

GRACE UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

CELEBRATING
2023

STARTING FRESH



AND FINISHING STRONG

2023 began by presenting Grace UMC with questions and challenge. The people of Grace responded with faith, commitment and generosity.

Because of your commitments to our congregation, we experienced:

Worship Enhancements

Growth in Average Worship Attendance

Generous Support for our General Budget and Special Projects

New Mission and Service Opportunities

THANK YOU!



WORSHIP



- Improved the audio system
- Added a worship leader to our team
- Began a collaboration with SEMO students
- Returned to livestream worship
- Moved Contemporary Worship into the sanctuary
- Shared many gifts of music from the chancel choir and bell choir

MISSION & SERVICE



- Hosted a pop-up food bank (and learned a lot!)
- Raised \$3300 to install solar panels in Mozambique
- Built a Little Library and Snack Shack
- Offered care to those unable to attend worship due to health
- Filled a family's Christmas wish list
- Gifted new Middle School teachers with supplies and snacks
- Provided personal care items to the Middle School pantry
- Handled weekly drop-off for the Middle School food backpacks
- And so many other acts of kindness along the way

PUMPKIN PATCH



- Partnered with our Scouts to raise \$8900
 - \$5000 Scouts
 - \$750 Granting Grace
 - \$600 Teen Challenge
 - \$350 Old Menkendree
 - \$1500 Grace UMC to support mission and service efforts

GENEROSITY



- Offerings totaled \$204,000, an increase of more than \$18,000 over 2022. Additional gifts were shared to support apportionments, replace the damaged sign on Caruthers, and more.

SPECIAL GIFTS



- We were blessed with \$44,600 in grants from the Grace UMC Foundation. The gifts assisted with HVAC repairs, updating our audio system and support for the new worship leader position.

THE HIGHLIGHTS*

RECEIVED

OFFERINGS	\$205,000
MEMORIAL GIFTS	\$2045
BREAKFAST @ GRACE	\$1020
DESIGNATED GIFTS	\$88,425
TOTAL	\$296,490

EXPENSES

STAFF	\$126,489
PROPERTY CARE	\$57,606
AUDIO UPGRADES	\$30,000
UTILITIES	\$30,822
INSURANCE	\$22,646
APPORTIONMENTS	\$21,400
ADMINISTRATON	\$12,717
PROGRAM	\$7253
TOTAL	\$319,203

*PLEASE NOTE:

These amounts do not reflect full details of Grace UMC's Receipts and Expenses. You are welcome to receive a complete year-end report. Please reach out to the office to request a copy. If you have questions or wish to talk more about ministry at Grace, Pastor Linda and members of the Administrative Council will be happy to meet with you.

Friends,

At the start of 2023 we faced some hard questions. Grace UMC, you chose to respond with faith, commitment, courage and generosity.

We are a different church as we begin another year of ministry. For that, I am grateful to God and each of you. Some questions linger, but we will wrestle with them without fear and sharing in our congregation's prayer.

Here and now, God, we bring this church to you.
Fill it with your healing and transforming grace.
Move it to a place that is beyond
what we know, ask or imagine.
Amen.

I am also grateful for the members of Administrative Council who offered wisdom and guidance over the past year. And, I give God thanks for those who have said "yes" to the invitation to join or remain with this group of leaders. Below, find the names of the fourteen people who are part of the 2024 Administrative Council. Please thank them for their commitment and hold them in your prayers.

Peace, Pastor Linda

2024 ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Jonathan Statler-Chair	Andrew Mathes
Mark Bliss	Dan Niswonger
Merle Deneke	Mike Rivers
Jill Frey	Janet Ruopp
Charlie Herbst	Justin Sitze
Barb Macke	Kathy Wright
Melody Mathes	Megan Young