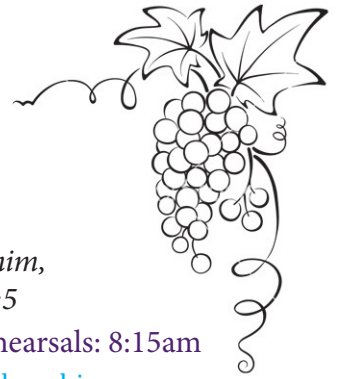




Gospel Grapevine April 2026



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

Sunday Worship Service: 10am | Life Application Classes: 9am | Music Rehearsals: 8:15am

Shepherd's Heart Fellowship
58362 Beech Road, Osceola, IN 46561
shfellowship@att.net; 574-679-4519

Check our Website: www.shfellowship.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/shfellowship
Subscribe to our YouTube channel: youtube.com/@shfellowship

Pastor Len Smith - EMAIL: lensmith@tkimail.com; 574-535-4269

HOLY WEEK

by Carol A. Taylor

Holy week is the week leading up to Easter, beginning with Palm Sunday and ending with Easter Sunday. It is a week devoted to commemorating Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), the Last Supper with His disciples (Maundy Thursday), His Crucifixion (Good Friday) and His resurrection (Easter Sunday).

Day One - Palm Sunday: Christ in the workplace – Philippians 2:5-11

When making a hire in the marketplace of choosing a team member, leaders look for many qualities, but attitude and character are at the top.

In Paul's appeal for unity to the church at Philippi, in Philippians 2:5-11, he gives the contemporary believer an advantage for excelling in the workplace. For the right chemistry, we must have the right attitude. Jesus humbled Himself to have the same likeness as a servant. If our King can give up His divine privileges for our sake, we cannot always expect to be treated as if we are on the tope tier. In fact, it must be the exact opposite. If we serve as Jesus humbly did, we place ourselves in a servant's posture - not above others.

If we exemplify the attitude and character of our Savior, we will reflect Christ in the workplace, and our life will make an eternal impact.



Day Two – Holy Monday – Our Betrayal, His redemption – Matthew 26:14-16

The chief priests and elders plotted together to kill Jesus, and they would have killed Him earlier, but they lacked opportunity. The crowds, fickle as they were, prevented them from carrying out their covert plan.

In Matthew's gospel, there's only one mention of Judas Iscariot before this, and it's in the list of the disciples here his name appears last, and (spoiler alert!) he is identified as the one who betrayed Jesus (Matthew 10:4). He heard Jesus' teaching, witnessed His

miracles, and even participated in His ministry. He was close to Jesus, but he wanted more.

By the time Judas went to the chief priests his course was set. He was ready to betray Jesus. Judas got his audience, and the chief priest got their agent. The exchange was thirty

pieces of silver, the same amount that Exodus 21:32 prescribes as recompense upon the death of a slave. This transaction defined his tragic life.

Thanks be to God; Christ transforms humanity's tragedy into a story of priceless redemption.

Day Three – Holy Tuesday – Persist in Expectancy – Isaiah 42:1-4

Isaiah 42:1-4 is a message for a suffering people. They were exiled, disappointed, and alone. Their suffering narrowed their focus and threatened to diminish their ability to see God at work, in the world around

them. The complaints they are for God were similar to ours when we feel disregarded and burdened by unrighteousness and injustice: What is God doing about our suffering? Our loss? Our disappointment?

This passage is a reminder to persist in the expectancy of righteousness and justice only the Spirit of God can bring. The hope God offers is constant, even if our lives don't seem to be, and the servant of the Lord was sent to bring the nations into conformity with the character of God.

Justice is the application and outworking of God's righteousness. When we are able to lift our eyes from ourselves, we can become workers of God's justice to other people and other nations. Our efforts become God-driven action and produce God-empowered results

Four – Holy Wednesday – Loving Christ more than a cause – Mark 14:1-11

Holy Wednesday is a crucial day in the events of Holy week. From Palm Sunday through Holy Tuesday, Jesus has been publicly performing significant actions and speaking startling works. These actions and words spiked the ire of Jesus' enemies, who – according to Mark 14:1 – “were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him.”

But they had no way to get at Jesus, protected as He was by the sympathies of the crowds. No way, that is, until one of His own resolved to betray him. Mark does not tell us what prompted Judas to betray Jesus. He mentions that chief priest promised Judas Money, but this was after he approached them, not before.

