



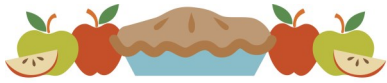
"Connection"

September 1

15th Sunday after Pentecost

"Good Sabbathing"

Luke 6:9



September 8

9am & 11a Service Resume

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"Be UMC"*

"An Emphasis on Grace"

Genesis 1:31

Ephesians 2:8-10



September 15

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"Be UMC"*

"The General Rules"

James 1:19-27



September 22

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series: *"Be UMC"*

"Going Onto Perfection"

Matthew 5:43-48



September 29

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Speaker:

Rev. John Hice

Appreciating Elephants

Have you ever noticed that there are an extremely wide variety of holidays that seem to pop up. A while ago, I learned that there is a national "Talk Like a Pirate Day" (September 19th), Pie Day (March 14th) and even Star Wars Day (May 4th.) Well, did you know that there is Elephant Appreciation Day (September 22nd)? Maybe you did know it, but simply forgot (Haha...an elephant joke). But the elephants have not forgotten about it (another elephant joke.) And so, it seems appropriate that we show appreciation for elephants. Ready? Go!

Okay, why did I start this article talking about Elephant Appreciation Day? Is it because it's a September holiday? No, there are tons of others to choose from! I chose it simply so we could talk about memories – or more specifically, *remembering*. Elephants are said to do that very well. Christians? Well, we do it too!

In Ephesians, Paul tells the people of the Ephesian church: *"For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."* (Ephesians 1:15-16.)

Here, Paul is simply offering a reminder through his letter that he is remembering them in his prayers. We don't really need to read into it. You see, Paul can't always be with the new church starts. Instead, he's writing to encourage, commend, and at times admonish, as well as sending other missionaries to be with those who are, with him, striving to be faithful followers of Christ's gospel. In other words, Paul is seeking to give care to the church when he could not be present.

And so, I write this article with the same sentiment. In my prayers, I am remembering you and giving thanks for you. While we cannot always be together, it does not stop me from this kind of spirit-connection. And the same can be true for all of us. While we all may not be together 24/7 (in fact, I assure you, we are not,) we can remember and give thanks for one another.

Let me close with the words from a wonderful hymn that reminds us of the same: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Brian



FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

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

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Shirley Andrews
Ron Blakemore
Zayden Briscoe
Donna Brookins
Jim Bunker
Ruth Davis
Lisa England
Judy Gratsch
Dick Hubler
Gail Lutton
Paul Manning
Lee Pelton
Dick Shick
Norma Stanbury
Vera Stuckey
Bob Tritten
Darcie West

FOR OTHERS:

Susan Allan
Kim Allward
Dave Ax
Rich Bennetts
Nancy Bilas
Sallie Burek
Peggy Chwojncki
Patricia Crawfis
Warren Crawfis
Cynthia Crawford
Paul Daly
Ellen Farr
Merikay & Doug Franklin
Mike Gomez
Sharon Graham
Gene Griffel
Eric Hansor
Clara Holmes
Anne Howarth

Pat Johnston
Dave Jones
Greg Jones
Doug Keene
Cindy Larange
Ellie Lauth
Adrianna Martell
Vinnny Martinez
Rev. Gordon Mitchinson
Keith Morris
Lynne O'Brien
Carl Pate
Ruth Ann Sandrock
Paul Schultes
Ashley Schaffer
Bill Shier
Eddie Snow
Emery Wacser
Jo Williams
Laura Wilson



~ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Zachary Ferguson, who passed away on July 31, 2024 and Harold Ferguson, who passed away on August 4, 2024. Zachary is Marcia Ferguson's great-grandson and Harold is Marcia's son.
~ We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Nancy Jarosiewicz, who passed away on August 16, 2024. Nancy is Gina Briscoe's sister.

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.

We Need Your HELP!

