



"Connection"

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES @ 10:00 AM



July 2

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Conference Presentation

Message by Rev. Grace Imanthiu

Lamentations 3:22-23

Matthew 15:21-28



July 9

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"I Believe"*

"Creator God"

Psalms 90:1-5

Acts 17:16-28



July 16

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"I Believe"*

"Man, Christ, Son, and Lord"



July 23

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"I Believe"*

"Spirit Conceived and Born"



July 30

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"I Believe"*

"Resurrection or Resuscitation?"



Hanging in my office, just above my desk is a baseball jersey with my last name stitched between the shoulders, and the number 6 in the center. The number 6 was my choice, in the hopes of channeling the legendary Al Kaline. My name on it, however, was my dream come true. It's also a reminder of the day that I almost recorded an out against Hall of Fame player, and best designated hitter ever, Edgar Martinez...almost.

While I was in seminary a good friend of mine, Tim Wisecup, happened to win a contest put on by Pepsi called "Pepsi Max Field of Dreams." As the contest winner, Tim was allowed to put together a team of 10 of his friends to play a baseball game in front of 15,000. Our opponents? Hall of Fame professional baseball players.

That night in May, 2012, I got to bat against Boston Red Sox pitcher, Pedro Martinez. I got to stand at first base with The Big Hurt himself, Frank Thomas. I even got heckled by the greatest catcher of all time, Johnny Bench. As a baseball fan, it really was a childhood dream come true!

Then, in the first inning, with the Kaline #6 on my back, I took my position at Right Field. Stepping up to the plate was designated hitter, Edgar Martinez – again, one of the best. As luck would have it, the first pitch met his bat, and the ball sailed out into Right Field. I suddenly became aware that I was the only one out there. It was my ball to catch and my time to shine! With all eyes on this 6'8" tee-ball experienced baseball fraud, I ran backwards, lifted up my glove, and...completely missed it. The ball fell to the ground and rolled on the grass. As I threw the ball into the infield, I heard someone yell from the stands, "Come on, West! How could you miss that?!"

I tell this story to highlight something that was going through my head for the rest of that night – an existential question, really: *Was this night my dream come true, or my most public failure?* In other words, did I get to play out a childhood fantasy, or did I just make the biggest blunder of my life?

While this circumstance is a bit unusual, the question really isn't that uncommon. We live our lives with successes and celebrations all over the place. Sometimes, they're big moments of success, but more often than not, they're mini, and so we hardly notice them. For instance, you got out of bed this morning! That's a success. You managed to smile at your coworker! Great job. You got to spend time with family and friends. Awesome. You get the point. Life is full of wins...all the time! The problem is, we are really good at fixating on that one thing that didn't go so great.

In other words, we find ourselves on a baseball field, living our best lives – full of joy and gladness – but all we can remember is our shortcoming.

My invitation to you today is this: acknowledge when you drop the ball. But, also take time to look at the beautiful field on which you stand. God's grace, love, and forgiveness wants you to enjoy the game, and not linger on the missed ball.

Peace,
Pastor Brian (#6)

In our PRAYERS

FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Marge Berryman
Marge Cramer
Shirley Crane
Eleanor Hall

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Shirley Andrews
Amanda Bendall
Donna Brookins
Jim Bunker
Roma Corey
Cheryl Cottrell
Janet Davis
Sharel Etheridge
Marcia Ferguson
Judy Gratsch
Dick Hubler
Paul Manning
Ron Moleski
Don Sawyer
Richard Smith
Bob Tritten
Dale Wolfgram

FOR OTHERS:

Susan Allan
Hudson Bennett
Nancy Bilas
Margaret Brainerd
Sallie Burek
Patricia Crawfis
Warren Crawfis
Fred DeYoung
Robert Elliott
Harold Ferguson
Larry Fox
Alea Gardner
Gene Griffel
Judith Hellmich
Jim Hood
James Howard
Dave Jones
Carl Katterjohn
Jay Latimer
Kathy Latimer
Ellie Lauth
Bill Lockhart
Adrianna Martell
Heavenly Martin
Julie McKenna
Joshua Nelson
Larry Oden
Rick Palmer
Jennifer Prim
Martin Ryder
Bill Shier

Larry Spataro
Easton Stephenson
Gregory Sumerix
Jeff & Amy Tebo
Bill Thewalt
Marvin Thompson
Pastor Greg Timmons
Sara Toth-Perkins
Kayla Wiese
Laura Wilson
Ed Woodard



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 church is open!



