



The Messenger

August 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.

*In-person worship is at 10:00 every Sunday morning,
with livestreaming on Facebook and Youtube.*

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.” ~Psalm 103

Musician Matt Redman based his Grammy-winning praise song “10,000 Reasons,” on this ancient song of praise from the Bible’s Book of Psalms. Redman’s song and Psalm 103 are both meant as encouragements for us to be paying attention to the countless reasons we have to praise God. So that’s what we’re doing for the month of August—taking up the “10,000 Reasons Challenge.” Starting today, I’m challenging us all to be paying more attention to our incredible God and to all the ways God is blessing our lives. I’m hoping together this month, we can come up with our very own 10,000 reasons—reasons to bless God, to praise God, to worship God, and to be grateful to God.

As we’ve moved through these months and months of pandemic uncertainty, for some of us, it’s been difficult to get re-engaged with God, with our own spiritual practices, and with our congregational participation. Here’s an opportunity for us all to recalibrate our priorities, recognize our blessings and gifts, give God the credit, and renew our commitments to one another and to following Jesus Christ. I am confident as we take up this challenge for the month of August, we will be blessed by a renewed awareness of God’s Spirit moving in each of our lives and through our entire congregation.

So please plan to join us in the “10,000 Reasons Challenge,” starting with joining us this Sunday in worship when we’ll be singing “10,000 Reasons” and getting to work on making our own lists of reasons to “Bless the Lord!”

Pastor Cathy



**Worship for August:
The 10,000 Reasons Challenge**
10:00 a.m. In-person in the Sanctuary and
Livestreaming

Aug. 1 – 10,000 Reasons to Praise God

Psalm 103:1-5, 22 – Bless the Lord, O my soul!
(Celebrating Holy Communion)

Can you come up with 5 reasons to praise God today? Another 5 tomorrow, and 5 more after that? If 65 of us do that, in 31 days we'll have 10,075 reasons!

Aug. 8 – Let Me Tell You 'bout My Jesus

Mark 5:1-20 – Jesus heals a possessed man, and that man tells everyone he meets.

How do you talk about Jesus? Who is he to you? Let's practice telling each other about our Jesus. That'll give us more reasons to praise God, on our way to 10,000.

Aug. 15 – Gifts of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 – Here's a list of the many gifts God's Spirit gives us.

(3rd Sunday "Noisy Offering" for Heifer Project)
Recognizing the gifts God gives to each of us gives us more reasons to praise God. One great way of praising God is to put those gifts to work for God. Let's figure out how each of us is called and gifted to serve.

Aug 22 – Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23 – Here's a list of what we get when we put God's gifts to work.

A bountiful harvest requires a commitment to planting and cultivating throughout the season. Noticing the good fruits our commitments to God are producing will give us even more reasons to keep on praising God.

Aug 29 – Celebrate!

Galatians 6:1-10 – Keep on, keeping on.

Today we celebrate all that we've done this month, and all God is doing through us, on our way to raising up 10,000 reasons to praise God. We're planning a "Fruits of God's Blessings" Potluck after worship featuring ... you guessed it, all sorts of fruit dishes!

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. You're welcome to call the office with questions: 428-9311, or email: 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>

To provide **Special music during the summer**, please sign up on the bulletin board or call the office.

We're Back, and We Need You!

With more folks returning to in-person worship each week, we have more opportunities for volunteers to serve:

- Help with livestreaming, projection, and sound in the booth. If you have experience, that's great. If not, we'll train you. Each task is easy to learn if you have some basic computer skills.
- Make a joyful noise with our Praise Team, Church Band, or by providing your own special music (or volunteering your talented children or grandchildren).
- Read the Bible passages or other parts of worship.
- Greet, Usher, Serve Communion, or Acolyte (light the candles).
- Provide original artwork or photos we can use with the projection slides.

We are also looking for volunteers interested in helping to re-ignite ministry with our children and youth. Background checks and training are available for adult volunteers.

Please contact the church office, 428-9311, for details and to volunteer your service. Thanks!

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

Six-Week Grief Group

Pastor Cathy Rafferty is leading a six-week grief group, meeting 5-6 p.m. on Tuesdays at Memorial United Methodist Church, that started July 27. Our primary focus will be grieving the loss of important people in our lives, although anyone looking for help and support in handling their grief is welcome to join us. **After our second meeting, Aug. 3, this group will be closed to newcomers** so that as we share our stories and come to know one another better, we can continue deepening our relationships as a group. If there is sufficient interest, we may begin another group later this year. Questions, please call the office, 428-9311, or email pastor@gladstonechurch.org.

