



**11/5/2020 - Letter to Blooming Grove UMC  
from Your Church Council  
RE: Nov/Dec Return to In-Person Worship**

### **BGUMC Survey Results**

Thank you for engaging wholeheartedly in our BGUMC “Return to Worship Survey”! We greatly appreciate the time and thought that you gave in your responses. Here are the results:

#### **24 family units responded - total of 46 people**

- 5 family units (21%), with a total of 11 people, indicated they would like to attend a modified version of indoor worship at BG in Nov/Dec as described in the survey. 2 of these 5 family units indicated they would be willing to help with the planning/implementation.
- 19 family units, (79%) with a total of 35 people, indicated they are not comfortable in returning to in-person worship at BG at this time. 2 of these family units indicated they would still be willing to help with planning/ implementation and another 4 indicated that they *may* be willing to help with planning/implementation.

### **General Themes of Survey Comments**

- I can't wait to get back to in-person worship in the sanctuary and enjoy the fellowship of this community, but I feel that it is not safe or prudent at this moment in time. The risk is too great right now. Let's wait until the COVID-19 numbers are back at a safe level and review again.
- I would prefer to wait until things change so that we can sing again and not have to wear masks.
- With my, and/or my family's exposure in the community (jobs, schools, daycare, etc.), we would be concerned that we might inadvertently bring the virus into the congregation. Or that someone else might inadvertently bring it with them and we would take it home with us.
- How best can we be good stewards of our own health and the health of those around us, both at home, and in church, especially those who are most vulnerable?
- We would love to still be together in worship in some creative way - might there be a way to continue holding once-a-month outdoor drive-up worship if the weather allows, i.e. wouldn't it be great if our FM transmitter can broadcast through church walls?

### **BGUMC Council 11/4/2020 Decision**

Throughout October, significant COVID-19 changes occurred that impacted our BG Council's ultimate decision about returning to in-the-building worship. (See below.) Based on these changes, along with our survey results, we decided it was most prudent to step back from plans for returning to in-person worship inside the building for Nov/Dec. We will reassess in mid-December for January. (Janesville UMC and Waterville EUMC congregations have made this same decision.) Weekly virtual worship will continue to be offered via Facebook. We are excited to now focus our energy into creating Advent/Christmas opportunities to be in worship together - just not inside the building - and possibly Thanksgiving as well! We acknowledge that there is sadness mixed with these decisions, but we want to continue to hold people's lives within our congregation, and our communities, in great care. Again, we thank you for your survey input, and your help in making this difficult decision.

COVID-19 Changes that impacted our decision:

- **October:** MN COVID-19 cases/hospitalizations/deaths are increasing rapidly, with group gatherings now the most significant source of spread.
- **10/27/20:** MN Conference of the UMC dialed back their Regathering Plan to the Orange Phase, due to uptick in COVID-19 activity. They request that we now limit in-person gatherings to 10 people or fewer while wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, as group gatherings have been the most significant source of the spread of COVID-19 in recent weeks. At a very minimum - they request that we adhere to the governor's guidelines and closely watch the data in our community, as well as actions of our local school districts. They asked that we make decisions, in consultation with local officials, that will protect the vulnerable, our neighbors, and each other and still provide meaningful spiritual leadership to our community.
- **10/27/20:** Prairie Lakes Parish Leadership Team (PPRC members + Council Chairs) reviewed the two items above and recommended that we can best “love and care for our neighbor” by not going back into our building for worship through year's end, and that we re-evaluate in mid-December for the remaining months of winter. This recommendation also considered the need to reduce risk for the health of Pastor Kathy and her family wherever we can, and to honor current pleas from the medical community to limit indoor gatherings when possible.