Jesus was an advocate for the poor. Yet, in this instance, He saw that the guests' focus on the poor detracted from their focus on him. The most important thing is to love Jesus. If you love Jesus, you will help the poor whom Jesus loved. But it is also quite possible that a cause – even a praiseworthy one like helping the poor – can lead you away from loving Jesus.

Perhaps this was the reason for Judas' betrayal. He loved a cause more than he loved Christ.

Day five – Maundy Thursday – The heart of Jesus – John 13:12-16

In the Great Hall of AGTS, a statue demands the attention of everyone who walks by. Cast in the stillness of bronze is a life-size depiction of Jesus washing the feet of Peter on

the night before his death.

Many of us are familiar with the scene from John 13; however, the candid image of Jesus kneeled over a bowl of water rinsing the feet of a weathered fisherman invokes reflection. Ultimately, what Jesus did for Peter He has done for us all.

Maundy Thursday invites us to remember this symbolic act. John 13:12-16 illuminates the heart of Jesus' action: that we have been called to do the same.

Luke's account of the Last Supper recalls a familiar argument between the disciples concerning who would be the greatest (Luke 22:24).



By washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus gives a context for the greatness we are to pursue. In our culture, it is easy to accept conflicting definitions of greatness, but Jesus' example serves as a guiding lodestar for our endeavors. In the Christian community, service done in love reflects the ministry and message of Jesus. Jesus does not shun us away from pursuing great things; He simply defines what great things look like in the Kingdom.

This Holy Week comes with the opportunity to more deeply understand Jesus' teaching and more closely follow His command to do as he has done (verse 15).

Day Six Good Friday – Through a Father's Eyes – Isaiah 53:1-5

God, our Father, listened to the pain and agony of Jesus being crucified for our transgressions. Not only did He not remove the pain and agony that was endured by His Son, but He actually invited it by the willingness of Jesus to take our place – to bear our sins upon His body. This is an act of love far beyond my comprehension.

While the sounds of that day had to be overwhelming, those sounds opened the doorway to sounds of victory for us just a few days later.

Day Seven – Holy Saturday – Between the cross and the empty tomb – Romans 6:3-11

The fragile space of waiting between the cross and the empty tomb caused the hearts of those who loved Jesus to feel the sting of death. When we grieve, we question everything and wrestle with the truth.

Saturday can hold the hurts, if it must, but Sunday proves that death is no match for our God. As believers, we cling to the truth tucked away in every line of this passage: Jesus was raised from the dead so we may walk in a newness that was purchased for us.

“We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Verse 4).

As the world watches and we eagerly look for His return, I pray we find ourselves thick in unity with our brothers and sisters and locking shields for the battles we find ourselves in at this time in our world. No longer slaves to sin & fear, we press on with the work God has called us to knowing that we can do this hard and holy work empowered from on high and wading in newness that brings vitality to tired bones.

Day Eight – Easter Sunday – the moment of a miracle – John 20:1-9

When I read the description of Mary’s visit to the tomb, and my eyes traverse the phrase “the stone had been taken away (verse 1),” I cannot help but hear the sound of Don Fraciso triumphantly singing, “He’s Alive.”

However, that imagery, that emotion, is not what Mary was experiencing. Mary approached the tomb while it was still dark, a fitting metaphor to her mental state. As she sees the stone and the empty tomb, the emotion Mary feels is like a punch in the gut. She runs frantically, sobbing, to those she knows will understand the pain of this moment. I imagine that as she ran, she questioned God.

Mary is not merely misunderstanding the circumstances; they overcome her. Peter & John likely share her

emotion as they run to the tomb. They do not run with excitement, but distraught with anger. This does not make sense. At the entrance to the tomb, John hesitates, but Peter is impetuous. They see the linens and realize this is not evidence of grave robbers.



For the first time, the penny drops for all of creation. This is what the Scriptures meant. This is the victory Jesus will win. Can it be? He’s alive? He’s alive. HE’S ALIVE!!

On this resurrection Sunday, you may be in the midst of circumstances you do not like or understand. Remember, Jesus wins the victors that seem impossible, and His resurrection has given us the victory that matters most.

I am looking forward to the different activities the church has planned starting with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday activities at 6:00 pm and then on Sunday we will have our Sunrise service and Easter breakfast with our regular service at 10 am.

Cindy Carlisle,
Leadership Team Chair

Music & Worship Ministry Team

As we approach Easter and our annual Sunrise Service, we’re reminded of the incredible hope found in the resurrection—Christ is risen! The music of this season helps us reflect on that truth, from the solemn hymns of Holy Week to the joyful praise of Easter morning. This Easter, come ready to worship, reflect, and enjoy some great fellowship with others as we eat breakfast together. May the music and comradery remind you that God is still bringing new life and new hope.

