



# The Messenger

February 2020

*We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ!*

**Memorial United Methodist Church, 1920 Lake Shore Drive, Gladstone, Michigan 49837**

Office: (906) 428-9311

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Mon. – Thur., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Pastor Cathy Rafferty

(734) 646-6922

[pastor@gladstonechurch.org](mailto:pastor@gladstonechurch.org)

Mon., Wed., Thur., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Please join us for worship at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Sunday mornings**

By the time you read this, the calendar will say it's February and the groundhog will have decided whether we have six more weeks of winter. (I'm guessing that groundhog's not a Yooper if it thinks winter will be over by the middle of March.)

As Christians, we have yet another way of keeping time. According to the liturgical calendar of the Church, we are living in *ordinary* time. This *ordinary* time starts after Epiphany ends the Christmas season, and it carries us through until Transfiguration Sunday, a few days before Ash Wednesday leads us into our Lenten journey toward Easter. So, for now, we are living in *ordinary* time.

For now, I'm inviting us to use our *ordinary* time to prepare for that *new normal* we know is on the way. Each of us in our own lives and in our congregational life together face change. Some change we have long expected and welcome, like the birth of a child or a promotion or graduation. Other changes come suddenly, catch us unprepared, and may be most unwelcome, like a slip on the ice, a difficult medical diagnosis, or the death of a loved one. For a time, nothing may seem ordinary. Yet always, on the other side of change, we eventually find our *new normal* that includes whatever changes we have been through and moves us forward to face whatever is coming next.

The value of *ordinary* time is that it gives us time to pay attention to what we consider to be ordinary in our lives. In our spiritual lives, this can be a time to identify and appreciate the everyday ways in which we experience God's presence: in the routine of Sunday worship or daily prayer and Bible reading; in the simple acts of offering mealtime prayers or blessing our family; in the regular gifts we give through our offering or food pantry contributions; in the service we do helping a neighbor, sending a card, making meals, singing in choir; in the ways we continue to learn, studying together, supporting each other. When we practice these *ordinary*, everyday habits and routines, we invite that regular awareness of God with us, and we strengthen our connections to each other.

Then, when change does come, the extraordinary happens. We find we have all that we need to move through whatever comes, with God and each other, toward our new normal—from ordinary life, through death, to resurrection.

*May God bless you with ordinary time, Pastor Cathy*

**Ash Wednesday** begins our Lenten journey. Please join us for the Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 26 at 7pm.

**Lenten Soup Suppers and Speakers** are planned for the 5 Tuesdays in March. Join us for fellowship and a simple supper at 5:30, followed by a special speaker at 6:00. Topics will be areas of interest to Delta County. Invite your friends and neighbors.

**Confirmation** will be on Palm Sunday, April 5. If you know someone in 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade who might be interested, please invite him/her or let us know. There are blue informational letters on the long table by the front door. Our first confirmation gathering will begin at 4:00 on Saturday, Feb. 22, and will lead into supper, followed by an overnight, fun-filled retreat that all youth – confirmed or unconfirmed -- are invited to.

### **Ministry with the Youth**

As we gear up for a lively confirmation program this spring and an active Youth Group fully ramping up into the summer, WE NEED ADULTS willing to invest themselves in the lives of these young people. We already have several adults on board with us, but the more adults we have with their varied talents and interests, the fuller and broader our Youth Outreach will be. We are not asking you to be at every single activity or to be “all things to all people” – just to help at the youth activities you feel comfortable at, when your schedule allows. Please contact Pastor Cathy or Lisa Myers for details.

### **Road Trip with The Rev.**

#### **10a.m. Sat., Feb. 29 “Walk for Warmth”**

Meet at church at 8:45a.m. to carpool or meet at the Elks Lodge 510 Ludington St. by 10a.m. to walk together. Can't join us – You are still welcome to pledge your support to help Delta County residents having trouble paying their home heating bills. Pledge sheets are on the bulletin board. Let us know if you are walking, and we will put your name in the bulletin for people to give on your pledge sheet. (Bring your pledge sheet to church weekly.) Rev. is buying lunch for whoever raises the most.

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Dear Friends in Mission,

The dear people you helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - Thank you!

