



The Messenger

November 2024

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.

There are many wishes I have for the congregation of MUMC. As I was thinking about all the wishes, I was at a loss for words. Fortunately, I have a picture that has these words on it, and these words will hopefully express my wishes for each one of you.

This is my wish for you: *Comfort* on difficult days, *smiles* when sadness intrudes, *rainbows* to follow the clouds, *laughter* to kiss your lips, *sunsets* to warm your hearts, *hugs* when spirits sag, *beauty* for your eyes to see, *friendship* to brighten your being, *faith* so that you can believe, *confidence* for when you doubt, *courage* to know yourself, *patience* to accept the truth, *love* to complete your life.

Though this article to you may be a bit shorter than my “normal” article, know that my words are nonetheless written with love. I thank God each day for your faithfulness and commitment to MUMC and our loving God. May God bless each and every one of you.

Shalom,
Pastor Terri

Rod Snow, a gifted chalk artist and ventriloquist will be here Sunday, Nov. 3, giving the message at the 10:30 worship service. His creative ministry captivates people ages 1-100. Please help us spread the word to your friends and family. There will be a freewill offering to help support Rod’s ministry.

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/>

All Saints Sunday

On Nov. 3, we will remember the following loved ones who passed away in the last 12 months: Al Jensen, Eileen Collins, Mary Bastian, Bobbie Haase, Marcella Makosky, Lois Johnson, Liz Kempher, Cheryl LaCarte, John Gudwer Sr., Dorothy Ann LeGault Wagner, Clarence “Bruce” Wagner, MaryAnn Hubbard, Scott Eckert, and Stephen Vargo.

Giving to the **Memorial Fund** is a wonderful way to remember someone and to help our church purchase items that are not included in our regular budget. Memorials to date have been received this year (2024) in memory of:

Alan Jensen, John Gudwer Sr., June Martinchek, Eileen Collins, Mary Bastian, Stephen Vargo, Marcy Makosky, Elizabeth Kempher, and Katherine Paine. We thank all who so generously gave.

Dedicate a Sunday

The worship service on Nov. 24 is dedicated by Janet Paine in memory of her sister **Katherine Paine**. Katherine was born on Nov. 21, 1923.

If you would like to dedicate a Sunday in honor or memory of someone, please fill out a card that is on the small black table by the bulletin board and include \$300. Pictures can be emailed or given to Lisa in advance if you wish to have them on the screen. This is a wonderful way not only to remember those who have passed but also to celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc.

Laity Sunday

Oct. 20 was an incredible worship service. We had 150% of our regular worship attendances, including 12 children! Cassie (Stock) Tines led the Children's Sermon and then taught Sunday School. Melissa (French) Johnson assisted with Sunday school. Laurie Kaufman de la Garza led much of the worship service, and Jeanne Wescott read scripture. Last, but definitely not least, our very own, super-talented Andie Balenger preached a sermon about love. Deep ideas, excellent delivery! If you weren't here, you can still watch it online www.gladstonechurch.org.

Help needed with the Pasty Sale

We need "all hands on deck" anytime from 7a.m. until 6p.m. on **Nov. 1 and 2**. Sitting down jobs are available. \$500 of the profits will go to our Camp Michigamme Gladstone cabin. The rest will go toward Memorial UMC's general fund.

We thank **Denise Messina** for finding an ignitor for our convection oven online for \$150 less than it would have been through a local retailer, and we thank **Dean Messina** for installing it free-of-charge. Dean also thoroughly inspected and repaired or replaced all other worn-out ignitors for the range top and oven. Everything is working perfectly.

Right now, as I type this, **Denise Messina, Nannette Martin, and Jeanne Wescott** are scrubbing down the whole kitchen, getting it ready for the rest of us to have fantastic fellowship while making pasties. Yum!

Album Launch Concert and Fundraiser for Camp Michigamme

Join us for a special evening of music and mission as songwriter/performer Phil Lynch presents his third album, "Love Divine: The Charles Wesley Project"! This special album launch event for Delta County will take place on **Friday, Nov. 8 at 7:00 pm** here at Memorial United Methodist Church.

For 30 years, Phil has been passionate about reinterpreting Charles Wesley's iconic hymns, infusing them with new life and melodies that honor their heritage while appealing to contemporary audiences. "Love Divine" explores the theme of sanctification and union with divine love, showcasing Phil's passion for Wesley's works.

The concert will feature Phil performing the album's songs in order. Spoken interludes will tie the hymns together and explore the idea of sanctification and its meaning for our own lives. Also, a free-will offering will be taken to support Camp Michigamme and its ministries. Don't miss out on what promises to be an unforgettable evening of music, mission, and community, as we celebrate our shared love of timeless hymns and Wesleyan heritage!

Memorial UMC would like to provide appetizers for this Launch Concert. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you would be willing to provide any sort of snacks/refreshments/appetizers or if you would be willing to help with food set-up and clean-up. Please help Memorial provide the gift of hospitality to the community at this Launch Concert.



Phil Lynch

“Hurricane Nancy”

Nancy Campbell is at it again! She walked 3.7 miles to raise money for hurricane relief. If you would like to support her walk, please write your check to "Memorial UMC" and note on the memo line "Hurricane Nancy."

Nancy walked from Waterview Apts. to The Saloon (no, she didn't drink), then to Memorial Church, and then back home to Waterview. She will be turning 87 on Nov. 16. Wow!

