

GRAPEVINE

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Zanesville, Ohio

November 2018

PASTOR'S PAGE

Extravagant Generosity

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

As a young child, I remember how my parents taught my siblings and me to help out around the house. Each of us were given some responsibilities. It may have been cleaning our room, cleaning the bathroom, dusting, sweeping, mopping, running the vacuum, helping with the laundry, setting the table, washing or drying dishes, putting away dishes, etc. Some outdoor chores included cleaning the interior of the car, raking grass or leaves, sweeping the garage or sidewalk. I remember doing our chores on Saturday before we could watch cartoons. (This was long before computers, smartphones, tablets, YouTube, Netflix, and the internet!)

The next morning, before going to church, we would find two coins for each of us. A nickel and a dime. This was our 'allowance'. The nickel was to be put in the Sunday School offering, while the dime would be placed in the offering plate during worship. Our hard-earned allowance, then, became our offering to God.

As a child, I didn't know any different. We worked around the house, because we were family. We earned a little bit for our chores and gave it away. At the time, I didn't resent having to give away my allowance. I had not learned the value of hard earned cash. And yet, I was learning another lesson.

Give to God first.

Now, there wasn't much of anything left over in those early years. We were simply learning to give to God first. Then, as time went on and the responsibilities grew, the allowance also grew. Eventually, each of us was encouraged to open a savings account. We were taught another principle or two.

Save some for the future. And make good decisions with all that is left.

Looking back, I am thankful my parents taught me that everything we have belongs to God. We are simply stewards – caretakers – of all of God's abundant resources.

Give to God first. Save some for the future. And make good decisions with all that is left.

As members of the Body of Christ, each of us has an important place. Each of us has gifts to use to contribute to the well being of the Body, our community, and the world. Imagine how God might use us.

What is it that God might accomplish through us as we offer all that we are and all that we have to God?

A fellow Caretaker of God's resources, **Pastor Mark**

Breakthrough Prayer

God of Miracles, we praise Your Holy name and thank You for loving us.

Awaken Grace Church to Your calling...

Unleash Your power within us...

Break through our hearts and minds...

so we will be open to Your God-sized plans.

Let Your light shine through us, so we may be an example of Your love to others. In the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16 NRSV)

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The OWLS will be meeting on Wednesday,

November 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Foothills District "All In Community" Presentation – will be the program for the OWLS. Led by Foothills D. S. Dr. Dennis Miller along with Reba Collins, WOC All In Community Consultant, and others from the Ohio Board of Rehabilitation and Correction, the focus will be on the unique challenges around issues of addiction/opioid response, incarceration, reentry, and crime victimization. **Lunch included. Please call the church office for reservations. Everyone – all ages is invited.**

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Address Change

Morgan Hines – 5310 Hampton Ct., Zanesville, OH 43701
Doug & Becky Spade – 6830 Old Stagecoach Rd., Frazeytsburg, OH

Wedding

Jessica Woods and Ryan Gebura were united in marriage on October 6. Jessica is the daughter of Bill & Becky Woods; granddaughter of Carol Woods.

Birth

A son, Connor Reed, was born on October 7 to David & Nikki Marks. Grandparents are John & Diane Marks.

With Sympathy

- . . . to Nancy Chow and family following the death of her cousin, Linda Schumacher, of Columbus Grove on October 5.
- . . . to Tammy Vincent and family following the death of her cousin, Garrett Howard, on October 10.

IN THE COMMUNITY

> > November 4 — 11:00-1:00 — First U. M. C. (857 Putnam Ave.)
After church luncheon - ham loaf, scalloped potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll, beverage and dessert. Adults - \$8.00; children under 10 - \$4.00. Carryout available. Bake sale items available.

COME AND WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM

The Bethlehem Walk – Outdoor Drama – Chandlersville, OH
Friday, November 23 - Saturday, November 24 - Sunday, November 25 — 6:00-9:00 p.m. nightly – free. Meet at Chandlersville U. M. Church and then be transported to Bethlehem. Experience the walk that Mary and Joseph took the night our Savior was born! Your journey will take you from the shepherds in the field, past the Roman soldiers and tax collectors, through the town of Bethlehem to the tiny stable where Jesus is born!

