

Glimpses

Of

Grace



Loving Boldly ~ Serving Joyously ~ Leading Courageously

September 2026

Bar-B-Q for Veterans Village



Supporting Homeless Veterans

Sunday, Sept. 13 5-7 PM
at the Blanchester
Senior Citizens Center



Free pulled pork & chicken barbecue. All donations go to support the Veterans Village project for homeless veterans. Bring your appetite and your checkbook!

Musical entertainment provided by

Dean on The Scene.



FROM PASTOR DEAN

THE “NO” BY WHICH WE GROW

We went to Myrtle Beach on vacation this year.

One day, we’re sitting under our umbrella on the beach, relaxing, watching the surf and the people. Some are beautiful and some, well, aren’t. Some are industrious, building sandcastles or tossing frisbees; some are lazy, like me. Some are funny, and some are sad.

The family in front of us and over a bit is the sad kind. Just mom and dad and their son—nine, maybe ten years old. He’s grossly overweight, approaching obese. The parents are carrying a couple of extra pounds, but nothing like their son. And I can only imagine their struggle, their heartache.

They love him so much it hurts. Just the sight of him warms their hearts. His smile, his laugh, his “I love you,” is their reason for living. And when he comes home in tears because the other kids have laughed at him, made fun of him, it breaks their hearts.

They want to comfort him, to ease his pain as quickly as possible, and the most effective way to do that is with food—a cookie, a dip of ice cream, or a bag of chips. They know they shouldn’t. They know this is the very thing that is causing his pain. They know it’s unhealthy and bad for him.

But they love him so much. And when he’s hurt, and he looks at you with tears streaming down his cheeks, and you want so desperately to make his pain go away...it’s just so hard to say NO.

I think that sometimes it’s like that for God. He gives us freedom to make choices but sometimes he has to say “no.” And when we get mad, or sad because of the limitations He places upon us, it hurts him to see us that way. But he knows that his “NO” is the best thing for us. By his NO we will grow.

NO, I won’t help you pass the test you didn’t study for.

NO, I won’t keep you safe on the road when you’ve been drinking.

NO, I won’t solve your financial problems when you’ve been selfish and wasteful.

I’m sorry that you’re suffering because of your own bad choices, but...NO.

See ya in church,

Dean

September Happenings

Monday Morning Prayer Group (MMPG) would like to invite **everyone** to join our Bible Study and Prayer Group.

We will meet on **Monday, September 14 @ 9:30 a.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall** for prayer.



Lively Lydias Circle



The Lively Lydias Circle will meet, **Monday Sept. 14** in the “Living Room” of the Fellowship Hall at **7 p.m.** Patty Williams is the “Leader of the Pack”. She will have devotions and a game. Snacks will follow. Looking forward to seeing all the Lydias then.

The next community dinner here at Grace will be **Thursday, Sept. 24** 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,

Ruth, Bryanne & Carole



Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, September 6, Jimmy Wiederhold will be our Guest Organist for our worship service. We are excited to have him with us again. This is a Sunday, you won't want to miss. Bring family and friends to enjoy this great day.

Our Church Family



4 Julie 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 & Julie 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.



All teachers and students back at school, Betty Adams, Martha Joyce, Mary Beth McCullough, Ethan Brookshear, Bunny Bradshaw, Phyllis Raasch, Karen & Doug Willis, Georgia Peck, Juanita Curtis, Sally Charles, L. J. Rineair, Jerry Campbell, Allen Collett, Allen Willoughby, Brandon Peery, Trevor, people of Indiana, Cori-Reade Hale, family of Barb McMullen, health care professionals, those in hospitals, the jobless and homeless, our church, our village, our state, **our nation** and our world. Lt. Col. Adam Putman, Senior Chief Electrician Kyle Hoggatt, Major Morgan Bennett, 1st Sgt. James Beckelhymmer, 1st Sgt. Josh Fox, Christopher Bennett

(Please let us know when to remove someone from the prayer list.)

We extend our deepest sympathy to Carole Haines and her family on the passing of her beloved sister Bow, who passed away in August.



We pray God's comfort to her at this time of sorrow.

Dear Grace UMC.



Thank you for your support of Church World Service. We are grateful for your donation to our blanket ministry. It will help provide warmth and hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you,
Shary
CWS

Bits and Pieces



Attendance and Offering Report

Average attendance in August: 47

Average Online viewing in August: 95

Needed in August: \$10,556.00

Giving in the last Sunday of July and the 1st 4
Sundays in August: \$9,718.00

FROM: *Judy & Harry Brumbaugh*
Patti Loftin

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

This month's **only** needs are:

Jiffy Mix, Hamburger Helper, tomato soup, canned fruit, pancake mix and cash are most welcome. They can always use cash.

Pantry hours are Monday & Thursdays 6-7 p.m. Volunteer help is also appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support of this outreach to the community.



Food Pantry Sunday is the first Sunday of every month.



Church Council Meeting

Thursday, September 3
7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Jimmy Wiederhold at the Organ

Sunday, September 6; 10:30 a.m.

