

December 3

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

**ADVENT CELEBRATION**

December 10

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Sermon Series: "What's Next?"*

*"Emmanuel Before the Manger"*

Isaiah 11:1-10

December 17

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Sermon Series: "What's Next?"*

*"Manger Mirror"*

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

December 21

7:00 p.m.

*Longest Night*

December 24

One Service in the Morning

11:00 a.m. Worship

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Sermon Series: "What's Next?"*

*"Take This Sabbath Day"*

Luke 2:1-20

December 24

4:00 p.m. Worship

Christmas Eve

Children & Family

December 24

7:00 p.m. Worship

Christmas Eve

Traditional Candlelight

December 24

11:00 p.m. Worship

Christmas Eve

Intimate Candlelight

December 31

One Service in the Morning

11:00 a.m. Worship

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day

*"Loud Night"*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

*The Grand Blanc UMC*

December, 2023

# "Connection"

## "Sing"

In 2005, I joined the Mount Union College Concert Choir as a freshman tenor. In our first week of rehearsal I learned an expectation of our choir that I grew to become most grateful for. Initially, however, I was shocked and terrified. By the end of our semester, in preparation for concerts and our annual January tour, all of our music had to be memorized. On the one hand, it felt about as possible as memorizing the phonebook. On the other hand, it made our sound as a choir, our trust in one another, and our confidence in ourselves all the greater!

Today, I happened upon a recording of a piece we sang for our 2005 winter concert. I hadn't heard it in nearly 20 years and yet, as it played, I began to sing along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> tenors as if I'd memorized it yesterday. It's remarkable what our memories are capable of, isn't it?! And even as we age, and our memories struggle more and more to remember as they used to, the capacity and ability of our minds is astounding.

Looking back, I owe this experience to the expectation that our repertoire be entirely memorized. To do that required studying the scores again and again, attending sectional practices, preparing for weekly memory checks (nothing says, "Happy Friday!" like weekly tests), and pure determination. In other words, it took rehearsing the same thing over and over until it became muscle (or rather, voice) memory.

As you're reading this, I suspect you've heard the nativity story before – you know, those passages from Matthew and Luke that tell us about Jesus' birth in the town of Bethlehem. You've probably sang, or at least have heard the hymns "Away In A Manger" and "Silent Night." Odds are also good that, if asked to draw a nativity scene, you'd probably be able to capture at least half of it correctly! And if all of this provides echoes of Luke chapter 2 being read by Linus and the rest of the Peanuts crew, reminding everyone about the true meaning of Christmas, well, there's a reason for that. It's been rehearsed in your mind – in your faith – for a long time.

We sing the hymns, we tell the stories, we build the nativity scenes, we light the candles, and so much more, not simply because it's all pretty and nostalgic. We do it because that's how we rehearse it! And because we rehearse it, as if by osmosis, the story of God's incarnated love in the form of a child becomes part of our heart-language.

But we're not done yet. Because knowing the story – knowing the song – only helps if we have the occasion to tell that story – sing the song. This Christmas, I want to encourage you to leave the rehearsal studio and find an occasion to sing the song. Find a moment – perhaps even with an unexpected shepherd – and share the story. And in doing so, may we discover Christmas.

With Peace, Hope, Joy & Love,

Pastor Brian

p.s. For anyone wondering, the piece of choral music I wrote about is titled "Almighty and Most Merciful Father." The arrangement that we sang was composed by William Henry Harris. If you'd like to hear a recording, please click on the link here or open the video on your smart phone using the QR Code here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6La-WDGGxPQ>





**FOR THE HOMEBOUND:**

**Marge Berryman**  
2700 Shimmons Rd, #193  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

**Marge Cramer**  
42400 12 Mile Rd, #214  
Novi, MI 48377

**Shirley Crane**  
Abbey Park  
3221 E. Baldwin Rd, #239  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**Janet Davis**  
Wellbridge  
3139 E. Baldwin Road  
Room 502  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**Eleanor Hall**  
The Oaks at Woodfield  
5370 E. Baldwin Road  
Room 403  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY:**