Thank you to Chloe & Jennifer Banfield-Haggerty for painting our 2 new exterior doors!! They look beautiful! We appreciate your time and effort!

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

Grand Blanc UMC

We hope you will also
"like & share!"

We Need Your



If you ever find yourself in need of prayer, please do not hesitate to contact the church office (Hospitals cannot notify

us). The congregation would like to pray for you. Even if you do not want your prayer request shared with the entire congregation, Pastor Brian would like to keep you in his prayers. We will not share a prayer request unless we have permission.



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 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.



Congratulations to Maddie & Andrew Koerbel who were united in marriage on June 4, 2023!!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Director of Christian Education
Angela Campbell

Pastor's Pick!

Each month Pastor Brian will be offering his "Pastor's Pick" 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. 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!" Previous "Pastor's Picks" can be found in the Church Library.



July 2023 book pick: "Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddah, and Mohammed Cross the road?" By Brian McLaren

Summer Fun

Wednesdays in July

(July 12, 19 & 26th)

from 9:30a-12:30p



Come one come all!
Summer Fun is for all kids K-5th.

Join us as we learn about the
Fruits of the Spirit through
lessons, crafts, games, songs,
snacks & play.



Sound like Fun... it is!
Bring a friend/neighbor & have
fun together



Summer Social

Wednesdays in August!

from 9:30a-12:30p

All school age kids are invited-bring a friend!
If you need to drop-off your child, please contact
Angela, in advance, so that proper adult
supervision can be arranged

August 2: Meet at the splash pad at Physician's Park (218 Reid Road), we'll splash around and have some fun! Bring a lunch and we'll have a picnic!

August 9: Let's check out Sloan Museum! Meet in the church parking lot @ 9:30am to carpool/caravan.

August 16: Meet at Rust Park for Playtime and a picnic! Bring a lunch.

August 23: Meet at church for water games, other activities and pizza lunch!

If it rains on any off-site scheduled times, meet at the church for fun and games!

SAVE THE DATE!

We have a lot of events coming up this Summer. Keep checking your announcements, emails and future Connections for more information closer to the events.

- **July 30**—Potluck after Worship
- **August 24**—Community Prayer Event
- **August 27**—Worship in the Park/Blessing of the Backpacks/3rd Grade Bible Presentations. **Following worship:** 12p-2p Community Back-to School Event co-hosted with Impact Realty @ Physician's Park (218 Reid Road)
- **September 10**—Sunday School Resumes, Church Potluck Picnic

NEWS & NOTES FROM COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Community Outreach & Engagement Team (COE),
a long title for such a simple concept

♥ **LOVING and CARING for our neighbors.**

While this idea and many of the projects are not new, we are excited to have gathered a team of people together to begin to grow it. This page will highlight events, many of them outside the doors and into the streets. So enjoy and please feel free to get involved.

All are
welcome!

Takeout available

COMMUNITY DINNER

NO DINNER IN JULY

See you Wednesday, August 2, 2023

Mini Cold Cut Sliders, Salad Bar, Dessert, Drinks

Please feel free to invite friends!

Heartsaver® CPR AED

What better way to share love than to be prepared in case the unthinkable happens. We are excited to share, we have a staff that is committed to being CPR/AED certified. But, how about we take it a step further and we all can consider taking two hours and being trained. The cost is \$45 and the class runs from 10 am-12 pm on the first Saturday of each month. If you are interested, contact, Jim L Cooper Jr. (810) 964-1320 or register on line at...

<https://www.coopercprllc.com>

This course will cover adult, child and infant CPR and adult, child and infant airway obstructions, along with how to use the AED. *Grab a friend and sign up today!*



JARRING GRACE has been going for one year and we are thrilled with the results. We have 7 volunteers who regularly deliver candy along with conversation to 34 business and we are excited with the growing relationships. Our goal for this coming year is to make sure we have connected with every school and school related

building in the district. Currently we cover, McGrath, Anderson, Central Office, the Bus Garage and Middle School East.

If you think you might like to deliver candy to one of the schools, please feel free to contact Melinda Elmore-Hajek (melmehajek@gmail.com or 810 845-2089).