He is risen indeed!

We’re also praying for God to grow our team! If you feel led to serve—whether you sing, play an instrument, or would like to help behind the scenes—we would love to connect with you. **No experience is required, just a willing heart.**

Nicole Wilkins, Team Leader
Scott Hipsher, Rick Hipsher, Martha Lou Cary, and Steve Frick

2026 EASTER CELEBRATIONS

You are invited to join us in all of these special services & meals!



Love Feast - Thurs., April 2nd, 6:00pm

Our Love Feast includes a modest sop meal, songs, prayers, devotion, communion, and foot/hand washing. It not only offers a unique way to remember and honor Jesus at the Last Supper, but also allows us to humbly model Jesus' act of service to His disciples. It's a gathering of fellowship, love, and thanksgiving where we thank and praise Jesus for His sacrifice. "This do in remembrance of Me." (Luke 22:19)



BRBC Good Friday Service - 6:00pm

The Berean Reformed Baptist Church (located at SHF) welcome all to join them in this solemn service led by Pastor Kevin James, followed by the Lord's Supper in the fellowship hall.

Easter Sunday - April 5th

7:30am - Sunrise Service - "Jesus Appeared!"

A time to celebrate in special performances, sermonette, & lifted praise.

8:15am - Easter Breakfast

Biscuits & Gravy, scrambled eggs, sausage patties, fruit; apple/orange juice, coffee & tea

10:00am - "Don't Lose Your Footing!" Worship Service

(NO Life Application Classes)



**Worship with us or
watch services LIVE online
Sundays @ 10am**

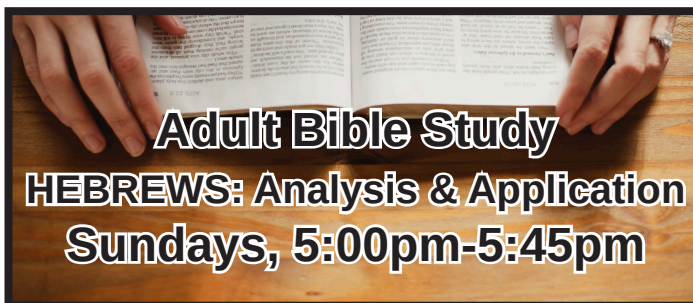
(send us your email to get reminders & links)

Prayer Meetings

Sundays, 6:00pm-6:30pm

A quiet half-hour of communal prayer.
In-person in the church library, or through
audio-only Zoom (email for link).

"Every believer was faithfully devoted to coming
together regularly for...prayer" (Acts 2:42).



HOBBY NIGHT

We will not meet in April.

Our next date will be May 1st.

Thanks, Tammy Victor



Leadership Team Meeting

In the 'Be One of Us' Classroom

Thurs., April 9th, 6:30pm

Men's Breakfast

In the Shepherd's Heart Fellowship Hall

Sat., April 11th, 9am

All Men welcome for breakfast & devotions.

Community Meal

Wed., April 22nd, 6pm

*Serving:
Chef Salad &
Breadsticks*



Please RSVP @ shfellowship.org/meal

Ladies' April Event

Sat., April 25th @ 11:30am



We will meet at church @ 11:30am to carpool to Teresa Smith's home for lunch at Noon. Please sign up at the church. Any questions, please let me know.

Thanks, Tammy Victor - Ladies' Ministries Leader

Friendship Celebration + Carry-In Lunch & Congregational Business Meeting

Bring a dish to share, invite a friend, stay after the service for food & fellowship, and contribute to the wonderful business of the ministries of God's church.

Sun., April 26th

REAL SERVICES SENIOR MEAL SITE

We welcome all Seniors 60 years and better to join our program and access daily nutritional meals while increasing your socialization.

(A person who is underage may attend with their age-eligible spouse present. They may not attend alone. A disabled dependent may attend with their age-eligible parent present.)

Meals are prepared fresh daily in the RS Kitchen.

Shepherd's Heart is open for this service each Monday-Friday, 10:00am-1:30pm, closed for holidays.

This is a donation-based program and your donation directly impacts the number of seniors we can help. We gratefully accept whatever you can comfortably afford.

To make a reservation, please call or email our Site director, Grace Brubaker:

(574) 674-6503, osceolans@realservices.org

Reservations must be made 2 days in advance.

We look forward to serving you!