# November 2020

Blooming Grove

Janesville

Waterville Evangelical

1 All Saints Sunday  Fall Back Set your clocks back one hour before bed on Sunday.	2	3 	4 7 pm BG Ad Council Blue Jeans Mtg	5 6:30—730 pm Bible Study at RC Jail	6 Pastor's Day Off	7
8	9	10 7-8:30 pm SP All District Charge/Church Conference via Zoom	11 	12 6:30—730 pm Bible Study at RC Jail	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
15 4 pm WV Confirmation via Blue Jeans	16	17	18	19 6:30—730 pm Bible Study at RC Jail	20 Pastor's Day Off	21
22 	23	24	25	26  6:30—730 pm Bible Study at RC Jail	27 Pastor's Day Off	28
29 7 pm Charge Conference via Zoom. Donna Dempewolf of 1st United Methodist in Austin serves as Elder over the meeting.	30					

## November 2020: Thankful

November is here—a very different November in this year of 2020. November is a month when we think of the things we are thankful, but in this year of different ways, I would like us to think of thankfulness in relation to our Lord and his gift of the Holy Spirit who walks alongside us in our days. In Psalm 107: 1, we are called to give thanks to the Lord.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

Let us open our hearts to hear the still, small voice reminding us of His infinite love. Let us lift our loved ones to the Lord as we live in the gratitude of His love this Thanksgiving season. Know your Pastor is so very grateful for each one of you!

Be well dear ones, wear your masks, and keep washing those hands.

*Pastor Kathy*



### Thanksgiving - Advent - Christmas Missions November/December 2020 Love Offering

We invite you to “Be the Light - Live Hope” this November and December through your financial gifts for our MN UMC Conference Love Offering, the focus of which is to help some of the most vulnerable among us in Minnesota in these turbulent times. All funds will be distributed among four service organizations, as listed below. We invite you to send your gifts “in honor of” or “in memory of” persons who are important in your life. We will include your names, and the names of your loved ones in our January newsletter. By December 15<sup>th</sup>, please mail your gifts to our BGUMC address, PO Box 171, Medford, MN 55049-0171. Please note “Love Offering” in the memo line of your check, and enclose a note listing the names of people you wish to remember by indicating “in honor of” and/or “in memory of”. Thank you!

#### **Emma Norton Services St. Paul/Maplewood**

Emma Norton Services (ENS) is a nonprofit organization actively combating poverty and positively impacting more than 250 people annually. ENS partners with women, children, and families who are homeless and experiencing the challenges of mental and/or chemical disabilities. Without having to worry about the basic need of a safe, secure place to live, women and children can utilize and focus on supportive programs, life skills, services and opportunities available to accomplish their goals. ENS fosters stability and encourages personal growth at two locations: Emma Norton Residence in the heart of downtown St. Paul is home to 50 individual women - Emma's Place in Maplewood is home to 13 single parent families with three or more children. Housing is permanent - the women and families may reside with ENS as long as they desire.

#### **Simpson Housing Services Minneapolis**

Simpson Housing Services began as an emergency overnight shelter in the basement of Simpson United Methodist Church in 1982. Simpson has since become a leading nonprofit providing assistance to people experiencing homelessness. In response to unmet community needs, their programs have grown to include emergency shelter, single adult supportive housing, and family supportive housing. They work across the metro area, partnering with landlords and developers to find affordable housing for all families and individuals. At any given time, they provide supportive services to 100 individuals and 210 families with over 500 children.

#### **Joyce Uptown Foodshelf Minneapolis**

The mission of the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf is to distribute food to those in need, with respect and dignity, as an expression of the love of God. In a message from their website: “We join our community in mourning Mr. Floyd's tragic death. We stand with everyone seeking to root out the injustices within our current systems and support full equity for all people. The collateral damage to small businesses has only further intensified the need to support our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. We are working with Hunger Solutions and other organizations in our community to coordinate efforts to support and distribute food to our community.”

#### **MN Conference Committee on Native American Ministry's Diaper Drop**

The casino and restaurant industry, a primary source of revenue in our Native American communities of Minnesota, has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 related closings and limited re-openings. Many of our native brothers and sisters have been without income for a number of months, and/or are now working with limited income. In an effort to share our care and our resources, the MN Conference Committee on Native American Ministry (CONAN), of which Cindy Saufferer is a member, is leading an effort called “Diaper Drops”. Funds raised by our Conference Love Offering will be used to purchase semi-loads of factory-direct diapers, which will be delivered to Health & Human Services groups in our MN native communities, to be given to persons in need of these important supplies for their children.