Shirley Andrews
2386 Egleston Ave
Burton, MI 48509

Donna Brookins
11864 Highland St
Mt Morris, MI 48458



Thank you to everyone who mailed a card, texted, called and/or prayed for my family after my sister, Nancy, passed away. I appreciate this wonderful church family.
Gina Briscoe

Women's Circle Join the Women's Group
Wednesday, September 18
@ 10am

Worship Service times return to
9am and 11am on
Sunday, September 8!!!
Sunday School for all ages at 10am.

Updated Address for Eleanor Poole:
C-200 Fountain View Village
16455 E. Ave of the Fountains
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

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.**

September 2024 book pick: "It's All Relative: Adventure Up and Down the World's Family Tree" By: A. J. Jacobs



Sunday school for all ages begins with a kick-off on Sunday, September 8th. Join us in the nursery, JAM classrooms and youth classrooms for fun, interactive time.



We have a new Sunday school class for our littlest members, our Pre-K class. This will be taught by our new Nursery Supervisor, Andrea Bernat, at the 10am hour in the nursery. They will be following the same Big Faith curriculum that is taught in our JAM Classroom.

A special thank you to all of the volunteers and participants in the various summer programs we had at the church this summer. Our new Summer Learn-n-Play Program on Tuesday mornings, led by Andrea Mertz, that reached out to our young-fives/preschool children was a great success. Kiddos worked on their kindergarten-readiness activities, nature hikes in the Commons, playtime, and healthy snacks. Summer Socials, on Wednesday mornings in June and August, led by Shelly Gould-Rice and Tammy Martin, were a wonderful social time for our elementary aged children. During those mornings our kiddos engaged in fun water play, the playground and other outside play, movies and popcorn, and lots of other fun and relational activities. Lastly, who could forget about our Summer Fun/VBS program- Hero Hotline. We had a good attendance again this year. It was wonderful to see new and returning faces. Our kiddos enjoyed emerging as their "hero" selves each week from our amazing telephone booth! They learned that heroes are called to: follow Jesus, help others, work together and show grace. I BIG thank you to all of the volunteers that made this possible. I am not listing names, lest I forget someone. But I can not thank each and every one of you enough! Children's ministry can't happen alone, and I am truly grateful for each and every helping hand!



Classes for all ages begins on September 15 @ 10am

Nursery volunteer Schedule:

9am service & Sunday School:
1st Sunday Val Wise
2nd & 3rd Shelly Gould-Rice
4th/5th - TBD

11am service: Francis Duby

JAM teachers:

Tammy Martin & Julie Koerkel
Assistants:
1st Sunday Rachel Bond
2nd/5th Cathy Melkus
3rd Nancy Bigler
4th Kristin Rahn

Youth teachers

Melinda Elmore-Hajek & Bob Tritten



Remember you can always access our Amplify Media account. Instructions are on the table outside of the Sanctuary along with Pastor's Picks books. Any questions? See Angela.



YOUTH GROUP!

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

Welcome Meeting!!

Sunday, September 15

5pm to 7pm

Bring a friend!!

Tuesday, September 24

Fundraiser at Culver's

 for ASP 2026!!!

Please help out whenever
you can between the
hours of 5pm and 8pm!

ASP Leader:
Jennifer Lengyel 810-241-2343



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

Sunday, September 22

5pm to 7pm

S'mores & Stories



Around the
church firepit!

Sunday, September 29

BOWLING!!!



Meet at Galaxy Lanes
at 5pm. We'll have
pizza while we bowl!!

Parents pick up at
Galaxy Lanes at 7pm

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!!!

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

PULLED PORK BOWLS

DELICIOUS—come and see what it's all about!

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

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

Blood Drive

Turn a new leaf
Fall Into giving

**Wednesday
October
30**
12 noon – 4:30 PM

Sign up TODAY!


GRAND BLANC
UNITED METHODIST FELLOWSHIP HALL
515 BUSH AVE.
GRAND BLANC, MI 48439

One unit of blood can be separated into several components: red blood cells, plasma & platelets.

