



THE MESSENGER



Gladbrook Methodist Church

August 2026

AD COUNCIL MEETING will hold its next meeting on August 24 @7:00pm. Please have any agenda items to Dana by August 21 by 2pm.



Sunday School will begin in September. For more information contact Pastor Gideon or Nancy Keiser.



The Gladbrook Methodist Women in partnership with **Rexanna Millard and Peace Church** will hold a free school supplies shopping day at the Methodist Church on Saturday, August 1st beginning at 9am until 12pm.

Families of preschoolers to 6th graders are invited to “shop” for their school supplies at no cost to them, and enjoy either breakfast or a free lunch on us.

We may not have every item each family needs but our goal is to help families obtain the items their children need to have a successful school year.

Our next meeting: August 20th @ 9:30am
Lesson and devotional– Deb Quisberg



August 10th 4-6pm

August 24th 4-6pm

The local Food Pantry is open to anyone in need. We are open to the public the second and fourth Mondays of every month from 4-6pm.

Or at other times due to an emergency, by calling Dana @ 641-750-2219.

Items needed in the food pantry

The food pantry is in need of donations of...

Canned veggies
canned fruit,
flour,
sugar,
baking soda,
corn starch,
cake mixes,
muffin mixes,
jelly,
crackers of any kind,
breakfast bars,
toilet paper,
paper towels,
dish soap and laundry soap.

“It Just Happens!”

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

-(Psalm 32:8)-

Historians have pointed out some interesting parallels between two American presidents. Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy, who were exactly 100 years apart. Both were deeply involved in civil rights issues; both were assassinated on a Friday in the presence of their wives; both lost a son while they were living in the White House. Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theater, Kennedy was killed riding in a Ford vehicle, and both men were succeeded by individuals whose names were Johnson, born exactly 100 years apart.

Because of the natural laws that God put into effect, certain things can be predicted according to what scientists define as the laws of probability. For example, if twenty-three people are selected at random, the chances are at least one in two that two of them will have the same birthday.

Psychiatrist Carl Jung spent a lifetime collecting background on rare phenomena which just can't be explained. In an essay he wrote in 1952, he contended that “coincidences occur much more frequently than probability theories would predict.” He described it as “synchronicity.”

Can we explain all such things as coincidences or by using a term we often hear: **“It just happens!”**?

Long ago, William Shakespear commented, **“There is a divinity that shapes our ends, rough hew them how we will.”** For individual who is committed to the truth of God's Word, there is a guidance that goes beyond coincidence or chance. Known as the *providence of God*, it is certainly that for the child of God, there is a force that provides guidance and, at times, direction in ways that we cannot fathom. It is the sure hand of God that guides and sometimes overrides our decisions and our own personal will. To Isaiah, long ago God said, **“... I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.”**

Viewing life as an intricate game of chance or fate or **“It just happens,”** often leaves you with the feeling that you are at the mercy of odds that are not in your favor. But viewing life from the perspective of the Bible makes us see the strong but sure hand of God guiding not only the affairs of our world, but our personal lives as well, when we become the children of God.

The great promises of God regarding guidance are there for us as His children. Remember what John said in John 1:12, **“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God....”** In the original text it says, **“He gave authority and power to become children of God....”**

Given authority and power to become children of God means that God can say with power and authority, **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you” (Psalm 32:8).**

For those who are God's children, there is no such thing as *chance or fate or “it just happens!”* But there is the loving guidance of a Heavenly Father. There is never a coincidence-only an incidence wrought by the Hand of the Almighty.

I hope you are enjoying your summer.

Pastor Gideon



JESUS TEACHING HOW TO PRAY

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:

Lucy DeWitt, Larry Pieper, Alannah McHenry, Kari Groth, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Dale Haack, Stacey Stover (Dana Brown's friend).

KIDS' CLUB

Gladbrook Community Kids' Club invites children (kids) in 2nd, 3rd or 4th grades in the Gladbrook area to participate in Kids' Club.

Kids' Club meets monthly after school from September through April at Gladbrook Methodist church or Peace UCC church and is open to all 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders in the community.

For details, please follow Facebook page:

**Gladbrook Community
Kids' Club**



Farmers Market has begun!

We are meeting on Wednesday evenings starting at 5pm until 7 pm.

"Like" our Facebook page for weekly updates for when the freshest produce will be available in our church parking lot.

Anyone who has something to sell in a farmers market/ vendors fair format is welcome. There is no charge to become a vendor.

Contact Dana Brown @ 750-2219 for more information.

