



The Messenger

March 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

www.gladstonechurch.org

mumc@gladstonechurch.org

Mon. – Thur., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



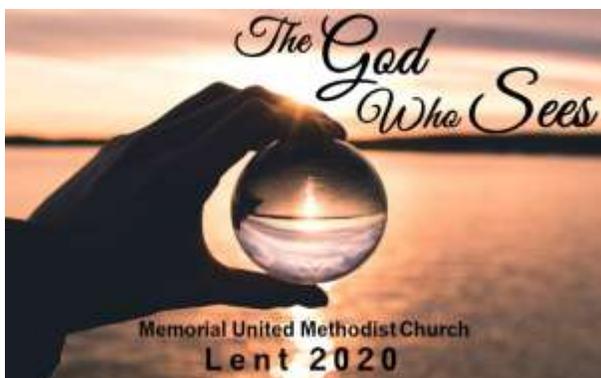
Pastor Cathy Rafferty

(734) 646-6922

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



The God Who Sees ... (Genesis 16:13)

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 or 10:30

March 1: Hagar (Genesis 21:14-19)

Rejected? Disregarded? Ready to give up?
The God who sees has a place for you.

March 8: Ruth (Ruth 1:16-17, 4:13-17)

Grieving? Uprooted? Trying to start again?
The God who sees has a plan for you.

March 15: David (I Samuel 23:14-18; Psalm 142)

Hiding? Holding back? Afraid to face what's next?
The God who sees is still with you.

March 22: UMCOR Sunday (Matthew 25:31-40; Isaiah 12:2-5)

What happens when we see through God's eyes?
The God who sees is working through us.

March 29: Mary Magdalen (Luke 8:1-3; 23:26-27; 23:55-56)

Disillusioned? Lost hope? Didn't go the way you expected?
The God who sees isn't done yet.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday – April 5th

8:30 First Service

10:30 Worship,
including confirmation

Maundy Thursday – April 9th

7pm Worship at Memorial UMC

Good Friday – April 10th

Noon Ecumenical Service
at Bay College

Easter – April 12th

8:30 Sunrise Service

10:30 Easter Celebration Service

Easter Lilies

If you would like to honor or remember someone this Easter with Easter lilies, please fill out a pink form on the long table by the front door and turn it in to the office **by Wed., April 8**. Then order your lilies from whichever florist you want. You can have the lilies delivered or bring them yourself.



UMCOR Sunday – March 22nd

(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

The special offering on March 22nd provides major support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), which offers immediate assistance in the wake of natural and human-caused disasters and helps support ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health, and peace. UMCOR Sunday giving allows 100% of designated gifts throughout the rest of the year to go to the specified disaster response or other ministry. The United Methodist Committee on Relief is working to make sure children in the Killis refugee camp in Turkey have the opportunity to be children. The UMCOR-supported program provides Child-Friendly Spaces in the camps where refugee children can play and interact, “to be a child, even in these difficult situations,” said an UMCOR executive for the international disaster response. “Our support is essential for the children to have access to the care and help they need.”

Free Lenten Devotionals are available on the round table by the office.

Lenten Study The adult Sunday school class invites you to join them any Sunday at 9:30 for a new Lenten study titled “Entering the Passion of Jesus”. Come & enjoy the warm fellowship & insightful conversation.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Speakers You are invited each of the 5 Tuesdays in March to join us for fellowship and a simple supper at 5:30, followed by a special speaker at 6:00. Invite your friends and neighbors.

- Mar. 3 Samantha Frizzell –
Delta Co Families Against Narcotics
- Mar. 10 Judge Steve Parks – Drug Court Success
- Mar. 17 Dave Lewis – the electric vehicle he built
- Mar. 24 Della Juliano – Brain Health
- Mar. 31 Tracy Jensen & Jessi Nelson –
Webster School Trauma Team

Saturday Lunch – March 7

March 7 is Memorial’s turn 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 is here the first week of March. If you would like to help set up, serve and/or clean up after meals, or volunteer in any other way, please talk to Ray Young or Susan Lagina.

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

Walk for Warmth

Peggy Richter, Susan Lagina, and Laurie Kaufman de la Garza all joined Pastor Cathy in walking in the Walk for Warmth on Feb. 29. Together, they raised \$210 to help Delta County residents with heating costs. We thank everyone who sponsored them. As of Feb. 29th, the walk raised a total of \$6,178. Memorial helped the walk get a jump-start earlier this month by giving half of our Eat for Heat money to Walk for Warmth. We received the following thank you note.

Dear Memorial United Methodist Church Parishioners:

Thank you so much for your very generous donations of \$317.28 to our Delta County Walk for Warmth fund. We assure you that your donation will help local families and senior citizens struggling to pay their heat bills.

