

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1401 WEST MAIN ST

SPRINGFIELD, OH 45504

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Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.



Looking Back with Gratitude, Looking Ahead with Hope

As we come to the close of another year and stand on the threshold of a new one, it feels right to pause, if only for a moment, and give thanks.

My appointment to Grace Church began on July 1, which means that this year has been, in many ways, a season of introductions; much of which involved a lot of listening, and learning. And yet, even in these first months together, so much has already happened, enough to remind me that God wastes no time when hearts are open and people are willing.

Since last summer, I have been deeply encouraged by the spirit of Grace Church. I have seen a congregation that shows up – shows up for worship, shows up for fellowship, steps forward for service, and becomes present for one another. I have witnessed generosity that extends quietly and faithfully into the community. I have listened to stories of resilience, faith, and hope that long predate my arrival, and I have been grateful to step into a ministry already shaped by love.

Together, we have worshiped through changing seasons, shared joys and concerns, welcomed new faces, and navigated challenges with patience and grace. Ministries have continued and grown. Relationships have deepened. And perhaps most importantly, we have begun learning what it means to walk together - not just as individuals who attend the same church, but as a community seeking to follow Jesus Christ side by side.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I do so with genuine hope. Not because the road will always be easy, but because I believe God is already at work among us; calling us to deeper faith, wider compassion, and bolder trust. The year to come will bring new opportunities for worship, service, learning, and connection. It will invite us to ask fresh questions about who God is calling us to be, and how Grace Church can continue to be a place of welcome, healing, and purpose.

Thank you for the ways you have welcomed me, Amanda and Doree. We are so grateful for your openness, and for your willingness to step into this shared chapter together. I am honored to be your pastor, and I look forward - with anticipation and prayer, to all that God will unfold among us in the year ahead.

With gratitude and hope,
Pastor Rob Stufflebeam
Grace United Methodist Church
(740) 304-2518

News From Grace:

January Fellowship Hour



The monthly Fellowship Hour will resume January 11th, after service! Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share and to be part of our Grace Community.

Women of Faith

The next Women of Faith meeting will be at noon on January 20th. Everyone is welcome



Heat at Grace

The Trustees are replacing five burners in our ancient boilers, which will cost \$1,000 with service fees. Donations are welcome as a “second mile gift” (giving beyond your usual offerings). Please mark your donation envelope “HEAT.”



The Springfield Foundation



Springfield Foundation

For good. For ever. For all.

Grace Church received a generous donation from the Springfield Foundation. This will allow us to continue serving our community and to expand our outreach efforts.

Thank you, Springfield foundation!

News From Grace:

Church Ladies Activities 2025

Snyder Park Elementary School has been our focus of 2025 for the Church Ladies.

In May, we served Lunch to the Teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week which they absolutely enjoyed. The last day of school was celebrated during Field Day. We kept the students hydrated by supplying Bottled water and Popsicles.

Halloween 2025 was enjoyed by all students! We passed candy to everyone in school and were impressed by costumes.

The students and staff look forward to the homemade cookies at Christmas. 800 cookies were distributed on December 20.

During the year, there were requests made for various needs for students and staff. We will be helping the student's family who died in a fire right before Christmas.

The Church Ladies are blessed when we serve at the Soup Kitchen on the 4th Monday of the month. We serve 100-150 people each time! The staff and participants are grateful!

The smiles on everyone's face is Wonderful!!

Haitian Women Ministry

This month, we had the first meeting of the Haitian Women's Ministry, organized by a couple of our members. The turn-out was inspiring and the service was beautiful! We look forward to hosting this dynamic group again.