Shirley Andrews  
Ron Blakemore  
Donna Brookins  
Jim Bunker  
Ruth Davis  
Rev. Julius Del Pino  
Lisa England  
Marcia Ferguson  
Judy Gratsch  
Dick Hubler  
Janice King  
Paul Manning  
Paul & Anna Roth family  
Bob Tritten  
Linda Zarnke



**FOR OTHERS:**

Susan Allan  
Kim Allward  
Dave Ax  
Rich Bennetts  
Nancy Bilas  
Sallie Burek  
Patricia Cawfis  
Warren Cawfis  
Ray Dickinson  
Cindy Dunn  
Ellen Farr  
Harold Ferguson  
Larry Fox  
Alea Gardner  
Joann Graham  
Sharon Graham  
Gene Griffel  
Jim Hood  
Allan Jawors  
Laura Johnston  
Dave Jones  
Ellie Lauth  
Adrianna Martell  
Julie McKenna  
Rev. Gordon Mitchinson  
Joshua Nelson

Larry Oden  
Rick Palmer  
Carl Pate  
Linda Polehanki  
Martin Ryder  
Paul Schultes  
Bill Shier  
John Smith  
Eddie Snow  
Jeff & Amy Tebo  
Marvin Thompson  
Emery Wacser  
Laura Wilson  
Ed Woodard



We extend our deepest sympathy to:

~the family & friends of Phyllis Heide, who passed away on September 25. Phyllis is Kim Gordinier's mother.

~the family & friends of Don Martin, who passed away on November 8.

~the family and friends of Rebecca Lehman. Rebecca is Ann Fraile's sister-in-law.

~the family and friends of Nicole Wilkerson, who passed away on November 7. Nicole is Jordan Briscoe's mother.

~the family & friends of Lillian Quigley, who passed away on November 12. Lillian is Bill Mortimer's mother. (Bill is Marcia Ferguson's son-in-law).

~the family and friends of Glenn Cottrell, who passed away on November 16. Glenn is Becky Anderson's father.

~the family and friends of Donna Hedding, who passed away on November 26. Visitation at Hill Funeral Home on December 2 from 1pm to 6pm, and at GBUMC on December 3 at 1pm with service following at 2pm.



**Sunday Morning Worship**

**on December 24**

**11:00 a.m. only!!**

**Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Morning Worship**

**on December 31**

**11:00 a.m. only!!**

**Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.**



**Christmas Eve Services**

**Sunday, December 24**

**4:00 p.m. Family/Children/Youth Service**

**7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service**

**11:00 p.m. Intimate Candlelight Service**

The 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. services will be streamed on our YouTube Channel

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Director of Christian Education  
Angela Campbell  
[christian.education@grandblancumc.org](mailto:christian.education@grandblancumc.org)

Office Hours:  
Monday & Wednesday: 11am to 2:30pm  
Thursday: 10am to 2:30pm  
Sunday: 9am to 11am

## 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.**

**December 2023 book pick:** "Advent: A Season of Surprises"

By Rev. Scott Chrostek

**Advent Devotional Study** Each Advent season, Christian communities all over the world return to Mary's stirring song, the "Magnificat." But the truth is, Mary doesn't sing alone. She sings with Hannah, and Elizabeth, and Miriam, and Shiphrah, and Puah, and Rizpah, and Ruth – and a host of other magnificent women who "magnify" God's mission of love and grace, preparing the way for Christmas morning and beyond.

Join me as we explore weekly via Zoom this Advent devotional where we focus on a few of those women in scripture who blazed the trail for Mary and Jesus, and who can inspire us, too, to join in the song of God's salvation, where the lowly are lifted up, the mighty are brought down from their thrones, and the hungry are filled with good things. Come, Jesus, come!

We will meet each week, starting Tuesday, November 28 @ 7pm via Zoom. Each participant will get a printed copy of the devotional and other materials to use. Cost for the materials is by donation to cover the use fee for printing. Please contact Angela Campbell at [christian.education@grandblancumc.org](mailto:christian.education@grandblancumc.org) or the office to sign up and get your materials.



**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!



Our nursery is available for preschool age and younger during all worship services.

All children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship services. Adrianna and a volunteer adult are in the Nursery, if you would prefer to let your children play there while you worship.

Sunday School for all ages @ 10:00 a.m.

