



"Connection"

August 1

10th Sunday after
Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Red Letters"

*"The Truth Will Set
You Free"*

John 8: 31-36

August 8

11th Sunday after
Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Red Letters"

"Take Up Their Cross"

Mark 8: 31-38

August 15

12th Sunday after
Pentecost

Sermon Series

"Red Letters"

"Yokes and Burdens"

Matthew 11: 28-30

August 22

13th Sunday after
Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Red Letters"

"Like These Children"

Luke 18: 9-17

August 29

14th Sunday after
Pentecost

"Doers"

James 1: 22-27

Last Time, on Pastor Brian's Newsletter Article:

Every evening, Grand Blanc's Bicentennial Park is flooded with families all summer long. We're talking kids of all ages, parents, grandparents, aunts uncles, etc. And they're all there for the same purpose: little league sports! Now, imagine you're part of a group from Grand Blanc UMC that commits to going to some of the games, all the while wearing a shirt with the Church name on the front and the words "Cheer Team" on the back. When you arrive at the fields, you simply sit in the stands and do the best job in the world: cheer on the kids! Now, one or two nights would pass by with out much comment, but eventually, a parent walks up to you and says, "Someone was here yesterday and the game before with that same shirt on. I'm just curious." Your response is this simple: "Oh, yeah! I'm from Grand Blanc United Methodist Church. We're really wanting to commit ourselves to caring for families in our community, and we thought an easy way to do that would be to make sure that every kid here would have at least one more person cheering them on."

Evangelism, Right?

This is where we left our intrepid "Cheer Team" member in June's article as we talked about the often-feared word, "evangelism." Once more, my hope is that this word has shed some of the baggage it often comes with. Evangelism, after all, is simply the *sharing of God's good news*. Sounds right up our alley, doesn't it? So, how is cheering on little leaguers from a bench full of proud parents and even prouder grandparents evangelism? Let's continue our story.

Continued...

After hearing the reason for church members gathering to cheer on kids to whom they are not even related, the parent turns and says the words almost *no one* associates with evangelism: *"That's great! Thanks for doing that!"*

As the game continues, our cheering member keeps cheering on the kids, our curious parent does the next most surprising thing. He starts to tell our cheerleader a few things: *"By the way, my name is Dave and my wife, Courtney, is the coach. That's our son at first base, Michael."*

Pretty normal still, isn't it?

With all of the courage in the world, you're now ready to become a true evangelist. You turn to Dave and say, *"It's great to meet you guys. It's been a long time since our kids played little league. It's a real blast from the past sitting here again."*

Despite my feeble attempts at humor, did you notice that this conversation had between our Cheer Team church member and Dave sounds a lot like any other conversation you've ever had with anyone?! No pamphlets were handed out, scripture from the book of Habakkuk wasn't recited by memory, and the bullhorn and floppy-paged Bible never made an appearance. But, still, it was evangelism.

How Was That Evangelism?

I'm happy you asked! (You did ask, didn't you?) You see, you would likely never identify this bleacher-based conversation as evangelism, simply because 99.9% of people think of evangelism as a I'm-gonna-push-my-religion-in-your-face kind of thing, rather than a relationship kind of thing. But, this really was evangelism! This conversation, believe it or not, did share God's good news with someone else. To see what I mean, listen in on this conversation had between Dave and Courtney after they got home from the baseball game, put kids to bed, and kicked their feet up for the evening:

Continued on next page

Dave: (*Using the remote to find their current binge-worthy show*): Hey Courtney, did Michael go down okay? I think the snack that one of the moms brought had him pretty sugared-up!

Courtney: It took a little while, but he finally settled down. Then he looked at me and said, “Mommy, you’re the best coach!” You know, I didn’t really think I would like coaching, but I really do! I don’t really know what I’m doing, but its fun! And he says things like that!

Dave: (*Laughing in agreement*): You’re doing a great job. A bunch of the parents were talking about how great you are with the kids. By the way, did you see that guy from the church?

Courtney: If he wasn’t picking dandelions, you’ll have to be a bit more specific.

Dave: He was sitting next to me. He and his wife are from the Methodist Church, I think it was, and they just go and cheer on kids at the games.

Courtney: That’s kind of weird.

Dave: (*Laughing*) No! It’s a whole bunch of them. They try to go to every game. He told me that it’s their goal to make sure that every kid has someone to cheer them on.

Courtney: Okay, that’s actually kind of sweet.

Dave: They even had shirts! I don’t know, I thought it was cool!

For now, we’ll just leave Courtney and Dave in their living room and check in with the next article. But 2/3 of the way into the story, we have Dave and Courtney, young parents, feeling good knowing that there are people from a church nearby who care enough about kids to make sure every kid has someone cheering them on. Sounds like *good news* to me. I’m pretty sure Jesus would approve.

