



# The Messenger

July 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

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Mon. – Thur., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Pastor Terri Branstrom

(906) 280-2993

[tlbran@hotmail.com](mailto:tlbran@hotmail.com)

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

This year will be my 26<sup>th</sup> year as a counselor at the Lake Louise choir camp. Last year the staff marked my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary by giving me a beautiful painting which is hung in my office. You may ask what keeps me going back for so many years. I'm not quite sure how to answer that question.

The lake, which is crystal clear, has a way of drawing you to its water's edge to renew your soul. The staff works together as a whole to make the camping experience for the campers the best it can be. They work at bringing God to the campers in ways that speak to them. The schedule for each day includes fun activities that the campers can count on.

The daily schedule is full. Rise and shine is at 7:00, followed by optional activities for those who are morning people. Breakfast is at 8:00. Morning worship with our very own praise band is followed by morning choir practice, which is followed by contract classes.

You may be wondering what contract classes are. Each counselor facilitates one class either in the morning or the afternoon. The class can be anything from sports games to knitting, to coloring mandalas by the beach, or my favorite, Yooper Class. I teach the Yooper Class. The campers learn a little history of the UP, some of the awesome sights in the UP, and a little bit of the Yooper cuisine.

Lunch is at noon, followed by my favorite part of the day—rest time. After rest time we have a time for the cabins to have their own devotion time. This is followed by another choir practice and contract classes. After the afternoon contract class, the campers have supervised activity time where they can go swimming, play sports games, play cards, call home, or relax. Supper is at 5:30. After supper is an activity called "Free Expression." This is an activity where a camper can show off their talent whether it is singing a song, playing an instrument, doing a skit or as one camper did - burping the alphabet. Each evening there is a special activity planned for the campers and counselors. It may be a guest performer or a special activity. Vespers follow the evening's activity. It is held down by the water at the outdoor chapel.

Because the campers range in age from 9-18 we have 3 different bedtimes. The youngest go to bed first, followed by the middle school campers, and then the high school campers. While waiting for their turn to go to bed, the high school campers play games, listen to music, and relax.

On the last day of camp, which is Saturday, the campers put on a concert for their friends and family. It includes the music they have been practicing all week. It is one heck of a concert. I am always amazed at the quality of the music they perform.

Did I answer the question about why I keep going back when it sounds like so much work? Let me tell you. I go back because of the kids. I go back because each year God blesses me and fills my spirit. I go back to be with my other Christian Community. I go back because of the music. I go back for the fun. You may want to try it sometime.

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/>

### **Sunday Morning Help**

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

### **Special Music for Summer**

Please sign up on the bulletin board or by calling the office to provide special music for worship (vocal or instrumental). We'd appreciate hearing from you, your family, or friends.

**Memorial's church band** will play in front of our church sign before the fireworks (9:45 p.m.) on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Invite your family and friends to sit on our hill to watch the fireworks and enjoy a band concert beforehand.

### **Financial Report**

Our giving for the general fund for four weeks in June has totaled \$10,309. There is one more week that needs to be added into this total, but the newsletter deadline was before the 5th Sunday of June. The monthly goal is 17,020. Please give regularly so that all commitments can be met that we are responsible for. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Wescott.

**Semi-annual Giving Statements** will be in the narthex at the beginning of July.

The family of Mary K. Bastian would like to thank you for all your support, prayers, monetary gift donations made in Mary's name and the kind words of sympathy and comfort. We never realized how many lives Mary touched as a teacher and band instructor. A special thank you to the Memorial United Methodist Church for the use of their facility, Pastor Terri Branstrom and Skradski Funeral Home for their organization, the church choir and band, kitchen staff and the Escanaba City Band for a wonderful celebration of life.

God bless all of you,  
Paul Bastian

## Mission of the Year

Annually our Northern Skies District of the United Methodist Church has a Mission of the Year. This year is a bit different as there were no applications for this support. MUMC Mission team decided that we would still seek out a cause to support. We have selected After the Storm which is a nonprofit organization launched by the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church in 2022. It provides Disaster Case Management which is a client-centered approach to assisting Michigan survivors of natural disasters achieve their long-term recovery goals. Disaster Case Managers meet with clients for assessment and setting goals, help clients in accessing federal, state, and local assistance, coordinate home repair and rebuild projects, and refer to other social services as needed. If this speaks to you to support, please clearly mark on your check or envelope: After the Storm. You may also contribute online at the church website.

## MISSION WORKGROUP

### JULY OFFERINGS:

**1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday Backpack Buddies** – will be on hold until September. MUMC donated approximately \$600.00 throughout the 2023-24 school year. THANK YOU!

