

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Meet Pastor Rob Stufflebeam



Pastor Rob Stufflebeam has been serving the United Methodist Church as a Licensed Local Pastor for many years, most recently at Derby and Five Points, just south of Columbus, Ohio. Rob graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with a Master of Arts in Ministry Degree, and will be graduating from United Theological Seminary this May with a Master of Divinity degree.

Prior to entering the ministry, he served in the U.S. Air Force and later with the Department of Defense as a civilian information technology technician. Rob is married to Amanda, who will soon be pastoring Asbury North Hampton and Christiansburg. They have a daughter, Doree who lives at home, along with their two dogs; Ms. Penny and Princess Willow, and grand cat Licorice. Rob has a genuine heart for pastoral ministry and congregational care. In his spare time, he is an avid board gamer, and has an extensive collection.

Favorite Bible Story: The Conversion of Paul, Acts 9:1-9

“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”



Gene Hart, Trustee. Gene is one of the many blessings we received at Grace when we merged with St Mark UMC. His first great contribution was to re-work the soap-making apparatus. He is a willing repairman when needed at the church or parsonage—no matter the hour—he shows up with a grin and a toolbox. Gene is a man who likes to avoid the limelight but is a skilled and talented “can do” man.

He was born in Dayton and grew up in Laura, OH. He is a graduate of Milton Union High School, Clark Technical College, and Wright State University with a bachelor’s degree in systems engineering. Gene worked at Robbin’s & Myer’s, the SEW-Eurodrive in Troy as the Operations Manager and Midwest Regional Sales Manager. He retired in December 2016.

Gene is married to his lovely wife, Pat, who have their 50th wedding anniversary coming up soon. A beautiful testimony of love and trust. They have two children and four grandchildren. Gene likes to involve his grandchildren in assisting him while he is working around the church. They are always welcome as they are very helpful and bring “joy” with them.

Favorite Scripture: No favorite—so many good ones.

Favorite Hymn: *Silent Night*

Favorite Color: Rainbow

Interests: Fixing stuff

Favorite Sport: Watching the Olympics and when my grandchildren play their sports.

Favorite Ice Cream: “Frozen”

Advice: Don’t judge others.

Testimony: Life is a mystery.



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”

Pat Hart, Chair, Altar Guild & Wesley Room Designer, SPPRC, and Nominations Committee. Pat was at Lagonda UMC until it closed where she served as Chair of SPPRC and Chair of Trustees. When she and Gene moved to St Mark UMC, she was on the SPPRC and acted as the Financial Secretary. After Grace and St Mark UMC merged, Pat, ever faithful to keep serving her Lord, Jesus Christ put her talents to work adding much beauty to the Grace sanctuary and Wesley Room. (Look for the banners Pat has made in celebration of Grace’s 150th anniversary.)

Pat is a born and raised Springfield citizen who graduated from Springfield South. She has a degree in education from Ohio University—she taught one year—hated it. Decided to go to Clark State where she received an associate degree in registered nursing. In nursing she found her calling. Pat worked primarily at Community Hospital—serving in every department, with Labor & Delivery being her favorite. Pat is also a Licensed Massage Therapist—she’s just full of surprises! Pat and Gene were married June 28, 1975. They have two children—John who is married to Randi and Jackie who is married to Dennis. They have four grandchildren. Pat and Gene are pleased to support every sport their grandchildren are involved in.



Favorite Scriptures Isaiah 11:6-7, *The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; the cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.* (Pat says she used to find a lion and lamb ornament at Christmas time and give it to someone who had impacted her in a meaningful way that year.) and Proverbs 25:21-22, *If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.* (Pat says she still struggles with this scripture in letting God be the One to “take care of business.”)

Favorite Hymns: *Open My Eyes that I May See* and *In the Garden*.

Interests: Paper crafts, card making, quilting, reading murder mysteries/thrillers, Spinning and Pilates.

