

Grace United Methodist Church

1401 West Main St. Springfield, OH 45504-2850

Phone: 937-323-9078

E-mail: graceumchurch@sbcglobal.net



2026

From the Pastor's Desk

March 30, 2026



Matthew 21:12-13 (NIV)

Jesus at the Temple

¹² *Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.*

¹³ *“It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”*

Dear Grace Family,

As we step into Holy Week, we do so having just waved our palm branches and shouted “Hosanna!” on Palm Sunday. The road into Jerusalem was filled with joy, expectation, and celebration. But the very next scene in the Gospel of Matthew shifts in tone.

Jesus enters the temple, and what he finds there moves him not to quiet reflection, but to decisive action. “*My house shall be called a house of prayer,*” he says, “*but you are making it a den of robbers.*”

This moment, often referred to as the cleansing of the temple, is not simply about overturning tables. It is about restoring purpose. Jesus looks at what the temple had become and calls it back to what it was meant to be: A house of prayer; a place of encounter, a space where God’s presence is honored and made known.

Holy Monday reminds us that following Jesus is not only about celebration; it is also about alignment. It invites us to ask: What needs to be turned over in our own hearts? What needs to be cleared away so that God’s presence may dwell more fully within us? And it invites us, as a church, to reflect as well.

Friends, I want to say this clearly: I see so much evidence that God is at work among us at Grace.

We have seen members return - people reconnecting, rediscovering, and re-engaging in the life of the church. That is no small thing; that is grace in motion.

We have welcomed new members - individuals who have chosen *this* community as their spiritual home. That is a sign of trust, of hope, and of the Spirit drawing people together. Along with them we have seen new visitors – people coming to Grace if only to check us out. I have seen a few visitors return for another look, and this is a really great thing indeed.

Our entry way has been remodeled and re-dressed by Pattie Mumma and Kim Stehle, showcasing an entirely new and incredibly inviting first-view of our church as they come in. A new Bible study has begun, led by Dave Speas, and as expected, it is creating space for learning, growth, and deeper discipleship. I am always amazed at the teachings Dave brings, and for those who attend, it is a wonderful blessing. I hope you will join us on Wednesdays at 10:00am for the next few weeks.

And perhaps most beautifully, there is a shared sense of support and anticipation as we walk through this Holy Week together - from Maundy Thursday, to Good Friday, and into the joy of Easter morning.

All of these things, they are not just “good things happening at Grace.” These are signs of a church being shaped, refined, even realigned. It is becoming what I envisioned it to be when Amanda and I came here for our introduction a year ago: A house of prayer. Holy Week is not only about *remembering* what Jesus did, it is about allowing what *he* did, to shape who we are.

So, as we move through these sacred days, I invite you to do two things: First, make space. Make space for prayer, for reflection, for worship. Join us for the services of this week - not out of obligation, but out of a desire to walk with Christ through the fullness of his journey. And second, remain open.

Open to what God may be clearing away; open to what God may be building up; open to how God is continuing to shape Grace Church into exactly what it is meant to be.

Because the truth is this: Jesus is still at work in *his* house. And thanks be to God - we are part of that work.

In Peace and Love

Pastor Rob Stufflebeam

Grace United Methodist Church

(740) 304-2518

[*rob.stufflebeam@gmail.com*](mailto:rob.stufflebeam@gmail.com)

***“Growing in Grace, Serving in Faith,
Reaching out with God’s Love
To Bring All to Christ”***



Scripture Readings for APRIL 2026

April 1 Romans 1:16
April 2 1 Corinthians 4:1
April 3 Romans 1:1
April 4 1 Peter 1:16
April 5 Colossians 2:9
April 6 Colossians 1:17
April 7 2 Peter 1:21
April 8 Matthew 5:48
April 9 Romans 1:2
April 10 1 John 4:9
April 11 Romans 1:4
April 12 Ephesians 1:3
April 13 John 3:34-35
April 14 Philippians 2:7
April 15 Romans 3:24
April 16 Romans 5:20
April 17 1 Corinthians 9:24
April 18 Ephesians 4:1
April 19 Romans 16:26
April 20 2 Corinthians 4:15
April 21 Romans 1:9
April 22 Romans 12:1
April 23 Romans 1:8
April 24 Philippians 1:3
April 25 1 Corinthians 9:16-17
April 26 Romans 1:11
April 27 1 Thessalonians 2:8
April 28 2 Peter 3:18
April 29 2 Corinthians 3:18
April 30 John 15:8

PRAYERS NEEDED

LARRY GARBER

PHYLLIS GARBER

RACHELLE KNEISS

LOIS GRAM



SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS FOR APRIL

MARY COLLINS

OHIO 7 MASONIC DR

SPRINGFIELD, OH 45504



HOMEBOUND APRIL BIRTHDAY

LOIS GRAM

3017 BRIXTON DR E.

SPRINGFIELD, OH 45503

APRIL 11, 1927

99 YEARS YOUNG!!!!

PLEASE SHOWER HER WITH CARDS!!

