

# The Grapevine



## PASTOR SEARCH

### Trust in God's plan

Pastor Greg announced on Sunday, April 26 to the congregation his calling from God to move on to Kenton Alliance Church.

His last day with us will be July 20.

God has blessed Cove Spring Church with Pastor Greg. We are trusting God's plan for our church, and for Pastor Greg, Amy, and Graham. Let's show the Morrow family our appreciation over the next few months. Cove Spring Church has been very blessed, and we are extremely thankful for the Morrow Family and what they mean to us.

Church Moderator Tom Wallace has put together a search committee of volunteers that will begin the process next week. Please see page 5 for more info.

### Who Shall Separate Us?

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*

*Shall trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, or sword? As it is written:*

*"For your sake we face death all day long;*

*we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. — Romans 8:35-39*

This month's Scripture reminds us of what truly matters most in life: we are in Christ, and we are loved by God. No matter what we face—whether disappointment, hardship, loss, or uncertainty—nothing can ever separate us from God's love. His love for us is constant and unbreakable in Christ.

This month, I want to challenge you in your prayer life to simply sit with this reality. Take time to quiet your heart and turn your attention to the greatness of God and the depth of His unconditional love for you. Let that reality truly sink in. Allow it to reshape how you see everything else in your life—your fears, your struggles, and your circumstances. Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate you from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Faithfully, Pastor Greg

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## YOUTH DIRECTOR

Please see page 5 for a letter from the Youth Director, Michelle Robbins





## Joys and Concerns

### JOYS

- **Erik Fine - thank you to the congregation for praying for and for contributing to the meals served at the YGB livestock showmanship camp that he and his family helps with.**

### CONCERNS

- Pray for our Nation and our world
- Nevin Elleman - heart cath recovery
- Darla York - back surgery
- John Jess - in the hospital
- Jeannie Unger - in the hospital
- Gage Thompson (14 yr old) - cancer diagnosis
- Marilyn Rowe's brother
- Lucas Shellhaas-senior in HS in car accident -had hip surgery
- Nevin's sister, Carol -had a stroke
- Helen Allen- pancreatic cancer (Cheryl's Aunt)

### PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES WHO LOST LOVED ONES

- Kevin Gump's father, Richard Gump passed away
- The Family of Stan Terebinski (Amanda Fine's grandfather)

### Continued Prayer for:

Ruth Caldwell	Patricia Smith
Nevin Elleman	Patty Taynor
Kathy Shellhaas	Evelyn Siebring
Suzan Suber	Betty Trostel
Joy Lee	Harry Worley
Julie Kurtz	Ben Wilson

## Happy Birthday

Cornelius Clark, Emily Benham  
 Katie Paulus, Kaysen Jackson  
 Jane Jess, Jeannie Unger  
 Christina Freshour, Jill Gearhardt  
 Josiah Trostel, Bill Meyer  
 Luke Fulton, Levi Worthington  
 Baylor Clark, Adelyn Roeser  
 Katrina Gaskins, Tim Holzen  
 Beckham Boyer, Doug Armstrong  
 Zilyana Clark, Gemma Hess  
 Logan Greenlee, Anna Beth Douthit  
 Baine Clark, Darin Williams  
 Marie Douthit, Jenna Clark  
 Cheryl Jackson, Gwendolyn Manning  
 Caleb Staley

## Happy Anniversary

Katie & Tom DeMange  
 Katrina & Jack Gaskins  
 Tyler & Taylor Dunivan  
 Mackenzie & Kelly Horner

**Cove Spring Church Mission Committee:** The purpose is to provide financial support to non-profit organizations Miami and surrounding counties for them to be successful through charitable donations.

**REQUESTS-** submit the following information to Dan Sutherly (Committee Chair) before **June 1** to be reviewed at their Annual Selection Meeting.

- Name of church participant making request
- Name of charitable organization
- Charitable organization's local address
- Charitable organization's local phone number
- Reason this organization is important to you.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- MAY 10 – Mother’s Day
- MAY 12 – Women’s Fellowship, 10am
- MAY 12 – AED demonstration, 12pm
- MAY 17 – Honoring the Graduates
- MAY 17 – Communion
- MAY 25 – Memorial Day
  
