

Glimpses

Of

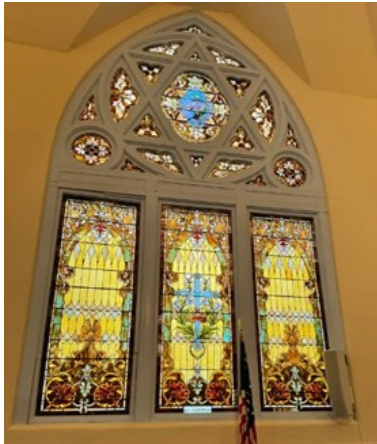
Grace



Grace for Today, Grace for Tomorrow

September 2024

Grace for Today Grace for Tomorrow 2.0 5-YEAR FINANCIAL PLEDGE NEEDS 2024 -2029



5	pledges of \$1,000 per year for 5 years	(\$5,000)	\$25,000
10	pledges of \$500 per year for 5 years	(\$2,500)	\$25,000
20	pledges of \$250 per year for 5 years	(\$1,250)	\$25,000
10	pledges of \$200 per year for 5 years	(\$1,000)	\$10,000

TOTAL 5 YEAR GOAL

\$85,000

\$75,000 for windows

\$7,500 for mission

\$2,500 for contingencies

Please detach and return to the church office at:

Grace UMC; PO Box 66; Blanchester, OH 45107

My 5-Year Pledge

Grace United Methodist Church Windows Fund

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Dean's Razor



St. Thomas Aquinas said that theological (religious) truth could be discovered through reason and I have followed that precept since I was in high school. This summer it has led me on a curious journey into the realm of social psychology (why people do the things they do), especially the books of Malcom Gladwell: “The Bomber Mafia,” “Talking to Strangers” and, “David and Goliath,” etc.

A few weeks ago, having read nearly all of Gladwell’s published works, I picked up a book by Dr. Dan Ariely, another prominent psychologist. I was fascinated by the title: “Misbelief: What Makes Rational People Believe Irrational Things.” One thing he talks about in it is the concept of a philosophical “razor.”

In theology and philosophy, a razor is a principle or a rule of thumb, that allows for the elimination (the “shaving off”) of unlikely explanations for a phenomenon. Ariely says that there are three “razors” that we should keep in what he calls “our mental health hygiene kit.”

The three he commends to us are:

Hanlon's razor: Never attribute to malice that which can be adequately explained by stupidity [or human frailty].

Occam's razor: When trying to explain or understand a phenomenon, the simplest explanation is usually the right one and should be accepted until evidence provides a better one.

Hitchens' razor: That which can be asserted without evidence can be dismissed without evidence.

I’m going to keep those not just in my “mental health hygiene kit” but my “spiritual health hygiene kit,” as well. Oh, and one more. We’ll call it **Feldmeyer's razor**: When what you are doing isn’t working, do something else.

Who knows, I may even work them into a sermon somewhere along the way. It’ll be fun. Have a great September.

See ya’ in church...

Dean

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAE SUNDAY

Sunday, September 8,
Fellowship Hall -- Immediately after Worship
Lunch & Ice Cream Sundaes
Special presentation on the history and
meaning of our stained-glass windows

(PLEASE SEE SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE SANCTUARY)

SERMON: *The News from Indian Lake*

CLINTON COUNTY GOSPEL JAM & BAR-B-Q

Open Mic and Sing-Along Hootenanny
5:30 -7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall
Sign-up Sheet available mid-September

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:00 p.m.
Soup & Sandwich Potluck Dinner

KARAOKE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 8, 2024 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Homemade Christmas Cookie Buffet!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 9:00 p.m.

BOXING SUNDAY

Sunday, December 29, 2024 10:30 a.m.
Children's Clothing Collection to Benefit
Jack's Closet. Do not wrap the packages

CLINTON COUNTY BENEFIT MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, February 1, 2024 – 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Grace UMC -- Fellowship Hall -- Details TBA



SEPTEMBER SERMONS

09.01.24

Pastor Dean

How to Steal First Base

Mark 7: 1-23

09.08.24

Pastor Dean

The News from Indian Lake

James 2: 14-17

09.15.24

Pastor Dean

Sticks & Stones

James 3: 1-12

09.22.24

Assoc. Pastor Anita Preaching

09.29.24

Pastor Dean

The Power of Prayer

James 5: 13-18

September Happenings

Sept. 8 we hope to have folks who will volunteer their time to staff the Children's Room during church so that we may attract families with children to our services. We need 2 adults, not related to each other to "be on duty" (so to speak), during worship. The reason for 2 unrelated people has to do with Safe Sanctuary policy to protect the children as well as the volunteers.



