



Brief Church Profile for congregations (attendance under 50)

Grace United Church of Christ
933 Main Ave W | Massillon, OH 44647-6247

1. WHO ARE WE TODAY – WHAT IS OUR CHURCH’S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT?

Vision Statement: “Oh for the Love of God.”

Mission Statement: To share our passion for Christ through worship. Fellowship and outreach.

2. WE LIVE OUT OUR VISION AND MISSION THROUGH THE FOLLOWING SPIRITUAL FORMATION, EDUCATION, MISSION AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

WE do this by:

- Providing monthly free breakfast for the community
- A free Fall festival for the entire city
- Vacation Bible School
- Partnership with the Salvation army collecting canned goods for their food cupboard
- Collecting school supplies for Gorrell Elementary School in our neighborhood
- Providing food to the Massillon football team during practices (twice a day)
- Participation in the candlelight walk through Massillon during Christmas season
- A women’s monthly Bible Study for “the Women of God.”

3. STATISTICAL DATA

Our Sunday Worship attendance is: 40-50 Our Membership on the rolls is: 190
Our church annual spending plan (budget) is: \$96,400.00

4. WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME TRENDS IN THE CHURCH FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS?

We are increasingly engaging with the with the larger community around us. We are an aging congregation and have had to overcome many difficult experiences during the last 5 years. WE have grown slightly during the last 2 years.

5. WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME TRENDS IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY/TOWN IN WHICH THE CHURCH IS LOCATED?

The city used to boast larger factories. But today smaller factories and smaller personal businesses abound. changed from larger factories

6. THE SPECIFIC MINISTRIES/ISSUES WE EXPECT OUR NEXT PASTOR TO ADDRESS DURING THEIR TENURE ARE:

We expect our next pastor:

- To visit the sick and homebound and anyone who might need or appreciate a visit.
- To help with our larger community involvement
- Have flexible thinking and an open mind to be approachable.

7. BRIEF REPORT FORM MISSIONINSITE

Grace UCC serves a population of 18,716 persons living in the 44647 ZIP Code. While the population grew by 2% from 2010 to 2018, a slight decline is projected in the coming years: -.54% by 2023 and -.66% by 2028. The population is very homogeneous with 94.2% being White/Caucasian.

The 35-54 age group is the largest in the area and accounts for 24.3% of the current population, followed by the 65 and over age group at 20%. These groups are expected to switch places by 2028 with the 65 and over group growing to 24.7% of the population and the 35-54 age group declining to 22.6%. The pre-school age population is expected to remain stable with a slight increase from 5.3% to 5.5% by 2028. The school age group of 5 to 17 is expected to decline from 14.4 to 13.9%.

Of those persons 16 years of age and older, 58.7% are employed. The leading industries for employment are 1.) Educational Services, 2.) Manufacturing, and 3.) Wholesale/Retail. The unemployment rate is 3.8%.

More than 90% of the population 25 years of age and higher have earned a high school diploma or equivalent. Slightly more than 44% have at least some college education with 23% having earned a bachelor's degree or higher.



Paula Corbin
Council/Search Committee Chairperson

July 15, 2019
Date

7. COMMENTS FROM THE ASSOCIATION/CONFERENCE

Grace UCC is a congregation with good standing in our Association and Conference. The congregation boasts 125 years of living ministry in Massillon. As many other congregations its membership is aging. Yet the congregation is committed to God and the church's ministry as they engage in their larger community to embody Christ in the world.



Signature of Association Staff

July 19, 2019

Date

Association Staff member assisting:

Rev. Nayiri Karjian, General Minister

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