



# "Connection"

May 4

COMMUNION  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
*"Expensive Fishing"*  
John 21: 1-19

May 11

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
*"Resurrections Ripple"*  
Acts 9: 36-42

May 18

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
CONFIRMATION  
SUNDAY  
One Service @ 11 am  
*"Be Warm"*  
Ephesians 4: 17-32  
Matthew 5: 1-12

May 25

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
*"Lydia's Waiting"*  
Acts 16: 9-15

## A Principle Within

In 1972, just 4 years after the founding of The United Methodist Church formed out of a merger of two denominations, the Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, The United Methodist Church lived into its social heritage, recognizing the need to speak to pressing social concerns, needs, and situations. This was done in the form of "Social Principles" which continue to have a part in our United Methodist Book of Discipline, even today.

Borrowed from the United Methodist General Board of Church & Society's website,

*"The Social Principles articulate our ethical aspirations for the common good in our public policies and personal commitments. Through them, we seek to love God with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength and to desire for our neighbors what we desire for ourselves...."*

*The newly adopted Social Principles address global social concerns, reflecting the diverse contexts of the worldwide church. Thousands of United Methodists with different backgrounds from around the world, offered input to recognize their context as well as the contexts of other communities across the [United Methodist] connection, fostering a common language and understanding that strengthens relationships and social witness."*

The hope, ultimately, is that these social principles can function less like church law, and more like starting points for discussion, study, and reflection. I often like to think of them as a moral compass, of sorts, pointing us toward new considerations and perspectives on familiar topics of social importance.

That being said, it is important to recognize that there is not expectation that any United Methodist will agree with the Social Principles 100%. Full agreement was never the goal. Instead, our denomination acknowledges that, while we are not all of one mind on every matter, we are capable of continued discernment. Furthermore, while we are not yet perfect in Christ's love, we are moving onto perfection through the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

I echo the sentiments of generation upon generation of United Methodists from a wide variety of contexts when I express my gratitude that we, as a denomination, continue to speak to wide ranging social topics, recognizing that our faith and social world are not (and cannot be) separate. While the Gospel speaks to our salvation, both in a life after, as well as in the here-and-now, it also speaks to our calling to be the hands, feet, light, and love of Christ in the world and with all those we meet.

Here at Grand Blanc UMC, we have just launched our own Church & Society Team with the leadership and guidance of Shelly Gould-Rice, Brian Rice, and Melinda Elmore-Hajek. As this new expression of ministry finds its footing in

*Continued on next page*

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GBUMC's life and ministry, I look forward to the ways in which this team will help our congregation explore our social principles, discover new and familiar ways to live into our social obligations as Christians, and how we will continue to learn, together.

Perhaps as a first step, I want to encourage you to read through our Social Principles. They can be accessed online through the following link, or by scanning the QR Code using your smart device. As you read them, I want to encourage you to not merely agree or disagree, but allow the conversation and exploration (what we might call discernment) to begin, even in your own heart and mind.

Peace, my friends!

Pastor Brian

Social Principles (Adopted 2024): <https://www.umcjustice.org/documents/124>

QR Code:



**FOR THE  
HOMEBOUND:**

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

**Marcia Ferguson**  
Abbey Park  
3221 E. Baldwin Rd #323  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY:**

Shirley Andrews  
Mini Armstrong  
Gina Briscoe  
Jim Bunker  
Judy Burgess  
Linda Compeau  
Roma Corey  
Frank Davis  
Ruth Davis  
Judy Gratsch  
Gail Lutton  
Paul Manning  
Lee Pelton  
Dick Shick  
Norma Stanbury  
Vera Stuckey  
Bob Tritten

**FOR OTHERS:**

Susan Allan  
Baby Boy Asher  
Nancy Bilas  
Donald Billings  
Courtney Boshear  
Paul Brieger  
Joel Brinkman  
Renee Brinkman  
Sallie Burek  
Peggy Chwojnicki  
Patricia Crawfis  
Warren Crawfis  
Cynthia Crawford  
Lucas Duby  
Kathy Dutton  
Merikay & Doug Franklin  
Karen Grossmann  
Eric Hansor

Clara Holmes  
Anne Howarth  
Pat Johnston  
Dave Jones  
Doug Keene  
Cindy Larange  
Grant LeDuke  
Adrianna Martell  
Vinny Martinez  
Lynne O'Brien  
Leo Reubke  
Phil Rice  
James Ruthenberg  
Ashley Schaffer  
Bill Shier  
Larry Smith  
Eddie Snow  
David Ware



~ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. Pedro Trinidad, who passed away on Friday, April 11. Rev. Trinidad is Alex Trinidad's father.

