

THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook United Methodist Church

April 2026

Gladbrook Methodist Women

April 16



All women of our church are welcome to attend.

If you aren't able to attend but still want to be involved with the Gladbrook Methodist Women's group, please contact Dana to be added to our contact list.

Gladbrook Global Methodist Church



715 Lincoln Street

Tel. No.: 641-473-2025

Email: gladbrookmethodist@windstream.net

Website: gladbrookmethodist.org

Facebook: Gladbrook Methodist Church

Free Dinner

Friday

April 24, 2026

5:30 pm-7:30 pm

Pulled Pork

Hotdogs (For Kids)

With all the trimmings including dessert

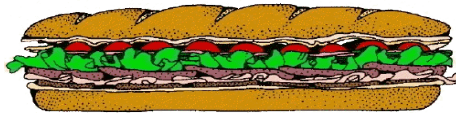


COME SHARE A
COMMUNITY MEAL
WITH US

April Senior Dinner

The Gladbrook Women's Club is hosting the Senior Citizens dinner on Thursday, April 10th, at the Memorial Building. Cost is \$5.00. Call Jeanne to make reservations at 641-751-2039, 473-2843 or 2802.

Let's Do Lunch



S.A.L. Fish Fry
April 3rd 5-7pm
Memorial Building
\$15.00



Thank You so "MULCH!"
We appreciate everyone who helped clean our church yard.





The Gladbrook Methodist Church Spring Shower is Here!!!



Our past spring church showers have been so successful that the Administrative Council has decided to have another. There will be a display in Fellowship Hall of lots of items that the church can use throughout the year in the office, the kitchen, custodial, and our Sunday School rooms. We are hoping that as congregation members are out shopping they will consider purchasing some extra supplies to donate to the church for its use. This is another small way that everyone can have some part in helping the church budget with items that are needed. Our Kick Off for this project will begin Sunday, April 12th!

Several items are brand and size specific as that is what has been found to work the best for people in our church. Please adhere to those wishes to minimize wasted purchases. As a continued added bonus this year and because several of you chose this option, the "Four Hands and a Shopping Cart" are willing to work for you. Contact the church office, Terri Luehring, or Cathy Gethmann to let us know an amount you wish to spend, items you are thinking about, and we will do your shopping for you. You can leave money and items you would like purchased in an envelope in the church office or simply place that envelope in the Sunday collection tray with a note on the outside For Church Shower.

Individual items will be listed on "umbrellas" tags in Fellowship Hall that you can take, purchase the item, and then return to the church sometime during late April and early May. We are including a sample summary wish list of items below in case this is more convenient for you. More items & quantities will be added to the wish tags in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your support of our church project, "Spring Showers Bring Blessings".

9-volt, AA, & AAA batteries

White out tape (not liquid)

Reams of 20# copy paper

Dawn Power wash

Forever stamps

Kleenex or Puffs with lotion

Toilet paper

Hand soap (Minimum 7.5oz)

Lysol toilet bowl cleaner

Paper towels

Wal-Mart gift cards \$10.00

Febreze Air freshener

Bottles of 409 cleaner

and many other miscellaneous supplies & quantities on tags in Fellowship Hall



“Joy No Matter What”

Sound like a tall order? But ask yourself: When was the last time you were robbed of your joy by people, circumstances? Do you know that you can have joy no matter what comes your way? Yes, JOY...no matter what! Sounds like some spiritual fantasy? Well, it is not. Paul in his letter to the Philippians, assures us that “joy no matter what” can be experienced if we would understand and live this truth.

When Paul wrote the letter to the Philippians, he was a prisoner of Rome for preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. In spite of this, however, Paul uses the word “JOY” or “REJOICE” 16 times in this short and powerfully practical letter.

For instance, Paul declares:

The Advance of the Gospel

¹² I want you to know, brothers,^[e] that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard^[f] and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word^[of God] without fear.

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice **(Philippians 1:12-18)**.

Can you believe that? *Rejoicing* while in prison? Now not all prisons are concrete cells with steel bars and doors. Some people feel imprisoned by circumstance or some seemingly impossible situation in life- an unhappy marriage, an overextended financial problem, a recurring sickness, or some other situation that make it hard for you to smile.

If you were in such a situation, would the joy of the Lord become your strength? The key to unlocking the door to this prison to having joy no matter what is found in the person of Jesus Christ (Christ is mentioned at least 36 times in this letter) and an attitude that is submissive to His will.

Paul’s joy was not centered in his freedom from prison. Instead, his joy centered on the person of Jesus Christ. Christ was His life! So it did not matter at all to him what his circumstance was. Note the desire of his life:

Yes, and I will rejoice,¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance,²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain **(Philippians 1:19-21)**.

