



The Messenger

February 2021

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.

Worship online is available on Memorial United Methodist Church of Gladstone MI Facebook page and YouTube channel, and on our website www.gladstonechurch.org, at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday.

February! It's a small month with some big stuff happening. Our Confirmation group, which started way back in February 2020, is on the home-stretch now. On Transfiguration Sunday, Feb. 14, at our 10:30 a.m. worship service, those students who are ready will publicly confirm their faith in God and take responsibility for their baptismal vows and membership at Memorial UMC. Thanks so much to the parents, grandparents, and adult mentors who have been working with our students, and to the entire congregation for all you have invested in the faith journey of these youth. And, thanks to you students who are taking this next step.

For Confirmation on Feb. 14, we plan to offer in-person worship. We will be livestreaming the 10:30 a.m. service. We will continue to offer a pre-recorded worship experience on-line as well. Of course we're expecting anyone who attends in-person to plan to wear a face covering, stay at least six-feet away from anyone not in their household, and observe the other common guidelines to minimize spreading disease. We also expect anyone who has a positive COVID diagnosis, has been in contact with anyone with COVID, or is otherwise experiencing symptoms of contagious disease to stay home. After a year of this, I'm trusting we're all familiar with and willing to take responsibility for interacting with each other for the health and wellbeing of everyone.

Just as we begin to gather again for in-person worship, we will be entering the season of Lent, a time of contemplating our mortality. "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return," is often said on Ash Wednesday as we have ashes smudged on our foreheads. For many of us, it may feel as though we've had an entire year of Lent, of contemplating our mortality while grieving the loss of loved ones and our disconnection from so much of what we'd come to view as "normal" life. Yet the 40-days of Lent are also a time of doubling down on our faith in a God who gives us abundant and eternal life in Jesus Christ, who empowers us with Holy Spirit to be fully alive in the here and now.

Lent is a season of honestly examining our lives, acknowledging where we've gotten off course or caused injury, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God and one another, and taking time to study God's word, pray, practice fasting and other forms of self-denial that help us move out of the spotlight, giving more room for Christ to shine through our lives. We'll start our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17, with a Blessing of Ashes at 11:30 a.m. and an open sanctuary until 2 p.m. for anyone who would like to stop by and receive ashes. We'll also have a brief Ash Wednesday worship service at 7 p.m. in-person, in the sanctuary. I do hope you will all embrace the opportunity and challenge of Lent to draw near to God and to each other, with a humble heart ready to be renewed by God's grace.

Blessings, *Pastor Cathy*

From The Message translation of Psalm 51:10-12

God, make a fresh start in me, shape a Genesis week from the chaos of my life.

Don't throw me out with the trash, or fail to breathe holiness in me.

Bring me back from gray exile, put a fresh wind in my sails!

Worship for the Month of February

Feb. 7 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

On-Line Worship with Holy Communion
Mark 1:29-39 “Don’t Get Comfy”

Feb. 14 – Transfiguration Sunday

10:30 In-Person Worship with Confirmation
(Livestreaming at 10:30 and On-Line
Recording)
Mark 9:2-9 “Keep Going!”

Feb. 17 – Ash Wednesday

11:30 Blessing of Ashes, drop-in to receive
ashes until 2 p.m.
7-7:30 p.m. In-Person Worship

Feb. 21 – First Sunday of Lent

8:30 On-Line Premiere; 10:30 In-Person
Mark 1:9-15 “Into the Wilderness”

Feb. 28 – Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 On-Line Premiere; 10:30 In-Person
Mark 8:27-38 “At the Gates of Hell”

Links to worship videos

You can find an up-to-date schedule for activities and links to on-line worship resources including worship guides and a current prayer list on the church website: www.gladstonechurch.org. You’re welcome to call the office with questions: (906) 428-9311, or email: mumc@gladstonechurch.org.

Worship information, links, and videos will also be on Facebook and YouTube:

<https://www.facebook.com/Memorial-United-Methodist-Church-of-Gladstone-MI-117593394926699/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBY-ZTh99gQBtHG3n2kbyuQ>

We are going to have a short expression of our love and support for Dave & Mary Hagen in their front yard on **Feb. 14**. Please meet at the church at **2:00**.

