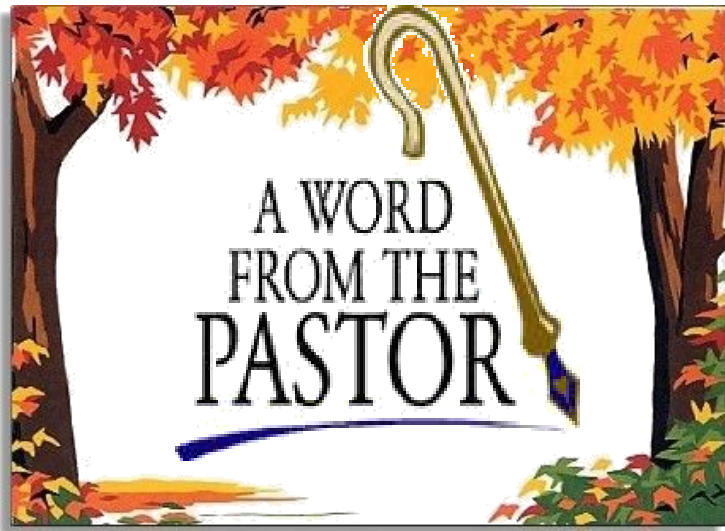


Grafton United Methodist Church
973 Mechanic Street
Grafton, Ohio 44044
Church Office: 440-926-2034
<http://www.graftonumc.org>



September 2024





From the Veranda

As I sat on the veranda the other morning I began to think “Where has this summer gone” It went past so fast. My grandsons are back in school, my hanging baskets aren’t looking to well, and my tomato plants seem to have run their course.

Summer just went to fast.

My morning meditation that morning was on Psalm 16:8.

"I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken"

In our fast-paced and often unpredictable lives, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the challenges we face and the speed of life. Yet, Psalm 16:8 offers a profound reminder of where our true strength lies

This verse speaks to the power of keeping our focus on God, making Him the center of our lives. By placing the Lord before us, we anchor ourselves in His unwavering presence and guidance. The imagery of God at our right hand conveys not only protection but also the intimate closeness of His support.

When we are rooted in this divine relationship, we find the courage to face life's uncertainties without fear. We are reminded that no matter what comes our way (no matter how fast) we will not be shaken, for God stands beside us, steadying our steps.

As we move forward in our daily routines and responsibilities, let us carry the assurance of Psalm 16:8 in our hearts. Let this verse encourage us to keep our eyes on the Lord, trusting that His presence will sustain and strengthen us in every circumstance.

Pastor Bob

Serving the Lord

September 2024



Lay Liturgist

- 1 Carol Morley
- 8 Judy Wingate
- 15 Anita Wheatley
- 22 Margie Lisle
- 29 Chris Clapper

Greeters and Ushers

- John and Anita Wheatley
- Barb Lynch and Diane Lach
- Beverly Macbeth and Sue May
- Bob Overy and Joe Mendlik
- Dick and Margie Lisle



**COMING UP
NEXT!**



OCTOBER 2024

- 6 Bob and Mary Brandal
- 13 Chris Clapper and Judy Wingate
- 20 Lloyd and Judy Miller
- 27 Fran Hurlburt and Judy Yusko

NOVEMBER 2024

- 3 Bill and Cheryl Grapes
- 10 John and Anita Wheatley
- 17 Barb Lynch and Diane Lach
- 24 Beverly Macbeth and Sue May



Sunday School Child Care Rotation September 2024

- 1 Chris and Barb Clapper
- 8 Anita Wheatley and Aimee Benko
- 15 Mary Brandal and Margie Lisle
- 22 Marge Rafter and Judy Wingate
- 29 Chris and Barb Clapper



"How I Spent My Summer Vacation"

Happy Birthday September

- 4 Chris Hoffmaster
- 9 Courtney Elliott
- 16 Anita Wheatley
- 21 Mary Brandal
- 24 Nathaniel Hoffmaster



Happy Anniversary September

- 10 Todd and Sarah Steele
- 20 David and Pat Coffman
- 26 Chuck and Barb Stephens
- 30 JJ and Kim Justice



