

Beginning Sunday, September 5, 2021

Sunday Worship Services at

9:00am and 11:00am

will be held in the Sanctuary.

*We are returning to more familiar rhythms
with a few adjustments.*

We ask that you please wear a mask until you are fully vaccinated. Those who are fully vaccinated are, of course, welcome to wear a mask, if desired.



"Connection"

September Sermon

Series:

*"A People Called
Methodist"*



September 5

15th Sunday after

Pentecost

"Revive Us"

Revelation 2: 1a, 2-5a



September 12

16th Sunday after

Pentecost

"Grace Upon Grace"

Ephesians 2: 1-10



September 19

17th Sunday after

Pentecost

"Strangely Warmed"

Galatians 2: 16, 20-21



September 26

18th Sunday after

Pentecost

"Three Simple Rules"

John 17: 9-11



If you remember back to the August *Connection*, reading part 2 of 3 of our story about the fictional "Cheer Team," you'll remember that we left our T-Ball parents, Courtney and Dave having a night's-end conversation about the church-sent cheerleaders who had a pretty great mission: make sure every kid had someone cheering them on! You might also remember that, thus far in our example of a different kind of evangelism, no pamphlets have been given, no bullhorns made an appearance, and the book of Habakkuk remains unquoted! This *must* be a different kind of evangelism! Well, let's see what happens next!

Checking In On Our Family:

A couple more games have been played since we listened in on Dave and Courtney's conversation about the church's Cheer Team, and you better believe, that Cheer Team was present for each one of those games. Dave, sitting in the stands for each of the games, got to know the cheering churchgoer better and better. Finally, during the last game of the season, one of the Cheer Team members who has come to know Dave better and better offers these daring and bold words of evangelism. *"Dave it was really great to meet you! You have a great family! I wanted to let you know that if you ever want to come by our church on a Sunday, we've always got room in our row, and we'd be happy to sit with you guys!"*

Okay, well, those words weren't too bold, I suppose. But, consider how it would have felt like to make that invitation without ever having met, talked to, or learned about Dave. Awkward, right?! When we take time to build relationships with folks, invitations to church become much easier, and are actually received much better. Think about what keeps you a part of GBUMC. I'd be willing to bet that relationships, of some form, have something to do with it, right?

Fast Forward A Few Weeks...

It's been a few weeks since the baseball game ended. Our Cheer Team member hasn't seen Dave, Courtney and their son, Michael, since the T-Ball season ended, but he thinks about them from time to time and remembers them in his prayers, at least. But, one Sunday, Dave, Courtney and Michael walk into the sanctuary about 5 minutes before the start of the service. They take a seat at the back of the sanctuary in the first empty pew. Without hesitation, our Cheer Team member quietly walks up to them and asks if he could join them (did you catch that...he met the visitors where *they* were – in *their* comfort zone).

What Then:

Our mission as a church is to *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. Sometimes that can feel like an insurmountable challenge. Is that something I can even do? The answer is yes, and sometimes it's as easy as going and sitting in the bleachers in order to make sure kids have someone cheering. It's as simple as getting to know someone in order that a relationship can form and a sincere invitation can be made. It's through evangelism – no longer a scary word, I hope – that we can grow God's kingdom, and make the world a little better place.

~ Pastor Brian



In our prayers

FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge Berryman
Woody Woodbeck

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Donna Brookins
Carol Cerny
Cheryl Cottrell
Janet Davis
Becky Doran
Sharel Etheridge
Al Grain
Rosie Grain
Eleanor Hall
Ellen Hansen
Dick Hubler
Marcia Johnson
Mary Manning
Paul Manning
Eileen Scott

FOR OTHERS:

Don Baxter
Kim Brown
Deanna Cook
Tony Conklin
David Crane
Cynthia Crawford
Shelia Dirrim
Jeanne Dobes
Mike Dunn
Jamie Emmendorfer
Alexandra Faulkner
Betsy Fisher
Donald Gibson
Wendell Griffus
Colin Harper
Chris Hayes
Scott Haze
Lynn Hunt
Scott Jawors
Whitney Jensen
Robert Koerkel, Sr.
Catherine Labron
Michael Lackey
Jay Latimer
Kathy Latimer

Barb Lott
Doug Lott
Gerry Moody
Carol Moomey Henry
Wayne Nixon
Laura O'Neill
AJ Ozanich
Rachel Ozanich
Carl Pate
Mark Phillips
Ruth Powers
Naomi Rimmell
Thomas Sadler
Charlie Sheridan
Betty Shimel
Connie Skinner
Eleanor Smith
Jeff Sumerix
Donna Van Orden
Marty Weaver
Barb Wickersham
Sunny Wilson
Jim Winn
Sharon Woodard
Kevin Yoss
George Zanca

Autumn Ridge of Clarkston
Shirley Robertson
Great Lakes Christian Home
Helen Floyd



C.A.R.E. Team

Our C.A.R.E. Team is ready and willing to contact you or anyone you

know who could benefit from a phone call or card or whatever it is that would help them with what they (or you) might be dealing with today.

