



Gull Lake United Methodist Church

8640 Gull Road, Richland, MI 49083
(269)629-5137 www.gulllakeumc.org

APRIL 2024

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April Sermons & Scripture

"I Believe..."

Apr. 7, "Stories of Life"

John 20: 19-31

Communion

Apr. 14, "When We Were Campers..."

Luke 24: 36-48

Apr. 21, "Creation Sings!"

John 10: 11-18

Apr. 28, "Anyone Can Serve"

John 15: 1-8

The Peace of Christ Be with You All,

Hello everyone, and Happy April! The seasons of Easter and Spring are upon us, and we give thanks for all the blessings of new life, which God promises not only now but at all times of the year!

This month, we hope you will join us for special Sunday events happening EVERY week, including:

-Sunday, April 7th: Please join us for a Town Hall meeting in the sanctuary after worship for an update on our roof fundraising campaign. Our fundraising team will give a presentation about the history of the roof, the bidding process for repairs, and our strategy for continued fundraising efforts to pay for it. Hope to see you all AFTER worship for this important gathering.

-Sunday, April 14th: Please join us at 10am for Camp Sunday! We will sing special camp songs and share stories about camp experiences from young and old. If you have questions about our camping ministry, we invite you to contact our new camping coordinators, Beth Antias and Kelly McLeod!

-Sunday, April 21st: Please join us again this year for "Creation Sings," a medley of nature and creation-themed hymns from the United Methodist tradition. Be ready to sing enthusiastically and loudly, and Happy Earth Week to all! We will also decorate garden rocks during this year's service, so kids and parents, make sure you join us with your creativity ready!

-Sunday, April 28th: Please join us at 10am for a brief prayer service blessing our Wesley Woods volunteers, then carpool with us over to Wesley Woods camp (1700 Clear Lake St, Downing, MI 49050) for a worship service and day of volunteering! There will be work for all ages to do at the camp, and we encourage all members to join us for the whole day.

Whatever you do with us this month, whether on a Sunday or during the week, we hope God blesses you with all the hope and restoration of Easter. May the Life of Christ always restore you and bring you God's love. Hope to see everyone in church!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Boley



GULL LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8640 Gull Rd. Richland, MI 49083

269-629-5137

18 March 2024

Dear Members and Friends of Gull Lake United Methodist Church:

As Chair of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, I wish to announce the appointment of our pastor, Ian Boley, to Plymouth First United Methodist Church, effective on 1 July 2024. This appointment has been made by our Bishop David Alan Bard, in consultation with the Michigan Conference Cabinet of The United Methodist Church. The decision to appoint Pastor Ian to Plymouth First United Methodist Church occurred after considerable discernment, prayer, and discussion. Pastor Ian has agreed to accept the appointment.

In the coming weeks and months, we will have the opportunity to express our appreciation for Pastor Ian's ministry in our midst. There will be time to say our goodbyes and time to begin planning for the person whom God will send to become our new pastor.

As United Methodists, we affirm with faithful understanding that we, the church, are the body of Christ. It is Christ's sustaining Spirit that will guide us in the days ahead. Let us remember to claim our faith in God's presence during this time of transition.

The Michigan Conference Cabinet will be meeting with Bishop Bard in the days and weeks ahead to discern the appointment of our new pastor. Please be in prayer for them and also for Pastor Ian and his family as they prepare for the changes ahead.

In Christ's Service,

Joan Bosserd-Schroeder, Staff-Parish Relations Chairperson
Gull Lake United Methodist Church



CAMPERS OF ALL AGES!

SAVE \$25 BY SIGNING UP FOR CAMP **BEFORE APRIL 30.**

There are camps for all ages and interests. There are camps for tent campers, trailer campers, retreat centers, platform camping, different interests.... No one is ever too old for camp.

