



"Connection"

February 5

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

COMMUNION

Sermon Series:

"Sharing a Vision"

"Revisiting Bigger Tables"



February 12

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon Series:

"Sharing a Vision"

"Transformation & Resurrection"



February 19

Transfiguration Sunday

Sermon Series:

"Sharing a Vision"

"To Serve"



February 22

Ash Wednesday

Sermon Series:

"A Lenten Promise"

"Dry"

Mark 1: 9-13



February 26

1st Sunday of Lent

Sermon Series:

"A Lenten Promise"

"Needs"

1 Kings 19: 1-6

"This Is One Boring Article"

In the book of Acts, chapter 6, we discover what might be considered the first church committee. It was a team of 7 who were charged with making sure that the widows who were part of the early Christian community were cared for and not forgotten or neglected in the midst of all the great work of ministry. In other words, it was a committee that was created for the purpose of not neglecting what really does matter...caring for others!

Fast forward about 2000 years, and we've expanded the idea of church committees, just a bit [insert church committee joke here]. As a United Methodist Church, we are part of a conference that, in our case, encompasses the entire state of Michigan. Our conference – the Michigan Conference of The UMC – is made up of somewhere in the ballpark of 800-900 churches. Currently, those 800+ churches are organized into 9 geographical "districts." Grand Blanc UMC is part of the East Winds District.

A while ago, the Conference began a process to explore how we could move from 9 districts to 7 districts by July of 2023. As that date approaches, we've been given an update, and so I wanted to share that update with you. The conference is, in fact, moving from 9 districts to 7 districts. Grand Blanc UMC will still be part of the East Winds District, along with many others, and we're even welcoming some new churches to the district! Oh, and I'll still be serving as your pastor here at GBUMC.

Knowing that our current district superintendent, Rev. John Hice, had planned to retire, we assumed we'd be assigned a new district superintendent, and that has happened, too. Effective July 1, 2023, our district superintendent will be Rev. Dr. Margie Crawford. I look forward to Dr. Crawford's leadership, and I am sure that you'll enjoy getting to know her as we have the opportunity.

Now, I know that this might not be the most exciting newsletter article that you've ever read. In fact, I know it's not! But I wanted to share all of the above with you in order to share this important piece of information:

By and large, this change has minimal impact on Grand Blanc UMC. And the minimal impact that it does have is all good and helpful! Grand Blanc UMC will still be in the business of making and nurturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We will still be seeking ways to create new spaces for new faces. We will still be connecting with our community, serving as Christ first served us, and loving our neighbors.

You see, the first church committee that we discovered all the way back in the Book of Acts was put together to make sure that certain things were taken care of in order to make sure ministry could still be fruitful. The same is true here. Our relationship with our Annual Conference and our district provides us with meaningful and helpful connections and relationships, as well as certain ministry resources. What that kind of organization does, in essence, is it allows us to be the hands and feet of mission and ministry in our own backyards. And so, as disciple-makers and disciples ourselves, we keep serving, loving, and being the church!

Amen?
Pastor Brian

In Our Hearts & Prayers

FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge Berryman
Marge Cramer
Shirley Crane
Eleanor Hall

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Shirley Andrews
Donna Brookins
Roma Corey
Cheryl Cottrell
Sharel Etheridge
Judy Gratsch
Dick Hubler
Paul Manning
Lisa McGehee
Eileen Scott
Bob Tritten

FOR OTHERS:

Hudson Bennett
Nancy Bilas
Sue Blondin
Patricia Crawfis
Cynthia Crawford
Fred DeYound
Shelia Dirrim
May Doran
Robert Elliott
Karen Ferguson
Larry Fox
Alea Gardner
Wendell Griffus
Dave Jones
Sierra Lamson
Jay Latimer
Kathy Latimer
Ellie Lauth
Adrianna Martell
Heavenly Martin

Carter Michael
Hunter Molyneux
Joshua Nelson
David Oden
Jim Packer
Rick Palmer
Dave Pilon
Frank Polehanki
Linda Polehanki
Jennifer Prim
Martin Ryder
Bill Shier
Bettie Stach
Barb Stephenson
Easton Stephenson
Jeff & Amy Tebo
Marvin Thompson
Sara Toth-Perkins
Ed Truhan
Linda Vincil
Ed Woodard



Grand Blanc UMC will follow the Grand Blanc School District in closing our campus for inclement weather. So if Grand Blanc Schools are closed due to weather conditions, the church will also be closed. All in-person events for that day will be cancelled. If the weather clears and a group chooses to meet later in the day, it will be the responsibility of the group leader to convey that information to the group.

Most staff will remain available via email and phone when working from home.