We are continuing to plan and prepare for our Children's Christmas Program which will be a part of our **4:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Worship Service on

**December 24**

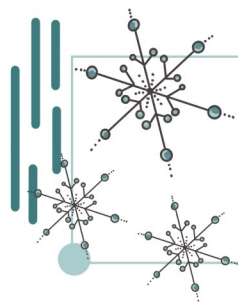
A rehearsal for this service will be held on

**Saturday, December 16 @ 9am.**

We hope that your children/youth are looking forward to participating!







# HELLO december

## YOUTH GROUP!



All youth grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate!  
We've got lots of great events planned for this Fall!  
We hope you will join us and bring a friend!

Leaders:  
Angela Campbell 810-241-7275  
Nathan Rahn 734-276-3949

### Sunday, December 3

5pm to 7pm

We will go shopping for our FISH family.  
Permission slip required.



### Sunday, December 10

4pm to 8pm

PROGRESSIVE DINNER!!!

Meet at the church at 4pm.

We will have appetizers at Pastor Brian's house!

Dinner at the Ivan's.

Dessert location TBD

Parents please pick up your youth at the dessert location @ 8pm.  
Address will be provided.

### Tuesday, December 12

5pm to 8pm

Culver's fundraiser for ASP!! Come help for as much of this three hour block, as you can. We hope you are all getting excited for our Mission Trip in 2024!



### Saturday, December 16

11am to Noon

Ring the bell for the Salvation Army!

Join us for this fun, festive hour!

Meet outside the center door at the Grand Blanc Walmart!

### Sunday, December 17

4pm to 8pm

Gift Wrapping Fundraiser!

Your help with this fundraiser helps us keep our events free for all youth!



### Sunday, December 31

Noon—2pm

Let's get together to celebrate 2023  
and look forward to a promising 2024!!



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Community Outreach & Engagement, a long title for such a simple concept ....

♥ LOVING and CARING for our neighbors.

We serve a **FREE DINNER** every first Wednesday of the month from 5-6:30 pm.

## COMMUNITY DINNER

**All are welcome!!!**

**NOW SERVING UNTIL 6:30**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

Hot Beef Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/gravy,  
Corn, Dessert & Drinks



WE CONTINUE TO CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY BUSINESSES BY SHARING OUR THANKS AND AFFIRMING WHAT THEY DO IN OUR COMMUNITY. ♥

JARRING GRACE has been a great tool to connect and build relationships with our community leaders and businesses. It is easy, fun and is ongoing, but it can also be a one time thing. If you appreciate one of

our businesses, schools or community services, please consider helping.

With more volunteers we will have the opportunity to connect with more of our business community. If you would like to volunteer with JARRING GRACE, please contact Melinda, [melmorehajek@gmail.com](mailto:melmorehajek@gmail.com) or call 810 845-2089.

**It's the easiest thing to do...giving away candy, affirming and connecting with our neighbors.**



GBUMC will be at WINTERFEST serving up the **HOT CHOCOLATE!**



The gift of SERVICE  
**volunteer**  
do good, feel good

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 12 - 4 PM**

# Giving



## WARMS THE HEART

**DONATE BLOOD**

**Grand Blanc United Methodist Church**

[https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/156067](https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/156067)

"Other people are donating blood,  
so I don't need to."

37%



**Actually, while 37%** of the US population is qualified to donate blood, only about 4% actually do so. If just 1% more of Americans donated blood, it is estimated that all blood supply shortages would disappear for the foreseeable future. Not to mention, just one blood donation can save up to three lives!



## **MORE...Getting to know your Staff”** *This month...Nancy Petrie, Andrew Cramer & Adrianna White*



**Nancy Petrie**  
Bell Choir Director

What is on your bucket list?

**I WOULD LOVE TO TAKE A TRANS-USA OR TRANS-CANADA TRAIN FOR A FEW WEEKS JUST TO SEE THE SIGHTS AND TO LIVE LIKE THE VANDERBILTS DID. GO BACK TO IRELAND, VISIT SCANDINAVIA, VISIT AUSTRALIA.**

What are you most thankful for?