~ We also extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Frank Maxwell. Frank passed away at the age of 101 and has been a member of GBUMC since 1997. Frank's service will be held on Friday, May 2 at 11am followed by a luncheon. Halsey UMC has graciously volunteered to host his service and luncheon at their church (10006 Halsey Rd, Grand Blanc).



Church Directory additional photography day!! Wednesday, May 21. If you did not get your picture taken for our new directory, please sign-up!! We want to make sure everyone is included in our new directory! Contact the church office if you need help signing up!

Just go to the Universal Church Directories website: [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com), click the red "Photography Session Sign-up" button. Enter our church code: MI2014 and our church password: church and then choose the timeslot that best fits your schedule. There is no fee for the sitting and you will receive a free 8x10 and a copy of the new directory!

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministries  
Angela Campbell  
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 offers 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.**

**May 2025 book pick:** "The In-Between: Unforgettable Encounters During Life's Final Moments" By Hadley Flahos, RN

## Sunday, May 18 Confirmation Sunday 11am

We will have one worship service so that we can all be together to celebrate our 2025 Confirmands.

The congregation is invited to celebrate our confirmands at a special coffee hour following the service!



*Thanks to our  
Congregation*

Thank you just doesn't seem like enough words for my appreciation for all this congregation does...for our children, youth, church family and community! Because of your generosity—we were able to stuff 200 large eggs full of several pieces of candy to hand out to our community during our Trunk or TrEaster event on April 19th. We were also able to stuff 400+ eggs for our Easter Sunday Egg Hunt! All of this wouldn't be possible without the love, time, talent and treasures that this congregation shares here at GBUMC and in our community. All of you make the difference and I am grateful!! God is SO good, all the time and ALL the time God certainly is GOOD! Blessings, Angela

Thank you just doesn't seem like enough words for my appreciation for all this congregation does...for our

## 2025 VBS

### ROAD TRIP: On the go with God!

Join us for an exciting adventure on the open road, where kids embark on thrilling journeys to fantastic destinations. Led by the Navigator and their adventurous pup, Scout, children will discover that God is always with them. They'll explore timeless stories from the Old and New Testaments, learning how to face challenges and find strength in God's presence.



The Key Verse is from Joshua 1:9

**"The LORD your God is with you wherever you go."**

Dates - Wednesdays in July 9:30-12:30 7/9, 7/16, 7/26, 7/30

Ages Potty-trained through 5th grader  
Older youth helpers are always welcome!

# HELLO *may*





















































## YOUTH GROUP!

All youth grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate!  
We hope you will join us and bring a friend!

Unless noted otherwise, all youth group gatherings will be on  
Sundays from 12:30 to 2:30pm.

We will not meet on the 2nd Sunday because  
Confirmation Class meets on those Sundays.

*Please know that Confirmation Sunday is an open door Sunday for not only the current year's confirmands, but to any youth who would like to know God more and explore their spiritual journey.*

																	
	<b>Saturday, May 3</b>										<b>TBD</b>						
	<b>Noon— 2pm</b>										<b>Graduate Recognition</b>						
	Help put Fellowship Hall back together following the church rummage sale.										<b>Sunday in June</b>						
	Lunch and games too!!										<b>Stay tuned!!</b>						
																	



### **Wednesday, June 24 Cedar Point!!**

Vans will be leaving the church parking lot at 6am sharp!!! Be  
here no later than 5:45am to get yourself settled in the van!!