Sincerely yours,

Julie Moberg, Executive Director

**newsletter deadline:
Thursday, Mar. 26**

MUMC Quilting

Thank you to Melissa Ettenhofer for purchasing our Valentine quilt! May you experience the “warmth for the body and soul” that this blanket offers! Thank you, also, to those who put in a bid! Our plan is to offer another quilt up for bids in the fall, with a Christmas theme. Any used sheets and blankets are always welcome!

Thank you for the love and prayers I received from Memorial. A special “thank you” to Debbie Hubbard, Sue Lagina, Mary Bastian, and Laurie de la Garza for helping serve lunch after my sister-in-law's funeral.

~ Terri Branstrom

College students' addresses

The Membership Care Committee is getting ready to send out care packages and would like addresses of college students who are members of Memorial.



3/1 Jessica Stock	3/16 Nicole Bratonia
3/2 John Gudwer	Lois Johnson
Beverly Plowman	3/17 Dorothy McIntyre
3/3 Kristine Jensen	3/20 Jason Viau
3/7 Diane Bishop	3/21 Steven Block
Lucy Frizzell	David Maskart
3/8 Jonathan Mattonen	3/22 Devin Messina
Justin Mattonen	3/25 Chris LaMarche
3/9 Dylan Messina	Doris Lessard
Ashley Thomas	Teresa Myers
3/10 Alice Butch	Kaleb Warm
3/11 Sadie LaLonde	3/26 Frank Landenberger
3/12 Maggie Buckley	3/27 Sara Goodman
3/15 John Gilbert	3/29 Lorna Benson
Jan Goodman	3/30 Cheryl LaCarte
Tyler LaFond	3/31 Alex Chenier, Jr.
	Michael Keeker, Jr.

Ministry with the Youth

We have a wonderfully large confirmation class this spring and a number of additional youth active in our Youth Group. In order for our Youth Group to fully ramp 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.

Movie Night—Mar. 21

Our free movie night with Feature Films is at 6pm on the following Saturdays: 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.)

“Road Trip with the Rev.”

This month, *Road Trip with the Rev.* is a Spring Break “Stay-Cation”

Meet at the church, all ages, for board games, cards, and puzzles in the narthex.

There will be a pickleball clinic in the gym for an hour and then open gym time.

Bring a snack to share.

Friday, March 27 6-9pm

Long-range Planning

Confirmation Sunday: April 5

Camp Sunday: April 19

Movie Nights: April 25 and May 16

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

Altar Flowers

Help beautify the altar and also remember a loved one at the same time. Call the office or sign up on the bulletin board to provide flowers one Sunday. If you wish, designate them to be in honor/memory of someone.

Prayer List

Susan Johnson Fisher and family
Jackie Richmond family
Pastor Caroline Hart
Theresa LaFleur Family of John Rudenberg
Karen Branstrom Family of Dale Manninen
Anita Bridges Family of Lori Branstrom
Breanne Johnson Family of Devin Fisher
Jace Botsford Family of James Johnson
Marilee Speare Family of Garland LaVigne
Dave Pepin Dorothy and John Stus
Allie Julie Backlund
Bud Baltic Barb
Baby Bennett Lorna Benson
Rebecca Benson Shelby Jean Boris
Chloe Borish Kade Botsford
Jim & Lois Boydston Tom Butch
Nancy Campbell Ginger Clairmont
Bud & Pat Clark Dan
Debbie Dehlin Chris & Kim Diamond
Sylvia Dye Bernie Erickson
Alana Etka Bernie Fackety
Robin Grabowski John Gudwer
Sue Halloran Terry Hampton
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 Heather Lynn Plimpton
Bev Regts Josiah, Sarah, David Pryor
Tammy Reser Mason Robitaille and mom
Dorothy Wagner Marianne Watson Milkowski
Marvin Sodermark Dennis and Doreen Summach
Scott Vallier Wayne Waeghe
Kenny Wilson Ethan Winling

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.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

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

Acolytes: Maggie and Camryn Buckley

Altar Guild: Pat Waeghe, Tracy Jensen, Trudy Broman

Coffee:

Mar. 8 Bill Springer
Mar. 15
Mar. 22
Mar. 29

Communion Servers: Allison and Kole Desotelle

Counters:

Mar. 1 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza and Allison Desotelle
Mar. 8 Nancy Peterson and Allison Desotelle
Mar. 15 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza and Susan Lagina
Mar. 22 Nancy Peterson and Sharon Block
Mar. 29 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza and

Greeters (first service):

Mar. 1 Lettie Houghton and Eileen Collins
Mar. 8
Mar. 15 Al and Chris Jensen
Mar. 22
Mar. 29 Nannette Martin

Greeters (second service):

Mar. 1 Wilma Vanderdonck
Mar. 8 Nault family
Mar. 15 youth
Mar. 22 Gail Johnivan
Mar. 29

Muffins:

Mar. 8
Mar. 15
Mar. 22
Mar. 29

Pianists:

Mar. 1 Deborah Hubbard
Mar. 8 Kathy Young
Mar. 15 Deborah Hubbard
Mar. 22 Kathy Young
Mar. 29 Deborah Hubbard

Readers:

Mar. 1 Laurie Kaufman de la Garza
Mar. 8 Leslie Nault
Mar. 15 youth
Mar. 22 Wilma Vanderdonck
Mar. 29 Lorna Benson

Ushers: Dennis and Connie Ness

Report from the Finance Committee

The year 2020 is starting out on a very positive note. Receipts have been coming in a timely manner, and all expenses are paid including two of the twelve Ministry Shares. The church property insurance is due in March, and a check will be sent for the first half of that expense.

