

# THE CLARION

# APRIL 2026

## CLARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Making Disciples of Jesus by Helping People Know God,  
Grow in Faith, and Share Christ's Love



### Holy Week Schedule



**April 2 – 6 pm, Maundy Thursday,  
HERE AT CLARE UMC**



**April 3 – 6 pm, Good Friday,  
HERE AT CLARE UMC**



**April 4 – EASTER SUNDAY  
8:30 am, SUNRISE SERVICE**

*Easter Breakfast*

**WE WILL HAVE A LIGHT BREAKFAST  
BETWEEN SERVICES  
10:00 am, WORSHIP**



**FOLLOWING WORSHIP  
EASTER EGG HUNT**



**Every Easter we provide an  
Easter flowers to our shut-  
ins. This year we received  
donations for the flowers to**

**our shut-ins from the following:**

**In Loving Memory:**

**Harold & Dorothy Brooks**

**Richard & Mary Brooks (my grandparents)**

**Walter & Dora Hess (my grandparents)**

**From Tracey Brooks & family**

**Dorsey Mussell, given by his wife, Betty**

**Ken & Carrie Broughton, given by their daughter**

**Connie McGregor**

**In Memory of Clay Shoemaker, given by Ellen Fuller**

**In Memory of Rhea Shoemaker, given by Ellen Fuller**

**In Memory of Carol Shoemaker, given by Ellen Fuller**

**In Memory of Kristine Zelenik, given by Ellen Fuller**

**In Memory of Mary Ballor, given by Ellen Fuller**

### CLARE UMC STAFF AND SCHEDULE

**Pastor:**

***Pastor Brian Comiskey***

***[pastorbrianc@clareumc.org](mailto:pastorbrianc@clareumc.org)***

***517-215-8637***

**Leadership Team Chair:**

***Mary Ann Shurlow Scott***

**Administrative Assistant:**

***Judy Bailey: [jbailey@clareumc.org](mailto:jbailey@clareumc.org)***

**Music Director: Tracy Lubs**

**Clare UMC Preschool**

**and Child Care Center**

**Director: Terri Banasak: [terrib@clareumc.org](mailto:terrib@clareumc.org)**

**phone: 989-386-4815**

**Church Office Hours**

**Church Office phone: 989- 386-2591**

**10:00 - noon & 1-4:00 p.m.**

**Monday – Friday**

**Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School 9 a.m.**

**DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS? FEEL FREE TO  
EMAIL OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM EMAILS:**

**Larry Wyman Jr. : [ldwyman@charter.net](mailto:ldwyman@charter.net)**

**MaryAnn Shurlow Scott:**

**[maryannshurlow@gmail.com](mailto:maryannshurlow@gmail.com)**

**Pastor Brian Comiskey :**

**[pastorbrianc@clareumc.org](mailto:pastorbrianc@clareumc.org)**

**Tracy Brooks: [trbrooks8@yahoo.com](mailto:trbrooks8@yahoo.com)**

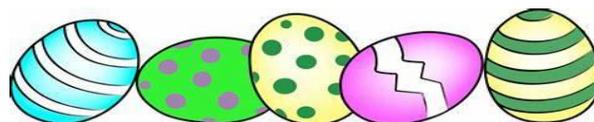
**Elvis Denton: [elvis@toast.net](mailto:elvis@toast.net)**

**Connie McGregor: [conniemcgregor3@gmail.com](mailto:conniemcgregor3@gmail.com)**

**Mary Lee: [mary\\_lee10@hotmail.com](mailto:mary_lee10@hotmail.com)**

**Macy Tyler: [macytyler@rocketmail.com](mailto:macytyler@rocketmail.com)**

**Lenny Wixson: [Lenn.wixson@gmail.com](mailto:Lenn.wixson@gmail.com)**



FROM  
THE  
PASTOR



## *From Pastor Brian's Desk*

Greetings in Christ! In the month of April, we often celebrate a very special holiday. It's called April Fool's Day. Did you think I was going to say Easter? April Fools! The tradition of April Fools gives people the chance to pull unexpected gags on friends, family and even strangers. Every year, the people of the



church celebrate the most unexpected event the world has ever seen, and I'm sure many thought it really was a trick, or some kind of deception. But, it was not! It was the triumph of life over death, hope over despair, and light over darkness...the greatest victory in the history of the world, the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

At the time, it seemed that Jesus was the only one who knew the resurrection was going to occur, although he tried to tell his disciples. As amazing as it sounds to us, the disciples were shocked to learn that Jesus rose again. And even though the resurrection happened in the past, it is not just a historical or theological event. It is a living and very personal truth that continues to transform lives today.

If anyone reading this has heard my testimony, you know that I have struggled with addiction in the past. It is a terrible place to be. It's like being trapped in a cycle that you just can't break out of, sinking deeper and deeper, seemingly with no way out. But thankfully, I was led to the Lord. It wasn't easy. There were setbacks along the way, but over time, I began to experience the resurrection power of Christ in my life. It truly is like chains that once held me down were broken, and the feeling you get when you truly feel free is like no other. But it was never by own strength. It was through the life-changing power of the risen Christ.