Prayer List

Israel and Palestine	Ukraine
Mindy A.	Lorna Benson
Beth and Sarah Benson	Tom Butch
Bud and Pat Clark	Lynn Curtis
Bette DeRoeck	Fase family
Ian Goldi	Nancy Grondine
Shannon Hagen	Matt Hampton
Nancy Harger	Caroline Hart
Christopher Hopper	Walt Houghton
Kathy Howard	Jim Hubbard
Hueneman family	Chris Jensen
Gail Johnivan	Dorell Kirschner
David LaCarte	Christopher Lund
Toni Marchese	Rebecca Marchak
Devin Messina	Jeanette Mineau
Theresa Nelson	Helen Palo
Rodney Potvin and family	Josiah Pryor
Bev Quick	Kris R.
Jordan R.	Debbie Rosen
Mrs. Craig Seckinger	Pam Thorbahn
Family of Bill Soper	



11/2 Shepard Gaudino	11/15 Joanne Hill
11/3 Katherine Juhola	11/16 Nancy Campbell
11/5 Jax de la Garza	11/19 Reese Buckley
Terry Hampton	11/21 Reese Gaudino
11/6 Lisa Lancour	11/23 Stashia Wery
11/9 Meredith Marlett	11/26 Ethan Juhola
11/13 Gary LaMarche	Grace Taylor
11/14 Valerie Johnson	11/29 Sandra Keeker
Ryan Oshe	Marlene Maulding
Laura Webber	11/30 William Morrow

Sunday Morning Help

We need Ushers, Readers, Muffins Bakers, Coffee Hosts, Communion Servers, and Sunday School Teachers. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Finance Report

Our giving for the general fund for October totaled \$13,880. This month's goal is approximately \$14,000. Please give regularly so that all commitments can be met that we are responsible for.

Dear Gladstone UMC,

The White Pine UMC would like to thank you for the "Beach Party" VBS materials. Our VBS had 5 or 7 children attending. The adults outnumbered the children! We all had a fun time.

Christmas Services

Sunday, Dec. 22, will be our "Family Oriented" Christmas service at the regular **10:30 morning time**.

Please let the church office know of any children or youth who would like to share a special musical piece or read something on Dec. 22.

Our candlelight Christmas Eve service is at 9 p.m. on Dec. 24.

**newsletter deadline:
Wednesday, November 27**

Dear Members of Memorial:

After reading Jeanne Wescott’s letter about giving and all the great things our church supports with our offerings, I wanted to share with you some of my thoughts.

As we come into the season of Thanksgiving, I call to mind Rev. Wayne Large’s testimony to tithing (giving 10% of one’s income). He and Joy decided at the beginning of their married life that they would tithe *right off the top*. He told us that they never missed it because they never had it to miss.

I am reminded that God asks us to give a tithe, and my husband and I have also tried to do that through the years when supporting two churches (Ken’s and mine).

The funny and delightful thing about our giving is that God was and is faithful in providing all our needs in our 58 years of

marriage! God has amply provided us beyond measure. We were never fearful we would not have enough.

I also remember one of our District Superintendents saying in a sermon that with God there is always enough! So let us never, ever be afraid there will not be enough. Let us give with confidence and joy.

In these times where low wages have not kept us as solvent and left us struggling, even the smallest amount may be hard to part with, but be assured that it will be a blessing to others and a blessing for you. God will multiply it and bless you!

So let us give with joy and confidence and wild abandonment as we are needed in so many ways locally and internationally to help a very hurting and unloved world!

Let us be a Blessing!
Lorna Benson



MISSION WORKGROUP 2024

MUMC’s Mission Workgroup would like to provide the congregation with a synopsis of all the good that you have accomplished with your support of the Mission of MUMC. There are many local, statewide, national and international missions that we support. Sometimes we become astounded by the scope and breadth of all that we do!!

First, we support our Engage MI programs about six (6) times per year with the Special Sunday Offerings. In the past this has been the following:

Peace with Justice, World Communion, Native American, Human Relations Day, Student Sunday, Northern Skies District, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), Church World Services and Annual Conference.

Monthly offerings are Backpack Buddies (which stays local) and Heifer International.

Second – twice per year we provide meals for the students at the Bay Area Campus Ministry meal. It is rewarding to receive the thankful response from the students. In August we collect flannel shirts for God’s Country Community Ministry and support Randy Hildebrand’s missions ministry.

Third, you support the Pastors Discretionary fund through the mission workgroup and the Christ Tree.

Next, funds are given to the following local organizations:

Camp Michigamme, Lake State Industries, Bay Cliff Camp, Walk for Warmth, Tri-County Safe Harbor, and the food pantries of Salvation Army, two (2) St. Vincent de Paul’s, and Bay College Pantry.

And last, but not least, our clothes closet. WHEW! WE are a Mission Driven Church!

Thank you!

Rod Snow, ventriloquist and chalk artist will give the message on **Sunday, Nov. 3**, at our 10:30 worship service.

There will be a basket in the back for a love offering to help support his ministry.



ALBUM LAUNCH & BENEFIT CONCERT

with acclaimed singer/songwriter. . .

Phil Lynch



Come enjoy an inspiring evening of music
as Phil performs the songs of his new album,
Love Divine: The Charles Wesley Project!

FRIDAY, NOV. 8, 7 PM

FREE ADMISSION

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1920 LAKE SHORE DR., GLADSTONE

A free-will offering will be taken
to benefit the life-changing ministries of
Camp Michigamme.