

# THE CLARION

# JULY 2026

## CLARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



**You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!**

Where: **Clare United Methodist Church**  
105 East 7th Street, Clare

When: **Tuesday, July 7th, 2026**

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings.**  
Trusted by over 11 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

**Who should attend:**  
Anyone **age of 40+**

**Special Pricing for \$129**

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call 800-324-9458 and use promo code HABC001

Visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](#)

Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

### 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 Poe: [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)**

The Loons game will be on Thursday July 30 at 7 PM. For ordering tickets please use the link below. Your tickets will be purchased within the block assigned to the Clare Methodist Church. Tickets can be ordered on this link until game time and picked up at Will Call. After game time you will have to order at the Box Office. But you can still request to be seated in the Clare Methodist block.

If anyone wants me to purchase tickets for them, I will need the money by next Sunday July 5.

Thanks Ellen Fuller

Here is the link for tickets!

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Clareunited2>



You Are Invited To

## Carol's 90th Birthday Celebration

July

Sunday [ **12** ] 2-5 pm

952 & 982 Irwin St.  
Clare, MI 48617

Lawn chairs & swimming gear  
recommended.  
BYOB



# A Note From Pastor Brian....



Happy July everyone! July makes me think of swimming in the summer heat, watermelon, corn on the cobb, and of course, celebrating the birth of our country and the freedoms we have. Some of these include freedom of speech, religion, and the right to assemble. These freedoms are also endowed with a call for wisdom. The same is true with spiritual freedom. When Jesus came to this world, he lived, died, and was resurrected, freeing us from the captivity of sin and fear of death. Spiritual freedom is not determined by land boundaries, but there are some constraints, for lack of a better term, which are all based on divine wisdom. That is because our self-loves, unchecked by God's divine love and wisdom would inherently treat others as inferior, leading to hatred, vengeance, cruelty, brutality, theft, adultery, etc. That's pretty harsh stuff, but it is the truth.

I think back about 25 summers ago. I volunteered to accompany a church youth trip to Disneyland. There were two leaders, myself and another woman. Let's just say this woman and I had very different ideas about how things should go. We were polite in front of the kids, but at odds almost the whole time. We both wanted things our own way and the other was just plain wrong. When we got home, I complained to the pastor all the ways she made the trip difficult. His only response was, "Yes, when people work together, there can be many differences to negotiate." I remember how disappointed I was. I expected him to agree with me how unreasonable she had been and "give her a talking to." Looking back with more wisdom, I can appreciate how he handled it. He was teaching me grace and spiritual growth. The point is, we must have consideration for others. We don't have to always agree, but we can be gracious and open to the other person's thoughts and opinions.

In Mark 5:24–34, the woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment is remembered for her faith, but another important truth is often overlooked. Because she had suffered from bleeding for twelve years, she was considered "unclean" and largely excluded from society. By making her way through the crowd and touching Jesus, she risked condemnation. Instead of rebuking her and going along with what the crowd might do, Jesus publicly acknowledged her with compassion: "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace and be healed." His kindness challenged the attitudes of those around Him.

Jonah struggled with this same issue when he became angry that God showed mercy to Nineveh. Like Jonah, we can want people to get what we think they deserve. But God's way is different. None of us deserves His love and grace, yet He freely gives it. Jesus commands us to love our neighbors, our enemies, forgive one another, and show mercy. These are not suggestions, they are His commands. May we follow His example by extending kindness and grace, even to those we think don't deserve it. That is true freedom. Peace and blessings!

## WE WELCOME THE POINT CHURCH FROM KENTUCKY

The Point church (which is a part of Troy & Deb Bongards family) will be here to bless our community July 21-26, by doing volunteer work for those in need (in our community).

We will be partnering with them in outreach!

On July 25 starting at 4:30.

There will be free food, bounce houses, and other fun activities.

We invite our community and all who attend our community dinner to join us outside for fun, food, and fellowship this month! Any questions contact Deb Bongard or Macy Tyler.



### A NOTE FROM CHIPPY!

My mom recently was talking about the love we show our community and our church. So we were talking about all of the people in our congregation that reach out in love by helping in maintenance, weeding flower beds, planting grass seed, watering lawn, mowing the lawn, helping with our community dinners, helping with Fellowship in Community, showing hospitality, greeting, donating time and food when needed, ushering, volunteering at camp, reading scripture as a liturgist, helping with our funeral dinners, "The Point Church" coming and helping in our community and church, and so much more.