Easter reminds us that there is no addiction, no struggle too great for God's redeeming love. Through His resurrection, Jesus demonstrated that no matter how deep our sorrow, no matter how dark our trials, there is always hope. He conquered the grave, and in doing so, He offers us the same victory. Easter invites us to step into a new reality, where despair doesn't have the final word, and where God's power can bring renewal to even the most broken places in our lives.

Peace and blessings always!

Pastor Brian

## **HAPPY EASTER FROM CHIPPY**



**Happy Spring! Happy Easter!**

**Happy is the key word here.**

**My mom & I ran across this recipe to add life to our years and thought we would like to share this with all of you:**

**1 part prayer**

**1 part awe**

**1 part happiness and joy**

**1 part Christian fellowship**

**2 parts thankfulness**

**2 parts forgiveness (sorry)**

**3 parts love**

**10 parts love of God, Jesus and Holy Spirit**

**1 part humility**

**1 part servanthood**

**Patience as needed**

**Blend according to scripture.**

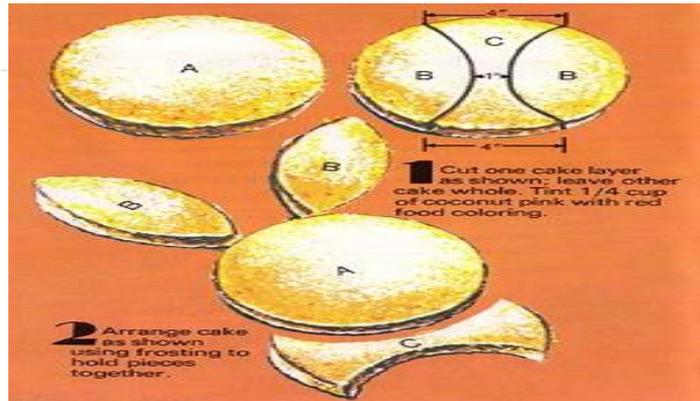




## Bunny proud.

### Ingredients

- 2 Baked 9 inch round cake layers, completely cooled
- Seven Minute Frosting
- 1 pkg (7 oz) flaked coconut, 2 1/2 cups, divided to coat bunny
- Decorations: red or black (shoe string) licorice, gum drops or Jelly Beans for eyes, nose; and bow tie.
- Bake both 9 inch cakes (any favor you wish), white or butter is best, and allow to completely cool.
- Place 1 entire cake to side for bunny face.
- Place stencil down the middle of 1 cake layer cutting around the edges to make ears from each side of stencil (as viewed on picture).
- Place ears at top of bunny face (cake layer). Place remaining bow tie at bottom of bunny cake face.
- Use frosting to 'glue' ears and bow tie to face.
- Use frosting to frost cake all round top and sides.
- Sprinkle thoroughly with flaked coconut.
- Place jelly beans or gum drops in position for eyes and nose.
- Place sliced licorice on face for whiskers.
- Place Jelly Beans on bow tie for decoration.



### Double Boiler (7 Minute) Frosting from Betty Crocker

- 2 egg whites (1/4 cup)  
1-1/2 cups sugar  
1/4 tsp cream of tartar or 1 tbsp light corn syrup  
1/3 cup water  
1 tsp vanilla
- Combine egg whites, sugar, cream of tartar and water in top of double boiler. Beat on high speed 1 minute with electric mixer. Place over boiling water (water should not touch bottom of pan); beat on high speed 7 minutes. Remove pan from boiling water; add vanilla. Beat 2 minutes longer on high speed.
- Fills and frosts two 8- or 9-inch layers or frosts a 13x9-inch cake.



## *In Loving Memory*

**Duffy Doxtader** has been remembered with a memorial to Clare UMC's General Fund from Judy Hubel & Judy Bailey

**John Radcliffe** has been remembered with a memorial gift to Clare UMC's General fund from Judy Bailey and William Wing & family

## **THANK YOU SO MUCH!!**

**A Big Thank you to all who provided items for our Community Dinner and for those who helped serve, washed dishes, helped with clean up or to those who just showed up to have dinner and visit. YOU ARE ALL VERY MUCH APPRECIATED**  
**Judy Bailey & Deb Gloss**

## **A BIG THANK YOU!**

**The phrase is simple and the words are few. But, behind them is a whole lot of APPRECIATION**  
**From Mt. Pleasant**  
**Christian Women's Connection**



- 1: Shirley Miller  
Tom Neff II
- 2: Gail Neff
- 4: Rose Holland  
Marilyn Lovell
- 5: Jacob Hawkins  
Jessica Viers
- 6: Amber Chaffee  
Abby Isaac
- 7: Kim Fleming
- 9: John Seibt  
Tiernan Gallagher  
Autumn Warner
- 12: Kyle Cassiday  
Charlotte Taylor  
Pastor Lane Van
- 14: Jonathon Seibt
- 18: Steve Stark
- 19: Dan Kingsbury
- 20: Ron Kunse
- 22: Lindsey Bradley  
Cami Miller  
Kristine Mussell
- 23: Kaci Graham  
Angela Schlafley
- 24: Kimberley Briggs  
Sara Moser  
Darlyn Turner  
Jerry Witbeck
- 26: Ken Eaton  
Angie (Hopkins) Koboldt  
Kelsey Mater  
Jack Moore
- 29: Wanda(Stanley)Swarts