- JULY 13 – 16 – Bible School, 10am – 12pm

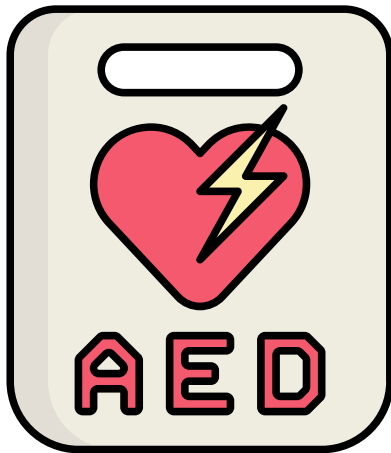
**CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**

**WE WILL BE HONORING THE GRADUATES ON SUNDAY MAY 17**  
 Please let us know any names of graduates for 8th grade, High School and College, so that we can recognize them on May 17



**CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING**

*There will be a vote after church MAY 17 to approve expenses to repair and repaint the church basement walls.*



**AED DEMONSTRATION - TUESDAY, MAY 12 AT 12PM**

We have a new AED (automated external defibrillator) device! Jenny from Cintas will do a demonstration on how to use this on Tuesday, May 12 at noon (at the church). We are asking for as many people that are available at that time to attend.

The demonstration will last one hour.

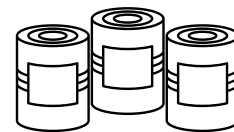
This is for the safety of our congregation! Thank you! Thank you to Tom Wallace for securing a grant from the Hartzell-Norris Charitable Trust to pay for the AED.

**WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP**

We are meeting at the church on Tuesday, **May 12, at 10am.**

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY**

We gather every **Wednesday at 12:30pm** in the church basement. All ladies are welcome to join us!



**FOOD PANTRY**

The Blessing Box /Food Pantry has been replenished thanks to the Elite Livestock 4H Club.

We are still accepting donations of non-perishable goods only. **NO Expired Items, please.**



### YOUTH GROUP

Many of the Youth Group members helped out at the Easter Egg Hunt. They helped hide eggs, set up and ran the games, helped with the Scavenger hunt and joined in on the fun.

*Next youth group meeting will be determined on a date and time to celebrate another great school year. Be looking out for a text from Michelle.*



### COVE SPRING KIDS

On Saturday, April 4th Many families joined in on the Fun at the annual Easter Egg hunt. Thank you to all the volunteers for your help in making this event special for the children of the church.

The month of April the kids learned that the seasons change but God's love never changes for us.



Dear Church Family,

After much prayer, reflection, and many heartfelt conversations with God, I have come to the difficult decision to step down from my role as Youth Director at Cove Spring Church at the end of 2026.

I am deeply grateful for the support the church congregation has shown me during my time in this role. The relationships

I have built with the youth, their families, and the church members mean more to me than I can fully express.

At this point in my life, I feel God leading me in a different direction. While it is hard to step down from this position, I trust that God will continue to guide and bless the youth ministry at Cove Spring and the amazing young people who are part of it.

This church has always held a special place in my heart and will continue to. I thank you for the last few years, as it has brought me closer to God, and filled my heart with joy to know that the future of this church is strong because of the youth who are here and want to keep building in their spiritual growth. Thank you again for this opportunity to serve as the Youth Director.

*With gratitude and heartfelt appreciation,  
Michelle Robbins*

# ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE YOUTH DIRECTOR



*\*Youth Director position: if you are interested, or know someone who would be interested in the Youth Director position, please email [covespringchurch@gmail.com](mailto:covespringchurch@gmail.com) for the job description or questions. We would like to offer the position to a Cove Spring Church member/attende before we open the position to the public.*

## Talk To Us Pastor search

The Pulpit Committee would like to hear from the congregation.

Please submit your comment card by the end of May.

You can e-mail to [covespringchurch@gmail.com](mailto:covespringchurch@gmail.com) or turn in your comment card to the boxes in each vestibule.

*Please submit your top 2 concerns or priorities or what you would like to see in a new pastor.*



Name \_\_\_\_\_

1.

2.

# MAY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 <i>Cove Spring Kids</i>	4  Deacon Bd. Mtg. 7pm	5	6 <i>Women's Bible Study 12:30</i>	7	8 <b>TGIF leave the church at 5pm</b>	9
10  <b>Mother's Day</b>	11	12 <b>Women's Fellowship 10 am</b> <b>AED device training, 12p</b>	13 <i>Women's Bible Study 12:30</i>	14	15	16
17 <b>Honor Graduates</b> <b>Communion</b> <i>Basement Reserved, 4pm</i>	18	19	20 <i>Women's Bible Study 12:30</i>	21	22	23
24	25 	26	27 <i>Women's Bible Study 12:30</i>	28	29	30
31	<b>Memorial Day</b>					

Everyone should be quick to listen,  
slow to speak,  
and slow to become angry,  
because human anger does not  
produce the righteousness that God desires.