Homebound Communion and Visits

If you are unable to attend Sunday worship in person, our Member Care team, headed up by Susan Lagina and Gail Johnivan, are resuming their service of bringing Holy Communion to you. We celebrate the sacrament on the first Sunday of each month and will visit you with the consecrated bread and juice to share on that Sunday afternoon or following Monday. Pastor Cathy is also visiting again in homes and other facilities (as permitted). Please contact the church office 428-9311 to request communion or a pastoral visit.

“Meet Up and Eat Up”

Gladstone Schools are serving free lunch to children 18 and under at the Jones School Cafeteria on 10th St. 11:45 – 12:30 every Monday – Thursday through August 20.

What’s Up with the United Methodist Church?

On August 8, Pastor Cathy Rafferty will be available at a table in the narthex after worship, while we’re sharing coffee and muffins, to provide information and respond to questions about our United Methodist denomination, General and Annual Conference actions and decisions, and what we might expect as a local congregation moving forward. This will mostly be conversation around the logistics of where we are now and what the next steps may be. We’ll be having more in-depth discussions later this year or early next year around the specific issues which are moving us toward denominational divisions. If you would prefer to privately talk with Pastor Cathy, please call the office, 428-9311, or email pastor@gladstonechurch.org, to arrange an appointment.

Clothes Closet

Please check out our Clothes Closet in rooms 9 and 10. Peggy Richter has been doing extensive work in there recently, adding to the already great work that Lettie Houghton and Liz Kempfer do on a regular basis. Volunteers are always welcome to fold and tidy up.

Moment in Missions

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

- Northern Skies District Mission of the Year: Mohawk-Ahmeek United Methodist Church offering: \$928

We have several opportunities to support our community, state, and world this month:

- **August 8:** Mission of Hope event in Ludington Park
- **August 15:** Noisy Offering supports Heifer International
- **Elmer’s Community Cares Program:** Donate points to MUMC and we can use it towards getting a \$100 gift card. This can be used to help offset grocery costs for projects like Bay Area Campus Ministries meal. We currently have 120,344 points.
- **Mission Opportunities:** Check out the link “Young Adult Mission Opportunities” at our website.

Our church 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.

The Knitting Group donated 6 afghans to Sunny View Adult Foster Care in Flat Rock. They also donated 11 lap robes to Northwoods Place Assisted Living in Escanaba.

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:

July 31 – Aug. 1 Teddy Bear (age 4 – 2nd grade)
Aug. 1-7 Disney Explosion (1st – 9th grade)
Aug. 8-14 Super Heros (1st – 9th grade)
Aug. 26-29 Harmony Retreat (adults)
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



8/5 Betty Nyquist	8/17 Emma Jensen
8/6 Baylie LaVigne	Joy Jorgensen
8/7 Adele Ostlund	Leslie Nault
8/8 Jeffrey Donovan	8/18 Jamie Doneau
8/10 Klaudia Warm	8/19 Kathy Young
Piper Stevens	8/20 Brienne LaVigne
8/11 Ricky Campbell	8/21 Fredrick Hoehn
David Campbell	Michael Oxford
Dylan Campbell	8/22 Sally Brainard
Dick Johnson	8/25 Wyatt Jorgensen
8/14 Samuel Jensen	8/26 Andy Fase
Julie Springer	8/27 Megan Skjolaas
8/15 Nancy Peterson	8/31 Ashlee Johnson

Scrubbies for Sale for the general budget.
\$2 each by the bulletin board.

Andy Fase's new address is:

16851 Harlem, Unit 308
Tinley Park, IL 60477

Employment Opportunity

Central UMC in Escanaba is looking for a Nursery Care Worker every Sunday morning for about 3½ hours. Pay is \$13/hr. Call Kaylan Thorbahn 789-9216 or 280-2101.

Prayer List

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 & Kim Diamond	Debbie Dew
Bernie Erickson	Andy Fase
Scott Harmon	Caroline Hart
Walt Houghton	Al Jensen
Alice Jensen	Jon Lohrbach
Marcy Makosky	Rebecca Marchak
Tammy Martin	Chad Mileski
Zach Nardi	Lincoln Noel
Bob & Keri Polasek	Josiah and David Pryor
Bev Regts	Debbie Renkin
Marvin Sodermark	Julie Springer
Ann Thomas	Todd
Al Waeghe	Marianne Watson Milkowski
Jerry Wery	Those who have lost a loved one

Yard Work

Alice Butch did extensive weeding in the front of the church, including removing a small dogwood tree that was growing right against the wall of the church.

