



The Messenger

April 2026

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.

As I sit at my desk in the office preparing to type this article for our newsletter, I am also looking at the calendar of events which are scheduled for the next couple of weeks. I hope that you are able to attend the events scheduled for Holy Week and Easter morning.

March 29th is Palm Sunday, followed by the Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. on April 2, the Good Friday service on April 3 with our friends from First Lutheran at 7:00 p.m. at MUMC, our Sunrise service on Sunday, April 5 at 7:00 a.m., followed by our Easter service at 10:30am.

There are times when we want to go from the Halleluia's on Palm Sunday directly to the "He is risen! Risen indeed!" on Easter Sunday without experiencing all the emotions in between. As humans we don't like the sad emotions of grief, yet it is part of life.

The Via Dolorosa (Latin for "Way of Suffering" or "Way of Grief") is a 600-meter, 14-station processional route in Jerusalem's Old City. It marks the path tradition says Jesus walked while carrying the cross to his crucifixion at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The route and stations start near the Antonia Fortress (Lion's Gate area) and end at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The route includes 9 initial stations and 5 final stations within the church. It commemorates events like Jesus being condemned, carrying the cross, falling, and meeting his mother. While based on older traditions, the modern route was primarily established in the 18th century, with historical shifts in its path over the last 2,000 years.

I invite you to join us as we journey through Holy Week and experience a bit of grief, but also the joy of Easter morning when our Lord and Savior rose from the dead.

May our Lord guide us and comfort us during Holy Week. Amen.

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. 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/>

Sunday Volunteers

Please sign up on the bulletin board to:

- Teach Sunday School
- Serve communion
- Usher & Greet
- Bring a treat
- Read scripture

To donate to Memorial U.M. Church through Tithely, focus the camera of your smartphone at the QR code.



Native American Ministries Sunday – April 12

This Special Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration designed to raise awareness and remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. A gap in knowledge exists in The United Methodist Church, in congregations and other United Methodist entities, relative to comprehending concepts of Native American life, cultures, languages, spirit, values, contemporary issues, and such. We affirm the sacredness of indigenous people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world. Special offering envelopes will be available on April 12.

How do I know if worship is cancelled?

On rare occasions, worship may need to be cancelled due to weather or some other emergency. If in doubt, please check the list of closings on TV6 and Radio Results Network. You can also call Lisa's cell phone 420-1311. Lisa will also send out text messages to those she has cell numbers for.

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Holy Week Services

March 29 Palm Sunday – children process with palms
April 2 Maundy Thursday & Communion 7 p.m.
April 3 Good Friday 7 p.m.
April 5 Easter 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



Easter Lilies If you would like to honor or remember someone this Easter with lilies, please fill out a purple form from the long table by the front door and bring it to the office **by Wed., April 1.** Then bring your flowers by Easter.

The Lent-Easter offering will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund is used to help individuals who need assistance with possibly part of a utility bill, gasoline to get to an appt. in Marquette, etc. Anything you give marked "Lent," "Maundy Thursday," "Good Friday," or "Easter" will go into this fund.

New Study:

Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace. The United Methodist story is a story of God's love. In *Knowing Who We Are*, Lacey Warner invites you to a rich understanding of Wesleyan Christianity and the values, beliefs, and practices that grow from it. You'll learn about its beginnings as a renewal movement saturated with God's grace. You'll learn about the United Methodist legacy of compassion, care, and active response to injustice in the world. Most of all, you'll find a way of being Christian that fills you with joy, moves you to follow Jesus wholeheartedly, and spurs you to live with compassion and grace. If you would like to read this book on your own or discuss it in a group with other people, please contact Lisa for a copy.

Vacation Bible School

June 29 – July 2 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.

If you would be willing to help plan V.B.S. with the Lutherans, they are getting a meeting together soon. Please tell Lisa if you can serve in the vital capacity of planning and/or recruiting.

Game Night -- 3rd Friday of the month.

Potluck at 5, followed by board games and sometimes free play time in the gym.

Create short video clip: If you would like to create a short video clip for Annual Conference about what it means to "Love Boldly," contact Lisa.

A broken walker needs repair. It is in Lisa's office so that no one uses it. Can you fix it?

