

"Hearing God's Voice In This Challenging Times"

THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook Methodist Church

March 2024



SPRING FORWARD
REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR
CLOCKS AHEAD
SUNDAY, MARCH 10th.

SENIOR CITIZENS

The Gladbrook Methodist Women are hosting the Senior Citizens dinner at 11:30 on Friday, **March 15th**. Call Jeanne to make a reservation at 641-751-2039, 473-2843 or 473-2802. This will be a dine in meal with a delivery option.



S A L Fish Fry

Friday, March 29th 5-7 PM
Memorial Building

Dine in or carry out

All you can eat fish, cole slaw, baked potato, dinner roll and a drink.

\$15.00



*Keeping
a Holy Lent*



We would like to thank everyone who donated canned items during our Souper Bowl potluck.

Food pantry is in need of these items...

Crackers- all kinds

Baking supplies- sugar, flour, baking soda

Muffin mixes, corn bread mixes

Granola bars

Dry noodles, spaghetti

Spaghetti sauce

Pizza sauce

Canned meat- Tuna, salmon, chicken

If you would like to make a donation at a time when the office isn't normally open call Dana @ 641-750-2219 to set up a time to make a drop off. She would be happy to help you.

Gladbrook American Legion

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 3rd

9am-12:30pm

Gladbrook Memorial Building

All you can eat for \$10.00

Menu includes sausage, pancakes

French toast, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy , coffee, milk, and juice



“What Story Do We Need to Tell?”

This Year Liturgical Cycle uses the Gospel of Mark as the Gospel Reading. One thing we can observe when we are reading the Gospel of Mark is that the writer is a masterpiece of understatement. Such a literary technique allows readers, especially us, to activate our imagination. We don't want to be told or shown everything. The imagination fills in the blanks and supplies the scenes when the paragraph ends and the visual fades. Reading and viewing are never meant to be passive activities or spectator sports. We are meant to be drawn into the process of *storytelling*.

The Season of Lent is an excellent time to activate our imagination, our religious imagination in particular. This is a crucial practice in our Spiritual Journey and Discipline. We are often told and shown, by religious and secular trend-setters, more than we want or need to see and know. We are too often oversold on the need for penance, sacrifice, and self-denial. High pressure salesmanship from preachers and writers leaves us all unsatisfied. Preachers feel ineffective because there are few “*instant conversions*.” The people sitting on the pews feel a bit angry that so much is being expected and so little help seems available. The American philosopher George Santayana once said that when we lose sight of the goal, we double the effort. It is easy to lose sight of Lenten goals as we gear up for another season of strained and sour faces. Doubling the efforts of muscular Christianity leaves us tired and still searching for more.

Consider the powerful simplicity of Marks Gospel:

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him. (Mark 1:12-13).

There is no mention of what these temptations are. The interplay between wild beasts and angels allows us to do our own reflection and imagining. The wilderness is to be refilled by each one of us.

Each one of us as faithful followers of Christ face the wilderness with our own temptations and wild beasts. That is the first Christian Community at the beginning of Lent asked the question, “*What kind of life without Christ in it?*” Lent is a time of sobering reflection-on sins, on the death and decay of a world gone wrong, and on the hopeless condition we would be in without the intervention of God in Christ.

Lent is a time of transition, when we turn our eyes away from fading disappointments and toward the brilliant promises of God. We are invited to witness and experience death and resurrection, decay versus growth and life, frailty and weakness becoming strength, temptation and the power to overcome it, temporality versus eternity, the old genesis and the new creation, our helplessness and god's provision, our faults under his forgiveness and mercy, and humanity's rebellion of pride versus Jesus' victory of humility. In many cases, these are more than a difference in perspective; they are issues we wrestle with every day.

This season is a special time on the calendar and certainly more than a ritual. It's a time to experience the wisdom and mercies of God.

This is the story that need to be told.

Pastor Gideon Gallo



Administrative Council Minutes

January 22, 2024

Nine members of the Ad Council met at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall of the GMC. Members in attendance were Dana Brown, Cheryl Bruene, Gideon Gallo, Cornell Gethmann, Dave Koester, Lisa Koester, Roger Luehring, Carolyn Moe, and Kevin Williams.

