

THE MESSENGER

Gladbrook Methodist Church

September 2026



Sunday School Begins Sept. 13th, 2026!!

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. 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. 14th & 28th

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 KIDS' CLUB** Facebook page for updates.

Senior Luncheon- Chapel Church will be hosting the senior luncheon

on Friday, Sept. 11th 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.



"Is God On Your Side"

"...Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, "Who is on the Lord's side? Come to me."

And all the sons of Levi gathered around him."

-Exodus 32:26-

WHEN THE UNITED STATES divided over the slavery issue, Abraham Lincoln was asked if God was on his side. Lincoln candidly replied that he didn't know if God on *his* side, but he said it made a great deal of difference whether we are on *God's* side. There is a great deal of comfort in thinking that *God is on our side*. But the question really is, **"Am I on God's side?"** We need to ask, **"is what I am doing, or what I intend to do, consistent with what God wants me to do?"**

The fact remains that anytime I do that which is contrary to what God wants, I am separated from the Almighty and am no longer on His side. One of the games we play is pretending we are doing God's will when we know we are actually disobedient. People say things like, **"God can't expect me to be miserable in the marriage I'm in. After all, God wants us happy, doesn't He?"**

Making sure that you are on God's side makes you much more comfortable as you wield the sword in the battles of life. A long time ago, when Moses received the Law, a confrontation took place between God and His people who had been disobedient at Mt. Sinai. Coming down the mount, Moses heard the voices of singing and saw the golden calf the people were worshipping. In anger he destroyed the image and confronted Aaron, who had created the idol. Aaron explained that the gold jewelry from the people and "threw it into the fire," and he said, "out came this calf." Who would believe an unlikely story like that?

No wonder Moses confronted the religious leaders and cried out, ***"Who is on the Lord's side? Come to me."*** (Exodus 32:26). The Levites responded and stood with Moses who stood on God's side.

Are you on God's side? There is a great deal to be said for standing where God stands. It means that though you may lose the skirmish, you ultimately win the battle. Meanwhile, peace fills your heart, knowing that God cares about you and will not forget you as His child.

How do you know whether or not you are on God's side? That's where knowledge of the Word of God comes into the picture. God clearly spells out in the Bible the life principles that we need to find happiness and fulfillment. We must never, under any set of circumstances, make ourselves think that God is on our side when we violate these principles.

Prayerfully yours,
Pastor Gideon Gallo



Administrative Council Minutes

May 25, 2026

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

Susie led the devotion, and discipleship moments were shared. The April minutes were read and approved, with Dave making the motion and Grant seconding it.

During the treasurer's report, Roger reported the bank account balances are slowly declining. Bills are rising but contributions remain the same. There is a CD maturing soon. We need to decide if we want to renew or add the balance to the checking account.

Finance Committee – No report was given.

Food Pantry - A list of needed items was shared. The pantry consistently serves 15 to 18 people each month.

Gladbrook Methodist Women – Dana reported in August, the group will launch another mission, School Shopping Day, modeled after Kids' Shopping Day in December. This event will provide school supplies for children in the community. We are hoping to partner with Peace Church on this project.

Good Samaritan Fund – Nothing new to report.

Memorial – Cheryl reported the account balances.

Mission Outreach – No report given.

Pastoral Report – No report given.

SPPRC –Dave reported he will be the guest preacher on May 31 and Kevin will be the guest preacher June 21 while the pastor is away on vacation.

Technology – Steve reported that a monitor is needed for the Worship Leaders lectern. He has a TV that could be used. It was decided a bracket should be used to attach the TV. Then a cord and a splitter could be used to make the system work.

Trustees – No report given

Other Business – 1) None at this time

Joys & Concerns – **Joys:** 1) Carolyn would like to invite everyone to attend Sunday Evening Bible Study.
2) Roger spoke about their recent trip to Greece.

Concerns: 1) Pray for comfort and healing for Paul and Avriel as they deal with their health issues.
2) Pray for the Gallo family as they are travelling on vacation.

Kevin closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Meeting: August 24, 2026

Devotions: Dave Koester

Respectfully 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:

Harold McKinney, Lucy DeWitt, Larry Pieper, Alannah McHenry, Kari Groth, Janell Gienger, George & Galene Groves, Dale Haack, Stacey Stover (Dana Brown's friend), Lewis Vulk (Joan Surber's grandson), the family of Becky Klinefelter on her passing.