We extend our deepest sympathy to:

~ the family and friends of Deanna Cook, who passed away on December 30. Deanna is Kevin Cook's mother.
~ the family and friends of Carol J. Batdorf, who passed away on January 2. Carol was the choir director at GBUMC about 50 years ago.

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.



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

Grand Blanc UMC

We hope you will also "like & share!"



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



C.A.R.E. Team

care.team@grandblancumc.org

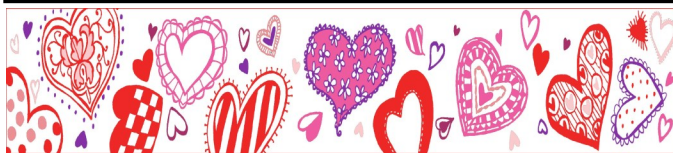
Like to make people feel welcome?
Like to share that smile in your heart?

Be a "Greeter"!

Greeters are needed for both worship services to welcome all who come through our doors. We help visitors learn about GBUMC, enjoy greeting old friends and meeting new friends in Christ. Greeters can sign up for either one or both Sunday services, on regular rotation or as a sub. A signup sheet is available on the table in the Narthex or call or email Tom Cerny to learn more or to sign up.

810-252-6943 tomcerny1@aol.com.

PS—We'll help you get comfortable with the role and equip you with the tools (aka information) so you can respond to questions or know who to introduce the person to, based on their interests.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Director of Christian Education
Angela Campbell
christian.education@grandblancumc.org

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!"

February 2023 picks:



Book:

"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"
By Maya Angelou

Video:

"Reckless Love: Jesus' Call to
Love Our Neighbors"
By Tom Berlin
A 6-Part Video Series



2023 VIRTUAL LENTEN STUDY

Presented by:

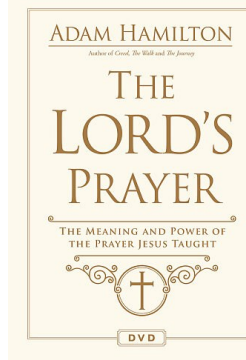
Pastor Haley Hansen & Pastor Brian West

Thursdays @ 7:30pm

February 23rd - March 30th

(To register and receive the virtual study link, please contact either church office)

Join friends from Grand Blanc UMC and Open Door UMC for a virtual Lenten study as, together, we study "Renegade Gospel" by Mike Slaughter. Reading the book is encouraged, but not required.



Lenten Study

**Adam Hamilton's
The Lord's Prayer: The
Meaning and Power of the
Prayer Jesus Taught.**

This 6 week study will meet at church on Wednesday afternoons at 1pm, beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22 and ending April 5th. We will not meet on March 29. During this study, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton guides us to really know—and really pray—the Lord's Prayer. He explores each of its rich lines and their meaning in the Bible, illuminating what we ask of God and what we ask of ourselves through its words. And he teaches us how to use it as a pattern for our own prayer life. We will watch a short video each week followed by discussion. If you wish to purchase the Hamilton's book to supplement this study, it is available at Amazon.com for \$9.99. Cathy or Angela are available to assist anyone in ordering the book. Please contact Angela at christian.education@grandblancumc.org or Cathy at 810.694.9040 by Sunday, Feb. 19 if you are interested in joining this study.

MORE

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Help is needed in our Sunday School classes (10am to 11am) and in our Nursery on Sunday mornings (two "shifts" 8:45am to 10:30am and

10:30am to 12:15pm). We have a sign-up available through the sign-up genius website. Please contact the office for the link or we can sign you up, if you don't have access to the internet.

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



Amplify. Feel free to come and check out these options anytime that the



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!**



Are you like me? I have a small stack of gift cards left over from our birthdays and Christmas that have a balance of a few cents to a couple of dollars, you know the ones that you carry forever and forget about? Well guess what? If you have forgotten about gift cards, Christian Education would be happy to utilize them for you! We can always use gift cards to places like Walmart, Target, Meijer, Sam's Club, Dollar Tree, Menard's or Home Depot. Gift cards like these can be used for our Summer Fun programs, our Sunday School classes, and many other programs/events throughout the year. Thank you so much for all of your support for this vital ministry.

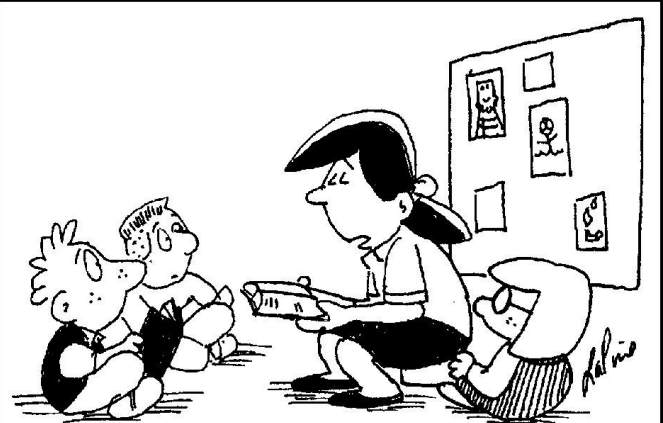
Lent Event

Save the date

Wednesday, March 15th

We will have a simple Lenten soup supper with programming about Prayer. There will be more details to come as we get closer to March.