*This makes us think about this verse in the Bible: 1 Corinthians 16:14 "Do everything in love."*

*We show this in all areas of life—personal, communal, and spiritual. Paul's instruction is not limited to acts of kindness but extends to **every word, decision, and interaction**, reflecting the principle that love should spread in all we do.*

*Thank you to all who reach out and help in our church and community and showing love.*

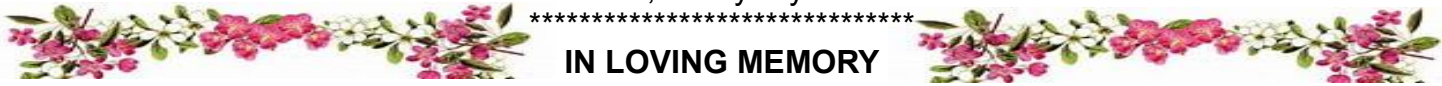


**“The Chosen” Season 2 will be shown on Tuesday’s at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.. Snacks and popcorn will be provided. Questions may be directed to the church office, 989-386-2591**



**THANK YOU!!**

To my wonderful church family,  
 Thank you all for all of your prayers,  
 Love, Concern, and meals brought to the house.  
 They mean so much and we are so blessed by you all.  
 Pastor Brian, thank you for the constant prayers, love,  
 And many check ins!! I am on the mend with you and God’s Blessings  
 Love, Carey Wyman



**IN LOVING MEMORY**

- Brian D. Miller’s Birthday** has been remembered with a very generous gift to our Clare United Methodist Church’s General Fund by his daughter & family Ann & Herberth Alvarado
- Duffy Doxtader** has been remembered with a generous donation to our church’s General fund from Ann (Sexton) Ganz (daughters of Margorie & John Sexton)
- Ruth Owens** has been remembered with a memorial gift to our Clare United Methodist Church General Fund from Carol Pilon
- Erma Anderson** has been remembered with memorial gift to Clare United Methodist General fund from Al & Debbie Acker and Donna Anderson
- Shorty Wixson** has been remembered with a memorial gift to the Child Care Center Building From Gail Neff

**DID YOU KNOW WHAT GENERAL FUND IS USED FOR?**

**Common Uses of our General Fund**

**1. Payroll for Staff**

- Salaries and benefits for pastors, clergy, and support staff Basic Church Administration.
- Compensation for ministry leader

**2. Building and Facility Maintenance**

- repairs, upgrades, and upkeep of church buildings.
- Maintenance of buildings

**3. Operating Costs**

- Utilities for buildings,(including parsonage),office supplies, and administrative expenses.
- Insurance, cleaning, and security.
- Advertising and event promotion Basic Church Administration.

**4. Apportionments and Conference Giving**

- Funds allocated to other churches or ministries for conferences, training, or special events Basic Church Administration.

**5. Christian Education**

- Sunday School program costs
- Vacation Bible School

# RUMMAGE SALE (see attached flyer)

It will be Thurs July 30 - Sat Aug 1.

Set up dates are Mon-Wed July 27-29

The rummage sale will be from 9-6 on Thurs and Fri and from 9-1 on Saturday.

Hours for the set up days are 9-5.

Sign up sheets are available in the lobby of the church.

People can bring their items in now and leave them to the left of the stairs going down to the first floor in the education bldg.



## MOTHER HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD FOR JULY

(ITEM'S WE WILL BE COLLECTING FOR THE CHILD CARE CENTER)

Food Items:

- Brown Rice
- Pasta (whole wheat)
- Beef or chicken broth (low sodium)
- Cereal such as Cheerios, Mini Wheat, Rice Krispies, Chex, Kix, Corn flakes, Crispix, Life, Alpha-Bits (Less than 6 grams sugar per serving)



**COME JOIN THE FUN!!  
SATURDAY, JULY 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**4:30 P.M.**

**FREE FOOD**

**FREE FUN & GAMES**

**BOUNCE HOUSES**

**WATER SLIDES**



**Brought to you by the Point Church, Kentucky  
They are here to help serve our community with  
lots of sharing of themselves for our enjoyment**

