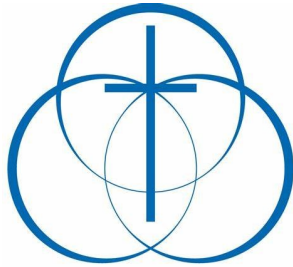


THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook Methodist Church

July 2023

Kids' Club News



Dear Members of the Gladbrook Methodist Church,

I am pleased to say that with the outstanding support of our membership, both spiritually and financially, we have legally completed the process for disaffiliation. Dave and I drove our final payments and church records directly to the Iowa Conference in Des Moines today. Our church will officially be owned by us, including the parsonage in full. We have clearly taken the steps in our faith to remain true to our Lord and Savior by following the word of our God. Let us not forget what that means to us. Rejoice always.

Lisa Koester, Ad Council Chairperson

Gladbrook Community Kids' Club **is open to all 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders in the community.**

There is no charge to the kids for Kids' Club as it is funded through contributions from local churches, Gladbrook Community Foundation and individual donations.

Kids' Club goals are to add to the kids' knowledge of and love for Jesus Christ through fellowship, songs, crafts, Bible stories and games resulting in deeper Christian character

Kids' Club meets monthly after school from **Sept through April** at Gladbrook UMC or Peace church and is open to all 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders in the community. The monthly meeting begins with an after-school snack followed by Bible stories (skits), songs, crafts, games and Bible verse study and ends with supper. The program runs from about 4PM to 6:30PM when the parents pick up their kids.

Gladbrook area kids are growing in Christian character carrying their experience and knowledge beyond 4th grade. Kids' Club participated in nursing home visits, Christmas caroling in the community and preparing and delivering cookies to shut-ins.

If your child (children) in 2nd, 3rd or 4th grades would like to participate in Kids' Club, please complete a registration form. Forms will be available at Gladbrook UMC (641) 473-2025 or Peace church (641) 473-2802

**Please follow us on Facebook:
Gladbrook Community Kids' Club**

Our Need for Hope

By the time you read this article, I will be, together with my whole family, on our way to Philippines. Our flight will be on July 3. But, the most significant thing is, beginning July 1st, we will be joining the **Global Methodist Church**. Gladbrook UMC will now be Gladbrook Methodist Church. Thus, in this article, I would like us to consider hope as we look forward to the new season of our life together as a Body of Christ.

The secular world defines hope as *“that confidence that our problems will be solved in one way or another.”* Once hope is gone, people may end up in any of these three scenarios: **insanity, suicide, or running amok.**

We are bombarded with so many hopeless news. Chuck Swindoll, noted author and preacher, states: “We can rebound against wind and weather, calamity and tragedy, disease and death, so long as we have our hope. We can live weeks without food, days without water, and even several minutes without air, but take away our hope and within only few seconds, we toss in the towel!” (*Charles R. Swindoll, Stress Fractures, England: Multnomah Press, 1990, p.211*).

Tomorrow is uncertain, but what keeps us going is hope. I would like to share two principles that would stir real hope in our hearts as we navigate the challenges of receiving the gift of new identity and new ministries as a result of our disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church.

Principle #1: Our trust should be in God alone, not in anything else or anyone else or structure or organization. Psalm 33:16-17, and 118:8-9 provide us a clarity on this:

Psalm 33:16-17

¹⁶ The king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷ The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might, it cannot rescue.

Psalm 118:8-9

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in man.

⁹ It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in princes.

Our hope should be in God because all other foundations prove uncertain. People and things will never give us real hope in all the challenges, difficulties or problems we face or may face. But in God, hope is certain to be satisfied.

CHRISTIAN HOPE is that trust that God will pull us through our pains, struggles and challenges. However, a relationship is needed before we can ever hope in God. We can only have hope in Him when He is first “OUR FATHER.”

Trusting in institutions can be rather frustrating thing as what happened in many instances and occasions, just like what is happening with the United Methodist Church and any religious institution.

TRUSTING in God, however, produces real hope that is certain to be satisfied.

This is exactly what happened to a woman counseled by Chuck Swindoll. The woman was bent on committing suicide with a revolver in her hand. Many things had happened in her life. Her husband left her. Her two-month-old daughter died recently. She had a friend who died in an automobile accident. She had advanced leukemia. She had nothing to cling on to.

Not until Swindoll pointed her to Jesus Christ as her only source of hope. After her counseling session, she had, “HE (Jesus) has given me new hope...the one thing I really needed.” I’m confidently sure that God met her needs.

Principle #2: Our hope must be based on Scriptures. Otherwise, our hope in God will be vague, confusing and even uncertain. Scriptures must be the foundation of our hope in God.

Exodus 3:7

⁷ Then the LORD said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings....”

This shows us that God is aware of the sufferings of His people and that He is going to do something about it.

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

This assures us that God seeks our good. Because of this promise, we can be sure that life will eventually take a good turn though storms may come.

2 Timothy 4:16-18

¹⁶ At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This teaches us that God will be there tomorrow. We know that God will not leave us alone to our uncertainties or struggles. He will either deliver us or supply us His grace. The solutions may not necessarily be the kind of solutions we want, but nevertheless, they are better because it is God’s solutions.

Remember what John Wesley said: *“The best thing of all is God is with us.”*

Welcome to our new beginning!

Pastor Gideon

PRAYER CORNER Pray for God's peace and reconciliation to overcome all hatred, conflict, and war, people under persecution everywhere, and our many unspoken concerns, our military families, our law enforcement and safety professionals.

