

THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook Methodist Church

September 2025



Sunday School Begins Sept. 7th, 2025!!

Children will be dismissed for Sunday school following the children's moment and will rejoin their families during fellowship time. Preschool children ages 3 through 6th grade are invited to attend. This year our theme is On the Road with God. We will be journeying through the Bible and learning more about God's love for his children. Please contact Nancy Keiser or Pastor Gideon if you have questions.

The North West Tama County Food Pantry is open every month on the 2nd and 4th Mondays from 4pm until 6pm.

Sept. 8th and 22

Donations of paper products, dish soap, laundry soap, shampoo and conditioner would be greatly appreciated. We are also running low on crackers, soup, oatmeal, ketchup, mustard and pickles.



The start of Gladbrook Community Kids' Club for children in 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades is beginning **September 10th**. Please follow **GLADBROOK COMMUNITY KIDS' CLUB** Facebook page for updates.

Senior Luncheon-
Chapel Church will be
hosting the senior
luncheon

on Friday, Sept. 12th at the
Memorial Building. Lunch will be
served at 11:30am. Carry out and
delivery is available. Call Jeanne to
make reservations at 641-751-2039
or the Peace church at 641-473-
2802.



“A House of Prayer”

¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

-Matthew 21:13-

When Jesus rebuked the people who turned the temple into a local merchandise mart, He cried out in defiance, ***“My house will be called a house of prayer” (Matthew 21:13).*** Was Jesus setting a standard with which to evaluate the spiritual life of the church today? Should churches be house of prayer? Should prayer be the identifying mark of a group of believers?

Is there a relationship between the lack of corporate prayer (include in your consideration individual prayer of members) in churches and the spiritual impotence which is prevalent today? The story is told that once Thomas Aquinas was shown the Vatican treasury, the Pope said, “Well, Thomas, no longer can we say, ‘Silver and gold have we none.’” “Yes,” replied Thomas, “and no more can we say, ‘In the name of Jesus, rise up and walk.’”

Some churches, however, have not missed the connection between prayer and power. Whenever you find spiritual awakening today, you will find people who pray.

Dr. Billy Kim is a pastor of the large Central Baptist Church in Suwon, South Korea. When Billy met another pastor at the door for their new church to show him the new facility, he said, “Follow me.” He didn’t take him into the large sanctuary. Instead, he showed him some twenty small rooms just large enough for a person to kneel and pray in. “This,” said Pastor Billy, “is the secret of our church.” These were prayer closets where people pray twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Is there a relationship between the growth of the Korean church and prayer? It is no coincidence that almost every Korean Church, regardless of denomination, has an early morning prayer meeting every day. Throughout the land men and women of God, young and old, spend early hours of the day praying, often kneeling on concrete floors.

“But that wouldn’t work here!”

Don’t believe that voice for a moment. God’s Spirit is calling men and women, old and young to prayer. A prayer movement is touching the lives of churches and study groups, revitalizing them, giving them spiritual vigor and power.

If Jesus really meant that His house should be a house of prayer, and if our churches are known for anything but prayer, we’ve fallen short of what Jesus expects.

¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

Prayerfully yours,

Pastor Gideon Gallo



Administrative Council Minutes

June 2, 2025

(May meeting)

Susie Strohbehn called the meeting to order at 7:00 with 11 members present. In attendance were Dana Brown, Cheryl Bruene, Cornell Gethmann, Dave Koester, Paul Koester, Roger Luehring, Carolyn Moe, Steve Moe, Grant Strohbehn, Susie Strohbehn, and Kevin Williams.

Carolyn shared a devotion. Moments of Discipleship and Spiritual Accountability were shared. April minutes were approved. (Grant/ Paul) The finances were discussed. The treasurer's report was approved as presented. (Paul/ Carolyn)

Finance Committee - Grant reported he continues investigating the possibility of establishing a permanent endowment fund & has spoken with an advisor. There was some discussion on the various types of funds and ways to fund each type. He will bring more information to the board & all will be shared with the congregation.

Gladbrook Methodist Women - Dana reported that the GMW met for a breakfast meeting with an interesting program by Crystal Petersen, nutritionist from the Grundy Hospital.

Food Pantry - The food pantry continues to help a consistent 15 to 20 people in our community. A list will be in the next newsletter.

Good Samaritan Fund - No requests have come in this month.

Memorial - The only change is a bit of interest earned.

Mission Outreach - No report given

Pastoral Report - No report given- Pastor is on vacation from June 5th through 11th.

SPPRC- Dave reported the committee met on May 5th. Kevin W. will preach during the Gallo family vacation.

Technology - Steve reported there might be a problem with copyrights and our Sunday service on Facebook. More investigation is being done.

