



BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE VISITOR

Volume 89, Issue 9

THE TWO STEEPLD CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

September 2024

The Biggest Day Around Update Saturday, September 7th – at BGUMC

By Brad Saufferer

Less than two weeks to the September 7th run/walk, rib cookoff, and tractor pull. Things are coming together: registrations for the run/walk are coming in, many questions about the rib cookoff and much talk about tractor pull. Still looking for a few more volunteers.

Day of registration for the run/walk starts at 8:30, walkers start at 9:30, runners go out at 10:00. Ribs for the cookoff will be available the night before from 6:00 -7:00 P.M. at the church, or I will be at the church at 6:00 A.M. to supply them. Ribs are provided, you provide the magic. Ribs must be ready for tasting at noon. Weigh in for the pull will start at 11:00, blessing of the tractors at 12:00 give or take, and the pull following. Stock tractors out of the machine shed, 10,000 pounds or less. A free will offering lunch will be available.

Our celebrity announcer for the tractor pull this year is my sister Sue. It's been often said that she is a real character. When my nephew Alex heard she was going to be the announcer, he laughed with delight. Well, he laughed anyway. Pastor Kathy will be there to announce the run/walk, hand out medals and trophies, bless tractors, and remind everyone we are doing God's work, have fun.

Just a reminder, all monies collected for the run/walk and rib cookoff are donated to area food shelves. All monies collected for the tractor pull go to the accessibility project. I like to think that events like this are examples of our church doing God's work and showing that we are still a vibrant and caring congregation. See you there.

Call or email me with any questions.

Brad Saufferer (507) 363-6579

b_saufferer@msn.com

Morning: Run 4 the Loaves
(proceeds to Area Food Shelves)

Noon: BBQ Cook Off (proceeds to
Area Food Shelves)

Afternoon: Tractor Pull
(proceeds to BG Building Fund for South Addition)

Prairie Lakes Parish Joint Worship Services - Summer 2024 “Walking the Road of Faith Together”

Save the date of Sunday, October 6th

World-Wide Communion Sunday

Parish Worship Service

At Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm

10:30 A.M. - Morning Worship

11:30 A.M. – Pizza Lunch on the Grounds



Sunday School Kick-off

Wow! Summer seems to fly by so quickly! And now here we are at State Fair time, school shopping, and preparing for the school year to begin. You guessed it – it's time for the Sunday School curriculum to begin as well. Mark **Sunday, Sept. 22nd** on your calendar as our first day of Sunday School. As is customary, when we have early church (autumn and spring) Sunday school will begin AFTER church: **9:10 – 10:00am.** [When we swap worship times in... December then Sunday School will meet PRIOR to worship service: 9:45 – 10:35]. As last year, we will hold class on the 1st three Sundays of each month (except during Christmas break.) There will not be S.S. on 4th Sundays. One exception, however: the **3-year-olds through Kindergarten** will only meet on the **1st and 3rd Sundays** of the month. Additionally, Pizza Farm Worship Sunday, Oct. 6th, there is NO Sunday School.

Due to our small class sizes (2 to 3 children/class) we may modify or revamp the whole class set-up at the first of the year. We'll see how it goes through December.

Parents will all receive a mailing within this next week in regard to your child's (children's) teacher(s) as well as a 2024-2025 **Child Information & Waiver** form to sign and return.





Kids - we'll see you on Sept. 22nd right after church (~9:10) for our new year of Sunday School!

Setember 2024

**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	7
				7 pm WV Jail Ministry/Rice County Jail		FUN DAY At BG starting at 8:30 am. Run for the Loaves BBQ Cookoff Tractor Pull
					Pastor's Day Off	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		4-6 pm Free Diaper Give-away at WV		9:30 am Parish Bible Study at Cool Wave/WV 7 pm WV Jail Ministry/Rice County Jail		
					Pastor's Day Off	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			11:30 Prayer Brunch at Tucker's Tavern in Elysian 6-7 pm Acts 29 starts at WV	7 pm WV Jail Ministry/Rice County Jail		
					Pastor's Day Off	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:15 pop-up choir rehearsal at BG 			6-7 pm Acts 29 at WV 7:15-8:15 pm pop-up choir rehearsal at WV EUMC	9:30 am Parish Bible Study at Cool Wave/WV 7 pm WV Jail Ministry/Rice County Jail		10-Noon Free Diaper Give-away at WV
					Pastor's Day Off	
29	30				Parment Color The Parament Color for September Is Green	

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.

