



# The Messenger

September 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](http://www.gladstonechurch.org)

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

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.

Early fall is the time we begin to work on reports for the annual Charge Conference, which will be at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 31, this year. It's a time to reflect on what we, as a congregation, have accomplished in the past year and where we, together, hear God calling us to go in the coming year. It's not been easy to grapple with those questions these past couple years, when surviving day to day seemed a wonder and planning week to week an uncertain guess at best. Yet, by God's grace, we have accomplished so much more than just surviving. And the God whose love we experience in Jesus Christ, continues to call each one of us, and all of us together, to be disciples and to make disciples for the transformation of the world right here at Memorial UMC.

In 2020, we contributed our full portion of Ministry Shares to the Michigan UMC. Because of your consistent giving, we're on track to do that again in 2021. 75% of our Ministry Shares supports resources for Michigan churches and funds operations of the Michigan Conference. Your giving helped pay for the webinars that taught us how to do on-line worship and got us started with Zoom meetings. It funds the work of groups like the Board of Ordained Ministry, which shepherds clergy candidates first answering a call to ministry all the way through to preparing for retirement. It starts new churches, supports college campus Wesley Foundations, gives missional grants, and creates resources for youth and children's ministries. The other 25% of our Ministry Shares funds the work of our worldwide United Methodist denomination, supporting missions around the world, and undergirding the administrative structure that makes it possible for us to be the United Methodist Church.

In 2020, we also completed the requirements to be an EngageMI congregation. That means we were engaged in missions locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. We learned about and took action to make a difference in the lives of schoolchildren and the homeless in our community. We supported God's Country Cooperative Parish here in the Upper Peninsula and responded to flooding disasters in the Lower Peninsula. We received special offerings for Human Relations Sunday, Peace with Justice Sunday, World Communion Sunday, UMCOR Sunday, Native American Sunday, and UM Student Sunday. Every third Sunday, we received our noisy offering for Heifer Project. We "Walked for Warmth" in Delta County and supported mission work in Haiti and Liberia. Through your continuing generosity, we're on track to do even more in 2021.

We've also taken care of our responsibilities right here at Memorial UMC, worshipping together each Sunday, celebrating our accomplishments and mourning our losses, studying the Bible and praying for one another, maintaining our building and grounds, and keeping the bills, our support staff, and pastor paid—all due to your commitment to giving of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Right now our Church Council and committees are working to develop a budget, leadership, plans and goals that will take us through 2022. We're just finishing our "Called and Gifted Serve" survey and soon will have our stewardship campaign asking for your pledged financial commitment for the next year. I'm hoping as you read through this newsletter and as we move into September, each of you will prayerfully reflect on how God may be calling you to be a part of Memorial UMC through the rest of 2021 and on into our unfolding future together. Blessings to you all!

*Pastor Cathy*

## Worship for September

### 10 a.m. Sept. 5 – Welcome at the Table

*I Kings 17:1-16 – A Story from the Prophet Elijah.*  
Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion

#### Fall Schedule Begins Sept. 12: 8:30-9 a.m. and 10:30-11:20 a.m.

The 8:30 a.m. service will last under 30 minutes. Participants are asked wear face masks and maintain social distancing, and there won't be singing. This is intended as our *healthiest option* for concerned worshippers, and we ask that everyone attending respect that. The 10:30 a.m. service will have a variety of music, congregational singing, optional face coverings, and livestreaming.

### Sept. 12 – Taught to Teach Others

*Jeremiah 29:1-14; Hebrews 12:1-3*

Celebrating Educators and Support Staff (10:30)  
One Special Offering for Three Educational Ministries: Michigan Conference Christian Education, United Methodist Student Day, and Africa University Fund

### Sept. 19 – Back to Basics: Read the Bible

*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Luke 4:14-21*

Third Sunday “Noisy Offering” for Heifer Project  
Music featuring The Band (10:30)

### Sept. 26 – Back to Basics: Put It into Practice

*Luke 6:46-49; James 1:22-25*

Music featuring “Glory Ringers” Bell Ensemble (10:30)

## Links to worship

You can find an up-to-date schedule for activities and links to on-line worship resources and current prayer list on the church website: [www.gladstonechurch.org](http://www.gladstonechurch.org). You're welcome to call the office with questions: 428-9311, or email: [mumc@gladstonechurch.org](mailto:mumc@gladstonechurch.org).

Worship information, links, livestreaming, and videos are also on Facebook and YouTube:

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

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

## “Called and Gifted to Serve”

If you have not yet done so, please fill out a “Called and Gifted to Serve” survey (also known as a Time and Talent survey) and return it to the church. A blank copy is at the end of this newsletter.