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 6, 2026

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20

September 13, 2026

Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114
Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

September 20, 2026

Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16

September 27, 2026

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

Psalm 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. 4 Kevin & BJ Williams
- Oct. 11 Nancy & Steve Keiser
- Oct. 18 Mark Lowry & Kay Lowry
- Oct. 25 Ruth Lamca, Nina & Danny Wadsworth
- Nov. 1 Ron & Holly Dudley
- 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
- Dec. 20 Steve & Erin Murty
- Dec. 27 Logan & Emma Koester



Crop Walk Sun., Oct. 4

All ages welcome!

The Chapel Church will be hosting this year.

The route of the walk will be announced once it is finalized.

The Northwest Tama County Ministerial Association is planning its 2026 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. 4th.

Worship Leaders October—December

Oct.4 Roger Luehring
Oct. 11 Carolyn Moe
Oct. 18 Dave Koester
Oct. 25 Kevin Williams
Nov. 1 Beth Koester
Nov. 8 Roger Luehring
Nov. 15 Carolyn Moe
Nov. 22 Dave Koester **Thanksgiving Sunday**
Nov. 29 Kevin Williams
Dec. 6 Beth Koester
Dec. 13 Roger Luehring
Dec. 20 Carolyn Moe
Dec. 24 Dave Koester **Evening service**
Dec. 27 Kevin Williams

Acolytes October—December

Oct. 4 Charlette Bruene
Oct. 11 Micheal McHenry
Oct. 18 Codi DeWitt
Oct. 25 Clay Koester
Nov. 1 Micheal McHenry
Nov. 8 Cade DeWitt
Nov. 15 Charlette Bruene
Nov. 22 Tate Koester
Nov. 29 Codi DeWitt
Dec. 6 Clay Koester
Dec. 13 Cade DeWitt
Dec. 20 Micheal McHenry
Dec. 27 Tate Koester

Communion Stewards:

First Sunday of the month.

This may change as directed by the Pastor.

Oct 4- Scott & Kathy Vavroch

Nov 1- Cheryl Bruene & Kay Lowry

Nov 22-Marcia Koester & Barb DeWitt

Dec 6- Logan & Emma Koester

Dec 24- Scott & Kathy Vavroch

Ushers October—December

Oct. 4 Kevin & BJ Williams
Oct. 11 Nancy & Steve Keiser
Oct. 18 Mark Lowry & Kay Lowry
Oct. 25 Ruth Lamca, Nina & Danny Wadsworth
Nov. 1 Ron & Holly Dudley
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
Dec. 20 Steve & Erin Murty
Dec. 27 Logan & Emma Koester

Projectionists October—December

Oct. 4 Jhona Lynn Gallo
Oct. 11 Joan Appelgate
Oct. 18 Joan Appelgate
Oct. 25 Dave Koester
Nov. 1 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Nov. 8 Dave Koester
Nov. 15 Steve Moe
Nov. 22 Steve Moe
Nov. 29 Roger Luehring
Dec. 6 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Dec. 13 Roger Luehring
Dec. 20 Kyle Koester
Dec. 27 Joan Appelgate

We greatly appreciate your service
to your church family.



The Gladbrook Methodist Messenger
715 Lincoln Street
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Gladbrook, Iowa 50635



SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

Sept. 6 Clay Koester
Sept. 13 Micheal McHenry
Sept. 20 Tate Koester
Sept. 27 Cade DeWitt

WORSHIP LEADERS

Sept. 6 Carolyn Moe
Sept. 13 Dave Koester
Sept. 20 Kevin Williams
Sept. 27 Beth Koester

GREETERS

Sept. 6 Mandy Koester & Austin Gehring
Sept. 13 Maria Soto
Sept. 20 Cornell & Cathy Gethmann
Sept. 27 Caleb & Alannah McHenry family

COMMUNION STEWARDS

September 6—
Logan & Emma Koester

PROJECTION

Sept. 6 Jhona Lyn Gallo
Sept. 13 Kyle Koester
Sept. 20 Roger Luehring
Sept. 27 Kyle Koester

ORGANIST

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

The Messenger

Published monthly by the
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