Catered Dinner
Friday, November 8, 6 pm

Save the date... We plan to host another **Community Care Fund FUNDRAISER**. We did this last year and had a great time **AND** raised money for this vital ministry. Secure the date and watch for more info to come soon. The price will remain the same as last \$20/person.



Keep an  out for the CO&E passion survey... and be sure to fill it out.

Feedback is important to us. It can help us know what might need to be improved, what direction we should be heading and the list goes on. To sweeten things, we are hoping all of you will fill out the survey and drop it off in the box located in the Narthex. Put your name on it and have a chance to win a gift card from a LOCAL business. It's just a fun way to maximize the effectiveness of the survey. The more surveys, the better the results.

Join Grand Blanc United Methodist Church Women of Faith for a

CELEBRATION

OF WOMEN'S' RIGHT TO VOTE.

FREE LIBERTY LUNCH

followed by
guest speaker Kathy Freeland

Saturday, October 5, 12 noon

What happened on August 18, 1920?



The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution made it legal for women in the United States to VOTE!

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS (BY 9/30/24)

Virginia Sullivan (810-869-8581) or Sandy Jones (810-691-3013)

19TH AMENDMENT
HONORING WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church is located at 515 Bush Ave, Grand Blanc, MI

Sunday, September 22
following the 11 am service



"Meet, Eat, Love"

*Come meet our new staff member,
Hang out with our current staff members,
share a great potluck meal, and show some
love for your church family.*

BRING A DISH TO SHARE.

Drinks & place settings will be provided.

Sign up helpful, but certainly not necessary.

NEW MINISTRY

We are working to develop a new Small Group Ministry here at GBUMC that will invite people to join a monthly small group gathering called "Compass Groups" where you'll get to gather at a small group member's home (the H.O.S.T.) and share a time of fellowship and refreshments, learning and growing, prayer, and even missions.

Before we can get things started, we need to establish small Group H.O.S.T.s who are willing to...

HOSTS Needed

- Have a **H**ear for people,
- **O**pen their home to the Compass Group once a month,
- **S**erve a refreshment (or arrange of them),
- **T**urn on a video that will guide the small group study.

Next New Member Class

Saturday, September 21
9 to 11am

**Membership is about taking a meaningful
next step in your journey of faith**

- Learn more about The United Methodist Church.
- Learn more about what it means to be a member of Grand Blanc United Methodist Church.



Altar Flowers

- 09/01 In memory of Lisa Accardo by Joanne Lepri & Mariann Quaderer
- 09/08
- 09/15
- 09/22 In honor of the members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, by Marylee Hubel
- 09/29

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

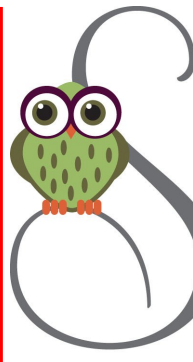
- 09/08 Mitchinson
- 09/15 Mission Team
- 09/22 Prayer Shawl
- 09/29 Seasoned Citizens

11:00am Worship Ushers

- 1st Sunday Jim Wise, Carol Cerny
- 2nd Sunday Virginia Sullivan, John Billings
- 3rd Sunday Bob & Barb Mills
- 4th Sunday Gary Bendall, Tom Cerny
- 5th Sunday **Looking for Volunteers**

COUNTERS

- 09/01 Dave Lessel, Tom Cerny
- 09/08 Carol Capell, Ron Blakemore
- 09/15 Virginia Sullivan, Carol Cerny
- 09/22 Tom Cerny, Jim Wise
- 09/29 Dave Lessel, Tom Cerny



September



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Wishes

- 1st Bryant Allen, Bev Atchison, Jim Bunker, Deb Carvill, RaeDeanne Middleton
- 3rd Ashley Nizinski, Conner Seaman
- 5th Gary Hajek
- 13th Lily Mertz
- 14th Alyssa Norris
- 16th Calvin Church
- 18th Nancy Booms, Dorrie Richmond (100)
- 20th Deb Skinner
- 21st Nathan DeVos, Adrienne Jablonski, Tanya Russian
- 25th Ben Lutton
- 26th Glen DeVos, Ruth Walder (86)
- 28th Joy Billyard, Theodore Gratsch, Bernie Waisanen
- 30th Susan Rockafellow

