



The Messenger

November 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.

If I were to say we live in uncertain times, you may agree with me. It may cause us to become a bit leery about our future as Americans and as a people in general. There have been other times in the past when people felt the same way.

There was once a young, courageous, and trusting Jewish boy named Daniel. Somehow, he escaped the jaws of the lions in the lion den. You may remember the stories of Daniel. There is the story of Daniel having a very disturbing vision. It happened in the first year of King Balshazzar's reign. He dreamed of four winds stirring up a great sea from which emerged four fierce and distinctively terrifying beasts.

Daniel was very disturbed by this vision and asked the assistance of an attendant to help him interpret the vision. The attendant thought the beasts represented four earthly rulers – the Babylonian ruler, the Median ruler, the Persian ruler, and the Greek ruler. But it would be the holy ones of the most high who would receive the eternal kingdom. In other words, evil, tyrannical earthly kingdoms will not ultimately prevail within God's eternal reign over heaven and earth.

Apocalyptic fears and dire predictions, disasters, and fears often dominate the news in every form. And, I must admit, there are many Beasts that threaten to devour us. But we would do well to listen to Daniel who said, "the holy ones" are the recipients and guardians of the eternal kingdom.

On Sunday, November 2, we will celebrate the saints. May we look again toward the countless holy ones who keep the kingdom and serve as guardians and proclaimers of the eternal truth of God's sovereignty. May we be numbered with them in our faithfulness. Take heart, my friends. God is on our side and will ultimately prevail. I can almost see the saints who have gone before us rooting us on to be faithful and strong. Amen.

God Bless.
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:

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

Newsletter deadline: Thanksgiving.
Newsletter will be printed on Nov. 28.

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.



All Saints Sunday

On Nov. 2, we remember the following loved ones who passed away in the last 12 months: Walter Houghton, Harland “Bud” Clark, Janice Watson, Marian Parks, Rebecca Marchak, Lois Cady, Stephen Williams, and Terry Alexander.

The Altar Flowers on All Saints Sunday were from Donna Marchak in memory of her granddaughter Rebecca Marchak (Nov. 1, 1991 – Aug. 31, 2025).

Giving to the **Memorial Fund** is a wonderful way to remember someone and to help our church purchase items that are not included in our regular budget. Memorials to date have been received this year in memory of Walter Houghton, Harland “Bud” Clark, Janice Watson, Cindy Stock, Elizabeth Kempfer, and Terry Alexander. We thank all who so generously gave.

Help needed with the Pasty Sale

We need “all hands on deck” anytime from 8a.m. until 5p.m. on **Nov. 7 and 8**. The most help is currently needed on Friday afternoon. Sitting down jobs are available. 90% of the profits go to Memorial UMC’s general fund; 10% goes to Missions.

Mom2Mom Sale

Nov. 15 10a.m. – 4p.m.

Moms will have the opportunity to market their kids’ clothes, toys, etc. to other moms. Memorial will receive table rental, the entrance fee, and proceeds from the lunch and bake sale. Please spread the word to all moms! Moms can register for a table by messaging Michelle Denis on Facebook.

The 2026 pledge drive is underway. Please prayerfully consider what you will pledge. Then bring or send your pledge card by Sunday, November 16th, for God’s blessing.

November Missions

The Clothes Closet accepts donations of gently used clothing of every size and type along with shoes and boots. People from the community can visit Monday through Thursday from 9 – 2 and Wednesday evening from 6 – 8. Brown Elmer’s handle bags, Elmer’s plastic bags, and 13 gallon garbage bags are useful for our shoppers.

Peggy Richter and JoAnn Gudwer are the current keepers of the Closet.

United Methodist Student Day is a mission that deepens the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale. The day is observed to emphasize the value of education. Our contributions support scholarships for United Methodist students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. You can donate by mailing or bringing your gift to Memorial UMC (clearly marked in the memo section “UM Student Day”), or you can donate through the QR code, making sure to tell Lisa 428-9311 that it is for Student Day. Every dollar collected goes directly toward these scholarships. ~ Peggy Richter

Thank you to everyone who donated cookies for the Bay Area Campus Ministry meal. They were delicious, and the students appreciated them very much! You made my job easier. ~ Susan Lagina

Dear members of Memorial Church,

My family and I want to thank you for the wonderful service and luncheon that you provided for us on the death of my sister Janice Watson. It is so meaningful to have a loving, faithful church to belong to and to know that you are there for us.