Through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need. Roland Fernandes,

COO and General Treasurer  
United Methodist Committee on Relief

**THANK YOU**, to the Missions Committee and many other people who helped during the month of January. The **Eat for Heat meal** raised over \$550, which is split evenly between the Gladstone St. Vincent de Paul heat assistance and Community Action Walk for Warmth. The **Saturday Lunch** on Jan. 11 feed 24 hungry people at Salvation Army's Friendship Kitchen. (This is considerably lower than normal due to the snow storm.) Five volunteers from Memorial prepared and served this meal with groceries provided by our Missions Committee. As always, Memorial strongly supported **Hope at the Inn**, staffing “our” week almost exclusively with Memorial volunteers.

### **Saturday Lunch – March 7**

March 7 is Memorial's turns to prepare and serve lunch at Salvation Army's Friendship Kitchen. If you would be willing to help, please contact Alice Butch 428-9371.

### **Hope at the Inn (March 1 - 8)**

We will be hosting the rotating homeless shelter the first week of March. There will soon be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please consider helping by providing supper or by staffing one of the following shifts on any day that week:

- Intake 5:30pm – 10:30pm
- Second 10:30pm – 3am
- Third 3am – 8am

If you would like to staff one of the shifts and have not yet been trained, please try to attend the next **training on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:45pm at the Ford River Community Chapel** on M-35, nine miles south of the airport. Training runs 75 minutes.

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Memorial United Methodist Church Members and Leaders

Thank you for the very large donation of packets of venison. The meat is a real treat for those in need - their choice on almost every order.

~ St. Vincent de Paul food pantry

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**The Backpack Buddies** program could use 2 or 3 people to help pack backpacks every Wednesday at 3:00 for just a half hour.

To Methodist Church,

Thank you for the donation of 2 boxes of hats & mittens for our Christmas baskets. Because of your generosity, we are better able to help our friends in need.

Sincerely,  
Donna Spreitzer,  
Secretary of St. Vincent de Paul,  
All Saints Conference

### Report from the Crocheting & Knitting Group

We just donated 12 lap robes and 10 pairs of slippers to the residents of Northwood Nursing Home. We received so many "thank yous" and a lot of smiles. It was such a joy to see all so happy.

We are now making afghans for foster children. If you know of someone or a nursing home that needs them, let us know. We are always looking for more things to do.

Thank you so much for the lap blankets and booties. Brought some beautiful smiles. Thank you. ~ Northwoods Place Family

### -- Birthdays -

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2/1 Cheryl Stanek    | 2/20 Jeffrey Donovan, Jr. |
| 2/3 Bud Clark        | 2/21 Paula Maskart        |
| Kimberlee Rahmlow    | Beverly VanDeVusse        |
| 2/6 Katelyn Wyman    | 2/22 Carol Borden         |
| 2/7 Victor Lyberg    | Patsy Waeghe              |
| 2/8 David Johnson    | 2/24 David Webber         |
| 2/9 Gina Buchmiller  | 2/25 Dennis Carlyon       |
| Megann Hubbard       | Adam Konrad               |
| Ethan Jensen         | 2/26 Betsy Anderson       |
| Roberta Johnson      | Wayne Large               |
| 2/12 Justyn Doucette | Joel Lyberg               |
| Amy Gilbert          | Sandra St. John           |
| 2/14 Kelsey DeMarse  | Pamela Thorbahn           |
| 2/15 Kay Alko        | 2/27 Dennis Harrison      |
| 2/16 Rebecca Worth   | Christine Jensen          |
| 2/17 Nicole Creten   |                           |
| Earl Possi           |                           |
| 2/19 Andrew Jensen   |                           |



### New Arrival

Lexi Louise was born to Melissa and Justin Johnson on Jan. 13. She joins her brother Kingston at home.

### MUMC Quilting . . .

*"Quilts that warm the body and soul"*

We are 6-8 women that meet every Wednesday morning from 9-12 noon. We fellowship with the knitters over coffee and sweets at 10:30. This is a great opportunity to minister to those within our church and our community. All are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings. If you can sew a straight line, tie a knot, or use scissors, you are all set! Others may participate by donating unneeded household item such as sheets, blankets, bed spreads, FABRIC, thread, or a monetary donation.

Our quilts are blessed and distributed to fill needs within our community. 125 quilts were made and donated in 2019. These quilts were given in Christmas baskets through the Salvation Army, the Children's Advocacy Center, and locally as needs surfaced.