Treasurer's Report

July 30—August , 2024



- 7 Sat Fun Day at BG
8:30 am Run for the Loaves Registration
BBQ Cookoff (Food ready at noon)
Noon Blessing of the tractors followed by the
Tractor Pull
- 12 Thur 9:30 pm Bible Study at Cool Wave
- 18 Wed 11:30 am Prayer Brunch at Tucker's Tavern
in Elysian
- 22 Sun 9:15 am Pop-up choir rehearsal at BG
- 25 Wed 7:15 pm Pop-up choir rehearsal at WV EUMC
- 26 Thur 9:30 am Bible Study at Cool Wave
- 29 Sun 9:15 am Pop-up choir rehearsal at BG

General Budget Income \$ 3,165.00

Total Income 3,165.00

Expenses

Pastor's Salary 2,223.64

Telephone 54.94

Excel Energy 142.77

Lawn Mowing 612.07

Total Paid Out \$ 3,033.42

(Net Income: + \$131.55)

Building Addition

Income

Restoration \$ 601.30

Fish Fry 50.00

Tractor Pull 50.00

Total Income \$ 701.30

Expenses

Loan Payment \$ 5,045.06

Total Paid Out \$ 5,965.20

(Net Income: — \$4,443.76)

Restoration Fund Balance \$66,676.69

Building Addition Loan \$225,129.79

Prairie Lakes Parish Pop-Up Choir Rehearsal Schedule for the October 6th Pizza Farm Service All Singers are Welcome!

Sunday, Sept. 22nd:
9:15–9:30 A.M. at BG UMC

Wednesday, Sept. 25th:
7:15-8:15 P.M. at WV EUMC

Sunday, Sept. 29th:
9:15–9:30 A.M. at BG UMC

Wednesday, Oct. 2nd:
7:15-8:15 P.M. at BG UMC

Sunday, Oct 6th:
9:45 A.M. at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Stage

Prayer Brunch

September 18 - 11:30 am

Tucker's Tavern

101 West Main, Elysian

All are Welcome



- 1 Char Frankenberry
2 Don Frankenberry
2 Allison Janke
2 Walt Nagel
3 Hazel Saufferer
3 Jim Southworth
6 Dick Fisher
6 Annabel Buchholz
7 Jeremiah Mahler
9 Stefanie Morgan
11 Jake Goldsmith

- 11 Deecy Jesse
14 Zander Morgan
15 Gerard LaFond
15 Jessica Buchholz
15 Kourtney Remund
16 Todd Adamek
16 Bradley Christesen
16 Patti Ellingson
16 Penelope Nicholson
23 Peter Mullenbach
25 Emily Engebretson
26 Carolyn Kanne
26 Jennifer Kanne
27 Denise Combs
28 Alex Spinler

Happy Anniversary

- 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
22 Walt & Holly Nagel
22 Alex & Lacey Spinler
22 Jim & Mary Karsten
28 Jerry & Patti Ellingson
28 Brandon & Emily Church



Celebrating
SEPTEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES!





Christ Beside Me



*"I have set the Lord always before me;
because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.
Psalm 16: 8 NKJV*

It seems unbelievable that we are beginning September yet the sunflowers, dahlias, and mums remind me that our season of warmth here in Minnesota is nearing an end. As I worked to prepare for our Confirmation 24/25 Kick-Off meeting, it became clear that our fall season moves us back into a time that I always heard was busier. As I age, I ponder more and more that the days are so filled with activities and places to be! I don't know how our families with little children and teenagers manage! Summer seems to have lost its "lazy, hazy, crazy days."

Into all of our busyness, where do we fit time to include our Triune God? Sunday's are no longer for church and family. Our world sees it just as another day to crowd even more activities. Those of us who remember slower Sunday days where we had time to be in the quiet; days that began with our communities of worship and moved into family dinners, often miss those days. It was a way of living that our children and grandchildren will never again experience. So how do we make time for God?

We are called in Psalm 16: 8 to set the Lord always before us—make the Lord first. Maybe it's simply beginning the day with the acknowledgment that it is a day the Lord made just for me. A new opportunity to say, "thank you, God!" When we make the time and begin the day with gratitude to God, the day begins by putting God first—"setting the Lord before me!" and we are reminded that our God is right there at our right hand, beside us; a constant presence so that whatever the day may bring, we can't be moved to sin. I like that thought. I hope you do too!

We have a group of five young people in our parish Confirmation program this year: 3 from Janesville, 1 from Waterville, and 1 from Blooming Grove. It will be another good year. Our parish mentors walk beside our youth to help me and to be that example of our church families that encourage and support our youth. Please help us by keeping our Confirmation youth and program in your prayers.

Blooming Grove will be the place to be on September 7th! The annual Run for the Loaves, the Bar-be-que Cook Off, and this year's Tractor Pull will provide fun for everyone. I hope you consider attending to walk, run, cook, and cheer on the tractors—all to support our local food shelves and our Blooming Grove church.

