



**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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April 12, 2026

Sermon Series: *Stories That Matter*

**Greeting**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

"Unless we see the mark of the nails and put our hand in his side, we will not believe."

**People: Our believing is an act of faith.**

I have seen the risen Christ!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

**Prelude** 'Prelude in C Major' – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*The Light of Christ Enters the Sanctuary*

**Introit "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"**

**1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia! Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

**4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

**5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia! Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!**

**6. King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia! Everlasting life is this, Alleluia! Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia! Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!**

### **Call to Worship (responsive)**

Leader: Easter people, Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Christ *is* risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up: How do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

**People: Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

Leader: We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

**People: Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

Leader: Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's saving work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**People: We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

### **Opening Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

**1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.**

**2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

**4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

### **Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**God of the risen Jesus, we praise you for the great love that you have shown to redeem us by sending your Son, Jesus. Help us today to embrace the New Life that the resurrected Christ is giving us. A Life beyond our doubts, faith over fear, courage over confusion, belief over disbelief, and trust to follow your guidance. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of resurrected Jesus in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose. Amen.**

### **Children's Message**

#### **Acts of the Apostles: Acts 2:14a, 22-32**

#### *God fulfills the promise to David*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

### **Psalter: Psalm 16**

*A reading from the psalms*

Fullness of joy

Leader: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

**People: I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."**

Leader: As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.

**People: Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;  
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.**

Leader: The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

**People: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
I have a goodly heritage.**

Leader: I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**People: I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Leader: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

**People: For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

Leader: You show me the path of life.

**People: In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

*New birth to a living hope*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*Here ends the reading of the Word.*

### **Gospel Hymn "Surely the Presence of the Lord"**

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace.**

**I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of the Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. Amen.**

### **Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31**

*A reading of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to*

*Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace be with you.**"

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "**Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.**"

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.**"

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "**Peace be with you.**"

Then he said to Thomas, "**Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.**"

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "**Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.**"

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: "The word of God for the people of God."

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Historical Background, UMH #302 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"**

For many in the English-speaking world, Easter Day is associated with singing "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" by Charles Wesley. Of the original eleven stanzas published under the title "Hymn for Easter Day" but most hymnals use only four, or sometimes as many as seven.

Wesley's hymn was inspired by "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," an anonymous translation from *Lyra Davidica* (1708) of part of a Latin hymn "Surrexit Christus hodie."

Wesley realized that the three stanzas of "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," published only three decades earlier, did not begin to cover the theological significance of the Resurrection.

Wesley will not allow us to relegate the Resurrection to historical recollection. Rather, it is a seismic occurrence at one time for all times. Each Easter, we retell the story and re-remember the experience of the Resurrection as if we were actually present. This kind of memory is known as *anamnesis*, a living memory with much more depth than a reminiscence. Indeed, *anamnesis* is a central part of communion prayers in the United Methodist Church tradition, where the birth, ministry, death, and Resurrection of Christ are recalled in preparation for receiving the elements.

### **Our second hymn is "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"**

**UMH #462, written by Louisa M.R. Stead. Please remain seated as we sing first and then learn about this hymn.**

**1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word; just to rest upon his promise, and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."**

#### **Refrain:**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!**

**2 O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood; and in simple faith to plunge me neath the healing, cleansing flood!**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!**

**3 Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease; just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!**

**I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, friend; and I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!**

From her childhood, the call to missionary service was the guiding motivation for Louisa M. R. Stead (c. 1850-1917). Born in Dover, England, and converted at the age of nine, Stead came to the United States in 1871, living in

Cincinnati. She attended a camp meeting in Urbana, Ohio, where she dedicated her life to missionary service. Ill health prevented her from serving initially. She married in 1875, and the couple had a daughter, Lily.

The major turning point in the family's life was when George Stead died in a tragic accident. The hymn, "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus" was inspired by this personal tragedy.

Soon after, Lousia and Lily left for the Cape Colony, South Africa, where Louisa worked as a missionary for fifteen years. She married Robert Wodehouse, a native of South Africa. Because of her health, the family found it necessary to return to the United States in 1895. Wodehouse pastored a Methodist congregation during these years until, in 1900, they returned to the mission field, this time to the Methodist mission station at Umtali, Southern Rhodesia (present day Zimbabwe).