Trustees - The yard sign is needing some repairs. Stainless steel rivets have been ordered for the flat portion of our roof. The parsonage is needing more grass seed for the recently seeded areas. There was a puff of smoke from the organ this past week. Pending further investigation and possible repairs, the organ is being unplugged whenever not in use.

Other business -

-The committee working on the new bylaws are wanting to have the bylaws completed by the August board meeting.

-The safety policies are also expected to be completed by the August board meeting.

-There are several old trophies in the basement. If anyone would like them please remove them ASAP.

-VBS planning is underway. Paul has agreed to play Jesus. We will be sharing several components with a church in Traer.

Joys & Concerns - **Joys:** Susie is proud of her brother teaching financial responsibilities with Deca Organization.

-Avriel is home and has completed her treatments.

-Roger has had his 12 month review from his knee replacement.

Concerns: Deb Koester and Dwight Surber are both experiencing health concerns.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2025

Devotions: Dave Koester

Susie closed with prayer.

Respectively submitted, Dana Brown

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

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

Larry Pieper, Dwight Surber, Avriel Koester, Nina Wadsworth, Ruth Lamca, Jim Quisberg, Don & Carolyn Anker, Kari Groth, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Carolyn Groth, Dale Haack, Bill Stauffer (Ruth & Nina's brother), Denise (Handorf) Kemp, Loren Frerichs.



THANK YOU

For your participation in our church activities during the month of August; Thank you.

Ushers, Acolytes, Projectionists, Liturgists, Organists, Fellowship Servers, Communion Stewards and Committee Leaders & Members.

Pastor Gideon

We would also like to thank everyone who has been helping clean and organize the classrooms as they have been moved. We greatly appreciate your devoted service to our church family.

Women's Bible Study

Every woman of the community is invited and encouraged to attend. We meet every Tuesday morning at **9am** for coffee and fellowship. Then Bible study begins at **9:30am**.



Lectionary Reading For September

September 7

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

September 14

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

September 21

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

September 28

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

Psalms 119:105

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

Men's Bible Study

We are inviting all men of the community to join us at **6:45am** for good bible study, coffee, a light breakfast, and fellowship.



MEN'S PRAYER GROUP



September

- 1 Ryan Luehring
- 1 Susan Strohbehn
- 2 Ken Strohbehn
- 2 Joshua Gallo
- 3 Lucy DeWitt
- 3 Don Anker
- 6 Bonnie Raum-Murty
- 12 Larry Pieper
- 12 Dave Ruopp
- 13 Tawanna Vint
- 13 Connor Murty
- 13 Layne Murty
- 14 Sydney Vavroch
- 15 Tate Williams
- 20 Nancy Keiser
- 21 Cheryl Bruene
- 23 Avriel Koester
- 24 David Bruene



Happy Anniversary September

- 4 Steve & Erin Murty
- 14 Duane & Kari Groth
- 18 Mark & Linda Lowry

Greeters— October- December

- Oct. 5 Paul & Avriel Koester
- Oct. 12 Matt & Beth Koester family
- Oct. 19 Dave & Lisa Koester
- Oct. 26 Logan & Emma Koester
- Nov. 2 Phil, Deb & Kyle Koester
- Nov. 9 Mark & Angie Knaack
- Nov. 16 Paul & Avriel Koester
- Nov. 23 Steve & Marcia Koester
- Nov. 30 Rob & Kathy Herink
- Dec. 7 Caleb & Alannah McHenry family
- Dec. 14 Jeff & Cheryl Bruene
- Dec. 21 Pauline Flamme
- Dec. 24 Christmas eve
- Dec. 28 Bob & Bonnie Murty



Crop Walk Sun., Oct. 5
Meet at Peace Church Gladbrook
Walk the streets in and around
Gladbrook 1:00 p.m.

All ages welcome!

The Northwest Tama County Ministerial Association is planning its 2025 Crop Walks are ecumenical, interfaith community events. Undesignated funds help support hunger programs and disaster relief of Church World Service in the United States and around the world. In partnership, CWS supports self-help development, meets emergency needs, and helps address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness. Millions of people around the world walk long distances every day: to get water for daily needs; to bring home food for their families; to find safe shelter in times of war or disaster; to find wood for fuel and fodder for livestock; to go to school; to farm distant fields; to take goods and produce to market; or to find medical care when illness strikes. All ages, young and old alike, are welcome to join the Crop Walk on Oct. 5th. Donations can be dropped off at any of the participating churches. The Peace United Church of Christ in Gladbrook is in-charge of refreshments after the walk. The Methodist Church will provide refreshments after the walk at Peace Church.

