



The Messenger

October 2023

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 Terri Branstrom

(906) 280-2993

tlbran@hotmail.com

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).

*Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world;
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

This little song was written about 100 years ago and remains a favorite of many people. I can't help but think of this song during the fall season with all the wonderful colors that our trees produce.

I sang this song in Sunday School many, many times, and I firmly believe the message it has for us even today. So, let me ask you---Do you believe *you* are loved by Jesus? Do you believe that *all* God's children are precious in God's sight? Are *you* a child of God? Does it matter what color you are, what nationality you are, if you worship differently than some, or even if you worship?

I once did a funeral service for a gentleman that never/rarely attended any type of church service. In my service for him, I said that he was a beloved child of God. The man's sister came up to me after the service and thanked me for saying that. We do not know what was in this man's heart when he died. We do not know if he had made peace with God. All I know was he was a child of God even if he didn't acknowledge it.

Over my many years, I have learned two things that stand fast. The first is that there is a God. The second is that I am not God. It is not in my job description to judge anyone—that is God's job. It *IS* my job to share God's love, peace, joy, comfort, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and faith to those I meet every day no matter where you live, how you live, or what color your skin is.

You may be thinking, “Well, yes that's your job. That's what you get paid to do!” Friends, if you are a Christian, it is your job too. Even if you are a teacher, a lawyer, a nurse, a doctor, a clerk, or whatever occupation you get paid for, it is also *your* job. Your number one job is to share God's love with those you meet. It is your job to make disciples for Jesus Christ in a needy world today.

Jesus loves the little children, but God also loves *all* God's children, young and old. As God's children, let's share God's love with everyone, red and yellow, black or white because they are precious in God's sight.

Shalom, 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/>

World Communion Sunday -- Oct. 1

The United Methodist Church has a special offering every year on World Communion Sunday. Your gift marked "World Communion Sunday" empowers a diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults to make a global impact for Christ.

All Saints Sunday -- Nov. 5

You are invited to submit names of special people in your life who have gone home to God in the past 12 months. Please submit these names **by Wednesday, Nov. 1** to be mentioned in the All Saints Service.

Sunday volunteers

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

Baptisms

On Sunday, Sept. 3, we celebrated the baptism of **Axel David Jeffrey Hueneman, Archer Robert David Hueneman, and Kaysleigh Kristine Marie Hueneman**, children of Trevor Hueneman and Breanne Johnson, who is the daughter of Dan and Val Johnson.

On Sept. 5, we celebrated the baptism of **Reese Drew Gaudino**, daughter of Samantha and Gabriel Gaudino. Sandra Bratonia is the grandmother, and Lettie Houghton is the great-grandmother.

Color Tour – October 1st

Meet in the church parking lot at 3pm to carpool. The color tour will wind through beautiful country roads, ending up in Arnold, where we will be treated to a scrumptious supper at Pastor Terri's daughter Elizabeth's house.

The League of Women Voters will do a presentation for the community on Oct. 2 at 7pm at Memorial. The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that promotes fair & accessible elections and encourages voters to become informed. The League of Women Voters will present information and answer questions on voting changes as a result of the passage of Prop 2. There will be light refreshments, and the public is encouraged to attend.

Sunday School

If you would be interested in helping with the children's class on a rotating basis, please speak with Lisa.

Lonely College Freshmen

Two young members of our congregation who have helped out in many ways and have been great assets to our congregation are now off to their first year of college. It's exciting ... but also lonely at times. If you would like to send them a thinking of you card / note of encouragement, their addresses are:

Devin Messina
P.O. Box 1186
2900 University Ave.
Crookston, MN 56716

Ethan Jensen / Lakeland University
Grosshuesch Hall W3718 South Dr.
Room # 437
Plymouth, WI 53073-4878

Card-making Party

"Thank you" to the following ladies who made beautiful cards on Sept. 27: Peggy Lewis, Peggy Richter, Lettie Houghton, Liz Kempfer, and Joanne Gudwer. These cards will be for sale in the narthex. All proceeds go to the building maintenance fund.