While the exact date of the song is not known, Lousia Stead's hymn was first published in *Songs of Triumph* (1882). Perhaps the hymn might be best described as a mantra on the name of Jesus. Indeed, "Jesus" is sung twenty-five times if one sings all four stanzas and the refrain.

Stanza one is a simple statement of "trust in Jesus." The singer is invited to "rest upon his promise." The stanza ends with "Thus saith the Lord" – a phrase that appears 413 times in the Old Testament in the King James Version, and is a reference to God rather than Jesus.

Stanza two continues the theme of trust, drawing upon the "cleansing blood" of Jesus. The cleansing flood may find its biblical roots in Genesis 6-7, the account of Noah and the great flood, or perhaps the blood and water that flowed from the crucified Christ's side (John 19:34).

Stanza three stresses that one should die to "sin and self" by "simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace" in Jesus.

Stanza four is a personal witness by the author that she is "so glad I learned to trust thee." The final stanza concludes with "thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end."

The refrain establishes the Jesus mantra, singing his name five times, the last strengthened by adding "precious Jesus." The prayer is for "grace to trust him more."

**Our third hymn is, "Breath on Me Breathe of God," UMH #420 written by Edwin Hatch. Please remain seated as we sing first and then learn about this hymn.**

**1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

**2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

**4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.**

The simplicity of this profound hymn belies the education and knowledge of its author, Edwin Hatch (1835-1889).

Edwin Hatch was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, Hatch ministered in an Anglican parishes, taught at Trinity College in Quebec where he taught classics, served as Rector of Quebec High School, and much, much more.

In spite of Hatch's scholarship, his one remaining hymn reflects both a profound simplicity and a deep knowledge of Scripture. Our hymn draws largely from John 20:21-22, following John's account of the Resurrection, for its inspiration: "**Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even, so send I you.'**" And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit.**" (RSV)

This passage in John correlates with Genesis 2:7 where "the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." Mr. Watson invokes the Holy Spirit to come into his life and transform it using the breath of God (Genesis 2:7) as a source for renewal.

Mr. Watson also finds echoes of John 3:3-8, especially verses 5-7: "Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.'"

Summarizing the message of the hymn, Mr. Watson suggests that the breath of God "brings new life and love, purity and obedience, surrender and inspiration, and finally eternal life..."

#### **Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

The third day he arose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

### **Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

### **Pastoral Prayer** (responsive)

Guiding God, in a doubting world, keep us in faith that we may have life.

We pray for the church universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that we may honor and pass on the great inheritance we have received.

**People: Keep us in faith that we may have life.**

We pray for Mother Earth, that we may touch her wounds with healing care and love.

**People: Keep us in faith that we may have life.**

We pray for the whole world, its nations, its leaders, and its people, that your wisdom and peace may prevail.

**People: Keep us in faith that we may have life.**

We pray for all those in need, the suffering, the oppressed, the ill, the dying, and all those who care for them.

**People: Keep us in faith that we may have life.**

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.

**People: Keep us in faith that we may have life.**

Blessed are you, O God, who through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, and in the community of the Holy Spirit, gives us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **Call to Confession**

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other.

### **Prayer of Confession** (responsive)

**Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:**

**The fear that stifles us,**

**The prejudice that impedes us,**

**The ignorance that hinders us,**

**The doubt that plagues us.**

**Help us, we pray, that we will**

**Find courage in unlikely places,**

**Move to those places where love is needed,**

**And have faith that you are with us.**

**This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance** (responsive)

**Pastor:** Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

**People: Alleluia! Amen.**

### **Passing of the Peace** (responsive)

**Pastor:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

Let our hosannas to the One who brings liberation take form in our tithes and offerings.