Pray for comfort and healing for all those in its need:

Gallo family, James Caron & MacKenzie Brown, Pauline Flamme, June Klinefelter, Diane Mussig, Betty Kvidera, Lucy DeWitt, Steve Keiser, Rob Herink, Dwight and Joan Surber, Carolyn & Don Anker, Paul Purvis, Cornell Gethmann, Marilyn Brekke, Kari Groth, Bud Locke, Priscilla Crumley, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Emily Cormaney, Tim Quam (Jennifer Strohbehn's father), Carolyn Groth, Craig Russell, Ruth Lamca, Pat & John Clausen, Dave Eggers, Marivel Manzano



Gladbrook Methodist Women

Calling on all Gladbrook Methodist Women to help deep clean the kitchen July 19th at 9:30am.

Coffee and treats will be provided.

We are looking for new Mission ideas.

If you have an idea let Dana know.

Some ideas we are considering...

Collecting winter items for local school children

Collecting items needed for the local pet rescues

Making lap blankets for the nursing home

Collecting items for Midwest Mission



Senior Citizens' Dinner will be served at 11:30am, July 14th @ the Memorial Building. Call Jeanne for reservations:

641-751-2039 or 473-2802



The Food Pantry is open 3 times every month.

It is open to anyone in need of assistance. There are no longer financial requirements. We do ask that you limit your visits to once a month.

If you believe you need assistance, we believe you need assistance.

Where: Gladbrook Methodist Church. Please enter at the lower Southwest doors.

When: 1st Saturday, 9-11am,

2nd Monday of every month 4-6pm

4th Monday of every month 4-6pm

Who: Anyone needing help with obtaining groceries.

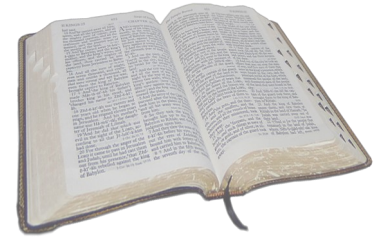
We would like to thank everyone who made this year's Corn Carnival a success!

Those who helped by donating candy, balloons, the banner, the vehicle and trailer; the community members who joined the choir; the ones who volunteered during all of the various activities. Thank you for sharing your talents and time with our town and those who came to marvel at what a strong small town can accomplish.





Happy Anniversary



July

- 1 Arianna Pierce
- 2 Al Gienger,
- 2 James Caron
- 6 Tanner Purvis
- 7 Marcy Knaack,
- 7 Scott Strohbahn
- 7 Clay Koester
- 7 Tate Koester
- 9 Jennifer Strohbahn,
- 10 Becky Klinefelter
- 11 Will Garber
- 11 Taelyn Sash
- 13 JoAnne Sash
- 14 Brandon Strohbahn
- 15 Luke Petty,
- 15 Mike Wentzien,
- 16 Kristi Carlson
- 22 Jack Garber
- 24 Grant Strohbahn
- 25 Ethan Gienger
- 26 Betty Dahms
- 26 Kohen Gienger
- 28 Kelli Gartman
- 29 Alexis Strohbahn
- 30 Blake Moore
- 31 Lisa Koester

July

- 2 Paul & Kay Purvis
- 11 Dwight & Joan Surber
- 11 Dan & Bridget Bearden
- 16 Mike & Sara Wentzien
- 16 Matt & Beth Koester
- 20 Andrew & Katie Raska
- 20 Bruce & Joan Appelgate
- 21 Roger & Terri Luehring
- 24 Mark & Lisa Flamme
- 26 Andy & Rose Chamra
- 31 Scott & Jennifer Strohbahn



Lectionary Reading for

July 2:

Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

July 9:

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Psalm 45:10-17
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16:

Genesis 25:19-34
Romans 8:1-11
Psalm 119:105-112
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23:

Genesis 28:10-19a
Romans 8:12-25
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30:

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Gladbrook Methodist Messenger
715 Lincoln Street
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



JULY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

July 2 Tate Williams
July 9 Clay Koester
July 16 Cael Carlson
July 23 Tate Koester
July 30 Beau DeWitt

GREETERS

July 2 Pauline Flamme
July 9 Garber family
July 16 C & C Gethmann
July 23 Terri Lamb
July 30 Maxine Schoel

LITURGISTS

July 2 Richard Klinefelter
July 9 Sean Williams
July 16 Dave Koester
July 23 Carolyn Moe
July 30 Kevin Williams

PROJECTION

July 2 Jhona Lyn Gallo
July 9 Kyle Koester
July 16 Joan Appelgate
July 23 Joan Appelgate
July 30 Dave Koester

ORGANIST

July 2 Ann Vibbard
July 11 Sam DeWitt
July 16 Ann Vibbard
July 23 Sam DeWitt
July 30 Sam DeWitt

USHERS

Kevin and BJ Williams, Steve &
Marcia Koester

Communion Stewards

July 2- Cheryl Bruene & Kay
Lowry

Messenger

Published monthly by the
Gladbrook Methodist Church
715 Lincoln St., Gladbrook, IA 50635
The Rev. Gideon Gallo is Pastor
His office hours are normally
Mon—Thurs 9:00-2:00 PM
Dana Brown is the Admin. Asst.
Her office hours are normally
9-2 Mon., Wed., & Friday
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Parsonage # 641-473-2816
Pastor Cell– 515-468-1173
Dana's cell– 641-750-2219

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