

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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October

2023

The Times They Are Changing

We can rightly say, "These are changing times." True, but in fact all times are constantly changing. When rock and roll came on the scene in the 1950s many parents believed and said it would destroy our country. When the 1960s rolled in with the Beatles and the British invasion of bands, many people shook their heads and criticized the hippies, guys with shoulder length hair, and girls with hip-hugger, bell-bottom jeans or short miniskirts. I could go on decade after decade. Let me just say, "Times, they are a changing." And that has always been true.

The question is not whether there will be change but how we will respond to the changes in the world and here in the USA. One way to maintain hope and a faithful attitude is to meditate on scripture. Scripture is food for the spirit that nourishes us and helps us face challenges. I have selected seven scriptures one for each day for one week. Reading scripture and committing, especially meaningful scripture to memory, will help us face changing times and situations. If we have no scripture for a week, it makes all of us weak. I pray that as we share these scriptures together that God will fill us with new confidence to accept and to thrive in these changing times.

Here are the seven scriptures I selected to feed our souls.

Romans 12:1-2, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

James 1:17, "Every good gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Psalms 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer. My God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving and your minds in Christ Jesus." press your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

2 Corinthians 4:16, "Therefore do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our lights and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we do not keep our eyes on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Lamentations 3:21-23, "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning: great is your faithfulness."

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."

One of the best pieces of advice anyone has given me is to stop spending time in the past, it's over. Stop spending time worrying about the future it may or may not be anything like our worrying. If we want to grow in faith, we must meet God in the present. The present is the only time and place we can meet God.

We have been doing some work in the Old Testament these last few months. Reading again of Moses' conversation with God, where Moses asked God what Moses should say if the Pharaoh asked Moses to tell him the name of his Moses' God; God said, **"Tell him my name is I AM."** I AM is present tense, God is here and now every day with us. If we want a closer walk with the Lord, we must live today, that's the only time and place we can connect with God. May the Lord of all Creation meet us today and bless us with the Peace, love, and joy of God. Amen.

- Pastor Vicki Downing

Stewardship Celebrations — October 29—November 12, 2023

Once a year United Methodists generally focus on congregational stewardship—or the wonderful response by God’s people to Him as the Owner of all things. As we know, the church (like all of us) is “suffering” under the **higher** cost of living. Since the COVID epidemic low attendance at Worship services has negatively affected our church offerings. Of course, we also feel the void of our faithful Grace family members who have been called to their Heavenly Home. Well, you may say, then “why” should we celebrate our stewardship of God’s blessings? Simply, because we have so many — I dare you to count them. As a church family we are persevering in being stewards in spite of our circumstances.



*I Thessalonians 5:18 Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in **all** circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

It has been motivating to witness how so many of us freely share our time and concern for anyone in need. All are sharing both “our little” and “our plenty” with offerings and services. Truly, the Grace family is well known as a church who cares and responds Christ-like to others. What Grace lacks in funding hasn’t stopped us from sharing our generous blessings with others both in our congregation and with our neighbors.

Taking care of our church building—God’s house—our stewardship of thanking God for providing a lovely place in which to worship Him is evident, too. We can visibly see the continuous maintenance and improvements the Trustees and others are making to our facility. A substantial blessing of stewardship— a blessing that makes our Lord smile! Opening our doors to give other needed ministries a place to meet has allowed us to share the blessing of our church building, too.

May all of you who give so generously to Grace church know how the fruits of your stewardship are spread in many directions throughout the church and beyond. It may be with your music ministry, the Grace Choir, help in worship services, Bible teachings, serving refreshments and dinners, visitations, prayers, administrations, accounting services, supporting local ministries, Men’s Group, United Women of Faith, or keeping our church on a solid financial basis —whatever you do for God—you are answering the call to be His Steward. “Love so amazing—so divine.”

Your Financial Team will be building a church budget for 2024 during the month of November. We are counting on you as a congregation to help us plan the budget by asking for your annual financial pledge to the church. Please accept the diligence of your Finance Team as we prepare an economical budget. Prayer support is also greatly needed.

Your pledge to the church is between you and God. It is not a contract between you and the church—your circumstances often change—which is understandable. Please begin praying about what God wants you to give not just financially but of your time, abilities, and treasures. The consecration of our pledges will be on Sunday, November 12th during Worship service. Pledge cards are available at the church or you may use the one printed in the newsletter. If you would like to mail in your pledge, please send it to Grace United Methodist Church, 1401 West Main Street, Springfield, OH 45504—it will only be read by the Finance Chairperson.

Love in Christ, Mary F Ahlborn, Financial Chair

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE CONSECRATED LORD TO THEE!

Upcomming Events

Fall Bible Study

Beginning Oct. 12d, 10 am

The class will meet Oct. 2nd, 12th, 19th, 26th, Nov. 2nd, 9th, 16th. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the office.

There are 10 free copies of the book available.

Super Soup Supper

Thursday, Nov. 9

We'll be gathering for good company and a community meal.

More details to come soon.

United Women in Faith Silent

Auction & Appetizer Event

Friday, Dec. 1st, 6pm

Join us for an evening of fabulous food, fun, and competitive bidding. More information to follow.

Questions?

Contact Ingrid Mossbarger or Donna Myers

Holiday Paint Class

Thursday, Dec. 7th, 6:30 pm

Join in a guided painting class with a holiday twist. Tickets will be \$35 and will go on sale soon, scholarships available.

More information to follow soon!

