

CLARE UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH NEWS DECEMBER 18, 2025

OUR WORSHIP TIME IS 10 A.M.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

- 21: 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 WORSHIP
2:00 YOUTH
22:12 NOON AA
6:15 WEIGHTS
6:45 YOGA
23:6-8 LIVE NATIVITY AT WITBECK'S
8:00 AA
24: CHRISTMAS EVE
2-4 LIVE NATIVITY AT WITBECK'S
7:00 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE
25: MERRY CHRISTMAS
26: OFFICE CLOSED
8:00 AA
27: 10-4 THRIFT STORE
12 NOON AA
4-5:30 COMMUNITY DINNER
28: 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 WORSHIP &
2:00 YOUTH

ATTENDENCE
LAST SUNDAY,
DEC 14: 85

DONATIONS NEEDED

Anyone interested in donating, pies, cakes, cookies, salads etc. for our Community Dinner please let Deb Gloss or Judy Bailey know as soon as possible. We also will be giving away toilet paper, meal kits, laundry soap, dish soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash. Any of these items may be dropped off at the church office on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday next week.

UP COMING EVENTS IN

DECEMBER

Our Live Nativity this year will be held on Tuesday December 23 from 6-8 and Wednesday December 24 from 2:00 - 4:00 in front of Witbecks Family Foods. We need volunteers to stand in the stable (it has walls on 3 sides and heated floors thanks to Lee Schunk). We also need helpers to get people into their costumes and volunteers to donate cookies. If you can help there will be a sign up sheet at the back of the church and/or contact Ellen Fuller (989)240-3777 efuller@reagan.com. Thanks for your help with this community ministry.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be December 24 at 7 p.m.

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YOUTH GROUP WILL MEET ON SUNDAYS at 2pm.
We will meet at the in the Education Building, at church,
in the Youth Room.
Hope to see you all then!! Barb Tyler

YOUTH CLASS IN THE SANCTUARY

Youth (we use that term loosely. If you're interested in taking part, please come join us) are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 9am for something new. We will be looking at Pastor Brian's plans for future sermons, digging deep into a scripture or topic, and creating a fun way to share our thoughts on that topic with the congregation when the week arrives. If you like to draw or paint, act, sing, dance, write or recite poetry, edit videos, write scripts, build with Lego bricks, carve butter sculptures, make balloon animals... you get the idea. Bring your skills, interests, and most of all your questions. We can't wait to share your creative expressions with the congregation. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Brian or Elizabeth Comiskey.

A NOTE FROM JEAN & JAMIE BLOW

Hi-

Hope this finds you and your family well.

Mom is very weak but alert and knows what is going on. She spends most of her time in bed watching TV and napping. Maxine is still with her and one of us is with her from 11-6 every day so we can make sure she eats and is taken care of.

Gary flies down about every 4 months and spends 4-5 days with her. She really likes it when he is here. He did not retire this year but is talking about it in the summer.

I spent the last year getting used to being retired and working on my golf game. My golf swing is getting more consistent and when I am swinging well my long game is decent. I continue to work on swing consistency and am now working more on chipping a putting as that is a definite weakness.

I still have things to do around the house. I had sod put in last spring and planted some trees and shrubs. I am extending the sod in my backyard as I have decided it is easier to mow grass than fight weeds and keep adding pine straw. I will plant more perennials and shrubs that are pollinator friendly this spring. Trying to do a some and let things grow so I don't over plant. I also don't want a lot of shrubs that require trimming.