Lisa called the meeting to order. Cheryl provided our devotional. The past minutes were read and approved.

Roger presented the **treasurer's report**. Our bank balances are strong.

SPPRC, Dave reported the committee met Jan 2nd. They updated the custodian job description and checklist. A job performance review with Michael Lamb was held. Michael is doing a good job. Michael is open to suggestions from anyone. The next meeting will be held Feb. 2nd.

GMW, Dana reported the women of the church met Dec. 20th for our Christmas luncheon. Becky Heeren gave our program about the newly developing Global Methodist Women. The GMW need to close their current bank account with First Interstate Bank. We will be opening a new account under the Gladbrook Methodist EIN number to increase our connection to the church and to increase transparency of the financial fitness of the group. The GMW will be serving the Community Senior Dinner on March 15th at 11:30. All community members over the age of 55 are invited to attend. Our next regular meeting will be held April 17th at 9:30am.

Mission Outreach, Gideon reported that he has nominated several of the members of the Tuesday morning Bible Study group to establish new missions and initiatives. They have discussed their focus first will be on local missions. The group will discuss several mission opportunities with a goal of focusing on three projects for 2024.

Trustees, Gideon reported the tree between the parsonage and the neighbor to the south has been removed. The roots were severely damaged in 2023 during a plumbing project at the parsonage. It was decided the tree needed to be removed for safety reasons.

Finance Committee, No report given at this time.

Memorial, Cheryl reported on the memorial account balances. The savings account has not been collecting much interest. She believes it would be fiscally responsible of the committee to open a Certificate of Deposit (CD) to increase the account with limited loss risk. Cheryl has investigated several financial institutions in the area to determine the best rate. There was some discussion on the rates and institutions reputability. Roger L. made the motion to have Cheryl B. open a CD at the Lincoln Savings Bank for the amount of \$10,000.00. Cornell G. gave the second to this motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Cheryl then reported that she was asked by the Trustees to reimburse the Trustee committee for the Bell Tower reconstruction from Memorial funding. All memorial committee members were in agreement that this was a proper use of memorial funds. Cornell G. made the motion to reimburse the Trustees \$2157.00. Carolyn gave the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Good Samaritan, Dana reported we paid the water bill for one community member in December. He was asking for us to pay again in January. After some discussion about this person's history and unwillingness to help himself to find gainful employment or other financial funding, Gideon and Dana decided not to pay his water bill at this time. Dana was able to help a family connect with MICA to help this family find financial solutions for their winter heating needs. We helped one community member by purchasing gas for them so they could get to their new job.

Food Pantry- Dana reported we continue to serve 12 -15 people every month. Four church members have been training to run the pantry 1 day each month. The Food Pantry will not be open for the first Saturday of the month for February and March. It was decided not enough community members are attending this scheduled timeslot to justify having our snow removal people come extra early to make sure the building and parking lot are cleared. We will reevaluate the Saturday morning timeslot in April.

Ad Council minutes continued

Pastoral Report, Gideon reported he attended several area meetings and home visits. He continues to hold regular services at Westbrook Acres. He conducted one funeral. He would like to remind us to continue to pray for our country and the whole world as there are many countries holding important political elections this year. He would like to invite everyone to attend the funeral visitation and service for the Chapel Church pastor, Rev. Don Morrison. His family's visitation will be Friday, January 26th at the Mitchell Funeral Home in Marshalltown from 5pm until 7pm. His funeral will be held at the First Methodist Church in Marshalltown beginning at 10:30am.

Other Items:

1. Lisa brought up our need to establish our own Bylaws. There is a Bylaws committee that will be meeting soon. Lisa will be sending out several dates to the committee members.
2. Lisa submitted an example of a letter that could be used to send to our current membership to update their information and to renew their commitment and covenant as Global Methodist Members.
3. Lisa would like an updated list of committee members to appear on our current website. Dana will update the list and send it to Terri Luehring to be put out on our website.
4. Carolyn suggests we form a Technology committee. There was some discussion about what this committee would be responsible for and how it would operate. Lisa asked Carolyn to ask for volunteers for this committee during worship service this next Sunday.

