

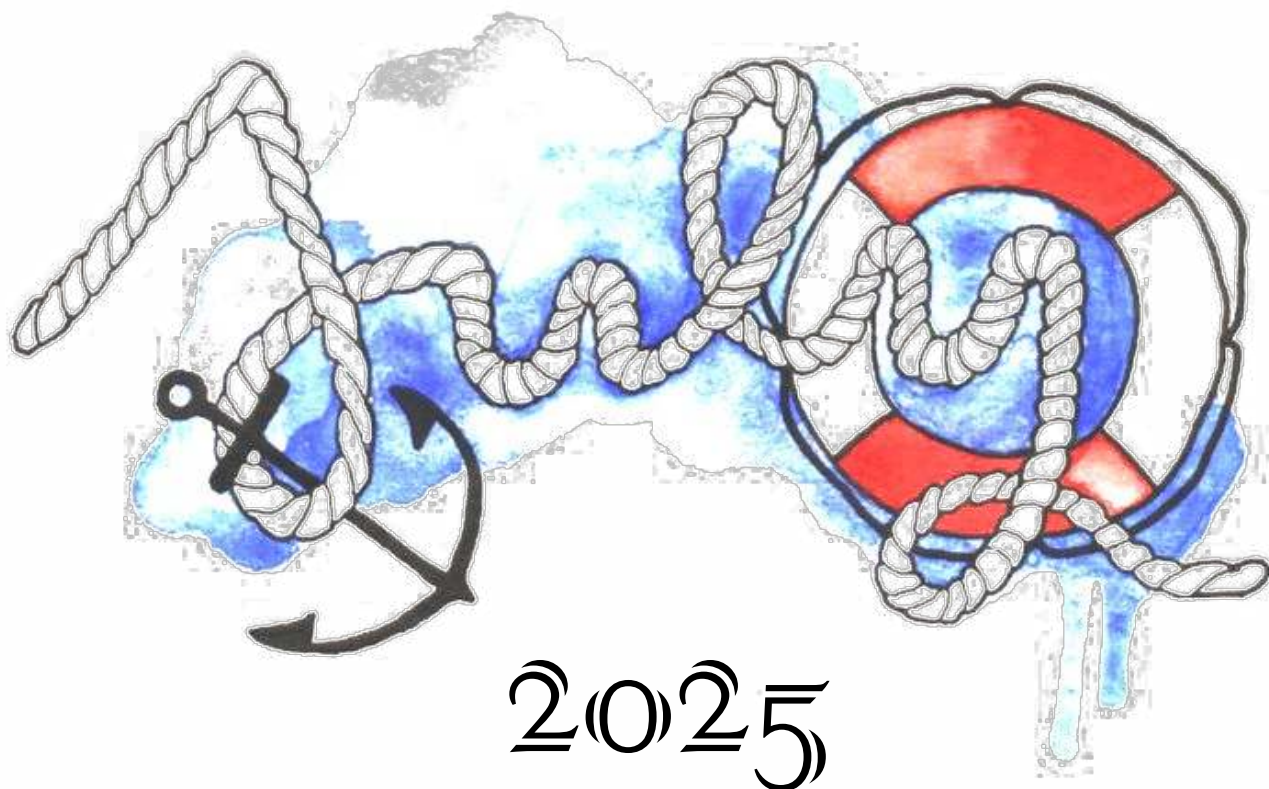
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1401 WEST MAIN ST

SPRINGFIELD, OH 45504

937-323-9078

EMAIL: graceumchurch@sbcglobal.net





Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)

¹¹ *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.* ¹² *Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.* ¹³ *you will seek me and find me when you seek me with your whole heart.*

Greetings Springfield Grace United Methodist Church!

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! As I write to you today in this the first of what will be many installments of our church newsletter to come, my heart is full of gratitude and hope. It is both a joy and a sacred responsibility to begin this new chapter with you, and I am very much looking forward to all that God will do among us, within us, and through us.