**In December we will be collecting: Printer paper
Post-it Notes, Envelopes, Tape (Scotch, mailing, duct,
masking etc.) Staples, Paper clips & binder clips, Pens,
Scissors (Children's & Adult sized)
Band-Aids, Batteries, Swifter Mop Pads, Febreze**

**OUR EXTRA MILE GIVING FOR DECEMBER WILL BE FOR SOCIETY
OF ST. ANDREW, WHO FREELY PROVIDES ADVENT BOOKLETS AND
LENTEN BOOKLETS FREE OF CHARGE TO US EVERY YEAR AND TO
REPLENISH OUR PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

REVOLVING FUND GIVING FOR THE MONTH OF NOV. 2025

DAYCARE BUILDING: \$310 TECH SUPPORT: \$700

UMCOR/Disaster Relief : \$170 CAMP: \$210

COFFEE HOUR/HOSPITALITY: \$213

INSURANCE EMERGENCY FUND: \$100

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND: \$85 THRIFT STORE: \$262

PCCC OPER: \$2,270

SATURDAY SOUP: \$100.90 LOVE OFFERING: \$30 PRISON COFFEE: \$70

THANKSGIVING DINNER: \$215 FIC: \$40

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS?FEEL FREE TO EMAIL OUR

LEADERSHIP TEAM EMAILS: Larry Wyman Jr. : ldwyman@charter.net

MaryAnn Shurlow Scott: maryannshurlow@gmail.com

Pastor Brian Comiskey : pastorbrianc@clareumc.org

Tracy Brooks: trbrooks8@yahoo.com

Deb Bongard: Bongard@live.com

Elvis Denton: elvis@toast.net

Connie McGregor: conniemcgregor3@gmail.com

Mary Lee: mary_lee10@hotmail.com

Kindra Norlander: knorlander@michigannewspapers.com

Kay Moser: kaymoser2014@gmail.com

Macy Tyler: macytyler@rocketmail.com

THRIFT STORE IS OPEN

FRIDAY 10-4 AND SATURDAY

10-4

Accepting donations on Thursdays 11-3

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN

VOLUNTEERING TO WORK IN THE STORE CONTACT DIANE

BOUDREAU AT 989-387-9389

WE ACCEPT ITEMS FOR THE STORE ON THURSDAYS



Grief Support

When Grief Ambushes us

No matter how long it's been since we've lost a loved one, there will be times when grief sneaks up on you. Maybe it's a photo or some other object that belonged to them. Special days like birthdays and anniversaries or funerals may lead to being ambushed by grief. There's a song that held a special place in both of your hearts that will bring on the tears.

When that happens, I find it best to acknowledge the grief and not suppress it. Yes, it hurts, but we can choose to use it as a reminder to be thankful for the gift of that person in our life. I like to remember the ways my husband expressed his love for me as well as the times we spent together, from the quiet afternoons to the adventures we have in camping.

Most of all, remember that this is a normal part of the journey that Jesus shares with us. For those days, be gentle with yourself, and remember that it's okay to not be okay.

For those days, remember what Jesus has promised us.

"No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you." John 14:18.

There is a monthly Grief Support Group that meets at Mid-Michigan Health Center in Clare on the first Thursday of each month from 3:00-4:00 pm. Please contact Melissa Sweet, bereavement counselor, for more information and to register – (989) 633-1437.

Please Continue to Keep In Your Prayers : We lift up the leadership of our nation and the men and women serving the Armed Forces, as well as the leaders and people of other nations.

Deb & Troy Bongard and family on the loss of Deb's mother

Rose Musser and family as they deal with the loss of her nephew

Maezie Bauer diagnosed with Sturge Weber syndrome(niece of Scott Vanhoose)

Prayers for continued healing for Diane Ellsworth, Josh Enfield, Kathy Traywick

Those with Parkinson's, Diabetes, Alzheimer's & Lupus and other chronic diseases.

Those who have been diagnosed with Cancer: Linda Green(Elaine Green's daughter in-law), Patty (Humphrey)Hazen

OUR SHUT-INS.....

Pioneer Golden Estates:

Marge Dickey Glenda Baker

Sue Neff (memory care)

Carol Beatty Ruth Jones

Larry Wyman Sr.