FIRST-TIME REGISTRATION:

- 1) Print & fill out the front & back meal sign up form online as legible and complete as possible: www.realservices.org/meals-and-nutrition/senior-nutrition-sites/
- 2) Once the Nutrition Entry form is filled out, call the site director, Grace to make a reservation: (574) 674-6503, osceolans@realservices.org
- 3) Grace will ask when you would like to attend. You can join us as soon as 2 business days. If you speak with Grace on Monday, we can make a reservation for Wednesday, or if you speak to Grace on Friday, we can serve you on Tuesday.
- 4) You can bring the completed nutrition form with you, OR fill one out on-site the day of your first reservation.
- 5) Show up! If you need to cancel, we ask you call us as soon as possible so that we can find someone else to eat the meal, or if we have a 2-day notice, we can cancel the meal and prevent waste.



REAL SERVICES
Come to the table!

Suggested Donation: \$4.50

Our Site director, Grace Brubaker:

(574) 674-6503, osceolans@realservices.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	5 Your donation counts. Every donation makes a difference. We serve over 160,000 meals each year to seniors!	6 Chicken Pot Pie Over a Biscuit Corn Brownie	7 Meatloaf Mashed Potato/Gravy Peas Bread/Marg. Mixed Fruit Cup	8 Sausage Gravy over Biscuit Scrambled Eggs Diced Potatoes Banana	9 Sweet & Sour Chicken Over Rice Asian Blend Vegetables Bread/Marg. Fortune Cookie Pineapple Cup	10 Broccoli Cream Soup Deli Slider Sandwich Prince Charles Veg. Jello Cup	11
12 Hamburger Stroganoff w/Mushrooms Over Pasta California Blend Veg. Dinner Roll/Marg. Shortbread Cookie	13 Turkey Manhattan over Bread Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Strawberry Applesauce	14 Sausage, Green Bean & Potato Casserole Tomato & Zucchini Blend Dinner Roll/Marg. Warm Spiced Apples	15 Bruschetta Chicken Baby Bakers Vegetable Blend Bread/Marg. Peach Cup	16 Sloppy Joe On a Bun Baked Beans Mixed Vegetable Fruit Cup	17 Tuna Casserole Peas Dinner Roll/ Marg. Pudding Cup	18	
19 	20 Turkey Manhattan over Bread Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Strawberry Applesauce	21 Beef Stew Rice Broccoli Bread/Marg. Pineapple Cup	22 Glazed Chicken Red Skinned Potatoes Asparagus Bread/Marg. Nutty Buddy	23 BBQ Riblette On a Bun Cheesy Potatoes Carrots Peach Cup	24 Stuffed Baked Potato w/Taco Meat & Cheese Cauliflower Dinner Roll/Marg. Pear Cup	25 	
26 Ziti w/ Italian Sausage Italian Blend Vegetable Texas Toast Warm Spiced Peaches	27 Italian Marinated Chckn Roasted Diced Sweet Potatoes Broccoli Dinner Roll/Marg. Pineapple Cup	28 Polish Sausage on a Bun Mashed Potatoes Sauerkraut Warm Spiced Apples	29 Stuffed Pepper Soup Cauliflower Dinner Roll/Marg. Peaches	30 Stuffed Pepper Soup Cauliflower Dinner Roll/Marg. Peaches	31 		

Menu subject to change without notice. All meals are served with milk. Wasted meals are costly, please call to cancel. Food prepared for this establishment may contain or come into contact with milk, eggs, wheat, soy, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish. Please inform your site director of any food allergies.

Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team

On March 15th, we enjoyed a carry-in after Worship. There was an abundance of delicious food and after lunch we had a great time with a round of Trivia.

On April 5th we will be hosting a delicious Easter Breakfast at 8:15 after our Sunrise Service. Everyone is welcome.

On April 26th we will be having a carry-in after worship followed with our Spring Congregational Business Meeting.

God Bless,
Melba Beckman, Team Leader
Sally Whitmer, Tracey Gordy, & Cheryl Frick

HE LIVES!

by Pastor Len Smith

Over the last several months a buzz word in our country has become the word, "affordability," due to inflation. However, 93 years ago the unemployment rate had been increasing for several years. It had increased to 25% and real wages were decreasing as well as prices due to deflation. It was during the depths of the Great Depression in 1933 that Alfred H. Ackley wrote one of the most memorable hymns that celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The hymn was entitled simply, *He Lives*.