There is a sign up sheet on the Bulletin board by the ramp in Fellowship Hall.



The next community dinner here at Grace will be **Thursday, Sept. 26** from **4:30-6:00 p.m.** The last grill out of the season. Please volunteer to help, and join us for the meal as Pastor Dean shares his musical talents. We know you will enjoy yourselves.

Thank you,
Bryanne, Carole, & Ruth

Pastor Dean will be attending this event.

2024 HEALTHY BOUNDARIES AND SAFER SANCTUARIES

(Required for all clergy. Safer Sanctuaries recommended for laity.)

October 29, 2024 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Clergy Sexual Ethics & Church Safe Sanctuaries Policies
Christ United Methodist Church – Columbus



Our Church Family



- 4 Julia Thompson
- 6 Beth West
- 13 Scott McGrath
- 17 Ian Freeman
- 17 Jill Girard
- 21 Greg Ballinger
- 24 Cameron West
- 27 Jon Freeman
- 27 Karen Shonkwiler
- 28 Paige Hansen



- 2 Eric & Julia Thompson
- 5 Mike & Terry Hoggatt
- 9 Brandon & Brandi Hoggatt
- 16 Steve & Debby Dunn
- 18 Nick & Lara Netherton
- 21 Aaron & Emily Harris

If you or someone you know would like to be included on our birthday and anniversary list, please contact the church office.



Ethan Brookshear, Jill Girard, Bev Shaw, Diane Salyers, the family of Rebecca Levering, the family of Tom Kittle, Jim Bailey, Mary Beth McCullough, Martha Joyce, Isaac Halker, Beverly Cravens, L.J. Rineair, D.J. Ross, Uncle Howard, Courtney Hall, Glenn Funk, Angela Mueller, the family of Ken Richardson, Shirley Jacobs, Faye Smith, Brandon Peery, Chrissy Charles, the family of Charlie Johnson, Brenda Freeman Haley, an un-named request for healing from cancer, health care professionals, those in hospitals, the jobless and homeless, our church, our village, our state, our nation and our world. Senior Chief Electrician Kyle Hoggatt, Major Morgan Bennett, Major Adam Putman, 1st Sgt. James Beckelhymer, 1st Sgt. Josh Fox

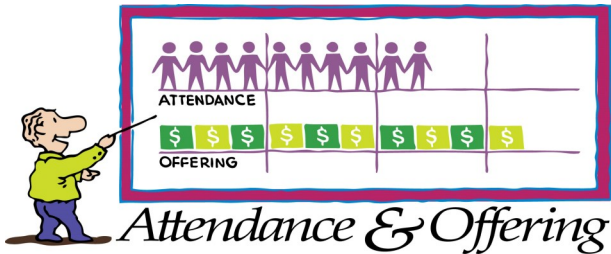
Dear Church Family,

There are few words to thank you all for your prayers, calls, texts and visits during my stay in the hospital and returning home. A special thanks to Patti Loftin for driving me to the ER, to Jean Feldmeyer for driving me home when I was discharged and Pastor Dean and Jean visiting me prior to my endoscopy. Your love and prayers were truly felt and helped immensely. I am truly blessed by my Church family.



Patty Williams

Bits and Pieces



Average attendance in August: 40

Average Online viewing in August: 5

Needed in August: \$9,694.00

Giving the last Sunday of July and
First 3 Sundays of August: \$20, 841.00

Communion

Sunday, September 1

Food Pantry Sunday

September 1

Labor Day

Monday, September 2
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Good Samaritan Fund Offering

Sunday, September 8

Sundae Sunday

September 8
Immediately after church

Coffee, Tea and Thee

Sunday, September 15
9:45 a.m.-10:20 a.m.

Newsletter Deadline

Monday, September 23 @ Noon

Free Community Dinner

Last Grillin' Out

Thursday, September 26
4:30-6:00 pm

FROM: *Judy & Harry Brumbaugh*
Patti Loftin

Through your generous
donations to the food pantry
you helped to serve over 300
people in August.



This month's only needs
are: **spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, tuna helper, ham-**
burger helper, canned mixed vegetables, and
monetary donations are most welcome. Pantry
hours are Monday & Thursdays 6-7 p.m. Volunteer
help is also appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support of this out-
reach to the community.

Food Pantry Sunday is the first Sunday of
every month.

More Bits & Pieces



The deadline for items for the October newsletter is :

Monday, September 23 @

Noon. Thank You. Please have all items to the office at that time. Thank you.



