

THE CLARION

MAY 2026

CLARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

Help is needed this Saturday,

May 2 at 8:30 a.m. for Highway clean up
We will meet in front of the church office at
8:30 a.m. and carpool out to the highway.
Please consider joining us for a couple hours,
The more people we have the faster it will go.

Any questions may be directed to

Ellen Fuller 989-240-3777



PRAYER

PRAYER DRIVE THRU MINISTRY TO BEGIN:

Pastor Brian is starting a "Prayer Drive Thru" every Friday starting May 1st from 11am until 1pm. The idea is to give people the opportunity to drive up to the front of our church and the pastor or someone else will come out and pray for them at their car. If anyone would like to offer their time to expand time slots, please email Judy Bailey at jbailey@clareumc.org



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:

JAMES BROWN (GRANDSON OF JUDY BAILEY)

SOPHIE LUBS

**WE WILL BE HONORING THE HIGH
SCHOOL GRADUATES ON MAY 17 DURING
WORSHIP.**

WE WILL ALSO BE HONORING OUR PRESCHOOL GRADUATES FOR 2026 DURING WORSHIP ON MAY 17:

Reed Bennett Clayton Brock-Ruby
Slade Demeuse-Kelly Brooks Gillis
Charlee Gillis Myah Hyde
Ian Lucia Navy Mayhew



**"The Chosen" Season 2 will be shown
on
Thursday's at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Starting May 14th. Snacks and popcorn
will be provided. Questions may be
directed to the church office,
989-386-2591**

CLARE UMC STAFF AND SCHEDULE

Pastor:

Pastor Brian Comiskey

pastorbrianc@clareumc.org

517-215-8637

Leadership Team Chair:

Mary Ann Shurlow Scott

Administrative Assistant:

Judy Bailey: jbailey@clareumc.org

Music Director: Tracy Lubs

Clare UMC Preschool
and Child Care Center

Director: Terri Banasak: 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

MaryAnn Shurlow Scott:

maryannshurlow@gmail.com

Pastor Brian Comiskey : pastorbrianc@clareumc.org

Tracy Brooks: trbrooks8@yahoo.com

Elvis Denton: elvis@toast.net

Connie McGregor: conniemcgregor3@gmail.com

Mary Lee: mary_lee10@hotmail.com

Macy Tyler: macytyler@rocketmail.com

Lenny Wixson: Lenn.wixson@gmail.com



A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

It is May and the month where we take time to celebrate motherhood. Proverbs 13:26 says "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

There is a story of a woman who could have complained what a bad hand she was dealt in life, but instead made the most of it. When her and her husband got married, they dreamed of having a child. Then, as she put it, instead of picking out pink or blue onesies, they stared month after month at single pink lines on pregnancy tests. There were tears and prayers, moments of anger and frustration, and then loss, as she tragically had a miscarriage. They began questioning, did they do something wrong to deserve this?

Then one day, she watched a TV special about children who grow up in foster care and then age out of the system, only to be kicked out into the world with a "Have a nice life. See ya." She sat there wondering, who would cheer for them at their graduation, walk them down the aisle, rock their babies, or be there when they had a bad day. She thought, "This is not ok." So she did something about it. She began looking into the situation and became a writer and advocate for these young people.

Years went by. Then, while attending a banquet at Saving Grace, a place for girls who age out of the foster system and would otherwise be homeless, she met a 20 year old young woman, and she knew almost right away, "This is my daughter!" Her husband agreed. It took time and effort between both of them, but soon, Lovelle moved into their guest bedroom, took their last name, and called them Mom and Dad.

More time passed and one fall, Lovelle called her, emotion in her voice. "Mom, I'm pregnant", she said. She almost dropped the phone. Tears filled her eyes while she thought of all those pink lines, then meeting their daughter, becoming a family, walking her down the aisle at her wedding, and now she was going to be a Grandma. Then, she imagined the years to come, holding her granddaughter, story times, bubble baths, trips to the zoo to see the giraffes...there was so much yet to be.