Favorite color: Coral

Sport: Football, gymnastics, volleyball.

Favorite Ice Cream: Coconut almond fudge ripple from Handel’s.

Advice/Testimony: Listen to others, consider, then live your truth.



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”



Connie Eileen Baldwin Mitchell, Outreach Ministry Coordinator, (Haitian Ministry, Soup Kitchen, Snyder-Park Elementary School Representative, and church dinners assistant. Counter, office manager sub, Liturgist, and Jill-of-all-trades. Connie is a Springfield native who was born on July 3, 1950. Her parents are Robert and Leona Baldwin. She grew up on Bechtle Avenue, and has one brother, Bob. She went to Snyder Park Elementary School and Clark Junior High School and walked through the Grace parking lot for three years to Springfield South High School. Connie graduated from Community Hospital School of Nursing in 1971. She earned her BSI at Franklin University and her Med from Whittenberg University. She has worked in ICU, OB, Home Care, camp and teaching nursing—BUT her favorite job is being a Grandma.

Connie is an active Master Gardener Volunteer. She volunteered to give vaccinations during the COVID pandemic. Helping others keeps her grounded. Connie is paving the way for students at Snyder-Park to recognize Grace UMC as “their” church. Connie is the elegant lady in the kitchen during community dinners who helps with the meals or is washing dishes. She shines for Jesus no matter where she is or what’s she’s doing her Jesus’ lamp is shining on HIGH!

Connie and Bruce were married on August 14, 1971. They will soon celebrate their 54th Wedding Anniversary. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Favorite Scripture: Ecclesiasts 3: 1-8 *There is a time for everything.....* (I love learning! Therefore, I am involved in many things as stated above.)

Favorite Hymn: *In the Garden* Favorite Color: Purple and royal blue.

Favorite Sport: Whatever sport my husband and grandchildren are involved in.

Favorite Ice Cream: German chocolate blizzard.

Advice: Take care of yourself! Physically, Nutritionally, Spiritually, and in Relationships. Place the Lord, Jesus Christ at the center of your heart. Life’s challenges will be a ‘tad’ softer.

Testimony: During a service at Camp Wesley in 1963 I gave my life to the Lord after a “full moon Lit Vesper Service.” My favorite uncle, Bester Hammons, held me in his arms. Oh my, what a night!”



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”

Aileen Rose Wasser, Office Manager and soap making volunteer. Her cheerful personality makes everyone feel welcomed when they come into Grace. She is the oldest of five children and was born at Wright-Patt Medical Center, where her father was stationed. Aileen grew up in Franklin, Ohio, graduated from a catholic high school, and went to Wright State University to major in Computer Science. She met Alex, her husband, while desperately trying to ace the dreaded Discrete Math for Computing Structures — not a fun class -- but meeting Alex made it worthwhile!! They were married in 2014 at the Epiphany Lutheran Church (Alex’s home church), where they are members and participate in the bell choir. Music means a lot to them.



Aileen is a life-long Girl Scout and received her Girl Scout Gold Award. Through scouting, she developed a love of teaching and working with children. She very much enjoys being a Tutor at the Clark County Literacy Center. While at the Center, she met Betty Prosser who invited her to come to Grace to help us make soap. Aileen says everyone at Grace was so welcoming that when she was then asked to become the church office manager she was thrilled. She said, “working in an office is not something I’ve ever done before, but I like learning and it’s been rewarding to learn the variety of tasks this job entails.” Alex and Aileen have a three-legged poodle named Elune, who is healthy and happy after losing her leg, still chasing rabbits and digging holes (sigh).

Favorite Scripture: *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8*

Favorite Hymn: *Here, I Am Lord*

Interests: Making things! Sculpting, painting, crochet, needle felt, spinning wool on my two spinning wheels named Cordelia and Millie, dying my own fiber from plant dyes, and reading.

Sport: Sailing

Favorite Color: Victorian Christmas Red

Favorite Ice Cream: Mocha Chocolate

Advice: Life’s too short to read bad books.