Transitions, by their very nature, are tender times. There is always a mixture of excitement for what lies ahead and perhaps a little uncertainty, too. But I trust that the same Spirit who has been faithful in our past will be faithful still. We are not beginning this journey alone; we are starting it together, with Christ as our guide and companion.

To tell you just a little about me by way of an introduction, my name is Dale Robert Stufflebeam, but I go by Rob. That in and of itself is but one of a great number of stories I will share with you in the coming weeks and months. I was born in Columbus, and grew up in Logan, which if you know your Ohio geography is located to the southeast of the capital city down US 33, about half-way between Lancaster and Athens. If you've ever heard of or visited the Hocking Hills, Logan is at the foothills, and refers to itself as the Gateway to the Hocking Valley.

After graduating high school, I joined the U.S. Air Force, where I served in several locales as a supply warehouseman, later as a recruiter, and finally as a computer technician. When my time in uniform was completed, and after graduating college I went back to work for the Department of Defense, this time as a civilian technician, where I worked for the Defense Information Systems Agency, (in Alabama) and later the Defense Finance & Accounting Service at the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC).

After retiring from government service, I answered God's call to the ministry, and have served several churches here in the West Ohio Conference. I am a Local Pastor called to the local church, and I truly believe in the power of ministry rooted in community. I love getting to know people, hearing and sharing stories over coffee or lunch, and have a passion for sharing the Word, whether it is through preaching or teaching.

I am married to Amanda Stufflebeam, who is moving into her own appointment here in the Springfield area, serving as pastor to Asbury North Hampton, and Christiansburg United Methodist Churches. We have one daughter; Doree, who lives at home with us, along with our two dogs, Princess Willow, Miss Penny, and our grand-cat, Licorice.

Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to listening to and learning your stories, worshipping beside you, and walking with you in ministry and mission. My prayer is that our time together will be marked by grace, growth, and a deepening love for God and neighbor. May we dream holy dreams, nurture one another in faith, and join our hearts and hands together in the work of the Gospel.

Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself, send a note, or set up a time to talk. I am eager to get to know you - not just as names in the directory, but as fellow travelers in the journey of discipleship. Thank you for welcoming me with such warmth and hospitality. I already feel deeply blessed to be among you.

In Christ,

Pastor Rob Stufflebeam

(740) 304-2518

rob.stufflebeam@gmail.com

“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”

Barb McCoy – serves as the co-treasurer and Trustee for the church. She is diligent and thorough in her work plus attentive towards insuring the church accounts are up to date on a weekly basis. Many times, Barb has been known to “stretch the dollar” to assure all the church bills are paid (electric, gas, etc). Barb also serves as a Trustee with her husband, Mike. In her capacity as Trustee, she was once “caught” painting the wrought iron railings and had somehow ? got BLACK PAINT on one of her front teeth. John Ahlborn and his brother, Chuck, who is a dentist, saw her while visiting the church. Chuck said, “That poor Lady with the black tooth. I would be glad to help her get it repaired.”



Barb is from Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH and attended Mentor High School. Her career has been serving as a Bank Operations Officer and in an Executive Admin with the Air Force. In other churches she served on the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

When asked, “What does it mean to you to be a member of Grace church?” Her quick answer was, “Family.”

Favorite Scripture: *I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. John 5:24*

Favorite Hymn: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Favorite Interests: *Camping, travel, and reading.*

Favorite Sport: *Football*

Favorite Color: *Purple*

Favorite Ice Cream: *Butter Pecan*

Advice: *Stay true to yourself and trust in God.*

Testimony: In early 2008 I was hospitalized because I could hardly breathe. After my cat scan, my lung doctor came in with my results. His first words were, “Mrs McCoy, you must have a guardian angel because you shouldn’t be here.” I have always believed that my Grandmother was my guardian angel and that’s why I am alive today.



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”



Mike McCoy – serves as a Trustee and is the sanctuary “sound” man. In previous churches he has served in the firewood ministry. I’m not sure what that means, but it sounds like keeping people warm. As a Trustee, Mike is totally engaged to insure the building is sound and maintained. Call him with a building problem and it’s taken care of. Mike has a great sense of humor which often enhances his job of restoring or updating church “mends.”