ALL SAINTS' DAY will be observed on November 4. This is a universal festival of the church that directs our attention to the richness of Christian history and the varied experiences of the grace of God by lifting up the lives of those who have gone before us. Those we will be remembering —
Nancy Black – 12/27/17 Joseph McBride – 4/22/18
Dr. Charles Cerney – 1/11/18 Jean Caughey – 7/25/18
Susan Gormley – 2/26/18 Richard Hardesty – 9/9/18
Denver Barr – 3/19/18

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, is the end of Daylight Savings Time. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday.

2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions to be credited to 2018 giving must be to the church office by Sunday, December 30. Any money received after that date will be credited to 2019.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

November 12 – 6:30 p.m.

Grace Church will host GRIEF SHARE: SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS. If you have experienced the loss of one you love and would like to have the support of others on a similar journey; if you would like to hear about how others have found encouragement and hope to move forward after a loss, consider this Grief Share event. If you have a friend or family member who is experiencing grief of this nature, feel free to invite them or recommend the program to them. Please contact us at 740-452-9317 or via e-mail at graceumc516@sbcglobal.net.

Surviving the Holidays is part of a more comprehensive program called *Grief Share*.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

We are blessed to have such a beautiful place to worship each Sunday. Your help is needed on Friday, NOVEMBER 16, at 5:30 p.m. to decorate the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and the outside for the holiday season. This is a special event. If you've never participated, it could be the start of a family tradition at Grace. A light meal will be provided. As you know, many hands make light work!

ZANESVILLE HANDBELL FESTIVAL

The 29th annual Handbell Festival will be held on Sunday, **November 18**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Grace Church sanctuary. Invite a friend and come to hear the joyous sound of the individual choirs and all together as a massed choir.

RACE FOR GRACE 2018

It is not too soon to start training for the Race for Grace 5K. It will once again be held on Thanksgiving morning [November 22] at 9:00 a.m. Online registration is available at <https://raceroster.com/events/2018/19873/race-for-grace-5k>. If you are not up to running or walking, we always need lots of volunteers to make this event successful. All proceeds will go to Eastside Community Ministry's Food Pantry. Please feel free to contact Becky Woods - 740-683-4529 / 740-828-6094 if you have any questions. Thanks in advance for your support!

GRACE CHANCEL CHOIR OPPORTUNITY

As we did last year, we want to welcome anyone who wants to join the choir for the Christmas season. If you love to sing but don't have the time to sing with us on a regular basis, PLEASE join us for the Advent and Christmas season. Rehearsal time is 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

Calling all bell ringers!!! Are you looking for a way to reach out to others in our community? Grab a family member or friend and sign up to ring the bells.

Grace Church will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army

Saturday – **December 8**

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Kroger

Many ringers are needed to support this important cause.

Please plan to sign up starting in mid-November.

A Day of Spiritual Enrichment – HARVEST YOUR BLESSINGS RETREAT

Experience praise in times of plenty and in times of need.

November 3 — 9:00-1:00

Grace Fellowship Hall

Leadership by Karen Linser (Ashland Theological Seminary Student) and Rev. Brenda Buckwell (National Retreat Leader, Author, Spiritual Director. Lunch – Soup, salad and bread will be served. Participants are asked to bring a fresh vegetable for soup. Cost - \$10.00.

Register by email to Karen – klinser@ashland.edu

Sponsored by Living Streams Flowing Water – ministry of Spiritual Formation

THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU is seeking qualified office staff for 2020 Census operations in the local area. Excellent Pay — Flexible Hours — Paid Training — Temporary Positions. Apply online — 2020census.gov/jobs Call – 1-855-562-2020

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Now is the time to be placing your order for poinsettias for the Christmas season. They are \$7.50 each. They will be used in the sanctuary on December 16, 23 and 24. Please complete the order form and return to the church by placing it in the offering plate or mailing (checks payable to the church).

We need your order by December 7.

_____ number of poinsettias _____ amount enclosed

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

_____ will pick up later

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Disciple Class – The Disciples' class continues to look at Paul's book to the Roman Christians. Paul was chosen by God to be the chief expounder of the Gospel to the world and his Epistle to the Romans is Paul's completest explanation of his understanding of the Gospel. It is called "the most profound work in existence." You are welcome to join any Sunday for this insightful look not only into Biblical times, but life today in the light of God's Word.

Teens and young adults – continue to study the books and stories of the Bible based on the Lectionary Scriptures with Todd Sands in the HS classroom.

Grace Space: During the Grace Space time, all children are taken to the nursery for short lesson. We are finishing our time with the creation story and are beginning to think about Christmas. Check out God's children on the wall outside the nursery! They are amazing!

