



"Connection"



September 4

13th Sunday after Pentecost

COMMUNION

Labor Day Sunday

10:00a.m. Summer Worship

"Refusing Pharaoh's Quota"

Exodus 5: 1-18



September 11

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Coffee With Jesus"

"Dramamine & Comfort"

Mark 4: 35-41



September 18

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Coffee With Jesus"

"Fath"

1 Chronicles 12: 8-13



September 25

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series:

"Coffee With Jesus"

"Stay Useful"

Acts 8: 26-39



An Obvious Miracle

When the apostles returned, they described for Jesus what they had done. Taking them with him, Jesus withdrew privately to a city called Bethsaida. When the crowds figured it out, they followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them about God's kingdom, and healed those who were sick...[Jesus said], "You give them something to eat." But they said, "We have no more than five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all these people." - Luke 9:10-11, 13 (CEB)

The story of the feeding of the 5,000 found throughout the Gospels is perhaps one of the most well known biblical stories. Throughout generations, this story is told and retold, often focusing on what I like to call "the miracle of the plenty." Sermon after sermon has been given on the multiplication of the loaves and fishes; Jesus taking what seems like not *nearly* enough, and turning it into *more* than enough. Amazing!

But, in reading this version of the miracle story from Luke's Gospel, I started to ask myself, "why didn't Luke say more about what this would have been like, to miraculously see more food created?" Surely, someone must have noticed the sudden smorgasbord appear right before them, right?! Then it occurred to me: *maybe Luke did! Just not in the details we were paying attention to.* In Luke 9:10, Luke shares with us that Jesus retreated from the town where they had just been in ministry, to the town of *Bethsaida*. It's not uncommon that, in reading scripture, we skip over names of people and towns we don't know much about. Often, we're just glad that we scored a passing grade on pronunciation. But, here, that town's name is vitally important! In fact, the very mention of Bethsaida might be just the detail we need to know. Why? Because Bethsaida was a fishing village on the Sea of Galilee.

Why would that matter?

As they entered Bethsaida, Jesus instructs the disciples to feed the people who had discovered that Jesus came to town – all 5,000 men plus women and children. The disciples question Jesus, in effect saying: *"With what food Jesus? All we have is 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish."* You see the irony? The disciples are complaining that they don't have enough bread and *fish* to feed the hungry people, all while standing in Bethsaida...a FISHING VILLAGE!

The disciples were looking only at what they had on hand, and paid no attention to the environment and community in which they found themselves. It's easy to do that isn't it? As a church, we often talk about our resources, and we think only of those who are a part of the church – resources of energy, of time, of giving, etc. When we do this, it's all too easy to throw up our hands and repeat the age-old gripe of churches: *"we just don't have enough."* (It's probably worth noting that your pastor has said this his fair share of times). What if, instead, we were to include the whole community and environment around us in that evaluation of resources? Would we discover partnerships in the community, eager to help improve the lives

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of those in our community? Would we discover donors who are excited about the ministries we are sharing? Would we stumble upon ministry opportunities, themselves, such as service to the students in our schools?

If we limit ourselves to only what we already have, we'll always be staring at *not enough*. But, if we're to open our eyes to what Jesus sees, suddenly the miracle of plenty and the multiplication isn't that dumbfounding.

Jesus found fish in a fishing village.
Peace, Pastor Brian



FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge Berryman
Eleanor Hall

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Donna Brookins
Eric Campbell
Roma Corey
Cheryl Cottrell
Lisa England
Jack Hitchens
Paul Manning
Lisa McGehee
Barb Mills
Marilynn Moleski
Dani Rossman
Eileen Scott
Norma Stanbury
Bob Tritten

FOR OTHERS:

Emily Abbott
Erin Arbabha
Hudson Bennett
Nancy Bilas
Roger Carter
Kurt Cole
Tony Conklin
David Crane
Lilia Crane
Patricia Crawfis
Shelia Dirrim
Robert Elliott
Betsy Fisher
Judy Fisher
Alea Gardner
Wendell Griffus
Emily Harder
Dick Hood
Dave Jones
Jay Latimer
Kathy Latimer
Mark Moleski
Hunter Molyneux
Jennifer Prim
Kevin Roach

The family of Mike Roach
Ruth Roach
Martin Ryder
Bill Shier
Eleanor Smith
Bettie Stach
Greg Sumerix
Marvin Thompson
Sara Toth-Perkins
Ed Truhan
Linda Vincil
Ed Woodward

Shirley Crane
Abbey Park
3221 East Baldwin Rd, #239
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Jeanne Dobes
Symphony Linden
202 S. Bridge Street
Linden, MI 48451



Dear Church Family,

We want to express our thanks for the outpouring of cards and notes at the passing of Bob's brother earlier this summer. We really appreciate your love and support.