Return time TBD

Join us for a fun day at America's Roller Coast!!

ASP Leader:  
Jennifer Lengyel 810-241-2343



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



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

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

♥ LOVING and CARING for our neighbors while getting out and doing STUFF!.

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

**COMMUNITY DINNER**

**All are welcome!!!**

**Wed., May 7, 2023**

Sloppy Joes, Salad, Baked Beans,  
Chips Drinks and Dessert

**Wed., June 4, 2025**

Pizza Buffet, Salad, Drinks & Dessert  
NO WAY!! A Pizza Buffet?  
Could you ask for more?  
A winner every time!

**INVITE A FRIEND or TWO**

Create More  
**MOMents**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

Saturday

**May**

**17**

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

SIGN  
UP TODAY

**Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
Community Blood Drive**

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
515 Bush Ave.  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

-Scan the QR code  
-Call 866-642-5663  
-Visit [versiti.org/mi](http://versiti.org/mi)



\*Walk ins welcome, as schedule allows.\*

All  
are  
welcome!

**Community**

**NEW**  
**@ GBUMC**

**FREE  
LUNCH**

Wednesday  
July 9, 16, 23, & 30  
Noon to 1 pm  
*watch for more info soon*

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
515 Bush Ave ♥ Grand Blanc ♥ MI  
810 694-9040 [grandblancumc.org](http://grandblancumc.org)

If you are interested in helping with the  
**FREE LUNCHES IN July**, please sign the sheet  
on the kiosk or contact the church office.

**SAVE THE  
DATE!**

**CHURCH IN  
THE PARK**

*(Physicians Park)*

Sunday  
August 24  
10 am

*Watch for more  
info coming soon!*

**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**



**CHURCH AND SOCIETY:**

The May meeting is canceled. Several of us will be at the Annual Conference and will be getting information & resources from the UMC Social Justice group.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> @ 10 AM**

May is Mental Health Awareness month. 1 in 5 adults experience mental illness. 17% of youth ages 6-17 have a mental disorder (NAMI-national alliance on mental illness). This month, think about ways you can reach out and help others, then do it! If you need ideas on what you can do, please talk to a mental health worker or check out the bulletin board in the fellowship hall!

**FROM THE UMCJUSTICE.ORG PAGE:**

"The United Methodist Church pledges to foster policies that promote compassion, advocate for access to care, and eradicate stigma within the church and communities."

*(Social Principles, ¶162.X)*

### Altar Flowers

05/04 In honor of our youngest grandson's birthday, by the Lessels

05/11 Thank you, Jesus, for my son's birth! (Peter Melkus' 40<sup>th</sup>!) by Cathy Melkus

05/18 In honor of our Confirmands

05/25

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the Sanctuary, 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 11am worship service. Your name and who the arrangement is in honor/memory of will also be listed in the Sunday bulletin.

### Coffee Hour

05/04 Finance Committee

05/11 The West Family

05/18 Reception for Confirmands @ Noon!

05/25 Prayer Shawl



## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

### Birthdays Wishes

1<sup>st</sup> Christopher Dutton,  
Samantha Pinter,  
Brett Russian

2<sup>nd</sup> David Strobe

3<sup>rd</sup> Adriana Lock

4<sup>th</sup> Gregg Mueser

5<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Federici,  
Craig Fiederlein,  
Bradley Gordinier,  
Carole Hitchens

6<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Lengyel,  
Dawn Magiera,  
Jeff Mitchinson

7<sup>th</sup> Erwin Rimmell,  
Vera Stuckey (100)

8<sup>th</sup> Bayleigh Ivan

9<sup>th</sup> Karen Keim (82), Bill Koponen

10<sup>th</sup> Conlan Mueser

11<sup>th</sup> Karl Martin

12<sup>th</sup> Ronald Fitch (86)

13<sup>th</sup> Margaret Cramer (83)

15<sup>th</sup> Laurie Del Pino, Maribeth Pinter

16<sup>th</sup> Roger Colby, Luann Griffus,  
Cameron Roth

17<sup>th</sup> Brent Roberts

19<sup>th</sup> Graham Holtz, Shar Ringlein (86)

