

# WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH GRACE



<b>Prayers</b>	Start simple: Plan to pray the Lord's Prayer once a day.	Subscribe to Grace's prayer chain.	Develop a daily prayer discipline.
<b>Presence</b>	Practice being present with your family, friends, and neighbors.	Worship regularly, "Whenever not prevented."*	Find your "2nd hour" group like a small group, class, or music ensemble.
<b>Gifts</b>	Complete the Estimate of Giving on your Engagement Card this year.	Commit to recurring giving online so the church has your support every week.	Pursue or commit to tithing 10% or more of your income.
<b>Service</b>	Complete the Ministry Match to discover where you can serve.	Volunteer for one service opportunity per quarter.	Commit to serving on a Ministry Team for 1-3 years.
<b>Witness</b>	Pray for someone in your life, and tell them you did.	Identify one person or household to invite to church, and invite them.	Commit to a ministry of presence, advocacy, or service in the community to bear witness to your faith.

\*This was how John Wesley (early Methodist founder) answered the question "How often should I go to church?"

## GRACE'S 2024 GOALS

ENGAGE WITH GRACE

- 1. Welcome 1000 to Worship** by measuring connect cards and following up with each of them.
- 2. Welcome 60 New Christians** through baptism, confirmation, and membership.
- 3. Approach 400 in Average Worship Attendance** so more and more people can receive and reflect the Grace of God.
- 4. Continue to Focus on Mission** by organizing and clarifying our Mission and Outreach goals.
- 5. Leverage our Facility** by identifying ways to optimize use of the building and grounds for ministry and mission every day of the week.
- 6. Share 300 Faith Stories** by noticing, naming, and celebrating what God is up to in our lives.
- 7. Expand and Innovate Children and Youth Ministry** by welcoming new staff, and planning for sustainable and meaningful ministry.
- 8. Increase Access to Grace** by hiring new staff and continuing to grow our Accessibility and Inclusion ministry for people with disabilities.
- 9. Help Youth Serve** by inviting 6th-12th graders to lead on Sundays, in worship and beyond.
- 10. Focus on Relationships** by helping 40 new people engage in a 2nd hour (small group) ministry where they are known and loved by others.
- 11. Fully Fund our Church's Mission and Ministry** by collecting even more estimates of giving in 2024 than we did in 2023.



**GRACE**  
 united methodist church  
[umcgrace.org](http://umcgrace.org)

# ENGAGE WITH GRACE 2024

"As a member of this congregation will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your **Prayers**, your **Presence**, your **Gifts**, your **Service**, and your **Witness**? If so, say I will."

-the United Methodist Baptismal Covenant

# OUR TESTIMONIES

Dear Friends,

**It's Engagement Season at Grace. Time to *Engage with Grace!***

**Have you heard that phrase before? We say it almost every Sunday at the end of worship when we let you know about events, service opportunities, and other "ways to engage with Grace." Once again this year we're inviting you to consider all the ways you will engage with Grace in the next year.**

**But first, remember that the reason we "engage" is not to gain access to the grace of God or the ministry of the church. It's to respond to God's grace by engaging the ministry of the church for your own sake, and for the sake of others.**

**Engaging with Grace is kind of like moving from listening to the Grace Church bell ring to *helping ring it for all to hear.***

**The United Methodist Church emphasizes five main ways we engage individually and as a church: through our Prayers, our Presence, our Gifts, our Service, and our Witness.**

**This season we're inviting you to consider all five of these, and prayerfully ask, "With the help of God, how will I engage with Grace in the 2023-2024 ministry year?"**

Peace,  
Pastor Drew and Pastor Jessica



## PRAYERS

In our home God has become a family member. We pray as a family at meal times and Reagan usually leads thanking God for blessings or asking for help in her life or the world. Prayer in our home is not as regimented or defined, but it has become more of a conversation with God. **-THE GRANDYS**

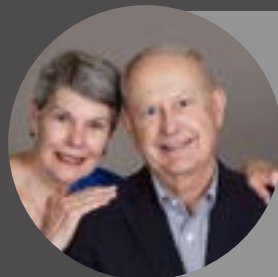
## PRESENCE

Practicing being present has helped my faith to grow. Particularly the preaching and classes like the class on prayer. Praying through the Psalms revealed to me the awe and wonder of God's love and the extent of his love for us which has increased my faith. **-RONALD JOHNSON**



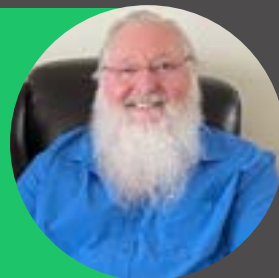
## GIFTS

When something helps you grow in your faith, as Grace Church has done for the two of us, you just want to give back. Being able to increase our financial gifts over the years has brought us nothing but JOY! **-ALLAN AND HANNAH NIXON**



## SERVICE

Through serving with ESL I am filled with love and devotion for my Grace brothers and sisters as we work together to make a positive difference in the lives of immigrants in our community. To me "love your neighbor as yourself" compels me to connect with others through love and service. **-PAUL GURLEA**

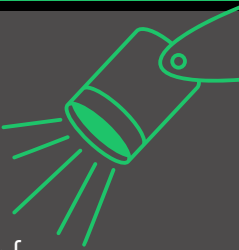


## WITNESS

Through engaging with Grace UMC, I'm now regularly practicing how I reflect Christ in what I do both in and out of church. At work and in life, I try my best to lead how Christ guides us, and be a minister to others. **-GRACE ROTZ**



# SPOTLIGHT ON GIVING: HOW TO GIVE FAITHFULLY



**1. What does the Bible recommend?** The traditional biblical way to give is to "tithe" (give 1/10th of your income), not out of compulsion, but out of praise and thanksgiving.

**2. Should I pray about it?** Yes! Pray about the needs of the church, your resources, and discuss it with your household or a friend in prayer.

**3. Then what?** After you've prayed, make a plan and fill out an **Engagement Card** with your estimate of giving. This helps the church, but it is also a way to declare, to God and to the church, your plans to give.

## HOW MUCH IS A TITHE?

Annual Income	5% is	7.5% is	10% is the traditional tithe	15% is
If you earn \$25,000	\$1,250	\$1,875	\$2,500	\$3,750
If you earn \$50,000	\$2,500	\$3,750	\$5,000	\$7,500
If you earn \$100,000	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$15,000
If you earn \$150,000	\$7,500	\$11,250	\$15,000	\$22,500
If you earn \$200,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$30,000

# SPOTLIGHT ON SERVING: FINDING WHAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

**How can I find a way to serve that's right for me?**

We have a great tool for that called **"Ministry Match,"** and in **2-3 minutes** you can discover which of Grace's 90+ volunteer opportunities might be right for you. **See the Engagement Card for more!**



**READY TO ENGAGE?  
FILL OUT YOUR ENGAGEMENT CARD TODAY!**

COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED CARD, OR SCAN BELOW & FILL IT OUT ONLINE.