We also give thanks for your cards and calls as Bob battles with the many symptoms and effects of long-term COVID. We feel your prayers in our struggle to deal with this mysterious malady, and ask for your continued prayers throughout this ordeal. You are loved!
Bob & Laurie Tritten



Worship With Us



We are excited to announce that our 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service will also be available for viewing on our YouTube Channel beginning Sunday, September 25! Now you have your choice of watching either (or both!) of our Sunday morning worship services from the comfort of your home!
We continue to do our best to keep everyone safe while they participate in worship at their comfort level, whether in-person or online.

New address for
Dennis Brudnak:
103 Stern Line Dr.
Statesville, NC 48677
Dennis is now living
with his son.



John Billings has not
moved, but he is now
using a P.O. Box.
Please update his
address to:
P.O. Box 66
Grand Blanc, MI
48480-9998

Be sure to check out Pastor Brian's daily devotionals on our YouTube Channel:

Grand Blanc UMC

We hope you will also "like & share!"

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Director of Christian Education
Angela Campbell
christian.education@grandblancumc.org
810-694-9040



Pastor's Picks!

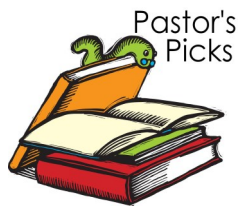
Each month Pastor Brian will be offering his "Pastor's Picks." He will offer a book recommendation. This book could be one that he is highlighting in his sermon series, one that goes with the current church season, or one that is just a good book to read. In addition, he will be "picking" a video too. These videos can be viewed for free using Amplify Media (see the handout on the welcome table or contact Angela on how to use Amplify Media). Hope you enjoy. The church will be purchasing a copy of each of Pastor's book picks for the church library. If you are interested in reading any of them, you are welcome to "check them out!"

September 2022 picks:

Book:

"Searching for Sunday: Loving Leaving and Finding the Church"

By Rachel Held Evans



Video:

Animate: "Bible"

A 7-Part Video Series





Discovery Sunday!

Sunday, September 11

Education Wing

Come and see some of the Christian Education Opportunities we have planned for Fall!

FOR ALL AGES!

Also, snacks & other fun stuff!



"Seek and you will find."
- Matthew 7:7, NIV

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Parking Lot Party such a success!



Sunday School begins on
Sunday, September 18 at 10:00 a.m.
There's a class for you!



Volunteers are needed for Sunday School and the nursery on Sunday mornings! Please let us know if you are willing to help!

Confirmation

A new Grand Blanc UMC Confirmation program will be starting soon, and we want to invite youth who are in **grades 8th – 11th** to be a part of it. Confirmation at GBUMC is a two-year program that is made up of 8 gatherings over the course of 24 months. Gatherings are a mixture of overnights at the church, a couple of day-long Sunday get togethers, and an annual Spring Retreat at the Port Huron Retreat Center.

To register youth to participate in the Confirmation program, please contact the church office: office@grandblancumc.org or (810)694-9040

New confirmands and their parents are invited to a Confirmation Kickoff Dinner on **Sunday, September 18, 2022 @ 6pm**

CAN you help?

High School and Middle School youth will collect empty, returnable cans and bottles to support ASP and families affected by flooding in Kentucky. Please bring donations of cans and bottles for drop-off before or after worship services on **Sunday, September 25.**



High School & Middle School:

CAN you help?

Let's raise the roof and raise money to support ASP and families affected by flooding in Kentucky. Meet in front of the church **Sunday, September 25th at 8:45am.** Bring cans and bottles!