Facebook: Gladbrook Farmer's Market for weekly updates

Lectionary Readings for the Month

August 2, 2026

Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

August 9, 2026

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33

August 16, 2026

Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

August 23, 2026

Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

August 30, 2026

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28

Psalm 119:105

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



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. **August 5th** 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.



1 Bob Knaack
 1 Erin Murty
 1 Kevin Williams
 2 Doug Bruene
 6 Emily Putney
 9 Corrine Jensen
 10 Joan Appelgate
 12 Janell Gienger
 14 Cael Carlson
 16 Carolyn Anker
 16 Samantha DeWitt
 18 Steve Keiser
 21 Bonnie Murty
 24 Bob Murty
 25 Kathy Herink
 27 Brianna Strohbehn
 30 Dan DeWitt



4 Cornell & Cathy
 Gethmann
 15 Steve & Marcia Koester
 19 Larry & Corrine Jensen
 20 Dave & JoAnn Ruopp
 26 Bob & Marcy Knaack
 27 Paul & Avriel Koester
 27 Don & Carolyn Anker
 29 Dan & Samantha DeWitt



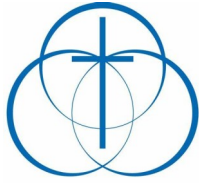
Aug. 2 Nancy Keiser & Steve Keiser
 Aug. 9 Duane & Kari Groth
 Aug. 16 Phil & Kyle Koester
 Aug. 23 Paul & Avriel Koester
 Aug. 30 Mike & Barb DeWitt
 Sept. 6 Mandy Koester & Austin Gehring
 Sept. 13 Maria Soto
 Sept. 20 Cornell & Cathy Gethmann
 Sept. 27 Caleb & Alannah McHenry family
 Oct. 4 Ron & Holly Dudley
 Oct. 11 Nancy & Steve Keiser
 Oct. 18 Mark Lowry & Kay Lowry
 Oct. 25 Ruth Lamca, Nina & Danny Wadsworth
 Nov. 1 Kevin & BJ Williams
 Nov. 8 John & Emily Putney
 Nov. 15 Jim & Deb Quisberg
 Nov. 22 Steve & Marcia Koester
 Nov. 29 Jeff & Cheryl Bruene
 Dec. 6 Al & Janell Gienger
 Dec. 13 Larry Pieper & Kristi Carlson family
 Dec. 20 Steve & Erin Murty
 Dec. 27 Logan & Emma Koester



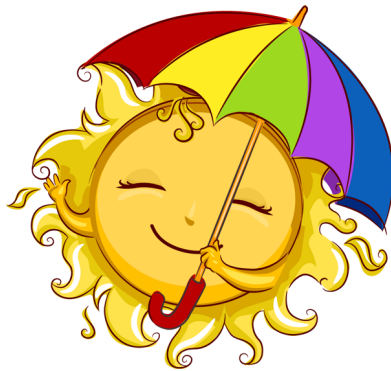
For your participation in our church activities during the month of July

Ushers, Acolytes, Projectionists,
 Liturgists, Organists, Singers,
 Committee Leaders & Members,
 Communion Stewards, All those that
 work tirelessly behind the scenes to
 make our church a special place.

Pastor Gideon



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



AUGUST 2026 WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

Aug. 2 Tate Koester
Aug. 9 Cade DeWitt
Aug. 16 Micheal McHenry
Aug. 23 Charlette Bruene
Aug. 30 Codi DeWitt

GREETERS

Aug. 2 Nancy Keiser & Steve Keiser
Aug. 9 Duane & Kari Groth
Aug. 16 Phil & Kyle Koester
Aug. 23 Paul & Avriel Koester
Aug. 30 Mike & Barb DeWitt

WORSHIP LEADERS

Aug. 2 Carolyn Moe
Aug. 9 Dave Koester
Aug. 16 Kevin Williams
Aug. 23 Beth Koester
Aug. 30 Roger Luehring

PROJECTION

Aug. 2 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Aug. 9 Roger Luehring
Aug. 16 Steve Moe
Aug. 23 Steve Moe
Aug. 30 Dave Koester

ORGANIST

Aug. 2 Ann Vibbard
Aug. 9 Sam DeWitt
Aug. 16 Ann Vibbard
Aug. 23 Sam DeWitt
Aug. 30 Sam DeWitt

COMMUNION STEWARDS

August 2- Marcia Koester & Barb DeWitt

Messenger

Published monthly by the
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 10:00-2:00 PM
Dana Brown is the Admin. Asst.
Her office hours are normally
9-12 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:
gladbrookmethoist@windstream.net
Website: gladbrookmethodist.org