

The Grand Blanc Welle November, 2022 See Grand Blanc Welle November, 2022 The Grand Blanc Welle November, 2022 The Grand Blanc Welle November, 2022 The Grand Blanc Welle November, 2022



November 6
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
COMMUNION
All Saint's Sunday
"Mourning With Hope"

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14



November 13 23rd Sunday after Pentecost Laity Sunday "Risky Church"

Parable of the Talents Matthew 25: 14-30



November 20
Christ the King Sunday
Sermon Series:
"Celebration"

"Celebration" Psalm 100





November 27 1st Sunday of Advent Sermon Series: "Nearing Christmas"

"A Waiting World"

Jeremiah 8: 18-22



Bridging Divides and Setting Tables

As Jesus sat down to eat in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners joined Jesus and his disciples at the table. But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard it, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. Go and learn what this means: I want mercy and not sacrifice. I didn't come to call righteous people, but sinners."

-Matthew 9:10-13 (CEB)

What have you done to bridge the divide lately?

It's a tough question, isn't it? It almost sounds like a Jesus question. Not necessarily gentle, but also full of truth and conviction. Seems like one we should have a quick answer to, but at the same time makes us really think. Yep, those are Jesus-style questions. In the above passage from Matthew's Gospel, we find Jesus sitting at the dinner table with tax collectors and sinners. Sometimes, we forget that this dinner might not have been like our typical eat-quick-so-we-can-get-to-piano-practice dinners on Tuesday nights. There's a pretty good chance this was a Shabbat meal – dinner on the sabbath day – and it would have been full of ritual and moments of holiness. Jesus is eating this dinner with his disciples, and who comes and sits down but tax collectors and sinners. Sabbath dinner gets awkward...quickly! This meal that is full of ritual and celebration of God's goodness is infiltrated by those who probably weren't welcome at many sabbath dinner tables. We don't know who they are exactly – Matthew just calls them sinners and tax collectors. But, at the same time, we know *exactly* who they are, don't we?

The Pharisees see it. Now, hear me out, Pharisees were not bad people. They just understood their faithfulness to rely on ensuring that God's laws in scripture are followed and never ignored. They wanted to preserve what they understood as the foundation of faith. Jesus sometimes let things slide, and that raised eyebrows! But what is Jesus doing? He's making the table big enough to welcome those who don't necessarily fit in at any other table.

So, back to the initial question, "what have you done to bridge the divide lately?" We have to be careful as we answer this to remember that Jesus has done quite a bit to bridge the divide with us, too. We don't have it all figured out, and the proverbial table is not yours or mine. It is, has always been, and will continue to be God's table. Room has been made at the table for us. What are we doing, each of us to make room for others?

You see, this question isn't about who is right and who is wrong, and who will be the bigger person to let the other person sit at the table. This question is about drawing closer to someone else, in spite of anything that might divide us.

Continued from previous page

I believe this story from Matthew's Gospel is there as a reminder to us that there is plenty of room at Christ's table, and when we sit at it, we'll also be sitting with those who live, believe, vote, and relate to others differently than us. The table then becomes vast! So, what's then served at the table? Grace. Love. Peace. Hope. That's all!

Does that mean that we'll all start to automatically live in peace and harmony with all those on the other side of the divisive canyons in our lives? No. That is possible – and it is the hope – but that takes a lot of work! But, sitting at the table and pulling out the chair for someone else is a great place to start!

What have you done to bridge the divide recently?

