

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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A graphic featuring the word "October" in a large, black, cursive script font. The text is set against a bright orange, textured background that resembles a paintbrush stroke or a watercolor wash. The edges of the orange background are irregular and slightly distressed, with some white speckling. The overall effect is warm and artistic.

October

2026

From the Pastor's Desk

October 1, 2026

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NKJV)

*To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under heaven*

Greetings Grace Church Family,

October has always seemed to me to be a month that makes change impossible to ignore. The leaves that were totally green only a few weeks ago begin turning red, orange, and gold. The mornings become cooler. The daylight grows shorter. Before long, trees that seemed so full of life will stand nearly bare against the November sky.

And yet, none of this means that something has gone wrong; it simply means the season is changing. Ecclesiastes reminds us that our lives are filled with seasons. There are times of beginning and times of ending; times of planting and times of harvesting; times of laughter and times of tears. Some seasons we welcome gladly, and others we would rather avoid altogether. But through every season, God remains God.

That may be one of the most important lessons of faith. Our circumstances change. Our community's change. Our churches change. We change. But the faithfulness of God does not. The writer of Hebrews reminds us that *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8).

That does not mean everything around us will remain the same. In fact, Scripture repeatedly tells the story of God leading people through change: Abraham leaving home, Israel crossing the wilderness, the disciples leaving their nets, and the early Church discovering that the Gospel would carry them into places they never imagined going. Faith was never about standing still. Faith is learning to trust God enough to take the next faithful step.

Sometimes we would like God to show us the whole journey. We want to know where the road leads, what will happen next, and how everything will eventually turn out. Usually, however, God gives us enough light for the step immediately in front of us. And then another. And then another.

As I look at the changing leaves this October, I am reminded that even seasons of change can reveal something beautiful. Perhaps that is worth remembering in our own lives as well. We do not always get to choose the season in which we find ourselves, but we do get to choose how faithfully we will live within it. We can pray. We can worship. We can open the Scriptures. We can care for our neighbors. We can feed someone who is hungry, visit someone who is lonely, encourage someone who is discouraged, welcome someone who feels forgotten, and tell someone who *desperately needs to hear it*, that Jesus Christ loves them. Those things do not require perfect circumstances; they simply require willing hearts.

So as October unfolds around us, perhaps our prayer can be a simple one: *"Lord, whatever this season brings, help me to be faithful in it."* There will be another season after this one, there always is. Until then, may we keep our eyes upon Christ, our hearts open to one another, and our hands ready for whatever work God places before us.

In Grace and Peace,
Pastor Rob Stuffbeam
Grace United Methodist Church
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rob.stuffbeam@gmail.com



Halloween Facts

The first Jack-o-Lanterns were carved from turnips.

There is a movie series called Halloween.

The first Halloween movie was also filmed within 21 days.



In Alabama, wearing a nun or priest costume for Halloween is illegal.



Pumpkins classify as a fruit, not a vegetable.



Finding a spider on Halloween night is considered good luck.



Walnut Creek, California prohibits Halloween masks without permits.



Spirit Halloween is one of the most popular Halloween stores in the United States.



Originally, the film Halloween was going to be called Babysitter Murders.



German model Heidi Klum is famous for her outstanding Halloween costumes.



Michael Myers' mask came from an altered Captain Kirk Star Trek mask.

Traditional Halloween colors include black, orange, and white.

The Jack-O-Lantern borrows its name from a stingy man named Jack.



The fear of Halloween is called Samhainophobia.



The word witch comes from the Old English word 'Wicca'.



The owl is a popular image used for Halloween.



Count Dracula was not the vampire's original name.



The world record for the fastest pumpkin carving is 16.47 seconds.



The world record for the heaviest pumpkin weighed at 2,624.6 pounds.



In Dublin, Georgia, any type of costume that covers the face is illegal.