# CHRISTIAN WOMEN



**“What’s Your Story?”**

**Thursday, April 9, 2026  
11:45 – 1:45 p.m.**

**Special Feature: Style Show**  
*with Diane Boudreau*  
*from Clare, MI and*  
**The Second Story Thrift Store**

**Inspirational Speaker: Lisa Haley,**  
*from West Salem, OH, compares*  
*her rafting accident to life struggles.*  
*She is a young mom who shares*  
*how God’s Grace has carried her*  
*through so many issues in life.*  
**“Surviving Life’s Surprises”**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**All this plus lunch & beverage for**  
**\$ 21.00 at**  
**Cheers Neighborhood Grill**  
**1700 W. High St. (W M20), Mt. Pleasant, MI**

**Reservations are due by April 7<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Edie (989) 463-3287 \* Ruth (989) 492-4199**  
**Lona (989) 387-4808**  
*Or email Lona at [Lonahamilton@yahoo.com](mailto:Lonahamilton@yahoo.com)*



## MOTHER HUBBARD’S CUPBOARD

**IN APRIL: WE WILL BE  
COLLECTING CANNED GOODS  
Corn, Peas, Green Beans, Carrots,  
Black beans, Peaches, Pears,  
Pineapple etc.**

**Would you like to help purchase a plant for our shut-ins in  
honor or memory of someone?**



**By donation until cost is determined**  
**ORDER FORM Due by APRIL 2, 2026**

Name of person to be honored or  
memorialized: \_\_\_\_\_

amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please leave form and check or cash in offering plate or  
church office.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

# SCENES FROM OUR IRISH DANCE



## What Is The Significance Of The Lily On Easter?

*The Easter season is marked with several legends and folklores about the lily and its religious significance. Easter Lily is the traditional flower of Easter and is highly regarded as a joyful symbol of elegance, beauty, spirituality, hope, and life. In Christendom the lily has come to symbolize the resurrection of Jesus because of its delicacy of form and its snow white colors. But have you ever wondered about the history and significance of this symbolic Easter flower, which adds elegance, grace and fragrance to millions of homes and churches during the spring time.*

*Every year, on the first Sunday after the first full moon, churches are filled with exquisite Easter lilies. Churches at Easter time grace the altars and surround the cross with Easter Lilies, to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

*This importance rests even more clearly on a legend that the blood of Jesus, as it fell from the cross, was by a miracle transformed into flowers which filled heaven and earth. The popular Easter lily we use today to celebrate the holiday is referred to as 'the white-robed apostles of hope.' These beautiful trumpet shaped white flowers were brought to the United States in 1875 from Japan by an American tourist and named after the florist who made it popular. The flower retells the resurrection story with its life cycle. These snow white flowers symbolize new life and hope.*

*The bulb of these flowers buried in the ground represents the tomb of Jesus and the glorious white trumpet-like fragrant flowers which grow from the bulbs symbolize His life after death. The snowy white color stands for the purity of the Divine Savior and the joy of the resurrection while the trumpet shape signifies Gabriel's trumpet call to rebirth and new life.*





**FREE**



# Community Dinner

Hope to see  
you then!



**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**4-5:30 p.m.**



**At Clare United Methodist**

**Church, 105 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Clare**

**Last Saturday of every month**

**SOUP SANDWICHES**



**SALADS & DESSERTS**



**MILK**



**COFFEE & TEA**



**come join the fun & fellowship!**

**If you have questions call**

**989-386-2591**





**GOOD FRIDAY**



# April 2026



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

				<p>2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 1:00 AA 6 P.M. MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE</p>	<p>3 GOOD FRIDAY 10-4 THRIFT STORE 6 P.M. GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>4 FOOD TRUCK 9 AM 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>
<p>5 <b>HAPPY EASTER</b> 8:30 AM SUNRISE SERVICE EASTER BREAKFAST 10:00 WORSHIP EASTER EGG HUNT 2:00 YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>6 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>7 11 A.M. MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ERMA ANDERSON AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>8 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>9 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>10 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>11 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>
<p>12 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP 2:00 FELLOWSHIP HALL IN USE D.A.R.</p>	<p>13 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>14 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>15 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>16 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>17 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>18 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>
<p>19 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP 2:00 DAVID TEALL MEMORIAL</p>	<p>20 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>21 7:00 CAMP PLANNING MEETING AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>22 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>23 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>24 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>25 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 4:00 COMMUNITY DINNER</p>
<p>26 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>27 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>28 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>29 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>30 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>MAY 1 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>MAY 2 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>