Peace. Pastor Brian



FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge Berryman Eleanor Hall

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Janet Brabyn Donna Brookins Roma Corey Cheryl Cottrell Judy Gratsch Jack Hitchens Dick Hubler Paul Manning Lisa McGehee Eileen Scott Norma Stanbury **Bob Tritten**

FOR OTHERS:

Erin Arbabha **Hudson Bennett** Nancy Bilas Benny Burner David Crane Lilia Crane Patricia Crawfis Fred DeYound Shelia Dirrim May Doran Robert Elliott Larry Fox Alea Gardner Wendell Griffus **Emily Harder** Art Hubler Dave Jones Jay Latimer Kathy Latimer Ellie Lauth Heavenly Martin

Hunter Molyneux Joshua Nelson David Oden Rick Palmer Jennifer Prim

Ruth Roach Martin Ryder

Bill Shier Marvin Thompson

Sara Toth-Perkins

Ed Truhan Linda Vincil Ed Woodard

Shirley Crane

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

Jeanne Dobes

Symphony Linden 202 S. Bridge Street Linden, MI 48451



deepest sympathy to the family and

friends of Ralph Michael Tucker who passed away on October 22. Mike is Marilyn Federici's brother.



~ Congratulations to Shirley Wheeler on the birth of great-grandchildren! Twins, Evelyn and Nora, born on October 5, 2022

New Babies ~Congratulations to Jordan and Matthew Briscoe on the birth of their

daughter, Bazyl Lynn on October 11, 2022. Congratulations to Grandma Gina too!

Please take a moment to stop by the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the office. You will find a variety of cards that you are welcome to help yourself to, or Ministry feel free to use a card that you might have

at home. Then, if you would, please tear off the name and address of someone on our list and send them a card! So easy, anyone can do it! Please contact Carol Cerny or the church office, if you have any questions.

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 videos available on Amplify, the television in the conference room has access to both YouTube and

options anytime that the church is open!

Amplify. Feel free to come and check out these

YouTube

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

We hope you will also "like & share!"

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your generous gifts of love and support. We feel the power of your prayers as they bless us with



restored health, strength, hope and peace. We are so grateful!

Love, Paul, Mary, Abby and Zac Manning

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 table outside the Sanctuary 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!"

November 2022 picks:

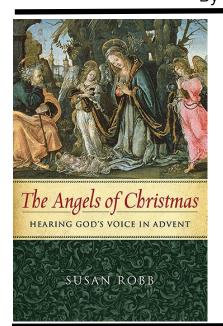


Book:

"Thanks a Thousand: A Gratitude Journey" By A.J. Jacobs <u>Video</u>:

"The Generosity Challenge" A 4-Part Video Series





In-Person Advent Study

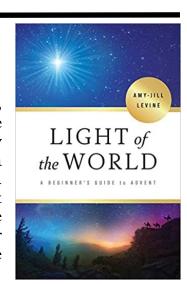
With Angela Campbell

Join Angela Campbell for a 4 week, in-person advent study on Wednesday afternoons November 30, December 6, December 13, and December 20 at 1pm in the library. During the study we will explore the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, and dive deep into the history of the angel Gabriel, and other angels in the Old Testament. We will use Susan Robb's Book, *The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent.* Let's explore together the messages of these angels and their meaning for listeners both then and now. Please contact Angela or Cathy by Monday, Nov. 21 if you want us to purchase a book for you. The cost of the book is \$10.

Virtual Advent Study

With Pastor Brian

Join Pastor Brian for this **Virtual Advent Study on Thursday evenings, December 1**st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd beginning at 7:30pm as together, we explore the classic Christmas stories from the Gospels, and discover how they fit into our lives, too. This class, designed for anyone who lives a busy life, but is still looking for a way to center on Jesus this Advent and Christmas season, this is for you. There are no required readings, so just join us from a cozy space at home, enjoy a beverage or treat, and come online for great conversation and even better community! To sign up for the virtual link, please email pastor@grandblancumc.org or contact the office at (810)694-9040.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Continued...



We have had some inquiries about restarting our Wednesday night Food & Fellowship dinners. These dinners require a lot of planning as well as volunteers for set-up and clean-up. We are looking for 3-5 people to set up a "task force" to explore the return of these dinners, and plan the logistics involved. If you feel called to help this ministry return, please contact

Angela at Christian.education@grandblancumc.org or you can contact the office at office@grandblancumc.org or call 810.694.9040 to reach either Angela or the office.