FACTS.NET

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCT 31 6-8 AT GRACE PARKING LOT

**PLEASE JOIN IN BY BRINGING CANDY, DECORATING YOUR CAR/TRUNK
AND HANDING OUT CANDY FOR THE KIDS.**

**(I honestly think our Grace church people have more fun than the
kids!!!)**

On October 24, Grace Church will join in a Weiner Roast at Emery Chapel at 6:00 PM.

Located at :

3500 Springfield Xenia Rd, Springfield, Oh.

Please bring the following:

-a covered dish

- **lawn chair**
- **And your table service (just in case)**



Please come and join in this fellowship with Emery Chapel Church.

Grace at Snyder Park Elementary School



October 30th is the Halloween Party for Snyder Park Elementary School. Once again, our church will be providing Halloween Candy for the party. This event is held during the Lunch hours at the school (10:40 AM—1:10 PM) Please come and volunteer for this rewarding event!

From the Pregnancy Resource Center

On behalf of the Pregnancy Resource Center, thank you all for the generous donation of \$480.31 which Grace church collected in our baby bottles.

This gift is an example of God working through His people to accomplish more than we could ever do on our own.

This support helps provide pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, parenting education, material assistance, and caring relationships for all who come to the

Pregnancy Resource Center.

Thank you Grace Church,

Nicole Patch RN, Executive Director of PRC

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	Psalms 29:2
Oct. 9	1 Peter 3:3-4
Oct. 10	Ezekiel 34:27
Oct. 11	Galatians 5:1
Oct. 12	Psalms 80:14
Oct. 13	Zechariah 8:12
Oct. 14	Psalms 68:20
Oct. 15	2 Timothy 4:7
Oct. 16	Jeremiah 20:13
Oct. 17	John 10:10
Oct. 18	Psalms 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	1 Corinthians 9:23
Oct. 25	Hebrews 12:14
Oct. 26	John 13:8
Oct. 27	Psalms 145:19
Oct. 28	Psalms 5:2
Oct. 29	Psalms 70:4
Oct. 30	Nahum 1:7
Oct. 31	Proverbs 19:21

Prayers Needed:

Phyllis & Larry Garber
 Dave & Barbara Sheehan
 Our Homebound
 Our country
 Our church



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for OCTOBER

Jean Ann Baldwin
 2150 Montego Dr
 Forest Glen Rm 105
 Springfield, Oh 45503





<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	October	Larry Campbell
Communion Set-up	Oct. 4	Pastor Rob
Communion Servers	Oct. 4	Marilyn & Tom Martin
Communion Clean-up	Oct. 4	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	Oct. 4 & 11	Mary Olmstead
	Oct. 18, 25	Ken & Deb Cooke
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	Oct. 4 & 11	Pat & Gene Hart
	Oct. 18, 25	Kim Stehle
Liturgist	Oct. 4 & 11	Mary Ahlborn
	Oct. 18, 25	Pat Hart
Ushers	Oct. 4 & 11	Larry Campbell & Greg Hosier
	Oct. 18, 25	Greg Hosier & Donna Layne

<u>Counters</u>	<u>Special Music</u>
Oct. 5 Connie Mitchell & Pam Smith	Oct. 4 Jim Mayhugh
Oct. 13 Kim Stehle & Deb Cooke	Oct. 11 choir
Oct. 19 Marilyn Martin & Ramona	Oct. 18 Pattie Mumma
Oct. 26 Mary Ahlborn & Gail Eckler	Oct. 25 choir

October 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 6 pm Trus- tee Mt	2	3
4 7 pm NA	5 1:30 SPPRC Mt 7 pm Mens	6 11 am soap ministry 7 pm NA	7 10 am Bible Study 11:45 choir 6 p West End	8 6 pm All Church Mt	9	10
11 7 pm NA	12 7 pm Mens BS	13 7 pm NA	14 10 am Bible Study 11:45 choir	15	16	17
18 7 pm NA	19 7 pm Mens BS	20 7 pm NA	21 10 am Bible Study NO CHOIR	22	23	24 6 pm Weiner Roast at Emery Chapel
25 Pattie gone Til 11/4 7 pm NA	26 4 pm Soup Kitchen Minis- try 7 pm Mens BS	27 7 pm NA	28 10 am Bible Study 11:45 choir	29	30 10:40 a—1:10 Snyder Park Halloween Party	31 1:30 Rev Wilson Service 5-7 p Trunk or Treat



FALL FOLIAGE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

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

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.