## Happy Birthday

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



## Happy Anniversary

- 12 Jim & Chery Southworth
- 22 George & Margie Sharp
- 26 Don & Char Frankenberry

## Treasurer's Report

September 27—November 4, 2020

**General Budget Income \$ 2,967.20**

Expenses	
Salary Expense	\$ 1,417.15
Disability Insurance	17.97
Health Insurance	438.90
Cell Phone	158.66
Pastor's Housing	380.00
Pastor's non health flex	15.83
Pension	212.69
Mileage	9.62
Guest Pastors	200.00
Lawn Mowing	1,090.00
MN Annual Conference	9.50
Conference Claims	1,378.22
Office Expense	70.38
Postage	49.21
Excel Energy	84.11
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,532.24</b>

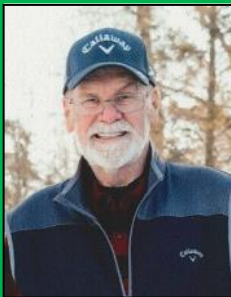
**(Net Income: – \$ 2,565.04)**

## Other Income Received

Restoration	300.00
Run For The Loaves	300.00

Thank you for your continuing financial support of BGUMC in these difficult days of the coronavirus and social distancing. During this time when we are unable to physically gather, please send your gifts/checks to Blooming Grove United Methodist, P.O. Box 171, Medford, MN 55049-0171. Again, thank you.

## In Sympathy



**James "JIM" Kenneth King**, age 73, of rural Waseca, died on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at his home. Jim was born on December 5, 1946 in Rochester.

He attended Janesville High School, graduating with the class of 1964. In 1966, Jim enlisted into the United State Navy where he received a Bronze Star and was honorably discharged in 1970. On August 30, 1969, Jim was united in marriage to Barbara Milbrath. He was self-employed for over 45 years. He loved golf, model railroading, working in the garden, laughing, and joke-telling. Jim was a member of the Waseca County Historical Society and Senior Golf League and Prairie Ridge Golf Course in Janesville. He cherished the time he spent with his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Jim is the brother of Jerry King, Pastor Kathy's husband.

**Colleen Loken**, 78, of Owatonna, passed away October 27th. Colleen is survived by husband, Dale, children: Brian of Medford, Joan Maxwell on Donahue, IA and Jennifer Therring of Hayfield; 7 grandchildren including Ashley (Loken) Osmundson, and Heather (Loken) Hale; 8 great grandchildren including Morgan Hale, Clara Osmundson, Wyatt Osmundson and Hunter Hale,



## Christmas Poinsettias



Every Advent, we decorate our sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias from Greenwald's Greenhouse. In this unusual year, we will not be able to be together in our sanctuary during this time. However, you can still bring a bit of our traditional Christmas into your home if you so desire. If you would like to order your annual poinsettia, you may contact Greenwald's at 507-362-8586 before December 1<sup>st</sup> to order your flowers. You may arrange to pick it up yourself if you like anytime after December 1st; otherwise, Cindy Saufferer has offered to pick them up on December 14th and have them available for pick-up at her home. If you plan on having Cindy pick up your plant, please let her know what you've ordered, either by phone 507-363-9380 or email at [cindy.saufferer@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.saufferer@gmail.com). Cost is \$16.00 for a single plant or \$28.00 for a double plant available in red, white or pink. Make checks payable directly to Greenwald's Greenhouse or pay with credit card when ordering. Greenwald's address is 48381 Gardner Lane, Waterville, MN 56096



**Please pray for the following persons and situations shared publicly within our community of BGUMC in the past month.**

***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. We are a community strengthened by the power of prayer. We are stronger when we intercede on the behalf of our brothers and sisters in the faith. Please know that does not mean your name needs to be on a public prayer list. It means that your Pastor can pray for you and help you in any way you define.***

- Melvin, friend of members of BGUMC, and father of church neighbors, as he celebrates his return to Waterville to continue his recovery process following an aortic aneurism in May.
- Pastor Kathy, as she continues her recovery and physical therapy after rotator cuff surgery.
- Dee, Pastor Kathy's mom, as she recovers from October hospitalization for pneumonia, and as she settles into her move from her apartment to now live with Pastor Kathy and Jerry.
- Marlis Mahler's brother, Harley, as he continues his second intense round of chemotherapy treatments for an aggressive form of cancer. Also pray for his November return trip to Rochester Mayo for a progress-check.
- Little baby Kinsley, granddaughter of Ken and Tena Harren, who has been hospitalized in Rochester in the past months following a tracheostomy, insertion of ear tubes, and extensive hand surgeries. She is using her super-star powers to come through it all and now has had her casts removed. She, and her family, are rejoicing as she returns home with newly separated fingers! Please continue in prayer for Kinsley's family and her medical team as they look at what is next.
- Alex and Lacey, and baby Bowen, as they give thanks for Bowen's growth and weight gain and his happy personality! Continue to hold them in prayer as they work with doctors in the months ahead to find answers for Bowen's medical concerns.
- Sam (son of David and Jenny Kanne), as he continues rehab after extensive wrist surgery to repair an undiagnosed break from past sports injuries.
- Del, who has been hospitalized at St. Mary's in Rochester with ongoing health concerns, and who misses everyone at church.
- The continued recovery of a sister of a good friend of Hjordi Churchill and Judy Mahler, who was hospitalized in Bozeman, Montana with sepsis.
- Faye Kanne's sister, Darlene, as she adjusts to a recent move into Assisted Living and is also experiencing some medical issues.
- Judy Mahler's Aunt Edna, in St. Louis, who is experiencing new health concerns.
- The family of Kris Bonnerud Vogel, a classmate of Carolyn Kanne and Hjordi Churchill, who passed away after a long battle with ALS.
- Tim Cummings, a classmate of Carolyn Kanne and Hjordi Churchill, who suffered a stroke.
- Elana, youngest daughter of Chuck and Linda Danks, who tested positive for COVID-19. To add to the worry, Elana is expecting, but per her doctor check-up, her baby is ok.
- Denise, Carol Karsten's daughter, as she recovers from surgery for a torn retina.
- Jeremy, nephew of Jenny and David Kanne, as he transitions to his next phase of military training at Fort Lee in VA.
- Char, who is recovering from eye surgery that took place at Rochester Mayo. Please pray also that the skill and wisdom of her care team were able to resolve her vision concerns.
- Carolyn and Ron, as they continue to work through several health concerns in their family.
- Ann and Brad, sister and brother-in-law of Carolyn Kanne, who have both tested positive for COVID-19, and are in quarantine.
- The safety of our farming community, as people continue long/late hours in the fields with harvest, and as they work to complete everything in a season shortened by the unexpected cold and snow in October.
- All in our circle of family, friends, neighbors, communities - as we move into the "late fall and winter phase" of COVID-19. Pray for students, teachers, and staff in school/college - in ever-evolving formats of "live", hybrid, virtual, or home-school learning, for employees who are navigating work at their physical work locations rather than working from home, and for all in the medical field who are working so hard to keep up with increased demands of testing as well as increased demands for care.
- 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.

## Construction Begins

We are excited to share photos and stories of construction that has begun at Blooming Grove United Methodist - as we build a new addition on the south end of the church to make our building accessible for all. The approximately 938 sq. foot addition will have a ground-level handicap-accessible entrance, complete with accessible restrooms, an accessible gathering space, and a 3-stop lift that will provide access to both the sanctuary and the basement.

Right: September 29th—Project work began today with removal of current cement steps and south sidewalk along parking lot to make room for excavation and footings.  
Contractor: Dahle Enterprises of Morristown, MN.