**I AM THANKFUL FOR A RELATIVELY HEALTHY, FAIRLY LONG LIFE SO FAR. I AM THANKFUL FOR FRIENDSHIPS THAT ARE STRONG AND LONG. I AM THANKFUL FOR A LIFE THAT I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEAD IN TWO STATES. I AM THANKFUL FOR A SENSE OF SPIRITUALITY THAT HAS LED ME TO SOME PROFOUND TRUTHS.**

What is your biggest regret in life?

**REGRETS-NOPE. REGRETS FOR ME ARE JUST ANOTHER WAY TO SAY I NEEDED TO LEARN A LESSON ABOUT LIFE. I HAVE VERY FEW REGRETS...MOST OF THOSE ARE ABOUT HOW I TREATED SOMEONE AND IT'S TOO LATE TO CHANGE THAT, BUT NOT TOO LATE TO FORGIVE THE PERSON I WAS AT THE TIME.**

What are you most afraid of?

**FEARS-NOT SO MUCH ANYMORE. NO FEAR OF DYING HERE. THAT WOULD BE A BIG ONE. I GET NERVOUS GOING TO THE DENTIST BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT (THANK YOU, DR. SO AND SO FROM WHEN I WAS A KID).**

Have you ever made a decision that changed your life?

**MOST OF THEM. WE ARE FACED WITH BIG AND SMALL DECISIONS DAILY, ALL OF WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE OUR LIVES. MOVING TO NY WAS A BIG ONE AND I LIVED HALF OF MY LIFE THERE. MOVING BACK TO MI WAS ANOTHER. I AM MAKING DECISIONS NOW WHICH ARE CHANGING THE WAY I LIVE MY LIFE...MORE LOVE, LESS TV, MORE COMPASSION, LESS JUDGEMENT, MORE KINDNESS, LESS WHINING, MORE THINGS I LOVE TO HAVE AROUND ME, FEWER THINGS I SAVE BECAUSE THEY ARE THERE.**

What was the happiest day of your life?

**HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE—THE DAY I PASS AWAY FROM THIS WORLD AND INTO THE NEXT BIG ADVENTURE.**



**ANDREW CRAMER**  
Traditional Worship Organist  
Chancel Choir Director

What is on your bucket list?

**I THINK IT WOULD BE AMAZING TO BE ABLE TO GIVE A CONCERT/PLAY MUSIC IN EVERY CONTINENT AT LEAST ONCE, EXCEPT FOR MAYBE ANTARCTICA. THEN AGAIN, THAT MIGHT BE COOL AS WELL!**

What are you most thankful for?

**I AM MOST THANKFUL FOR THE WONDERFUL MUSICIANS I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF STUDYING UNDER UP TO THIS POINT IN MY CAREER. I WOULDN'T BE HERE TODAY WITHOUT THEM.**

What makes you laugh the most?

**I TEND TO LAUGH THE MOST AT EITHER OVERLY-COMPLICATED WITTY HUMOR, OR DRY SARCASM.**

What's the most exciting part of your job?

**THE MOST EXCITING PART OF BEING A MUSICIAN IS GETTING TO TRAVEL TO ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT PLACES, AND PLAY MUSIC IN ALL KINDS OF DIFFERENT SITUATIONS. THERE IS A LOT OF VARIETY, AND YOU NEVER QUITE KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN PLAYING FOR A NEW GROUP OR VENUE!**

What was your first job?

**MY FIRST JOB WAS AS A PIANIST AT HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH IN BURTON WHEN I WAS 15. I ALSO WORKED AT PANERA BREAD IN GRAND BLANC FOR A FEW YEARS.**

Do you believe in second chances?

**I AM STRONG PROPONENT OF SECOND CHANCES. I'VE DEFINITELY NEEDED THEM PLENTY OF TIMES, SO THE LEAST I CAN DO IS OFFER THEM TO OTHERS AS BEST I CAN.**

If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?

**IF I COULD CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT THE WORLD, IT WOULD TO BRING LASTING PEACE AND WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE AMONG ALL PEOPLE.**

Would you rather drive or be the passenger in a car?  
**DEFINITELY THE DRIVER.**

What superpower would you want to have?

**THE POWER OF TELEPORTATION WOULD BE UNBELIEVABLY USEFUL TO ME.**





*More beautiful Staff*

**Adrianna White**

Nursery Attendant



What do you feel most passionate about?

- **DANCING AND TEACHING**

The most important person in my life and why?