Joys: 1. Ryan Luehring, the son of Roger and Terri Luehring, has become engaged. Roger announced the wedding will be in November of 2024.

Concerns: 1 Pray for Rev. Cindy Morrison on the passing of her husband, Rev. Don Morrison.

2. Pray for the Peterson family. Their son, Diderik, passed away in early January. He was 8 years old. His father Tarrence, was a graduate of GR. He is a good friend of Sean Williams and Dan DeWitt. This family lives in Grundy Center. They are very good friends of several members of our church family.

3. Lisa asks that we pray for her dear friend's daughter in law. She is a mother with young children who was recently diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

4. Carolyn asks us to pray for her friend whose husband has entered hospice care.

Lisa closed with a prayer. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting scheduled for February 26th, at 7:00pm. **Lisa** will supply the devotional.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Brown

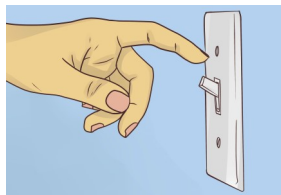


We would like to remind everyone who uses the church, to please check the lights and doors before you leave. There have been several occasions where lights have been left on with no one in the building. Please check that the lights in the front lobby, hallway, coat room and bathrooms are turned off.

The light switches for the hallway and lobby are next to the front door.

The switch for the coat room is in the coat room, on the wall next to the mirror.

Also be sure the front door and kitchen doors are shut and locked.





We ask that you remember these people with your prayers:

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: Diane Mussig, Betty Kvidera, Steve Keiser, Rob Herink, Kari Groth, Carolyn & Don Anker, Pauline Flamme, Lucy DeWitt, Paul Purvis, Marilyn Brekke, Bud Locke, Priscilla Crumley, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Tim and Barb Quam, Dave Eggers, Marivel Manzano.

THANK YOU

For your participation in our church activities during the month of February

Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes, Projectionists, Liturgists, Organists, Fellowship Time Servers, Sunday School Teachers, Kids Club Leaders, Communion Stewards and Committee Leaders & Members.

Pastor Gideon

Schedule of Activities for Lent

Pastor Gideon will be offering study, worship and praise, and healing services for the Lenten Season. The following are dates and time that he will be offering these activities:

Study, Healing, Worship and Praise

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Time: 7:00pm

"ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED"

Lectionary Readings For March 2024

March 3

Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

March 10

Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

March 17

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

March 24

Palm Sunday Focusing on the entrance of Christ

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Mark 11:1-11

Passion Sunday Focusing on the Passion of Christ

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1-15:47

March 28: Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10) 11-14 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 29: Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42

March 31: Easter Sunday

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Acts 10:34-43

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Mark 16:1-8 John 20:1-18



Psalm 119:105

¹⁰⁵ Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.



March

- 1 Samuel Garber
- 1 Kayla Vavroch
- 6 John Putney
- 7 Steve Moe
- 8 Beth Koester
- 9 Thomas Mussig
- 13 Beau DeWitt
- 15 Doug Gethmann
- 19 Blaine Groth
- 19 Paul Purvis
- 21 JoAnne Ruopp
- 26 Larry Jensen
- 31 Dennis Modlin
- 31 McKenna Lenz



March

- 22 Keith & JoAnne Sash
- 27 Phil & Deb Koester

April Participants 2024

(Subject to change)

Liturgists:

- Apr.7 Sean Williams
- Apr. 14- Lisa Koester
- Apr. 21 Kevin Williams
- April 28 Carolyn Moe

Projectionists:

- April 7 Jhona Lyn Gallo
- April 14 Steve Moe
- April 21 Joan Appelgate
- April 28 Joan Appelgate

Acolytes:

- Apr.7 Charlette Bruene
- Apr. 14 Beau DeWitt
- April 21 Clay & Tate Koester
- April 28 Tate Williams