“We Make the Road by Walking”

This on-going study meets on Mondays at 6pm on ZOOM. Please let Lisa know if you would like to participate, and she can send a link to you. A couple copies of the book are available. If you do not have internet, you are welcome so come to the church and use our equipment.

We will have a **Rummage Sale** May 20-22. Please start saving items for it now.

Scrap Metal Drive

The price of scrap metal has gone up, so Jim Stammer is organizing a scrap metal drive like we did 2 years ago. Start saving your metal now. We will have a receptacle here May 21 – 31. They even take **strings of Christmas lights** that don’t work!

Acceptable Items Include:

- Stoves, Dryers, Appliances, etc.
- Lawn equipment (lawn mowers, snowblowers, tillers)
- Metal piping, sheet metal, siding
- Car parts (i.e. rotors/springs/doors)
- Filing cabinets, metal desks
- Steel doors, garage doors, & metal tracks
- Copper piping/fixtures
- Brass doorknobs/household items
- Air fittings
- Aluminum
 - o Cast
 - o Extruded
 - o Sheet
 - o Soffit & Fascia
- Bronze
- Strings of Christmas lights

Volunteer Receptionists Needed

The Salvation Army is looking for volunteer receptionists. Main duties include answering phone, taking messages and directing calls.

Volunteers are needed Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Shifts are 9:00 AM – 12 noon and 1:00 PM – 3:30PM.

If you are able to help out, even for a partial shift, please call Merry at 786-0590.

Prayer List

-- 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
2/14 Kelsey DeMarse	Sandra St. John
2/16 Rebecca Worth	Pamela Thorbahn
2/17 Nicole Creten	2/27 Dennis Harrison
Earl Possi	Christine Jensen
2/19 Andrew Jensen	



Bud Baltic	Sarah Benson
Mark and Julie Bishop	MaryAnn Brayak
DJ Burns	Nancy Campbell
Janelle Castillo	Theresa Cherubini
Ginger Clairmont	Bud & Pat Clark
Tatum Cretan	Debbie Dew
Rachel, Seth, Amara Darrison	Bernie Erickson
Dave and Mary Hagen	Caroline Hart
P.J. Heger	Al Jensen
Alice Jensen	Kris Jensen
Family of Ed Lester	Jon Lohrbach
Marcy Makosky	Rebecca Marchak
Tammy Martin	Chad Mileski
Steve Mrotek	Darrell Osborn
Bob, Keri, and Evelyn Polasek	Bev Regts
Josiah, Sarah, and David Pryor	Debbie Renkin
Todd	Al Waeghe
Marianne Watson Milkowski	Kathy Young
Family of D. Bradley Kiesey	

Two Thank You Notes to the Knitters for the 40 afghans they made for the residents at Lakeview Assisted Living

May God bless you for all your beautiful hard work. Your gifts of kindness put a smile on everyone's face. ~ Lakeview Assisted Living

Dear Lettie, Liz, and other Knitting Group Members,

What a nice surprise to be given a lovely afghan. What a wonderful gesture of love!

What a labor of love! Your group spent many hours making the afghan. We thank you.

Our many residents will certainly be warm. Thank you!

Love,
Jan

2021 Offering Envelopes are now available on the black table by the bulletin boards. If you like to use offering envelopes, take a box and *write the number of the box next to your name*. You do not need to take a box in order to receive a giving statement at the end of the year. The Financial Secretary keeps track of all donations that are identifiable, i.e. a check, an electronic donation through Vanco or the Square Reader, or cash in any envelope marked with your name.

The **Pictorial Directories** are here. If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture, you get "first dibs." Please stop by and pick up your directory. If you are far away, we will mail one to you.

An online version of the directory will be available to everyone in the congregation. If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture but do not need a printed copy of the directory, let us know so that we can offer your copy to someone without online access.

Thank you very much to Susan Lagina and the Membership Care Committee for organizing this.

Thank you, Al Jensen, for many years of mowing the church lawn and keeping the church lawn mower running. We appreciate all your dedication to keeping the grounds of the church looking beautiful.

Covid-19 Scams

Here's what to know:

- You can't pay to put your name on a vaccine list.
- You can't pay to get early access to a vaccine.
- Don't share your personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for a fee.

