

# **CLARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWS DECEMBER 5, 2025 OUR WORSHIP TIME IS 10 A.M.**

## **THIS WEEKS CALENDER DECEMBER**

**5: 10-4 THRIFT STORE**

**8:00 AA**

**6: 9 A.M. FOOD TRUCK HARRISON**

**10-4 THRIFT STORE**

**12 NOON AA**

**7: 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**10:00 WORSHIP &**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**12:30 CHURCH CONFERENCE**

**2:00 YOUTH**

**8:11 A.M. D.A.R.**

**12 NOON AA**

**6:15 WEIGHTS**

**6:45 YOGA**

**9: 12 NOON LADIES ADVENT LUNCHEON**

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**AT THE DOHERTY HOTEL**

**6PM ADVENT SERVICE FARWELL UMC**

**8:00 AA**

**10: 8:00 AA**

**6:15 WEIGHTS**

**6:45 YOGA**

**11: 11-3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT STORE**

**12 NOON CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S**

**CONNECTION IN MT. PLEASANT**

**1:00 AA / 1:00 QUILTING**

**7:30 GATEWAY COMMUNITY BAND**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**12: 10-4 THRIFT STORE**

**6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM**

**8:00 AA**

**13: 10-4 THRIFT STORE**

<p><b>ATTENDENCE LAST SUNDAY, NOV 30: 62</b></p>
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**12 NOON AA  
6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM**

**14: 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10:00 WORSHIP &  
2:00 YOUTH**

**6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM**



**Advent Service is this Tuesday,  
December 9th At 6 P.M.**

**At The Farwell United Methodist Church  
281 E. Ohio Street, Farwell, Mi**

**We Sure Hope You Will Be Able To Join Us. We  
could also use some extra singing voices in our choir, we will  
practice at 5:30 before our service:0)**

**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**

## **UP COMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER**

**Children's Christmas Program  
Will Be December 7<sup>th</sup> During Worship**

**Our Church Conference Will Be Held Following Worship On December 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Women's Advent Luncheon Will Be Held At The Doherty Hotel On December 9<sup>th</sup> At 12  
P.M. We Will Order Off The Menu At Our Expense.**

**Advent Worship Service Will Be Held At Farwell United Methodist Church On  
December 9<sup>th</sup> At 6 P.M.**

**Gateway Community Band Christmas Concert Will Be Held On December 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30  
P.M. At Clare High School.**

**Christmas In Downtown Clare On December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**The Theme Is Whoville See Flyer In This Email  
6-8 Walk Through Bethlehem December 14<sup>th</sup> At 3557 Colonville Rd., Clare**

**Blue Christmas Service** will be held here at Clare UMC on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

**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](mailto:efuller@reagan.com). Thanks for your help with this community ministry.*

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



## **ADVENT AND PLANNING AHEAD**

**The Annual Women's Advent Luncheon at the Grand Doherty Hotel is being planned!!**

**The date will be Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2025 at 12 p.m.**

**You are invited to bring a friend.**

**We will be ordering off the menu (at our own expense)**

**Please let Jeanne Shelander or Judy Bailey know if you plan to come ASAP**



**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE  
YOU ARE INVITED TO A COMMUNITY  
ADVENT SERVICE ON DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
FARWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WILL  
BE HOSTING OUR COMMUNITY ADVENT  
SERVICE ON DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> AT 6 P.M.**

**Address is: 281 Ohio St Farwell, MI**

**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. 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](mailto:efuller@reagan.com). Thanks for your help with this community ministry.**

### **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.*



**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](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)  
Deb Bongard: [Bongard@live.com](mailto:Bongard@live.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)  
Kindra Norlander: [knorlander@michigannewspapers.com](mailto:knorlander@michigannewspapers.com)  
Kay Moser: [kaymoser2014@gmail.com](mailto:kaymoser2014@gmail.com)  
Macy Tyler: [macytyler@rocketmail.com](mailto: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.**

**Joan Southwell and family on the loss of her husband, Bill Southwell**

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

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

***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:**

**Bill & Barb Manderbach**

**Marge Dickey Glenda Baker**

**Sue Neff (memory care)**

**Carol Beatty Ruth Jones**

**Larry Wyman Sr.**

### **In Their Own Home:**

**Barb Everts**

**Bob Musser Jean Blow**

**Brenda Longstreth**

**Gayle White Erma Johnson**

**Lou & Rita Bryans**

**The Brook, Gladwin:**

**Jean Burrows**

### **Americana Seniors of Clare**

***Jan Brandon(formerly prestige place)***

**Champion Gate Assisted Living in Florida**

**Ron & Marilyn Lovell**

**UPDATE ON OUR  
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND/GOOD SAMARITAN FUND  
WE HAVE ALREADY WENT THROUGH \$500 IN NOVEMBER  
WE HAVE A LOT OF NEEDY PEOPLE IN OUR AREA.**