Above: October 9th - Demolition of support walls for former front steps, removal of sidewalk in front of SE door, and excavation to prepare for concrete foundation footings. The foundation door that accessed the crawl-space under the old cement steps is now boarded up. They are in the process of building the forms for the footings. (The addition will sit on a cement slab with in-floor hot water heat.)  
Contractors: Dahle Enterprises - Morristown; Marvin Purrier Concrete and Masonry Construction - Owatonna.



Above: October 12th —Wooden forms are completed and concrete footings poured in preparation for foundation work. The block foundation was laid by the time we arrived for church on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>!

Contractor: Marvin Purrier Concrete and Masonry Construction - Owatonna.



Above and Right: November 3rd—Work resumes after a snow/cold delay: foundation door that accessed the crawl-space under the old cement steps is filled in with cement block and waterproofed, lift opening is cut in the SW foundation, window in the SE belltower foundation is filled in with cement block, and insulation is being added to the outside of the foundation block. Additional concrete work is being completed to provide support for the lift shaft, interior stairs, etc.

Contractor: Marvin Purrier Concrete and Masonry Construction - Owatonna.

**We appreciate your prayers and your financial support as we take this giant step forward into the future. You may mail contributions to Blooming Grove United Methodist Church, PO Box 171, Medford, MN 55049-0171. Please mark your check as "Restoration Fund".**

**Thank you.**

# Blooming Grove Church Council Special

Meeting – October 14, 2020

Carolyn Kanne, Council Secretary

In attendance (virtually, via Bluejeans): Pastor Kathy, Cindy Saufferer, Chery Southworth, Hjordi Churchill, Judy Mahler, Brian & Carolyn Kanne

## Agenda

### Items to Consider Re: In-Person Worship

1. The Parish Leadership Team has discussed what would be needed to return to in-person worship within our sanctuaries as the cold weather moves in. Their recommendation was to leave the “should we return to indoor worship” decision up to each church, with an idea that there could possibly be services held four Sundays a month in the parish - two Sundays with two services per morning (at Janesville and Waterville) and two Sundays with services at BG only. Weekly virtual services would continue to be offered. 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays would be virtual worship only.
2. Waterville’s council has met, and they suggest one service per month at each church, to reduce the inadvertent spread of COVID-19 by Pastor Kathy moving between congregations on the same morning and to reduce the amount of community exposure to Pastor Kathy in one morning. As of right now, they plan to hold one service a month in their building.
3. Conference Update: Since June of this year, there have been 120 confirmed cases of COVID-19 traced to funerals and other church-related gatherings. The Bishop has asked for caution. Conference guidelines call for masks, no singing, no socializing/coffee time, etc. Most of our BGUMC council members in attendance at tonight’s meeting prefer to continue online under those restrictions.
4. In order to return to the building, we would need to create a full-blown preparedness plan, which would need to be submitted to and approved by the District Superintendent. (We are already approved for yellow phase, but this would be more detailed.) We would also need an administrator for the plan.
5. We appreciate that there are members who want to be back in the building. Safety of our members needs to be our first consideration as a church council. In order to gauge interest in returning, we decided to create and disseminate a survey. This survey will ask if people are comfortable returning to in-person worship, make clear the requirements under which this can happen, and ask further (if they want to return) if they are willing to take on the tasks to make this happen. Pastor Kathy will collect the responses, and then



- we will proceed. If there are 10 folks who wish to attend, she will do a service here. Hjordi and Judy will draft something and send it out to the other attendees for review by Saturday (10/17). Once that’s okayed, it will go to the rest of the council for review. We will try to get this sent out to the membership by October 22.
6. If there is interest, there will be services in November and December. We will revisit for January and February, depending upon construction and virus progression.
  7. Another consideration is the contractors who will be in and out of the building now that construction has begun on our addition. Cindy will ask Brad about construction project access, as we probably need to have separate entrance and exit doors.
  8. Kathy will figure something out for Christmas Eve. Weather permitting, we may gather in the parking lot or along the road and sing Silent Night together!

