



The Messenger

September 2023

We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ!

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

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Mon. – Thur., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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Mon. and Thur., 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The United Methodist Church “is founded on a Wesleyan theology of grace, anchored in Scripture, and based in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit” (#BeUMC on umc.org).

On April 13, 1988 my family’s life was turned upside down and backwards. Our three older girls were at school, but our youngest was home that afternoon because she only had morning kindergarten. She was outside playing with one of her cousins. I was doing all the household chores that a mom does. I had cleaned the bathroom, started the laundry, taken the garbage out, put it in the burn barrel, and lit it on fire; then I went into the house to put navy beans on the stove to soften to make baked beans.

Gerald was upstairs sleeping. He had worked a midnight shift then gone to the KI Sawyer AFB to pick up some things he had purchased at an auction held on the base. He had gotten home from the Air Force Base and gone directly to bed.

Our youngest daughter, Tracy, came running into the house yelling, “Mom, Mom, the grass is on fire!!” I ran outside to check out what was going on, and by then the fire had started burning our storage building next to the house. I took Tracy by the hand and firmly told her to go across the street to Grandma’s house and not come home until I came to get her. Surprisingly she did as she was told.

I ran upstairs and woke Gerald up and then called the fire department. By the time Gerald got outside, the fire was using the storage building as a funnel to our house and had started burning it.

A few hours later there were only two and a half walls left of our house. What is a family with four little ones to do in such a situation? The girls and I went to my mom and dad’s house in Escanaba, and Gerald stayed at his mom’s house so he could be there when the insurance adjuster and so on came to see the house.

By the following day, Gerald’s mom’s living room was waist deep with clothing and such for us from many people in our community. There was an outpouring of love and support from so many people.

This is the community we live in. You can’t live in community by sitting at home watching television by yourself. Nor can you be a true part of a Christian community by watching their service online. During the pandemic it was the best that could be mustered, but now we have become lazy and continue to watch services online. Yes, for those who are shut-in, this is a wonderful way to participate, but you can’t tell me that the majority of those watching are shut-in.

During the pandemic I missed the interaction I had with everyone. I missed the hugs and smiling greetings. I missed the swell of voices during the hymns. You can’t get that over the internet. My friends, look around you when you are at church and praise God for the community the faith that you belong to. This community of faith is a blessing to me, and I think it is a blessing to you. Come, let’s worship together.

Pastor Terri

Links to Worship

Find an up-to-date schedule for activities, links to on-line worship, and our 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 YouTube and Facebook:

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

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

Thank you to the following who made VBS Hero Hotline such a success:

*Those who volunteered their time and talent:

Lorna Benson, Peggy French, Val Johnson, Melissa Johnson, Laurie Kaufman, Lisa Myers, Christina Myers, Peggy Richter, and Jeanne Wescott.

*Those who donated money for the purchase of food and supplies that made this year's VBS successful.

*To the parents and grandparents who encouraged their children to attend.

*And the biggest thank you goes to the great bunch of kids that attended! You are Heroes who follow Jesus, help others, work together, and listen to God!

Thank you,
Jeanne

Flannel Shirt drive



September's Missions project is collecting new or gently used flannel shirts to take to God's Country Cooperative Parish. Their winters are even colder than ours!

Prayer List

The people of Maui	Ukraine
The Lahaina UMC	Mindy A.
Betsy Anderson	Bud Baltic
Lisa Richer Barta	Lorna Benson
Sarah Benson	David Bohlen
Sally Brainard	Tom Butch
Lois Cady	Nancy Campbell
Mary Clark	Bud and Pat Clark
Shirley Clark	Eileen Collins
Chris and Kim Diamond	Cheryl DeMarse
Family of Bruce Flannery	Brian Galvin
Michele Geyer	Ian Goldi
Shanon Green	John Gudwer
Caroline Hart	Lettie Houghton
Al Jensen	Liz Kempfer
David & Cheryl LaCarte	Susan Lindgren
Timothy Lehtikangas	Marcy Makosky
Tammy Lehtikangas	Toni Marchese
Rebecca Marchak	Tom McCarley
Rhonda Mulligan	Zach Nardi
Michelle Ottensman	Helen Palo
Vickie Ottensman	Josiah Pryor
Emily Shada Polega	Jordan Rabbitoy
Mary Ann Smithson	Brandon Sodermark
Marv Sodermark	David Wescott
Family of Susan Yoder	
Bill Springer and the Ettenhofer family	