And that, friends, is *evangelism* done well. More to come next time. Pastor Brian



FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge
Woody

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Donna
Carol
Cheryl
Janet
Becky
Sharel
Al
Rosie
Eleanor
Ellen
Dick
Phil
Marcia
Mary
Paul
Eileen

FOR OTHERS:

Peter
Don
Deanna
Tony
David
Cynthia
Shelia
Jeanne
Jamie
Alexandra
Betsy
Donald
Colin
Chris
Scott
Lynn
Whitney
Robert
Catherine
Michael
Jay
Kathy
Barb
Doug
Gerry

Carol
Wayne
Laura
AJ
Rachel
Carl
Mark
Ruth
Naomi
Thomas
Charlie
Betty
Connie
Jeff
Donna
Marty
Barb
Sunny
Jim
Sharon
Kevin
George

Autumn Ridge of Clarkston
Shirley
Great Lakes Christian Home
Helen

Sending Our
SYMPATHY ~ For the family of
Bonnie Moomey
Grenier who
passed away on July 20.

Tom and I want to thank our wonderful church family for the meals, which were outstanding, the many cards, and all the prayers offered up the past several weeks. My surgery was successful and recovery is going well. Prayers are very powerful and helped give us reassurance of God's presence in our lives. Sincerest thanks, Carol





Did Pastor Brian's Article Intrigue You?



If you would be interested in helping to put together a GBUMC Cheer Team like the one he described in the article, please reach out to Pastor Brian at the church office! Pastor@grandblancumc.org (810) 694-9040

UM MEN REBUILDING TOGETHER

A one-day rebuild is being sponsored by Michigan UM Men on Saturday, September 18. Men from across Michigan are invited to sign up.

The Michigan Conference of United Methodist Men is inviting men from across the state to a one-day rebuild event on **Saturday, September 18 in Lansing Michigan.**

The Michigan Conference of UM Men is working with Rebuilding Together Tri-County. Rebuilding Together brings volunteers to work to rebuild the homes and the lives of low-income homeowners, including veterans and the disabled.

Rebuilding Together provides the repair materials and supervision with UMM providing the volunteers for the one-day rebuild. Whether you are a skilled craftsman or simple laborer, churchgoer or not, your help is needed.

Register your interest in the event by emailing j.gordon.schleicher@gmail.com.



New Century Chorale is entering its 28th year and is looking for new members to help make beautiful choral music and enrich the Grand Blanc community.

People who have sung in a church or high school choir will fit right in and have an enjoyable time. New Century Chorale is a local adult community choir of 40 members and is led by Steven Holovach, Artistic Director.

Rehearsals are Monday evenings from 7-9 pm at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church. They are inviting interested singers to join them for a new member night on September 13 to try it out. If you are interested please call 810-771-8255 or email info@newcenturychorale.org. You can find information at www.newcenturychorale.org

Help Needed to maintain the church grounds

Wanted

- ⇒ Volunteers to assist with the Beautification of the Grounds of the Grand Blanc United Methodist Church.
- ⇒ Persons of all ages
- ⇒ Small amounts of time or large amounts.
- ⇒ Variety of tasks to be chosen from: Trimming, care of plants, care of islands, removal of stumps, limited chain saw work, raking or blowing leaves etc. etc.

Needed

- ⇒ Bags or partial bags or torn bags of: fertilizers, brown mulch, cow manure, topsoil (Just bring to the church and drop off in front of the storage shed)
- ⇒ Perennial flowers: (Again just leave in front of the shed, behind the church)
- ⇒ Shasta daisy 'Becky'
- ⇒ Day lilies 'Stella D'
- ⇒ Butterfly bush

Kindly direct any questions or comments to Bob Mills

You may also contact the church office to volunteer.

This effort was started about five years as a project of the United Methodist Men under the approval of the Trustees.

No monies come from the church and all work is on a volunteer basis.

Puzzle!

Use the code to find out what these biblical people may have taken on a picnic.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

(Genesis 3:6)

Adam and Eve
 6 18 21 9 20

(Genesis 25:28)

Isaac
 23 9 12 4 7 1 13 5

(Genesis 25:34)

Esau
 19 20 5 23

(Numbers 11:5)

Israelites in Egypt
 3 21 3 21 13 2 5 18 19

(Ruth 2:1-4)

Ruth
 7 18 1 9 14

(1 Samuel 14:2)

Saul
 16 15 13 5 7 18 1 14 1 20 5 19

(1 Samuel 14:29)

Jonathan
 8 15 14 5 25

(Daniel 1:12-16)

Daniel and friends
 22 5 7 5 20 1 2 12 5 19

(Matthew 3:4)

John the Baptist
 12 15 3 21 19 20 19

(Matthew 14:17)

The 5,000 people &
 2 18 5 1 4 6 9 19 8

Answer: fruit, wild game, stew, cucumbers, grain, pomegranates, honey, vegetables, locusts, bread & fish



This Summer, Pastor has been offering a monthly study where we have

conversations around faith and scripture.