**SAVE THIS FLYER**

**SAVE THIS FLYER**

**NEW HOPE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH**

**2026 CONCERT SERIES**



**SUNDAY JULY 25**  
**DRIVE @ 4 PM**

**Aug 23**  
**@ 4 PM**

**GOLD**  
**CITY**



**All tickets \$20 in advance, \$24 day of concert**  
**Doors open at 3 PM.**  
**For tickets or information call/text 616-706-4170**  
**Always call to confirm dates when traveling long distances.**  
**All tickets are non-refundable. Seating is limited.**



7296 Nine Mile Rd., Mecosta, MI 49332 (231) 972-2838  
newhope.mecosta@gmail.com  
<http://new-hope-qmc.churchcenter.com/home>

**SOME PHOTOS OF CAMP**



# July Birthdays

- 3: Tonya Willman
- 4: Amanda Sexton
- 5: Joe Bentley  
Bob Mussell
- 6: Gabe Kruskamp  
Toni Thomson
- 7: Jeff Denton  
Tina Colosky
- 9: Connie Denton  
Joan Southwell
- 10: Jessica Smock  
Gina Schlafley  
Andy Southwell  
Bill Zinser
- 12: Betty Mussell
- 14: Deb Bongard
- 15: Linda Grigg  
Dave Kruskamp
- 17: Teri Pitchford
- 18: Calla Ringgenberg  
Bill Stanley
- 19: Troy Staten
- 20: Jessica Hopkins
- 21: Walt Longstreth
- 22: Carol Beatty
- 23: Don Hopkins
- 24: Tom Moline
- 25: Kellie Cassiday  
Mike Viers
- 26: Karen Brooks  
Megan Brooks
- 30: Scott Moore  
Adam Shaw



# Christian Women July

“Living Grateful in Freedom!”

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

Special Feature: “What’s in Your Closet & Why RU not Wearing 80%?”  
with Dorothy Smith

Patriotic Music: 250 Years Strong

Inspirational Speaker: Dorothy Smith, from Moline, IL, shares how the hustle and bustle of the holidays may have left us missing the true beauty of Christmas. She will bring out the true beauty of Christmas with humor and honesty.

“Christmas in July”

\*\*\*\*\*  
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 July 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Edie (989) 463-3287 \* Ruth (989) 492-4199  
Lona (989) 387-4808 or email Lona  
[lonahamilton@yahoo.com](mailto:lonahamilton@yahoo.com)

## Some Photo's From Camp 2026





# Summer Rummage Sale

sponsored by the  
Clare United Methodist Church,  
will be held on

Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
July 30, 31 & August 1



Hours are  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

on Thursday & Friday

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday

Proceeds will be used for local Community needs

**Sale is located in the  
Education Building basement  
at 105 E. Seventh Street, Clare.  
If you have questions, 989-386-2591**





# July 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	<i>2</i> 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	<i>3</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>4</i> FOOD TRUCK 9 AM 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
<i>5</i> 10:00 WORSHIP	<i>6 OFFICE CLOSED</i> AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	<i>7 8-4 LIFE LINE</i> SCREENING 6:00 P.M. "THE CHOSEN" SEASON 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>8</i> 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	<i>9</i> 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	<i>10</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>11</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
<i>12</i> 10:00 WORSHIP 2-5 CAROL PILON'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY AT 952/982 IRWIN ST.	<i>13</i> AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	<i>14</i> 6:00 P.M. "THE CHOSEN" SEASON 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>15</i> 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	<i>16</i> 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	<i>17</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>18</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
<i>19</i> 10:00 WORSHIP	<i>20</i> AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	<i>21</i> 6:00 P.M. LEAD TEAM 6:00 P.M. "THE CHOSEN" SEASON 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>22</i> 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	<i>23</i> 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	<i>24</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>25 4:30 FUN DAY AT            CLARE UMC/FREE            FOOD AND BOUNCE            HOUSES            10-4 THRIFT STORE            12 NOON AA</i>
<i>26</i> 10:00 WORSHIP	<i>27</i> AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	<i>28</i> 6:00 P.M. "THE CHOSEN" SEASON 2 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<i>29</i> 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	<b>30 LOON'S GAME</b> DAY 7 P.M. 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA	<i>31</i> 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	<b>AUGUST 1</b> 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA

**SET UP FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE**

**RUMMAGE SALE**