23<sup>rd</sup> Isaac DuRussel,

24<sup>th</sup> Jan Billyard, Bill Prim (81)

25<sup>th</sup> Brad Griffus, Leah Hagenstein

26<sup>th</sup> Ryan Anderson, Evan Mertz

27<sup>th</sup> Charlie Pinter

28<sup>th</sup> Karla Shotwell

29<sup>th</sup> Kennley Lyons

30<sup>th</sup> Angela Campbell, Fran Duby

31<sup>st</sup> Anna Roth



### Anniversary Blessings

9<sup>th</sup> Nancy Lepri & Kris Surdu

13<sup>th</sup> Jennifer & Jason Lengyel (25)

18<sup>th</sup> RaeDeane & Randy Middleton (51)

21<sup>st</sup> Becky & Matt Anderson (31)

22<sup>nd</sup> Angela & Eric Campbell,  
Vicki & Brian Greenlees (43)

25<sup>th</sup> Lynelle & Gregg Mueser (34)

28<sup>th</sup> Jordan & Matt Briscoe

### 11:00am Worship Ushers

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Jim Wise, Carol Cerny

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday John Billings,  
Mark Werth

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Barb & Bob Mills

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Gary Bendall

### COUNTERS

05/04 Kim Werth, Jan Billyard

05/11 Sandy Labby, Carol Cerny

05/18 Carol Capell, Jim Wise

05/25 Dave Lessel,  
Mariann Quaderer

### Greeters

9:00am

05/04 Becky Doran

05/11 John Billings

05/18 Nancy Lepri & Kris Surdu

05/25 Raeanne Waisanen

11:00am

Virginia Sullivan

Carol Cerny

Joy & Jan Billyard

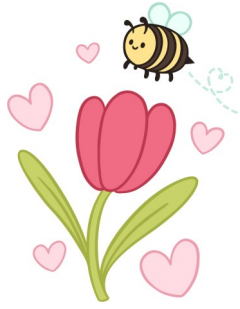
Virginia Sullivan

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church  
Financial Summary

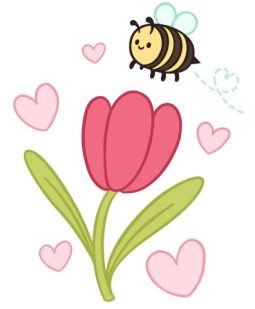
General Fund Balance (as of 03-31-25) = \$22,837

Mortgage Fund Balance (as of 03-31-25) = \$3,779

**MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 03-31-25) = \$87,153**



# MAY 2025



				<b>1</b> RUMMAGE SALE 10a Drop-in Bible Study	<b>2</b> RUMMAGE SALE  5p Compass Grp @ Martin's  7p Al Anon	<b>3</b> RUMMAGE SALE 10a Yoga Noon: Youth Group Help with Rummage Sale
<b>4</b> 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch & Coffee Hr 11a Worship 12:30p Confirmation	<b>5</b>  5p Mission Team  7p ACA	<b>6</b>  10a Yoga	<b>7</b> 10a Prayer Shawl 5p Community Dinner 5:30p Chancel Choir 6:30p Celebration Ringers	<b>8</b> 10a Drop-in Bible Study  Noon Seasoned Citizens  6p Common Grace	<b>9</b>     7p Al Anon	<b>10</b> 10a Yoga 10a-Noon Spring Outdoor Clean-up
<b>11</b> MOTHER'S DAY 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch & Coffee Hr 11a Worship	<b>12</b> 10a Zentangle 6:30p Compass Grp @ Cook's  7p Ad Council-Zoom 7p ACA	<b>13</b>  10a Yoga	<b>14</b> 10a Prayer Shawl   5:30p Chancel Choir	<b>15</b> 10a Drop-In Bible Study   5:30p Education Team	<b>16</b>     7p Al Anon	<b>17</b> 10a Yoga 10a-3p Blood Drive  4p F.H in use (Rain Date for Clean-up)
<b>18</b> CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 10a Sunday Sch 11a Worship Noon: Celebrating Confirmands	<b>19</b>  7p Finance Mtg-Zoom 7p ACA	<b>20</b>  10a Yoga	<b>21</b> 10a Prayer Shawl 10a United Women of Faith 2p-9p Directory Photo Make-up  5:30p Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 10a Drop-in Bible Study   5:30p Compass Grp @ Rahn's	<b>23</b>    7p Al Anon	<b>24</b>  10a Yoga
<b>25</b> 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch & Coffee Hr 11a Worship 12:30 New Member Class	<b>26</b> Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED  7p ACA	<b>27</b> 10a Card Ministry 10a Yoga	<b>28</b> 10a Prayer Shawl	<b>29</b> NO Bible Study	<b>30</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>31</b> No Church & Society