Women's Book Study Group - All women are welcome, we meet at 6:30 on Thursday evenings in the High School classroom. We are working on a study called "Listen, Love, Repeat" by Karen Ehman. Hope to see you there!

Coloring — In the back of the sanctuary or on the table as you enter the Fellowship Hall, are some coloring pages. They are not just for kids! Studies have shown that coloring can help you concentrate or even help to relieve stress. Feel free to take a sheet, some colored pencils and a clipboard [for the sanctuary] and color away.

The Manger Project: Beginning with Advent -- as a congregation-- we are going to fill our manger with love (and hay) to prepare for the birth of the Christ-child. To help us fulfill the project, families will be asked to spread kindness to others during the Advent season. As we serve with kindness, we live the life that Jesus asks us to. As the weeks go on and your family spreads the kindness, we will fill the manger with hay to prepare for His birth. Watch for more information how you can spread kindness and fill our manger in the bulletin, on Facebook and our website.

Christmas Program: This year's program on **December 9** will be a trip around the world. We will present customs and traditions from other countries. We know many of you also have special family traditions. We would love if your family would present or share your special traditions, songs, or stories that you tell at Christmas time during the program! Contact Sarah and we'll include you in the program.

MITTEN TREES

Please help us decorate our mitten trees with gloves, mittens, and hats for children and adults. These items will be given to the LifeWell Free Store. Also, socks of all sizes are needed. Mitten trees will be at the Shinnick St. entrance to the sanctuary and in the Fellowship Hall area. Help make warm hands and feet!!

Also, LifeWell is in great need of coats, warm shoes/boots – all sizes. The store is open T – W – Th — 9:00 – 1:00. The office is open 7:30 – 12:00 Monday-Friday — 740-452-7117.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

During the month of October, the staff of Muskingum County Children's Services, Morrison House Hospice, Muskingum Behavioral Health, Bethel House Community Center, and a family having dinner at Adornetto's were the recipients of Random Acts of Kindness. It was great to see their smiling faces as we thanked them for all they do to make our community a better place.

CROP WALK 2018

A BIG thank you to all who participated in the CROP Walk on October 14!!! Grace Church had twelve walkers (including two babes in strollers!) and raised over \$600 to fight hunger in our community and around the world.

GAME NIGHT AT POLLOCK APARTMENTS

Pizza and Bingo for the residents of these downtown apartments (corner of Fifth & Market Sts.) will take place on November 6 — 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is a good time for everyone!!!

Social Media and Website

Grace is on Facebook! Like the "page" at: <https://www.facebook.com/GraceUnitedMethodistZanesville>
Or our group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/419305344801902/>
The group is closed, let us know you want to be included.

Worship Celebrations at Grace UMC

Season of Pentecost – Worship Series – *Dwellings*

November 4 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m. – 24th Sunday after Pentecost;
All Saints Day

Scripture – Revelation 21:1-6 – *Hope* – Sacrament of Holy Communion
Reading the Roll of the Victorious

November 11 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m. — 25th Sunday after Pentecost;
Veterans Day

Scripture – Hebrews 9:11-14, 24-28 – *Victory*
Two By Two will lead us in worship at the 10:30 service

November 18 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m. – 26th Sunday after Pentecost;
Bible Sunday

Scripture – Hebrews 10:11-25 — *Confidence*

November 25 – 8:15 a.m./10:30 a.m. – Christ the King Sunday;
Last Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture – Revelation 1:4b-8 – *Love*

All Ladies are invited to an

Advent Tea

First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Coburn U. M. Church

Wilson Center (gym)

3618 Maple Ave.

Please come and share in this time of fellowship.

Refrigerator —

Have you gotten a new refrigerator but the old one is still working? Would you be willing to donate it to the church? One of ours has decided to stop working. Call the church office [740-452-9317] if you can help in this way.

THANK YOU

Dear Grace Church Family,

Thank you Grace family and friends for my card shower. I really needed all your notes, good wishes, and encouragement. That week was especially stressful. Thank you especially to my daughter, Beth, and Judy Craz for organizing this. I received over 30 cards.

Anne Goodrich

The staff at Genesis Hospice would like to thank you for your Random Act of Kindness. The treats were greatly appreciated!

Signed by 10

THANK YOU for the Random Acts of Kindness treats!! The staff appreciated and enjoyed them! Thank you for thinking of us.