REMEMBER us when downsizing, spring cleaning, going to estate sales, or finding a super fabric sale at WalMart!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
*We want to thank everyone for their cards, hugs, prayers, and kind words on the death of our Mother, Lola Ness. She was 94-3/4 years old, and her mind was sharp till her last breath. She knew she was going to be with God, with Dad and all her family. She was at peace - as are we. A deep, abiding Faith is so comforting.*  
~ Pat & Al Waeghe, Connie & Dennis Ness.  
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### Fall Extravaganza

This year's Extravaganza is scheduled for Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. (This is one week earlier than the last two years.) I am looking for some **key** people and many helpers. If everyone does a little, we will ALL benefit a LOT! The Extravaganza has proven to be a time of Christian fellowship within our church and our community. Financially, these events have been a great benefit to MUMC. The 2019 Extravaganza netted a profit of \$3,798 which was split 10% to Missions and 90% to General. The 2018 Extravaganza made over \$5,000 which was matched with another \$5,000 from an anonymous donor. This money provided the funding to make repairs and renovations to the kitchen and replace tiles in two bathrooms, among other updates/repairs.

An organizational meeting will be held on **Monday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** for the 2020 Extravaganza. All are welcome!!

Contact person: Leroux Strom

~ ~

"Thank you" for all the thoughts, prayers, telephone calls and daily contacts that were sent my way the past ten weeks. There are still medical appointments and tests to be done, but we are making progress. Each day is getting better and, with a cautious schedule, I should be able to get back into most activities. It is a true blessing to have such a caring church family. Appreciate each and every one of you.

~ Virginia Petersen

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## Movie Night—Feb. 15

Our free movie night with Feature Films is at 6pm on the following Saturdays: Feb. 15, Mar. 21, Apr. 25, and May 16. A children’s movie plays in the gym, and a teen movie is shown in the Youth Room. There is theater-style popcorn and sometimes other snacks – all free.

Invite your neighbors, friends, and cousins. This is a great way to invite into the church someone who would never otherwise set foot inside a church.

Licensing requirements prevent us from publicly advertising the movie titles, but they’re well-known feature films. (Call the office for details.)

## Long-range Planning

- Movie Nights: Feb. 15, March 21, April 25, May 16
- Hope at the Inn: March 1 – 8
- Saturday Lunch at Salvation Army: March 7
- Bay Area Campus Ministry meal: March 16
- Camp Sunday: April 19
- Rummage Sale: Apr. 30 – May 2
- Spring Tea: May 2
- MARSP dinner: May 5
- Michigamme Day: June 13
- Fall Extravaganza: Oct. 10
- Pasty Sale: Nov. 6-7

<b>newsletter deadline: Thursday, Feb. 27</b>
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**Pickleball** games are in “full swing” in the gym. Call the church office to schedule a time. There is no official charge, but there is a freewill donation jar.

## Sign-up sheets by bulletin board

It’s a new year with tons of new opportunities. Please take a moment to check over the sign-up sheets by the bulletin board. Interested in other activities? Contact the church office 428-9311.

## Sunday Morning Volunteers

*To volunteer, sign up on bulletin board or call office.*

**Acolytes:** Kole Desotelle and Nathan Moore

**Altar Guild:** Virginia Petersen and Pam Thorbahn

**Coffee:**  
Feb. 9 Susan Lagina  
Feb. 16 John Ettenhofer  
Feb. 23 Susan Lagina

**Communion Servers:** Dennis and Cheryl Stanek

**Counters:**  
Feb. 2 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza and Allison Desotelle  
Feb. 9 Nancy Peterson and Susan Lagina  
Feb. 16 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza and Sharon Block  
Feb. 23 Nancy Peterson and Allison Desotelle

**Greeters (first service):**  
Feb. 2 Brian Hanson  
Feb. 9 Al and Chris Jensen  
Feb. 16 Al and Chris Jensen  
Feb. 23 Nannette Martin

**Greeters (second service):**  
Feb. 2 Nancy Peterson  
Feb. 9 Dennis and Cheryl Stanek  
Feb. 16 youth  
Feb. 23 Gail Johnivan

**Muffins:**  
Feb. 9 Susan Lagina  
Feb. 16 Diane Bishop  
Feb. 23 Susan Lagina

**Pianists:**  
Feb. 2 Kathy Young  
Feb. 9 Kathy Young  
Feb. 16 Deborah Hubbard  
Feb. 23 Kathy Young

**Readers:**  
Feb. 2 Kathy Young  
Feb. 9 Dennis Stanek  
Feb. 16 youth  
Feb. 23 Alice Butch

**Ushers:** Kevin Sodermark and Marvin Sodermark

**Creative Cards** have been designed by the Knitting Group for sale for \$2 each. Please check them out in the narthex, by the bulletin board. Proceeds go to the building fund.