Paul’s heart and mind was set on one thing: God’s will for him. So whatever God wanted to do with him was all right. You see, Paul knew that it was God, not man, who held the keys to his prison doors.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, whatever you are going through now or whatever may come your way in the future, remember that in His sovereignty God has a purpose and because of this He is also in control. Let Christ be the focus and center of your life and let your mind be submitted to God. Then you will have joy.

There was once a gentleman going along a country road who met a man to whom he courteously wished “Good morning.”

The man replied, “I’ve never had a bad morning.”

The gentleman then said, “Then I wish you may always be fortunate.”

The man replied, “I was never unfortunate.”

The gentleman remarked, “Really?”

Then I wish you may always be happy.”

The man replied, “Well, I am never unhappy.”

The gentleman was so curious about this man’s answer that he asked, “Could you please explain yourself to me?”

“Sure!” the man said. “I never had a bad morning because every morning I praise God. Whether the weather be bright or stormy, I am still thankful to God. You wish that I might always be fortunate, but I cannot be unfortunate, for nothing befalls me but what is according to the will of God. And His will is always good, in whatever He does or permits to be done. You wished me to be always happy, but I cannot be unhappy while resigned to the will of God, and as long as His peace rules in my heart.”

Now isn’t that a man who had joy no matter what?

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, those experiencing mental health concerns.

Pray for comfort and healing for all those in its need: Phil Koester, Larry Pieper, Paul Koester, Alannah McHenry, Don & Carolyn Anker, Kari Groth, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Dale Haack.

THANK YOU

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

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

Pastor Gideon

Diane Mussig Card Shower

Diane turns 80 on April 7th!

If you would like to send her a card,

her address is

1009 3rd St. Reinbeck IA 50669.



Lectionary for the Month of April

April 2: Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10) 11-14 Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 3: Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalms 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42

April 5: Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18 Matthew 28:1-10

April 12

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalms 16
1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

April 19

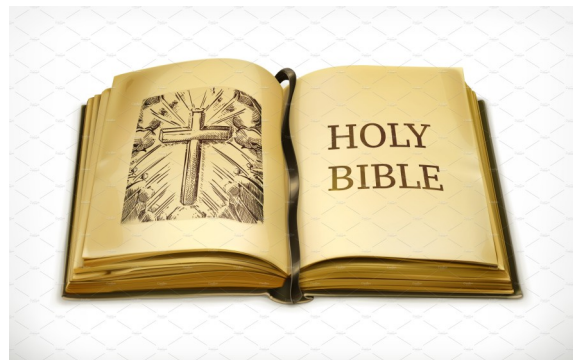
Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35

April 26

Acts 2:42-47 Psalms 23
1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

Psalms 119:105

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



Administrative Council Minutes

February 23, 2026

Kevin Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 with 11 members present. In attendance were Dana Brown, Cheryl Bruene, Gideon Gallo, Cornell Gethmann, Dave Koester, Carolyn Moe, Steve Moe, Grant Strohbehm, Susie Strohbehm, Joan Surber, and Kevin Williams.

Cheryl led a devotion, and discipleship moments were shared. The January minutes were read and approved (Susie motioned, Steve seconded). The treasurer's report was not available at this time.

Finance Committee – No report at this time.

Food Pantry - Dana the fundraising potluck held February 8th was a success. 41 canned items were collected with other items also collected.

Gladbrook Methodist Women –Joan Surber reported the GMW are in the process of purchasing 2 stoves for the kitchen. The March meeting will be the Senior Dinner on March 13th instead of a regular meeting. We will be running the concession stand at the theater on March 7th for the movie I Can Only Imagine 2.

Good Samaritan Fund – No change from last month.

Memorial – Cheryl updated the committee on the purchase of the sanctuary TVs and the remaining balance left of the \$3000.00 budgeted for this project. The CD has been renewed for 1 year at 3.56% with Lincoln Savings Bank.

Mission Outreach – Gideon reported that 32 individuals attended the Mission Outreach Movie Night. The next movie will be March 7th. It will be I Can Only Imagine 2. The committee is still planning a community meal in April. Date not set yet.

Pastoral Report – Gideon made 5 home visits and visited several local care centers. He leads weekly Bible studies, attends district meetings, and conducts confirmation classes. He is asking for prayers for the ethnic group leader. Gideon has been asked to be a group leader. He is leading the Memorial Service at Westbrook in March. This year the Good Friday Service will be at 7pm at the Chapel Church.