Anniversary Blessings

- 2nd Connie & David Skinner (36)
- 13th Renee & Bob Eggert (49)
- 20th Luann & Dave Griffus (44)
- 21st Joanne Lepri & Mariann Quaderer



As you can see from the list above, Dorrie Richmond will be turning 100 years young on September 18th. Let's show her some love by mailing birthday cards to her!!!
Dorrie Richmond, 1117 Rowland, Flint, MI 48507

Greeters

	9:00am	11:00am
09/08	Dick Shick	Carol Cerny
09/15	Becky Doran	Looking for Volunteers!!!
09/22	Raeann Waisanen	Tom Cerny
09/29	John Billings	

Contact the church office with questions or to volunteer!

Grand Blanc United Methodist Church Financial Summary

General Fund Balance (as of 07-31-24) = \$20,387
Mortgage Fund Balance (as of 07-31-24) = \$3,307

MORTGAGE BALANCE (as of 07-31-24) = \$96,189



September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10a Worship	2 OFFICE CLOSED 	3 OFFICE 10a-2p 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 7p Worship & Arts Meeting via Zoom	4 OFFICE 10a-2p 10a Prayer Shawl 5p Community Dinner 5:30p Choir 6:30 Celebration Ringers	5 OFFICE 10a-2p 10a Drop-In Bible Study 6p Common Grace	6 OFFICE CLOSED 10a Men's Coffee 7p AI Anon	7 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
8 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch 10a Mission Team 11a Worship 12:30p Confirmation Class	9 7p Ad Council via Zoom	10 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 10a Prayer Group	11 10a Prayer Shawl 5:30p Choir 6:30 Celebration Ringers	12 10a Drop-In Bible Study Noon Seasoned Citizens	13 10a Men's Coffee 7p AI Anon	14 10a O.A. 10a Yoga F.H. in use
15 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch 11a Worship 5p Youth Group	16 10a Zentangle 1p Garland Street Literary Club 7p Finance	17 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga	18 10a Prayer Shawl 5:30p Choir 6:30 Celebration Ringers	19 10a Drop-In Bible Study 6p Common Grace 7p Education Team	20 10a Men's Coffee 7p AI Anon	21 9a New Member Class 9:30a Library in use 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
22 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch 11a Worship 12:30p Potluck! 5p Youth Group	23	24 10a Pastor @ Panera 10a Yoga 10a Prayer Group 5p-8p ASP fundraiser @ Culver's	25 10a Prayer Shawl 5:30p Choir 6:30 Celebration Ringers	26 10a Drop-In Bible Study	27 10a Men's Coffee 7p AI Anon	28 10a O.A. 10a Yoga
29 9a Worship 10a Sunday Sch 11a Worship 5p Youth Group	30					

Many congregations have a history of dreading the summer months, fearing that breaks from school, up-north life, and beautiful weather would interrupt the giving patterns in their churches, resulting in a “falling behind” in their financial standing. Year after year, congregations and pastors have had to write letters and September newsletter articles, hoping that a urgent “ask” would reinvigorate giving that may have declined June through August, all in the effort to right the ship.

We are grateful to share with you that Grand Blanc UMC is not joining in those concerns!

Rather, we are celebrating that your generosity continues to meet our financial needs and obligations. For both the Mortgage Fund and the General Fund, pledges remain nearly 100% year to date. We continue to operate "in the positive," ensuring that all ministries can continue and thrive. What we are seeing in terms of our church's current financial health is something we simply haven't seen in years past.