- **MY MOTHER, MY BIGGEST SUPPORTERS AND IS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME ON MY SIDE NO MATTER WHAT**

Who in your life makes you feel a sense of home?

- **MY BOYFRIEND, HE JUST MAKES ME FEEL SAFE, HAPPY, AND COMFORTABLE**

The best compliment I've ever received?

- **YOU HAVE LEGS LIKE TINA TURNER**

What is something people would never guess just looking at you?

- **I ABSOLUTELY LOVE KIDS, I LOVE BABIES, I JUST LOVE CHILDREN**

What was my first job?

- **BABYSITTING FOR A FAMILY FRIEND OR WORKING AT KIDDIE TIME CHILD CARE CENTER AS A TEACHER SUPPORT**

WHAT SUPER POWER WOULD I WANT TO HAVE?

- **INVISIBILITY OR MIND CONTROL**

*Thank you!* **meijer**

We are grateful to the Hill Road Meijer Management for approving a donation request of \$500, in the form of a gift card, for our Free Community Dinner. Hunger relief is one of Meijer's longest-standing philanthropic commitments and their generous donation will be used to continue to provide good healthy food as we continue our commitment of providing a meal each month for our community.

**M**any thanks to all who were able to come to the Dinner/Comedy Show on November 3.

What a wonderful evening of good food, time with friends, laughter, awesome atmosphere and all for a very special cause. We were able to donate to the Community Care Fund nearly \$2000 that will be used to help provide care to neighbors, in our community, who need assistance.

Just as wonderful was the welcoming of new friends into our church and the few moments of forgetting those things that needed to be put aside for just a bit.

*Oh, to be a part of this exceptional church family. ❤*

**Asperger Agency**

(810) 347-6108

AspergerAgency.com



A Company



**THANK YOU** for your support of the GBUMC Community Care Fund by sponsoring a table at the Dinner Comedy Show.

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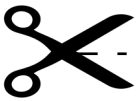
# Advent and "In lieu of Poinsettias" Donations

We are supporting GBUMC youth with the "Advent" offering (the pink envelope in your box) this year. Our youth will be serving in Appalachia in 2024 and your donations will go to help fund their trip. We do this every other year to support our GBUMC family and make a difference in the lives of the impoverished people in Appalachia. You can place the pink envelope in the offering plate at any time.

For "In lieu of Poinsettias" this year we will be supporting United Methodist Community House which has been a staple for both the Grand Rapids area and for the United Women of Faith. Established in 1902 they offer services for children, families, and older adults. The programs offered include early childhood education, youth programs and older adult human services. Their overall mission is to create more equal opportunities for success in a diverse community.

The donation for "In lieu of Poinsettias" needs to be dropped off at the office by December 17. We will not be ordering poinsettias this year but if you make a donation and designate in "memory of" or "honor of" using the form below, it will be included in the Christmas bulletins. Please leave this form with your check or cash donation in the GBUMC office.

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



Here's the information we need for your donation:

Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

(or)

Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount given \$ \_\_\_\_\_





12/03 Hedding  
 12/10 Petrie  
 12/17  
 12/24 Lessel & Mitchinson  
 12/31 Wolfgram



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

12/03 Trustees  
 12/10 CARE  
 12/17 Seasoned Citizens  
 12/24 West

### 11:00am Worship Ushers

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Jim Wise, Carol Cerny  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Nancy Bigler,  
 Virginia Sullivan  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Bob & Barb Mills  
 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Gary Bendall,  
 Tom Cerny  
 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Nancy Bigler



### COUNTERS

12/03 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore  
 12/10 Jessica Smith, Carol Cerny  
 12/17 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise  
 12/24 Sandy Jones, Tom Cerny  
 12/31 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore

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!



## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

### Birthday Wishes

2<sup>nd</sup> Amanda Norris, Eric Sandrock  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Amanda Bendall,  
 Nicholas Harper,  
 Richard Shick  
 5<sup>th</sup> Judi Cottrell, Chad Labby,  
 Cayla Rimmel,  
 Marvin Whitcomb (83)  
 6<sup>th</sup> Jocelyn Phillips  
 7<sup>th</sup> Aaron Bunker, Daniel Holtz  
 14<sup>th</sup> Sharel Etheridge  
 15<sup>th</sup> Drake Carlson, Owen Pash  
 16<sup>th</sup> Joann Lepri  
 18<sup>th</sup> Andrew Dick, Chloe Haggerty,  
 Kimberly Lutton  
 19<sup>th</sup> David Lessel  
 20<sup>th</sup> Val Wise  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Sallie Farrell (82), Joyce Halter  
 24<sup>th</sup> Brian West  
 25<sup>th</sup> Sean Gordinier  
 26<sup>th</sup> Beth Bennetts, Karen Seaman,  
 Lisa Stafford

29<sup>th</sup> Alex Martin, Mixsy Trinidad  
 30<sup>th</sup> Grace Coronado  
 31<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Gilmour (85)



### Anniversary Blessings

5<sup>th</sup> Donna & Ernie Brookins (48)  
 11<sup>th</sup> Valorie & Robert Foote  
 17<sup>th</sup> Mary & Paul Manning (40)  
 21<sup>st</sup> Dawn & RJ Magiera  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Mary & Shawn Rimmel  
 26<sup>th</sup> Carol & Tom Cerny (57)  
 29<sup>th</sup> Mary & David Strobe (44)

### Greeters

9:00am

12/03 Shirley Wheeler  
 12/10 John Billings  
 12/17 Becky Doran  
 12/24  
 12/31

11:00am

Virginia Sullivan  
 Tom Cerny  
 Nan Rahm  
 Nancy Bigler  
 RaeAnn Waisanen

Contact Tom Cerny with questions or to volunteer! tomcerny1@aol.com

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
 Financial Summary




General Fund Balance (as of 10-31-23) = \$16,595  
 Mortgage Fund Balance (as of 10-31-23) = \$3,204

**MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 10-31-23) = \$111,082**



# December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 10a Men's Coffee  7p Al Anon	<b>2</b> 9a Hanging of the Greens 10a O.A.  7p Common Grace @ Crossroads Village
<b>3</b> 9a Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10a Sunday Sch 10:15a Choir 11a Worship  5p Youth Group	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Prayer Group 10a Yoga  7p Advent Study 7p Worship & Arts Zoom	<b>6</b> 10a Prayer Shawl  4p Community Dinner  6:30p Celebration Ringers	<b>7</b> 10a Drop-in Bible Study <b>Noon Seasoned Citizens</b> 6p Common Grace 7p Winterfest @ Phys. Park	<b>8</b> 10a Men's Coffee  4p FELLOWSHIP HALL IN USE 7p Al Anon	<b>9</b> 10a O.A.  FELLOWSHIP HALL IN USE
<b>10</b> 9a Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10a Sunday Sch 10:15a Choir 11a Worship 1p FISH FH 4p Youth Group Progressive Dinner!	<b>11</b> 10a Zentangle  FISH using FH  7p Ad Council via Zoom	<b>12</b> 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Prayer Group FISH using FH 5p-8p Culver's for ASP 7p Advent Study	<b>13</b> 10a Women's Circles 10a Prayer Shawl  FISH using FH 6:30p Celebration Ringers	<b>14</b> 10a Drop-in Bible Study  FISH using FH  6p Common Grace	<b>15</b> 10a Men's Coffee  7p Al Anon	<b>16</b> 9a Rehearsal for Children's Program 10a O.A. 11a Salvation Army Bell Ringing @ Walmart
<b>17</b> 9a Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10a Sunday Sch 10:15a Choir 11a Worship  4p Youth Gift Wrapping Fundraiser	<b>18</b>  7p Finance Meeting	<b>19</b> 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Prayer Group 10a Yoga  7p Advent Study	<b>20</b> 10a Prayer Shawl	<b>21</b> 10a Drop-in Bible Study  7p Longest Night Service	<b>22</b> 10a Men's Coffee  7p Al Anon	<b>23</b> 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
<b>24</b> 10a Sunday Sch 10a Coffee Hour 11a Worship  4p Service 7p Service 11p Service	<b>25</b>  <i>Christmas DAY</i>	<b>26</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> NO Drop-in Bible Study  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>29</b> 10a Men's Coffee  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  7p Al Anon	<b>30</b> 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
<b>31</b> 10a Sunday Sch 11a Worship Noon Youth Group New Year's Party!						



