



# The Messenger

April 2024

*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.



Pastor Terri Branstrom

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

As I am writing this article, I am trying to imagine myself 2000 or so years ago after witnessing the crucifixion of the man they called Jesus. Was I one of His followers or was I one of the crowd that yelled, “Crucify Him!”? Did I watch from the crowd as He carrying that heavy wooden cross to Golgotha, or did I head home after he was sentenced to death? Was I there to watch as they pounded the spikes into his hands and his feet before they unceremoniously dropped the cross into its hole? Did I watch as life slowly drained from his body as the crowd taunted him about being King of the Jews? Was I one who taunted him? When He cried to God for abandoning him and as He gave up his spirit into God’s hands did my heart feel anything?

Then we come to Holy Saturday. I wonder what I would have been doing that day? Was it a “business as usual day” for me or did I hide behind barred doors in fear waiting for the soldier to carry me away as one of His followers? Did I feel empty at the loss of the greatest man I had ever known or did I cry until I had no more tears to shed or did I try to stay busy to keep my mind off all the events of the past few days?

As we end the season of Lent, we celebrate the greatest sacrifice anyone could make for you and me. We can look back to see how people reacted 2000 years ago to Jesus’ ministry. Some loved him for His message of love, peace, kindness, and inclusiveness. Others hated him because he shook up the status quo, the rules of religion, and the rules of society.

Today we serve a risen Savior. We have become His body, His church in this needy world. Sometimes we stumble and fall but Jesus picks us up, dusts us off and gives us what we need to continue His ministry here and now. May God bless us with the Spirit of Jesus as we bring the good news of Jesus Christ to our world.

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](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 YouTube and Facebook:

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

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

## Baptism

**Baptism** On Easter, we will celebrate the baptism of **Madelynn Rae Marklin**, daughter of Tyler and Ashlee Marklin and granddaughter of Dan and Val Johnson. Brantlee Marklin is the big brother. Madelynn’s sponsors are Alex and Emily Trotter.

**A New Bible Study** begins the day after Easter. They will be using the book *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton on **Monday evenings at 5:30**.

**newsletter deadline:  
Wednesday, April 24**

**Easter Flowers given to the Glory of God in Memory of:**

Parents Irvin & Lydia MacKenzie, Walt & Mary Houghton - - - - - from Walt & Lettie Houghton

My parents and husband - - - -from Peggy Richter

Mary & Jay Osterberg and Joan Cook- - - -  
- - - - from Kay Shapy

Billie & Tony Marmalick, Jim Marmalick, Beth Robinson, Edythe Heslip, Mona & Doug Wescott  
- - - - -from Jeanne & Dave Wescott

Our loved ones - - -  
- - - -from Gary & Bev Quick and Tina Harkins

Josie, Eugene and Gene R. Thorbahn, Al Jensen  
- - - - - from Pam Thorbahn

MaryAnn & Warren Hubbard - - - -  
- - - - from Deb & Jim Hubbard

Marilyn & Stewart Harger - - - -  
- - - from Deb & Jim Hubbard

My husband Paul - - - - -from Wilma Vanderdonck

**Easter Flowers given to the Glory of God in Honor of:**

Our grandchildren - - - - from Deb & Jim Hubbard

My sons Jesse and Daniel - - - -  
- - -from Wilma Vanderdonck

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4/1 Angela Brunette  | 4/13 Breanne Johnson |
| Christine Morrow     | Jeff Moore           |
| Thomas Viau          | 4/15 Carolyn Taylor  |
| 4/5 Laura Doneau     | 4/17 Gabriel Gaudino |
| Melvin Marlett       | 4/18 Ryan Juhola     |
| 4/8 Daytona Johnivan | Kyra Keeker          |
| Jack Thomas III      | 4/19 Matthew Hampton |
| 4/10 Peter Jensen    | 4/20 Kallie Donovan  |
| Emily Klotz          | 4/25 Jack Thomas IV  |
| 4/12 Owen Mattonen   | 4/28 Jamie Hoehn     |
| Benjamin Worth       | Rachel Johnson       |
|                      | Janice Watson        |
|                      | 4/30 Joseph Ostlund  |

**Fundraiser: MARSP Dinner**

The Michigan Area Retired School Personnel will have their dinner & meeting here at noon on Tuesday, May 7. This is a good fundraiser for us. Many hands are needed in the kitchen on the evening of May 6 and in the morning & afternoon of May 7.

**Spring Cleaning**

While you are cleaning your house and garage this spring, please remember the church **rummage sale** (May 2 – 4) and the **metal drive** (Apr. 26 – May 5). If you are just “itching” to get items out of your house and can’t wait until later in April, you can bring them to the church now. Put clean indoor things in room 5. Outdoor items will have to go in the church shed. There is limited room in there, so talk to Lisa about where we can put it.

**Scrap Metal Drive**

Start saving your metal now. We will have a receptacle here April 26 – May 5.

**Acceptable Items Include:**

- Stoves, Dryers, Appliances, etc.  
*Not TVs or refrigerators though.*
- 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

**March Financial Report**

Our giving for the general fund for four weeks in March has totaled \$11,888. Our month’s goal is \$17,020. Easter Sunday was not included in this report due to the newsletter deadline being March 27th. Please give regularly so that all commitments can be met that we are responsible for. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Wescott.

## February Mission:

In February we did a drive for personal hygiene items for Bay College students. Thanks to your generous donations into our shopping cart, we were able to take over 11 bags of items!

## April Missions

April 7 Backpack Buddies offering

April 14 Native American Ministries offering

April 21 Heifer Project “noisy offering”

April 15 - Bay Community Campus Meal – See Jeannie Wescott or Susan Lagina if you are available in any capacity.

Long term planning – there are a couple of events late in the year that we would like you to keep on your calendar: the Christmas Giving Bazaar (end of November) and the Christmas Ecumenical Dinner on Christmas Day. Both are in the early stages of planning, but we all know how time flies!

Thank you to everyone who collected their Alms for Readers to Leaders.

## Prayer List

Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine	Mindy A.
Those being treated for cancer	Aunt Alice
Ken and Lorna Benson	Tom Butch
Beth and Sarah Benson	Nancy Campbell
Bud and Pat Clark	Bette DeRoeck
Emma	Ian Goldi
Nancy Grondine	Paul Hammond
Nancy Harger	Caroline Hart
Walt and Lettie Houghton	Jim Hubbard
Hueneman family	Liz Kempfer
Family of Mason Kudlick	Dorell
Cheryl LaCarte	Marcy Makosky
Toni Marchese	Rebecca Marchak
Misty	Helen Palo
Family of Cherie Phalen	Monica Peach
Rodney Potvin and family	Josiah Pryor
Family of Doug Sjoquist	Jordan R.
Marv and Pat Sodermark	Debbie Rosen
Tami	Pam Thorbahn

**The Bay de Noc Choral Society** will present their spring concert on Sunday, April 7, at 1:30 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Escanaba. They will be joined by special guests, the Escanaba High School Chorale, and several instrumentalists. Freewill offering.

## Native American Ministries Sunday – April 14

This Special Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration designed to raise awareness and remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. A gap in knowledge exists in The United Methodist Church, in congregations and other United Methodist entities, relative to comprehending concepts of Native American life, cultures, languages, spirit, values, contemporary issues, and such. We affirm the sacredness of indigenous people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world. Please donate in church or online.



## Game Nights

Starting in April, we will have Game Night the third Saturday of the month at 5:00. The game night on April 20 will be extra special because we will also be celebrating Nannette’s retirement. Nannette says, “Please, no gifts. If you want to give something, an extra gift to the church would be great.” See you on April 20.