Avondale Youth Center

THANK YOU so much for the treats. They were greatly appreciated!

Laine Davis

THANK YOU for the use of your Fellowship Hall for our Foster Parent banquet. We would not be able to serve that many people without a place like Grace. It is a perfect venue for us to use. Thanks again!

Donna Cole – Foster Care Coordinator

Thanks so much for the snacks you left for us. It was a great pick-me-up to know you cared enough to honor us. I thought there would be enough to last several days – everything went quickly when it was announced that snacks were here. I heard lots of grateful comments from every unit. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness!

Donna Cole – Foster Care Coordinator

MANY THANKS

Thank you to our Hospitality Team for –
Providing space, hospitality and/or meals for various community and United Methodist groups [OWLS, Barbershop Chorus, various family celebrations, Club Jesus].
Extending hospitality at the doors, elevator, and during worship [Dana & Cindi Swope, Tracie Moss, Dan & Karen Vincent, John & Diane Marks, Bob & Martha Lentz, Cindy Lawyer
Margaret Smith, Debbie Collett]
Tending to the audio/video/computer needs [Craig Hill, Cindi Swope, Sarah Burris, Debbie Collett]

Thank you to all who provided excellent leadership in worship last month!
Acolytes [Steve Vincent, Lincoln Lepi, Chase, Sarah & Miles Tippie
Cindi Swope]
Liturgists [Cindy Lawyer]
Children's Moment [Sarah Burris, Cindy Lawyer]
Musicians [Marcie Butterfield, Joyce Cooper, Tony Merry, Sarah Burris,
Christy Swope, Mary Mason, Cynthia Tuck, Tom Swan, Grace
Chancel Choir, Wendy Cochran, Margaret Merry]
Communion Steward [Janet Hill, Cassie Burris, Sarah Burris]
Communion Servers [Mary Mason, Maryanna Fenton, Janet Hill,
Jaynellen Sharp, Linda Friel, Christy Swope]
Children's Ministry = Grace Space, Nursery
[Sarah Burris, Cindy Lawyer, Julie McAllister, Sarah Tippie,
Amelia Lepi, Laura James, Cassie Burris, Allison Palmer,
Julie Sands, Jennifer McCune]
Procession Participants [Frank & Amy Dosch, Chase, Sarah & Miles
Tippie, Dana C. Swope, Todd Sands]
Service of Blessing of the Animals [Todd & Julie Sands, Jessica
Stonecypher, Zach & Mary Robinson, Jenn Jenkins, Tony &
Margaret Merry, Jim Gillespie, Bob & Melissa Paap]

HONOR OUR VETERANS

Veterans will be honored / recognized on November 11 during worship. Veterans' Day, which is November 11 each year, is a holiday to honor America's veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice for our nation's common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists while others believe in a 'just war'. Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality, and democracy are worth the cost required.

Whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

***Thank you to all the men and women who served
or are now serving our country!***

Operation Christmas Child

Imagine a little boy opening a gift of things he can't even imagine. Add into that the joy of learning that there is someone that loves him, so much that He would give His life for him. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Operation Christmas Child boxes give us an opportunity to reach out to children in a way that would not be possible otherwise. The boxes begin as a way of getting the child's attention and then while he is listening they are provided a book that explains who Jesus is and to share the Gospel with them.

This small shoe box full of little gifts along with the booklet full of the teachings of Jesus Christ gives children something deeper than physical help. It is a blessing to see the powerful change in their hearts.

Grace Church's goal is to put together 50 boxes this year. The deadline is **Nov. 4** to get them to the church. If you are unable to shop and put together a box, financial donations are gratefully accepted as well.

Please pray for this important demonstration of how God's love can change the world, one child at a time.

How to pack a box —

1 – Use an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a small plastic container. We have a limited amount of Operation Christmas Child boxes that you can use. If you use your own box, you can wrap the box (but do the lid separately). Wrapping is not required. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.

2 - Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Mark the correct age category on the label and tape the label to the top of the box. The labels are found in the brochure available from the church or on line at http://www.samaritanspurse.org/index.php/OCC/Pack_A_Shoe_Box/

3 – Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child.

4 – Please donate \$9 or more for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping and other project costs. You can give online by using the EZGIVE option, or you can write a check to Samaritan's Purse (note 'OCC' on the memo line) and place it in an envelope on top of the gift items inside the box. If you or your family are preparing more than one shoe box, please make one combined donation.