## What's Up with the United Methodist Denomination?

If you're interested in reading more about the upcoming General Conference (Fall 2022) and current denominational issues, check our website under the “resources” tab. There is an Aug. 24 article from UM News and an information sheet from Pastor Cathy. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact Pastor Cathy. Below is the link to the August 24<sup>th</sup> article.

<https://michiganumc.org/general-conference-plans-move-ahead/>

## Friendship Guild

At its August meeting, the Service Guild, with its long and cherished place in the life of Memorial UMC, voted to change its name to the “Friendship Guild,” to better reflect its current ministry of care and fellowship. Friendship Guild will meet the second Tuesday each month at 1 p.m., Sept. – Dec. for devotions, fellowship and refreshments. All ladies are warmly invited to attend.

## Assist Afghan Refugees

Fran Beach forwarded information to us regarding the International Rescue Committee (IRC) seeking to identify volunteers for 10-21 day commitments to assist Afghan refugees arriving at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Volunteers will need an IRC background check, be willing to commit for a minimum 10 days (2-3 weeks preferred), at least 21 years old, Covid-19 vaccinated, US citizen or LPR, ability to work 12+ hours/day and through weekends, comfortable working in military setting, and high priority for Pashto or Dari language skills.

**To help, RSVP to the Local Liaison**

**Coordinator:** [c.annekevalk@gmail.com](mailto:c.annekevalk@gmail.com).

**For general information or questions**

**contact:** [info@pcc4refugees.org](mailto:info@pcc4refugees.org).

## Moment in Missions

The Missions Committee would like to share the celebrations of our congregation's giving of time, talent, and offerings for August.

- District Appeal for Detroit Flooding: \$300

We have several opportunities to support our community, state, and world during September:

- School supplies for Mid-Peninsula School. We are partnering with Mid-Peninsula for the 2021-22 school year by providing students throughout the school year with the tools they need to be successful. Please drop off your donations in the designated box located by the entrance to the church. **Suggested supplies:** pencils, pencil top erasers, erasers, crayons, colored pencils, dry erase markers, dry erase boards, washable markers, highlighter markers, notebooks, folders, rulers, glue sticks, white glue, blunt scissors, hand sanitizer, tissues, disinfecting wipes, and anything else you can think of. The link is to the supply list for elementary students:

[https://p11cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_8273746/File/supply%20list%2021-22%20\(1\).pdf](https://p11cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_8273746/File/supply%20list%2021-22%20(1).pdf)

- We are looking for someone to be our **Mid-Pen Liaison** to bring our collected supplies to Mid-Peninsula School and keep the Missions Committee informed as to any other needs. Please contact the church office or Jeanne Wescott @ 906.399.2727
- **Education Sunday Offering - Sept. 12:** Worship will highlight education ministries and a special offering will be split between three programs: 1) Michigan Conference Christian Education Sunday offering supports Michigan Camping and Conference Discipleship Ministries to equip, resource, train, and grow in faith; 2) United Methodist Student Offering feeds students in body, mind and spirit so they can strive for academic excellence; 3) African University Fund equips indigenous solution-finders who are tackling some of their continent's most pressing challenges with wisdom, innovation and spiritual maturity.
- **Noisy Offering - Sept. 19** supports Heifer Project, International.

- **Elmer's Community Cares Program:**

Donate points to MUMC and we can use it toward getting a \$100 gift card, which can be used to help offset grocery costs for projects like Bay Area Campus Ministries meal. We currently have 132,344 points.

MUMC is alive and active in our community, our state, our nation, and our world. If God is speaking to you about learning more about missions at MUMC and you would like to be an active member of the mission committee, please contact the church office or select on the Time & Talent sheet.

The **Clothes Closet** needs hangers, preferably the wire kind like from the drycleaners (no plastic please). We have lots of infant and toddler clothing but can use more kids' clothes and coats (all sizes), and kids' shoes. Our clothes closet also helps God's Country Cooperative Parish. Peggy Richter took a load of jeans up there, and now we are looking for men's flannel shirts for GCCP. Our clothes closet is open 9-2 M-Th, Sunday mornings, and by appointment.

## A "thank you" to the Knitters group:

*Ladies,*

*Thank you for the kindness and smiles you have brought.*

*~ Northwoods Place Residents*

**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.

## Church Camp

If you are going to Camp Michigamme or one of the other U.M. camps in Michigan, let us know. We have scholarships available.