This small group study meets in person with a virtual option. If you would prefer to meet virtually, you may borrow the DVD to watch prior to the meeting and then join the discussion virtually on the meeting day.

At 9:30am on **Thursday, August 19** we will be watching and discussing the film **Just Mercy.**

We look forward to seeing you. Bible Study will resume at Chapter 14 of the book of Exodus on Thursday, September 9 at 10:00am. ALL ARE WELCOME!



Birthday Wishes

- 1st Dani
- 2nd Coleen
- 4th Marty
- 6th Bruce, Adam
- 7th Al
- 8th Nick
- 9th David, Don
- 10th Paul, Levi
- 12th Shelby
- 13th Jackie
- 14th Tom, Denise, Richard
- 15th Jean
- 16th Lauren, Lauren
- 17th Donley
- 18th Chuck
- 20th Anne, Sam, Jane
- 22nd Jennifer
- 23rd Laura
- 25th Sarah
- 26th Ann, Alex

- 28th Gordon
- 30th Marcia



Anniversary Blessings

- 2nd Rose Marie & Richard
- 9th Gina & Bob
- 10th Nancy & Craig
- 15th Betty Gay & Rich
- 26th Traci & David
- 27th Ann & Bob, Carrie & Gene

CELEBRATE



Congratulations to Adrienne J. who is graduating from the University of Michigan, Flint with a Bachelor's in Healthcare Administration!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS



Susan has moved to Nevada. Please call the office for her new address and phone number



Hey!!

J.A.M. kids and Families...

Wednesday Dinner videos by Pastor Brian are uploaded to YouTube every Wednesday morning for use during your family dinner!

(J.A.M. = Jesus and Me)

Sermon Series: "Red Letters" (August 1-22)

Occasionally, you may flip through the pages of a Bible and discover that there are some words, sentences, and paragraphs printed in red letters. These are the words of Jesus, and they are printed that way so that Jesus words can be easily found. Why? Because Jesus' words matter! And, even though we only find the words of Jesus in 4 books of the Bible (the Gospels), it makes sense that we look at some of them a bit closer. And so, join us throughout the month of August as we explore 5 well known "red letter" passages and what they mean for us, today.

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
Building and Roof Mortgage Summary

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 06-30-21)

Mortgage Balance with UMF = \$171,061.58

Mortgage Reserve Fund Balance (as of 06-30-21) = \$10,064.52

Roof Reserve Fund Balance (as of 06-30-21) = \$16,134.90

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
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Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Church Office 810-694-9040 fax 810-694-1916
www.grandblancumc.org

Rev. Brian West, Pastor
Cathy Mitchinson, Office Administrator
Angela Campbell, Office Assistant
Dr. Lee Pelton, Organist/Choir Director
Gary Brandt, 9:00 Music Director/Director of Common Grace
Nancy Petrie, Bell Choir Director
Adrienne Jablonski, Nursery Supervisor
Allison Jablonski, Nursery Assistant



GRAND BLANC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FRIENDS IN CHRIST EXERCISING
LOVE, HOPE AND GRACE TO
ENRICH ALL LIVES



The Prayer Shawl group meets in the parking lot once a week. They look at the weather and choose the best day. If you are interested in joining them contact the church office for details.



Be sure to check out Pastor Brian's Daily Devotionals on our YouTube channel!



PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
THE WONDERFUL LIFE OF

David Rahn

AUGUST 7TH, AT 11:00 AM
GRAND BLANC UMC
515 BUSH AVENUE,
GRAND BLANC, 48439

THE FAMILY WILL RECEIVE VISITORS
BEGINNING AT 10:00 AM

WE WILL GATHER TO SHARE OUR
FAVORITE MEMORIES, FOLLOWED BY A
LUNCHEON SERVED IN HIS HONOR AT
REDWOOD STEAKHOUSE & BREWERY
5304 GATEWAY CENTER, FLINT, 48507

PLEASE RSVP

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN US!

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER COOKOUT!

Sunday, August 8th

5:00pm

@ the Lengyels

Food, Sports, Fire Pit, Treats

NEED WE SAY MORE??

Join us to just hang out and tell us
what YOUR High School Youth
Group should look like!

Jennifer Lengyel & Brian Rice

