



# The Messenger

February 2025

*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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[mumc@gladstonechurch.org](mailto:mumc@gladstonechurch.org)

Mon. – Thur.. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Pastor Terri Branstrom

(906) 280-2993

[t1bran@hotmail.com](mailto:t1bran@hotmail.com)

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

February 14 is considered the *Day Of Love*. Kids give Valentines to all their friends, couples go out to eat and exchange meaningful gifts, some may even become engaged on this special day, and the color red is the color of the day.

There are many kinds of love. There is romantic love, love between good friends, the love we feel for a child, the love for our family, the love we have for a special food, just to name a few. And then there is the love that the Apostle Paul wrote about in 1 Corinthians 13.

This scripture is used many times for wedding ceremonies because it describes the perfect love we should all strive for within a marriage or within our lives. When you read through these verses, replace the word “love” with your name so that it will read (as an example) “Terri is patient. Terri is kind, etc.”

Are you patient and kind? Do you envy? Do you boast? Are you proud? Are you self-seeking? Are you easily angered? Do you keep a record of wrongs? Do you protect, always trust, always hope, always persevere? Have you ever failed someone?

Love is not easy to do as a person or as a Christian. We are to love all God’s children even when they aren’t like we are, even when they “do us wrong.” Oh, man!!

Lord, forgive me for failing to love as you love us. Help me to be the best example of love you can make me. Please give me patience, humility, patience, trust, hope, patience, kindness, faith, and patience. And, Lord, please give me an extra dose of faith, hope, and love so I can be an instrument of your love. Amen.

1 Corinthians 13 New International Version

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

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 Volunteers

Please sign up on the bulletin board to:

- Serve communion
- Usher & Greet
- Bring a treat
- Host coffee hour
- Read scripture

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The **Dr. Seuss series** continues through Feb. 23.

Feb. 9 is "**Jersey Sunday**." Wear a jersey from any high school, college, or professional team (any sport).

**newsletter deadline:  
Wednesday, Feb. 26**

## U.S. Disaster Relief through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

You can give to hurricane clean-up or California wildfires clean-up by clearly noting either "hurricane" or "fire" on your offering. *One hundred percent of your gift reaches its intended recipients* because UMCOR's overhead costs are already covered.

<https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-620-umcor-us-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx>

## "Move from Election Depression to Thriving during uncertain times"

Monica Peach, LMSW-Clinical, SSW, a licensed social worker/therapist, will lead a 6-week Group Process that will allow people to come and process the emotional distress they are experiencing due to the election. The group will meet in the Grapevine Room on Tuesday nights from 6 to 7 p.m. starting on February 18th to March 25th.

If you are interested, please contact Monica Peach at 989-948-8247 or [mluzpeach@gmail.com](mailto:mluzpeach@gmail.com) to reserve a spot. There will be room for 10 people.

Monica will not be charging for this workshop but will accept a freewill offering from the participants.

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Dear Knitters and Crocheters of MUMC,

Thank you much from both of us for the cheerful and tasty Christmas bags - (the cookies were almost gone before lunch-time). It was also a real treat to visit with Lettie and JoAnn.

May God bless you all in this New Year.

Sincerely,  
Bud and Pat

## Prayer List

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Families in turmoil | Ukraine, Israel, Palestine |
| Mindy A.            | Lisa Richer Barta          |
| Lorna Benson        | Beth and Sarah Benson      |
| Tom Butch           | Nancy Campbell             |
| Cat & family        | Bud and Pat Clark          |
| Kristin Cutcher     | Bette DeRoeck              |
| Ian Goldi           | Nancy Grondine             |
| Shannon Hagen       | Matt Hampton               |
| Nancy Harger        | Caroline Hart              |
| Walt Houghton       | Jim Hubbard                |
| Hueneman family     | Jake                       |
| Gail Johnivan       | Family of Ruth Johnson     |
| Dorell Kirschner    | Christopher Lund           |
| Toni Marchese       | Rebecca Marchak            |
| Louis Martin        | Mason                      |
| Devin Messina       | Jeanette Mineau            |
| Josiah Pryor        | Rodney Potvin and family   |
| Kris R.             | Jordan R.                  |
| Debbie Rosen        | Mike Reimer and family     |
| Stephen Williams    | Mrs. Craig Seckinger       |

## Online Giving

Our old online giving app, Vanco, will be discontinued in just few weeks. If you like to give electronically, access the church's website at [www.gladstonechurch.org](http://www.gladstonechurch.org) and click on the Contribute tab. It will take you to a new app called Tithe.ly. Follow the prompts to start a new account to make your donations. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

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## Vacation Bible School June 23-26 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

First Lutheran Church just down the street on Minneapolis Ave. has invited us to do V.B.S. together again. Their Fortune Lake Camp Staff will lead V.B.S. while volunteers from both of our churches assist. Since the Fortune Lake Staff is only prepared for children going into 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up, we will be hosting a PreK / K class here at Memorial where our youngest children can have their own space. We will be using many of the themes from the elementary age VBS but specially scaled down to a preK / K level. We are in need of a coordinator and leaders for this VBS.