James 1:19-20



Church Moderator Tom Wallace called the regular Church Business Meeting to order at 7 pm and opened with the Lord's Prayer. Eleven members were present. Minutes were published from the January Business Meeting in the February Newsletter and they have been available in each vestibule for review. Tom Wallace asked for approval of the minutes as distributed. A motion was made to accept the January minutes by Betsy Staley. Ann Horner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Committee reports:**

**Treasurer:** Dan Sutherly distributed the account balances and reviewed the church finances. He explained that we had a loss for the first quarter, due to the expense of repairs to keep the bats out of the belltower. A motion was made by Marilyn Rowe to approve the Treasurer's report. Ann Horner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Finance Committee:** Included in Treasurer's Report.

**Deacon Board:** Betsy Staley reported that Michelle Robbins submitted her letter of resignation as the Youth Director, effective at the end of 2026, unless the position is filled by September, when youth activities resume after summer break. The deacons are planning to meet with Michelle in order to update the job description and will form a search committee. Dan Sutherly suggested that the position be offered to the church body before opening it up to the public. The deacons are also working to form a medical team who are trained to handle medical emergencies.

**Pastor's Report:** No report.

**Security Team:** Joe Shellhaas reported that Dean Vincent has joined the team and they now have 8 members. He shared that the current AED has expired and the cost of a new battery is \$500, however, our current model will no longer be supported after this year. We received a grant from the Troy Foundation in 2018 to purchase the current AED machine. Joe will call the company to discuss other options. Tom Wallace asked for a proposal to be given to him by next Tuesday, in case we move forward with applying for a grant. Dan will look up the cost from original model.

**Trustees:** R.J. Benham (not present) reported to Betsy Staley, who shared that Jeremiah Long made plumbing repairs to men's restroom toilet. Matt Howell is meeting with a contractor to get an estimate for fixing the cracks in the basement wall. The parsonage roof was repaired by CareyCo.

**Flower committee:** No report.

**Youth Group:** Michelle Robbins reported that the youth group raised over \$700 from delivering Christmas cards and those funds were used to purchase groceries for 12 local blessing boxes. There were 14 teenagers who attended the "Lock-Into Jesus" themed lock-in. The youth members also helped facilitate games at the Easter Egg Hunt. They are planning a trip to the Pickleball Plex in May.

**Cove Spring Kids:** Michelle Robbins shared that they are continuing their monthly meetings, averaging about 10 attendees. Jackie Thase-Burch, along with Gary and Jeannie Unger have been volunteering to help watch the younger children. The Easter Egg Hunt was very successful. Plans are in the works for this summer's Vacation Bible School, which is tentatively scheduled for July.

**Music Committee:** Barbara Fulton reported that she is scheduling the summer special music. She is asking for suggestions or volunteers.

*continue on next page*

**Audio-Visual Team:** No report.

**Missions Committee:** Dan Sutherly reported that the committee will convene in June to determine how to appropriate the missions budget. Anyone with recommendations should reach out to a committee member before the meeting. Michelle Robbins will inquire about how many Viking Bags will be needed next year, so those numbers can be adjusted accordingly. Michelle also reported that the Viking Bags are now being delivered directly to the school (rather than the church), making the process much more efficient. She said the administrators and school counselors have been very helpful.

**Church Secretary:** Betsy Staley shared that they will be honoring all of the graduates in May. If you know of someone who is graduating, please notify Jeannie Unger or Sandy Swigart.

**Blessing Box:** No report.

**Women's Fellowship:** Jill Benham reported that the Women's Fellowship hosted the Miami East High School Girls' Basketball Team in the church basement for a team dinner and provided a taco bar. They are continuing to cut jeans for rugs and they sold several items at the rummage sale.

**New Business:**

- Update on changes to insurance coverage: Michelle Robbins shared that the policy has been written and they are ready to move forward with the finger printing process. They are waiting for the deacon meeting to determine specific details. She has already reached out to parents and volunteers about getting reimbursed. The committee submitted the policy to the insurance company and our coverage has been increased. Now, we need to follow through and make sure that every volunteer who is in contact with children are fingerprinted and approved.

Barbara Fulton made a motion to close the meeting. Joe Shellhaas seconded the motion.

The next business meeting will be held on July 14, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

Church Moderator Tom Wallace adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Submitted by: Heather Gilliland