Feel free to contact them at care.team@grandblancumc.org

If you would like to receive prayer concern emails from the church, please contact the church office at office@grandblancumc.org.



During This Time of Loss

~ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Phil Jackson. Phil passed away on July 30, 2021

~ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Dan Brudnak. Dan is Dennis Brudnak's brother and he passed away on August 7, 2021.



Congratulations to Nancy (VanVlack) and Nick Booms on the birth of their son, Wyatt William Booms on August 7th.

Baldwin Piano Available

Free to pick up!

Please contact Sharon Bohms for details 810-344-7868



Dear Church Family: Thank you all so much for the cards and the attendance at the funeral home. I know Phil would have been happy to see you. See you all in church to thank you in person. Best, Lee Jackson & family



Jean Sayre would like thank all those who had sent a birthday card. She was 91 on August 15. Her daughter and son-in-law, Cari and Dave, came to celebrate with her from Fairbanks, Alaska. She said there was cake and ice cream for about 25 relatives. Then Cari, Dave and Jean went to her place up north for the week. Due to the pandemic the 90th birthday party was celebrated on the 91st. A wonderful birthday!

SERMON SERIES:

“A PEOPLE CALLED METHODISTS”

(September 5-26)

In the 18th century, an Anglican priest named John Wesley set the world on fire with a new and audacious movement in the Christian church; they were a people called *Methodists*. With a new method for caring for one another, encouraging each other's faith, serving their neighbors, and worshiping their God, this new movement soon spread across the world, transforming for millions what it meant to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Join us this September as we recall Wesley's ministry, what the early Methodists believed, and what it means to be a *people called Methodists* today.



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

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Susanna Wesley Circle will meet at 10:00am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. We will meet in Fellowship Hall, food will be provided.

Rebekah Circle will be meeting with Susanna Wesley Circle.

All women are welcome!!
Bring a friend.



Pastor Brian's Drop-In Online Bible Study

10-11am Every Thursday

No start date or end date. Just come and join us!

A weekly Bible Study lead by Pastor Brian for everyone who has ever wanted to take a closer look at Scripture. Drop-in anytime you want!

Contact the Church office for more information and how to join the Zoom gatherings
office@grandblancumc.org or (810)694-9040



This class will resume on
Thursday, September 9
and will pick-up at the book of
Exodus, Chapter 14.

You are welcome to join in-person or by Zoom.



In July 2020, Pastor Brian began sharing daily video devotionals to help the Grand Blanc UMC congregation connect with their faith during the COVID-19 pandemic.

But then...others started watching, too. And so, we're revamping, improving, and working to share God's love with as many as possible.

Introducing:

FOCUSING ON FAITH: A Daily Video Devotional Created by Pastor Brian West.



Beginning September 1, 2021.

Be sure to subscribe and share. This will be a separate YouTube channel from our Grand Blanc UMC YouTube channel.

Seasoned Citizens

WELCOME BACK!

On **Thursday, September 9, 2021** we invite all retired folks (all adults are welcome) to gather in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 Noon for our first potluck of the 2021-2022 year. Whether you are an individual or a couple you are cordially invited. If able, kindly bring food to pass, but if that is a hassle just come.

During this initial potluck there will not be a formal program but we will have good fellowship and some discussion about the year past and the year going forward. Seek to bring a friend or two.

Consider marking your calendars with the following dates so as to reserve them for future get togethers:

Thursday, October 14

Thursday, December 9

Thursday, February 10

Thursday, April 14

Thursday, November 11

Thursday, January 13

Thursday, March 10

Thursday, May 12

Protocols for this first September 9th get together:

- Paper plates, napkins and plasticware will be provided (You may bring your own if preferred)
- Social distance
- Food will be served cafeteria style
- Maximum of 5 persons per table
- Masks required until you are fully vaccinated. Masks are not required if fully vaccinated.
- In general seek to be cautious and thoughtful for others

Note- Protocols are of course subject to change as conditions warrant

Altar Flowers



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the prayer room, or feel free to call

or email the office to order flowers for the Sunday of your choice. Flower arrangements are \$15.00 each from Grand Blanc Florist and you may take them home following the 11:00am worship service. Your name and who the arrangement is in honor/memory of will be listed in the Sunday bulletin.

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Wishes

- 1st Bryant Allen, Bev Atchison,
Jim Bunker, Deb Carvill,
Jackson Harper,
RaeDeane Middleton
- 3rd Conner Seaman
- 4th Susan Shelburne,
Bob Vandermark
- 5th Gary Hajek
- 8th Helen Floyd (90)
- 10th Allen Woodbeck
- 14th Alyssa Norris
- 16th Eileen Scott (95), Ken Zahrt
- 17th Doyle Johnson (96)
- 18th Nancy Booms, Dorrie Richmond
- 20th Deb Skinner
- 21st Nathan DeVos, Bob Fraile,
Adrienne Jablonski

- 22nd Sue Brady
- 23rd Joni Donaldson
- 25th Rowan Gould, Benjamin Lutton
- 26th Glen DeVos
- 27th Eli Gould
- 28th Theodore Gratsch,
Bernie Waisanen



Anniversary Blessings

- 7th Cheryl & John Billings (47)
- 9th Mary & Bob Vandermark (60)
- 10th Marilyn & Nick Federici (55)
- 12th Nicole & David Moore
- 13th Renee & Bob Eggert (46)
- 20th Luann & Dave Griffus (41)
- 25th Anne & Dave Coronado
- 28th Laurie & Julius Del Pino



Coffee Hour will be resuming and will take place between the 2 worship services in Fellowship Hall. If your group/team/committee is interested in serving refreshments occasionally on a Sunday morning, please contact Gail Lutton, if she has not already checked in with you.