Greeters

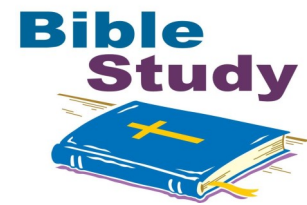
- Apr. 7 Steve & Carolyn Moe
- Apr.14 Bob & Bonnie Murty
- Apr. 21 Steve & Erin Murty
- April 28 Larry Pieper & Kristi Carlson family

Ushers:

Mike Dewitt, Dan DeWitt, Beau DeWitt, Steve Keiser

Communion Stewards:

April 7- April 7 Cheryl Bruene & Kay Lowry



Bible Study options offered every week.

Sunday Evening Study@ 7:15pm

This is open to all community members.

Tuesday Morning Women's Study @ 9:30am

Come for coffee and fellowship with other women of the community.

Wednesday Morning Men's Study @ 6:45am

Get an early morning boost of faith and fellowship to start your day off on the right foot.

Lenten Study

Every Wednesday evening @7pm beginning March 1st until April 5th.



Join us on Facebook
Gladbrook Methodist Church



2023 Easter Lily Order Form

PLEASE NOTICE—Cheryl would like to have your order by **March 24th.**

Cheryl Bruene, 1366 190th St., Gladbrook, IA 50635—(641) 473-2436 (If no answer, leave a message.)

I would like to order _____ 6” Lily(ies) at **\$14.00 each**

Enclosed is \$_____. (Make checks payable to **Cheryl Bruene** and include with the order.)

I wish to have my lily(ies) listed in the bulletin as:

***GIVEN IN MEMORY OF**

***GIVEN IN HONOR OF**

***GIVEN BY**

Please pick up after Worship Service on March 31st EASTER



New addition to the Food Pantry and the Gladbrook Methodist Church

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has supplied the church with the pantry box. The Food Pantry will be supplying the food inside.

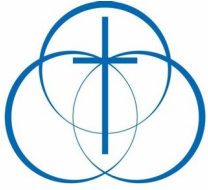
The Little Free Food Pantry at the back of the church for our community to use.

Who can use it? Anyone in need of food.

Where is it? On the North side of the Methodist Church. Near the kitchen door.

What is inside? Various food items that can be shelf stable in various temperatures. It is monitored by the Food Pantry personnel. The items inside will change as the seasons change and as food is removed and replaced.

If you or anyone you know of in our community is experiencing food insecurities, please contact the Methodist Church for help from our Food Pantry.



The Gladbrook Methodist Messenger
715 Lincoln Street
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



MARCH WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

Mar.3 Tate & Rhett Williams
Mar. 10 Beau DeWitt &
Micheal McHenry
Mar. 17 Rhett Williams
Mar. 25 Codi DeWitt
Mar 31 Tate Williams &
Nikko Agan

LITURGISTS

Mar. 5 Carolyn Moe
Mar. 12 Dave Koester
Mar. 19 Lisa Koester
Mar. 26 Paul Koester

PROJECTION

Mar. 3 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Mar. 10 Roger Luehring
March 17 Kyle Koester
Mar 24 Steve Moe
Mar. 31 Kyle Koester

GREETERS:

Mar.3 Mandy Koester & Austin
Gehring
Mar.10 Terri Lamb
Mar. 17 Kay Lowry
Mar. 24 Roger & Terri Luehring
Mar. 31 Harold & Rose Mary
McKinney

ORGANIST

Mar. 6 Ann Vibbard
Mar. 13 Sam DeWitt
Mar. 20 Ann Vibbard
Mar. 27 Sam DeWitt

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

March 3 Marcia Koester &
Barb DeWitt

USHERS

Bruce and Joan Appelgate,
John and Emily Putney

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
9-2 Mon., Wed., & Friday
Church office # 641-473-2025
Parsonage # 641-473-2816
Pastor Cell– 515-468-1173
Dana's cell– 641-750-2219
Church e-mail:
gladbrookmethodist
@iowatelecom.net
Website: gladbrookmethodist.org