Mike is from Columbus, OH and attended Whetstone High School, Ohio State University and Golden Gate University, and the Community College of the Air Force. Mike is retired from the Air Force and is now working with an Air Force Contractor.

As a Trustee, Mike and his wife, Barb, have often “out of pocket” paid for needed church maintenance repairs. The beautiful scripture carving placed on the entry towards the sanctuary from the long hallway was given by Mike and Barb. Mike says he loves Grace church as it means ‘community’ to him.

Favorite Scripture: *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

Favorite Hymn: *Up From the Grave He Arose*

Favorite Interests: *Camping and Civil War Reenacting*

Favorite Sport: *Football*

Favorite Color: *Gray*

Favorite Ice Cream: *Black raspberry chocolate chip*

Advice: *Put your trust in the Lord.*

Testimony: *We are saved through the grace of the Lord*



“FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP”

Pattie Mumma – has served on many church committees including SPPRC, the Audit Team, Liturgist, Choir member, and Greeter. She was the Church Parrish Nurse for several years (she often told us when we asked for health advice that we were healthy--- we just had the A G E condition.) (She was right!!) After retiring from her nursing career that expanded over 45 years, Pattie served as the church Office Manager for the next five years. She possesses a wealth of knowledge regarding how the church operates. She is one of our favorite special music soloists. Pattie’s songs are prayers.



Pattie is a native Springfield-er. She graduated from Springfield North High School and Clark State College; plus attended Urbana University Business School. Pattie is the proud Mother of Natalie and Curtis, who have blessed her with eight wonderful grandchildren and three sweet, energetic greatgrandchildren. Pattie says she has attended all their events from swimming meets, to gymnastics, to track, to auctions, to pool parties—she is competing for Best Grandmother of the Year! Now here comes the best part—about 10 years ago one of her friends from high school invited her to have coffee with him. His name is Gary Blevins – they’ve been together ever since!!

Pattie came to Grace church with her Mom for a Christmas Eve service about thirty years ago. She was impressed by the friendly atmosphere then, and says she still feels that same way about Grace church today.

Favorite Scripture: *If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move. Matthew 7:20*

Favorite Hymns: *Blessed Assurance & On Holy Ground* **Interests:** *Grandchildren, quilting – she loves making scripture quilts, RV traveling with Gary, art events, dinners with family and friends, and adventures with Gary during their travels.*

Sport: *Basketball—March Madness*

Favorite Color: *Yellow*

Favorite Ice Cream: *Cookie dough and sherbert.*

Advice: *SMILE – always smile—it makes you (and someone else) feel better.*

Testimony: After many, many years of reading all the newest of ‘self-help books,’ I realized the only “help” book I needed was the Bible. It says it all --read it every day!

"FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP"



Gary Blevins – grew up attending Maiden Lane Church of God. When he lived in Xenia, he attended Faith UMC. There he became involved in the project "Shoes for Shoeless." He was born and raised in Springfield and attended Springfield North High School. For two years he studied at the Dayton Art Institute College then transferred to the Ohio State University Fine Arts Program. Gary has had many career challenges from owning GB's Art Store in the '70's, to becoming a printing business salesman, then to being a photographer, and finally to being an artist as God gave him the skills to be. He says he is retired although we are continually beholding his new art pieces – from which we are truly blessed—thanks for sharing, Gary!

Gary has two beautiful daughters, Erika and Erin who live in Xenia, OH. He has five energetic grandsons from ages 11-18 years. Gary was married to Terri for 37 years before her passing at age 57 from Lewy-Body Dementia. Later on, he reached out to a friend he had in high school, Pattie Ward Mumma—and the rest is history. Gary began attending Grace church with Pattie and enjoys sketching during services as this is how he listens and concentrates.