### **Offertory Voluntary** 'Prelude in G Major' – Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

### **Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Offertory Prayer (unison)**

**Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by your grace, you call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept now these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. Let our giving testify to your Resurrection power and shape us into a community where wounds are not hidden but held with love. In Christ, who breathes peace upon us, we pray. Amen.**

One of the most popular of 20th century songs is the hymn, “He Lives,” written by Alfred Ackley in 1933 as a response to a question, Why should I worship a dead Jew? And an announcement from a preacher on the radio who said, “You know, folks, it really doesn’t make any difference to me if Christ be risen or not. As far as I am concerned, His body could be as dust in some Palestinian tomb. The main thing is, His truth goes marching on!”

Ackley’s wife told him it was time for him to do what he did best — write a song — and then he would feel better. In his study, Ackley re-read the Resurrection account from Mark’s Gospel. A few minutes later, he put music to the words, and answered the question, “Why should I worship a dead Jew?”

### **Closing Hymn UMH “He Lives”**

**1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near. He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

**2. In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair. I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last. He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

**3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind. He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.**

**Postlude ‘Fanfare’ – Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)**  
*The Light of Christ goes into the world.*

### **Charge**

Let the same mind be in you that is in Christ Jesus, or Lord. Look not to rewards and celebrity for your good deeds. Do unto others what will nurture God’s will for them. Listen to the word of the Lord, and believe.

### **Benediction**

May God bless you with open hearts to recognize the resurrected Christ in our midst and with the courage to reach out and touch the wounds of our neighbors, believing that we will find Resurrection in the meeting of our vulnerability.

**Grace Notes**  
**April 12, 2026**

**Mission Statement: *Glorify God ~ Draw All to Christ ~ Edify & Equip***

**From the Pastor:** Can Christians believe in the power of Resurrection without the reality of Resurrection? You might think that’s ridiculous, but do you remember Thomas? Thomas’ story prepares us for both: the power and reality of the Resurrection. As people of a living God, we can’t have one without the other. We may have issues with Thomas, dare I say Doubting Thomas, in our hearts I think we know that Thomas’ reaction was real. How often do we worship a resurrected Christ yet we don’t expect that same Christ to resurrect our hearts, minds, churches, communities, nation, and world?

*Pastor Dionne*

**Membership Reports:** As faithful members of Grace UMC, we faithfully strive to remember our membership vows to support the church by upholding the church with our **prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.**

**Prayers** - Persons listed on Joys & Concerns will appear for two weeks. Please fill out a request card if you would like your request shared on Sunday morning and listed in Grace Notes. You may call or email the church office Monday thru Wednesday (**by 10am**) with those you would like to include or remove. If a person requires additional time, or has a long-term illness, request they be added to the "Long-term" list. The joys and concerns will list first name and last initial; no details will appear.

### Joys & Concerns

**Mar. 29:** Peggy R., Ruth T., Jane H., Tim B.

**Mar. 22:** All spoken and unspoken

**Prayers (Long-term):** John S., Robin G., Lucy K.; Bill S., Erin B., Doris K.; Bill H., Wendi C., Margie C., Bev. B., Connie M.; Vickie S., Rhonda and Tony W., Harriett H.; Mike and Angel P.; Shelby B., Jane H.

### The Daily Scripture Lessons April 12 – April 18

**Sunday:** Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

**Monday:** Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20;

**Tuesday:** Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28;

**Wednesday:** Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42;

**Thursday:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12;

**Friday:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16;

**Saturday:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14;

**Presence** – Join us for worship in person or via Facebook Live.

Worship: 68 (Maundy Thurs. 22)    Sunday School: 0    Facebook Live: 275    Ladies T4U:

**GIFTS** – Your gifts offer HOPE to Grace Church and the community. When we tithe, we follow the example given to us in Genesis 28:10-22 by giving at least 10% to the **General Fund**. United Methodists value the tithe as a benchmark for giving, one we encourage our members to move toward and, once achieved, move beyond. We believe that there is joy in giving, and the greater the generosity the deeper the joy. The **General Fund** is responsible for ensuring all the needs of the church are met; this includes all of the ministries, missions, and operational costs of Grace Church. *The One Board (as of May 14, 2023) asks that all tithes and offerings be placed in the General Fund except those for T.H.R.I.V.E., Micah's Backpack & Building for the Future. Separate envelopes are provided for these ministries and located by the lectern. This is the only way to donate to these ministries.* This will allow Grace Church to move towards fully funding all ministries and missions of the church. This will bring us up to date with current UMC budget practices.