FAMILY FUN FEST WEEKEND

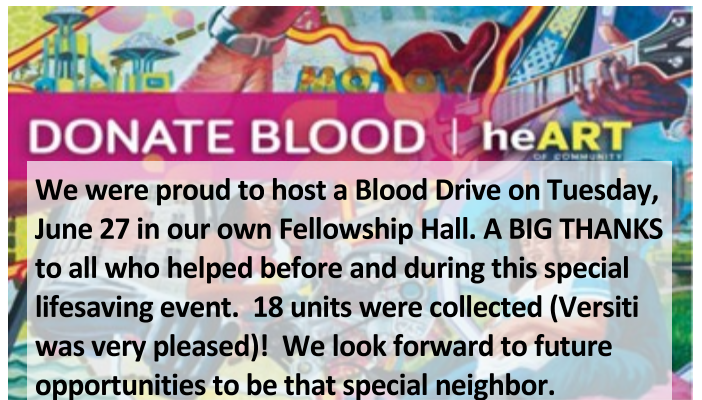
Dinner was delivered to the Arnold Amusement workers on Tuesday, June 13. Eighty workers were fed. Dinner included, pulled

pork sandwiches, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, cookie, drink. Also delivered were numerous boxes of personal hygiene products donated by local businesses.

Volunteers were set up on Friday, June 16 and 17 in Nan Rahn's yard, during the Indian Hill Subdivision Garage Sales, giving away hotdogs as a fun engaging way to connect with our neighbors.

And...there were some very unique neighbors.

150 hotdogs were given away. ☺



The gift of SERVICE

volunteer
do good, feel good

New fundraiser for our Appalachia Service Project and other youth mission opportunities!!!

Rent me!!!

Celebrate someone's birthday by renting this birthday sign for their yard. A current or past member of our ASP teams will place the sign in the yard of your choice the night before the celebrant's birthday and will remove the sign the day following the birthday!

Sign-up on the calendar next to the sign or contact the church office! Please make your \$50 check payable to GBUMC and note that it is for ASP!

Thank you for your continued support of our amazing youth!



We will soon be starting our ASP 2024 trip planning!!!

We are looking for youth that would be interested in participating in this amazing mission experience!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Dan Carvill, Cathy Mitchinson or Pastor Brian!

Or anyone who has been on a previous trip!



Texts from Church

Stay up to date with worship news and information from Grand Blanc United Methodist Church! It's as simple as texting GBUMC to 43506. That's it!

Now, you'll receive reminders, information, and encouragements to worship with your church family at GBUMC!



We are always looking for help with our grounds upkeep! If you have time to pull some weeds or deadhead flowers, please feel free to stop by!

If you have any questions about what/where/how, please feel free to contact Bob Mills 810-240-0403 or the church office. All help is greatly appreciated!



Join us for our second Summer Church Field Trip!

The Wright Museum of African American History
Thursday, August 17, 2023
11am to 1pm



THE WRIGHT

Located in downtown Detroit, the Wright Museum helps to celebrate, preserve and share the African American culture and history. Join us for a day of learning and discovering with a guided tour. Cost is just \$10/person (Due August 1, 2023). Cost does not include lunch at a location TBD. If you wish to carpool meet at the church by 9:30am.

To sign-up for this opportunity, please contact the church office.

07/02 Pastor Brian
 07/09
 07/16
 07/23 Mitchinson
 07/30



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

07/02 Kristin Ivan
 07/09
 07/16
 07/23 West Family
 07/30 Potluck!

Greeters 10:00am

07/02 John Billings
 07/09 Marylee Hubel
 07/16 Becky Doran
 07/23
 07/30 RaeAnn Waisanen

*Would you like to volunteer?
 Contact Tom Cerny with questions
 tomcerny1@aol.com*

COUNTERS

07/02 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise
 07/09 Sandy Jones, Tom Cerny
 07/16 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore
 07/23 Jessica Smith, Carol Cerny
 07/30 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise

Would you like to help? Let the office know! We just need a couple more volunteers to keep everyone at no more than once a month!



