



The Messenger

September 2025

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.

We are coming upon the beginning of a new season. For our children, some think it's great while others aren't so sure. It is the beginning of school. It is the beginning of a more structured schedule. It is the beginning of changes—a new teacher(s), new classmates, new knowledge, and maybe a new school.

As a youngster, I wasn't such a good student, so fall never thrilled me. I received okay grades but was never considered a fabulous student. I began kindergarten when I was 4 years old so when I graduated, I was only 17 years old and began college at Bay College when I was considered quite young. I was excited for college that fall because it was by my own choice and I was studying subjects I liked.

September—the beginning of a new season, the beginning of school, the beginning of Sunday school, and the beginning of other activities at church like choir. I loved going to Sunday school. I loved learning the stories of Jesus and the songs that went along with the stories. The stories of Jesus taught me about God, love, forgiveness, and the meaning of faith.

Faith is not a stationary word. It is an action word. Faith calls us to action. We can say we have faith but if we don't exercise it, it means nothing. We can say we have a strong belief in God, but what does that look like in our lives?

At Memorial United Methodist Church we have a very active Mission Committee. They wouldn't be as active if you, the congregation, didn't support them. In August, they collected flannel shirts to be taken to God's Country Community Ministry in the Newberry area. There are other mission opportunities throughout the year for us also. These mission projects give us an opportunity to put our faith to work. We think of others and help them as we can with our prayers and our gifts.

There are two benefits in helping with mission projects. First, it exercises our faith; second, it is an example to our children how they can exercise their faith. (They can help with the Heifer Project.)

A new season brings us the opportunities to tell our children the stories of faith through Jesus, gives us an opportunity to exercise our faith as an example to our children, and brings us great joy to know that our actions bring others joy also. Oh, and don't forget, a new season also brings us the opportunity to sing of God's grace and love in the choir.

Shalom, Pastor Terri

**newsletter deadline:
Wednesday, Sept. 24**

Sunday Volunteers

Please sign up on the bulletin board to:

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

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/>

To donate to Memorial U.M. Church through Tithely, focus the camera on your smartphone at the QR code below and follow the directions that appear on your phone.



Welcoming Children in Worship

The Church Council has voted in favor of developing an area in the worship space that is designated for children to use during worship. There will be a variety of stimulating toys, books and other items in the area for the children to play with along with being able to see what is happening in worship. It will allow families to be able to sit in the area and worship while the children are engaged in play. This Grace Space will be coming soon. Please pray for the outreach this may provide to help families have the opportunity to worship, build relationships with one another and form community as we grow our church.

We are singing your song this fall.

Please write the title of your favorite song from the hymnal or *The Faith We Sing* or even Kathy Young's *Worship and Song* book and place it in the silver vase on the usher's table. We will attempt to sing "your" song in October or November. Please, only submit one selection. With the number of people we have in worship, we can't have anyone stuffing the ballot box or we won't get to everyone's favorite before Advent. Please submit the title by Sept. 14. If there is a certain Sunday you will be gone (like hunting season), you can note that too so that we avoid that Sunday.

Game Night

The next Game Night will be Saturday, Sept. 20. Supper starts at 5 p.m. Spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, and coffee will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

Hard to believe the school year is here. MUMC will host an Ice Cream Social after worship on September 7, 2025. We invite all to attend. The Education workgroup is planning a wonderful year for all our children.



TEACHERS NEEDED: A sign up is available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Check it out. If you see a topic or verse that interests you, please sign up!! The classes are only about 30 minutes long. You are provided a short video to show regarding the topic, and there is time left for a simple activity/craft. When there are more than 8 children, we will provide a second set of hands. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet our children and for them to get to know the more seasoned members of the congregation. WIN-WIN. Please see Peggy French for more information.

Lifeline Screening will be at Memorial on Tuesday, Sept. 16, doing preventative health screenings. More information and two coupons are on the bulletin board.