Hope 🔰 Advent Bags - Treceived a lot of positive feedback regarding the Lent bags that we did earlier this year. So.... I will have advent bags available beginning on Sunday, November 20 & 27.

The first Sunday of Advent is Sunday, November 27. Every family will be invited to take one bag. There will also be a small gift for each child to help them during this Advent Season and will be available on the same Sundays. I hope everyone is as excited as I am in anticipation of these bags and our anticipation of the birth of the Christ child.





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





Classes for all ages at

10:00 a.m.

Every Sunday morning!



Popcorn in the education wing on the 4th Sunday of each month!





On behalf of me and my family, I want to thank each and everyone of you ppreciation for your prayers, kind words, cards, and support for my mother and my family. The passing of my

mom has been one of the most difficult moments in my life, and your prayers, thoughts and love has been felt throughout this dark journey. It has helped me make it through several difficult days. GBUMC has truly been a family for me and your grace and love has been overwhelming.

Thank you!

- Support Our Students



Fall Outdoor Clean-up, following the 11am service

Bring rakes, gloves, leaf-blowers, etc.

November 20 will be our make-up day if the weather doesn't cooperate on November 13.

Fall is here and we are once again kicking off our SOS (support our students) program. The names of college age youth are displayed in the Narthex. As of the printing of this newsletter, there were still a few college students that need sponsors If you are so inclined, please take a youth's name and commit to supporting them during this upcoming school year with mail, prayers, etc. Youth Group will be collecting goods for

Youth Group will be collecting goods for SOS boxes sent out before the end of their semester. A collection box will be located in the Narthex on Sunday,s October 30 & November 6. Items included in these boxes could include, food or snacks.

school supplies, and/or personal supplies. Leftover Halloween candy is great too! Anything that you think they would like that would fit in an 8x8 box. No liquids, please. Thank you for your continued support of this program.



YOUTH NEWS!

Saturday, November 12:

Noon to 3pm Set-up for Soup & Bread, lunch and pack SOS boxes!

Sunday, November 13:

9:30am to 2pm Soup & Bread and FISH food sorting.

Soup & Bread is one of our fundraisers for ASP (Appalachia Service Project).

SOS boxes: We will be filling boxes with items that were donated by the congregation to send to the college students! This is a great way to reach out to our former youth group members!

FISH food sorting. The congregation will be donating food for the FISH food pantry. We will get the food organized and bagged up for FISH representatives to come and pick up for their holiday baskets.

Friday, November 25: Hanging of the Greens

We are looking forward to being with all of you! We need your help!





Pastor @ Panera

Every Tuesday from 10am to noon. Prayer, Chat, Advice or a listening ear.

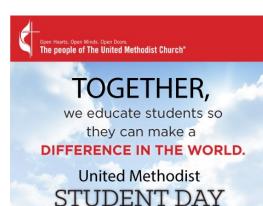
All are welcome. Invite your friends to stop by to meet Pastor Brian.





You'll be happy to know that the Mission Team has sent \$1,000.00 to UMCOR for Florida Relief due to

Hurricane Ian. These funds came directly out of the third Sunday Mission offering (blue envelopes). Thanks for your generosity!



www.umcgiving.org/umsd

Sunday, November 27: United Methodist Student Day

On Sunday, November 27th there will be a special offering taken for United Methodist Student Day. Your support helps United Methodist students who don't have the resources to attend a school of their choice with Gift of Hope college scholarships. Envelopes will be provided for your convenience.

This offering helps provide over 70 scholarships available to United Methodist students to further their education and enrich the life of the Church. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. When you support United Methodist Student Day, your donation transforms lives through education. Thank you for your generosity!

Advent and "In lieu of Poinsettias" Donation

Your Advent offering (pink envelope in your giving box) will go to Liberia for the United Methodist Rural and Development Program (UMRADP). Their objective is to support agriculture infrastructure revitalization and development, increase cash and food crop production, and strengthen community outreach strategies to improve food security, job creation, and poverty reduction for sustainability and self-reliance.