**General Fund: \$3,298.25**

**Endowment Withdrawal: \$**

**Estate Gift:**

**Music Fund: \$0.00**

**Needed for Weekly Budget: \$4,500**

**Building for the Future: \$130.00**

**T.H.R.I.V.E. & Micah's Backpack: \$375.00**

### Service and Witness:

**Ushers:** J.C. Martin, Bill Thompson, Donna and Roy Shoop, Madison Shoop, Lucas Shoop, Ella Sholty, Justus Osuji

**Greeter:** Daisy Wolfensberger

**Lay Readers:** John Hess, Earlene Johnson, Sandy Kendall, Kurt Zimmerman

**Media Managers:** Donnie Bryan, Roy Shoop

**Choir:** Becca Bryan, Donnie Bryan, Patti Hull, Hannah Kamseuh, Polly Martin, Peace Osuji, Ryan Wetzel

**Congregational Care Committee/Communion Stewards:** Chris Jeter, Krista Zimmerman, Cindy Tedrick, Ruth Smith, Patti Hull, Helen Gilliam, Daisy Wolfensberger, Polly Martin, Rose Shank, Earlene Johnson, Sandy Kendall, Donna Bolinger, Amy Bryan, Becca Bryan, Jane Staley, Rhonda Weaver, Wanda Stouffer, Ruth Thompson, Pastor Dionne, Sonja Shearer, Cindy Swales, Patty Frazier, Caroline Jenkins and Vivienne, Margaret Hess

**T.H.R.I.V.E.** (Thankful, Hopeful, Revitalized, Intentional, Victorious, Educated). Continued needs are non-perishables, dry goods, feminine care products, hand soap, shower gel, razors, shave cream, individually wrapped paper towels and toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste/toothbrushes, laundry detergent, etc. Monetary donations are gratefully accepted, and please use the indicated envelopes located by the lectern. **Closet 712** Volunteers are always appreciated. Donations drop off is Monday -Thursday 10am-12pm., **spring and summer clothing ONLY**. Both T.H.R.I.V.E and the clothes closet are open on Saturday, **May 9, 2026**, 9:00 am – 11:00 am.

**Pastoral Care and Emergency Contact Information:** In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Dionne at (240) 347-2345 (cell), Facebook Messenger, or [pastordionne.hall@gmail.com](mailto:pastordionne.hall@gmail.com). The church office number is (240) 850-2934. Please inform the hospital and/or funeral home that Pastor Dionne is the Pastor at Grace. **The Pastor and church should be notified of any illness or death of a member or family member first.** The Pastor will confirm availability dates for Services of Death and Resurrection with the funeral home director.

### CALENDAR

**Sun., Apr. 12**

8:30 am    Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship is provided in Rider Hall

9:00 am    *Second Sunday of Easter*

<b>Mon., Apr. 13</b>	10:15 am	Sunday school for all ages
<b>Tues., Apr. 14</b>	12:00 pm	T4U Luncheon and meeting in Rider Hall
<b>Wed., Apr. 15</b>	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sat., Apr. 18</b>	1:30 – 3:00 pm	Pop-Up Pantry
<b>Sun., Apr. 19</b>	9:00 – 12:00 pm	Chicken, Waffles, and The Chosen
	8:30 am	Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship is provided in Rider Hall
	9:00 am	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
	10:15 am	Sunday school for all ages

**Tues., Apr. 21**  
**Wed., Apr. 22**  
**Sun., Apr. 26**

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  
1:30 – 3:00 pm Pop-Up Pantry  
8:30 am Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship is provided in Rider Hall  
9:00 am *Fourth Sunday of Easter*  
10:15 am Sunday school for all ages  
4:00 pm ***Organ Concert featuring Jonathan Leonard***