

The Grapevine

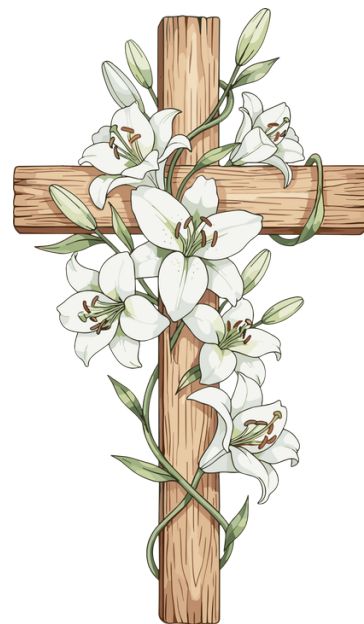


There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. – John 19:18

We are now deep in the Easter season, a time when our thoughts naturally turn to the crucifixion of Jesus. I once read where an author pointed out something profound: God often deepens our understanding of Jesus' crucifixion by inviting us into moments of self-giving love. In other words, we come to comprehend the cross more fully through two essential steps.

First, we must intentionally say “yes” to the opportunities God places before us to practice self-giving love.

Second, we must pause afterward to reflect on how those moments point us toward the even greater self-giving love God has shown us in Christ.



Every day, God presents us with such opportunities, often in ordinary, everyday ways. It might be the weary teacher who longs to head home at the end of a long day, yet chooses to stay and offer extra help to a struggling student. Or the exhausted spouse who craves nothing more than quiet rest, but sets that aside to listen attentively when their partner needs to talk. These small, daily invitations to give of ourselves are God's gentle way of drawing us closer to the heart of the cross. When we respond with a willing “yes,” our hearts become more open to understanding what Jesus did for us.

But saying yes is only the beginning. We also need to reflect. Awhile back, I had my evening carefully planned—something I was really looking forward to. Then an opportunity arose to set those plans aside and help someone in need. I noticed how difficult it felt to let go of my own desires, even for just a few hours. Then my mind turned to Jesus, who gave up far more—He gave up His very life.

My prayer this Easter season is that each of us would say yes to these invitations, reflect on their deeper meaning, and in doing so, grow in our awe and appreciation of Jesus' crucifixion—the ultimate act of self-giving love poured out for us. May it move us not just to understand the cross, but to live in grateful response to it.

Faithfully, Pastor Greg

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IMPORTANT DATES

MAR 2 – Deacon Bd. Mtg. 7pm
 MAR 7 – Men's Bible Study, 8am
 MAR 8– DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
 MAR 8–Communion
 MAR 8–Cove Spring Kids
 MAR 10–Ladies Lunch at Top Hat
 MAR 15–Blessing of the Farmers
 MAR 15–Church Basement reserved, 4pm
 MAR 17–Youth Group –Fletcher Food
 Pantry, 4:45pm
 MAR 28 – Church reserved for funeral
 MAR 29 – PALM SUNDAY

COVE SPRING KIDS

MAR 8 - Cove Spring Kids, meeting after church until 11:45am.

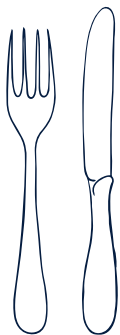
Cove Spring Kids is for Pre-K through 5th grade. Please join us!

PARENT'S BIBLE STUDY**MAR 8 - After church**

All parents are welcome. This group meets during the same time as Cove Spring Kids.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - LUNCH AT TOP HAT**

All ladies are invited to a time of food and fellowship on Tuesday, **March 10, at the Top Hat Sports Grill** in St. Paris. The plan is to **carpool from Bonnie Sutherly's. Meet at 11:00** at the end of her lane.

Please RSVP to Jill Benham, 937-266-4456, by Monday, March 9, if you can be there.

*Confirmation classes
started FEB 22*

*New Members
Baptisms
and Confirmations
will be held on
MARCH 29
during church
service*



*Please let Pastor Greg
or the church office
know if you are
interested in joining
Cove Spring Church*

**NEW MEMBER
RECEPTION, MARCH 29**

Please join us after church in the basement on Palm Sunday for fellowship and a time to greet and welcome the new members of our church. Coffee, juice, donuts will be available





Joys and Concerns

JOYS

- *The Miami East Girls Basketball Team enjoyed the team meal provided by our Church on Feb. 11. Thank you to everyone who helped!*

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

- Susie Everheart—cancer treatment
- Joy Lee – cancer surgery recovery
- Bill Hamiel – heart cath
- Donna (friend of Tom Roeser) diagnosed with lung cancer
- Kyle Larson – home & waiting on test results
- Cindy (Doug Burch's sister) hospitalized with cardiac issues
- Cyndi Rose – recovering well from surgery
- Evelyn Siebring - is improving and moved to a nursing home closer to family
- James – Dick Hill's cousin

Please pray for the families that have lost loved ones in February:

- The family of Carol Sweet
- The family of Kenny Schaefer

Continued Prayer for:

Ruth Caldwell, Nevin Elleman, Lee Harrison, Kathy Shellhaas, Suzan Suber, Betty Trostel, Patricia Smith, John Jess, Zach Hodges, Patty Taynor

Happy Birthday

Ella Hershberger, Dan Danielson
 Danielle McMaken, Mark Staley
 Debbie Faulder, Jennifer Bowman
 Katie Clevenger, Elizabeth Robbins,
 Pastor Greg Morrow
 Jackson Stevens, Matt Gearhardt
 Sharon Luttrell, Jamie Long
 Clayton Sprinkle, Ronda Hershberger
 Sarah Walters, Kyle Greenlee
 Caleb Greenlee, Betsy Staley
 Elizabeth Freshour, Ed Ashworth
 Haley Matheny, Eris Worthington
 Andrew Miller, Kim Harbison,
 Tom Wallace, Kathryn Kingrey



Happy Anniversary

Tim & Sharon Holzen
 Doug & Melanie Benham
 Nevin & Donna Elleman

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

April 11

Contact Julia S.
for more
information



donations needed

**YOUTH
GROUP**

MAR 17 - The Youth Group will be volunteering at the Fletcher Food Pantry, from 4:45 - 7pm. Please contact Michelle Robbins if your child plans to attend.

Youth group is for Jr High & High School age youth. Please join us!

YOUTH GROUP LOCK-IN

On Feb. 15th, fifteen teens joined together at the church lock-in for a night to be Locked-in on God's LOVE. The youth did an Escape Room as their Bible study for the night, played team building games, a STEM skiing activity, and their favorite game of F.E.A.R. there were lots of laughs, fellowship, and of course tired eyes because of all the Fun that was had. All of this was made possible because of the volunteers that helped throughout the evening and the next morning.





MARCH 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Deacon Bd Mtg 7pm	3	4 Women's Bible Study 12:30	5	6	7 Men's Bible Study 8am
8 Communion Cove Spring Kids DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	9	10 Women's Fellowship All ladies invited! Meet at Bonnie's at 11am	11 Women's Bible Study 12:30	12	13	14
15 Blessing of the Farmers Basement Reserved, 4pm	16	17 Youth 4:45pm Fletcher Food Pantry	18 Women's Bible Study 12:30	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Women's Bible Study 12:30	26	27	28 Church Reserved for Carol Sweet's Celebration of Life
29 PALM SUNDAY New Member Reception	30	31				



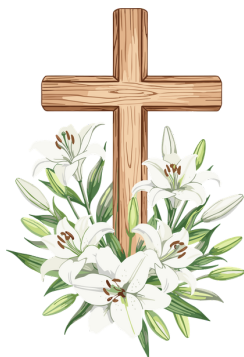
"They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!' -John 12:13





APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Women's Bible Study 12:30	2 Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7pm	3 Good Friday Service, 7pm at Lostcreek Memory Barn	4 Easter Egg Hunt 10:30am
5 Sunrise Service at Lostcreek Memory Barn 7 am Easter Service 9:30am	6 Deacon Bd Mtg 7pm	7	8 Women's Bible Study 12:30	9	10	11 Rummage Sale
12 Cove Spring Kids	13	14 Women's Fellowship Church Business Mtg 7pm	15 Women's Bible Study 12:30	16	17	18
19 Basement Reserved, 4pm	20	21	22 Women's Bible Study 12:30	23	24	25
26 General Fund Offering	27	28	29 Women's Bible Study 12:30	30		



1 Peter 1:3:

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"