Testimony: The primary lesson I learned from the teachings I grew up with and from the church: We owe a duty to one another. I firmly believe that all humans are a family and we must help each other out. That’s why it is so important to me to be surrounded by and working with people who feel strongly about helping others.



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”



Ramona Keeton, The Grace family has been double-blessed as Ramona “merged” with us from St Mark UMC. Since she became our Custodian, our building has been so clean that even a white-glove inspector would be impressed. When Ramona found out our Women’s Group was floundering, she immediately volunteered to be the President of the Women of Faith. Blessings, upon blessings have been the result of her leadership. At each monthly meeting, Ramona has had interesting speakers e.g., the Pennsylvania House hostess, the Soup Kitchen founder, representatives from the Nehemiah Foundation, battered women’s group, the Springfield Library, Hospice, etc. plus they always have great refreshments!! Ramona promotes community dinners and eagerly awaits for an event that needs the church kitchen.

Ramona and Bob met in Springfield. She said she saw Bob sitting on the front porch of his house as she walked by and a “little spark” jolted her. Thereafter, every time she walked by his house, she looked for him—when she next saw him, she decided to say “hello” – so the love story goes – they will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary in April. That must have been a LOVE spark!! Ramona has a daughter Krista and two grandchildren, Bryant and Joclynn. For 42 years she worked in food service, but says she loves being the Custodian at Grace! So much so that she’s not thinking about ever retiring.

Favorite Scripture: Joshua 1:9 *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

Favorite Hymn: *In the Garden*

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Sports: Volley ball & football

Interests: Homemaking and working in her yard.

Favorite Ice Cream: Any kind with CHOCOLATE!

Advice: Listen to your children—really pay attention to what they are saying.

Testimony: Ramona says she was brought closer to Jesus as Krista and her friends learned in Sunday school at the old Medway UMC how Jesus loves and cares for us. She remembers how joyful the children were running up to the third floor of the church where the Sunday school rooms were located. The children couldn’t wait to learn more about Jesus and begged their friends to join them. Ramona’s faith greatly increased as her grandchildren also became active in church. She says she discovered a lot about Jesus listening to what the children shared.



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”

Robert (Bob) Keeton, Bob is another one of the awe-inspiring blessings the Grace family received when we merged with St Mark UMC. Bob was instrumental in assuring the merger procedures were adhered to. At St Mark UMC Bob was on the Trustees, Chair, Leadership, often led Worship services and provided music for church events. After the merger, Bob served as Co-Leader of the Grace All Church Meetings. He has been a valuable helper in Grace’s community meals while serving as a greeter to welcome our neighbors to our dinners. Bob retired from Sears where he was an appliance salesman. He has had polio all his life. He managed with braces and on crutches until the late 1990’s. Bob said he began moving around in his wheelchair in 2002. Please don’t ever challenge him to a race. He can move like lightning.



Bob and Ramona were married on April 12, 1974. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last summer. They have a daughter, Krista and two grandchildren – Bryant who is working on his Master’s degree at Wright State University and Joclynn who is senior at Northwestern High School graduating from CTC while working on her nursing degree.

Favorite Scripture: *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* Jeremiah 29:11

Favorite Hymns: *Trust & Obey and Love, Lifted Me.*

Interests: Football, fishing, and whatever my grandkids are doing.

Favorite Color: Blue

Favorite Ice Cream: Strawberry

Advice: For a long marriage – be sincerely dedicated to one another, forgive as often as needed, never jump to conclusions, and be happy!

Testimony: There was a time in my life when my faith was tested. Our daughter, Krista, was in the hospital and very sick. We have always been a praying family, but this time our prayers were desperate for our girl to get well. Just as Jesus promises, He was there.



Happenings at Grace:

Sunday, April 13th will be the next **Fellowship Hour** at Grace! Please join us in the Wesley Room after Sunday Worship Service to mingle and chat with the members of our community.