Favorite Scripture: *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

Favorite Hymn: *Whatever Pattie is singing.*

Interests: *Art, painting, Art Painting, Painting and Painting. Traveling with Pattie in our house on wheels—our RV life. Museums, my grandsons' events and relaxing on our back patio in the evening.*

Favorite Sport: *All sports*

Favorite Color: *Any color on my palette.*

Favorite ice cream: *Neopolitan*

Advice: *Always take it to the next level.*

Testimony: *The Lord has helped me through many life challenges, and I am blessed.*



July Scriptures

July 1	Deuteronomy 10:19
July 2	Galatians 2:14
July 3	Ruth 2:10
July 4	Job 31:32
July 5	Matthew 25:38
July 6	Matthew 25:44
July 7	3 John 1:5
July 8	Deuteronomy 26:16
July 9	Leviticus 19:34
July 10	Leviticus 25:35
July 11	Hebrews 13:2
July 12	Deuteronomy 14:29
July 13	Leviticus 23:22
July 14	Deuteronomy 24:19-21
July 15	Genesis 47:4
July 16	Exodus 22:21
July 17	Exodus 23:9
July 18	Jeremiah 7:6
July 19	Jeremiah 22:3
July 20	1 Thessalonians 4:12
July 21	1 Timothy 3:7
July 22	Colossians 4:5
July 23	Ephesians 2:19
July 24	Exodus 12:48
July 25	Hebrews 11:13
July 26	Matthew 27:7
July 27	James 1:27
July 28	Psalms 67:4
July 29	Zechariah 7:10
July 30	Psalms 146:9
July 31	Psalms 94:6

Prayers Needed:

Phyllis & Larry Garber

John Shough

Janet Blazer

Jeann Powell



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for July:

Betty Stanley

**7200 S. Excalibur Dr.
Painesville, OH 44077**



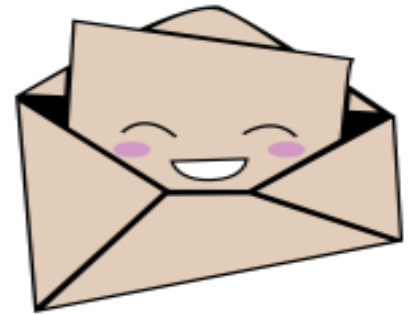
Happenings at Grace:



Women of Faith

The WoF will meet at noon on July 22nd. This month, Pat Hart has generously offered to host at their home. Parking may be limited, so anyone who would like to carpool is invited to come to the church beforehand and drive over together.

Any church member or affiliate who would like to stay in contact with Pastor Vicki can obtain her new address from the church office.



Soap Ministry

We will be meeting to make soap 11 am, Tuesday 8th. Everyone is invited to join in one of our longest-running ministries .



The monthly Fellowship Hour will resume in September. We look forward to seeing you there!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7pm NA Meeting	2	3 6pm Trustees Meeting	4 Independence Day	5
6 Welcome Pastor Rob Stufflebeam 7pm NA Meeting	7 6pm Men's Bible Study	8 11am Soap Making 7pm NA Meeting	9	10 6pm All-Church Meeting	11	12
13 7pm NA Meeting	14 6pm Men's Bible Study	15 7pm NA Meeting	16	17	18	19
20 7pm NA Meeting	21 4:45 Soup Kitchen 6pm Men's Bible Study	22 12pm Women of Faith at the Hart House 7pm NA Meeting	23	24	25	26
27 National Parents Day 7pm NA Meeting	28 6pm Men's Bible Study	29 7pm NA Meeting	30	31		