We will be supporting an Appalachia project, Red Bird Clinic Community Health Center with the "In lieu of Poinsettias" mission offering. The Red Bird Clinic strives to improve the health of those living in remote mountain Appalachia where other services do not reach, or to persons that have limited or no transportation to available services by providing health programs. Their discount sliding scale fee programs ensure that medical and dental care, rehabilitation, and preventative services are accessible.

The donation for "In lieu of Poinsettias" needs to be dropped off at the office with the form below. We will not be ordering poinsettias this year but if you make a donation please designate in "memory of" or "honor of" using the form below and leave it with your check or cash in the GBUMC office, by Sunday, December 18. A list of the donations will be furnished with the bulletin at Christmas.

Please give generously in this joyful Christmas season. THANK YOU!!

X				
Here's the in	nformation we	need for your	donation:	
Memory of (or) Honor of				
Given by: _				
Envelope #_		Cash	_ (or) Check _	
Amount give	en \$			

11/06 Wise 11/13 Campbell

11/20

11/27



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

11/06 West Family

11/13 Soup & Bread (Youth)

11/20 Education

11/27 Finance



Both of our worship services are available for viewing on our YouTube Channel! 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.

11:00am Worship Ushers

1st Sunday Jim Wise

2nd Sunday Virginia Sullivan

3rd Sunday Bob & Barb Mills

4th Sunday Gary Bendall

COUNTERS

11/06 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore

11/13 Jessica Smith, Carol Cerny

11/20 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise

11/27 Jim Bunker, Tom Cerny



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Wishes

1st Traci Russell

4th Tammy Martin

6th Matt Briscoe, Shirley Crane (94),

Celia Southworth (85)

9th Ethan Norris

10th Henry Hagenstein, Lisa McGehee

11th Jim Wise

12th Thomas Cook, Evyn Holtz

13th David Sanborn, Shirley Wheeler

14th Brian Rice

15th Kassidy Campbell, Alexis Stack

16th Nathan Bendall

17th Marjorie Berryman (98)

18th Laurie Tritten, Emily Williams

19th Chad Ivan

21st Mary Manning

24th Carol Capell

25th Jenna Sanborn, Bob Tritten

27th Steven Cottrell

29th Wanda Roberts

30th Robert Carlson

Anniversary Blessings

1st Emily & Douglas Williams

2nd Cathy & Jeff Mitchinson (31)

13th Jan & Thomas Pettit

18th Angela & Kevin Cook

19th Dick & Donna Hubler (62)



Greeters

9:00am/Education wing 11:00am/Education Wing

11/06 Dick Shick

11/13 Marylee Hubel

11/20 Becky Doran

Jeff & Lisa McGehee

11/27

Would you like to volunteer? The sign-up sheet is on the kiosk. Or contact Tom Cerny with questions tomcerny1@aol.com

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church Building and Roof Mortgage Summary

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 09-30-22)

Mortgage Balance with UMF = \$130,778.37

Mortgage Reserve Fund Balance (as of 09-30-22) = \$9,809.52 Roof Reserve Fund Balance (as of 09-30-22) = \$16,534.90

	Fri Sat	10a Men's Coffee 4 10a O.A. 11a Memorial Service 7p Al Anon	10a Men's Coffee 10a O.A. 10a Yoga 10a Yoga 7p Al Anon 6p Euchre Night	10a Men's Coffee 18	OFFICE CLOSED 5 9a Hanging of the 26 10a Men's Coffee 10a O.A. YOUTH HANGING 10a Yoga OF THE GREENS 7p Al Anon	
.R 2(Thu	10a Drop-In Bible Study Study 6p Common Grace Rehearsal	Noon: Seasoned Citizens 6p Common Grace Rehearsal	10a Drop-In Bible 17 Study Study 7p Al Anon	24 OFFICE CL 24 OFFICE CL 10a Men's C THANKS CHVING 7p Al Anon	
1BE	Wed	10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	10a Women's Circle 10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	23 10a Prayer Group	30 10a Prayer Group 10a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal
/EN	Tue	10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga 7p W & A Meeting	10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga	1 5 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga	10a Pastor @ Panera 2 2 10a Yoga 6p Community Choir Rehearsal 7p Comm. Thanksgiving Service	29 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 6:30p Yoga
<u>S</u>	Mon		7 6p Missions Team	14	21	28
	Sun		COMMUNION 9a Gathering in the Spirit 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship Noon Choir Rehearsal	SOUP & BREAD! 99 Gathering in the Spirit 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship Noon Choir Rehearsal Noon Outdoor Clean-up	9a Gathering in the Spirit 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship Noon Choir Rehearsal	9a Gathering in the Sprint 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship Noon Choir Rehearsal

