



The Cross & Flame

Volume 29 Issue 5

May 2021

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Hello Friends,

On page 352 of our United Methodist Church hymnal is the wonderful hymn titled It's Me, It's Me, O Lord (Standing in the Need of Prayer). The words to this hymn are not intended to negate others need of prayer but instead to focus on "me". Each of the three verses identify someone that isn't "me."

Verse 1

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

Verse 2

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not the preacher, not the deacon, but it's me O Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

Verse 3

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, It's me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the need of prayer

Not my father, not my mother but it's me O Lord, Oh Standin' in the need of prayer.

How often do we focus our prayer life on others and not on ourselves? Each of us is a precious child of God and as His precious child He longs for us to come to Him first-hand. Sure we pray for others and others pray for us, but we need a first-hand relationship with God.

In the book of James chapter 4 verse 8 we read *Come near to God, and God will come near to you.* Sure our lives are busy, and we could reply on others to

bring us our spiritual experiences but, a relationship with God can only be one on one, you and God. There are certain things that no one else can do for us and one of those is spending time with God.

Come near to God, and God will come near to you.



Your Sister in Christ Pastor Deb

Pastor Deb Schaffran is available for home visits and counseling when requested, as well as hospital visits when informed. Remember that the hospital does not inform us of your admission. Pastor Deb can be reached at 952-240-3836.

Confirmation Sunday, May 16

Three Mora UMC young people will confirm their faith May 16 during in-person worship. Please support these young people and their families as they say "yes" to following Jesus.
Sam Zins, Lindsay Sigstad, Nora Houglum

Thank You

Thank you to Rod Schaffran and Riley Dahlberg for using their technology expertise to bring the worship service to all those worshipping in-person and online.

Attention all Graduates!

Attention all Spring '21 (and Winter '20) graduates: We need information from you to include you in our Grad Sunday celebration June 6. If you want to be in the slide show and board of senior pictures, please e-mail the following information to moraogilvie.umcs@gmail.com by Sunday, May 30:

- Name as you wish to be listed
- School graduating from
- Degree achieved (if from college)
- Plans for what's next (college, vocation, other program)
- A Senior/Current photo (Preferably a digital copy sent by e-mail)
- Open House Information (if desired)

Cater Scholarship:

Apply before May 15. Cater Scholarships are offered by First UMC of the St. Cloud Region for students in levels sophomore through graduate study who are members of United Methodist Churches in the Minnesota Conference and are preparing for a vocation of Christian humanitarian service (ministry, teaching, medicine, social services, etc.).

Wear Red on Pentecost

Sunday May 23 is Pentecost. On Pentecost Sunday, we remember the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a special way. The story in Acts 2 describes a powerful wind and tongues of fire as the Holy Spirit was poured out on people from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a Jewish feast. At the first Pentecost over 3000 people were baptized, creating the first church.

Thank You Praise Team!

Thank you to the Praise Team, directed by Melanie Halverson, for their online worship leadership. As we all deal with the changes created by the Pandemic it has been wonderful to see the familiar faces and hear their gift of music.

Thank You Altar Committee!

A special thank you to the Altar committee. The Altar committee provides the altar décor as well as decorating for the seasons. The Easter décor was especially beautiful. Thank you to Gail Bergloff, Jan Anderson, and Marilee Jensen.

May is a busy month!

May is a busy month. Please join online or in-person as we share Holy Communion on May 2, summarize the sermon series "I See You" on May 9, celebrate as three confirmands confirm their faith on May 16, celebrate Pentecost on May 23 and May 30 we remember those who died in active military service.

Vacation time for Pastor Deb & Rod

Pastor Deb and Rod are on vacation starting May 3rd and returning on May 12. Pastor Deb is available for emergencies by calling her at 952-240-3836.

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

Remembering our friends of Ogilvie UMC

Dorothy Carroll

St. Clare Living Community of Mora
110 7th St, Apt. 13
Mora, MN 55051

Ruth Kaufert

646 Old Main St. N., Cambridge, MN 55008



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 33 Mora and Ogilvie United Methodist members. It is important to keep this mailing ministry going. If you can please help us offset some of the extra costs. Just add a note to your check stating postage. Thank you!

May Birthdays & Anniversaries*

Ogilvie UMC

01 Bryan & Pat Fredrick

21 Patricia Fredrick

30 Robbie Krahrmer

Mora UMC

01 Dane Halverson

03 Kaden Halverson

03 Sharon Lidstrom

04 Nikcole Sundet

05 Allen & Judy Welton

06 Joanne Gross

07 Ginger Madison

07 Jody Anderson

07 Tom Anderman

07 Bert & Karen Watson

08 Matt & Dana Anderson

12 Patrick Gorham

13 Delores Akkerman

13 Steven Peterson

16 Marvin Trogstad

16 Daryl Gravning

17 Daryl & Trisha Gravning

18 Frances Anderson

22 Marc & Marilee Jensen

24 Alison Holland

25 Gayle Bergloff

25 Emmalee Sundet

26 Jim Scharber

29 Lacey Jensen

29 Aric & Jesse Stegeman

**Bold indicates anniversary*

March 2021 Finance Report

Assets including designated funds in our bank account of \$51,728 (this total includes \$-3,383 in our general fund which compares to \$17 in February). We have no liabilities as our apportionments are paid in full for the year. Giving was down 42% from budget in March and expenses were 8% under budget. Year to date giving is down 13% and expenses are down 3%. Stewardship brochures were mailed the first week of February. Thanks to those that have returned their Estimate of Giving Card. If you have not returned your card, please leave in offering plate, mail or drop off at the church office as soon as possible.