As we move into September, may God's presence and blessings be yours dear ones. I am blessed to be your pastor!

Pastor Kathy

Congratulations to BGUMC Youth At the Steele County Fair!



We take our hats off in celebration of Leah, Kaylee, and Emery Krell for all their hard work in preparing entries for the Steele County Fair. Emery took 1st place for the largest pumpkin. Kaylee was awarded for Champion Oats and first place in her soybean sample. Leah brought five 4-H Building Projects and showed a chicken, pig and goat. The girls are the daughters of Justin and Kristin Krell, and the granddaughters of Brad and Tracie Spinler.

Congratulations to Weston Janke for earning the American FFA Degree

Congratulations to Weston Janke for being recognized at the Steele County Fair for earning his American FFA Degree. He will receive his award at the National Convention in Indianapolis in October. MANY years of hard work pays off. Great job!! Weston is the son of Michael and Allison Janke.

As the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization, the American FFA Degree shows an FFA member's dedication to his or her chapter and state FFA association. It demonstrates the effort FFA members apply toward their supervised agricultural experience and the outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement they exhibited through their FFA career. To be eligible to receive the American FFA



Degree, members must meet qualifications such as receiving a State FFA Degree, holding active membership for the past three years, completing secondary instruction in an agricultural education program and operating an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program. Community service, leadership abilities and outstanding scholastic achievement are also required. All applications are submitted to the National FFA Organization after approval of a member's state association. After review by national staff, the National FFA Board of Directors approve qualified candidates to receive the American FFA Degree at the National FFA Convention & Expo.



Sunday, October 6th, 2024

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

***Sponsored by the Churches of the
Prairie Lakes Parish
(Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Waterville
Evangelical United Methodist Churches)
And joined by our neighboring congregation,
Peace United Methodist Church of Morristown***



41142 160th Street, Waseca
(715) 523-0857
pleasantgrovepizzafarm.com

Our Time Together at the Pizza Farm

9:45: Pop-up Choir Rehearsal at Pizza Farm Stage

10:00: Gather, settle in, and place pizza orders

- ♦ Stop by the welcome tables by the Pizza Farm Barn where volunteers from our congregations will:
 - ◇ Provide bulletins with shared liturgy and congregational hymns.
 - ◇ Provide an offering container where you may drop your offering gifts for your preferred church.
- ♦ Place your pizza order in the Barn and set up your family's seating in the worship area (east of the Barn).

10:30: Morning Worship, led by Pastor Kathy King of the Prairie Lakes Parish, Pastor Elden Eklund of Morristown Peace UMC, and Pastor Carol Zaagsma of the Minnesota Conference UMC

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

Our Music Leaders for Worship at the Pizza Farm are Kristin Ziemke (one of the worship musicians for Janesville UMC), Judy Mahler (one of the worship musicians at Blooming Grove UMC), and our multi-church Pop-up Choir.

At our Pizza Farm Worship Service, we will join congregations around the globe in celebrating World Communion Sunday - which always takes place on the first Sunday in October. This special day is a time for remembering that around the world—in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy—the Lord's Supper is celebrated throughout Christendom. Join us for this joyous and meaningful partaking in Jesus' sacred meal with his friends and a celebration of our Christian brothers and sisters from around the world.

Planning Ahead - Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Information

(Because our Prairie Lakes Parish has made a group reservation, individual reservations are not needed.)

Information from the Pizza Farm's Facebook page/website:

- ♦ Bring your own seating and a portable table (if desired).
- ♦ If you plan to stay for pizza lunch, pack a cooler with items such as the following: beverages, any other food you wish to enjoy with your pizza, plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and a trash bag to pack out your garbage when you leave.
- ♦ A hand washing station is provided. Although hand sanitizer will be provided at the ordering stations, please also bring your own.
- ♦ No pets allowed.
- ♦ 9 main pizzas and a weekly feature are offered. Check out their website for the detailed menu at pleasantgrovepizzafarm.com). Pizza prices range from \$22-\$27. They take credit cards and cash. One pizza feeds about two people as they are 16" hand rolled. They do not take pre-orders over the phone.

Directions to Pizza Farm from Blooming Grove UMC:

**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.**



Pastoral Care



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.