If you come across a COVID-19 vaccine scam, **report it to the Federal Trade Commission** or call **1-800-MEDICARE**. And check out **CDC.gov** for trustworthy information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

Moment in Missions

The Missions Committee would like to share the money given during January to various concerns and needs.

God's Country Cooperative Parish: \$300

Pastor's undesignated fund: \$600 of which \$300 was given to a family in need

Christ Tree: The generous donations of \$705 received went to support a large family.

Human Relations Day: \$45

We have received thank you notes from Tri County Safe Harbor, Salvation Army, and UMCOR and those notes are posted on the bulletin board by the coat room. An online thank you was sent from St. Vincent de Paul which included thanks for the monetary donation and the 100 pounds of venison donated. We also received a Christmas card with a thank you note from Randy Hildebrant who is a church and community worker assigned to God's Country Cooperative Parish which is posted as well.

MUMC is a giving and loving congregation. While monetary donations greatly help during times of struggle, our actions and prayers sustain many in need too. There was an active group who gave of their time to support Hope at the Inn when our church was host from Jan. 17-24.

An area of focus for February will be Walk for Warmth. According to Julie Moberg from Community Action Agency, Walk for Warmth will be a mail campaign this year. Check out their website for more information. Here at MUMC, we are thinking of ways to actively promote and support this cause. Please watch for upcoming information at our Facebook page and website on how you may support this through MUMC.

The Bay Area Campus Ministry has contacted us to once again support campus meals. Due to Covid restrictions, we will be addressing this a bit different. MUMC will be providing a meal for Bay students on Feb. 22. We will not be going to the campus but putting together meals at the church that will be picked up by Pastor Tony, who is the Bay Area Campus Minister. Please watch for upcoming information at our Facebook page and website on how you may support this cause.

If you are interested in donating points earned from Elmer's County Market in their Rewards program, please contact Lisa at the church office and she can give you the church's code and some information on how to do that. When we receive enough points, we get a \$100 gift card which we can use to purchase food.

While we may not be meeting face to face at the moment, our church is alive and active in our community, the UP, our nation, and our world. If God is speaking to you about learning more about missions at MUMC and you would like to participate on the mission committee, please contact the church office.

Camp Michigamme has a new director: Pete Stahlbrand.

Check out the exciting summer schedule below.



Camp Michigamme 2021 Registration is Open

Youth Camp 2021 - \$350 per week

- June 20-26 - Senior High Camp - Grades 9th-12th
- June 27-July 3 - Science Explorations Camp - Grades 1st-12th
- July 5-10 - Survivor Camp (TV Show) - Grades 1st-9th
- July 11-17 - Water Games Camp - Grades 1st-9th
- July 18-24 - Olympic Games Camp - Grades 1st-9th
- July 25-31 - Narnia Camp - Grades 1st-9th
- August 1-7 - Disney Explosion Camp - Grades 1st-9th
- August 8-14 - Super Heros Camp - Grades 1st-9th



Specialty Youth Camps 2021

- June 25-27 - Scout Camp - Pray: Birds of the Sky - Grades 5th-8th - \$75
- July 31-August 1 - Teddy Bear Camp - Age 4 - Grade 2nd - \$75 per child, \$50 per adult.

Adult Camps 2021

- June 13 - 16 - Quilt Camp 1 - \$200
- June 17 - 20 - Quilt Camp 2 - \$200
- August 26-29 - Harmony Retreat - \$325
- September 16-20 - Men's Emmaus Walk - Inquire for Information
- September 23-27 - Women's Emmaus Walk - Inquire for Information



Family Camps 2021 - \$75 per Adult, \$50 per Child - Inquire if family is 6 persons or more

- Memorial Day Family Camp - May 28-31
- Labor Day Family Camp - September 3-6
- District Wide Confirmation Camp - September 10-12 (Ceremony Day is Free of Charge)
- Fall Family Retreat and Early Halloween Party - October 1-3 - Trick or Treat Party on Saturday Night. \$10 per child if not attending rest of weekend.

Open Gatherings 2021

- Youth and Family Camps Open House Day - June 5
- **Michigamme Day - June 12**

Inquire at director@campmichigamme.org for further information.
Financial Aid Available by Request