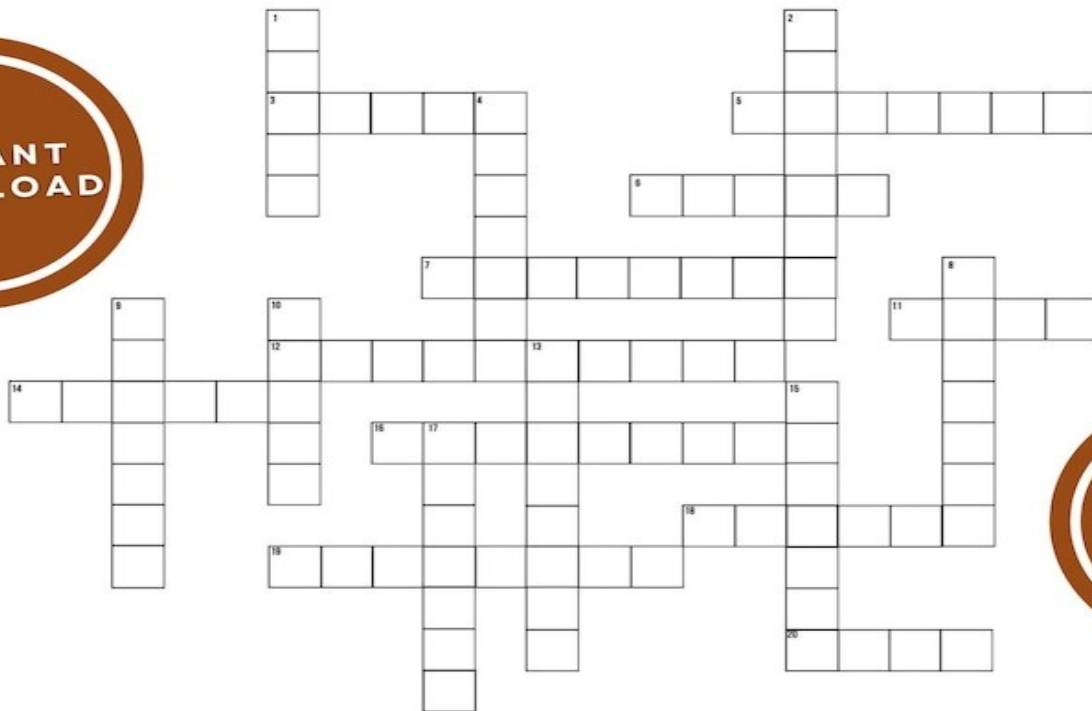
AUTUMN
BUSH
CHANGE
COLD
COLORS
DRIVES
ENJOY
LANDSCAPE
LEAVES
MAPS
OBSERVE
ORANGE
SEASON
SPOT
TREES
VIBRANT
WALK
WEEDS



AUTUMN Crossword Puzzle



INSTANT
DOWNLOAD



ANSWER
SHEET
INCLUDED

ACROSS

3. You might visit this to pick the perfect pumpkin
5. Orange gourd carved into jack-o'-lanterns
6. Nut from an oak tree, loved by squirrels
7. Brown, scaly object dropped by an evergreen tree

DOWN

1. Tree known for colorful leaves and sweet syrup
2. Bushy-tailed animal that gathers nuts for winter
4. Bumpy fall ride often taken on a farm
8. Big outdoor blaze perfect for chilly evenings