Newsletter deadline: April 29



- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 4/1 Christine Morrow
Thomas Viau | 4/15 Rand Reynolds
Carolyn Taylor |
| 4/5 Laura Doneau
Melvin Marlett | 4/17 Gabriel Gaudino
4/18 Ryan Juhola |
| 4/10 Peter Jensen
Emily Klotz | 4/19 Matthew Hampton
4/28 Jamie Hoehn |
| 4/13 Breanne Hueneman
Jeff Moore | Rachel Johnson |

Prayer List

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Pray for all wars to stop. | Lorna Benson |
| Beth and Sarah Benson | Kim Bessonon |
| Tom and Alice Butch | Pat Clark |
| Richard Demeuse | Ian Goldi |
| Adam Haberstitch | Cheryl Harger |
| Lettie Houghton | Ron Houle |
| Mary Hubbard | Richard Hull |
| Dora and Andy Leonard | Berta Johnson |
| Christopher Lund | Toni Marchese |
| Beverly Martin | Matt |
| Beverly McCarley | Devin Messina |
| Ryan Minor | Elijah Moffitt |
| Betty Nyquist | Helen Palo |
| Josiah Pryor | John Rector |
| John Reiffers | Linda Rector |
| Elizabeth Peltz Richardson | Margaret Richard |
| Lisa Richer Barta | Debbie Rosen |
| Dr. John Skellenger | Pam Thorbahn |
| Family of Bette DeRoeck | Mark West |
| Family of Leona Williams | Eileen Wittenmore |
| Family of Bob Polasek, Sr. | Brian Wood |
| Family of Roger Finnegan | |

The Bay de Noc Choral Society will present their annual Spring Concert on Sunday, April 12, at 1:30 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Escanaba. It will feature many selections by John Rutter. A freewill donation will be accepted.

Fundraiser: MARSP Dinner

The Michigan Area Retired School Personnel will have their dinner & meeting here at noon on Tuesday, May 5. This is a good fundraiser for us. Many hands are needed in the kitchen on the evening of May 4 and in the morning & afternoon of May 5.

Camp Michigamme vote

At a special meeting on March 19, the Northern Skies District Leadership Team voted to move forward with the sale of the Camp Michigamme property. The next step is that the Northern Skies District will hold a District Conference via ZOOM on Tuesday, April 7 at 7 p.m. The purpose of this conference is to approve or disapprove of the decision of the District leadership Team, the Board of Church Location and Building, and the Extended Cabinet.

Those wishing to vote on this issue should register with an email address with their church administrator **by Easter**. Note that ZOOM only allows one vote per device, and only members of a Northern Skies District church are eligible to vote.

More information is on the small bulletin board by the coat room.

Spring Cleaning

While you are cleaning your house and garage this spring, please remember the church **rummage sale** (April 30 – May 2) and the **metal drive** at that same time. If you are just “itching” to get items out of your house and can’t wait until late April, you can bring them to the church now. Put clean items in room 5. Metal recycling can go in the church shed.

Scrap Metal Drive

Start saving your metal now. We will have a receptacle here April 26 – May 5.

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

April 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Mar. 29</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i> 10:30 Worship	<i>Mar. 30</i> 5:30 Bible study	<i>Mar. 31</i>	<i>1</i> 9:00 Knit 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	<i>2</i> Maundy Thursday service 7 p.m.	<i>3</i> Good Friday service 7 p.m.	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> <i>Easter</i> 7:00 Sunrise Service 10:30 Worship	<i>6</i> 5:30 Bible study	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 9:00 Knit 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> <i>Native American Ministries Sunday</i> 10:30 Worship	<i>13</i> 5:30 Bible study	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 9:00 Knit 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	<i>16</i> 4:30 Church Council	<i>17</i> Set up for Mom2Mom sale 5:00 Game Night	<i>18</i> Mom2Mom sale 10:00 — 2:00
<i>19</i> <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10:30 Worship	<i>20</i> BACM meal	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 9:00 Knit 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 10:30 Worship	<i>27</i> 5:30 Bible study	<i>28</i> <i>Rummage Sale Set-up</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <i>Rummage Sale Set-up</i> 6:00 Band 7:00 Choir	<i>30</i> Scrap Metal Drive begins Rummage Sale 2pm—7pm	<i>May 1</i> Rummage Sale 8:30am— 2pm	<i>May 2</i> Rummage Sale 8:30am— 11am