What this demonstrates is that those who are giving to the church out of their generosity are doing so because they believe in the power and impact of the ministry we are doing as a church. It also shows the congregation's overall degree of excitement for what will come. And so, recognizing the health of our congregation's current financial health, we want to offer a few thoughts:

1. The first is to simply say thank you! Your regular commitment to your financial contribution and/or pledge to the church is much appreciated. There are many demands on everyone's finances, and that is a reality that is not lost on us. Know that you and your generosity are appreciated!
2. Online giving is a tool that can help you if you're giving on a regular basis. GBUMC works with a UMC verified financial services company, "Vanco" to provide us with online giving tools that can provide you with recurring and/or one-time giving opportunities using an account of your choice or credit/debit card. This service is safe, secure, and can be a great tool for your giving commitment. No forgetting the checkbook anymore.
3. As you continue to grow excited about the ministries that we're doing through GBUMC, know that we're also looking forward to new and exciting ministries and opportunities to come. Your continued generosity makes *all* this possible. If you are interested in giving above and beyond your pledged gift, know that there are often giving possibilities you can take advantage of, such as minimum charitable contributions, tax advantaged accounts, trusts and other forms of planned giving that can greatly benefit the future ministries of the church both now and in the future. If this kind of above and beyond giving is something that you're interested in learning more about, please contact Pastor Brian and he can connect you with *The United Methodist Foundation of Michigan* who can be a wonderful resource for further information.

With deep appreciation for your continued commitment to the health, vitality, and reach of this church, thank you!

Pastor Brian & your Finance Committee

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



GRAND BLANC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Special Office hours for the first week of
September:

Monday, September 2, Office Closed
Tuesday, September 3, 10a to 2p
Wednesday, September 4, 10a to 2p
Thursday, September 5, 10a to 2p
Friday, September 6, Office Closed



Seasoned Citizens

Thursday, September 12

Noon: Coffee & Conversation

12:25pm: Prayer & Devotion

12:30pm: Potluck Lunch

1:00pm: Program. Genesee County Free
Medical Clinic. (Donna Hedding
delivered empty prescription bottles
there for a long time. Virginia Sullivan
collects bottles for the clinic now.)

Everyone is welcome!
Bring a friend - or two !!

More Knitted Knockers Donated by GBUMC Prayer Shawl Group

On August 1, 2024, 22 pairs of Knitted Knockers were delivered to Dr. Suzanne Law's office near McLaren Hospital in Flint. Dr. Law is a General and Breast Cancer Surgeon who provides the Knockers to her patients after surgery.

Our Prayer Shawl Group meets on Wednesdays at 10am in the Library. Feel free to stop by and join us!

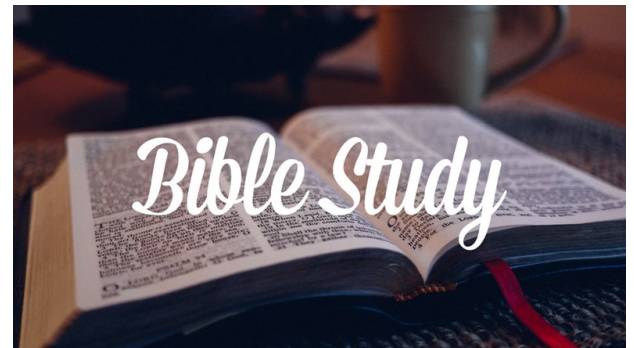


It's time to start our fundraising for ASP 2026!!! ASP (Appalachia Service Project) is a home restoration organization that has been serving in Central Appalachia since 1969. GBUMC has been sending youth to serve since 1981!!!

Join us at Culver's, 9090 Holly Road anytime between

**5pm and 8pm on Tuesday,
September 24.**

A percentage of EVERY purchase helps fund this meaningful youth mission trip!!



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!

In the event of winter weather that closes Grand Blanc Schools, the Bible Study will take place on Zoom at the same time. A Zoom link will be emailed out to the whole church.

**September dates:
September 5, 12, 19, 26
@10am**