



# The Cross & Flame

Volume 29 Issue 8

August 2021

## August 2021

Hello All

Most churches pray, but not all are praying churches. Most churches pause during their worship and their gatherings to pray, sometimes out of ritual and sometimes spontaneously, and certainly out of sincerity. But how does a church make the leap to become a praying church, where prayer is the engine and fuel behind everything done?

The Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy chapter 2 (Contemporary English Version) Talks about how to pray. He says in 2:1 "First of all, I ask you to pray for everyone. Ask God to help and bless them all and tell God how thankful you are for each of them."

Verse 8 he says "I want everyone everywhere to lift innocent hands toward heaven and pray, without being angry or arguing with each other."



Those attending the Sunday, July 11 worship services at Mora and Ogilvie UMC's were introduced to prayer sticks.

Each prayer stick has an individual or a family name written on it.

We each were encouraged to take a random stick home and pray for that person or persons for the week. At the end of the week we were asked to write a note on the stick and return it to the bucket the next week.

August 1 begins the fourth week of this activity. It won't be long and everyone on both church mailing lists will have been lifted in prayer. It has been wonderful to pray for our church friends.

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.*



APPROVED MINUTES – May 13, 2021 Church Council meeting.

Valerie called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Pastor opened with a prayer.

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

Pastor's Time: Our time away was good. Cold/rainy – until the last day but good. Confirmation is next week and we have a couple very busy weeks coming up. We are done with the sermon series, "I see you" the next series will start this summer. Summer vacation replacements are hard to find and it might be easier for Pastor to prerecord the service for worship on screen, in person. KCMA is back meeting in person and they are planning on doing some sort of joint project.

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

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

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

Finance Committee: Passing the plate, is it time. With the latest from the CDC we could go back to passing the plate the risk of spread is very low. M/S/C Jan/Phyllis to bring back this piece of normal this Sunday. Phyllis had some hand out for Shepherds Staff Financial Modules. Janell took the Treasurer one to look through. Jan will wait until later in the fall. We possible need to update computers for Finance and the Church office.

Trustees: Clean up date is Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. .

SPPRC: Colleen is going on vacation next week.

Christian Education: Confirmation is May 16<sup>th</sup> – the 3 confirmands. Will share their faith statements with the congregations by being taped earlier, and these will be shown early in the service. Eight months is not enough time to complete do justice to a confirmation program. Pastor will take a step back for a bit and start planning for the next confirmation class. Graduation is celebrated on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the service. There are 4 graduates, Dane Maggie, Tess and Zander.

Greeting will be after the service outside, socially distancing.

Worship: Possibly bring back fellowship time out on the patio in June? It was agreed to aim for Father's Day June 20 for this. The CDC has not prohibited masked singing. We are now in the yellow zone. Hymnals and Bibles will be brought back into the sanctuary.

Worship committee is taking the summer off. Worship will meet again in August, and may rethink meeting seasonally rather than monthly.

Technology: Making the shift to live stream on line rather than pretaped. Taping is done through the end of May; live streaming will begin in June. There are still some procedures to be worked through, and training of some additional folks to work the camera.

WICS: Blankets are done for the graduates and there are three baptism blankets ready for the Hanson girls baptism on May 23rd.

Missions: nothing to report

Memorials: nothing to report

Men's Club: Is not meeting.

Goals for 2021 and review of the Mission Statement are tabled until next meeting.

County vaccinations are lagging along with Isanti –

M/S/C Janell/Carmel to adjourn at 8:12 pm

Next meeting Thursday June 10th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janell Anderson, Council Secretary

APPROVED MINUTES – June 10, 2021 Church Council meeting.

Valerie called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Pastor opened with a prayer.

Those in attendance meeting were Pastor Deb, Phyllis, Alan, Rhonda, Janell, Valerie, Jan

Pastor's Time: VBS was lots of fun, Pastor helped with the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. No activities were at the Methodist Church. A possible Theme for July will be, Summer of Love. Pastor will be collaborating with 3 other Methodist Pastors around the state. July 4<sup>th</sup> Pastor will be on vacation – if needed she will drive back for worship. Possibly pre taping of the service will be done and worshippers can view at home or on the screen at the church.

Annual Conference is set for June 22-24, it will be focusing on Racial Justice. It will be on line and an in person smaller group meeting for Pastors around the state. Pastor will be participating at the Methodist Church in Alexandria. Phyllis will be attending as our Lay delegate at her home.

Do we have bulletins or do put more of the bulletin announcements on the screen. Maybe a half page 'announcement' and church information bulletin.

The Secretary's report was approved M/S/C Rhonda/Alan

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

Treasurer's report were approved as presented M/S/C Alan/Rhonda

Finance Committee: Phyllis is going to work on expanding the information in the financial giving statement of the newsletter, looking for a better way to report on our financial giving.

Trustees: Met last night. The screen will be taken out of the library. There is another shingle off the roof....there is kind of a line where they come off.

SPPRC: meeting the week after next

Christian Education: We participated in VBS. The Hanson girls (the four oldest) are going to camp at Northern Pines.

Worship: not meeting during the summer. Summer of Love theme – Pastor and Melanie are talking together.