## DATE CHANGE!!!

Join us for our Thursday, **DECEMBER 7** event. Don and Lavonne Bomeli will share the program originally scheduled for this past

October. They will take us to France including Normandy and Versailles. We continue to enjoy their travelogues.

Please join us at noon in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation; grace will be given at 12:35. Potluck starts at 12:30 and our program begins around 1pm. Remember you don't need to be Seasoned, just interested in good friends, good food and good fun. See you there!



### United Methodist Women/United Women of Faith

Join us as we gather Gina Briscoe's house on  
December 13 at 10:00am.

Gina Briscoe

9279 James Richard, Goodrich

810-636-7562



## Longest Night Service

Thursday, December 21 @ 7pm

A special service on the longest night of the year for those who are missing loved ones or facing difficult times. Let our sanctuary be a welcoming, safe space for those feeling sadness this winter and Christmastime.



## Hanging of the Greens!

Saturday, December 2 @ 9am  
Everyone is welcome to come  
and help!



GBUMC will continue its long tradition of ringing for the Salvation Army, Saturday,

December 16 from 11am to 7pm at the Grand Blanc Walmart Center Door.

Fun for all ages, sharing God's love. Two or more ringers per 1 hour shift is ideal. Sign-up sheet and details, in the Narthex, or call Tom Cerny 810-252-6943, if questions or to sign up. Subs always needed.

## You're Invited to a Baby Shower!

Our United Women of Faith will be hosting a Baby Shower at the church for Heartbeat of Flint on

**Sunday, January 21 @ 12:15pm**

Heartbeat is a nonprofit organization that provides supportive services to pregnant women and families. In order to provide the best assistance possible, we seek to establish a personal relationship with each individual client. We listen to understand the unique situation and then offer appropriate assistance. It is our hope that every mother has the support she needs to care for herself and her growing baby, from pregnancy to delivery and beyond.

### Gift Ideas:

Similac—Newborn  
Formula

Bottles & Pacifiers

Diapers (larger than Size 3)

Wipes

Baby Clothes (Size 0 to 5 years)

Used Car seats—any size (must be within 6 months of the Manufacturer's Tag)



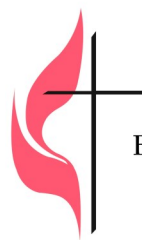


Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
515 Bush Avenue  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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



## FROM YOUR MISSION TEAM:

**\*\*Thank you for all of the non-perishable donations during  
our Harvest Gathering for FISH of Grand Blanc**



### Giving Tree....

A Signup Genius was set up and was sent out in an email. If you did not receive the email or you had any problems with the Sign-up Genius website, please contact the church office for assistance.

**Please bring all donations to the church no later than Sunday, December 10.**

**FISH - Socks for Girls.** Underwear and gloves/mittens for boys and girls

**Ennis Center for Children** (in Flint) - Hygiene products and Diapers

The Ennis Center works with abused and/or neglected children. They are a leading agency in finding adoptive families for children including those with special needs. The Ennis Center also works with delinquent teens, helping them stay safe, stay in school and on a path toward a productive adulthood.

Mission: With the support of the community we preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary.

**Medilodge Nursing Home** - Personal items for residents without family

**UM Children's Village** - Gift Cards (will let you know what types)

The Methodist Children's Home Society (MCHS) Family of Services is a child welfare agency located in Redford and Detroit providing foster care and adoption, transitional living, child abuse prevention and community wellness programs.



Running out of time to get all your gifts wrapped? Don't enjoy wrapping gifts? Want to support our youth group? Whatever the reason...sign-up for a time slot for the youth to do your gift wrapping for you!!

**Sunday, December 17 between 4pm and 8pm**

our youth will wrap your gifts (if you have special paper that you want used, please bring it with your gifts). Just drop off your gifts and then come back later and they'll be all wrapped for you! Donations accepted to support the youth group and their events/activities.



*Common grace*

Christmas at Crossroads Village  
Saturday, December 2 @ 7:00 p.m.  
In the Chapel



Take a break from the hustle and bustle!!!

Join us for our

**Fundraiser @ Culver's for ASP**

**December 12**

**5pm to 8pm**