We'll collect any donations, return them after services, and have lunch. You can expect we'll wrap up around 3pm.



Pastor's Drop-In Bible Study

Join Pastor Brian and other Bible explorers as we journey through scripture with an eye toward discovering more about God's love, our relationship with God, and what that means for our ministry today and tomorrow! **As we jump into a new program year, we'll be studying the Gospel of Luke beginning Thursday, September 15th at 10:00am.** And don't avoid us if you're worried you might miss class occasionally. You're welcome to drop-in anytime, and we'll catch you right up! And so, join us every Thursday at 10am, in person or on Zoom for a great time of learning and Bible study. We look forward to seeing you!

To join virtually, please contact the office ahead of time for a link you can use from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

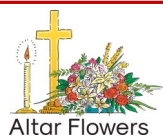
Coffee with Jesus

(September 11 – October 2)

Imagine if you could sit down and talk with Jesus over a cup of coffee (or your choice of morning beverage). What questions would you ask? What would you say? What would you want *Jesus* to say to you? For these four weeks, we're going to be imagining four such examples using a well known cartoon series by Radio Babylon called "Coffee with Jesus." So, grab a cup of java, and come sit for a little while.



09/04
09/11
09/18
09/25 Lutton



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.

Coffee Hour

09/04 Lutton

09/11

09/18

09/25

Questions?

Contact Gail Lutton 810-908-3456.

Would you like to sign-up?

Check out the available dates on the list in the hall outside the office.

Acolytes

2nd—6th grades

We are planning a training session for September.

Parents, if your child is interested, please contact Val Dutton
Valerie.dutton@yahoo.com
810-730-1594

11:00am Worship Ushers

1st Sunday Jim Wise

2nd Sunday Virginia Sullivan

3rd Sunday Bob & Barb Mills

4th Sunday Gary Bendall

COUNTERS

09/04 Jim Bunker, Tom Cerny

09/11 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore

09/18 Jessica Smith, Carol Cerny

09/25 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Wishes

1st Bev Atchison, Jim Bunker,
Deb Carvill, Jackson Harper,
RaeDeane Middleton
3rd Conner Seaman
4th Susan Shelburne
5th Gary Hajek
14th Alyssa Norris
16th Calvin Church, Eileen Scott (96),
Ken Zahrt
18th Nancy Booms,
Dorrie Richmond (98)
20th Deb Skinner
21st Nathan DeVos, Bob Fraile,
Adrienne Jablonski
22nd Sue Brady
25th Benjamin Lutton
26th Glen DeVos, Ruth Walder (84)
28th Theodore Gratsch,
Bernie Waisanen

Anniversary Blessings

10th Marilyn & Nick Federici (56)
13th Renee & Bob Eggert (47)
20th Luann & Dave Griffus (42)
25th Anne & Dave Coronado



Greeters

9:00am

11:00am

09/04

09/11

09/18 Marylee Hubel

09/25

Would you like to volunteer? Sign-up on the welcome table.

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
Building and Roof Mortgage Summary

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 06-30-22)

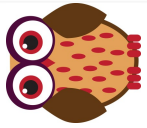
Mortgage Balance with UMF = \$134,032.90




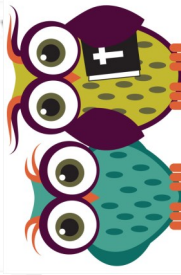
Mortgage Reserve Fund Balance (as of 06-30-22) = \$9,974.52

Roof Reserve Fund Balance (as of 06-30-22) = \$16,534.90



SEPTEMBER 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 COMMUNION 10a Summer Worship	5 OFFICE CLOSED Happy Labor Day!	 6 OFFICE CLOSED 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga 7p W & A Meeting	 7 10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl	1 Noon: Seasoned Citizens 6p Common Grace Rehearsal	2 OFFICE CLOSED 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	3 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
11 9a Gathering /Spririt 10a Discovery Sunday 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship 2p F.H. in Use	12 6p Missions Team 7p Ad Council via Zoom	13 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga	14 10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	15 10a Drop-In Bible Study	16 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	17 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
18 9a Gathering/Spirit 10a J.A.M./Sunday School 11a Traditional Worship CONFIRMATION Kickoff & Dinner	19	20 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga	21 10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	22 6p Common Grace Rehearsal	23 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	24 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
25 9a Gathering/Spirit 10a J.A.M./Sunday School 11a Traditional Worship YOUTH BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE	26	27 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga	28 10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	29 10a Drop-In Bible Study	30 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	

