



The Messenger

August 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

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.

In my office in the church on the book shelves I have a few pictures. The pictures are of people who mean or have meant something to me in my Christian walk. I think of them as my “cloud of witnesses”. There is a picture of my parents, my grandparents, two of my aunts, my good friend Donna, and my good friend Kay. These are only a few of those who have shown me the ways of God.

Let me share with you the story of a special couple. When I was a youngster, you could have said I was a handful for my parents, especially when it came to sitting still in church. Sitting still was not in my nature. But there was a couple who came to my parents’ rescue and took me under their wing. They were Mr. Pat and Aunt Doe to me. I’m not sure what it was about them that influenced me to sit quietly in church, but I did.

As time went on, we became good friends and we did activities outside of church. We went on picnics. I went over to their house and we made cookies or had a meal. They were like another set of grandparents to me. They showed me more love and acceptance than any child could ask for.

I often think of them and how they accepted me as I was. They taught me many things about love and were examples of how God loves us where we are.

We sometimes think and feel that our lives have to be “lily white” before God will take us in and love us. I’m here to tell you that isn’t true. God loves us where we are.

In the many years since my time with Mr. Pat and Aunt Doe, I have made it my mission to love people where they are. Are you older—I will love you. Are you younger – I will love you. Are you a man, a woman, a child –I will love you. Are you a saint, a sinner – I will love you.

Sometimes a person will love you if this or that, making conditions on their love. God doesn’t do that. God loves you as you are without reservation. Now if that isn’t the best news ever, nothing is.

Friends, spread the love of God to everyone where they are without reservation. If you do, you will be a blessing to others, and God will bless you.

Shalom,

Pastor Terri

**newsletter deadline:
Wednesday, Aug. 27**

People from **First Lutheran Church** will be **worshipping** with us here at Memorial on Sunday, **August 10** at our regular 10:30 time. There will be a scrumptious **potluck** afterwards. Please come to this special worship service, and bring a dish to pass.

Sunday Volunteers

Please sign up on the bulletin board to:

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

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).

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.



Game Night

The next Game Night will be Saturday, Sept. 20 at 5 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

Hard to believe the school year is fast approaching. 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. 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. We rarely have more than 8 children, and when we have more, 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.

MISSION

August is God's Country Community Ministry month. Once again, we are collecting new and gently used flannel shirts. They will be displayed on the coat rack in the Narthex. We bring these warm shirts as well as items from our rummage sale to God's Country Community Ministry in Newberry. In addition, we send a yearly donation to help support the ministry's director, Randy Hildebrant. God's Country Community Ministry provides much-needed services to residents of the U.P.



Texas Flooding

If you would like to donate to flood relief efforts in Texas, you can

- make out your check to the church and clearly mark on the envelope "Texas flooding" or
- Go to <https://gbhem-umc.my.site.com/hemgm/s/campaign/a3fPo000000D49r/umcor-us-disaster-response-and-recovery>

Once you click on the 'donate here' button, fill in your information, type our church name from under the heading 'Church Recognition' and then in the 'select preferred USDR gift designation', select Texas flooding.



Thank you notes from recent funerals:

To the Lunch Committee,

We sincerely thank you for the delicious lunch after Bud's funeral. It was so nice to sit and visit with good food in front of us.

Also, thank you to Laurie and Susan for setting up and cleaning the kitchen when we finished.

May God bless you all,
Pat and family

Prayer List

Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine	Mindy A.
Safety for immigrants	Lorna Benson
Family of Jan Watson	Tom Butch
Family of Bud Clark	Nancy Campbell
Lisa Richer Barta	Diane Carlson
Beth and Sarah Benson	Pat Clark
Kim Standing Bessonon	Kristin Cutcher
Diane Bishop's cousin Davy	Bette DeRoeck
Gavin	Ian Goldi
Nancy Grondine	Shannon Hagen
Tom Hampton in Kalamazoo	Jeff Hanson
Nancy Harger	Jim Hubbard
Hueneman family	Jeff and Brian
Chris Jensen and Pete	Gail Johnivan
Dorell Kirschner	Mike Lagina
Christopher Lund	Toni Marchese
Rebecca Marchak	Louis Martin
David McCarley	Jeanette Mineau
Melissa Joy Nadolski	Betty Nyquist
Rodney Potvin and family	Josiah Pryor
Kris R.	Jordan R.
John Rector	Mario Rivera, Sr.
Debbie Rosen	Brynlee Scott
Beckie Solmonson	Steven Thivierge
Tim	Stephen Williams

Dear Pastor Branstrom, Lisa, and Parishioners,

I vividly remember the day I stopped by and talked to Terri and Lisa about my mom's death, and her request to have a memorial service in a church. I was grieving and agonizing over some strife in the family. You comforted me and went out of your way to help plan her service. A huge burden was lifted knowing my mom's wishes would be realized.

We felt comfortable and welcome when the service was held in June. The snacks and beverages were delicious, and I enjoyed bantering with the kitchen crew. The memorial service was wonderful, and the music was perfect. Please extend our thanks to the people who worked quietly behind the scenes.

We sincerely appreciate everything you did for us. God bless you.

~ Steve Parks

Attend Church Camp

Flyers about all the week-long camps this summer at Camp Michigamme are posted on the small bulletin board across from the name tags. There are opportunities for children, youth, and adults. Please ask the church office about camp scholarships.

Installation Service

Rev Kristi Hintz

Northern Skies District Superintendent

St Ignace UMC

615 US-2 W

September 6, 2025

2:00pm

August 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10-4 Gym in use	2
3 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use	4 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible study	5 8:30-2:30 Gym 2:00 Missions 5:30-7:30 Gym	6 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use	7 8:30-1:00 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	8 10-4 Gym in use	9 Jan Watson's visitation 11:00 funeral 12:00 lunch
10 10:30 Lutherans worshiping here with us 11:30 Potluck 12-4 Gym in use	11 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible study	12 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	13 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use	14 8:30-1:00 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	15 10-4 Gym in use	16
17 Noisy Offering 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use	18 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible study	19 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	20 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band	21 8:30-1:00 Gym 4:30 Church Council 5:30-7:30 Gym	22 10-4 Gym in use	23
24 10:30 Worship 12-4 Gym in use	25 10-7 Gym in use 5:30 Bible study	26 8:30-2:30 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	27 Newsletter deadline 9:00 Knit/Crochet 10-4 Gym in use 6:00 Band	28 8:30-1:00 Gym 5:30-7:30 Gym	29 10-4 Gym in use	30