



# The Cross & Flame

Volume 29 Issue 1

January 2021

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Dear Friends,

Well folks we made it through 2020 and what a ride it was. The year 2020 did not start much differently than most other years. January and February were for the most part normal, snow, cold and the prettiest blue skies. Then March marched in and our lives were turned upside down.

Our 2020 vision was way off! We could not have envisioned what was ahead of us, but we weathered it. We made it through the constant unknown of what was coming next. We made it through the changes and more changes in our lives. The unknown for some was the hardest and for others it was the isolation. The loneliness was the worst for some and for others it was the loss of friends and family, but we made it.

The note I included in the 2020 January Cross and Flame was about a 2020 vision, making resolutions, new beginnings and making fresh starts. I said that we in the church recognize the need for a fresh start. Jesus came, Jesus lived, Jesus died, and Jesus defeated death so that we could have a fresh start.

There is no better time than 2021 for a fresh start, a new beginning for everyone! In 2021 may the



vaccine be the new beginning to for our Country. In 2021 may the lessons we learned in 2020 be a new beginning in our lives. In 2021 may our economy be stable and work available. In 2021 may we be stay healthy.

May we all remember that a fresh start is but a prayer away. We will falter, but Jesus is there to hold our hand. I pray that your New Year is filled with God's blessings!

Blessings to you,  
Pastor Deb

P.S. Rod and I want to thank everyone for your friendship, prayers, and gifts during the Christmas season. We are blessed to be in ministry with you. May our combined gifts work together to further the mission of Jesus.

## **Mailing Ministry**

The coronavirus has had an unexpected impact on the office budget. In addition to the weekly email and virtual worship service, weekly transcripts are sent to the homes of 40 Mora and Ogilvie United Methodist members. This mailing increases the postage by \$22.00 each week, \$22 that isn't budgeted. It is important to keep this mailing ministry going. If you can please help us off-set some of the extra costs. Just add a note to your check stating postage. Thank you!



Mora United Methodist Church Administrative Council  
Meeting Approved Minutes

November 12, 2020 started at 6:31pm

Attendance: Pastor Deb Schaffran, Al & Phyllis Roseberry, Mike & Val Prax, Ruth Smith, Don Ripperton, Gayle Bergloff, Jan Anderson, and Carmel Gorham

Pastor Deb led us in prayer.

It was reported by Pastor Deb that the church was a COVID testing site on Nov. 4 & 5. There were 850 persons tested with 16% of the people testing positive.

Advent is keeping the pastor very busy as well as the COVID continues to cause stress. Always having to find new ways of doing things.

Nov. 15 sermon is on Encouragement and has the John Wesley Covenant Prayer.

October's secretary's report was Motion to approve by RSmith/Seconded by JAnderson/Passed

Financial Secretary's report was given Motion to approve by PRoseberry / seconded by RSmith / Passed

Treasurer's Report was given Motion to approve by JAnderson / Seconded by GBergloff Passed

We have received \$47,000 in grants this year so we need to keep that in mind as it has helped us to accomplish many things but we will not be received grants like this year. We need everyone to do their part in contributing to our church.

**Finance** has been busy setting up an easy way to make our contributions to the church through Vanco.

Motion to approve this made by CGorham / seconded by ARoseberry / passed

Stewardship – Love & Faith – will be done starting the end of December to introduce Vanco. Then in Jan/Feb the stewardship campaign will be happening.

The budget is in the works.

Finance will be having a separate meeting rather than trying to do their agenda during the Church Administrative Council meeting.

**Trustees** is a very hard working group. Yard work has

been completed and there is painting to still be done.

**SPPR** – They held a virtual meeting, forms sent in and recommendations for salaries & benefits will be coming.

**Christian Ed** – They are making Advent Ribbons to hand out on Nov. 29 when they have the lighting of the outdoor Christmas Tree. Cider & hot chocolate will be served. Decoration to be brought those coming or use the ones from the church. This is held from 3pm – 5pm.

Sanctuary open on Wednesdays from 2pm – 6pm. There will be a Prayer Station, a host will be there to greet each person that comes. Communion station will be set up and Pastor is available but will need to be notified about being wanted there for the person.

**Technology Team** received a \$3,000.00 Cares Grant and are purchasing items, camera, apple tablet, and a larger TV for when we are able to be back in person in the sanctuary. Also items for live streaming the worship services at that time.

