

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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October



2024



Newsletter October 2024

“The Times They Are a Changing”

In October 1963, Bob Dylan wrote his famous song, “The Times They Are a Changing.” This song came out right before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. The 1960s were characterized by turbulent events, the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War and anti-war protests, the political assassination of JFK, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Cuban Missile Crisis, urban riots, Woodstock, the women’s rights movement, burning flags and bras, and the Space Race.

When Bob Dylan wrote the song, “The Times They Are a Changing,” he spoke in song for all Americans, old and young, rich and poor, black and white. Everyone could see that the world as they had known it was disappearing; it was being replaced by a radically different culture.

I bring this up today because I happened to hear three different people being interviewed on TV and all three of those being interviewed mentioned they couldn’t believe the current state of our world. Each person cited a different negative change they see in our world, more specifically they all said, things didn’t used to be like this in the USA. One sited mass shooting in schools, churches, synagogues, Mosques, movie theaters, grocery stores, health spas, shopping malls, and country music concerts. Another mentioned the deep divisions between the people in political parties. The third person talked about schools not starting the day with the pledge to the flag and the Lord’s Prayer. All these things that the three people mentioned are true changes we have seen ourselves, and yet, in the face of what can be disturbing changes God calls us to keep our eyes on the Lord. Consider **Psalm 34:5, “Keep your eyes on the Lord! You shall shine like the sun. And never blush with shame.”** **Psalm 16:8, “I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”** Finally, **Hebrews 12:2, “Fixing our eyes on Jesus, who is the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”** In changing times and indeed all times are changing, we must expect and accept change. According to Heraclitus, “In life the only constant is change.” And yet, in the Old and New Testaments we read that God never changes. In **Malachi 3:6 God says, “I the Lord do not change.”** **The way that God never changes is the Lord’s consistent display of love, grace, peace, hope, forgiveness and mercy toward us.**

Let us then not walk in fear but by faith. Let us trust God with all the changes., knowing that God’s plan is to help us and bless us. Praise God!

Paster Vicki Downing

Special Worship Service

A special Worship Service will be held at Grace United Methodist Church on October 11, 2024, at 12:00. The service, "Prayer and Praise, A Celebration of Community," will provide us with an opportunity to express gratitude to God for the blessings of being here in community in Springfield, Ohio.

Numerous Clark County United Methodist Churches will be participating, both in worship service and in the Fellowship Time following the service. Finger foods and desserts will be served. If you would like to help with the food or serve as hostess, please let me know. Our new bishop, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will be preaching and our District Superintendent, Rev. Jim Wilson, will also be here and participating.

It is an honor to help our Springfield Community celebrate what is good here in Springfield, Ohio it is also an honor to have Bishop Jung preach for us. In my thirty-three years serving in the United Methodist Church, a bishop has never come to visit in a church I was serving.

Several of our Haitian members will be speaking or singing during the service. I hope everyone who can come will be here. May God bless us as we continue to find the good in every situation, and to be the good as often as we can. We remember the words of John Wesley who said, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, as long as ever you can."



Paster Vicki Downing



- *Pray without ceasing*
1 Thess. 5:17
- *Always be prayerful*
Romans 12:12
- *Pray at all times and on every occasion*
Ephesians 6:18

STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 13, 2024

Every year United Methodist congregations set aside a time to celebrate Stewardship. As our Grace family is well known to be very generous givers of their time, talents, and tithes – PRAYER will be our theme for 2024 -- for the need of a praying Grace family is crucial for us and our society more than ever. Please remember Jesus said, ***Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads, and I will give you rest.*** Matthew 11:28. He wasn't kidding...no He wasn't -- for He is waiting for you to unload your burdens, fears, anxieties, and needs. The extremely negative "reports" (use to be news) on TV and in newspapers and magazines often has an affect on our and others' wellbeing.

Jesus had the same type of situation when He was here on earth. His solution to so much unrest and harmful words, plus difficulties was to pray. Remember, Jesus often went to a quiet place to talk to His Father—especially when He was troubled. We must follow in His footsteps. **Pray— Pray** like Jesus prayed—and **often** to our Heavenly Father. Give Him our worries and concerns. We are His children. God wants only the Very Best for us.

For the next three weeks and even beyond that – plan to have prayer time with our Lord.

- Schedule a time for your prayers (even if you have to hide in the bathroom to pray)
- Talk with God as you would your best friend (describe your feelings—or just sigh...)
- Be still after you tell God your concerns—silently wait for His presence.
- Wipe out all Satan's reminders of what has to be done today—this is God's time!

In Our Community:

October Fellowship Hour

Sunday, October 13, 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.

