WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH GRACE

	Engaging	Engaged	Deeply Engaged
Prayers	Start simple: Plan to pray the Lord's Prayer once a day.	Subscribe to Grace's prayer chain.	Develop a daily prayer discipline.
Presence	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.
Gifts	Complete the Estimate of Giving this year.	Commit to recurring online giving so Grace has your support every week.	Pursue or commit to proportional giving (1-10%) based on your income.
Service	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.
Witness	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?"

WAYS YOU ENGAGED WITH GRACE OVER THE PAST YEAR

18 baptisms
10 confirmations
18 new members

341 in-person worshipers on average

167 online worshipers on average

45 number of times Holy Communion was offered at God's table

90 youth & children engage with Grace weekly (on average)

27 of Grace's students engaged in mission over summer break

180 ESL students received **44** hours of learning per semester from **65** volunteers

Your gifts helped replace the final **2** of **8** original 1994 HVAC units!

20+ seniors gather for Fearless book group each Tuesday

PAST COMMITMENTS

	# Pledges	Total Pledged	Avg Annual Gift
2024	161	$881,479	$5,342
2025	169	$943,229	$5,581
2026	166	$935,843	$5,638

ENGAGE WITH GRACE 2027

"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

Dear Grace Family,

Each Sunday, we are sent into the world with an invitation to "engage with Grace." This is a reminder that worship does not end when the service does, nor does it when we go out those Sanctuary doors. We are reminded that our expressions of faith continue through the rest of the week and even through our whole lives.

As we enter this season of "engaging with Grace," it helps to remember that this is ongoing. We do not do any of these things to earn God's favor, because God's grace has already been poured out freely. Rather, our engagement is a humble, joyful response of a grateful heart touched by grace. We step into ministry so that our own hearts may be shaped, and so that our neighbors might encounter God's grace through us. To "engage with grace" is to move from merely listening to the music of worship, hearing the sermon preached, or praying our prayers, to joining our voices in song, living the sermons through our lives, and being the prayer that we lift up.

Our Wesleyan heritage invites us to engage this life of faith through five sacred commitments: our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

In the days ahead, we invite you to sit with these commitments. Hold them before God and prayerfully ask: With God's help, how am I being called to live out my faith with Grace UMC in this coming year?

Blessings,
Pastor Dan and Pastor Liz

OUR TESTIMONIES

PRAYERS

Our Wednesday Morning Prayer Group has become an anchor for our souls. Gathering to share joys and concerns, and lifting up those on the Grace prayer list, reminds us that we are never meant to carry life's burdens alone. John Wesley wrote, "God does nothing except in response to believing prayer." Sitting in this circle week after week, we have witnessed the quiet peace and strength that shared faith brings.

-The Prayer Group

PRESENCE

From the first time we stepped inside of Grace we have felt nothing but unconditional love from everyone. I want others to feel that at Grace even if we can just give someone a smile.

-Nancy and Bob Potter

GIFTS

I give because the Bible says so. I tithe because the Bible says to tithe. Giving is one of the ways I follow Jesus to help others. Hopefully I am showing God through me, and that it's not necessarily me, but it's Jesus within me that people will see. When giving, I'm supporting the whole church to be able to do God's work, because the church is doing God's work.

-Kathy Van Der Kamp

SERVICE

Serving at Grace is important because I get to connect with the community. Whenever I help out at church, I meet new people and learn new things about them. It's a great way to make new friends and grow alongside one another. Through serving at Grace, I have joined a support group of caring people who I can rely on. I am also able to be a support for others as well.

-Eden Daigle

WITNESS

If you don't witness to people, how will the church grow? That's how the church grows. **-Jim Uzzle**

It's important that as a believer we spread the word. Grace was a witness to me....Grace reaches out. And I knew then, that this was the church I wanted. I've been here for 39 years, and we've both participated in every area of the church. I can't do as much, but I can still be friendly and share my faith.

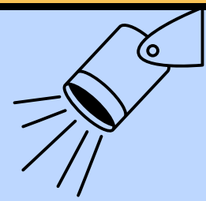
-Marilyn Uzzle

READY TO ENGAGE?

FILL OUT YOUR ENGAGEMENT CARD TODAY!

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

SPOTLIGHT ON GIVING:
HOW TO GIVE IN FAITH



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. If not a tithe, the Bible encourages giving proportionally to your income.

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 and becomes 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!