M I S S I O N S

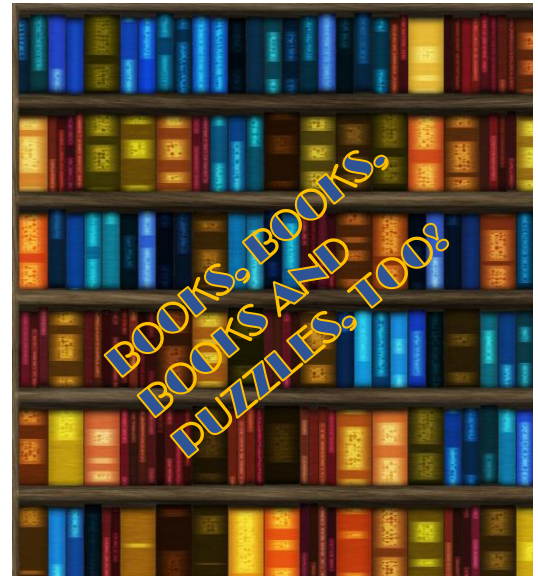
Richland Mobile Home

Our request for the mobile home park in April is **Spaghetti Sauce and Spaghetti**. Please leave your donations on the cart in the Narthex. If you prefer that we do your shopping for you, just leave your dollars in the donation box on the cart.



For our Monthly Mission:

Our monthly mission in April is **Water for Liberia**. Clean and safe drinking water and sanitation are human rights issues that need urgent attention in rural Liberia. Most residents are drinking from unsafe sources of water and do not have access to standard toilet facilities. As a result, water-borne diseases are common. Our gifts will help communities in construction of wells and proper toilet facilities.



Books & Puzzles

There are many books and puzzles waiting for you in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to take one home, bring one you've already read/solved and letting someone else take a crack at it.

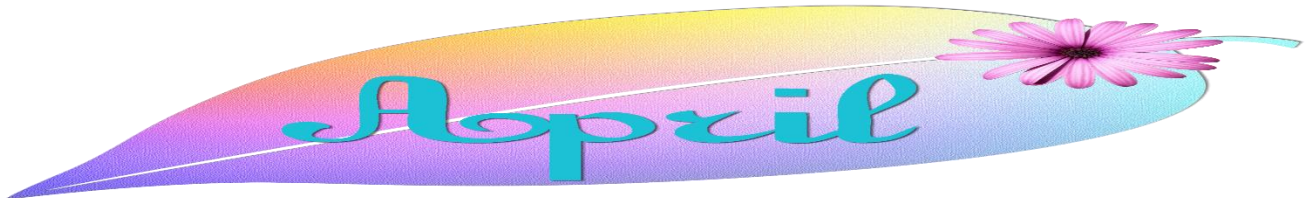
Missions team is planning a local mission trip for our youth to the Richland mobile home park. We will be **painting** the speed bumps, **prepping** and **planting** the sign area, and **power-washing** the front of the storage building. All youth, 5th grade and up, are invited to join us on Saturdays, **April 13** and/or **May 4**, from 1 to 3 pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Leslie Schultz (269-629-4048).







YOUTH
MISSION
OPPORTUNITY



April



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|--------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | 9:00A What's Happening? Deadline | 7:30A Liz's 10:00A Care Team 12:30P Bible Study | 9:00A Bulletin Deadline 9:00A Wed. Walkers  | | | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 10:00A Worship, Communion 11:00A Townhall meeting | 9:00A What's Happening? Deadline 6:30P Trustees 6:45P W@W | 7:30A Liz's 9:30A Missions 12:30P Bible Study | 9:00A Bulletin Deadline 9:00A Wed. Walkers 10:00A Finance  | 10:00A ¿¿Puzzling?? | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 10:00A Worship 11:15A Sun. Connections Joyful Noise CAMP SUNDAY | 9:00A What's Happening? Deadline | 7:30A Liz's 10:00A Care Team 12:30P Bible Study 6:30P Gov. Board | 9:00A Bulletin Deadline 9:00A Wed. Walkers  | 3:00P Trailblazer deadline | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 10:00A Worship @ WW Camp 11:15A Sun. Connection Joyful Noise | 9:00A What's Happening? Deadline 6:00P WDT | 7:30A Liz's 12:30P Bible Study | 9:00A Bulletin Deadline 9:00A Wed. Walkers  | 10:00A ¿¿Puzzling?? | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| 10:00A Worship 11:15A Joyful Noise | 9:00A What's Happening? Deadline 6:45P Worship | 7:30A Liz's 12:30P Bible Study | | | | |



From The Chronicles of a Teenage Missionary

Back in the 90's GLUMC had a vibrant Youth Group and every year we went on a Mission Trip, usually to Scranton, PA but also to Henderson, KY, Minneapolis, MN and Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. The following excerpts are from our 1993 trip to Scranton, written by one of the attendees.