*I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men 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.*

*In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And tho my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading thru all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last.*

*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.*

The Chorus:

*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.*

There is a lot of theology in this Easter hymn. It records not only the resurrection of Jesus Christ but also the relationship that a Christian believer can enjoy with the Lord Jesus Christ during a time of economic prosperity or during a time of economic depression. It is a hymn of encouragement that looks forward to the second coming of Christ to our planet. This hymn speaks of praising the Lord Jesus Christ, hope, and the love of Jesus Christ. Moreover, it mentions salvation and sanctification. The Pietistic tradition of the Church of the Brethren is also preserved in the words, "He lives within my heart."

I believe that this hymn also serves as a spiritual examination for each of us as we anticipate Love Feast and Easter this year. How do we serve Jesus? Do we appreciate the Holy Spirit that Jesus sent to dwell within believers? Do we see how Jesus shows His love in this world? Do we believe that Jesus is leading us through the storms of life? Do we rejoice as we sing praises to Jesus? Do we walk with Jesus? Do we talk to Jesus in prayer? Finally, does our speech and conduct demonstrate that we know, He Lives?



Pastoral Relations Ministry Team

The church office is open Mon/Wed/Fri, 9am-Noon.

Pastor Len is available by appointment **Wednesday Evenings - Sundays**. Please call or email to schedule: lensmith@tkimail.com; 574-535-4269

Here is a preview of messages in April:

- 4/5 Sunrise: Mark 16:12-13 "Jesus Appeared!"
10am: Luke 24:36-48 "Don't Lose Your Footing!"
- 4/12 Psalm 18:1-6 "Dealing with Death"
- 4/19 Psalm 19:1-6 "What is God Really Like?"
- 4/26 Psalm 139:7-12 "Replacing Familiarity with Presence"

Vern Beckman, Team Leader
Nicole Wilkins & Nate Wilkins

Jesus at Easter

Poem by Ed Freel

They gathered for the Last Supper,
Jesus served the twelve men.
He washed their feet, even Judas Iscariot,
giving His service to make their amends.

Jesus prayed for Simon Peter,
who proclaimed he would die rather than deny
but before the rooster crowd three times,
Peter would disown Jesus, and then he would cry.

Jesus was mocked and beaten,
Pilate tried to release Him.
But the crowd wailed for Him to be crucified.
Pilot proclaimed, "I am innocent of the blood of
Him."

They led Jesus to Golgotha Hill,
to place Him on the cross.
They charged Him of being "King of the Jews,"
but that should not have placed Him on the cross.

Three hours of darkness prevailed over the land,
Jesus then gave up His spirit to God.
At that moment, the temple curtain was torn in
two.
Then the Centurion cried out, "surely He was the
son of GOD!"

Three days later, victory would come,
for Jesus had risen and GOD had won.
For even the prison guards couldn't secure the
tomb,
For GOD freed His one and only Son.

We can proclaim with a mighty voice,
that we know JESUS is Alive,
preparing a place in Heaven for us
to live eternally by his side.



Hands of the King

SEEKING AN ADDITION TO THE COMMITTEE

Jenn Adams will be stepping down as assistant leader of Hands of the King, so we are in need of some specific gifts for this ministry. We need your **behind-the-scenes administrative assistance!** We are seeking a caring individual who can be **sensitive**, extremely **confidential**, and who has a **heart for our community**. We need someone who can help in **discernment for care, log committee activity & finances, write reports, attend Leadership/Business meetings, and communicate well**. These needs come up anywhere from a couple times a week to once a month. Please pray and consider if God has equipped you for this ministry. We know if God calls SHF to this ministry, He is already preparing the right person.

Please PRAY for:

The called to step into this ministry, abundant help when God's people hurt, patience & perseverance.

How Else To Get Involved:

If you would like to be a friend to your neighbors and aren't sure where to start, please reach out to someone on our committee. One of our biggest challenges is the urgency of most needs. It would help us tremendously to already know you are willing to be called on and what kind of help you're willing to offer. Driving to appointments? Running small errands? Friendly phone calls? Visitation? Do you have a vehicle? Physical labor; light chores, yard work? Repairs? God's work at loving others needs all kinds of gifts, talents, & skills.

If you **have** a neighbor or **meet** a stranger in need and desire assistance, our committee is committed to helping you with resources and can try to walk alongside you as you walk alongside them.

Thank you for the ongoing generosity for this ministry. We accept monetary donations any time to further this Kingdom work - you can drop an envelope in the offering plate on any Sunday marked for "Hands of the King" or mail a check to the church. Our ministry is entirely donation-based and is used exclusively for these needs outside the congregation.