This Mother and now Grandmother, closed her story by saying, If you are hurting this Mother's Day, I want you to know I've been there. I wish I could wrap an arm around your shoulder, take you to coffee, and reassure you, there is hope and your story is not over yet. In the Bible it says that Eve was mother to all living. It may not look like what you imagined, but your story will be good because of the Author of all creation.

Peace and blessings to all the Mothers out there. We love You!

Thank you!

A special thank you to all who helped out with our community dinner, by donating items to give away, making desserts and salads. A very special thank you to Deb Gloss for making our soups every month.

It is very much appreciated!

A NOTE FROM CHIPPY



Just a note to say "Happy Mother's Day!"

To all the mom's out there! When I'm Thinking of Mother's Day,

I think of my mom and it makes me think of the scripture below:

Proverbs 31: 29-31 Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.³⁰ Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.³¹ Honor her for all that her hands have done,

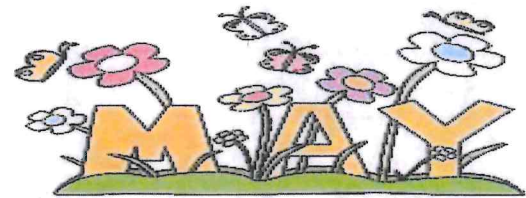
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

My mom makes sure every day I am loved, fed, walked, praised and much more.

I want to wish my mom a "Happy Mother's Day!" too. We are inseparable and appreciate each other every day and thank God for the opportunity to be together for the last 14 years and hoping we have many more.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

CHRISTIAN WOMEN CONNECTION



"Rock A Bye Baby"

**Thursday, May 14, 2026
11:45 – 1:45 p.m.**

Special Feature:

Joshua's House of Hope

Renee Jeffords, Clare

Will you help with their needs?

Inspirational Speaker:

Gini Peterson, from Milledgeville, IL, believes in miracles. And you will too, if you come and listen to her story. She will give away a "Baby Blanket".

Come and hear her testimony in **"Miracle Child."**

All this plus lunch & beverage for \$21.00 at

**Cheers Neighborhood Grill
1700 W. High St. (W M 20), Mt. Pleasant, MI**

Reservations are due by May 12th
Edie (989) 463-3287 * Ruth (989)492-4199
Lona (989)387-4808 or email lona
Lonahamilton@yahoo.com

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Kirk Yats | 15 Joy Mussell |
| Marianna Ohaeri | Robert Musser |
| Richard Fleming | 16 Judy Bailey |
| 2 Nolan Sved | Cheryl Temple |
| 3 Barb Kunse | Mark Moore |
| Caleb Rinker | 18 Gabe Seibt |
| 4 Jackie Robert | 20 Tyler Seibt |
| Connie Berg | 21 Jason Denton |
| 5 Matt Lee | Carl Strouse |
| Janice Buckley | 23 Bill Beemer |
| Mollie Newton | 24 Linda Tossey |
| Jennifer Viers | 25 Corey O'Day |
| Kelsey Bongard | 26 Kevin David |
| 6 Judy Hubel | Jamisen Norlander |
| Justin Miller | Brennah Lubs |
| 7 Greg Johnson | 27 Kendell Koch |
| Sophie Lubs | 28 Jason Hawkins |
| 8 Anthony Temple | Connie Strouse |
| 11 Michael O'Day | 30 Carol Taylor |
| 12 Colleen Bremer | 31 Carol Pilon |
| Elizabeth Palmer | |



April 1, 2026

Clare UMC
105 E 7th St
Clare, MI 48617-1301

"...when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me." - Jesus (Matthew 25:40 CEB)

Dear Friends in ministry,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – *Thank you!*

And through your financial support you are serving within a vital web of interactive relationships, partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need.

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandez, General Secretary
General Board of Global Ministries, UMCOR, and Higher Education and Ministry

Supporting

Amount: \$100
UMCOR - Where Most Needed
Date Received 03/23/2026

Amount: \$145
UMCOR - Where Most Needed
Date Received 03/23/2026

Please retain this letter as your receipt. In accordance with IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the General Board of Global Ministries in consideration of your contribution. Thank you for your continued support.