9:45 a.m. August 1, 1993

We drove over the Allegheny River. It was a beautiful vision with the green rolling hills dotted with fog and the river running between the hills. Can it get more beautiful than this? I think not!

1:15 p.m. August 1, 1993

Mrs. Bowden hits a mailbox while lost in Milton, Pennsylvania.

3:05 p.m. August 2, 1993

We see our first Scranton sign. We are over two hours late because of construction and the difference between the actual speed and Mrs. Worgess' predicted speed.

9:45 a.m. August 3, 1993

Our resident fixed us pizza. It was so good! Today my crew opened our paint and found it to be brown instead of gray. We ended up waiting four hours for our paint but we were having fun. We almost finished the first coat on the front side of the house. We really need another group to help us finish!

To be continued...

2024 Women at the Well

Missing are Nancy Wenke and Peg Iler



WOMEN OF GLUMC FAMILY: Join **Women at the Well** in 2024 for a study of *The Gospel of John: Finding Identity and Purpose*

The Group will meet the second Monday of each month at 6:45 pm in the education wing of the church. You will need the Bible of your choice and a Participant Guide. Each session will include a video presentation and discussion utilizing the participant guide, as well as rich conversation and community. There will be reading and some at-home activities to complete between sessions. See Karen Morse for more information, to answer any questions or if you need help getting a book. 269-303-3562

Sunday Bake Sale!

When: April 7, 2024

Where: Town Hall Meeting

Location: Fellowship Hall

Why: RAISE THE ROOF FUND!

Refreshments will be individually wrapped for purchase/donation to the roof fund. Come with your dollars and purchase more than one!



SAVE THE DATE FOR

RAISING THE ROOF!

Town Hall Meeting

April 7, 2024

Directly following worship in Fellowship Hall!

Do you have questions? Come and get answers!

Do you have fund raising ideas? Come and share!

This is a family affair! EVERYONE is welcome!

\$50K in 90 days!

\$\$ Clock starts April 1st!

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Unified Giving | \$12,882 |
| Expenses | \$16,268 |

Monthly amount needed to cover budget \$18,342.

We currently have a deficit of \$3,386 expenses vs unified giving year to date. Some expenses, where appropriate, were covered by designated funds. Our giving remains below what is needed to cover our expenses.

Anyone wanting to give to Gull Lake United Methodist Church through our online giving program, Vanco, can use the QR code included in the TrailBlazer, or click on the "Give" tab on the church website. The options have been recently updated to include Memorials and Roof Fund. If you have any questions, please call me at the church, 269.629.5137, or email me at ediefinancialglumc@gmail.com. I am happy to help!

Eddie
Finance Secretary



Hello Gull Lake!

Joe and I are reminded of the song lyrics, "I am the church, you are the church. We are the church together". Yes, we are the church together and together we have much to be thankful for and much to accomplish. The next few months will require everyone to pull together to set our path for the future. Please prayerfully consider your contribution of time talent and financial support in the following areas:

On March 17, Joan Bosserd-Schroeder as Chair of our SPRC committee, announced the appointment of Pastor Ian to First United Methodist Church Plymouth. Pastor Ian will be with us through mid-June. So, let's pull together to show Ian, Jessica, Amy and Eliza our love and support. Watch for ways in which you can be involved.

As Joan noted, our District Superintendent will be working with the Bishop and Cabinet to fill our open pastoral position. The Governance Board has reviewed our financial status and recommended to this team they consider a part-time pastor for us. Please keep these folks in your prayers as they discern our next pastor and when announced we'll need your love and support in the welcome of our new pastor. Again, watch for ways to be involved.

Another opportunity for your participation is in the support of our "Raise the Roof" Campaign. Please plan to attend the kickoff on April 7 and prayerfully consider how you can support this initiative.

Lastly, your continued support of our general fund is needed. It is this fund that pays our monthly expenses, salaries and supports our mission work.

Yes, we are the church together and together we can accomplish much!

Hope and Peace to all!

Peggy Iler and Joe Alberding, Governance Board Interim Co-Chairs



Visual verification
of damage to roof
at
8640 Gull Road



What's Stewing at GLUMC?