Missions: nothing to report

Memorials: nothing to report

Technology: Volunteers are needed to learn the new technology part of the worship service. How do we get them? Running the TV is hitting buttons and following along with the service, the sound board this time of year is mostly the Pastor's mic. Valerie will make some calls.

WICS: Meets next week.

Men's Club: Is not meeting.

Other business:

A: Meditation Garden needs work. Valerie did some work one morning – Maybe Saturday morning will work to get a group together.

B: Ushers – we need volunteers for this, greeting and welcoming. Sign ups are in the Narthex.

C: Indoor meeting and gathering protocols: Fellowship time to start on June 20 – just coffee to start.

D: Goals for 2021 – what things do we still need to bring back?

M/S/C Janell/Rhonda to adjourn at 7:47pm

Next meeting Thursday July 8th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janell Anderson, Council Secretary

### **Thank You**

The Mora Food Pantry thanks Mora UMC for its donation of 272 lbs. of food to the Pantry for April—June 2021.

### **Thank You**

Global Ministries thanks Mora UMC for its gift of \$675 for Missionaries Around the World received July 8, 2021.

### **Thank You**

One More Time thanks Mora UMC for time donated by Cindy Peterson and enclose a check for \$31 donated to your food shelf for June 2021..

### **Worship Team Invite**

The Mora worship team invites any and all that have an interest in planning for the fall season to join us at a gathering Tuesday August 3 at 5 pm in the conference room. We will look at creating worship experiences and series that are engaging and relevant for our church.

### **Education Team Needs You**

The Mora Education team needs “creative minds” to plan the fall season for our children and youth. All are welcome to join us Tuesday, August 3 at 7pm in the conference room.

### **Hospitality Opportunities**

Hello, you may have gotten a recent email asking if you'd continue to serve the church by bringing flowers, ushering, greeting or serving. Thank you to those who have replied!

To everyone, I'm looking to fill Sundays with willing volunteers for those areas. If you're willing to serve in any capacity please let me know as soon as possible so I can begin scheduling in August.

Thank you so much! The more people who can do some of these the less often you will be scheduled!

### **July Birthdays & Anniversaries\***

#### **Ogilvie UMC**

05 Bryan Fredrick  
06 Kyle Leske  
21 Chad Schoumaker  
28 Hayden Schoumaker

#### **Mora UMC**

#### **01 Steve & Janice Peterson**

04 Valerie Prax  
04 Missy Hanson  
06 Steve Sigstad  
06 Nicholas Madison  
06 Sawyer Smith  
07 Patricia Larson  
11 Alayna Sundet  
18 Jaylah Printon  
20 Kayla Nelson  
24 Rachel Nelson  
20 Robert Halverson  
21 Brody Halverson  
21 Alan Roseberry  
25 Lynn Nelson  
27 Hope Weidendorf  
28 Blake Spann  
30 Christina Markley  
30 Aric Stegeman

**\*Bold indicates anniversary**

## **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

## **August Birthdays & Anniversaries\***

### **Ogilvie UMC**

07 Robyn Polsfuss  
**08 David & Laura Ulman**  
15 DeLores Gossen  
28 Julie Krahmer  
31 Kyle Carda

### **Mora UMC**

**01 Ty & Jenny Hougum**  
03 Matthew Madison  
**04 Barry & Ginger Madison**  
04 Adam Peterson  
05 Jenny Hougum  
**08 Riley & Nikki Priebe**  
**10 Brody & Darcy Halverson**  
10 David Nordenstrom  
14 Greg Holzer  
**22 Victor & Paula Vanecek**  
22 Zander Gravning  
23 Robert Hanson  
25 Bruce Mosher  
26 Ava Printon  
**26 Jarek & Christy Sundet**  
27 Ruth Hansberry  
29 Donna Trogstad  
30 Angela Gorham

**\*Bold indicates anniversary**

## **May 2021 Finance Report**

Assets include designated funds in our bank account of \$44,043 (this total includes \$-10,409 in our general fund which compares to \$-8,584 in April). We have no liabilities as our apportionments are paid in full year to date. Motion was made and accepted to pay \$706 towards this month's apportionments. Giving was down 31% from budget in April and expenses were 19% under budget. Year to date giving is down 19% from budget compared to down 19% last month and expenses are at budget compared to over .01% last month.

Total assets in the Permanent Endowment Fund remain \$105,717. This money is invested in 5 separate CD's with varied renewal dates and rates. Interest from these CD's are disbursed at the end of the year to missions, property funds, or general endowment funds to meet special needs and ministries.

## **June 2021 Finance Report**

Assets include designated funds in our bank account of \$45,035 (this total includes \$-9,633 in our general fund which compares to \$-10,409 in May). Motion was made and accepted to pay \$898 (a tithe of our June revenue, towards this month's apportionments. Giving was down 14% from budget in June and expenses were 8% under budget. Year to date giving is down 23% from budget compared to down 24% last month and expenses are 1% under budget compared to at budget last month.

Total assets in the Permanent Endowment Fund remain \$105,717. This money is invested in 5 separate CD's with varied renewal dates and rates. Interest from these CD's are disbursed at the end of the year to missions, property funds, or general endowment funds to meet special needs and ministries.

# 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**

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

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

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

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)

9 a.m. In-Person Worship  
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

Mora United Methodist Church  
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