Everyone is invited to bring something to share, such as a casserole, salad, or dessert. This is a great time to meet new friends and learn more about your fellow Grace members



The **Women of Faith** will meet Tuesday, April 15th, at noon. Aileen Wasser will be showing everyone how to fold crosses from palm fronds.

Join us for lunch, laughter, and learning!



Maundy Thursday Services:

Thursday, April 17th, at 11am and at 7pm.

Good Friday Services:

Friday, April 18th, at 11am and at 7pm.



April Scriptures

April 1	Romans 1:16
April 2	1 Corinthians 4:1
April 3	Romans 1:1
April 4	1 Peter 1:16
April 5	Colossians 2:9
April 6	Colossians 1:17
April 7	2 Peter 1:21
April 8	Matthew 5:48
April 9	Romans 1:2
April 10	1 John 4:9
April 11	Romans 1:4
April 12	Ephesians 1:3
April 13	John 3:34-35
April 14	Philippians 2:7
April 15	Romans 3:24
April 16	Romans 5:20
April 17	1 Corinthians 9:24
April 18	Ephesians 4:1
April 19	Romans 16:26
April 20	2 Corinthians 4:15
April 21	Romans 1:9
April 22	Romans 12:1
April 23	Romans 1:8
April 24	Philippians 1:3
April 25	1 Corinthians 9:16-17
April 26	Romans 1:11
April 27	1 Thessalonians 2:8
April 28	2 Peter 3:18
April 29	2 Corinthians 3:18
April 30	John 15:8

Prayers Needed:

Phyllis & Larry Garber

John Shough

Janet Blazer

Ron Stevens

Jeann Powell



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for April:

Mary Collins
7 Masonic Dr Apt 1f
Springfield OH, 45504





April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7pm NA Meeting	2 10 am Bible Study 11:45 am Choir Practice	3	4	5 10 am Work Day
6 7pm NA Meeting	7 6pm Men's Bible Study	8 7pm NA Meeting	9 10 am Bible Study 11:45 am Choir Practice	10 6pm All-Church Meeting	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Fellowship Hour 7pm NA Meeting	14 6pm Men's Bible Study	15 12pm Women of Faith 7pm NA Meeting	16 11:45 am Choir Practice	17 Maundy Thursday Service 11am & 7pm	18 Good Friday Service 11am & 7pm	19
20 Easter 7pm NA Meeting	21 6pm Men's Bible Study	22 7pm NA Meeting	23 11:45 am Choir Practice	24	25	26
27 7pm NA Meeting	28 4:45 Soup Kitchen 6pm Men's Bible Study	29 7pm NA Meeting	30 11:45 am Choir Practice			



Worship Participants

<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	April	Greg Hosier
Communion Set-up	April 6	Pastor Vicki
Communion Servers	April 6	Pat Hart & Kim Stehle Bruce Eckler & Betty Prosser
Communion Clean-up	April 6	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	April 6, 13 April 20, 27	Mary Ahlborn & Pattie Mumma Larry Campbell & Gene Hart
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	April 6, 13 April 20, 27	Connie Mitchell & Donna Layne Mary Ahlborn & Kim Stehle
Liturgist	April 6, 13 April 17 April 18 April 20, 27	Becky Frantz Becky Frantz (AM) Jayme Tatro (PM) Marilyn Martin (AM) Jayme Tatro (PM) Pat Hart
Ushers	April 6, 13 April 20, 27	Larry Campbell Dave Speas

<u>Counters</u>		<u>Special Music</u>	
April 7	Marilyn Martin & Pam Smith	April 6	Choir
April 14	Mary Ahlborn & Jackie Gregory	April 13	Cantata
April 21	Kim Stehle & Deb Cooke	April 20	Pattie Mumma Choir
April 28	Connie Mitchell & Mary Ahlborn	April 27	Hymn Sing