Girl Scouts

We will again be hosting Cadette Girl Scout Troop 45988 this year. They began here as Daisies in 2014. We will also host a new Daisies Troop.

Ida Miller is the Cadette Girl Scout Troop 45988 leader.

Exciting things are happening with the Girl Scouts in Blanchester, and it's a privilege to be a part of that here at Grace.



GIRL SCOUTS

Stay in Touch with Us

Phone: 937-783-3655

Email: blanchesterumc@gmail.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 66

Pastor Dean: dfeldmeyer@yahoo.com

Pastor's Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-Noon

Assoc. Pastor Anita: grath47696@zoomtown.com

Facebook page: Blan Grace UMC

Website: blangrace.org

Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 9 a.m.-Noon

Friday-Office Closed

Patty's Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Laughter is Good for the Soul



Back to School Humor

What does the English teacher make for breakfast?

Synonym rolls

Why doesn't the school library have a clock?

It tocks too much.

The Gift of Work

Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work?

“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God’s way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.”

“Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger and thirst that make food



The Significance of Patriot Day

Three months after the 2001 terrorist attacks, Congress approved a joint resolution designating September 11 as Patriot Day. Every year, we pause to remember the lives lost and changed on that autumn morning.

The resolution requests that each year the president issue a proclamation calling on the American people and state and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities. Those include remembrance services, candlelight vigils, moments of silence and flying the U.S. flag at half-staff.

In his 2023 proclamation President Biden said, “Together, may we continue to demonstrate that the rights and freedoms that those terrorists sought to destroy on September 11, 2001, remain unwavering — strengthened by generations of Americans who have dared all and risked all to defend, protect and preserve our democracy.”



ADULT FUN



Bible Word Search

Books of the Old Testament

R	H	A	G	G	A	I	G	J	O	N	A	H	E	I	S	A	I	A	H
E	C	C	L	E	S	I	A	S	T	E	S	A	U	H	S	O	J	F	H
S	E	G	D	U	J	E	W	E	S	T	H	E	R	S	G	N	I	K	O
T	B	N	O	M	O	L	O	S	F	O	G	N	O	S	M	B	Y	C	S
A	M	O	S	L	O	Z	Y	M	O	N	O	R	E	T	U	E	D	O	E
W	K	K	K	E	K	R	V	O	Y	H	T	U	R	H	A	Q	B	R	A
K	U	B	Y	U	P	F	K	I	B	L	Q	V	D	A	N	I	E	L	A
L	K	O	C	M	S	S	K	H	I	A	E	V	E	W	I	F	O	M	Z
A	K	J	L	A	E	A	H	J	K	K	D	V	P	X	W	I	K	Y	N
M	A	K	S	S	L	M	A	P	U	C	D	I	I	F	O	C	I	M	Q
E	B	I	B	C	C	U	I	P	D	H	V	L	A	T	Z	D	F	C	S
N	A	N	R	J	I	E	R	H	H	G	A	O	U	H	I	C	U	I	Z
T	H	J	E	E	N	L	A	A	A	J	X	M	N	F	H	C	S	S	N
A	M	S	V	R	O	I	H	I	C	O	K	N	A	T	V	E	U	K	A
T	L	M	O	E	R	S	C	M	I	E	A	U	T	L	N	C	C	S	H
I	T	L	R	M	H	W	E	E	M	L	R	M	Q	E	A	J	M	C	U
O	K	A	P	I	C	E	Z	H	I	X	Z	B	G	F	I	C	E	I	M
N	E	S	H	A	F	E	I	E	B	N	E	E	Z	V	L	X	H	E	M
S	M	P	S	H	G	Y	H	N	H	V	V	R	Q	U	A	G	H	I	Y
W	N	H	A	I	N	A	H	P	E	Z	S	S	E	Z	E	K	I	E	L

AMOS
CHRONICLES
DANIEL
DEUTERONOMY
ECCLESIASTES
ESTHER
EXODUS
EZEKIEL
EZRA
GENESIS
HABAKKUK
HAGGAI
HOSEA

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
JOB
JOEL
JONAH
JOSHUA
JUDGES
KINGS
LAMENTATIONS
LEVITICUS
MALACHI
MICAH
NAHUM

NEHEMIAH
NUMBERS
OBADIAH
PROVERBS
PSALMS
RUTH
SAMUEL
SAMUEL
SONG OF SOLOMON
ZECHARIAH
ZEPHANIAH



The Extraordinary Amid the Ordinary

A violinist once performed in the New York City subway, entertaining passersby for 45 minutes. A few tossed him cash, totaling about \$30 by the time he concluded.