**+++++  
ANGEL TREE IS UP**



**WALK THROUGH  
BETHLEHEM**

**2025**

**Drive Through Experience**

**December 12, 13 & 14, 2025  
Arrive between 6 and 8 pm**

**BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY AT THE CORNER OF  
CLARE AVE AND REBAK WAY**

**TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM 2,000 YEARS AGO TO PAY YOUR TAXES  
AND BE COUNTED IN THE ROMAN CENSUS. HEAR THE ANGELS  
ANNOUNCE THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH. LISTEN AS  
SHEPHERDS, A PROPHET, AND WISE MEN TALK OF SIGNS AND  
WONDERS. ENJOY THE CITY ALIVE WITH ACTIVITY BUT NO  
ROOM AT THE INN. AVOID THE DANGER AND TAUNTING OF THE  
ROMAN SOLDIERS AND TAX COLLECTORS. SEE A NEWBORN BABE  
ASLEEP IN A MANGER.**

**EXPERIENCE ALL THIS AND MORE AS YOU...  
WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM**

**FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
CLARE ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
3557 E COLONVILLE CLARE, MI 48617 (989)386-3232**



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



- 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  
Courtne 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







# CHRISTMAS IN CLARE

## DECEMBER 14TH, 2025



AT THE CLARE DEPOT - 201 W. 4TH ST.

12PM TO 5PM

\* Outdoor Holiday Market



\* Hot Dogs by Clare Area Kiwanis & Bubba-Q Mobile Food Truck

\* Dragon Martial Arts will be doing interactive demonstrations outside the Depot

\* Doughnut Holes, Hot Chocolate, & Coffee inside the Depot by Cops & Doughnuts

2PM TO 5PM

\* Visit Santa in his house



\* Town's End Clydesdale Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides  
Sponsored by Stephenson Wyman Funeral Home, RB Harsh Construction,  
& Mid Michigan College

\* Clare County Arts Council will have Make & Take Crafts in lower level of Depot,  
White House Ornament silent auction,  
& a free book (one per family while supplies last)

3PM

\* Christmas Dog Costume Contest  
Sponsored by Family Farm and Home

5:30PM

\* Lighted Parade through Downtown Clare  
Route: McEwan St. from State St. to 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

FOLLOWING PARADE

\* Tree Lighting - West side of Depot

6:30PM

\* Christmas Caroling - Depot

7PM

\* Tesla Light Show - Brookwood Athletic Complex

6PM TO 8PM

\* Walk Through Bethlehem

3557 E. Colonville, Clare

County-Wide Decorating Contest - Homes, Businesses, and Parade Floats  
Theme - Whoville

**GATEWAY BAND  
PRESENTS  
"A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS"  
DEC. 11<sup>TH</sup> 7:30  
CLARE HIGH SCHOOL**

*Band*  
*Presents*



A Joyful Christmas  
Clare High School  
Thursday,  
December 11, 2025  
7:30pm

FREE ADMISSION ALL AGES

~ PRIZE DRAWING. TICKETS AVAILABLE BY DONATION ONLY ~



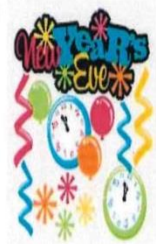

Join us immediately following the concert for refreshment!

Facebook: Gateway Community Band  
Website: [www.gatewayband.org](http://www.gatewayband.org)







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 AA 12-130 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	3 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	4 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	5 AA 8-9:30 P.M. AA 8-9:30 P.M. 10-4 THRIFT STORE	6 FOOD TRUCK IN HARRISON 9 AM 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
7 CHILDREN'S CHRIMAS PROGRAM 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE FOLLOWING WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	8 11 A.M. D.A.R. AA 12-130 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	9 AA 8-9:30 P.M. 12 PM LADIES ADVENT LUNCHEON AT THE DOHERTY 6 P.M. ADVENT SER- VICE AT FARWELL UMC	10 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	11 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 7:30 GATEWAY BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT	12 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	13 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM
14 CHRISTMAS IN CLARE 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP 6-8 WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM	15 AA 12-130 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	16 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	17 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	18 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	19 10-4 THRIFT STORE 6 P.M. BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	20 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
21 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	22 AA 12-130 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	23 AA 8-9:30 P.M. LIVE NATIVITY FROM 6-8 P.M.	24 CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE NATIVITY FROM 2-4 P.M. 7 P.M. CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	25 	26 AA 8-9:30 P.M. OFFICE CLOSED	27 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 4-5:30 FREE COMMUNITY DINNER
28 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	29 AA 12-130 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	30 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	31 	JANUARY 1, 2026  Happy New Year!	JAN. 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	JAN 3 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA