

Getting Ahead Volunteer (Thursday Evenings)

Support program directors Lori Miller and Haley Trueblood.

Share a meal. Build relationships. Encourage participants as they reflect on poverty's impact, build personal resources, set SMART goals, improve communication skills, and work toward long-term stability.

Getting Ahead is a community that supports and challenges participants as they envision a better future for themselves and their families.

Contact: Lori Miller

transformers@gobinumc.org

Summer Enrichment Program

For five weeks, approximately 65 children participate in enrichment activities focused on fine arts, science, sports, social skills, and more.

Each child receives breakfast and lunch daily, along with a weekend food package on Fridays.

Contact: Carol Miller

goldie21677@gmail.com

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Fifth Week in Lent: *Sunday*

Prayer: Reforming God, I can get fixated on following the rules. I can get fixated on purity. But instead of emphasizing retribution, you emphasize mercy. Instead of emphasizing religious perfection, you emphasize justice. Instead of emphasizing rigidity, you emphasize faithfulness. Help me to hear the truth in this message. Help me release the pressure to be perfect, and to trust that faithful effort in the direction of mercy, justice, and love is the call you place on my life. In all things, I hope to move closer to you. Amen.

Jesus tells the Pharisees that the most important part of the law is not simply following the rules, but enacting justice, mercy, and faithfulness (Matthew 23:23). What does this interpretation teach you about our faith?

Good news mantra: I am rooted in what matters most.

Daily Lenten Devotional Cards and a Devotional Booklet can be found on our website!

www.gobinchurch.org/devotionals



rooted in justice, mercy,
& faithfulness

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

Please take the opportunity to fill out the Prayer and Gratitude Card, along with a Connection Card. You'll be invited to place them in the offering tray later in the service.

ENTRANCE

Prelude

Jill Dombrowski

Introit

Bells of Gobin

Welcome

Centering

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome to the weary and the worn.

People: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

Leader: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

People: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

Leader: Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

People: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

Leader: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

People: This is God's house.

Leader: You can make yourself at home here.

People: Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

Opening Prayer

UMH #133

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Eleanor Howard

First Reading

Matthew 23:23

After the Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

People: Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Leader: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

People: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Leader: I wait for the LORD; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

People: my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

People: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Gospel Lesson

John 8:2-11

Silence follows. Then the People stand as they are able.

After the Gospel, the Pastor says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Alisa Isaacs-Bailey

Prayers of the People

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

Invitation

MISSION & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Loving God by Loving Neighbor — Through Personal Relationship
At Gobin, we believe care is not abstract.

It is personal. It is relational. It is embodied presence.

Each of these opportunities reflects our commitment to walk alongside others — listening, encouraging, and building community.

Women's Jail Ministry

Tuesday evenings at the Putnam County Jail

Spend time with women who are incarcerated — showing love, hearing stories, and simply being present.

Contact: Lisa Trigg

lisatrigg46135@gmail.com

Gobin Advocates for PROP (Post Release Opportunities Program)

A partnership with Family Support Services

When women are released from incarceration, they need consistent support. Advocates assist with transportation (appointments, shopping), job applications, technology, community connections, and sometimes accompany them to worship.

Contact: Barbara Jackson

bjackson@iu.edu

Kids Hope Mentor

Make a difference in the life of a child.

Kids Hope USA matches one child with one mentor for one hour each week during the school day. Gobin mentors partner with students at Deer Meadow Primary School and Tzouanakis Intermediate School.

Contact: Carol Miller

goldie21677@gmail.com

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CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If you or someone you know is ill, injured, or otherwise in need of prayer or visitation, please fill out a prayer card, or let the pastoral staff or church office know. Jai will work to keep us connected.

Here are members of our Gobin connection who need prayer & comfort at this time:

Margot MacCracken, Brandie Sitton, Andrea Insley, Ashlee Vitz, Sandy Miller, Katie Isaacs-Bailey, Jim & Windy Watt, Luke & Sherry DeJaynes, Larry Rider, Ann Hansen, Marcia Linville, Matt Fruits, Heather Cantonvine, Kids Hope mentors & students, Valyrian residents, residents of the Putnam Co. Jail, Kyan, Vivi, Treasure, Yun Ling, Ajaypal Singh and all ICE detainees in the Clay Co Detention Center

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please fill out a prayer request card or send an email to prayers@gobinumc.org

OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

You may have noticed the votive candles near the entrance to the sanctuary. We invite you to take one and join Wednesday morning prayer from 7:45-8am wherever you are. If you wish to have a candle, but are not able to come to the church, contact us and we will arrange to have someone bring it to you.

WAYS TO GIVE

- Make checks payable to Gobin Church
- Text “Gobin” to 73256
- Online at www.gobin.live/give
- Scan the QR code



Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,
we love to live our lives by the rules.
We love clear answers.
We love right and wrong.
We love swift justice.
We love to pick up stones,
but you show us another way.
You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation.
You prioritize mercy over legality.
You prioritize people over tradition.
You prioritize love over everything.
Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters.
Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you.
Forgive us. Soften our hearts.
Root us in mercy, justice, and love.
With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
**Our God is a God of mercy.
Our God is a God of compassion.
Our God is a God of grace.
We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way.
Thanks be to God for yet another second chance. Amen.**

Passing the Peace

Offering

Offertory

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye Heavenly Host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song

“Let Us Remember”

Insert

SENDING FORTH

Benediction

Postlude

Jill Dombrowski

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP UPDATE

As we enter this most sacred season of the Christian year, we invite you into a full and meaningful Holy Week journey at Gobin Church.

Because of the many opportunities for worship throughout the week—Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—we will gather as one unified congregation on the Sundays that frame Holy Week.

Palm/Passion Sunday – March 29

ONE Combined Service at 10:00 AM

(Mark 11:1–11)

The Good News Is... Inspiring Us to Act

Easter Sunday – April 5

ONE Combined Service at 10:00 AM

(Matthew 28:1–10)

The Good News Is Alive in the World

Rather than our usual two-service schedule, these “bookend” services invite us to come together as one Gobin family—beginning and ending Holy Week in shared worship, while making space for the depth and movement of the story throughout the week.

We look forward to walking this journey together.

Holy Week:

Wednesday (*April 1*): Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM @ St. Andrew’s

Maundy Thursday (*April 2*): 7:00 PM at St. Andrew’s

Good Friday (*April 3*): 7:00 PM at Gobin

Holy Saturday (*April 4*): 8:30 PM Starts at Gobin, ends at St. Andrew’s

Don’t forget - one more **Taizé Service**
Wednesday, March 25, at 6:30 PM at Gobin