There are many ways to give to the church. One of the more recent ways is that Congress made permanent the law that allows people age 70.5 or older who own a IRA to make cash gifts directly from their IRA to charity. For many people, this is the best tax-wise way to give. An IRA rollover gift will not be included in your taxable income and will qualify for your RMD. You can give up to \$100,000 a year from your IRA to charity. However, a charitable rollover from your IRA to charity needs to be made before any direct IRA distribution to yourself. If interested contact your financial advisor.

Memorial Church is blessed to have not only a beautiful building but a handicap accessible building. What a privilege to provide a place for everyone to worship and participate in church/community events. Thank you to each and every one who has made this possible.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the finances of the church, please contact Virginia Petersen (428-9713) or Lorraine Gregg.

Memorial Fund Secretary

No receipts or expenses have occurred for the month of February. Memorial Funds are used most often for unbudgeted items. In the last few months there were many names added to the Memorial Board which is located by the main office going down the hall to the Grapevine room. Take a moment to look at the board and reflect how those people may have mentored you.

Basic Lay Servant Training – Northern Skies District

A Basic Lay Servant training course is being offered at Sault Ste. Marie Central UMC on March 14th and 21st from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. This course is required for anyone wishing to become a Certified Lay Servant and is also excellent for new persons in a congregation and those in leadership positions. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board and also at <http://mqtdistrict.com/Registration.pdf>

#ONECHURCH Festival

Aug. 28-30 at the Fairgrounds in Escanaba

- Tenth Avenue North
- Riley Clemmons
- Danny Gokey
- Jordan Feliz
- Tauren Wells
- Austin French
- Chabro's Music
- Comedian Jonnie W.

Text “ONECHURCHFEST” to 97000 to get all the info and a great deal.

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

MUMC EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, October 10, 2020, 9-3

This event IS going to take place, thank you to willing volunteers that have come forward and offered to chair/work a portion of the event.

*Kitchen chairperson.....Terri Branstrom

*Bake sale chairperson.....JoAnn Gudwer

*advertisement committee.....Melissa Blume, Allison Desotelle,
Virginia Petersen

*money ladies.....Virginia Petersen, Nancy Peterson

*Ticket takers.....Laurie De la Garza, Roberta Johnson

*Vendors.... Leroux Strom

*Thrivent Action Plans.....food and advertising

So very thankful to belong to such a wonderful church with willing participants! This event belongs to each and every one of us!!!!!! To the glory of God and HIS church! Leroux Strom

Below is an article written by Elizabeth Hill, Heritage District Superintendent, that first appeared on the Michigan Conference website last month, and was posted on the UM News website (www.umnews.org) on Feb. 6th. Pastor Elizabeth served Memorial from 2010 – 2015.

The power of love and compassion

If we love each other, God remains in us, and his love is made perfect in us. 1 John 4:12-b

Over the last 25 years, our family has adopted rescue greyhounds. We have had three dogs over this time, and each was distinct in personality and feature. However, all three had a similar background. The dogs had been raised for the first years of their lives in a kennel, where affection was not a part of the daily training or racing routines. While food and shelter were provided their human handlers were not all the same temperament. Consequently, each dog brought distinct fears and odd reactions with them when they joined our family. With time, compassion, understanding, and love, each dog grew to love and trust our family as they became an integral part of the Hill clan.

I believe many people in our society have been hurt, not by handlers, but rather by loved ones, neighbors, peers, and some by the people in the church. These wounded individuals may be us, or they may be our friend in the church or perhaps the next person who will walk through the door on Sunday morning. How we react to them will make a difference in whether they will be able to feel the love of God through Christ in the congregation.

As they cautiously enter a new church seeking out a new church family, they come with fears and pain from past experiences. It is important to truly embrace radical hospitality for each person because through

our welcome over time, with compassion, love, and understanding, they will know God's love for them as well as feel your love for who they are. We all carry scars from the past, but the church is a place for healing that leads us to wholeness in our relationship with God and one another.

No matter where we stand on the issues of our denomination, I pray that each one of us will be the light of Christ to the person who needs to know the love of God is really for them. Then in that knowledge, they will find a place for healing that leads them into a closer relationship with Christ and a community of love.



DeeDee at the lakeshore with her "Hill Clan" ... Elizabeth, Richard, and grandchildren.~ photo courtesy Elizabeth Hill