Prayer List

Ukraine	Mindy A.
Betsy Anderson	Bud Baltic
Lisa Richer Barta	Lorna Benson
Sarah Benson	David Bohlen
Sally Brainard	Tom Butch
Nancy Campbell	Mary Clark
Bud and Pat Clark	Shirley Clark
Chris and Kim Diamond	Eileen Collins
Brian Galvin	Michele Geyer
Ian Goldi	John Gudwer
Caroline Hart	Jim Hubbard
Al Jensen	Ethan Juhola
David & Cheryl LaCarte	Liz Kempfer
Susan Lindgren	Marcy Makosky
Toni Marchese	Rebecca Marchak
Family of Vivian Miller	Meuhlhaus family
Rhonda Mulligan	Zach Nardi
Michelle Ottensman	Vickie Ottensman
Helen Palo	Emily Shada Polega
Josiah Pryor	Jordan Rabbitoy
Brandon Sodermark	Kay Shapy
Marv and Pat Sodermark	



10/2 Laura LaMarche	10/16 Eric Nault
Ken Schell	10/18 Rylee Doucette
10/4 Dave Lewis	Tracy Jensen
10/6 Timothy Worth	10/19 WilmaVanderdonck
10/7 Sharon Block	10/21 Bobbie Haase
Brooke Buckley	10/22 Andie Balenger
10/12 Elizabeth Kempfer	10/24 Terri Branstrom
10/13 Ty Waeghe	Patti Multerer
10/14 Sarah Mattonen	10/28 Karl Warm
10/15 Walter Houghton	10/30 Trudy Broman

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.

Flannel Shirt drive



We thank everyone who donated flannel shirts to take to God's Country Cooperative Parish in the Newberry area.

Disability Awareness Sunday – Oct. 15

The United Methodist Church observes Disability Awareness Sunday as a reminder that the church is called to be in ministry with all of God's children, regardless of abilities and needs. It is a Sunday when we are called to look for the overlooked and to listen for those with no voice. Disabilities can include trouble hearing, seeing and walking, as well as mental impairment often associated with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Whether it is the elderly member that now has trouble hearing, the child diagnosed with autism, or the young person in a wheelchair, we are reminded on Disability Awareness Sunday that the doors of our church must swing open wide enough for all of God's children.

This year, this special offering on Oct. 15 will help provide additional signage for attendees with accessibility needs.



Readers to Leaders

A life changing campaign to support children in our community, across Michigan, and in Liberia. Half of the funds will benefit the Liberia Scholarship Program of the Michigan Conference's Liberia Ministry Partners. The other half will benefit the Michigan Conference's Children Defense Fund Freedom Schools Program.



FACEBOOK - SHARE THE NEWS



If you are a social media user, especially of Facebook hopefully you have noticed that MUMC is now posting more about who we are and what we are doing. BUT

to make this work to the best of our ability we need you to LIKE, COMMENT and SHARE!! The more you do the more who see our page and the more people learn about who we are!

If you have pictures or other news of church events, please send to the church to be put on Facebook and the church webpage.

PASTY TIME!

Saturday Nov 4th

Making 600 pasties @ \$6.00 ea. We prefer cash or check but can accept credit cards.

Orders will be filled in the order of sign up!

Sign-up lists are now in the Narthex.

Kitchen cleaning & item prep days >>> Wed.

Nov. 1st & Thurs. Nov. 2nd

Veggie and Dough Prep >>> Fri. Nov. 3rd

Pasty making and Sale >>> Sat. Nov. 4th

Sign-up sheets will have times!!

Please bring your favorite and familiar kitchen tools to use! Ex. Knife - peeler - dough blender etc.

Your "NEW 2023" Pasty Sale Chairperson is Denise Messina. Co-chairs are Sue Lagina and Laurie de la Garza.

From Denise,

I look forward to chairing this amazing annual fellowship and fundraising event for MUMC. It is a great place to have some fun, reconnect and also chat with others who are not always in our circle, all the while helping with an annual fundraising event. (I have definitely widened my circle because of the connections made during this Pasty Sale event) Please, keep us in prayer and have patience with the process of leadership change for this event. A lot of how we do things will remain the same but, as always, some processes will change in an effort to make things a little easier and streamlined. Will it work, who knows, as this is where the patience will be needed. It will also be a big change for me personally not to just jump in and do it, but rather assign someone to help in specific areas where needed. I have no worries about whether we will we have enough help, as I know everyone will step up and do what they can, when they can to make this a cooperative success.