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

Sept. 17 we will worship at 10:30 at Van Cleve park in the pavilion by Kid's Kingdom (across from 1320 or 1402 Lake Shore Drive). Afterwards we will have a potluck picnic and games. Please bring a dish to pass along with a serving utensil. You can even bring hamburgers or brats, and Gerald B. will grill them for you. You may want to bring your own comfy lawn chair too.

Sunday volunteers

There is a purple sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to be a Reader, Usher/Greeter, Muffin Baker, and Coffee Host.

Sunday School will begin on Sept. 10 during the second half of worship. There will be a children's class and a youth class. Andie Balenger and Lisa Myers will be teaching the youth class. If you would be interested in helping with the children's class on a rotating basis, please speak with Lisa as soon as possible.

Backpack Buddies

Every first Sunday of the month, the backpack will be in the center aisle for people to drop money into on their way to communion. This money goes to the Kiwanis project of providing schoolchildren with food to take home in their backpacks over the weekend or holidays.

Create Cards

You are invited to a card-making party on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 10am-1pm. Lunch is included. The cards that are made will be sold on the white table in front of the bulletin board to continue raising money for the Building Maintenance Fund.

Peanut-Free Church

Due to peanut allergies among some of our children, we are working toward becoming a peanut-free church. Please check labels for hidden peanut oils.

Job Opening

First Lutheran Church in Gladstone would like to hire a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC). This position is part-time. The CEC will oversee and coordinate e-ministry, volunteer engagement, and community connections. Our new CEC will work with pastor, the office administrator, AV Tech, the Welcome and Outreach Committee, and other community groups. The job is posted on their Facebook page.

Cotton sheets (white or beige) are needed for our Quilters.

Bells & Vocal Choir are starting up for the fall. Now is a perfect time to try either or both. Please speak with Kathy Young 450-1878.



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



You may have seen the street & drain repairs throughout Gladstone and heard that the property owners are being charged. Memorial UMC was going to be charged \$5,000. However, Dennis Harrison remembered that way back in 1997, Dave Nemacheck had negotiated and received a letter from the City of Gladstone stating that we would never be assessed for street repairs on Minneapolis Ave. since we gave them the land to put Minneapolis Ave. through. Dennis Harrison had been chair of Trustees at the time. Gary Shiplett was the pastor then, and he also remembered the letter, as did Tom Butch. The 1997 letter was found, and Dennis Harrison persistently contacted the city over these last number of weeks until they agreed to honor the letter and not assess us.

**newsletter deadline:
Thursday, Sept. 28**

September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball	2 11:00 funeral 1:00 Music Coop
3 10:30 Worship - <i>Communion and Baptisms</i>	4 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 5:30 Bible Study on John's Gospel	5 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	6 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Jubilee Choir	7 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball	8 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball	9
10 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	11 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 5:30 Bible Study on John's Gospel 6:30 Worship Committee	12 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	13 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Jubilee Choir	14 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball 6:30 Church Council	15 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball	16 1:00 Music Coop
17 <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10:30 Outdoor Worship & Sunday School Van Cleve Park 11:30 Picnic and games	18 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 5:30 Bible Study on John's Gospel	19 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball 2:00 Missions	20 10:00 Card- making party (lunch included) 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Jubilee Choir	21 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball	22 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball	23 10:00 District Conference with book exchange in Marquette
24 10:30 Worship & Sunday School	25 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 5:30 Bible Study on John's Gospel	26 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	27 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Jubilee Choir	28 <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 9:00 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball	29 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball	30