**Women In Christian Service** – They will be helping with promotion for the Food Shelf. A donation area in the church will be set up in the narthex for this. They will also help with the setup and items needed for the Nov. 29 Christmas Tree lighting.

The church is going to be getting back on Facebook. There are guidelines through the conference to use. Val P., Phyllis R., and Colleen will help to get this setup.

Indoor meeting and gathering protocols will be revisited in December.

It is decided that the group(s) that are meeting are to continue.

Don R. has requested help in getting the guidelines for doing the cleaning throughout the church for COVID. It was suggested that he talk to the county for helps on this. (TOPS, CORE, NA, Mora UMC committees/teams, & confirmation.)

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm  
submitted by Carmel Gorham

Minutes

## Thank You

The Ogilvie food shelf thanks Ogilvie UMC for the donation of 6.8 lbs. of food, Nov. 9, 2020.

### November Finance Report

Assets including designated funds in bank account \$47,616 (this total includes \$-2,514 in our general fund which compares to \$-5,515 in September). We have no liabilities as our apportionments are paid in full year to date. Giving was up 30% from budget this last month and year to date is down 19% of budget compared to down 27% for September. Expenses were 2% under budget in November and year to date are 5% over budget compared to 5% over budget for September. Total assets in the Permanent Endowment Fund remain \$105,717. Detailed accounts balance report is available by request in the Church Office.

Stewardship campaign is planned for January. Watch for information in your mail in the next couple weeks. We have contracted with e Giving service Vanco. This service will allow donations to be given securely from a link on our web site and via a mobile app. Information on the implementation of this program will be sent via email.

### Remembering our friends of Mora UMC

#### Lorraine Kobberdahl

Eastwood Senior Living  
170 Valhalla Circle, Mora, MN 55051

#### Avis Pixley

Hallett Cottages  
350 4th Street NE, Crosby, MN 56441

#### Paul Rodecap

1545 River Hills Parkway NW  
Apt. 321, Cambridge, MN 55008-3743

### Remembering our friends of Ogilvie UMC

#### Dorothy Carroll

Eastwood Senior Living  
170 Valhalla Circle  
Mora, MN 55051

#### Ruth Kaufert

646 Old Main St. N.  
Cambridge, MN 55008

## January Birthdays & Anniversaries\*

### Ogilvie UMC

04 Steve Schoumaker  
04 Breckin Mortenson  
12 Dan Torgeson  
16 Diana Eberly  
19 Payton Schoumaker  
24 John St. George

### Mora UMC

01 Melanie Halverson  
03 Don Ripperton  
06 Oakley Ruud  
06 Christina Sundet  
07 Mavis Burk  
**07 Mike & Jody Anderson**  
09 Dylan Wellnitz  
10 Tess Houglum  
10 Lily Hanson  
12 Henry Spann  
17 Dianne Mayer  
18 Marilee Jensen  
18 Elsie Ripperton  
20 Cindy Peterson  
20 Nola Klinkner  
23 David Zins  
23 Lorraine Kobberdahl  
25 Carol Hanson  
27 Jayce Wylie  
29 Dennis Schulz  
29 Rich Nordstrom  
30 Dave Smith

*\*Bold indicates anniversary*



# Mora United Methodist Church

*"Living for Christ, Sharing His Love"*

500 Clark Street, Mora, MN 55051-1804  
320-679-2713 ~ Handicapped Accessible

**Pastor Debra Schaffran**

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**Office Administrator** Colleen R. Hendershot  
[moraogilvie.umcs@gmail.com](mailto:moraogilvie.umcs@gmail.com)

*Office Administrator Hours: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Wed. – Fri.*

10:30 a.m. Worship available on YouTube

**Visit us online:** [moraumc.org](http://moraumc.org)

# Ogilvie United Methodist Church

*"To know Jesus Christ as our risen Lord  
and serve Him throughout the world"*

201 West Bragg Street, PO Box 267, Ogilvie, MN 56358  
320-272-4255 ~ Handicapped Accessible

**Pastor Debra Schaffran**

952-240-3836 ~ [debraschaffran@gmail.com](mailto:debraschaffran@gmail.com)

10:30 a.m. Worship available on YouTube

**Visit us online:**

[moraumc.org/ogilvie-united-methodist-church](http://moraumc.org/ogilvie-united-methodist-church)



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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