January Scriptures

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| Jan. 1 | Ephesians 5:33 |
| Jan. 2 | 1 Samuel 16:7 |
| Jan. 3 | Hebrews 13:5 |
| Jan. 4 | Proverbs 16:32 |
| Jan. 5 | Proverbs 14:23 |
| Jan. 6 | Hebrews 10:25 |
| Jan. 7 | Ecclesiastes 10:3 |
| Jan. 8 | Joshua 1:9 |
| Jan. 9 | Proverbs 4:13 |
| Jan. 10 | Proverbs 25:28 |
| Jan. 11 | 2 Timothy 2:13 |
| Jan. 12 | Proverbs 13:20 |
| Jan. 13 | Ecclesiastes 7:8-9 |
| Jan. 14 | Colossians 3:23 |
| Jan. 15 | Ephesians 6:6 |
| Jan. 16 | Ecclesiastes 7:1 |
| Jan. 17 | Matthew 5:37 |
| Jan. 18 | Hebrews 6:12 |
| Jan. 19 | Philippians 4:8 |
| Jan. 20 | Proverbs 22:6 |
| Jan. 21 | Romans 12:18 |
| Jan. 22 | Corinthians 13:13 |
| Jan. 23 | 1 Corinthians 13:7-8 |
| Jan. 24 | Romans 14:19 |
| Jan. 25 | Proverbs 12:3 |
| Jan. 26 | Proverbs 16:3 |
| Jan. 27 | 1 Peter 5:6 |
| Jan. 28 | Acts 24:16 |
| Jan. 29 | Psalm 55:17 |
| Jan. 30 | Isaiah 7:9 |
| Jan. 31 | Proverbs 13:22 |

Prayers Needed:

Phyllis & Larry Garber

John Shough

Janet Blazer

Jeann Powell



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for January:

Lois Gram

3017 Brixton Dr E,

Springfield OH, 45503





<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	January	Bruce Eckler
Communion Set-up	Jan 4	Pastor Rob Stufflebeam
Communion Servers	Jan 4	Marilyn & Tom Martin
Communion Clean-up	Jan 4	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	Jan 4, 11	Pattie Mumma & Dave Speas
	Jan 18	Connie Mitchell & Kim Stehle
	Jan 25	Kim Stehle & Larry Campbell
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	Jan 4, 11	Deb Cooke & Pam Smith
	Jan 18, 25	Mary Olmstead & Fonda Setters
Liturgist	Jan 4, 11	Barb McCoy
	Jan 18, 25	Pat Hart
Ushers	Jan 4, 11	Larry Campbell
	Jan 18, 25	Dave Speas

<u>Counters</u>		<u>Special Music</u>
Jan 5	Kim Stehle & Deb Cooke	Jan 4 Choir
Jan 12	Aileen Wasser & Pam Smith	Jan 11 Jim Mayhugh
Jan 19	Marilyn Martin & Ramona Keeton	Jan 18 Choir
Jan 26	Aileen Wasser & Mary Ahlborn	Jan 25 Choir



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri-	Satur-
4 7pm NA Meeting	29	30	31	1	2	3
11 Fellowship Hour 7pm NA Meeting	5 7pm Men's Bible Study	6 11am Soap Making 7pm NA Meeting	7 10am Bible Study 11:45 Choir Practice	8 6pm All-Church	9	10
18 7pm NA Meeting	12 7pm Men's Bible Study	13 7pm NA Meeting	14 10am Bible Study 11:45 Choir Practice	15	16	17
25 7pm NA Meeting	19 7pm Men's Bible Study	20 12pm Women of Faith 7pm NA Meeting	21 10am Bible Study 11:45 Choir Practice	22	23	24
1	26 4:45pm Soup Kitchen 7pm Men's Bible Study	27 7pm NA Meeting	28 10am Bible Study 11:45 Choir Practice	29	30	31

NEW YEAR'S WORD SCRAMBLE

1. soonlbal _____ 16. timsicitop _____
2. danreac _____ 17. dohilay _____
3. mesti qareus _____ 18. yalethh _____
4. trbainoeelc _____ 19. noitalspriina _____
5. tinoeflre _____ 20. naruyaj _____
6. seerhc _____ 21. ewn _____
7. eimt _____ 22. diitontar _____
8. iettnfco _____ 23. siks _____
9. laogs _____ 24. tinghdim _____
10. wodnuontc _____ 25. ciusm _____
11. nulana _____
12. kolcc _____
13. wen arey _____
14. korsewirf _____
15. taots _____

Happy New Year!