**2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday Special Offering – “AFTER THE STORM”** is a Michigan Conference mission launched in 2022. It is a client-centered approach to assist survivors of natural disasters in Michigan. The After the Storm team comes in, once the initial emergency responders are gone, and walks alongside individuals and families as they come to terms with the damage and begin to

rebuild their lives. After the Storm has quickly grown to be the expert in long-term disaster response and recovery here in Michigan, trusted by federal, state, and local partners.

### **3<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday Heifer Project**

**AUGUST** is Flannel Shirt month for **God's Country Cooperative Ministry**. A collection point will be set up in the Narthex for the month of August. We would like to deliver them in time for the start of the school year.

**MEMBERS NEEDED** – Looking for a way to serve MUMC? Check out the Mission Workgroup, we are friendly and inviting. Talk to any member if you are interested.

Peggy French, Susan Lagina, Peggy Richter and Laurie de la Garza

### **CAMP MICHIGAMME**

Camp Michigamme is currently looking towards the next 100 years and is creating an endowment to ensure that they have the funding to keep this vital ministry in the Northern Skies District going. This endowment fund will give Camp Michigamme a solid financial base for future operations. The endowment fund will be created over the next five years and be allowed to grow. All dividends for the first five years will be returned to the fund. After the five-year growth period, dividends will be used to help finance Camp Michigamme.

The goal is to raise \$500,000.00 over the five years to fund the endowment. This may sound daunting, and it is understood that they may come up short. We are encouraging all those who have enjoyed Camp Michigamme as a camper, who have supported Camp in the past, or who wants to leave a legacy for the future of camping to help create this solid base.

The Camp Michigamme Board is asking for your help, confident that God will take care of the rest. Donations can be made directly to Camp Michigamme towards the endowment fund.

## Rummage Sale

Items for the rummage sale can be placed in room 5. Set-up is on July 17 and 18. Many hands are needed.

Rummage sale times are

- Friday, July 19, 8:30 – 1:00
- Saturday, July 20, 8:30 – 1:00
- Sunday, July 21, 12:00 – 2:00

## Outdoor Worship

On July 28, we will have an outdoor worship service at Van Cleve Park in the pavilion by Kids Kingdom. This will be followed by a potluck picnic.

## The Vacation Bible School (Day Camp)

program with First Lutheran Church was a tremendous success. Over 64 students participated. We thank the following volunteers from Memorial UMC: Christina Myers and her friend Allie Paquin, Denise Messina, Dylan Messina, Peggy French, Laura LaMarche, Melissa Johnson, Pastor Terri, Carol Borden, Jeanne Wescott, and Berta Johnson.

## Prayer List

Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine	Mindy A.
Dr. Kent & Sandy Anderson	Lorna Benson
Beth and Sarah Benson	Tom Butch
Nancy Campbell	Mary Kay Cipolla
Bud and Pat Clark	Bette DeRoeck
Shepard Gaudino	Ian Goldi
Nancy Grondine	Paul Hammond
Nancy Harger	Caroline Hart
Walt Houghton	Jim Hubbard
Hueneman family	Liz Kempher
Dorell Kirschner	Liz LaBay
Marcy Makosky	Toni Marchese
Rebecca Marchak	Jeanette Mineau
Nannette's family	Helen Palo
Rodney Potvin and family	Marion Parks
Josiah Pryor	Bev Quick
Kris R.	Jordan R.
Debbie Rosen	Pam Thorbahn
Family of Stephen Vargo	

**newsletter deadline:  
Wednesday, July 24**

## Much Better Computer

We thank **Dylan Messina** for donating a refurbished computer to the church office and donating his time to install it. It is so much faster than the old computer!

## Used cards needed:

thinking of you, get well, sympathy



7/1 Eric Leonoff	7/19 Emily Trotter
Denise Messina	7/23 Isaac Campbell
7/3 Chad Polfus	Jody Harrison
7/7 Lettie Houghton	Michael Viau
7/8 James Klotz	7/25 Karah Webber
7/9 Emily Marlett	7/26 James Hubbard
7/11 Brenda Balenger	Marcella Makosky
7/15 Dan Johnson	7/28 Kingston Johnson
7/16 Nathan Moore	7/29 Alex Leonoff
Patricia Thomas	7/31 Axel Hueneman
7/17 Laurie de la Garza	

## Scrap Metal Drive

While the scrap metal bin is no longer in our parking lot, you can still donate scrap metal to the church by going to Alter Metal, 1610 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. N., Escanaba, Monday through Friday 9:00 – 4:00. Tell them it is for Memorial U.M. Church.

### 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