Worship Leaders October—December

Oct.5 Roger Luehring
Oct. 12 Dave Koester
Oct. 19 Carolyn Moe
Oct. 26 Kevin Williams
Nov. 2 Paul Koester
Nov. 9 Roger Luehring
Nov. 16 Carolyn Moe
Nov.23 **Thanksgiving Sunday** Dave Koester
Nov. 30 Kevin Williams
Dec. 7 Paul Koester
Dec. 14 Roger Luehring
Dec. 21 Dave Koester
Dec. 24 **Evening service** Carolyn Moe
Dec. 28 Kevin Williams

Acolytes October—December

Oct. 5 Charlette Bruene
Oct. 12 Beau DeWitt
Oct. 19 Clay Koester
Oct. 26 Codi DeWitt
Nov. 2 Micheal McHenry
Nov. 11 Cade DeWitt
Nov. 16 Charlette Bruene
Nov. 23 Tate Koester
Nov. 30 Beau DeWitt
Dec. 7 Clay Koester
Dec. 14 Codi DeWitt
Dec. 21 Micheal McHenry
Dec. 24 Tate Koester
Dec. 28 Cade DeWitt

Ushers October—December

October: Mark Knaack, Tim & Andrea Pierce, Ari Pierce

November: Keith and JoAnne Sash, Al Gienger

December: Jeff and Cheryl Bruene, Bob and Marcy Knaack

Projectionists October—December

Oct. 5 Jhona Lynn Gallo
Oct. 12 Joan Appelgate
Oct. 19 Dave Koester
Oct. 26 Dave Koester
Nov. 2 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Nov. 9 Steve Moe
Nov. 16 Steve Moe
Nov. 23 Roger Luehring
Nov. 30 Roger Luehring
Dec. Jhona Lyn Gallo
Dec. 14 Kyle Koester
Dec. 21 Kyle Koester
Dec. 24 Steve Moe
Dec. 28 Joan Appelgate

Communion Stewards:

First Sunday of the month. This may change as directed by the Pastor.

October 5- Terri & Kay Lowry

November 2- Scott & Kathy Vavroch

November 23-Thanksgiving Sunday-

Marcia Koester & Barb DeWitt

December 7- Cheryl Bruene & Kay Lowry

December 24- Christmas eve-

Scott & Kathy Vavroch



The Gladbrook Methodist Women will be volunteering at the Gladbrook Theatre on September 27th, during the 7pm showing.

If you are interested in volunteering this show, please contact Dana. Volunteers need to be at the theater by 6:15pm.

For volunteering you receive a free drink and popcorn for that evening's movie.

During our August meeting, it was decided to change our monthly meetings from the 3rd Wednesday mornings to the 3rd Thursday mornings every month.

We also discussed the upcoming missions we support: September -Kids' Club will begin. We are open to supporting this community mission anyway we can.

October- We serve dinner during Trunk or Treat

November- We supply and deliver Blessing Bags to community shut ins and Independent Living and Westbrook residents.

December- We would like to invite area church women to our Christmas Luncheon.

Gladbrook Methodist Church will be sponsoring a family movie night on September 27th at the Gladbrook Theatre at 7pm. The doors will open at 6:30pm.

Admission for the movie will be paid for by the Church.

Concessions will be available for purchase.

Downton Abby is the planned movie.

With heavy hearts, we share the news that Deb Koester passed away on Thursday, August 28th. Please keep Phil, Kevin, and Kyle in your prayers during this challenging time.





The Gladbrook Methodist Messenger
715 Lincoln Street
PO Box 176
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

USHERS

Jim & Deb Quisberg,
Mark Lowry

ACOLYTES

Sept. 7 Clay Koester
Sept. 14 Micheal McHenry
Sept. 21 Tate Koester
Sept. 28 Cade DeWitt

WORSHIP LEADERS

Sept. 7 Roger Luehring
Sept. 14 Dave Koester
Sept. 21 Kevin Williams
Sept. 28 Paul Koester

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Marcia Koester & Barb DeWitt

PROJECTION

Sept. 7 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Sept. 14 Kyle Koester
Sept. 21 Steve Moe
Sept. 28 Joan Appelgate

ORGANIST

Sept. 7 Ann Vibbard
Sept. 14 Sam DeWitt
Sept. 21 Ann Vibbard
Sept. 28 Sam DeWitt

GREETERS

Sept. 7 Cornell & Cathy Gethmann
Sept. 14 Duane & Kari Groth
Sept. 21 Nancy & Steve Keiser
Sept. 28 Bob & Marcy Knaack

The Messenger

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Rev. Gideon Gallo is Pastor
His office hours are

Mon—Thurs 9 am—I pm
or by appointment

e-mail: parson-pew@msn.com

Dana Brown is the Admin. Assistant

Her office hours are
9am-2pm Mon., Wed. & Friday
Church office # 641-473-2025

Parsonage # 641-473-2816

Pastor's cell# 515-468-1173

Dana's cell 641-750-2219

church e-mail:

gladbrookmethodist@windstream.net

web-site:

www.gladbrookmethodist.org