NEW – CARE TEAM Soup Ministry

Your Care Team strives to find several avenues to minister to the congregants of this congregation. We recently decided to have a soup making day, in which we prepared two kinds of soup, dished them into individual disposable soup cups, and stored them in our home freezers and church freezer for a quick delivery. Many times, we hear of someone's need in between meeting times. We hope by trying this *new ministry*, we can quickly deliver a quick meal for someone returning home from surgery, suffering from a loss, or just a stressful time.

YOU also can help! Please notify one of the Care Team members if you or someone you know from our congregation may need this ministry. We do not intend to provide service outside of our congregation, as that is not the focus of the Care Team. The Care Team's focus is to minister to our congregation. The Mission Team's focus is outside of our congregation.

Care Team Members:

Lori Morrett-269-629-5705
Sue Paulson-269-370-4679
Daphne Kreuzer-269-685-4088
Nancy Wenke-269-760-6959

Ted Dietz-269-370-6251
Sue Mains-269-599-4167
Sue Worgess-269-579-4416
Pastor Ian-989-400-1268



I'm happy to announce that **Kelly McLeod and Beth Antías** have agreed to serve as **Co-chairs of our Camping Ministry** beginning with Camp Sunday set for April 14th! I see a great opportunity for collaboration and a great match of skill sets and passion for the camp experience.

Please join us in thanking **Mona Bowden**, who chose to step away after years of dedicated service to this vital ministry for our children and youth. She has set a fine example to build upon.

I believe UMC Camping is a shared value we can rally around to help navigate whatever challenges arise!

Love in the Spirit!
Craig Schroeder



Adult Sunday Connections

“The Methodist Movement in America Brought to Life”

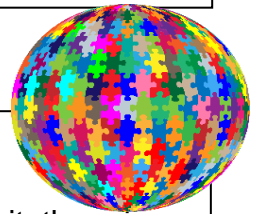
Led by Pastor John Boley in Hamill Hall at GLUMC Sundays at 11:15.



Did you know that we are living right now in a monumental moment of the Methodist Movement in America? We are in a dynamic time – this is our moment in history. But the truth is that the Methodist Movement has always been dynamic, both in England and America!

John Boley will lead this class on the Methodist Movement in America for five weeks beginning on Sunday, April 14th. This will be a thorough survey, with focus on historical, theological, prophetic, cultural, and organizational aspects of this Movement. It will point to today’s dynamic moment and the historical momentum that brought the Methodist Movement to Kalamazoo. This is especially timely with the 2024 UM Church General Conference concluding in early May. All are invited for coffee and discussion.

The dates of the five sessions are as follows: April 14, April 21, May 5, May 12, and May 19.



? ? PUZZLING ? ?

If you like putting together jigsaw puzzles but would like to socialize while doing it, there is a group for you. We meet every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month in the Creating for the Sun room at GLUMC. Join us on April 11th and 25th at 10:00A. Arrive when convenient, stay as long as you’d like.



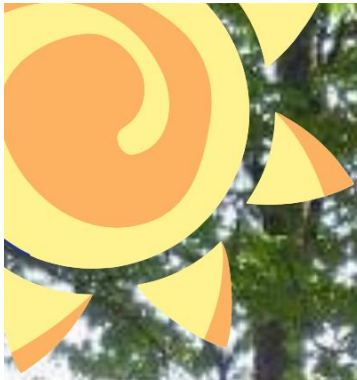
Cards with addressed envelopes for the current Showeree may be found on the refreshment table each week.

Melvin and Mary Lou are in two separate rooms, please send two separate cards.

If you no longer wish to receive the Trailblazer or have a change of email, please notify Kelly in the office, 629-5137.

Please let me know if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect. We want to help you celebrate your happy events and don’t want to get it wrong!

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAN FOR THE SUMMER!!!