Our Church Family Who Are Away from Us

Marilyn Chavalia 842 Mechanic St
Grafton, Ohio 44044

Pat Coffman Keystone Pointe
383 Opportunity Way
Room E308-2
LaGrange, Ohio 44050

Shirley Groves 1024 Woodland Chase
Grafton, Ohio 44044

Angelica Ritsko 756 N Center St
LaGrange, Ohio 44050

Ruth Sayles Keystone Pointe
383 Opportunity Way
Room 413
LaGrange, Ohio 44050





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September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service Holy Communion Open Table	2 	3 1:00 pm OutReach Meeting 	4 1:00 pm Bible Study	5	6	7
18 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service	9	10	11 1:00 pm Bible Study	12 Newsletter Articles Due 	13	14
15 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service Hot Dog Picnic Potluck	16	17	18 1:00 pm Bible Study	19 6:00 pm SPRC Consultation at Laporte UMC	20	21
22 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service	23	24	25 1:00 pm Bible Study	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service	30	<hr/>  <hr/>				

DUTY★HONOR★COUNTRY



If there is a member of your family in active duty in one of the branches of our military - we would be glad to place a flag in their honor on our Military Wall in the Sanctuary.



Please message the office with their name, branch of service and their rank either by sending an email to graftonumc@mail.com, or leave us a message on the phone at 440-926-2034. We'll take it from there ...

We salute all those who are currently serving and those who have served



In the event you have a change in name, change to your family dynamic, a change of address, phone number (cell and land), and/or email,

PLEASE contact the office in order for us to keep our records updated. Send us a message through ... US Mail, our email at graftonumc@mail.com or a voice message at 440-926-2034

We Thank You in Advance

Bible Study

OPPORTUNITIES

The Weekly Wednesday Bible Study Group is reading and discussing scripture, sharing past misinterpretations, connecting The Word with our everyday lives, and having an enjoyable time building friendly relationships. You are welcome to join us on **Wednesdays at 1PM** in Howard Tran Hall.

Adult Sunday School at 9 AM meets in the large classroom downstairs. We are friendly, informal, follow the “Our Daily Bread” devotional, and are helping each other understand The Word. You are invited to join in any Sunday the Holy Spirit is nudging you to be a part of the discussion.

Another Possible Option: Anyone who would like to become a part of a weekly Bible Study that would meet in the late afternoon or an evening time, please contact Carol Morley on Sunday morning, or by emailing bestill973@google.com or (440) 365-7729. I'll see what can be arranged.

Please keep us informed:

Due to HIPAA Regulations, hospitals, rehab centers and nursing homes are not permitted to share information of patients.

If you or a family member are hospitalized, have entered into rehab or a nursing facility, we ask that you or a family member please notify the Church Office at 440-926-2034 with the necessary information so that we may have the opportunity to keep you in prayer.





August OutReach Meeting Update

With help of the Church Family and our Rummage Sales profits, a total of \$508 was marked to donate to various organizations. \$300 was earmarked to Smile Train for the surgery to help children with cleft pallet. The other \$200 went to four local Lorain County organizations in need.

Plans have been finalized for the Hot Dog Potluck lunch following Worship Service on **Sunday, September 15th**. Family and Friends are most welcome! Sign up Sheets are posted on the doors in Howard Tran Hall. Hot Dogs and Buns to be provided by OutReach.

The annual Fall Rummage Sale dates have not been decided yet, but WILL be held. EXTRA help will be need and appreciated throughout the event.

Again, we thank you for the support!

The next OutReach Meeting will be Tuesday, September 3 at 11:00 am in Howard Tran Hall. All women in the congregation are invited to join us!



Never Forget

2001: New York - Arlington - Shanksville

2012: Benghazi

UPDATE ON HOW WE ARE “PUTTING GOD’S WORD TO WORK”

Contributions to Smile Train and “Children’s Change for Change”



We collect monies to support Smile Train which is a charitable organization that provides lifesaving surgeries to children who are born with a cleft palate. This condition prevents babies from suckling and they are unable to thrive for lack of nourishment. Once the surgery is done, the infants have the ability to eat and grow healthy bodies. All surgeries are done by volunteer medical professionals and those trained by certified medical professionals. Families learn about good health practices and the love of Jesus Christ. Anyone may donate to this life-giving mission at any time.



“Children’s Change for Change” began many years ago and we are still providing support for a deserving young person in Rwanda. Our congregation sends \$38 per month to provide her with the teachings of Jesus, clothing, food, school supplies, transportation, and other necessities to allow her to attend school. We also send an extra months allowance 2x a year; one for her birthday and one for Christmas. In order to make a change in someone’s life, it takes a little “change.” Thank you for giving to this mission any time.