## Birthdays

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2/3 Bud Clark         | 2/20 Jeffrey Donovan, Jr. |
| Kim Branstrom         | Courtney Lagina           |
| 2/8 David Johnson     | 2/22 Carol Borden         |
|                       | Patsy Waeghe              |
| 2/9 Gina Buchmiller   | 2/25 Dennis Carlyon       |
| Megann Hubbard        | 2/26 Wayne Large          |
| Ethan Jensen          | Sandra St. John           |
| Roberta Johnson       | Pamela Thorbahn           |
| 2/10 Benjamin Coleman | 2/27 Dennis Harrison      |
| 2/14 Kelsey DeMarse   | Christine Jensen          |

**Free FOOSH INJURY Workshop** Feb. 18 5:30  
Foosh injuries occur when you fall onto an outstretched hand. Join Dr. Sadler on the Anytime Fitness Purple Turf for a free educational workshop. Please see the flyer on our bulletin board.

Memorial United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for everything you provided to our family during the loss of our mother, Elizabeth Kempher. We know she would have chosen to have her service at her church with her church family. She truly loved "her church."

A huge thank you to everyone who provided food and assisted during the meal. During a difficult time of grieving, not having to make difficult decisions and preparations for the meal was appreciated beyond words.

Ann Dickson and family  
Dennis Kempher and family  
David Kempher and family

## Winter Worship at the Winery: Songwriter Phil Lynch

Shake off the midwinter chill and ignite your spirit with a special, interactive concert experience at Leigh's Garden Winery in Escanaba on Sunday, **February 16**. Songwriter and performer Phil Lynch will present original sacred music from the grand piano. He'll feature songs from his new album, "Love Divine," classic hymns about becoming more like God, set to contemporary tunes and arrangements. Plus, he'll perform original sacred pop songs from his time as a worship pastor. A social hour begins at 3:00 with the one-hour concert starting at 4:00. A limited number of signed copies of Phil's album will be available for purchase.

## Luminary Gathering

The Delta County Cancer Alliance is having a Luminary Gathering on February 8th at 2 p.m. at Blessed Hope Baptist Church 2530 14th Ave S, in Escanaba. This annual event allows people to purchase a luminary bag in memory of someone they lost to cancer and/or in honor of someone experiencing the challenges of cancer. The luminary bags are available at the Delta County Cancer Alliance (3430 Ludington St) or at the time of the event for \$5.

If you have any questions you can contact me via email. Thank you!

Terry Hjort [deltacountycanceralliance21@gmail.com](mailto:deltacountycanceralliance21@gmail.com)  
Delta County Cancer Alliance

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bells  12-4 Gym in use 1:30 Girl Scouts	3 10-7 Gym in use  5:30 Bible study	4 8:30-7:30 Gym	5 9:00 Knit 10-6 Gym in use  6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	6 8:30-7:30 Gym	7 8-6 Gym in use	8
9 "Jersey Sunday" 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bells  12-4 Gym in use 1:30 Girl Scouts	10 10-7 Gym in use  5:30 Bible study	11 8:30-7:30 Gym	12 9:00 Knit 10-6 Gym in use  6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	13 8:30-7:30 Gym	14 8-6 Gym in use	15 5:00 Game Night
16 Noisy Offering 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bells  12-4 Gym in use 1:30 Girl Scouts	17 10-7 Gym in use  4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible study	18 8:30-7:30 Gym  6:00 "From Election Depression to Thriving"	19 9:00 Knit 10-6 Gym in use  6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	20 8:30-7:30 Gym  4:30 Church Council	21 8-6 Gym in use	22
23 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bells  12-4 Gym in use 1:30 Girl Scouts	24 10-7 Gym in use  4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Bible study	25 8:30-7:30 Gym  6:00 "From Election Depression to Thriving"	26 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 Knit 10-6 Gym in use 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	27 8:30-7:30 Gym	28	