11:00am Worship Ushers

- 1st Sunday Jim Wise
- 2nd Sunday Virginia Sullivan
- 3rd Sunday Bob & Barb Mills
- 4th Sunday Dennis Brudnak



COUNTERS

- 9/05 Tom Cerny & Jim Wise
- 9/12 Jim Scrimger & Nick Federici
- 9/19 Carol Cerny, Ron Blakemore & Jim Bunker
- 9/26 Jessica Smith & Tom Cerny



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I hope that you will join me in expressing immense gratitude to two members of our church family, Adrienne and Allison Jablonski, for the recent years of service they both provided as church staff in the nursery. As life presents both of them with new and exciting opportunities, they have decided not to return to the nursery as nursery supervisor and nursery assistant. However you are able to reach out, I hope that you will offer words and signs of appreciation for the work they did and join me in excited anticipation to see how they will continue to serve Christ in new and meaningful ways.



As a church family that continues to commit ourselves to ministering to and reaching young families, providing nursery care, particularly during Sunday morning worship and ministries, remains a priority for me and for the Staff Parish Relations Committee. If you, or someone that you know of, is interested in applying for Nursery Supervisor or Nursery Assistant, please be sure to communicate interest to me and the SPRC. Interest and application can be done by emailing pastor@grandblancumc.org or by calling the church office at (810) 694-9040.

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
Building and Roof Mortgage Summary

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 07-31-21)

Mortgage Balance with UMF = \$170,127.27

Mortgage Reserve Fund Balance (as of 07-31-21) = \$9,254.52

Roof Reserve Fund Balance (as of 07-31-21) = \$16,384.90

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
515 Bush Avenue
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



Worship Music

**Attention all current (and future!!)
Chancel Choir Members!**

Our 1st rehearsal will be held on Wednesday,
September 8, 2021 at 5:00pm.

We are encouraging those who would like to
join the choir to please attend this rehearsal.
We would love to have you with us!



Celebration Ringers!!

Our Adult Handbell group, you are invited to join!



“Let the Bells Ring” is the title of a handbell
piece we will present in church this year! Yes,
the Celebration Ringers will be able to start in
the fall and we are always looking for people
who want to learn to ring, already ring, or want to get
back into ringing. We will start rehearsals on
Wednesday, September 15 in the choir room from
6:30 to 7:30pm.

We ask that you wear a mask to protect and
love each other.
Gloves will be provided if you don't have any.

Men's Coffee

Friday's at
10:00am



Our Christian Education
Team is ready to go for
Fall!!!
More details are coming!
Adult volunteers are
needed.

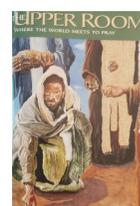


The Prayer Shawl group meets in the parking lot once a week. They look at the weather and choose the best day. If you are interested in joining them contact the church office for details.

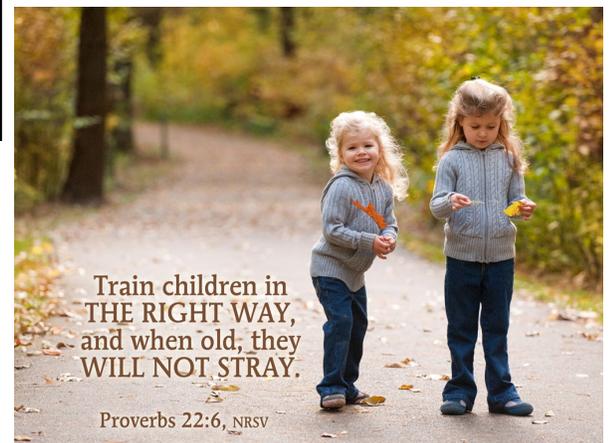
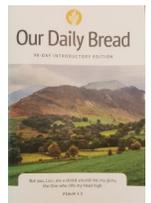
DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Along with The Upper Room, we will now be offering copies of Our Daily Bread. While we receive The Upper Room for a small fee, Our Daily Bread is a free publication. We will continue to offer both and we encourage you to try them to see if one of them would be something that would benefit you.

Our current copies of The Upper Room, provide daily devotionals for September and October and we have both large print and regular print copies. Our Daily Bread has provided to us with 90-day introductory editions and then we will begin to receive dated editions.



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.



Train children in
THE RIGHT WAY,
and when old, they
WILL NOT STRAY.

Proverbs 22:6, NRSV