April Worship Participants

ACROLYTE	April 5 & 12	Doree McAdams
	April 19 & 26	Doree McAdams
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COMMUNION SET UP	April 5	Pastor Rob
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COMMUNION SERVERS	April 5	Kim Stehle & Betty Prosser
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COMMUNION CLEAN-UP	April 5	BETTY PROSSER
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GREETER (FRONT DOOR)	April 5 & 12	Mary Ahlborn
	April 19 & 26	Ken & Deb Cooke
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-GREETER (SANCTUARY DOOR)	April 5 & 12	Pattie Mumma and Gary Blevins
	April 19 & 26	Gene & Pat Hart
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LITERGIST	April 5 & 12	Barb McCoy
	April 19 & 26	Marilyn Martin
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USHERS	April 5 & 12	Greg Hosier & Donna Layne
	April 19 & 26	Greg Hosier & Donna Layne
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SPECIAL MUSIC	April 5	Choir
	April 12	Jim Mayhugh & Larry Campbell
	April 19	Choir
	April 26	Choir
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COUNTERS	April 6	Kim Stehle & Deb Cooke
	April 13	Connie Mitchell & Pam Smith
	April 20	Marilyn Martin & Ramona Keeton
	April 27	Mary Ahlborn & Gail Eckler

Thank you all for serving our church and Lord!



Our newest Members

WHENCE COMETH MY HELP

Jacquelyn "Jackie" Brewer moved to Florida from Bellefontaine, OH in 1962 and returned to Springfield, OH in 2010. She is married to Sam whom she met at a bowling alley in Florida. Jackie's sister is Paulette Pinkerton. She has two brothers, William and Richard Baldwin who reside in Florida. Jackie was educated in Fort Pierce, Florida after leaving Ohio. Jackie and has a son, David Baldwin. She lost her beloved daughter, Constance S Allen a few years ago. She is delighted to say that she has three grandsons, five great-grandsons and two granddaughters (her greatest awards!!) She earned her retirement from St Lucie County Emergency Management with her last job being a title insurance agent handling house sale closings.

In previous churches Jackie has taught Sunday School K-12, Adult Bible Studies, Vacation Bible School, Children's Choir, Sang in Folk Choir, Lecturer, and took communion to home bound. She taught a class at Eagle & Dove and is on the LifeWise Academy Board. Jackie is an eager and quick learner. She has so many interests and her talents know no end. Jackie is a friend to the needy and one who adapts quickly to challenging situations.

Favorite Scripture: *I am the vine you are the branches, if you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.* John 15:5

Favorite Hymn: *Because He Lives I Can face Tomorrow*

Favorite Color: Orange

I

Interests: Reading, especially the Bible, knitting, crocheting, crossword puzzles, playing scrabble with my sister, drinking coffee with friends, working jigsaw puzzles, and laughing at Dave Speas puns (trying to beat him at it, but his mind works too fast) LOL

Favorite Ice Cream: Butter Peacan

Favorite Sport: Watching 3 & 4 year olds playing soccer, football (especially college).

Advice: The best thing one can do as they walk through life is to listen to God and get out of the way. With God we are followers and not leaders.

Testimony: I have known Jesus as far back as I can remember, but I never met Him head-on until I was studying to join the Catholic church. I was in the parking lot waiting to pick-up someone, when Jesus and I met. Like the Samaritan woman at the well, He knew. I wanted to shout it out to everyone! Like Mary Magdala I was one way, now another and in between was Jesus. The film "The Chosen", was so spot-on in expressing how it happened to me. Everyone needs to meet Him like this. He is waiting for YOU!



WHENCE COMETH MY HELP

Sam E Brewer is married to Jackie. They will be married 31 years in May. Sam has three children Shane, Sam, and Chris. Sam is retired. He worked as a roofer (in his youth), as a meat cutter for many years, and ended his working days building inground swimming pools in the beautiful Florida sun. Sam grew up in Huntington, Ohio where he attended Huntington High School. He has an associate degree in sociology from Davis Elkin University. Sam received "The Golden Deeds Award" from the Exchange Club in Springfield in 2018 and has two rings for two 300 bowling games!!

He attends church as often as possible and makes himself available to anyone who needs a ride to services. Sam has a great sense of humor and enjoys working with children's organizations. Sam worked at Eagle and Dove and is on the Clark-Shawnee LifeWise Board.

Favorite Scripture: *Ask and it will be given to you. Seek and you shall find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7*

Favorite Hymn: *Amazing Grace.*

Favorite Color: Red

Favorite Sport: Fishing, football, baseball and golf.

Favorite IceCream: Strawberry

Interest: Professional Football

Advice: Trust in God

Testimony: Sam has had several serious life-changing illnesses. He says, " If it hadn't been for God, I wouldn't be here. Talk to Him and LISTEN!"