Thanks & Blessings,

Hands of the King Committee

Brent Zumbrun, Jenn Adams, Katie Hipsher, Jess Gordy

Christian Education Ministry Team

Life Application Classes

Below is the summary of our current Life Application Classes being offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM. If you are not currently attending one of these classes, please know that you are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact anyone on the Christian Ed team:

- *Be One of Us* Class is studying *God Never Gives Up on You* by Max Lucado.
- *The Willing Workers* Class is now studying Max Lucado's book "Every Day Deserves a Chance."
- The Young Adult Class is studying a book by John MacArthur titled: *GENESIS 1-11 "Creation, Sin, and the Nature of God"*
- Senior High Youth continue weekly Bible trivia and working through "Talk Sheets" based on passages from the Gospels.
- We currently have Life Application classes for both Lower and Upper Elementary.
- We have a Nursery teacher if needed.
- We are grateful for all the teachers who are committed to preparing weekly lessons, Biblical studies, and discussions.

Community Bible Schools

We continue to work with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) to bring Bible schools to the children of our community. We currently have 2 Easter focused programs scheduled for March 25th and April 1st with Twin Branch and Hums elementary schools. Please pray that these will be successful programs bringing the Good News of Jesus to many children in these schools!

We are also planning a Vacation Bible School tentatively scheduled for June 20th. More information on how our church family can participate will be coming soon.

Sunday Evening Bible Study

Pastor Len is leading a verse by verse Bible study on the book of Hebrews. The Bible study meets each Sunday evening from 5:00pm-5:45pm in the *Be One of Us* class area. All are welcome to come any time you can make it.

We invite your input. Please give us your ideas, suggestions, areas of interest, and we welcome volunteers to lead or participate.

Jeff Tuholski, Team Leader
Marcia Troup & Denise Tuholski

April Library Update

This month I want to draw your attention to two newly donated books by Beth Moore (20-MO). The first one is **Chasing Vines** – Finding your way to an immensely fruitful life. "In **Chasing Vines**, Beth Moore gives us fresh hope, revealing the abundant secrets of a fruitful, God-delighting life. Tracing the images of vine, branch, and fruit through Scripture, and sharing stories from her own journey, Beth shows us that nothing in our lives is wasted. Not the place we've been planted—or even the painful pruning. Nothing is for nothing.

"Beth is convinced from Scripture that every person who knows Jesus is meant to thrive in fruitfulness. Life might not always be easy, but in Christ, it can always be immensely fruitful."

And then there is **Audacious**. "Thirty years in the making, **Audacious** is a deep dive into the message that has compelled Beth Moore to serve women around the globe. Glancing over the years of ministry behind her and strengthening her resolve to the call before her, she came to the realization that her vision for women was incomplete. It lacked something they were aching for. Something Jesus was longing for. Beth identifies that missing link by digging through Scripture, unearthing life experiences, and spotlighting a turning point with the capacity to infuse any life with holy passion and purpose. What was missing? Well, let's just say it's *audacious* and it's for *all* of us. And it's the path to the life we you were born to live."

As we continue to highlight the DVDs located on the shelf to the left as you enter the library, this month let's look at **ONLY GOD CAN**. This DVD "explores the bond of five friends struggling through life's challenges. It brings to light the relationships the women have with each other and the relationship they lack with God. The movie depicts real-life situations and issues that many of us can identify with; substance abuse, infidelity, and single parenting. A sudden tragic turn of events thrusts the women into re-evaluating their life and questioning their faith in God."

These DVD's have been placed in the library for anyone to take for viewing, but you do not need to check them out like a book. Just take, view, and return for others to view. You are on the honor system!

One more thing: if you donate something to the

library, PLEASE tell one of the librarians about it. That way if we need to communicate about it, we know who to contact. Thanks.

Your Librarians,
Marcia Troup and Pat Gordy

Missions & Evangelism Ministry Team

Paper and Hygiene Products Pantry

In March we distributed 38 sets of paper and hygiene pantry supplies. Many thanks to our faithful volunteers and to all our church family who donate money and products to our ministry now in its 9th year!

Community Meals

In February Vern and Melba hosted the meal, serving a variety of tasty soups and salad. In March the Missions team served Chicken Alfredo and California Blend vegetables. We are looking for a volunteer to provide the community meal in May. Please see Jeff or Denise with any questions about planning, preparing a meal, and being reimbursed for expenses.

