

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1401 WEST MAIN ST

SPRINGFIELD, OH 45504

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A decorative banner with a white background and a thin gold border. It features several gold triangles of varying sizes scattered around the text. The word "JANUARY" is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. A thick gold horizontal line is positioned directly beneath the word.

JANUARY

2024

Happy New Year!

Isaiah 43:18-19, "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing: now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Dear Members and Friends of Grace Church,

I had a delightful discovery this morning at Grace Church. When Aileen opened the mail, we found a check from the **Springfield Foundation** for \$5229.12. This was especially surprising since I had not applied for a grant, nor did I know of anyone from the church who has.

What I do know is that many of those at Grace Church, who work tirelessly as unpaid staff, handling our finances, paying our bills, managing payroll, and taxes have been praying with the whole church for God to help us adjust to the loss of saints who were tithers and strong financial contributors to Grace Church's general fund and ministries, who went to heaven in the last several years.

Some may not know that Mary Ahlborn, our finance chair, has worked on our budget and finances for years. Over the years that I have served at Grace Church, beginning with 2009, we have had devoted and able treasurers who work hard to keep us going. When I came here in 2009 Paulette Pinkerton was our solo treasurer. Then Cindy Yeager joined her, and their team served years. Currently, Barb McCoy and Donna Layne are doing an admirable job as treasures and are supported by Paulette working on taxes, and Aileen being trained to help with bill paying. No one would imagine how many hours are spent handling the finances of a church, even one the size of Grace Church. In addition to the finance leadership team, every Monday two volunteer servants come in to count and record the offerings. Thank you to all our financial servant team!

Grace Church is an amazing little church who does outreach ministry in our community at a level that far exceeds our numbers or resources. In addition to the finance leadership and counters Grace Church members continue to pledge their time and giving to keep Grace Church moving forward in ministry.

This comes with a special thank you to each member and friend of Grace Church for your faithfulness to God as demonstrated through your love, caring, and ministry here at Grace Church.

To recap some of our outstanding outreach ministries that the **Springfield Foundation grant** will help us support, Grace Church continues its 13th year making laundry soap for local families in need (we have produced over 15,000 gallons of laundry soap to date). We continue to support the Open Hands-Free Pantry, the Springfield Soup Kitchen, our partnership with

Snyder Park Elementary School, the Nehemiah Foundation Care Portal, our growing Haitian fellowship, Life Wise, a new ministry with children, and our Emergency Fund, which helps local families in financial crisis.

Getting this unexpected blessing from God, through the **Springfield Foundation** triggered my heart overflowing with gratitude.

So, as they say in the movies, "It's a wonderful life!" I thank God for the ways that each one here is being used by God to help us fulfill our mission statement, "**Growing in Grace-Serving in Faith, Reaching Out with God's Love to Bring All to Christ.**"

It will be exciting to see what God has in mind for us in 2024 and beyond!

Happy New Year, wonderful people.

Pastor Vicki Downing



Springfield Foundation

For good. For ever. For all.®

The Springfield Foundation's mission of raising and distributing permanent funds to improve the quality of life for residents of Clark County began in 1948. Modeled after the vision of Fredrick Goff, the Springfield Foundation continues to be a catalyst for Philanthropy in the region. The Springfield Foundation has honored Grace United Church with a grant that will help support and expand our various outreach programs.

Continuing our Mission

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Once again Grace United Methodist has exceeded expectations! The request for cookies, candy, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks hit a new grand total!

There were 1000 cookies donated to Snyder Park Elementary School for the entire staff and students by December 17. Betty Prosser, Kim Stehle, and I delivered 20 boxes of cookies for each classroom and office. We were greeted with Beautiful smiles, hugs, and many Thank you!!!

On Monday, we are taking 59 hats, 59 gloves, 28 scarves, 9 hat/scarf combo, and 73 pairs of socks! WOW!! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! The children and adults will find comfort and warmth with our donations! You are Amazing!

We appreciate your loving giving hearts!