The Brook, Gladwin:

Jean Burrows

Americana Seniors of Clare

Jan Brandon(formerly prestige place)

Champion Gate Assisted Living in Florida

Ron & Marilyn Lovell

In Their Own Home:

Barb Everts

Brenda Longstreth

Gayle White

Lou & Rita Bryans

Bill & Barb Manderbach

Bob Musser Jean Blow,

Erma Johnson

UPDATE ON OUR
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND/GOOD SAMARATIN FUND
WE HAVE ALREADY WENT THROUGH \$300 IN DECEMBER
WE HAVE A LOT OF NEEDY PEOPLE IN OUR AREA.

Live Nativity



**Clare United Methodist Church
will be having their Live Nativity
again this year.**

**It will be held on Tuesday December 23
from 6-8 and
Wednesday December 24
from 2:00 - 4:00
in front of Witbecks Family Foods.**



FREE



Saturday Soup Dinner

December 27

Clare United Methodist Church

105 E. 7th Street Clare, Michigan 48617

4:00 – 5:30 pm



Food Service available until 5:30 pm



Last Saturday of every Month

***Soups * Sandwiches * Coffee**



*** Desserts**



***Music**



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



We would love for you to join us!

If you have any questions please contact

Clare United Methodist church office at 989-386-2591

**WE WANT TO WISH OUR CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS WHO
HAVE HAD OR ARE HAVING BIRTHDAY'S
IN DECEMBER
"A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!"**



December
BIRTHDAYS

- 1 *Katie David*
Corrine Seiter
- 2 *Ellen Fuller*
Pete Norlander
- 4 *Madeline Zastrow*
- 5 *Lynn Witbeck*
- 6 *Jackie Kelly*
Gayle White
- 9 *Sharon Curtis*
- 10 *Betty Eaton*
Debbi Kasper
Brenda Longstreth
- 11 *Jason Rodgers*
- 12 *Dave Bremer*
Scott Krell
Jason Goyt
- 13 *Greg Holbrook*
- 14 *Jim Morgan*
- 18 *Bob Seiter*
- 19 *Kindra Norlander*
- 20 *Jake Anderson*
Courtnie Mashue-Merillat
- 21 *Mary Lee*
- 22 *Rayna Kruskamp*
- 24 *Logan Romatz*
- 26 *Jay Warner*
- 28 *Kara(Bremer)Sutherlin*
- 30 *Natalee Kunse*
Tim Gallagher
- 31 *Ramona Blouin*





**Children's 12/7
Christmas Program**



December 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>3 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>4 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>5 AA 8-9:30 P.M. AA 8-9:30 P.M. 10-4 THRIFT STORE</p>	<p>6 FOOD TRUCK IN HARRISON 9 AM 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>
<p>7 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE FOLLOWING WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>8 11 A.M. D.A.R. AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>9AA 8-9:30 P.M. 12 PM LADIES ADVENT LUNCHEON AT THE DOHERTY 6 PM. ADVENT SER- VICE AT FARWELL UMC</p>	<p>10 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>11 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 7:30 GATEWAY BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT</p>	<p>12 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>13 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM</p>
<p>14 CHRISTMAS IN CLARE 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP 6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM</p>	<p>15 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>16 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>17 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA</p>	<p>18 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA</p>	<p>19 10-4 THRIFT STORE 6 P.M. BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>20 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>
<p>21 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>22 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>23 AA 8-9:30 P.M. LIVE NATIVITY FROM 6-8 P.M.</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE NATIVITY FROM 2-4 P.M. 7 P.M. CANDLELIGHT SERVICE</p>	<p>25 </p>	<p>26 AA 8-9:30 P.M. OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>27 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 4-5:30 FREE COMMUNITY DINNER</p>
<p>28 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>29 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA</p>	<p>30 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>31 </p>	<p>JANUARY 1, 2026 </p>	<p>JAN. 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.</p>	<p>JAN 3 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA</p>