Jan Johnson did a lot of weeding along the back of the church and also trimmed bushes.

Lisa Myers weeded the parking lot.

Bill Buchmiller continues to mow the lawn.

There's always more to do if you'd like to help. Call the office.

Church Broadcast School

Mark Doyal, Michigan Conference Director of Communications, will be leading a workshop on improving online worship. This workshop is especially for churches with basic equipment and little technical knowledge. Participation is limited to 15 people in order to allow for questions and hands-on training. You must register by Aug. 10. Please call Memorial 428-9311 for more information.

Choices of dates/locations are:

- Wednesday, Aug. 18, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Iron Mountain Trinity, Iron Mountain
- Thursday, Aug. 19, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Newberry UMC, Newberry

This is an excellent opportunity to train more volunteers in a growing area of ministry.

July 27, 2021

Dear Memorial Church Members and Friends,

As you probably know, our congregation endured a significant loss in the death of David Hagen, who was a blessing to us in so many ways, not least of which was serving as our Director of Music. In that capacity, Dave directed the Praise Team and Jubilee Choir, as well as coordinating the overall music program with me, our other staff, and volunteers.

Our Worship Committee, led by Joy Jorgensen, and Staff-Parish Relations Committee, led by Ted Brainard, are now at work discerning where God may be leading us next in terms of providing leadership to our music program. Our first step is to determine if God may be calling someone from within our congregation to serve in this vital role of ministry.

At this time, we are looking for someone who would commit to 10-15 hours per week to oversee, coordinate, and give leadership to our music ministry. This person would need to direct both the Praise Team and Jubilee Choir, or recruit and lead qualified volunteers willing to perform those tasks. It is our hope this person could provide and recruit additional instrumental accompaniment (guitar, bass, drums, keyboard) for the Praise Team as well. This person would also have responsibility for coordinating worship music with our new instrumental band, the Glory Ringers handbell choir, and any other special music.

We would strongly prefer someone with the administrative and technical skills to oversee our sound/projection/livestreaming operations, working with our staff and volunteers. It will also be this person's responsibility to maintain our musical resources library including electronic formats and proper licensing for us in worship.

If you or someone you would recommend is interested in exploring this opportunity further, please contact the church office at (906) 428-9311 or email mumc@gladstonechurch.org by Wednesday, Aug. 4. The existing job description (open to negotiation based on skill sets and interests) is printed below. Specific hours and wages will depend on experience and agreed-upon final job description and responsibilities.

Our music ministry is a vital component, not only of our Sunday worship, but also in nurturing the spiritual lives of those who participate in our variety of musical groups, developing deeper connections to each other, and engaging us all in sharing our best gifts and talents for God's glory. May we all be praying with confidence that God will provide.

Blessings,

Pastor Cathy Rafferty

Director of Music – directs scheduled music activities of the church, coordinating with Pastor.

Work Experience Requirements

- Education or skill as musician, including a well-developed sense of rhythm
- Ability to read music
- Knowledge of, or ability to play piano or another musical instrument
- Knowledge of Liturgical music

Education Requirements:

- High School diploma or GED
- Skill as a vocal or instrumental musician

Primary responsibilities:

- Choose music for the Jubilee Choir
- Order music; budget music costs
- Teach music
- Manage schedule of various church choirs, Summer music, and piano player for early service
- Coordinate with Praise Team
- Attend Worship Committee meetings
- Participate in musical components of worship planning
- Direct choir on Sunday mornings
- Direct choir during special services: Advent, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday

August 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 Worship	2 6:00 We Make the Road	3 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	4 9:00 Knit & Quilt	5 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	6	7
8 10:00 Worship	9 6:00 We Make the Road	10 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Finance 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	11 9:00 Knit & Quilt 7:00 Church Council	12 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	13	14
15 <i>Noisy Offering and Youth Sunday</i> 10:00 Worship	16 6:00 We Make the Road	17 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	18 9:00 Knit & Quilt	19 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	20	21
22 10:00 Worship	23 6:00 We Make the Road	24 2:00 Missions 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.	25 9:00 Knit & Quilt	26 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 11 Fruit Potluck	30 6:00 We Make the Road	31 5:00 Grief Group 6:00 TKD 6:30 Praise Team 8:00 N.A.				