### Camp Michigamme's up-coming camps:

Sept. 3-6 Family Camp

Sept. 10-12 Confirmation Camp

Sept. 16-20 Men's Emmaus Walk

Sept. 23-27 Women's Emmaus Walk

Oct. 1-3 Fall Family Retreat & Halloween Party

## Join Our Music Ministries

Beginning Sept. 15, our **Glory Ringers** handbell ensemble will be rehearsing at **6 p.m. Wednesdays**, directed by Kathy Young. The Glory Ringers play in worship one Sunday each month and for Christmas Eve and Easter worship. New ringers are welcome.

Beginning Sept. 15, our **Praise Team** will be rehearsing at **7 p.m. Wednesdays**. We're especially looking for guitar, bass, and drum players to join and welcome additional singers too. A sound/tech person to help at rehearsals would be great, and if you have the passion and skills to direct the team, we need you. The Praise Team generally leads worship three Sundays each month. Please contact Pastor Cathy if you have questions or would like to direct this team.

Our **Band** rehearses at **7 p.m. Thursdays**, directed by Mary Bastian. The Band plays in worship one Sunday each month and may play for other special occasions. New members are welcome—contact Lisa Myers with questions.

We hope to resume our **Jubilee Singers** vocal choir, but are **in need of a director**. If you have the passion and skills to fill that spot, we need you. The Jubilee Singers sing in worship one Sunday each month and for other special occasions. Please contact Pastor Cathy if you have questions or would like to direct this choir.

If you or someone you know would like to provide special music for one Sunday, please contact Pastor Cathy.

Volunteers to provide music at the beginning and end of the 8:30 worship service are also appreciated. Please contact Lisa Myers in the office to schedule Sundays.

We are advertising for a **paid, part-time Music Director** to oversee these music ministries. Details are on our website: [gladstonechurch.org](http://gladstonechurch.org). Please apply by Sept. 8 by emailing [mumc@gladstonechurch.org](mailto:mumc@gladstonechurch.org).

## Prayer List

Berta Johnson	Family of Aidan Bolek
Levi Rencontre	Family of Mark Guertin
Sharon Davis	Family of Jason Brazeau
Bob and Jill Maki	Family of Karen Branstrom
The Richard DeMay family	
Teachers and kids returning to school	
Those fighting mental health battles	
Kaycee DeLaney	
Carol	Lynn Cannon
Jean Boris	Gene and Judy Smith
Gary LaPlant	Betsy Anderson
Bud Baltic	Sarah Benson
Lorna Benson	Mark Bishop
MaryAnn Brayak	Tom Butch
Nancy Campbell	Janelle Castillo
Ginger Clairmont	Bud & Pat Clark
Eileen Collins	Chris and Kim Diamond
Debbie Dew	Bernie Erickson
Andy Fase	Caroline Hart
Al Jensen	Alice Jensen
Jon Lohrbach	Marcy Makosky
Rebecca Marchak	Tammy Martin
Chad Mileski	Zach Nardi
Lincoln Noel	Josiah and David Pryor
Bev Regts	Debbie Renkin
Marvin Sodermark	Julie Springer
Todd	Jerry Wery
Marianne Watson Milkowski	

## Birthdays

9/1 Luis de la Garza	9/14 Patrick Morrow
Claire Marlett	9/16 Gerald Branstrom
9/4 Becky Leonoff	9/17 Deborah Hubbard
Phillip Petersen	9/20 Maycee Kuhlman
9/6 Suzan Jorgensen	9/21 Karen Donovan
9/7 Marc Viau	Kevin Sodermark
9/8 Dennis Johnivan	9/24 Holly Stammer
Bruce St. Aubin	9/25 Bette DeRoek
9/10 Peggy Carlyon	9/28 Melissa Casey
David Palo	Helen Palo
9/11 Peggy Lewis	9/30 David Jensen
	Diane Oxford

**newsletter deadline:  
Thursday, Sept. 23**

# September 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Aug. 29</b> 10:00 Worship 11 Fruit Potluck 2:00 Worship at Bishop Noa Home	<b>Aug. 30</b> 6:00 We Make the Road by Walking	<b>Aug. 31</b> 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	<b>1</b> 9:00 Knit & Quilt	<b>2</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:00 Worship	<b>6</b> 10:00 Pickleball	<b>7</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	<b>8</b> 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball	<b>9</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 6:00 SPRC 7:00 Band	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Education offering 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	<b>13</b> 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 We Make the Road by Walking	<b>14</b> 9:00 Pickleball 1:00 Friendship Guild 6:00 TKD 6:30 Finance 8:00 N.A.	<b>15</b> 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Bells 7:00 Praise Team	<b>16</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Noisy Offering and Youth Sunday 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship 11:00 Volunteer Training	<b>20</b> 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 We Make the Road by Walking 6:30 Church Council	<b>21</b> 9:00 Pickleball 2:00 Missions 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.	<b>22</b> 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Bells 7:00 Praise Team	<b>23</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	<b>27</b> 10:00 Pickleball	<b>28</b> 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.	<b>29</b> 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Bells 7:00 Praise Team	<b>30</b> Newsletter deadline 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band		

## Called and Gifted to Serve

Members of the United Methodist Church commit themselves “to faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.” Anyone connected to this congregation is invited to participate too.