Seasoned Citizens

Calling all Seasoned Citizens (and other fun people)! Our 2022-2023 season begins on Thursday, September 8. Fellowship starts at noon with grace at 12:25 and potluck lunch at 12:30. Entertainment follows at 1pm. Hannah Terrian will play the psalter for us. What is a psalter you ask? Come and see, we say! See you there! Invite a friend!

CELEBRATION RINGERS!

We will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, September 14 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the music room. If you are interested in ringing, please show up at that time. No experience? No problem! We will teach you!

Come share the fun, the joy and the beauty of handbells in worship. See you then!

And no...we are not ding-a-lings...we are humdingers!



Chancel Choir, our traditional worship service vocal group will be meeting with our new director, Andrew Cramer, on Sunday, September 11 following the 11am service. You are welcome to join us! We are always looking for new voices!

HELLO EVERYBODY!!

**Sunday, October 16, 2022
6:00 p.m AT GBUMC**

JACKIE AND GARY

Will present a fundraising concert for
The Golden Retriever Rescue of
Michigan



The GRRofM has been providing
rescue, medical and forever home
placement in Michigan for 20 years.

They have saved/rescued over 3000 dogs!

There will be dogs attending the concert!!

Jackie and Gary will be
'SINGING THE GOOD OLD SONGS AGAIN' with
our new show for 2022!!

www.JackieandGary.com

Come on out! More songs, stories & comedy!

Enjoy the dogs and meet the staff!

We'll have some great fun!!

Hope to see you there!!

what if...

each person at GBUMC chose to take just ONE JAR out
into the community to share with a local business???

If you are interested in helping with this ministry or you would
like more information, please contact Melinda Elmore-Hajek

810-845-2089



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, Director of Christian Education
and Webmaster

Gary Brandt, 9:00 Music Director/Director of Common Grace
Andrew Cramer, Music Director for Traditional Worship
Nancy Petrie, Bell Choir Director



GRAND BLANC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Catching Up On Giving

Summer sure was busy! Even hot and sunny! Between trips up north, toes in the sand, and even enjoying time off from school, the church has kept chugging along and engaging the congregation and community in wonderful and creative ministry! In order for that wonderful momentum to continue, we rely upon your generosity and your giving. As we jump back into the fall with our new program year, we want to take a moment and invite you to ensure that your planned/pledged giving is up to date. You can do this in a number of ways:

- Give during the offering on Sunday mornings.
- Use our online giving option by going to grandblancumc.org/tithe. This is easy and safe!
- You can give by mail by sending your donation to the church office at
515 Bush Ave., Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Again, please know how much your giving is appreciated. It is through your generosity that we are able to live into the ministries, programs, and hospitality that God calls GBUMC to. Thank you!

This year there will not be a CROP Walk in Grand Blanc. However, there will be a CROP Walk in Flint. Frank Murdough, director of Love, Inc., is the chairman of the Flint CROP Walk. He is inviting us to come and walk with them. If you are interested, the walk is on October 2. For more information, please call Frank Murdough at Love, Inc. 810-422-4452



If you do not have access to the internet, but would like to watch Pastor Brian's Daily Devotionals, a church service or perhaps check out some of the wonderful videos available on Amplify, the television in the conference room has access to both YouTube and Amplify. Feel free to come and check out these options anytime that the church is open!



East Winds District Leadership Training

September 30 (4:30-9pm) & October 1 (9am-5pm)

Classes at Clio UMC

- Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course
- Life Together in the UM Connection (Polity)
- Biblical Interpretation: A Roadmap
- Children of Abraham Interfaith Study
- Soul Reset

For more details and information, see the flyers at church or contact the church office.

Cost is \$60 which includes the book.

To register for the Leadership Training sessions go to <https://forms.gle/D61VgwL4mxvf8kP9> and follow the directions given there OR contact the church office and the link can be sent to your email.