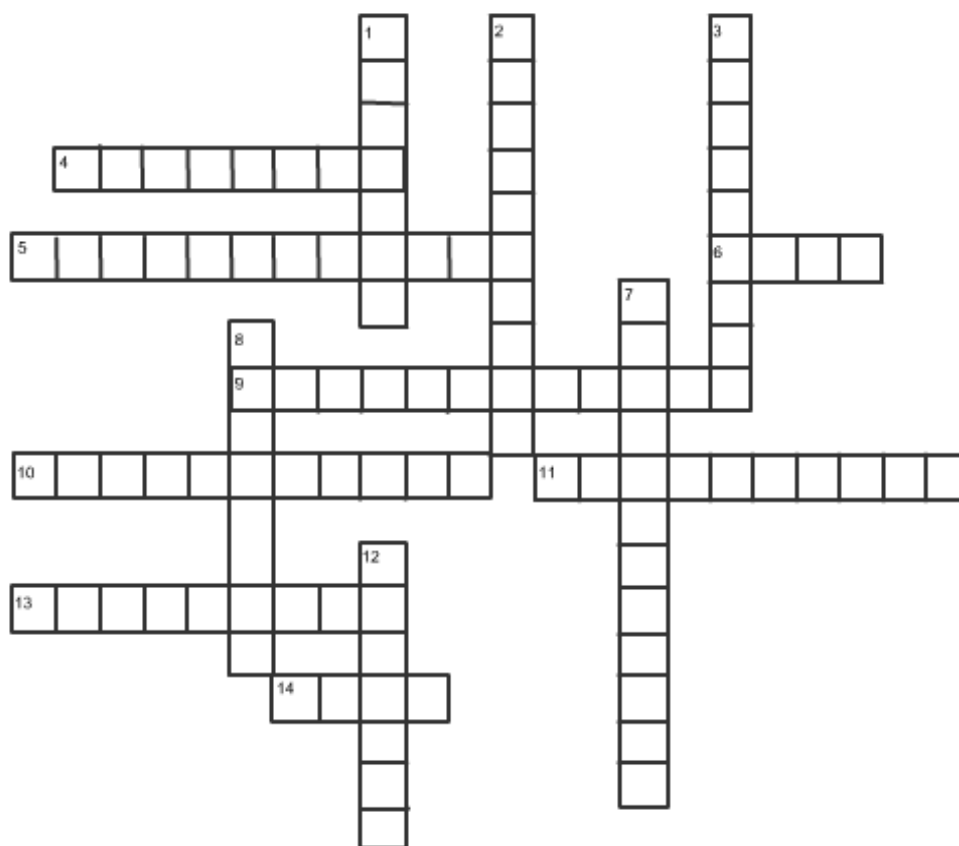
Worship Participants

<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	July	Larry Campbell
Communion Set-up	July 6	Dave Speas
Communion Servers	July 6	Deb & Ken Cooke Kim Stehle & Marilyn Martin
Communion Clean-up	July 6	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	July 6-13 July 20-27	Fonda Setters & Mary Olmstead Connie Mitchell & Kim Stehle
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	July 6-13 July 20-27	Pat & Gene Hart Marilyn & Tom Martin
Liturgist	July 6-13 July 20-27	Becky Frantz Barb McCoy
Ushers	July 6-13 July 20-27	Greg Hosier, Donna Layne Bruce Eckler, Dave Speas

<u>Counters</u>	<u>Special Music</u>
July 7 Kim Stehle & Deb Cooke	July 6 Pattie Mumma
July 14 Connie Mitchell & Pam Smith	July 13 Jim Mayhugh
July 21 Marilyn Martin & Ramona Keeton	July 20 Jayme Tatro
July 28 Connie Mitchell & Deb Cooke	July 27 Becky Frantz

Independence Day

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. the state of being free within society
2. the group of people with the authority to the govern a country or state; a particular ministry in office
3. a loss entailed by giving up something
7. law determining the fundamental principles of a government
8. a device containing gunpowder which causes spectacular effects and explosions used for display or in celebrations.
12. marked by active interest and enthusiasm

Across:

4. practices that are handed down from past by tradition
5. a formal public statement
6. a piece of cloth used as the symbol or emblem of a country or institution
9. the fact or state of being independent.
10. the date on which an event occurred in some previous year
11. love of country and willingness to sacrifice for it
13. behave as expected during of holidays or rites
14. The seventh month of the year