# United Methodist Student Day

## May 4, 2025

On Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 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 for 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 gift enriches ministry and connects students to their faith and your gift transforms lives through education.

Thank you for your generosity!



### Seasoned Citizens Thursday, May 8

Noon: Coffee & Conversation

12:25: Prayer & Devotion

12:30: Potluck Lunch

Program: The Flint Water Crisis  
presented by Sandy Kitts

### Spring Outdoor Clean-up Saturday, May 10

10am to noon

Many hands make light work!!!

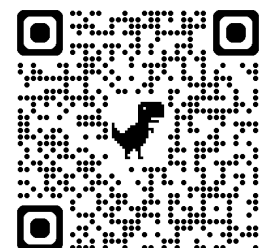
All help is appreciated!

Bring rakes, leaf blowers, tarps,  
wheelbarrows, etc.

Rain date: Saturday, May 17



Check out our new GBUMC merch!!! All proceeds from the sales of this product go to support the ministries of Grand Blanc United Methodist Church. To purchase use the QR code or visit <https://www.bonfire.com/store/grand-blanc-umc-merch/>  
Contact the church office with any questions.





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, Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministries  
and Webmaster  
Gary Brandt, 9:00 Music Director/Director of Common Grace  
Andrew Cramer, Music Director for Traditional Worship  
Andrea Bernat, Nursery Attendant  
Kimmy Sayers, Custodian



GRAND BLANC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



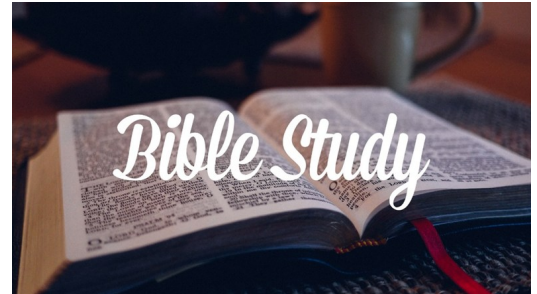
The church office will be closed on  
Memorial Day, Monday, May 26  
and will also be closed on  
Friday, May 30.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry donates Knitted Knockers



On Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> the Prayer Shawl Ministry stuffed 24 pairs of Knitted Knockers to be donated to Dr. Ashley Richardson in Flint. She is a Breast Cancer Surgeon who serves Flint area breast cancer patients.

GBUMC has donated over 265 pairs of Knitted Knockers in the last few years! Special thanks to all who stuffed and/or knitted the Knockers plus an extra special thanks to Gina Briscoe for helping us stuff them this time.



Join Pastor Brian and other Bible explorers as we journey through scripture with an eye toward discovering more about God's love, our relationship with God, and what that means for our ministry today and tomorrow!

And don't avoid us if you're worried you might miss class occasionally. You're welcome to **drop-in** anytime, and we'll catch you right up! And so, join us every Thursday at 10am for a great time of fellowship, learning, and Bible study. We look forward to seeing you!

**May dates:**

**May 1, 8, 15 & 22 @10am**  
We will then take a break for the Summer!

### *Card Ministry*

**The Last Tuesday of Every Month  
@ 10am**



Help us keep in touch with shut-ins, others on our prayer list, people we haven't seen in a while, or even just mail out birthday or anniversary cards. We have the cards and stamps, we just need you!!!