Prayer List

Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine	Mindy A.
Safety for immigrants	Lisa Richer Barta
Beth and Sarah Benson	Lorna Benson
Kim Standing Bessonon	Claire Burton
Diane Bishop's cousin Davy	Tom Butch
Nancy Campbell	Diane Carlson
Pat Clark	Kristin Cutcher
Bette DeRoeck	Eileen
Gavin	Ian Goldi
Nancy Grondine	Shannon Hagen
Tom Hampton in Kalamazoo	Jeff Hanson
Nancy Harger	Jim Hubbard
Hueneman family	Gail Johnivan
Dorell Kirschner	Mike Lagina
Christopher Lund	Toni Marchese
Willy Mannisto	Rebecca Marchak
Louis Martin	David McCarley
Jeanette Mineau	Betty Nyquist
Rodney Potvin and family	Mike Olson
Josiah Pryor	Kris R.
Jordan R.	Debbie Rosen
Kay Shapy	Brynlee Scott
Beckie Solmonson	Steven Thivierge
Tim	Stephen Williams
The family of George Warner	

Flannel Shirt Drive

for God's Country Community Ministry



Thank you for your donations to the flannel shirt drive. 42 shirts were delivered to GCCM in June. 27 more were collected in August from the Clothes Closet and donations from individuals in our congregation.

Truck or large vehicle needed –

If you could haul flannel shirts, other clothes, and other items up to God's Country Community Ministry in Newberry, please speak with Peggy Richter, Laurie Kaufman, or the church office.

Installation Service

Rev Kristi Hintz

Northern Skies District Superintendent

St Ignace UMC

615 US-2 W

September 6, 2025

2:00pm

Trunk or Treat –Something New!

Every year, we show our love for the community through this fun and safe outreach. It is held outside in our parking lot or inside if the weather is nasty. The last several years, we have done it right during Gladstone's trick or treat hours. So what is new?

This year, we are partnering with Pride de Noc, a group recently formed by Spencer Jordan-Keech of Bay College for the purpose of providing family-oriented activities for families in the LGBT community. Spencer is extremely excited about partnering with us on Trunk or Treat and has already sent so many great ideas that it is scary. What we need *right now* is a coordinator from our congregation to work with Spencer on planning the best Trunk or Treat yet for our parking lot. Spencer is absolutely "chopping at the bit" to get started, so please contact the church office now if you are interested.



9/1 Luis de la Garza	9/14 Patrick Morrow
Claire Marlett	9/16 Gerald Branstrom
9/7 Marc Viau	9/17 Deborah Hubbard
9/8 Dennis Johnivan	9/20 Maycee Kuhlman
Bruce St. Aubin	9/21 Karen Donovan
9/10 Peggy Carlyon	9/25 Bette DeRoeck
David Palo	9/28 Helen Palo
9/11 Peggy Lewis	9/30 Diane Oxford

"End the Silence," a walk for suicide awareness and prevention, is on September 13. Registration is at 10:00 at the Miracle of Life Building at the Fairgrounds. There will also be a brat fry, bake sale, raffles, and children's activities.

September 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible Study	2 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	3 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	4 8:30-1:00 Gym 2-4 Gym in use 5:30-7:30 Gym	5 8-4 Gym in use	6 Installation Service for new D.S. 2:00 at St. Ignace UMC
7 <i>Sunday School Kick-off</i> 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bells 12-4 Gym in use	8 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible Study	9 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	10 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	11 8:30-1:00 Gym 2-4 Gym in use 5:30-7:30 Gym	12 8-4 Gym in use	13
14 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use 1:30 Girl Scouts	15 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible Study	16 Lifeline Screening 3:30 Missions 5:30-7:30 Gym	17 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	18 8:30-1:00 Gym 2-4 Gym in use 5:30-7:30 Gym 4:30 Church Council	19 8-4 Gym in use	20 5:00 Game Night
21 <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use	22 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible Study	23 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	24 <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	25	26 8-4 Gym in use	27
28 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use	29 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible Study	30 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym				