Little did anyone know, Joshua Bell was one of the world's best violinists. That day, he played one of the most complex musical pieces ever written on an instrument worth \$3.5 million. Indeed, a few days earlier Bell had performed a sold-out concert in Boston, where tickets averaged \$100.

Sometimes God does extraordinary things right in the middle of our ordinary lives, yet we don't notice. You're offered an opportunity you almost pass up, thinking it's not worth your time or effort. But upon taking part, you find it leads to your life's calling. Or someone crosses your path, but overlooking their worth, you brush them aside, missing out on a blessing God had for you through them.

And what about you? Do you undervalue yourself as "nothing special," just an "ordinary" person? Look closer; think again. For an ordinary baby born long ago to an ordinary couple in an ordinary stable in an ordinary town was none other than ... God's Son! And you? Why, you are also an extraordinary child of God!



Second Fiddle

A fan once asked conductor Leonard Bernstein what instrument is hardest to play. "Second fiddle," he quickly replied. "I can always get plenty of first violinists, but to find one who plays second violin with as much enthusiasm ... now that's a problem. And yet if no one plays second, we have no harmony."

The church certainly needs both leaders and followers. And everyone should be flexible and ready to pivot quickly.



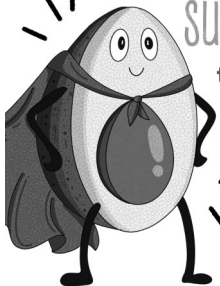
It's also important to have other arrows in our quiver — something biblical figures often demonstrated, according to Pastor Frank Ramirez. Although Amos was a high-profile prophet, he probably intended to return to being a shepherd and tending sycamore trees. Nehemiah, the emperor's cupbearer, had a second chapter helping to restore Jerusalem's walls and greatness. The apostles also had multiple roles, with careers in fishing and tax collecting before they left to follow Jesus.

What might your next life-chapter look like? How can you use it to bring glory to God?

Kids' Korner


a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to your school day with **superfoods** that promote a healthy body and mind.



What you need:


- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast. Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, "everything bagel" seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.

PUZZLE



AMAZING ILLUMINATION

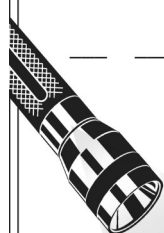
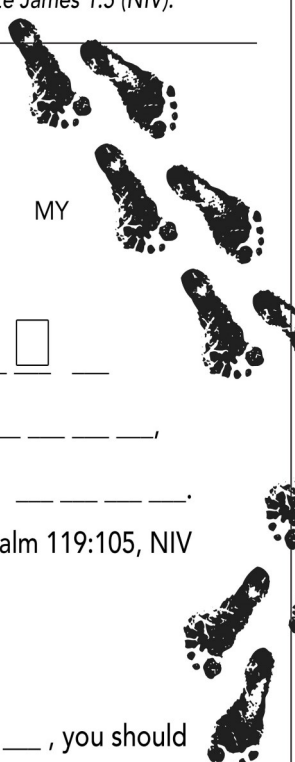
God grants us knowledge and understanding through his holy Word, which is like a flashlight.

Directions: Arrange the words from Psalm 119:105 (NIV) in order. Then unscramble the circled letters to complete James 1:5 (NIV).

PATH IS LIGHT WORD
YOUR A FEET
MY FOR LAMP A ON MY

Psalm 119:105, NIV

If any of you lacks _____, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. *James 1:5, NIV*

Answer: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path; wisdom



Thank you to Carole & Bob Haines, Beth Smith and Robin Prewitt for the yummy goodies they provided for *Coffee, Tea and Thee* in August.

Thank you to all who helped in anyway with the August Free Community Dinner; especially the Grill Master, Randy Radcliffe. You are all so appreciated.

Thank you to Robin Prewitt & Darlene Kassner for sharing tomatoes from their gardens with the congregation.

Thank you to Pastor Dean for putting on Patty's secretary hat while she was in the hospital and out of the office.

Thank you to Bekah Davenport for her beautiful organ and piano music this summer. We will miss her, but look forward to her return in December.

If you would like to give a "Hats Off" to someone, please contact the office.

Glimpses of Grace is a monthly newsletter of Grace United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 66, 201 E. Center St., Blanchester, OH 45107; (937) 783-3655. You are welcome to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Dean Feldmeyer is Pastor. Anita Rathbun is Associate Pastor, Patty Williams is Secretary & Newsletter Editor.

Grace United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 66
Blanchester, OH 45107

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