- Faye, and her medical team, and family, as they continue to work together in providing the best care in Faye's cancer journey.
- Sherry and Tom, and their medical teams, as they continue ongoing treatment for health concerns, and for Nicole, as she plays an integral role in their care.
- Jim, the father of Hjordi Churchill's sister-in-law, who has begun treatment for cancer.
- Brad as he continues in his recovery from shingles.
- Deb Miller's father, as he continues his recovery from a fall that resulted in surgery to repair a broken femur. Continue in prayer for patience and perseverance in the long process of ongoing physical therapy and healing.
- All those in the extended family of Ardella Draheim (including Trudi Remund Fisher and Marlis Mahler) as they mourn her loss and celebrate all that her life brought to our world.
- Sympathy to Church neighbors, Dennis and Lyanne Hermel. Dennis' brother, Jim, passed away on August 18th.
- All in our faith community who privately hold heavy concerns in their hearts and lives. Help us to reflect God's love and care through our words and deeds that they may know BGUMC as a place of solace, comfort, trust, and support.



In Sympathy

Tamara Ann Mahler, age 49, of Fort Collins, Colorado, died Sunday, July 28, 2024, at Pathways Hospice, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Tamara is the niece of Marlis Mahler of our BGUMC family. Tamara especially enjoyed her visits back to Minnesota to spend time with family here. The Mahler farm and the people and place of BGUMC held special places in her heart.

Tamara was born on September 25, 1974, in Sacramento, California. She was the daughter of Jane Slezak and Harley Mahler. She graduated from Poudre High School and took classes at Colorado State University, both in Fort Collins, Colorado. Tamara



Tamara at BGUMC
Christmas Eve 2023

participated in Special Olympics for 32 years. She proudly competed as a member of Team USA at the 2003 International Special Olympics in Dublin, Ireland, winning gold and bronze medals for swimming events. She was named Colorado's 2004 Female Athlete of the Year and in 2011, Tamara received the Hal O'Leary Inspiration Award—Colorado Rockies.

Tamara loved music and dance and was very proud of the 30 years she danced with the group Dance Express. She also enjoyed choreographing and teaching new routines to the Dance Express members. Tamara loved people and made friends anywhere she went. She was a shining example of God's love throughout her life—always willing to help anyone in need—living by her favorite motto "Be Kind."

Tamara is survived by her mom, one sister and two stepbrothers, stepmom, aunts, uncles, nieces, cousins, and many friends. She is preceded in death by her dad and grandparents.



ARDELLA ROYONA

(HECHT) DRAHEIM, age 98, of Owatonna, formerly of Waseca, died Monday, August 12, 2024, at Traditions of Owatonna. Ardella was a former member of BGUMC. Ardella was born on October 16, 1925, in Faribault. She was the

daughter of Roy and Esther (Kanne) Hecht. Ardella attended country school in rural Waseca. She moved in with relatives living in Granite Falls to attend high school, 9th – 12th grade. Following high school, she attended Mankato State Teachers College, where she earned her teaching certificate. She worked as a teacher at the White Earth Indian Reservation, and in Mantorville and Excelsior. On July 8, 1950, she married Archie Draheim. Together, they raised their four children and farmed in rural Waseca. Ardella continued her education at Mankato State College where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She taught 5th grade in Waseca until her retirement in 1976. During retirement she enjoyed working with friends at a part-time job at Viking Woodcrafts. She was an active member of Faith United Methodist Church. She enjoyed playing cards and board games, sewing, making cinnamon rolls, growing strawberries, fishing, reading, traveling and square dancing.

She is survived by her children, Larry (Jan "Steffan") Draheim, Paul (Cindy Higgins) Draheim, Daryl (Debbie "Nelson") Draheim and Gail Myers; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and all five of her siblings.

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

September 2024

The Blooming Grove Visitor

Since 1936

Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 171

Medford, MN 55049-0171

Physical Location:

43089 180th Street, Morristown, MN 55052
(NE corner of Waseca County)

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

Join Us

If you are interested in
becoming a member of
Blooming Grove UMC,
see Pastor Kathy.



Requests for Prayer Chain Email:

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kking5@hickorytech.net

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in color) check us out at
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Saturday, September 7th - Join us for A Day of Fun and Good Causes at Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

Spread the word to your friends, families and neighbors - all events are open to the public!

Feel free to bring your own lawn chairs to
relax and enjoy in comfort.

We look forward to seeing you there!

4 Mile Run/Walk & Kids 1/4 Mile Run

**In support of area food
shelves**

**Registration at 8:30 am
(Enjoy the walk or run
around the 4-mile section.)**



**We are also hosting the
“Holy Hog” BBQ rib
cook-off to support
area food shelves
Food is ready at noon!**

Afternoon Tractor Pull

Farm Stock tractors only with a ten-thousand pound weight limit!

The Tractor Pull will begin at 12:00 noon with the blessing of the tractors. There will be 14 weight classes starting at 3500 and below and going up in 500 pound increments to 10,000 pounds. The pulls are twenty dollars per pull. All monies collected go to the BGUMC accessibility project.