Osceola Memorial Day Parade

We are planning once again to participate in the parade, providing entertainment with our Praise and Worship team. This year we really need to have more walkers to go alongside our float to pass out candy and flyers for our VBS. A sign up sheet will be out in April and if you have any questions please see anyone on the Missions Team.

Mission of the Month

Our supported mission for March and April is the Gee Family Missions in Ecuador. The Gee family works with the local church to teach orphans the great news of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ. They also provide financial support and host church groups on short-term mission projects. Ultimately, they want to bless the people of Ecuador by sharing the gospel! To support this ministry mark you're giving envelope for the Gee Family.



Denise Tuholski, Team Leader
Jeff Tuholski & Katie Hipsher

Paper & Hygiene Products Pantry

OPENS AGAIN
Wed., April 8th, 6-7pm
**Volunteers to pray & pass out bags -
join us at 5:30pm**
ALL donations appreciated

St. Margaret's House

Because of their building renovation project, they cannot accept clothing donations at this time. Construction is expected to take at least 12 months. **HOWEVER:** SPA Women's Ministry Homes (where Jenn Adams works) also has a clothing boutique that is free to the women in recovery. So if you wish to donate women's clothing this year, we will send them there. (Drop off Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm; 3404 Toledo Rd., Elkhart, IN 46516) They are taking seasonal Spring/Summer clothes now.

St Margaret's IS accepting & needing the following:

- **Diapers/pull-ups** in sizes 4, 5 & 6 + baby wipes
- **Toiletries:** shampoo & Conditioner, lotion, body wash, deodorant
- **Sanitary pads** (light, medium, heavy)

Join us in ministry! Assist to bring song, connection, & message to our beloved neighbors at these two facilities:

Elkhart Place Worship

Thurs., April 16th - 2pm
(the 3rd Thursday of each month)
2024 Co Rd 24, Elkhart, IN 46517

Milton Adult Day Services Worship

Thurs., April 23rd - 2pm
(the 4th Thursday of each month)
111 Sunnybrook Ct, South Bend, IN 46637



Everence Update

Everence named preferred partner at CCDA Conference

Everence® was announced as a **preferred financial wellness partner during the Christian Community Development Association's National Conference** in late 2025. The

two entities hope this new partnership will help strengthen the financial well-being in communities across the country and expand access to more financial resources. For its part, Everence plans to nurture meaningful relationships that bring diverse perspectives. CCDA is one of the nation's leading faith-based organizations focused on holistic community development. **With nearly 3,000 members across urban, suburban and rural settings,**

CCDA equips churches, nonprofits and community leaders to connect people in under-resourced communities with resources and partnerships that help them thrive.

Marcia Troup
Stewardship Advocate



CAMP MACK

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April

Website: <http://www.campmack.org>

Phone: 574-658-4831 | Email: info@campmack.org

Summer camp registration is open! Campmack.org

Upcoming Events:

- April 2** **Women Creating Community**
- April 6–10** **Spring Break Day Camp:** Grades K–5. 8:30a–3:30p, with options for before and after care at an additional charge. \$150 (some scholarships may be available). Fun, nature, crafts, free play, community, games, and more! 1:10 adult to child ratio
- April 13 & 15** **Homeschool Outdoor Ed Days: Survival Day.** Ages 7–14. 1 spot open Wed. Mon. is full. 9a–4p. \$35/session (bring a sack lunch, or \$5 for a camp sack lunch). Dress for the weather. Clothes may get dirty.
- April 15** **Men Creating Community**
- April 15–19** **Spring Quilt Retreat:** Quilters of all ages. 3p Wed-3p Sun.
- April 18–19** **New! Volunteer Retreat:** Work projects Saturday. Meals provided. Worship on Sunday. Bring the family! Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. This event is FREE.
- April 25** **Adventure Day & 5K:** The 5K kicks off the morning at 9a with a cinnamon toast breakfast to follow. Adventure Day is FREE. There are activities for people of all ages from archery to high ropes. Sign up online for the challenge course time slots. There will be an open house to check out camp along with food trucks, too! Bring friends. Join us for some fun.
- May 4–5** **Pastor's Sabbath:** Only \$35, this retreat is an experience of reflection, fellowship, and more for COB pastors. CEUs, lodging, and meals. 1p Mon. to 1p Tues.
- May 9** **Birding Big Day:** Experience spring migration with birdwatchers of all ages. 9a–9p. \$50, includes sack lunch, snacks, and transportation. Dress for the weather. Walk up to 4 miles on uneven terrain. Binoculars highly recommended.

