

# Gifted FOR More Participation

As members of Grace we vow to participate in the ministries of this faith community through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.

## PRAYER

Prayer is the foundation of a life built on faith. Prayer brings us into the very presence of God, allowing us to see the world as God sees it; to love the world with generosity.

## WORSHIP

We worship to participate in Christ's love for God and others, becoming part of the 'new creation' in the body of Christ. Worship brings us into God's story!

## SERVICE

As we grow in God's love for us, we can't help but respond in service to others! God empowers us to address the needs of the world, making God's love a tangible reality and catalyst for change.

## WITNESS

Witnessing is about building relationships and sharing stories of what God has done for us in a genuine way. Your story is important! Sharing it can change lives.

## GENEROSITY

We give because Jesus gave (Titus 2:14). Our generosity is a finite response to the infinite generosity of God. Living generous lives enables us to experience the joy of God's abundance.

*It's all about relationship*

## SUNDAYS @ GRACE

### TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sanctuary 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

### CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Activity Center 9 a.m.

### ONLINE WORSHIP

Live-streamed from the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.  
[facebook.com/gracenaperville](https://facebook.com/gracenaperville)

*It's all about relationship*

## Grace UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WE GATHER



WE GROW



WE GO

## CONTACT US

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# Gifted FOR More

EXPLORE, STRENGTHEN  
AND SHARE OUR GIFTS IN

## 2024



# Generosity

## START WITH PRAYER

Consider God's abundance in your life. Pray for guidance and discernment. Pray for Grace UMC and the church's mission to form disciples of Jesus Christ to further God's Kingdom. Pray for those who are not yet here that they may be welcomed and nurtured in faith.

## ASSESS YOUR FINANCIAL STATE

Take a look at your current giving as a percentage of your annual income. Consider how God has blessed you this year. What portion might you give back for ministry?

## STEP UP YOUR COMMITMENT

Use the chart below to help determine how you might step up in 2024 when completing your Annual Giving Commitment Card.

## ANNUAL COMMITMENT CARD

Making a commitment in advance of giving helps Grace's leadership budget wisely. It's important to keep a steady cash flow to keep up with fixed expenses such as utilities and payroll. It's also important for our faith journey to consider giving of the "first fruits" to God, rather than what might be 'left over' at the end of the year.

## WORSHIP WITH GRATITUDE

On Consecration Sunday, November 26, we will consecrate our commitments to God during worship. This is an opportunity as a congregation to express our confidence in God's provision and our gratitude for God's blessings.

### STEP 3

If you are giving 10%, thank you for your faithfulness! Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift over and above a tithe or a legacy gift as you reflect upon God's generosity in your life. Thank you for turning in your card.

### STEP 2

Commit to increasing your current giving by 10% to 12% as you move toward the goal of giving the tithe, 10% of income. Your additional giving will sustain the ministries of Grace UMC.

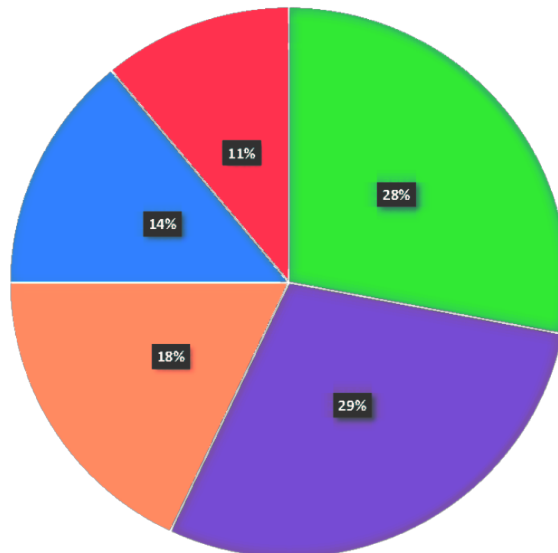
### STEP 1

If you are not regularly giving, consider a gift of at least \$5 per week (\$260 per year). Your faith will be deepened as you trust God and respond to God's generosity in your life.

## \$1.4 M GRACE UMC BUDGET BREAKDOWN FOR 2024

Where your contribution goes ...

- **Buildings and Grounds: Providing a beautiful base camp from which to serve:** Interior and exterior maintenance and repairs, utilities, insurance, custodial expenses, & parsonages (*includes Salaries and Benefits*).
- **Pastors, Administration and Worship** Facilitating all the ways we praise & worship God, maintain the family tree and equip and support the Grace congregation in ministry. (*Includes Salaries and Benefits*)
- **Music Ministry** Music is the language of God that lifts our souls, heals our hearts and teaches the beliefs that sustain us in Christ. (*Includes Salaries and Benefits*)
- **Children, Youth, Adult, & Family Ministry** Forming Disciples through programing, events, and serving opportunities to further the kingdom. (*Includes Salaries and Benefits*)
- **Ministries Outside of Grace** Grace UMC supports the NIC Annual Conference Leadership, Global Missions, North Central Scholarships, UM Agencies



# Praying

That Grace will be ...

## A PLACE FOR FAMILIES ...

A church that provides families of all shapes & sizes with a place to belong; to learn and grow together. A place that equips parents to answer the big questions of today's children & youth, finding hope for the future as they become alive in Christ.

## A PLACE FOR THE NEXT PHASE IN LIFE

A church that facilitates learning and serving opportunities for empty nesters and those recently retired; and the many who find themselves discerning new purpose and significance in life's next steps.

## A PLACE TO FIND CARE

A church that recognizes the seasons in life; some days we are able to care for others, and some days we are the ones who need care. For all of the above, there is "Grace Cares Ministry," bringing the church to those who need it.

## A PLACE TO BE ACCEPTED & ACCEPTING

A church that welcomes *all* people, believing diversity to be God's gift; believing we are called to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

## A PLACE TO BE CHALLENGED

A church that teaches the ancient faith of the Christian tradition: challenging us to live as one in Christ, who gave Himself up for us, putting aside the life of entitlement and giving of ourselves for others. We are not our own, but belong to God who created us and calls us by name to love and to serve.

## A PLACE TO PARTICIPATE!

A church that can only carry out the call God places upon us as we work *together*. Each and every person is gifted and equipped to share in the work and in the blessings of being part of a faith community. How will you participate?