Grace at Snyder Park Elementary School



October 25th is the Halloween Party for Snyder Park Elementary School. Once again, our church will be providing Halloween Candy for the party. Please bring your donations to the Office by Sunday, October 20th.

Homemade Creamy Chicken over Biscuits Dinner

On Thursday, November 7th, the Women of Faith will be hosting a fund-raising dinner. Lunch will be served from 11:00am—1:30pm and supper will be served from 4:30pm—6:30pm, with carry-out available. The star of the show will be creamy chicken over biscuits, made with our traditional recipe. Please check out the sign-up sheet in the Wesley Room for volunteer and food needs. Bruce Eckler and Ramona Keeton are leading this event, so feel free to contact them with any questions. See you there!



Save the Date!

Woman of Faith Silent Auction Fundraiser

Saturday, December 6pm

Please bring donations to the church by Sunday, November 17th so information can be compiled for the auction tickets. Keep tuned for more information to come!



Snyder Park Elementary School Ministry

What a start to 2024-2025 School year! Bomb Threats! Everyone is talking about Springfield, Ohio! Snyder Park Elementary students need our prayers more than ever.

As our relationship with our students grow stronger, they look so forward to seeing the "Church Ladies"! This year we will start by providing Halloween candy for their annual party on October 25. Please bring your candy in and place in Wesley Room by October 23, 2024.

Homemade Christmas cookies will be needed by December 17, 2024. We were able to give 600 cookies last year! The Angel Tree hats, gloves, mittens, socks, and scarves will be donated to the school Nurse.

We will provide lunch for the Teacher and Staff during Teacher Appreciation Week in May. More details to follow.

And finally, Field Day will be May 16, 2025. The students, teachers, and staff appreciate our Homemade cookies, water, and popsicles! Anyone can help on those days we are at School. The students smiles are so appreciative and loving. Yes, even those who do not speak English yet.

We love the Lord who gives us the opportunity to be a shining light for Snyder Park Elementary School students, teachers, and staff! And all of them need Love.

Thanks to all of you who donate anything throughout this School year; Cookies, water, popsicles, Angel Tree decorations, but mostly PRAYERS!

Connie Mitchell - Outreach

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:

Jack Yeager

Phyllis & Larry Garber

Jane Shough's Grandson,
John

Janet Blazer

Ron Stevens



Shower of Blessings

Recipient for July:

Ruby Williams

1500 Villa Dr

Oakwood Village

Springfield, OH 45503





<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
Acolyte	October	Greg Hosier
Communion Set-up	Oct. 6	Pastor Vicki
Communion Servers	Oct. 6	Marilyn & Tom Martin Betty Prosser & Dave Speas
Communion Clean-up	Oct. 6	Betty Prosser
Greeter - Front Door	Oct. 6-13 Oct. 20-27	Pattie Mumma & Larry Campbell Mary Olmstead & Mary Ahlborn
Greeter – Sanctuary Door	Oct. 6-13 Oct. 20-27	Pat & Gene Hart Betty Prosser &
Liturgist	Oct. 6-13 Oct. 20-27	Connie Mitchell Pat Hart
Ushers	Oct. 6-13 Oct. 20-27	Larry Campbell & Dave Speas Greg Hosier & Donna Layne

<u>Counters</u>		<u>Special Music</u>	
Oct. 7	Mary Ahlborn & Pam Smith	Oct. 6	Choir
Oct. 17	Marilyn Martin & Jackie Gregory	Oct. 13	Jim Mayhugh
Oct. 21	Kim Stehle & Connie Mitchell	Oct. 20	Choir
Oct. 28	Mary Ahlborn & Deb Cooke	Oct. 27	Jayme Tatro

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		11am Soap Ministry	10am Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice	6pm Trustee Mt		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7pm NA	Voter Registration Ends 6pm Men's Bible Study	In-Person & Mail-In Early Voting Begins 7pm NA	10am Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice	6pm All-Church Meeting	12pm Prayer & Praise Celebration of Community	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Fellowship Hour after Sunday Worship 7pm NA	6pm Men's Bible Study	12pm Women of Faith 7pm NA	10am Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
7pm NA	6pm Men's Bible Study	7pm NA	10am Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice			
27	28	29	30	31		
7pm NA	6pm Men's Bible Study	Last day for Absentee Ballot Applications 7pm NA	10am Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice	Halloween		



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

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

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

HIDDEN PICTURE PUZZLES
by Liz

How many hidden items can you find?

JUMP ROPE
 GHOST
 FROG
 HOTDOG
 RABBIT
 DRUMSTICK
 MITTEN
 PIE
 CAMEL
 DIME
 TEPEE
 INSECT
 PANS
 KNIFE
 TRUMAN'S HAT

www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com