Birthday Wishes

1st Eric Carlson, Brian Greenlees, Christopher Lengyel
 4th Grahm Lawcock
 6th Jennifer Sandrock
 7th Becca Brinn, Jacob Sandrock
 8th Gary Atchison
 10th Rosie Grain
 12th David Beardslee, Chuck Rossman
 13th Lynelle Mueser
 14th Janet Davis (88), Gavin Norris, Mary Vandermark (31)
 15th Pat England
 16th Sam Coronado, Kelsey Ivan, Jeremy Waisanen
 17th Robie Carlson, Olivia Mitchinson, Mariann Quaderer
 18th Dori Huntoon, Mike Lutton
 19th Emily Carvill, Matthew Rahn
 20th John Billings, Nathan Kurosky
 22nd Bea Messmore (93), Norma Stanbury (88)
 24th Kelsey Hajek, Nathan Rahn

25th Matthew Harper, Shawn Lock, Charlie Smith
 26th David Harper, Allison Jablonski, Bob Koerke, Linda Zarnke
 28th Chloe Harper, Todd Sandrock
 29th Bob Cwynar, Ashlyn Mueser
 31st Gina Briscoe, Susan Buck, Dave Coronado, Chad Gordinier



Anniversary Blessings

1st Bev & Gary Atchison
 9th Laura & Steve Bjorkman
 20th Dianne & Jim Scrimger (60)
 21st Karen & Chuck Rossman (39)
 26th Rosie & Al Grain
 Amanda & Donley Norris
 28th Lisa & Pat England (44)
 Hilary & Daniel Holtz
 30th Sandy & Brian Angell



Men's Coffee
 Every Friday at
 10:00 a.m.
 All are welcome!

The Prayer Shawl group meets Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Join us as we knit and crochet prayer shawls, hats and scarves, etc.



Grand Blanc United Methodist Church Financial Summary

General Fund Balance (as of 05-31-23) = \$57,031
 Mortgage Fund Balance (as of 05-31-23) = \$3,934

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 05-31-23) = \$116,870



July 2023



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 10a O.A. 10a Yoga |
| 2 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour | 3 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 4 OFFICE CLOSED | 5 10a Prayer Shawl 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 6 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 7 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 8 10a O.A. 10a Yoga |
| 9 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour Noon F.H. in use | 10 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 11 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 12 9:30a-12:30p Summer Fun! 10a Prayer Shawl 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 13 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 14 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 15 10a O.A. 10a Yoga |
| 16 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour | 17 10a Zentangle 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 18 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 10a Prayer Group 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 19 9:30a-12:30p Summer Fun! 10a Prayer Shawl 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 20 OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 21 OFFICE CLOSED 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 22 10a O.A. 10a Yoga |
| 23 10a Worship 11a Coffee Hour | 24 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 25 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 26 9:30a-12:30p Summer Fun! 10a Prayer Shawl 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 27 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 28 10a Men's Coffee 7p Al Anon 7p Fellowship Hall in use | 29 10a O.A. 10a Yoga |
| 30 10a Worship 11a Potluck Picnic! | 31 7p Fellowship Hall in use | | | | | |

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

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

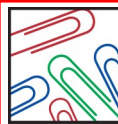
Rev. Brian West, Pastor
Cathy Mitchinson, Office Administrator
Angela Campbell, Director of Christian Education
and Webmaster

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



Office Hours

Office hours may vary whenever Cathy is on vacation. Office hours will be posted in the

Connection, Bulletin Announcements and emails, but it may be most helpful if you call the church before stopping by.

Special office hours in June:

Tuesday, July 4 Closed

Thursday, July 20 9am to noon

Friday, July 21 Closed

A Note about kitchen use:

When you are using the kitchen, please be sure to complete and sign the checklist in the red binder under the light switches. It is important to know who is using the kitchen and that all items on the list have been completed. This includes coffee hour.

Also, due to health department code, we are unable to use any container that is not brand new in packaging. Please do not bring in any reusable container that has already been used once. Thank you!

Worship With Us



All worship services continue to be available on-line!! Be sure to watch when you can't attend in person and we invite you to go to our website where you will find a link to our YouTube channel along with the current Sunday bulletin, news & notes and compass! There is also a link to an on-line connect card. Let us know you were watching!



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.



In June Pastor Brian talked about Spiritual Gifts. Have you thought about your Spiritual Gifts? Take the survey to find out! Just use this link to access the survey:



"Pastor stated publicly that I have the gift of prophecy. I didn't see that one coming."