



Blooming Grove United Methodist Church

Physical location:

43089 180th Street, Morristown, MN

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 171 Medford, MN 55049-0171

www.bloominggroveumc.org

Email: bloominggroveumc@gmail.com

Pastors:

Pastor JJ Morgan: (507) 995-6623

pastorjjmorgan@gmail.com

Pastor Stefanie Morgan: (507) 995-6624

stefaniemorganmt@gmail.com

March 29, 2019

To the congregation of Blooming Grove United Methodist Church,

It is the intention of Bishop Bruce Ough to appoint Pastor Kathy King as full-time pastor of Waterville Evangelical, Janesville, and Blooming Grove United Methodist Churches as of July 1st, 2019 – in a new three-point charge.

As you know, United Methodists have an “appointment” process for our clergy rather than a “call” process. The bishop and cabinet (comprised of 5 District Superintendents) move through a prayerful and careful discernment process to match pastor’s gifts to the missional needs of a congregation in consultation with the pastor and the PPRC (Pastor Parish Relations Committee).

On Monday, March 25, Pastor Kathy was invited to an introductory meeting in Waterville, chaired by District Superintendent Fred Vanderwerf. In this meeting, all three church PPRCs were represented, and we collectively discerned if Pastor Kathy was the right “missional match” and if this new three point alignment could be missionally beneficial. Following rich conversation, questions, and prayer, the appointment of Kathy King, as well as the three-church alignment, were affirmed.

Our three-point charge configuration will be as follows, with full-time status averaging 42-45 hrs/ week:

- Janesville UMC: 24% of time and funding
- Blooming Grove UMC: 38% of time and funding
- Waterville Evangelical UMC: 38% of time and funding

Your PPRC members will work diligently and collaboratively with the PPRC members of Janesville UMC and Waterville Evangelical UMC in the months ahead as we find our way together into the great opportunities, as well as challenging aspects, of a three-point charge, including Sunday morning worship. We are in the brainstorming stages regarding many things, and are exploring a number of creative possibilities that will honor the integrity and needs of each congregation.

Continue to pray for Pastor Kathy, as well as our church, as we make our way through this transition. If you have any questions please contact your PPRC persons as listed below.

Pastor Kathy is eager to meet us and learn of our stories, our hopes, and our dreams. Please see her introductory brochure where she shares own story with us.

Yours in Christ,

Blooming Grove UMC Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Allison Janke: 507-456-7840 (cell) jankema@hotmail.com

Judy Mahler: 507-456-3937 (cell) hcjm@charter.net

Cindy Saufferer: 507-363-9380 (cell) cindy.saufferer@gmail.com





Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

Bruce R. Ough, Bishop

Fred Vanderwerf, Southern Prairie
District Superintendent

Grow in Love of God and Neighbor (the Great Commandment, Matthew 22:37-40), Reach New People (the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20), and Heal a Broken World (the Great Proclamation, Luke 4:16-21)

Introduction to Pastor Kathy King



Family:

Husband Jerry (45 years); three sons, Clint (Julie), Jeremy (Tiffany), and Aaron (Trista); eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild; mother: Dee (who is 83 years young)

Education:

Licensing school for local pastors and two years of Course of Study; one year of Master's program in Technical Communications; Bachelor of Science, Mankato State University majoring in English (minor in Computer Science Applications).

Appointment history:

Janesville UMC, Janesville MN (Lead Pastor); 2014—present

Leadership style:

I am a leader who seeks God's presence where I am. I invite others to relationship to discover their gifts and talents, and then facilitate how it is that they might become leaders. I believe our relationships can build walkways where we can meet—regardless of our backgrounds or differences. Together, we are called to be the Church.

Leadership gifts for ministry:

Executing: I work to achieve goals set in the community.

Influencing: Using a framework around good communication, I like to work within teams and will take the lead to ensure objectives are met.

Relationship Building: I work to create cohesive teams that work together for agreed upon goals. I enjoy working with children and youth and enjoy my visits with the elderly.

Strategic Thinking: I focus on the vision to meet goals. I encourage others to dream about possibilities.

What do you enjoy doing?

I enjoy flower gardening, reading a good book, taking walks with Jerry and our two dogs, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.



Other involvement:

- Past Director of the Board of the Janesville Nursing Home
- Past member of the Janesville Economic Development Committee
- SP LLP Mentor Group
- Janesville Ministerial Association

Call to ministry:

I was called to lay speaking when our children were young boys. I pursued my call to Lay Leadership and worked with our Southern Prairie District Lay Speaking team to teach Lay Speaking. I felt God's call and heard that small voice directing me to ministry. God leads me to share my passion for personal divine relationships — relationships where we walk with Jesus. Relationships where we reach out to show his grace to those who so badly need to experience the hope found in our Risen Savior.

**Who's your hero?**

Mom. She devoted her life to raising her 5 children after my father left. Through the deaths of her sons at the ages of 1 day, 4, 23, and 49—Mom continued to dedicate herself to her work and to my sister and I. Mom is the reason I became a United Methodist—even though she is Catholic. There is a story to tell.

What is your favorite food?

A grilled steak.

What is your view of scripture?

The Bible is our story of faith. The Word, our truth, and our guidelines for living holy lives. It is our history and our hope. As United Methodists, it is important to immerse ourselves in studying the Word, engaging in thoughtful discussion, and letting the Word speak to us through experience. I am continually in awe of the way a well-known verse speaks anew as we live into new experiences in our lives.

What breaks your heart?

My heart breaks for:

- ◆ those who don't have enough food
- ◆ for people without a home
- ◆ for children who don't have the love of a caring family
- ◆ for our elderly who do not get visits
- ◆ those who are sick and lose hope
- ◆ those who do not know Jesus Christ.

**Describe your passion for the Church:**

The Church is our gift from Jesus Christ—a gift that is meant to proclaim the story through our lives as we display the joy being followers and becoming disciples brings to each day. The Church is a place where we are fed for the week ahead, a place where fellowship must be genuine, a people who love one another under the umbrella of the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Describe your theological perspective:

I believe in our Wesleyan roots of being a help to the poor, the sick, and the prisoner. I love the story of Wesley bringing the love and grace of Jesus Christ to the hillsides when doors were closed to the common laborer. I recognize the value of small groups gathering to ensure we are caring for our faith journeys—of asking “how is it with your soul?” I find joy in our UM Sacraments—baptism into the family of God, and our Communion Table—open to all.

What would you say is the hope for the Church?

The hope for the Church was, is, and always will be Jesus Christ. As the Church moves into closer relationship with Christ, we live into grace—the grace that swaddles us at our birth; the grace that is the reason we embark on a journey of relationship with our Creator; the grace that assures us of our eternity as those who love Christ.