**Wesley
Woods**

2024 CAMP SCHEDULE

WINTER BLAST FEBRUARY 9 - 10

SENIOR HIGH CAMP - JUNE 16-22

MULTI-AGE CAMP - JUNE 23-29

GRAND CAMP - JULY 1-3

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP - JULY 7-13

ELEMENTARY 1 CAMP - JULY 21-27

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CAMP - JULY 21-27

ELEMENTARY 2 CAMP - JULY 28-AUG. 3

MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTS CAMP - JULY 28-AUG. 3

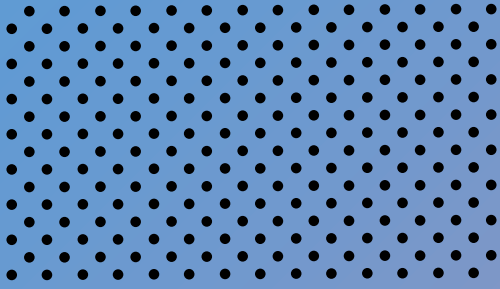
COST WILL BE \$450 PER WEEKLONG EVENT

EARLY BIRD WILL BE \$425

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MONA BOWDEN :

320-260-4961





YOUTH MISSION OPPORTUNITY

with the RICHLAND COMMUNITY

GLUMC would like to extend an invitation to all youth of the congregations in the Richland area to perform a mission project on a monthly (bimonthly, semi-monthly, quarterly, semi-annually?) basis. Our first project is to be Painting, Planting and Power-washing of the community areas in the Richland Mobile Home Park. Please contact Leslie Schultz from GLUMC @ 269-629-4048 or schu75@comcast.net if interested or with questions.

All Youth
5th grade and up

April 13 and May 4, 1-3 pm



Happy Anniversary

APRIL

- 5th Ian Boley
- 7th Jerry Mom
- 10th Jim Weyhmiller
- 13th Julie Foster
- 14th Don Paulson
- 17th Leslie Schultz
- 20th Mona Bowden
- 20th Edith Lane
- 20th Tifani Dykstra
- 21st Ryleigh Simpson
- 28th Jo Chamberlin
- 30th Sue Mains
- 30th Craig Schroeder

- 18th Jim & Eileen Dolbee
- 21st John & Mona Bowden

LOST 'N' FOUND

Items will be collected for three months and at the end of the quarter be given to charity. Look for lost items until the end of **June**.

Found:
Lost: Nothing at this time



Give online at
UMCAMPING.ORG/DONATE



GLUMC Website



Giving

Shortcuts to information or giving.



YouTube



Instagram



Twitter



Facebook



Facebook Family

From the Editor:

Articles for inclusion in the monthly Trailblazer are due the third Thursday of each month by 3:00 p.m.

Your article may be edited for punctuation, spelling and occasionally, grammar or syntax, space, or just to make it more easily understood.

Make sure to include: Who, What, Where, When, Cost, Contact person and phone number.

Please submit to:
trailblazer@glumc@gmail.com

Email changes go to the Office Manager at address below.

Office Manager:

Kelly McLeod
Monday-Friday, 9A-1:00P
gulllake@glumc@gmail.com
629-5137 or 269.303.1324

Financial Manager

Edith Lane
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9A-1:00P
edlefinancial@glumc@gmail.com
629-5137 or 269.569.6334

Pastor

Ian Boley
Office Hours: Sunday 9A-12P and Monday 12-5P; Tuesday, Wednesday, 10A-3P; Thursday 12-5P; Friday 10-3P from home.

Ministry Hours: Monday 9A-12P, Tuesday & Wednesday 3-6P, Thursday 9-12P.

629-5137 or 989.400.1268

Trailblazer

Leslie Schultz
3rd Thursday each month, 3:00P
trailblazer@glumc@gmail.com
629-4048

This 'N That

¿ ¿ Puzzling??



uzzling?? Meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, 10:00a.m. in Creating for the Son room. Next meetings are April 11th and 25th.

Joyful Noisemakers



oyful Noisemakers will meet on ... at 11:15 a.m. every Sunday following the worship service. All children's voices needed!



Bible Study



ible Study is on Tuesdays and begins @ 12:30 pm @ GLUMC, St. John Library. We are reading the book of Mark together.

Sunday Connections



unday Connections follows church Sundays in Hamill Hall. We will be discussing Methodist Movement in America. See you there.

Wednesday Walkers



ednesday Walkers meet every week @ 9:00 am @ the Richland Township Park. Please join us!



Women at the Well



omen at the Well meet on the second Monday of each month in the Youth Room at GLUMC. This month we meet on April 8th @ 6:45 pm.



Breakfast at Liz's on Tuesday's at 7:30 AM. We'd love for you to join us.



Gull Lake United Methodist Church

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Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We are energized by faith – Engaged to grow – Empowered to make a difference.