Jan loved Memorial and missed not being able to attend anymore. She especially liked being in the choir and working on various committees. She also especially liked to provide beautiful bulletin boards for our congregation to be able to look at and check.

She is in a much better place with our loving Lord and is no longer in the pain that she had. We miss her terribly, but know that someday we will see her again.

God bless you all,

Roberta & Dave Johnson, Judy & Bill Olson,
Marianne Milkowski, John & Bonnie Watson,
and families.

New Worship Opportunity

The 3rd Sunday of every month at 1:30, Pastor Terri and Kathy Young will be leading worship at Lakeview Assisted Living, 1100 N. Lake Shore Dr. We invite you to join them in worshipping with the residents there.

Sunday School Teachers Needed

A sign up is available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. 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.

Craft/Bake Sale items needed

On Friday, Nov. 28, 5pm – 7pm, the City of Gladstone is hosting their Christmas celebration. We have been offered a table where we can sell crafts and/or baked goods, etc. Lettie Houghton is in charge.

Birthdays

11/2 Shepard Gaudino	11/15 Joanne Hill
11/3 Katherine Juhola	11/16 Nancy Campbell
11/5 Jax de la Garza	11/19 Reese Buckley
Terry Hampton	11/21 Reese Gaudino
11/6 Lisa Lancour	11/23 Stashia Wery
11/9 Meredith Marlett	11/26 Ethan Juhola
11/13 Gary LaMarche	Grace Taylor
11/14 Valerie Johnson	11/29 Marlene Maulding
Ryan Oshe	11/30 William Morrow
	Asher Reynolds

Un-used cards needed, esp. sympathy, get well, and thinking of you

Christmas Cantata

First Lutheran Church is hosting a Christmas Cantata at 3:00 on Dec. 14 and has invited singers from Memorial to perform with them. If you would like to join some of our choir members in singing in the cantata, practices are Sundays at 12:15. Music can be obtained from Kathy Young.

Dave and Berta's address for the winter months is 6441 Mahonia St., Kalamazoo, MI 49048.

Prayer List

Family of Terry Alexander	Mindy A.
Family of Nancy Grondine	Lorna Benson
Lisa Richer Barta	Tim Bishop
Beth and Sarah Benson	Audra Buchmiller
Kim Standing Bessonon	Claire Burton
Diane Bishop's cousin Davy	Nancy Campbell
Tom and Alice Butch	Diane Carlson
Pat Clark	Kristin Cutcher
Bette DeRoeck	Gavin
Ian Goldi	Lauren H.
Shannon Hagen	Jeff Hanson
Nancy Harger	Pat Harrison
Jim Hubbard	Hueneman family
Tracy Jensen and her family	Gail Johnivan
Jackie Jones	Dorell Kirschner
Mike Lagina	Tom Lark
Baby Luka	Christopher Lund
Toni Marchese	Louis Martin
David McCarley	Jeanette Mineau
Betty Nyquist	Bernice Paulsen
Rodney Potvin and family	Josiah Pryor
Kris R.	Jordan R.
Christiana Reynolds	Maria Rivera
Debbie Rosen	Brynlee Scott
Kay Shapy	Beckie Solmonson
Steven Thivierge	Tim
Everell Verbrigghe family	Eileen Whitenmore

Life Line Screening will be at Memorial on Thursday, December 11, and is offering a special screening package for members. Learn more and schedule your appointment by:

* calling 1-800-324-9458,

* texting the word circle to 216-279-1607, or

*visit Life Line's website at LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC.

Life Line Screening provides health screenings to detect the risk of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

The Bay de Noc Choral Society will present their annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 7, at 1:30 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Escanaba. The concert will feature several settings of the "O Magnum Mysterium" plus other songs of the season. Instruments include handbells, brass, violin, organ, and piano.