### Church Cleaning

1. Nancy Morris and her sister Susan have asked to discontinue their role in cleaning twice a month at BGUMC due to hip surgery for Susan and scheduling changes for Nancy. We discussed professional cleaning services, though they are most likely more expensive. It was decided to ask the congregation first, in the event someone would like to take on the job, or knows someone who would like to do it. Cindy will write up something for The Visitor, and we will ask on our Facebook page.

### Charge Conference

1. Charge Conference-related forms need to be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup>. We reviewed the list:
  - Nominations needs to complete the list of officers
  - Inactive/Unresponsive – Carolyn. Pastor Kathy finds this report unnecessary, so it will not be completed this year.
  - Numbers 5 & 7 – PPRC
  - Housing – only if something changes
  - Trustees – Brad Spinler
  - Finance – Hjordi
  - Audit – Tracie
  - Missions – Judy
2. The Budget needs to be set, so the Finance team needs to meet. Hjordi will set something up.
3. Even with a virtual meeting, there will need to be a presiding elder. We will check with Pastor Sharon Nelson. Another possibility is Pastor Donna Dempewolf.

Pastor Kathy closed with prayer.



## Outdoor Drive-up Worship

This summer/fall, BGUMC offered outdoor drive-up worship as a way for our congregation to continue gathering in person during the COVID-19 pandemic. Services rotated between Saturday evenings, and Sunday mornings - and we had an excellent response from members and friends of the congregation! Thank you to everyone who committed their time and talent to make this worship venue possible: our greeters who cheerily welcomed each person who turned the corner into the church yard, the Tech Teams who set up, ran, and tore down outdoor sound equipment for each service, Pastor Kathy King for her enthusiasm for preaching outdoors, and our pianist who took service cues through open windows! See below for a story from our Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> outdoor worship.



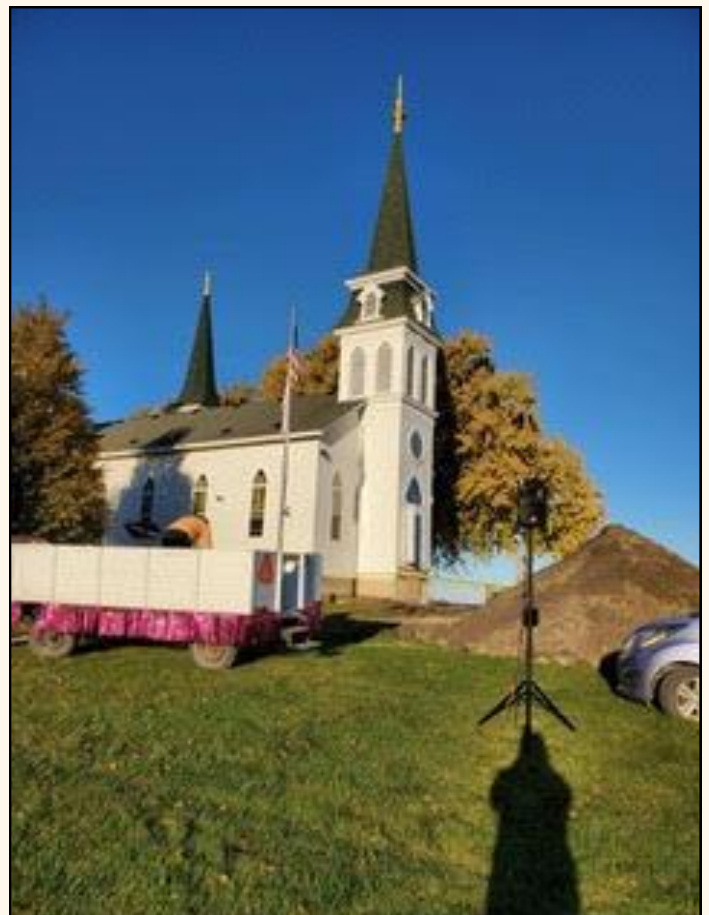
Saturday, October 10th: This afternoon's parking lot in our west "Field of Dreams" - looking east toward the church.