The first 10% of profits will go to Missions. \$500 will go toward our Gladstone Cabin at Camp Michigamme. The remainder will go to Memorial's general fund.

MISSION COMMITTEE HELLO FALL!!

OCTOBER SPECIAL OFFERINGS

OCT. 1 BACKPACK BUDDIES – Supports Gladstone/Rapid River Kiwanis Club in providing weekend meals to students.

OCT. 15 – HEIFER INTERNATIONAL and DISABILITY SUNDAY Heifer International has had our support for many years. This year we are adding Disability Sunday. Offerings from this endeavor will be used to provide additional signage for attendees with accessibility needs.

OTHER UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

Bay College Campus Meal – November 13. We will be looking for cookie bakers!!

Alternative Holiday Bazaar – November 25.

Any church groups interested in participating please see Peggy French.

THANKS to all who supported our Flannel Shirt Drive in September!

REMINDER – Mission Committee is always looking to expand our numbers. Talk to any committee member, Peggy French, Susan Lagina, Peggy Richter, Liz Kempher

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

Reading Buddies Needed

Make a difference in a child's life by becoming a Reading Buddy (full time or substitute) for the first grade students at W.C. Cameron Elementary School in Gladstone. These mentoring sessions are held on Wednesdays, from 9:15 to 11:15 beginning in October 2023 and ending in May 2024. The time a Reading Buddy spends listening to a student read enhances that child's reading skills while providing care, guidance and support. If you are interested, please call 786-7080, ext. 112 for Lisa Aho, RSVP Volunteer Coordinator.

October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bell practice 1:30 Girl Scouts 3:00 Color Tour	2 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 League of Women Voters	3 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	4 9:00 Knit 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Choir	5 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball	6 8:00 Pickleball 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball	7 1:00 Music Co-op
8 10:30 Worship 11:30 Altar Guild Training 11:30 Bell practice 1:30 Girl Scouts	9 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible Study 6:30 SPRC	10 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	11 9:00 Knit 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Choir	12 Simplified Board Structure meeting 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball 6:30 Church Council	13 8:00 Pickleball 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball	14 5:00 Taco and Game night
15 <i>Noisy Offering, Laity Sunday, and Disabilities Awareness Sunday</i> 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bell practice 1:30 Girl Scouts	16 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible Study	17 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball 2:00 Missions	18 9:00 Knit 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Choir	19 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball	20 8:00 Pickleball 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball	21 1:00 Music Co-op
22 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bell practice 1:30 Girl Scouts	23 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible Study	24 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball	25 9:00 Knit 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Choir	26 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball Newsletter deadline	27 8:00 Pickleball 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball	28 Benefit for Mason 12:00—4:00
29 10:30 Worship Guest Speaker: Phil Lynch 11:30 Bell practice 1:30 Girl Scouts	30 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible Study	31 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Line Dance 12:30 Pickleball Trunk or Treat during Gladstone's Trick or Treat hours	Nov. 1 9:00 Knit 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball 6:15 Band 7:00 Choir	Nov. 2 8:30 Pickleball 11:00 Pickleball 6:00 Rod Snow chalk artist and ventriloquist	Nov. 3 8:00 Pickleball 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Pickleball 2:00 Pickleball Pasty vegetable chopping Dough making	Nov. 4 Pasty Sale 1:00 Music Co-op

TEAL PUMPKIN PROJECT®

HELP CREATE A SAFER, HAPPIER HALLOWEEN FOR ALL!



*Memorial UMC
will be having
Trunk or Treat
during Gladstone's
trick or treat.
You can bring either
the traditional candy
or non-candy treats.*

1. Provide non-food treats for trick-or-treaters
2. Place a teal pumpkin in front of your home to indicate you have non-food treats available to passersby
3. Display a free printable sign or premium poster from FARE to explain the meaning of your teal pumpkin



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