Thank you for your continued support! We are sincerely grateful that you volunteer, donate, and pray. **Prayer Request:** Please pray for summer campers to come to experience Camp Mack and for summer staffers.



April's **Worship Service** *Ministry Volunteers*



Children's Life Application Class Teacher Schedule

Early Elementary (4yrs-pre-K)- Cheryl Frick
Elementary (K-5th grade) - Denise Tuholski
Youth Leader (6th grade-1st year college) - Jeff Tuholski
Attendance Schedule - Sally Whitmer

Prelude/Offertory

4/5 Teresa
4/12 Cindy C
4/19 Donna
4/26 Teresa

Praise Team

4/5 Rick, Marcia, Dawn (Donna)
4/12 Steve, Sue, Marcia (Teresa)
4/19 Rick, Marcia, Tammy (Donna)
4/26 Steve, Dawn, Tammy (Teresa)

Welcome Center

4/5 BZ
4/12 Denise
4/19 Jeff
4/26 BZ

Projector

4/5 Nicole
4/12 Katie
4/19 Nicole
4/26 Marcia

Praise Prayer

4/5 Marcia
4/12 Jeff
4/19 Tammy
4/26 Steve

Stewardship

4/5 Ron & Donna - Tammy
4/12 Ron & Donna - Tammy
4/19 Ed & Fred - Cindy C
4/26 Ed & Fred - Cindy C

Livestream

4/5 Scott
4/12 Brian H
4/19 Scott
4/26 Jayden

Worship Leader

4/5 Cindy C
4/12 Denise
4/19 Marcia
4/26 Tammy

Nursery

4/5 Sally
4/12 Tracey
4/19 Denise
4/26 Cheryl F

Sound

4/5 Ron W
4/12 Ron W
4/19 Nate
4/26 Ron H

Greeter - Door A

4/5 Fred
4/12 Melba
4/19 BZ
4/26 Vern

Bible Fun Day

4/5 Denise
4/12 Marcia
4/19 Katie
4/26 Pam

Chorister

4/5 Steve
4/12 Steve
4/19 Steve
4/26 Steve

Greeter - Door B

4/5 Scott
4/12 Vern
4/19 Melba
4/26 Melba

Message

4/5 Len Smith
4/12 Len Smith
4/19 Len Smith
4/26 Len Smith

2026

APRIL

**please pray for the names in italics*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01	02	03	04
				6pm Love Feast <i>Martha Lou Cary</i>	6pm BRBC Good Friday Service <i>Brent Zumbrun</i>	
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
7:30am Sunrise Service 8:15am Easter Breakfast 10am Easter Worship Service 5pm-5:45pm Bible Study 6pm-6:30pm Prayer Meeting			 6pm-7pm Paper & Hygiene Products Pantry OPEN	6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting		9am Men's Breakfast
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<i>Sue Freel</i>	<i>Ron Hipsler</i>	<i>Donna Hipsler</i>	<i>Fred Whitmer</i>	<i>Sally Whitmer</i>	<i>Phil Carlisle</i>	<i>Don Troup</i>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5pm-5:45pm Bible Study 6pm-6:30pm Prayer Meeting <i>Marcia Troup</i>	<i>Nate Wilkins</i>	<i>Nicole Wilkins</i>	<i>Jayden Wilkins</i>	2pm Elkhart Place Worship <i>Jensen Wilkins</i>	<i>E.d Parent</i>	<i>Steve Frick</i>
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
5pm-5:45pm Bible Study 6pm-6:30pm Prayer Meeting <i>Cheryl Frick</i>	<i>Pat Gordy</i>	<i>Ida Mae Murray</i>	6pm Community Meal Serving: <i>Cindy Carlisle</i>	2pm Milton Adult Day Services Worship <i>Rick Hipsler</i>	<i>Pam Hipsler</i>	12pm Ladies Ministries' Lunch @ Teresa Smith's <i>*11:30am Meet @ Church to Carpool</i> <i>Laura Wiley</i>
<p><i>Friendship Celebration Sunday!</i> After Worship Carry-In & Congregational Meeting 5pm-5:45pm Bible Study 6pm-6:30pm Prayer Meeting <i>Dick Divine</i></p> <p>Pastor Len Smith is available by appointment Wednesdays P.M.-Sundays. *Please call or text him to set up a time and place. Cell#: (574) 535-4269// Email: lensmith@tkmail.com</p>						
	<i>Angela Kling</i>	<i>Terry Kling</i>	<i>Gail McKinney</i>	<i>Brian Nitswonger</i>		