October Scriptures

Oct. 1 1 Kings 8:23
Oct. 2 Ephesians 2:4-5
Oct. 3 Deuteronomy 8:18
Oct. 4 Romans 5:1
Oct. 5 1 Corinthians 2:5
Oct. 6 Deuteronomy 6:7
Oct. 7 Philippians 1:6
Oct. 8 Psalm 29:2
Oct. 9 1 Peter 3:3-4
Oct. 10 Ezekiel 34:27
Oct. 11 Galatians 5:1
Oct. 12 Psalm 80:14
Oct. 13 Zechariah 8:12
Oct. 14 Psalm 68:20
Oct. 15 2 Timothy 4:7
Oct. 16 Jeremiah 20:13
Oct. 17 John 10:10
Oct. 18 Psalm 138:7
Oct. 19 Acts 17:27
Oct. 20 2 Samuel 22:31
Oct. 21 Matthew 25:23
Oct. 22 Matthew 19:26
Oct. 23 James 1:5
Oct. 24 Corinthians 9:23
Oct. 25 Hebrews 12:14
Oct. 26 John 13:8
Oct. 27 Psalm 145:19
Oct. 28 Psalm 5:2
Oct. 29 Psalm 70:4
Oct. 30 Nahum 1:7
Oct. 31 Proverbs 19:21

Prayers Needed:

Ron Stevens

Phyllis & Larry Garber

Jeanne & Shelley Powell

Pattie Mumma



Shower of Blessings

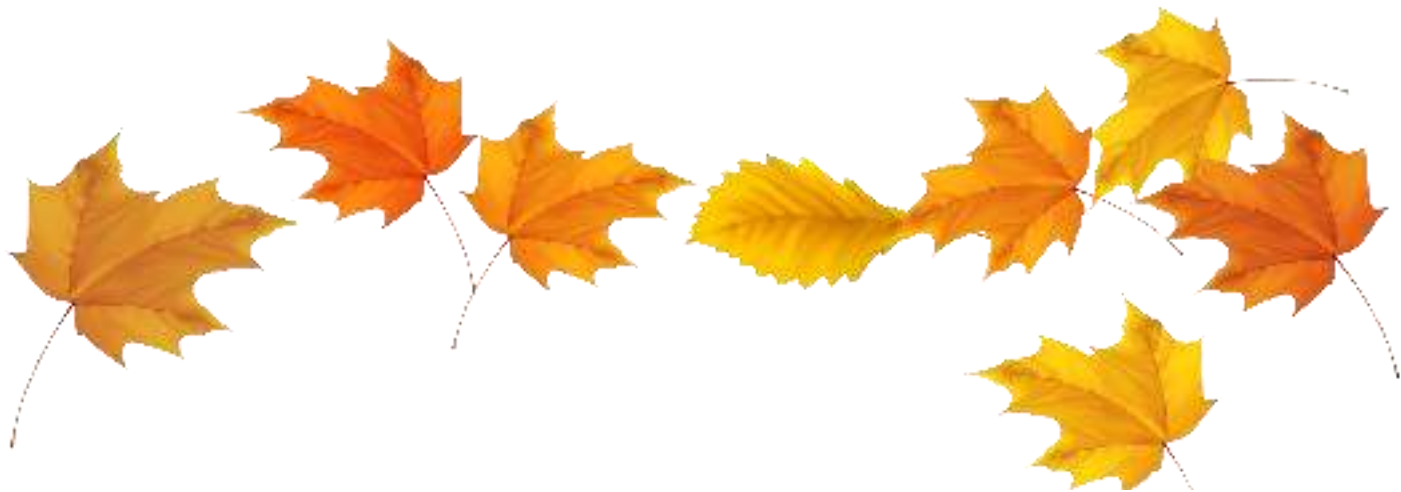
Recipient for July:

Jean Ann Baldwin

401 Capri Circle

Springfield, OH 45505





October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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7 PM NA	7 PM MENS BS	11 AM SOAP 7 PM NA	6:30 WEST END			
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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7 PM NA	7 PM MENS BS	7 PM NA		10 AM Fall BS		
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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7 PM NA	7 PM MENS BS	7 PM NA		10 AM Fall BS		
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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7 PM NA	7 PM MENS BS	7 PM NA		10 AM Fall BS		
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29	30	31				
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7 PM NA	7 PM MENS BS	7 PM NA				
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Autumn

P	U	D	S	R	V	T	O	S	C
E	L	D	E	A	E	K	E	M	H
O	E	R	P	H	S	C	V	B	O
C	B	R	T	R	T	A	O	E	O
T	O	E	E	A	I	B	N	R	L
R	S	B	M	N	N	F	A	L	L
U	E	A	S	O	E	L	G	N	I
B	H	A	L	L	A	V	E	S	C
B	S	T	O	O	W	E	E	N	O
E	R	B	O	E	Z	A	M	N	R

Find all the words from the word list:

BACK TO SCHOOL OCTOBER
 CORN MAZE PUDDLE
 FALLING LEAVES ~~RAIN~~
 HALLOWEEN RUBBER BOOTS
 HARVEST SEASON
 NOVEMBER SEPTEMBER

This is zigzag word search puzzle. Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle. There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.

Grid size:
 10 x 10 squares,
 10 x 10 letters,
 90 x 90 mm.

Square size:
 9 x 9 mm.



Cell Blocks

2		4				
					2	
		4			2	
				12	3	
						6
5	5					
	2				2	

Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