SPPRC- Dave reported they met on Feb. 2. The next meeting will be April 6th. The Global Methodist Conference is developing Pastoral Evaluation process. Once that is available the committee will implement it.

Technology –Steve reported a small tv has been installed on the pastor's pulpit side. He thanked the "Koester Boys" and Grant for all their work on the removal of the projector and screens and installation of the large TVs. The old system will be available and offered to other churches.

Trustees – Dana reported the boiler has passed its yearly inspection.

Other business – 1) Dave reminded us that Gideon and Susie made motions to adopt these by-laws after corrections were made during last month's meeting. The vote, this month, was unanimous to adopt the corrected by-laws.

2) Dana announced that GMW has sold the large commercial stove to the Traer Golf Course for \$1,300.00

3) Cheryl would like to use the Fellowship Hall on day a month for a Wellness class through the Iowa State Extension. Carolyn motioned to allow the church to be used by Cheryl for a wellness class every month as to be scheduled with Dana so not to conflict with any other church activities. Dave gave the second. The vote was unanimously yes. Motion passed.

4) The new hymnals will be ordered after March 9th to make sure all money is collected and deposited.

The old hymnals will be collected in the Fellowship Hall and offered to the families who have donated and sponsored them.

5) Bibles had been ordered and delivered twice but both times were not the correct bibles ordered. Carolyn is working to correct this as soon as possible.

6) Easter Lily orders will be due to Cheryl by March 15. Easter is early this year. Dana will post to the bulletin and newsletter to get the order form out to the congregation as soon as possible.

Joys & Concerns – **Joys:** We are thankful to Grant for shoveling out the church driveway and sidewalk.

Concerns: 1) Maxine Schoel passed away. Her funeral will be here March 21st. Family visitation will be at 10:30, and the funeral at 11:30. After a graveside service there will be a lunch served by the GMW.

2)Phil Koester is scheduled for surgery on March 2nd.

Gideon closed with prayer.

Next Meeting: March 23, 2026

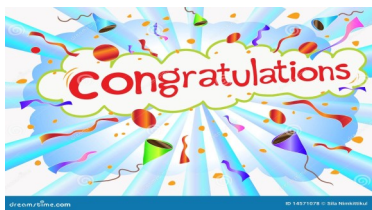
Devotions: Carolyn

Respectfully submitted, Dana Brown



April

- 5 Carolyn Moe
- 6 Phil Koester
- 7 Joan Surber
- 7 Diane Mussig
- 7 Heidi Williams
- 13 Lauren Koester
- 19 Rob Herink
- 23 Mike DeWitt



Clay & Tate Koester will be confirmed into our church on April 5th.

Future dates to remember...

- May 2 Garage Sales Day
- May 8 Senior Citizen Dinner @ Peace Church 11:30am
- May 10 Mother's Day
- May 17 High School Senior Recognition Breakfast
- Joshua Gallo**
- May 17 Area high school graduations
- May 19 Words on Wellness event 2:30pm in Fellowship Hall
- May 25 Memorial Day



The H.A.N.D.S. Gladbrook Area Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first Wednesday of every month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Independent Living. **April 2** is their next meeting. Come join us to knit, crochet, and short devotional. Visitors/new members are always welcome, even if you don't knit or crochet. If you have any questions contact Carolyn Moe or Rose Russell or Dana Brown.

COLLECTORS AND DESIGNERS WANTED

We are looking for a few people willing to share their collections or talents with us during our fellowship time by arranging table displays. These displays do not have to be floral arrangements. We are thinking more of conversation starters to be shared with your church family for a month.

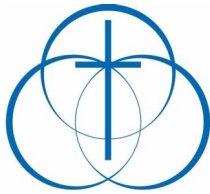
Contact Dana or Joan Surber to get more details and to get on the schedule.

April- Available

May- Available

June- Available





The Gladbrook Methodist Church
715 Lincoln Street
Po Box 176
Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



ACOLYTES

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

WORSHIP LEADERS

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

USHERS

Apr. 5 Dave & JoAnn Ruopp
Apr.12 Carol Sperry-Weber &
Anna Vernon
Apr. 19 Jim & Shirley Thompson
April 26 Bruce & Joan Applegate

ORGANIST

Apr. 5 Ann Vibbard
Apr. 12 Sam DeWitt
Apr. 19 Ann Vibbard
April 26 Sam DeWitt

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

April 5 Cheryl Bruene & Kay
Lowry

Messenger

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50635

Rev. Gideon Gallo's office
hours are normally

Mon—Thurs 10:00-2:00 PM

Admin. Asst., Dana Brown's

office hours are normally
9am-2 pm 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:

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ist.org



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