Stay tuned!



"No, Henry. 'The Feeding of the Five Thousand' is not another one of the pastor's fish stories."

02/05
02/12
02/19 Wolfgram
02/26 Mitchinson



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

02/05 Sunday School Class
02/12 Lutton
02/19 Worship & Arts
02/26 Education

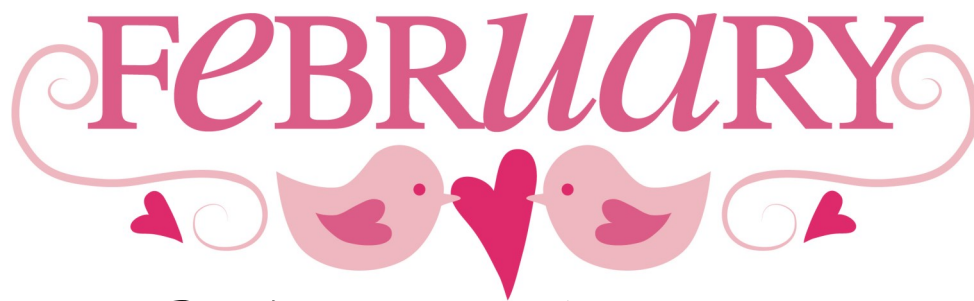


11:00am Worship Ushers

1st Sunday Jim Wise
2nd Sunday Virginia Sullivan
3rd Sunday Bob & Barb Mills
4th Sunday Gary Bendall

COUNTERS

02/05 Jessica Smith, Carol Cerny
02/12 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise
02/19 Jim Bunker, Tom Cerny
02/26 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Wishes

1st Dan Carvill, Peggy Chwojnicky
2nd Luke Lock
5th Cooper DeVos, Ryan DeVos,
Sharne Scott (81)
7th Ken Cottrell, Katie Lengyel
9th Blakeley Cheney
13th Randalynn Hajek, Ron Moleski
14th Bennett Carlson
16th Becky Anderson
17th Hannah Dutton, Tony Hubler,
Cathy Mitchinson, Peter Rahn
18th Will Bigler, Sandi Russell
19th Eleanor Hall (93)
20th Stan Chwojnicky, Lori DeVos
21st Zayden Briscoe, Barb Mills,
Linda Reigle

23rd Dale Wolfgram (80)
25th Roma Corey (85), Delilah Herron
27th Brett Carte, Aaron Klosterman
28th Aaron Cheney



Anniversary Blessings

14th Peggy & Stan Chwojnicky (42),
Val & Jim Wise (7)
18th Laurie & Bob Tritten (39)
24th Marilyn & Ron Moleski (61)



Greeters

9:00am/Education wing	11:00am/Education Wing
02/05 Marylee Hubel	Jeff & Lisa McGehee
02/12 Becky Doran	Jeff & Lisa McGehee
02/19 Dick Shick	

*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 Financial Summary

General Fund Balance (as of 12-31-22) = \$24,070
Mortgage Fund Balance (as of 12-31-22) = \$11,679

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 12-31-22) = \$127,485



February 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 5p Community Dinner 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	2 10a Drop-In Bible Study 6p Common Grace	3 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon
5 COMMUNION 9a Worship Service 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 10:15z Choir Rehearsal 11a Traditional Worship	6 6p Mission Team Mtg	7 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 7p W & A Meeting	8 10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	9 NO Drop-In Bible Study Noon: Seasoned Citizens 6p Common Grace	10 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	11 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
12 9a Worship Service 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Traditional Worship 12:30p New Member Class	13 7p Ad Council via Zoom	14 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga	15 10a Women's Circle 10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 6:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal	16 10a Drop-In Bible Study 6p Common Grace	17 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	18 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
19 9a Worship Service 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 10:15a Choir Rehearsal 11a Traditional Worship	20 President's Day Church office closed	21 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga	22 10a Prayer Shawl 10a Prayer Group 7p Ash Wednesday Service	23 10a Drop-In Bible Study	24 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon	25 10a O.A. 10a Yoga 6p Euchre
26 9a Worship Service 10a J.A.M./Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 10:15a Choir Rehearsal 11a Traditional Worship	27	28 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga				

MORE

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS

- 1 PETER 4:10 -

It is with a lot of excitement that share our newest chance to embrace our Community.