On October 10th, a late fall afternoon, bathed in brilliant blue skies and the golden hue of trees, provided the perfect setting for Saturday's outdoor worship at Blooming Grove UMC. Due to construction, our "pulpit perch" moved from the front steps to our "Run 4 the Loaves" sag wagon!

(continued on next page)



A view of our construction work from the south of the church.



Our two steeples, standing tall and strong in the afternoon sun.



Guest Pastor, Jon Schultz, leads the service from our “Run 4 the Loaves” sag wagon! Our thanks to Bill Olson, from Waterville Evangelical UMC, who helped us run the mixer board as our regular BGUMC tech crew was busy with harvest. Mounds of dirt represent excavation work in preparation for pouring concrete footings for our new addition.



Pastor Jon gives thanks over today’s offering, collected in our historical coffee pot that has brought many generations together for conversation, fellowship, and dreams of the future.

We opened our service, led by guest preacher Jon Schultz, with the following words of celebration:

“Welcome to our Saturday evening worship, in the midst of a construction site—surrounded by generations of dreams coming to fruition—to make Blooming Grove United Methodist Church accessible to all! This is another step of faith in what has been a succession of faithful steps throughout the history of this congregation. This new addition will be a place where people will be welcomed to meet God face to face and experience God’s love and grace in sacred community.

We gather here today to celebrate and give thanks to God and to ask for your continued prayers in the coming days ahead:

- for safety of the construction crews as they work
- for all from Blooming Grove UMC who will be here to support their efforts, make ongoing decisions, and coordinate this project
- for all who drive by, that they may sense this to be a place of open hearts, open minds, open doors

From Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSV)

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

And Amen Again!”



Cars parked to the west, enjoying the service over our outdoor sound system - and tuned in to our FM radio frequency. Our piano music comes through the sound system as well - miked from the front of the sanctuary!

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

November 2020

**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](http://www.bloominggroveumc.org)

Email: [bloominggroveumc@gmail.com](mailto:bloominggroveumc@gmail.com)

Check us out on Facebook!

**Pastoral Care and Emergency  
and General Pastoral Questions:**

**Pastor Kathy King**  
[kking5@hickorytech.net](mailto:kking5@hickorytech.net)  
507-382-2483



Requests for Prayer Chain Email:

Pastor Kathy King at:

[kking5@hickorytech.net](mailto:kking5@hickorytech.net)

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**Prairie Lakes Parish**  
**Virtual Charge Conference**  
**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 P.M.**



The three churches of the Prairie Lakes Parish, Blooming Grove UMC, Janesville UMC, and Waterville Evangelical UMC, will hold their own virtual charge conference meeting via the Blue-Jeans platform on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. All members of all three churches are invited to attend. Our charge conference will be led by our guest elder, Rev. Donna Dempewolf, of Austin First United Methodist. (Donna is from Spring Valley, MN, and is a Spring Valley High School graduate - several classes younger than Carolyn Kanne and Hjordi Churchill!) At this annual meeting, we will honor and celebrate all of the ministry that has taken place in the past year in each of our churches, as well as take care of the

annual business of each church, to include voting on such things as:

- Election of Local Church Leadership
- Approval of Pastor's 2020 Compensation Package
- Approval of church budgets

Our November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting will replace our need to attend the virtual (ZOOM) all-district church conference meeting on Tuesday, 11/10/20, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M., led by our District Superintendent, Fred Vanderwerf, as presiding elder. Fred's all-district option is being offered to help the churches in the Southern Prairie District who do not have access to a presiding elder to lead their annual meetings. The business of the virtual all-district church conference will be handled in the context of worship, led by Fred.

“Conference required forms are due back to Pastor Kathy by Nov. 10th - and the 2021 Budget prior to Thanksgiving.”