

“Hearing God’s Voice In This Challenging Times”

THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook Methodist Church

March 2026



SPRING FORWARD
REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR
CLOCKS AHEAD
SUNDAY, MARCH 8th.

SENIOR CITIZENS

The Gladbrook Methodist Women are hosting the Senior Citizens dinner at 11:30 on Friday, March 13th.

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.



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:

March 14, 11, 18, 25– Holy Study@7pm

“ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED”

S A L Fish Fry



Friday, March 13th 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



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, beef

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 1st

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



“The Triumph Of The Cross”

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

-I Corinthians 15:3, 4-

After a devastating typhoon battered Macao in 1825, John Browning, the governor of Hongkong, came to inspect the damage. He found building, smashed, houses devastated and the territory in ruins. All that remained of the cathedral which bore the brunt of the storm was façade, with the cross standing tall on its pinnacle.

This reminds me after the tornado that occurred some many years ago in Parkersburg, Iowa. Two days after the tornado, Earlham Methodist Church Mission Team decided to do volunteer cleanup work in the area. As we entered the devastated area, we noticed that the only structure standing up was the church's cross. It was standing in the middle of ruined and devastated houses including the church building.

Nothing is more central to all of Christianity than the Cross.

The Cross represents the best and the worst of humanity because you cannot look at the Cross without realizing that all of us have a collective responsibility for what happened, and all of us can find there redemption and forgiveness because of God's sacrifice. No wonder, churches the world over are topped with crosses.

Some of you attend Good Friday services, but some of you are so busy that you hardly have time to reflect what is good about the day, other than a weekend follows. May I encourage you to stop whatever you are doing and read the account of the Crucifixion in Luke 23 as though you were reading it for the first time. Read on as the hopes and dreams of Jesus' disciples die when they place the bruised and broken body in a new tomb. Read the final chapter of Luke's gospel as the light of dawn on Sunday morning shines into an empty tomb, proving that the body is not in a grave but that He is risen.

The story is so simple that it could never been fabricated. The One who died came back to life and forever changed the destinies of men and women. Christmas is wonderful, exciting and warm, but the event of the Cross and Easter are somber and meaningful. There is no person whose life is not enriched by the knowledge that life is not an endless grind, a machine-like existence, but every person is endowed with the breath of God and can find forgiveness and the hope of tomorrow.

Our culture substitute Santa Claus for the manger, tries to ignore the Cross, and substitute the Eater bunny for the empty tomb. However, every graveyard, and every obituary is a reminder that Good Friday and the Resurrection on Easter morning give us life and hope beyond death.

John Browning, the Governor of Hongkong, saw the cross atop the one wall remaining of that battered cathedral, and was moved to write what is now a well-known hymn.

***“In the Cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time.”***

May it ever be!

NOTE: Now the Old Cathedral was rebuilt-a testimony to the indomitable truth that the gates of hell would never prevail against the Church.

Pastor Gideon

Administrative Council Minutes

January 26, 2026

Kevin Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 with 10 members present. In attendance were Dana Brown, Cheryl Bruene, Gideon Gallo, Dave Koester, Kyle Koester, Roger Luehring, Carolyn Moe, Grant Strohhahn, Susie Strohhahn, and Kevin Williams.

Gideon led a devotion, and discipleship moments were shared. The November minutes were read and approved (Grant motioned, Dave seconded). The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved (motion by Carolyn, seconded by Susie). The group discussed differences between the 2025 budget and actual expenditures, as well as comparisons of contributions in 2024 and 2025.

Finance Committee – Grant reported on the method used to calculate the connectional giving every year.

Food Pantry - Dana announced that a fundraising potluck is scheduled for February 8th. Participants are encouraged to donate a canned food item for the Food Pantry, with canned meats and fruits being especially needed this month.

Gladbrook Methodist Women – Officer elections were held in January: Joan Surber is chairman, Dana Brown secretary, Carolyn Moe treasurer. Guest speaker Becky Herren spoke about Blessman International and its mission projects. The group will sew dignity bags for young women in South Africa.

Good Samaritan Fund – We received several donations in December. We paid half the water bill for a community member.

Memorial – Money has been transferred from the savings account to the checking account to cover the cost of purchasing two 85 inch TVs for the sanctuary. She will review and renew our CD that matured today.

Mission Outreach – Gideon reported that 26 individuals attended the Mission Outreach Movie Night. He also presented the possibility of organizing a community meal, tentatively scheduled for April. Additionally, he proposed developing a visitor's packet. Various ideas were discussed.

Pastoral Report – Gideon made 11 home visits and visited several local care centers. He leads weekly Bible studies, attends district meetings, and conducts confirmation classes. The newspaper article he submitted received feedback. He is helping a member seek mental health support for a family member.

SPPRC- Dave reported scheduled for January 5th was cancelled. The next meeting will be February 2nd.

Technology – The 85 inch TVs have been installed with positive feedback. Dave suggested adding two smaller TVs, one for the pastor's lectern and one for the Worship Leader's lectern. The Technology budget will be used to purchase these TVs. The old projector and screens will be offered at a meeting Gideon will be attending later this month.

Trustees – New lights have been installed in the Fellowship Hall.

Other business – 1) Dave discussed the proposed by-laws. The committee used the Global Methodist's Book of Doctrine. Gideon motioned the proposed By-laws be adopted. Susie gave the second. There was some discussion about some of the wording. It was decided to table this discussion until next meeting. Dana will make necessary corrections before the next meeting.