Total assets in the Permanent Endowment Fund remain \$105,717. Permanent Endowment interest earned this past year was \$2,024.75. Interest was disbursed as follows: 25% for our Missionaries the Graner's, 25% for Food for Friends, and 50% towards a designated fund to use towards future expenses related to replacing the Church Parking Lot. A detailed accounts balance report is available by request in the Church Office.

Thank You Mora UMC

Food For Friends thanks Mora United Methodist for their monetary donations of \$506.19 and \$100.00 on April 9, 2021. We appreciate your support!

Thank You Mora UMC

Heifer International thanks Mora UMC for their recent give of \$170 which will provide rural farming families with life-changing animals and education, enabling them to earn enough money to feed their children.

Thank you Mora UMC

Feed My Starving Children would like to thank Mora UMC for the gift of \$100 on April 1, 2021. Your donation will provide 416 MannaPack meals to those around the world who need it most.

Thank You Mora UMC

The Mora Food Pantry thanks Mora UMC for its donation of 311 lbs. of food Jan.—March, 2021.

APPROVED MINUTES – March 11, 2021 Church Council meeting.

Pastor called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. and opened with a prayer.

Those in attendance meeting were Pastor Deb, Phyllis, Alan, Rhonda, Lori, Carmel, Janell, Jan, Steve

Pastor's Time: The new church leadership role was presented. There are still spots that names could be filled in but it is hard to fill spots in the time of COVID.

The Secretary's report was approved M/S/C Carmel/Steve

Financial Secretary's report was approved M/S/C Janell/Carmel

Treasurer's report were approved as presented M/S/C Jan/Phyllis

Finance Committee: The stewardship results are about a third of last year's pledges. Not sure if it is that it was done in the new year or not being in the building or if it is the effects of COVID. There will be ongoing discussion on our financial situation.

SPPRC: A personnel issue worked its way out. Time off for Pastor has been approved. Janell's 16 years as custodian was recognized with a card and gift card and a thank you received.

Trustees: There is an issue with the sump pump, tweaking the new TV in the sanctuary, curtain rods need to be hung - things will be worked on this Saturday. The AED is here and hung on the wall.

Christian Education: Is not meeting tonight. The time and day needs to be changed to accommodate a new work schedule. 7-12 activities are planned for this

Sunday with Grace, Calvary, and St Mary's from 3:30-5:30. We will be joining this group as well for VBS this summer. Also we are joining Grace, Calvary, and St Mary's for some online and in person activities –

WICS: Purchased Pizza, beverages and fruit for the vaccination workers for one day. Thank you Carmel, Gayle and Ruth.

Missions: Haven't met recently

Memorials: New banners are getting picked out, a new vacuum was purchased as well as stamps.

Technology: The new TV is up and working, things are coming together.

Worship: The question, "Do we need a monthly worship meeting?" was brought up. There was some talk, yes no maybe? After some discussion a vote was taken and we will have in person worship starting for Palm Sunday, also Maundy Thursday and onward.

Praise Team will tape 2-3 hymns and special music for Sunday worship and it will be shown on the TV.

Men's Club: Is not meeting.

The church's Facebook is still not on line and they can't figure out why.

M/S/C Carmel/Janell to adjourn at 7:20 pm.

Next meeting Thursday April 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janell Anderson, Council Secretary

Thank You Mora UMC

Heifer International gratefully recognizes Mora UMC for its contribution of healthy animals and training in their care to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty.



MAY

BASKET
BOUQUET
BUMBLEBEE
BUTTERFLIES
CATERPILLAR
FLOWERS
FROGS
GARDENING

LADYBUG
MAY DAY
MOTHERS DAY
PLANTS
SPRINGTIME
SOIL
UMBRELLA
WORMS



B K E T B O U M B R E L L A M
A S W O R M S Q U O T B U G B
F Y B E E B E L B M U B E A L
L A D Y B U G U T T E Q F R I
O D E M I T G N I R P S U D E
W S L L I P R E T P A Y C E S
E R C A T E R P I L L A R N T
R E A R E F L O W A E D R I F
S H A G K S O G R N F Y S N R
R T D E S N I N G T L A D G O
S O I L A Y A M G S U M B Y G
Y M A D B U T T E R F L I E S

Mora United Methodist Church

“Living for Christ, Sharing His Love”

500 Clark Street, Mora, MN 55051-1804
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Pastor Debra Schaffran

952-240-3836 ~ debraschaffran@gmail.com

Office Administrator Colleen R. Hendershot
moraogilvie.umcs@gmail.com

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

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship available on YouTube

Visit us online: moraumc.org

Find us on Facebook: United Methodist Church of Mora

Ogilvie United Methodist Church

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

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Pastor Debra Schaffran

952-240-3836 ~ debraschaffran@gmail.com

9 a.m. In-Person Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship available on YouTube

Visit us online:
moraumc.org/ogilvie-united-methodist-church



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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