Communion

Sunday, September 6

Food Pantry Sunday

September 6

Labor Day

Monday, September 7
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Coffee, Tea and Thee

Sunday, September 13
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

BBQ for Veterans

Sunday, September 13
5-7 p.m. Senior Citizens Center

Good Samaritan Fund Offering

Sunday, September 13

Newsletter Deadline

Monday, September 21 @ 1 p.m.

Free Community Dinner Last Grillin' Out

Thursday, September 24
4:30-6:00 pm

More Bits & Pieces



The deadline for items for the October newsletter is :

Monday, September 21 @

1 p.m. Thank You. Please have all items to the office at that time. Thank you.



Girl Scouts

We will again be hosting Girl Scout Troop 45988 this year. They began here as Daisies in 2014. We will also host the Daisies Troop. *Ida Miller is 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

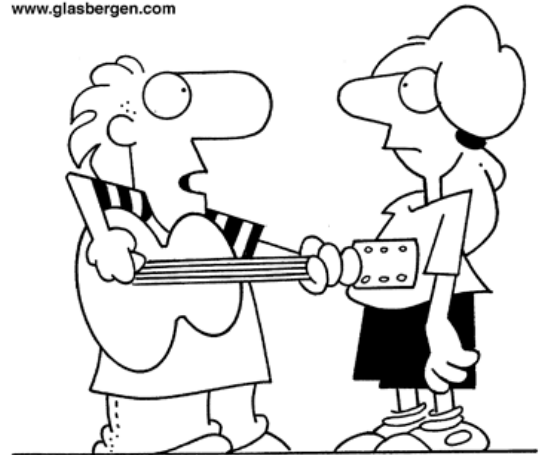
Website: blangrace.org

Office hours: Mon 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Tues.-Thurs. 9 a.m. – Noon
Friday-Office Closed

Laughter is Good for the Soul

(from Sept. 2025)

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www.glasbergen.com



**"Writing hymns is harder than I thought!
I can't think of anything that rhymes with
'Hallelujah' except 'glad I knew ya'
and 'we'll tattoo ya!'"**

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister When I grow up."

"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?"
"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

Kids' Korner



A sweet reminder that God is always growing something new, no matter the season. As summer winds down and a new school year begins, remember He is at work in your life, helping you grow in faith, kindness and courage. With His help, you can grow in wisdom, build friendships and shine His love wherever you go.

What you need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving) box chocolate instant pudding mix
- 1 (8 oz.) tub whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) clear plastic cups
- Gummy worms or frogs (optional)



What you do:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Let stand for 5 minutes until thickened.
2. Gently fold in the whipped topping.
3. Add a layer of crushed cookies to the bottom of each cup.
4. Spoon pudding mixture on top, filling the cups about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
5. Sprinkle more crushed cookies on top to look like "dirt."
6. Add gummy worms or frogs for fun.
7. Chill until ready to serve, or enjoy right away.

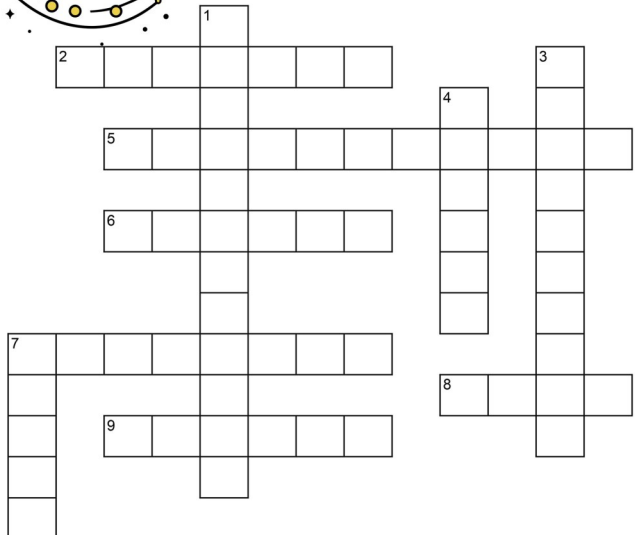
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not
perceive it? — Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

Puzzle!



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.



ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pure in heart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: meek, 9 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poor in spirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn



Hats off to the Rice Family and the Feldmeyers for the yummy goodies they provided for *Coffee, Tea and Thee* in August.

Hats off to the Grace Praise Band, and Priscilla, June and Quinn for their wonderful music on Aug. 23. It was fabulous!

Hats off to all who helped in anyway with the August Free Community Dinner; especially the Grill Master, Randy Radcliffe. You are all very much appreciated.

Hats off to all who provided picnic food to share on Sundae Sunday.

Hats off to Rich Peck and Harry Brumbaugh for expertly dipping the ice cream for sundaes on Sundae Sunday.

Hats off to those who shared veggies from their gardens with the congregation in August.

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, CLM is Associate Pastor. Patty Williams is Secretary & Newsletter Editor.

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



If you
would