480 Porvoo de Leso, Naer, e NE, Bu M kg A, Suite 1, 48000, George J. D. H. B. / +1 303 932-4226 / www.ums2000.org



Plan to give your hope and a future

1011 Northcross Road
Lansing, MI 48206
517-347-4030
UMBenefits.org

April 24, 2026

Clare UMC
105 E 7th St
Clare, MI 48617-1301

To the Leadership and Congregation of Clare UMC,

Greetings from the Michigan Conference Benefits Office.

It is with great joy that I write to confirm that Clare UMC remitted all Benefits Billings at 100% during the 2025 calendar year.

On behalf of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (CBOPHB), we want to express our sincere gratitude for your dedication to this vital area of ministry. A core pillar of the Michigan Conference vision is to "equip bold & effective leaders." We know that our clergy are most effective when they can focus on their mission without the weight of worry regarding their long-term health or the lack of a safety net during life's emergencies.

Your commitment to paying Benefits Billing ensures that not only your own pastor, but all clergy across our connection are supported. These essential funds provide for:

- **Retirement Security:** Contributions to clergy and conference employee retirement plans.
- **Welfare & Protection:** Premiums for essential welfare and disability plans.
- **Support Systems:** The operational expenses of the CBOPHB and the Conference

The Benefits Office manages these vital resources.

Thank you for your faithful partnership and for the ministry you lead in your community. May God bless the people and the mission of Clare UMC throughout 2026.

In Christ,

Joel Walther
Director of Conference Benefits & Coordinator of Human Resources

GOD IS A GOD OF MIRACLES!!

We had a very special visitor come in the office that will make a lot of changes in our finances for the Community Dinner free table and our Pastor's Discretionary fund. Starting on the 5th of this month we will be receiving a pallet of food to distribute for the people that come in and need food. We are about to start a mini pantry!! With the special help from Mr. Tom Dunn. Tom sat down with Pastor Brian & Judy in the office to share all of these fabulous ideas that are about to take place and we are giving God all of the glory! Thank you to Velma Cross for sending him our way. This will alleviate so much of our financial struggles with these 2 funds.



FREE



Community Dinner



MAY 30

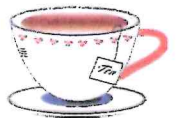
Hope to see
you then!

4-5:30 p.m.



At Clare United Methodist Church, 105 E. 7th 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



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](https://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.



May 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Graduation Sunday Is May 17 for High School Graduates and Preschool Graduates					11 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	2 FOOD TRUCK 9 AM 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
3 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	4 AA 12-1:30 1:00 D.A.R. 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	5 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	6 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	7 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 7:30 GATEWAY BAND CONCERT(FARWELL HIGH SCHOOL)	8 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	9 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
10 <i>Mother's Day!</i> 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	11 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	12 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	13 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	14 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 6 P.M. "THE CHOSEN"	15 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	16 SANCTUARY IN USE 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
17 Preschool Graduation High School Graduation 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 1:00 CLARE'S GRADUATION	18 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	19 6 P.M. LEADERSHIP TEAM AA 8-9:30 P.M.	20 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	21 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 6 P.M. "THE CHOSEN"	22 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	23 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA
24 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	25 AA 12-1:30 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA	26 AA 8-9:30 P.M.	27 6:15 WEIGHTS 6:45 YOGA 8:00 AA	28 11:00 -3 ACCEPT CLOTHING AT THRIFT STORE 1:00 AA 6 P.M. "THE CHOSEN"	29 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	30 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA 4-5:30 COMMUNITY DINNER
31 9:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 2:00 YOUTH GROUP	JUNE 1 AA 12-1:30 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 6 P.M. "THE CHOSEN"	5 10-4 THRIFT STORE AA 8-9:30 P.M.	6 10-4 THRIFT STORE 12 NOON AA