It really is very simple. We let folks know we are serving a meal, we prepare the meal, serve it and clean up, along with meeting new people and making the evening fun and special for all. This meal might be reminiscent of the church, Food and Fellowship, of the past. It might, also, offer a chance to reach to those with food insecurities, or someone who just doesn't want to cook and we can't forget that it could offer us a chance to INVITE and WELCOME. No matter the reason, it's golden for us because we get to be the hands and feet of God and co-labor with Christ to love, serve, and heal the broken, hurting, and hopeless in our part of this world. ♥

Yes, there is a chance to help and if you are interested, please indicate on your Connect Card, the sign up sheet in the narthex or contact the church office.

All
are
welcome!

Beginning in January, 2023,
GBUMC will be hosting a

COMMUNITY DINNER

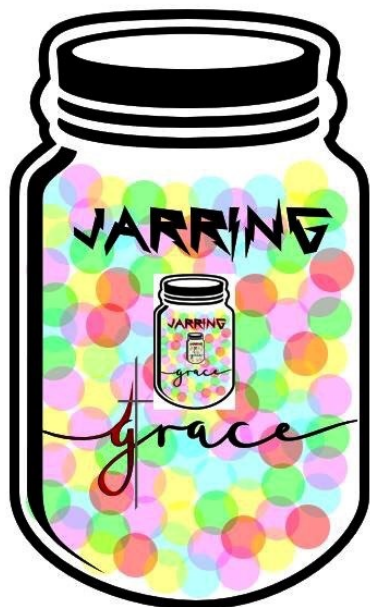
Join us on February 1 for
Pulled Pork Sliders!
Takeout available!

The FIRST Wednesday
of each month, 5 - 6 pm
(freewill offering will be accepted)

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church
515 Bush Ave ♥ Grand Blanc ♥ MI
810 694-9040 grandblancumc.org

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can."

John Wesley



JARRING GRACE—This wonderful **Community Engagement** is quietly happening each month by faithful, self driven volunteers who deliver candy to local businesses. A BIG THANK YOU to Tom and Carol Cerny, Gail Lutton, Bob Mills, Laurie Tritten, Marilyn Horton, Mariann Quaderer and Melinda Elmore-Hajek. Through their effort, 39 local businesses receive a visit every other month, relationships are evolving and, ask any volunteer, it takes so little time, but brings so much joy.

If you are interested in taking candy to your favorite business and thanking them and letting them know GBUMC is here and appreciate what they do, please reach out and become part of the TEAM (all supplies are provided and a brief exciting pep talk will get you started ☺).

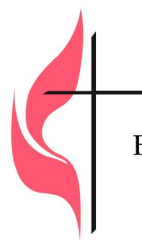
Every United Methodist church organizes itself to plan and carry out its ministries within their community. This is one of the ways we engage and it's working. Contact Melinda Elmore-Hajek for more information.

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 Attendant



GRAND BLANC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



TO: Those who are interested in making the church grounds beautiful

WHAT: Planning Meeting

WHEN: Sunday, February 5 at 10:05am

WHERE: Fellowship Hall



Help Us Maintain the
Church Grounds

On Sunday, February 5 it is our hope to meet between services to develop some plans for 2023 to make the church property look really nice. If we can get several folks to each do a small amount good things can certainly result.

Identifying those who have an interest, is important, so helping to personally spread the word of this meeting will be greatly appreciated.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 22, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Seasoned Citizens!



Thursday, February 9, 2023

Noon: Coffee & Conversation


12:25pm: Prayer & Devotion

12:30pm: Potluck Lunch

Program: Ken Lemons from the Greater Flint Health Coalition counsels those caught in the grip of mental health/addiction issues. As a person in recovery, he shares his experience and special insights into these dangerous disorders.



Saturday, February 25, 6 pm

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

A New Ministry of
Grand Blanc UMC

BLESSING BAGS



LENTEN INGATHERING

Each Sunday during the season of Lent, we'll be collecting a variety of personal care items that will be included in the Blessing Bags for our neighbors who are facing housing and food insecurities. On Easter Sunday, we'll celebrate the start of this new ministry as we bless the ingathering and prepare the bags to be sent out!

WHAT CAN I BRING?

February 26th: Razors & Shaving
Cream (travel)

March 5th: Deodorants &
Lotions (travel)

March 12th: Shampoo (travel)
& Bar Soap

March 19th: Toothbrush &
Toothpaste (travel)

March 26th: Socks &
Washcloths

April 2nd: Band-Aids &
Facial Tissues (travel)

Easter: Hand Sanitizer (travel)

Thank You!