Join us for A Community Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 22, 7:00pm at Grand Blanc United Methodist Church

(515 Bush Avenue, Grand Blanc)

Hosted by: First Congregational, Grand Blanc United Methodist, Holy Spirit Lutheran, Kirkridge Presbyterian, and St. Christopher's Episcopal Churches

Individuals are invited to bring their favorite pie (or other dessert) to share during fellowship after the service.

Come Join Us for a Time of Thanksgiving!

Seasoned Citizens Potluck/Program Thursday, November 10

Gather at 12 noon for coffee & conversation Devotion at 12:25 and

Potluck lunch at 12:30pm.

Program: Lucas Hartwell will tell us about the "Churchill Club", a group of Danish school boys who performed acts of sabotage against the German Army during World War II. It's a fascinating story of resistance against oppression and occupation of their homeland.

All are welcome.

See you there . . . and bring a friend!





Saturday, November 12 @ 6pm

This tested tried and true event gets for being just good fun, good snacks and a chance to hang with good people.

Bring a friend or two!

Bring a snack to share!

If you don't know how to play or need a refresher, come at 5:30 pm for some practice hands.

If you have questions feel free to reach out to Melinda Elmore-Hajek or Brian Rice



Saturday, November 26 Hanging of the Greens 9:00 a.m.

Everyone's help is welcome and appreciated!

The Youth Group will be decorating the tree in the Sanctuary on Friday,

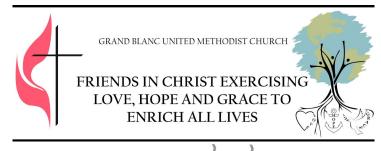


Grand Blanc United Methodist Church 515 Bush Avenue Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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 Adrianna White, Nursery Supervisor





SOUP & BREAD FUNDRAISER FOR ASP

(Appalachia Service Project)

Sunday, November 13

Following **both** worship services Your donations to this fundraiser will help send our youth on a mission trip to serve in Appalachia in 2024. This life-changing trip allows the youth to help make someone's home warmer, safer and drier.

Donations of Soup are needed.
Please sign-up!

Thankful for our Staff

Dear GBUMC family,

Throughout the challenges of this year, our staff has remained extremely dedicated to our congregants and ministries. They have had to adjust to new norms of supporting our church and have done so with love and commitment.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will be collecting our annual LOVE gift for the staff. We understand that finances may be limited but any donation is appreciated. Donations need to be received by November 26th and

marked 'staff appreciation" whether you give by check or electronically. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Val Wise

Chairperson—SPRC



Working with our Mission Team:

Fall Food drive: Our Mission Team will be passing out flyers for their annual Fall Food Drive on Sunday, October 30 and Sunday, November 6. These flyers will list many of the most needed non-perishable items that will help make the holidays a little brighter for our neighbors that are struggling with food insecurity. Please return your donations to the church by Sunday, November 13.

Giving Tree: Our giving tree will be set up on sign-up genius, again this year. The sign-up will be posted before Thanksgiving. Please follow the instructions given as to how to return your donations. All gifts need to be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 11. If you do not have access to the internet or would like help with the sign-up, please feel free to contact Cathy in the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Mission Team projects.