## Prayer List

Jon Anderson	Family of Jack Lund
Andy Fase	Family of Christian Groleau
Tom Butch	Family of Jack Deacon
Nancy Campbell	Family of Tim Bernards
Terry Hampton	Jim & Lois Boydston
Virginia Petersen	Chris & Kim Diamond
Gloria Herod	Janet Sutter
Baby Benny	Kade Botsford
Lynn Cartwright	John Rector
Allie	Julie Backlund
Bud Baltic	Barb
Baby Bennett	Lorna Benson
Rebecca Benson	Shelby Jean Boris
Chloe Borish	Kade Botsford
Lori Branstrom	Ginger Clairmont
Bud & Pat Clark	Dan
Debbie Dehlin	Sylvia Dye
Bernie Erickson	Alana Etka
Bernie Fackety	John Gudwer
Sue Halloran	Caroline Hart
Mary Ann Heubler	Callan Hughes
Alice Jensen	Chris Jensen
Tom Jensen	Dick Johnson
Karen Johnson	Katy and Brian
Krissy	Krista
Molly Kurtis	Susan Lindgren
Jon Lohrbach	Marcy Makosky
John Marchak	Rebecca Marchak
Larry Martin	Cheryl McIntyre
Dorothy Wagner	Marvin Sodermark
Kenny Wilson	Ethan Winling
Heather Lynn Plimpton	Bev Regts
Josiah, Sarah, David Pryor	Tammy Reser
Dennis and Doreen Summach	Wayne Waeghe
Mason Robitaille and mom Bailey	
Marianne Watson Milkowski & family	

## Home Plate 2020

*A Pre-Game program with the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park*

Date: Saturday, June 13

Time: 12:30 program, 4:10 game

Players from the Tigers and Blue Jays like Matt Boyd, Daniel Norris, Michael Fulmer, Jeimer Candelario, Christen Stewart, Buck Farmer, Spencer Turnbull, and Frank Tanana will share about their careers in sports and faith in Jesus Christ.

A \$29 ticket includes: game ticket, program, and souvenirs. Includes an On-The-Field Baseball Clinic sponsored by the Detroit Tigers.

**HomePlateDetroit.Org**

## Finance Report

End of the year financials are complete. If you would like a copy of this report, please leave a note in the office and it will be given to you. At the close of the year, 8 of 12 Ministry Shares were paid, and all of the obligation to the District were paid in full. Reflecting back, we had not paid a single Ministry Share as of July 2019, so to accomplish all this in just the second half of the year is a good indicator of what can be done. All expenses, taxes and payroll were paid in a timely manner, and we start the new year 2020 in a positive manner. If at all possible, it is important to keep your commitments current. We have several ways of paying your commitment — Vanco, on the website, the square reader (i-pad by the back bulletin board), bringing it on Sundays or mailing/dropping it off during church office hours. Our church has always stepped above and beyond, not only to open the doors for worship for our own church family, but also to be an active part of the community. Thank you for your commitment to make Memorial a special place to worship and to be a part of the surrounding community. Any concerns or questions can be directed to Virginia Petersen, Finance Chair.

[vpetersen@chartermi.net](mailto:vpetersen@chartermi.net) or 905-428-9713.

## 2019 Memorial United Methodist Memorial Fund Yearly Report

<i>Balance brought forward from 2018</i>	\$ 3,948.61
<i>Total interest for 2019</i>	\$ 16.91
<i>Total of deposits for 2019</i>	\$ 4,260.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,225.52</b>
<i>Total withdrawals for 2019</i>	(\$453.70)
<i>Year-end balance</i>	<b>\$ 7,771.82</b>
<i>Checkbook balance as of 12/31/2019</i>	<b>\$38.61</b>

### Memorials Given in 2019

Jane Cook	\$ 20.00
Gerry Papas	\$ 315.00
Pat Rudenberg	\$ 535.00
Millie Young	\$ 305.00
George Young	\$ 250.00
Anna Vanderwal	\$ 200.00
David Nemacheck	\$ 2,220.00
Bille Marmalick	\$ 415.00

**Total \$ 4,260.00**

### Withdrawals

Plaques	\$ 50.00
Organ Portfolio	\$ 99.95
Bird bath	\$ 54.00
Postage	\$ 50.00
Choir Folders	\$ 199.75

**Total \$453.70**

*Prudential account balance as of 12/2019 no statement as yet*