This survey is intended to help you find where your gifts, skills and curiosity connect to the ministry needs of our congregation. By completing the survey, you also help our church leadership match volunteers to ministry tasks. In other words, we’ll know who to call for what. We do the survey every year, so you can reaffirm your choices or choose something new.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ (please fill out one form per person)

**Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would join a small group to further explore my spiritual gifts and how I can use them to serve God.  
Best day/time \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would participate in leadership training/mentoring to prepare to be a leader of this congregation.  
Best day/time \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Worship** (Please note whether first service, second service, or both for the first 5 items below.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Reader (reads the scripture)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Usher (distributes bulletins, seats worshippers as needed, receives offering)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Greeter (stands near main door, welcomes worshippers)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Communion Server (adults and youth over 8 to serve during communion)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lay speaker/preacher to provide Sunday message
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sound/Projection Person (run the sanctuary sound/projection system)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Live-stream Tech
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drama Actor (occasional scheduled dramas/skits for worship)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Altar Design (lead designers or assistants to setup and take down designs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seasonal Decorating

**II. Education for Various Ages** (Working with Children/Youth requires background check/training)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lead children’s faith formation classes/groups (preferred age-level: \_\_\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vacation Bible School Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vacation Bible School Assistant (crafts, stories, dramas, music, activities, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Youth activities helper (examples: chaperone for lock-in, mission trip, fundraisers)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children activities helper (examples: Halloween Carnival, movie night, other events)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Facilitator for adult studies or small groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participate in adult studies or small groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other short-term educational/discipleship/faith formation experiences

**III. Music**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Vocal Choir Member (rehearse weekly, sing once a month)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bell Choir Member (rehearse weekly, play once a month)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Praise Team Member vocal or instrumental (rehearse weekly, sing twice a month)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Band Member (rehearse weekly, play once a month)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide special music for worship (vocal or instrumental)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organist/Pianist
- \_\_\_\_\_ Play piano for 8:30 service (part of rotating schedule)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Direct children/youth or other music group

**IV. Congregational Care**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Visit homebound or hospitalized members
- \_\_\_\_\_ Take communion to those who can't get to worship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send cards, make phone contact with shut-ins or others as needed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Chain Member (pray for those on weekly prayer list)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Child-care provider for special occasions or during worship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Meals for people coming home from hospital, new mothers, death in family
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make phone calls for special events/projects (funerals, pasty sale, cookie bake)

**V. Property Care**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Gardening and Lawn care
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-typical cleaning projects
- \_\_\_\_\_ Custodial work in case of emergencies or when Custodians are away
- \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical repairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Carpentry needs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plumbing needs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Odd jobs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bulletin boards
- \_\_\_\_\_ Water indoor plants

**VI. Office Help**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Special mailings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Office assistant, especially when Administrative Assistant is away
- \_\_\_\_\_ Social Media (Website/Facebook, Video, Photos)

**VII. Meals/Kitchen**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Funerals – set up, serve, or clean up
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other meals – prepare food
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other meals – set up, serve, or clean up
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate receptions or potlucks

**VIII. Fellowship**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Coffee after second service (prepare and clean up)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide muffins for after second service
- \_\_\_\_\_ Host a specific fellowship event, the event suggested is \_\_\_\_\_

**IX. Committees (generally 3-year terms starting in January)**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| _____ Worship                              | _____ Membership Care |
| _____ Altar Guild                          | _____ Missions        |
| _____ Education                            | _____ Trustees        |
| _____ Finance                              | _____ Fellowship      |
| _____ Fellowship                           | _____ Church Council  |
| _____ Nominations & Leadership Development | _____ Staff/Parish    |

**X. Beyond our congregation / Missions**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Driving people to appointments/for special events
- \_\_\_\_\_ Community Projects (examples: shoveling, mowing, construction)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Trip organizer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Trip participant
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteering for: \_\_\_ Hope at the Inn \_\_\_ Clothes Closet \_\_\_ Christmas Dinner
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Bay College Ministries \_\_\_ Salvation Army Meals

**XI. Fundraising**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate a specific fundraising event such as a scrap metal drive, brat sale, pasty bake, rummage sale, Extravaganza, etc.) What is your idea? \_\_\_\_\_

**XII. Other – If you have other talents, expertise or interests to offer, please let us know.**

---