can work with this as well.

Pizza Farm Service and World Wide Communion – October 3

- Schedule – same as last year: arrive around 10:00 am and order pizzas, worship service at 10:30.
- Publicity: Judy and Chery are updating the poster from last year.
- Music: Kristin will provide music again. The parish will pay her \$100, mileage, and buy her pizza.
- Communion supplies: we will use the self-contained cups.

In-Person Worship and Virtual Worship

- Pastor Kathy would like to have worship at the Immanuel site at some point.
- We still have folks who are watching the virtual services.

Additional Ministry Updates and Plans

- Update from BGUMC teams/groups, i.e. Education, Communications,
 - * UMW: the UMW is planning a shower for Callie Nagel, to be held at the Deerfield Town Hall on 9/18. The next "meeting" will be an online presentation on 9/23 by Jane Rubietta, via ZOOM.
- Kamisamba Farm: This will be our mission for the 2nd half of 2021. This got added to the conference list.
- Run for the Loaves and BBQ Cookoff: These will both take place 9/11. The cookoff will have a team from each church, cooking barbecued ribs.
- Nagel Wedding: October 9th.
- Brew & Bible at Half-Pint Brewery: going well.
- Book Study: The book study is taking September off to decide what we will read next. It will likely be the UMW study on "Kinship" from the School of Christian Mission.

Additional Updates from Pastor Kathy

- Nominations: We need to be finding folks for positions at each church.

Other Items

- We have an anonymous donor willing to provide up to \$15,000 in matching funds for donations to the building project during the month of October. We need to get this out in front of people. Carolyn will take a stab at drafting something for the Visitor. Pastor Kathy will email Kristin Krell for help with our Facebook page and website. It was suggested to send postcards to the Visitor mailing list.

Closing Prayer

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

September 2021

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

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

Sunday, October 3rd, 2021

***Joint Worship Service & Pizza Lunch
All Outdoors at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm***

41142 160th Street, Waseca, MN 56093

***Sponsored by the Churches of the
Prairie Lakes Parish***

***(Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville Evangelical
United Methodist Churches)***



10:00 am	Arrive for Check-in
10:30—11:30 am	Worship Service
11:30 am—1:00 pm	Pizza Lunch on the Grounds

Directions to Pizza Farm from
Blooming Grove United Methodist Church:

Go south on 180th Street for approximately .2 miles. Turn right onto 430th Ave/County Hwy 10, travel 2.01 miles. Turn left onto 160th Street and travel 1.8 miles. Pleasant Grove is on the left. If you have any questions, call (507) 456-3937.