Through Him all things are possible,

Outreach Committee

Betty Prosser, Marilyn Martin, Kim Stehle, Pastor Vicki, & Connie Mitchell

Kroger Community Rewards:

ATTENTION GRACE FAMILY: If you shop at Kroger, you can have contributions of a percentage of the total you spend there be given to Grace United Methodist Church. Go online to www.kroger.com and check on the Kroger Community Rewards page and choose Grace United Methodist Church, 1401 West Main St, Springfield, OH 45504 as your community rewards receiver. If you are unable to do this, ask Aileen to assist you. A check to the church with the total of donations received will be sent to the church from Kroger.

Springfield New and Used Tires—

The tire shop next door to the church has offered to donate 10 percent of the amount spent by any Grace member over \$100 to the church. Should you decide to shop there, tell them you go to the church next door and they will send the church a check.

Jan. 1	James 1:17
Jan. 2	Romans 12:6
Jan. 3	1 Timothy 4:14-15
Jan. 4	Joel 2:23
Jan. 5	1 Peter 1:2
Jan. 6	Ephesians 1:4-6
Jan. 7	Romans 15:7
Jan. 8	Proverbs 16:3
Jan. 9	1 Corinthians 15:58
Jan. 10	Philippians 2:3
Jan. 11	1 Peter 3:3-4
Jan. 12	1 Samuel 16:7
Jan. 13	Ephesians 6:11
Jan. 14	Ephesians 6:12
Jan. 15	2 Corinthians 1:21-22
Jan. 16	Ephesians 4:23
Jan. 17	Hebrews 11:6
Jan. 18	John 7:37-38
Jan. 19	Hebrews 4:12
Jan. 20	Matthew 11:28
Jan. 21	Galatians 6:2
Jan. 22	Isaiah 50:7
Jan. 23	Hebrews 12:1-2
Jan. 24	Hebrews 13:8
Jan. 25	2 Corinthians 5:17
Jan. 26	Psalms 25:9
Jan. 27	2 Corinthians 6:6
Jan. 28	Matthew 25:40
Jan. 29	James 1:5
Jan. 30	Joshua 24:15
Jan. 31	Romans 15:4

Prayers Needed:

Jack Yeager

Millie Luttrell

Phyllis & Larry Garber

Jeanne & Shelley Powell

Lois Strobel



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for January:

Lois Gram
3077 Brixton Dr E
Springfield, OH 45503





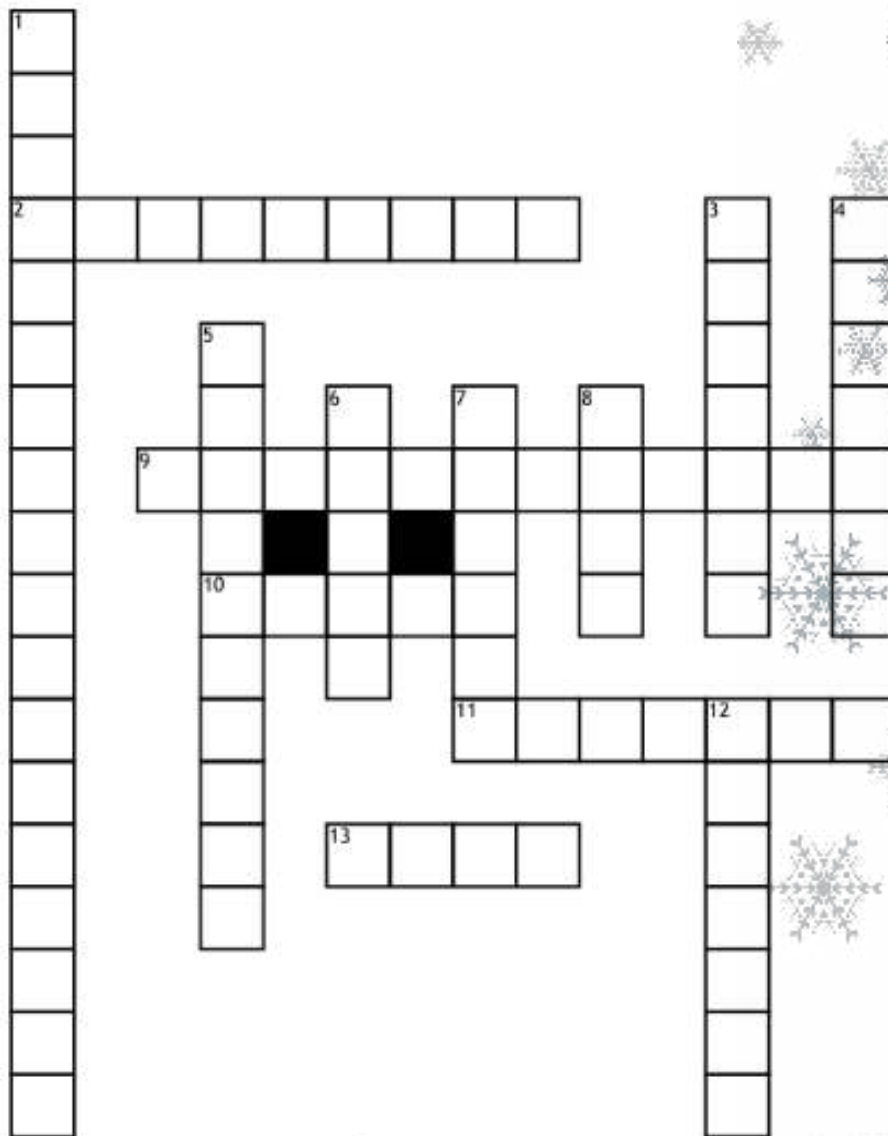
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7pm NA	New Years! – Office closed	7pm NA	6pm Choir	6pm Trustee MT		Epiphany
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7pm NA	4:45—6:45 pm - Soup Kitchen 7pm Men’s BS	11am Soap Making & Decoration take down 7pm NA	6pm Choir	6:30pm All-church MT		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
7pm NA	Martin Luthor King JR Day- Office Closed 7pm Men’s BS	7pm NA	6pm Choir			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
7pm NA	7pm Men’s BS	7pm NA	6pm Choir			
28	29	30	31			
7pm NA	7pm Men’s BS	7pm NA	6pm Choir			

January Worship Participants

<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	January	Larry Campbell
Communion Set-up	Jan 7	Pastor Vicki
Communion Servers	Jan 7	Marilyn & Tom Martin Mary Ahlborn & Betty Prosser
Communion Clean-up	Jan 7	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	Jan 7-14 Jan 21-28	Donna Layne & Greg Hosier Karen & Dave Speas
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	Jan 7-14 Jan 21-28	Mary Ahlborn & Kim Stehle
Liturgist	Jan 7-14 Jan 21-28	Ingrid Mossbarger Donna Myers
Ushers	Jan 7-14 Jan 21-28	Larry Campbell & Greg Hosier Donna Myers & Kim Stehle

<u>Counters</u>		<u>Special Music</u>	
Jan 2	Cindy Yeager & Connie Mitchell	Jan 7	
Jan 8	Mary Ahlborn & Deb Cooke	Jan 14	Jim Mayhugh
Jan 15	Kim Stehle & Connie Mitchell	Jan 21	Choir
Jan 22	Mary Ahlborn & Jennifer Sabo	Jan 28	Jayme Tatro
Jan 29	Marilyn Martin & Jackie Gregory		

January Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2. How many days are in January?
- 9. What do you drink when it is cold outside?
- 10. Day of the month New Years is on
- 11. Something you build when it snows
- 13. How the weather feels during the winter

Down

- 1. I have a drea
- 3. Month New years is in
- 4. Used to keep your hands warm in the cold
- 5. Soft pieces of frozen water that fall from the sky
- 6. Something that keeps your neck warm

- 7. There are 12 of these in a year
- 8. What do you eat when its cold?
- 12. What you are waiting for on New Years Eve

January Riddle: Little Nan Etticoat with a white petticoat and a red nose. The longer she stands, the shorter she grows. What is she?

Please email your answers to graceumchurch@sbcglobal.net by January 24th. All correct answers will receive a prize!