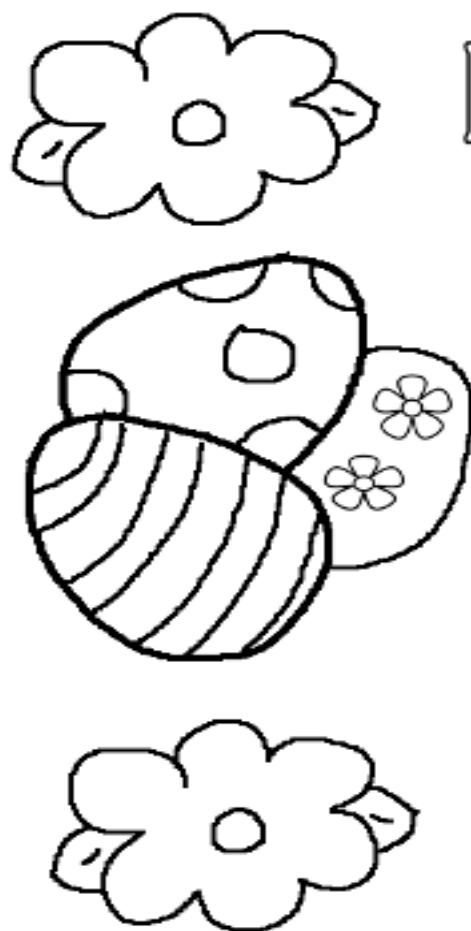


May God bless you at Easter,
 And keep you all year through.
 May God give you all the faith it takes,
 To make your dreams come true.
 May His love and wisdom always help,
 To guide you on your way.
 May His light shine down upon you now,
 To bless your Easter Day.



Easter Blessings

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter.



HIP HOP HOORAY FOR EASTER!

9 FILLER

R	C	S	S	R	S	P	I	Q	S	R	D	Y	B	C
E	U	I	L	U	S	R	O	B	A	N	L	L	A	D
T	G	O	L	D	E	N	E	B	S	D	U	L	B	G
S	E	F	L	R	P	G	B	W	Y	E	S	E	Y	T
A	M	A	C	O	G	I	C	A	O	N	M	J	A	U
E	J	U	H	Y	T	M	D	C	A	L	P	A	V	S
J	U	V	O	S	P	N	P	E	H	X	F	N	G	P
Q	F	Z	C	N	U	Y	B	O	E	I	J	L	B	R
H	J	M	O	S	T	E	K	S	A	B	C	U	T	I
N	U	L	L	G	E	G	G	S	O	G	N	K	E	N
P	A	N	A	I	P	M	J	T	E	N	L	N	S	G
J	S	H	T	B	U	J	K	P	Y	W	G	Q	G	V
X	O	K	E	D	E	N	Q	L	L	J	E	S	B	I
G	W	U	Y	Y	E	Y	P	E	M	H	U	Y	I	R
H	W	I	Y	D	N	A	C	K	B	A	Z	J	M	U

BASKETS
 CANDY
 EASTER
 FLOWERS
 HUNT
 SPRING

BABY
 BUNNY
 CHOCOLATE
 EGGS
 GOLDEN
 RABBITS

BEANS
 CHICKS
 EGG
 GAMES
 JELLY
 SUNDAY

GRACE NOTES

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Holy Week Services

6:00 PM 4-2-26 Maundy Thursday Service (in Wesley Room)

Carry in dinner first

6:00 PM 4-3-26 Good Friday Service (in Sanctuary)

9:30 AM 4-5-26 EASTER SERVICE

(Please ask a friend or relative if they would like to attend one of our services)



Church Information

Please check the bulletin board outside the church office. The monthly church calendar as well as Worship participants and counters will be posted there. Please let Pattie Mumma know if you would like to participate in any positions for the month.



April 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p><i>1</i></p> <p><i>10 BS</i> <i>11:45 CHOIR</i> <i>6 PM WEST</i> <i>END MT.</i></p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p><i>6 PM</i> <i>MAUNDY</i> <i>THURS</i> <i>SERVICE</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p><i>6 PM GOOD</i> <i>FRI SER-</i> <i>VICE</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p>
<p><i>5:30</i></p> <p><i>EASTER</i> <i>SERVICE</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p><i>7 PM MENS</i> <i>BS</i></p>	<p><i>7</i> <i>11 SOAP</i> <i>MAKING</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p><i>10 BS</i> <i>11:45</i> <i>CHOIR</i></p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p><i>6 PM ALL</i> <i>CHURCH</i> <i>MT</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p>
<p><i>12</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p><i>7 PM MENS</i> <i>BS</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p><i>10 BS</i> <i>11:45</i> <i>CHOIR</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i></p>
<p><i>19</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p><i>7 PM MENS</i> <i>BS</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p><i>12 WOMEN</i> <i>OF FAITH</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p><i>10 BS</i> <i>11:45</i> <i>CHOIR</i></p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p><i>MEN'S</i> <i>EMMAUS</i> <i>WALK</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p>
<p><i>26</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p><i>7 PM MENS</i> <i>BS</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p><i>7 PM NA</i></p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p><i>10 BS</i> <i>11:45</i> <i>CHOIR</i></p>	<p><i>30</i></p>		