2) Dana announced that GMW will oversee the stove replacement project. The plan is to install two homestyle stoves without continuous pilot lights. A major donation will cover most costs; the congregation will be asked for additional contributions, and GMW will fund any shortfall. The project's budget is set at \$2,500.

3) Carolyn and Steve purchased English Standard Version Bibles in both large and regular print. Once delivered, they will be placed in the commonly used pews. Additional Bibles will be ordered soon.

4) Our pews are too close together for comfortable access. It was discussed previously we should consider separating them when the carpet is replaced, which may need to happen soon due to wear and stretching. This discussion was tabled for another time.

Joys & Concerns – **Joys:** Roger and Terri Luehring celebrated a wedding anniversary with some friends.

Concerns: We continue to pray for Paul, Alannah, Don Anker, Cornell, and Maria Soto's family.

Gideon closed with prayer.

Next Meeting: February 23, 2026

Devotions: Cheryl

Respectfully submitted, Dana Brown

2026 Easter Lily Order Form

PLEASE NOTICE—Cheryl would like to have your order by **March 15, 2026**

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 **\$15.00 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 check one:

_____ I will pick up my lily(ies) after Worship Service on **April 20th**

_____ I would like to donate my lily(ies).



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:

Larry Pieper, Paul Koester, Alannah McHenry, Don & Carolyn Anker, Kari Groth, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Dale Haack, Marsha Turbyfill (Terri Lamb's friend), Michael Lamb, Dona Seiberling (Joan Surber's sister)

Lectionary Readings For March

March 1

Genesis 12:1-4 Psalms 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17

March 8

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalms 95
Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42

March 15

1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalms 23
Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

March 22

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalms 130
Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45

March 29

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalms 31:9-16
Philippians 2:9-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66



Psalm 119:105

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

Condolences...

Our deepest condolences are extended to the families of

Bill Stauer. He was the brother to Nina Wadsworth and Ruth Lamca. He passed away Feb. 10,2026.

Maxine Schoel. She passed away Feb.20,2026.

Ed Schatz. He was the husband of Stephanie (Gethmann) Schatz, Son-in-law of Joan Appelgate. He passed away Feb. 24,2026.



THANK YOU

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

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

Pastor Gideon



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
- 21 JoAnne Ruopp
- 26 Larry Jensen
- 31 Dennis Modlin
- 31 McKenna Lenz



March

- 22 Keith & JoAnne Sash

April Participants 2026

(Subject to change)

Worship Leaders:

- Apr.5 Beth Koester **Easter**
- Apr.12- Roger Luehring
- Apr.19 Carolyn Moe
- April 26 Dave Koester

Projectionists:

- Apr 5 Jhona Lyn Gallo
- Apr 12 Joan Appelgate
- Apr 19 Dave Koester
- Apr 26 Dave Koester

Acolytes:

- Apr.5 Charlette Bruene
- Apr. 12 Codi DeWitt
- April 19 Tate Koester
- April 26 Michael McHenry

Communion Stewards:

- April 5 Cheryl Bruene & Kay Lowry

Ushers:

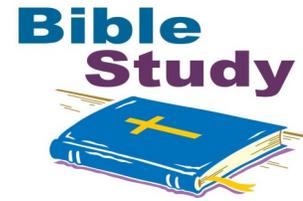
- Apr. 5 Dave & JoAnn Ruopp
- Apr.12 Carol Sperry-Weber & Anna Vernon
- Apr. 19 Jim & Shirley Thompson
- April 26 Dan & Tawanna Vint

Usher duties have changed slightly. Ushers will now hand out bulletins in the lobby, ring the bell and close sanctuary doors at the start of the service, and prepare the microphone for Joys and Concerns.

Diane Mussig Card Shower

Dian turns 80 on April 7th!

If you would like to send her a card, her address is 1009 3rd St. Reinbeck IA 50669



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 4th until March 25th.

Join us on Facebook

Gladbrook Church

Methodist





The Gladbrook Methodist Messenger
715 Lincoln Street
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



MARCH WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

Mar.1 Clay Koester
Mar. 8 Codi DeWitt
Mar. 15 Tate Koester
Mar. 22 Michael McHenry
Mar 29 Cade DeWitt

WORSHIP LEADERS

Mar. 1 Carolyn Moe
Mar. 8 Roger Luehring
Mar. 15 Beth Koester
Mar.22 Dave Koester
Mar. 29 Kevin Williams

PROJECTION

Mar. 1 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Mar 8 Roger Luehring
Mar 15 Kyle Koester
Mar 22 Joan Appelgate
Mar 29 Kyle Koester

USHERS

Mar.1 Terri Lamb & Joan Surber
Mar.8 Jim & Deb Quisberg
Mar. 15 Al Vibbard & Steve Moe
Mar. 22 Jennifer Strohbehn & Ken Strohbehn
Mar. 29 Scott & Kathy Vavroch

ORGANIST

Mar. 1 Ann Vibbard
Mar. 8 Sam DeWitt
Mar. 15 Ann Vibbard
Mar. 22 Sam DeWitt

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

March 1- Marcia Koester & Barb DeWitt

Messenger

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Gladbrook Methodist Church
715 Lincoln St., PO Box 176,
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
10-2 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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