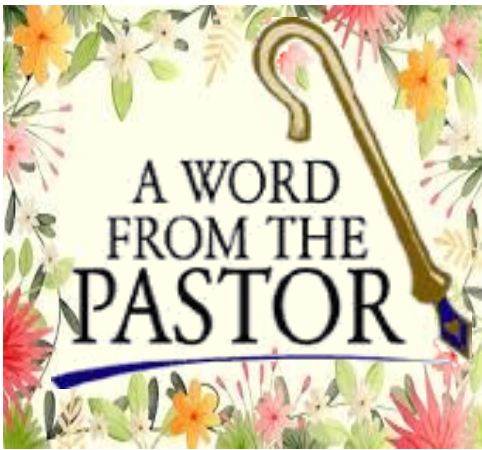


Grafton United Methodist Church  
973 Mechanic Street  
Grafton, Ohio 44044  
Church Office: 440-926-2034  
<http://www.graftonumc.org>



April 2025





## From Pastor Bob's Desk

One of my recent meditation verses was very appropriate for this season of Lent.

Romans 6:23 declares,

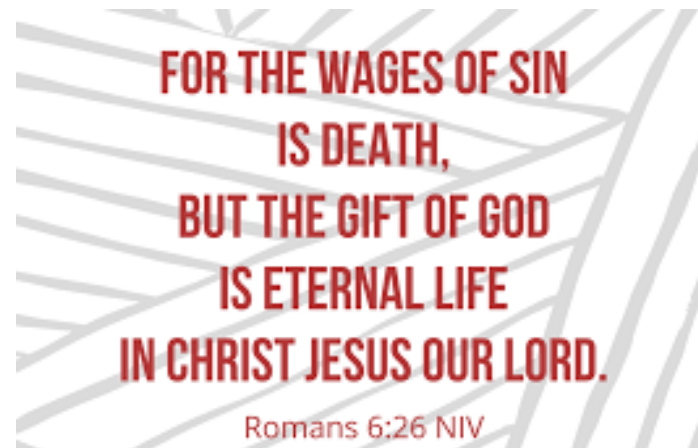
*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

This verse captures the heart of the Gospel: the contrast between what we deserve and what God freely offers.

Sin leads to death—separation from God, both in this life and eternally. Left to ourselves, we cannot escape this reality. But the verse does not end there. Paul reminds us that God, in His love, offers us something far greater than we could ever earn: the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. This is not a reward for good behavior but a free gift, given through Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

As we reflect on this verse, let us remember that we do not live under the weight of sin's wages, but under the grace of God's gift. Have we truly received this gift? And if so, are we sharing it with others? Let us live in gratitude and invite others to experience the life God so freely gives.

Pastor Bob





April 6

April 13

April 20

April 27

Lay Liturgist

Carol Morley

Anita Wheatley

Judy Wingate

Margie Lisle

Greeters

Bob and Mary  
Brandal

Barb Lynch  
and  
Diane Lach

Beverly  
Macbeth and  
Sue May

Bob Overy  
and  
Joe Mendlik

Sunday Child  
Care

Margie Lisle  
and  
Anita Wheatley

Aimee Benko  
and  
Mary Brandal

Chris and Barb  
Clapper

Mary Brandal and  
Judy Wingate

## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday

23 Emily Stonestreet

30 Judy Yusko

### Happy Anniversary

14 Chris and Windy Hoffmaster

*Time to Celebrate!*

# Our Church Family Who Are Away from Us

Pat Coffman      Keystone Pointe  
383 Opportunity Way  
Room E308-2  
LaGrange, 44050

♥ this little hug is for you. ♥



\* Shirley Groves      1024 Woodland Chase  
Grafton, Ohio 44044

Fran Hurlburt      1144 Willow St  
Grafton, 44044

Mal Lumadue      279 Augusta Dr  
Elyria, 44035

Angelica Ritsko      756 N Center St  
LaGrange 44050








## **Please keep us informed:**

Due to HIPAA Regulations, hospitals, rehab centers and nursing homes are not permitted to share information of patients.

If you or a family member are hospitalized, have entered into rehab or a nursing facility, we ask that you or a family member please notify the Church Office at 440-926-2034 with the necessary information so that we may have the opportunity to keep you in prayer.



# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 1:00 pm Adult Study	3 11:00 pm Lenten Study	4	5
6 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service Holy Communion Open Table	7 11:00 am OutReach Meeting 	8	9 1:00 pm Adult Study	10 11:00 pm Lenten Study	11	12
13 	14	15 <b>HOLY WEEK</b>	16 1:00 pm Adult Study	17  Maundy Thursday	18 	19  HOLY SATURDAY
20 	21	22	23 1:00 pm Adult Study	24	25	26
27 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Service	28	29	30			

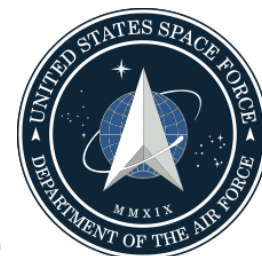
# DUTY★HONOR★COUNTRY



If there is a member of your family in active duty in one of the branches of our military - we would be glad to place a flag in their honor on our Military Wall in the Sanctuary.



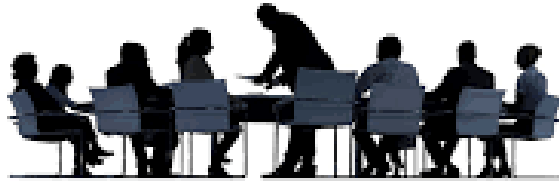
Please message the office with their name, branch of service and their rank either by sending an email to [graftonumc@mail.com](mailto:graftonumc@mail.com), or leave us a message on the phone at 440-926-2034. We'll take it from there ... We salute all those who are currently serving and those who have served.



In the event you have a change in name, change to your family dynamic, a change of address, phone number (cell and land), and/or email,

**PLEASE** contact the office in order for us to keep our records updated. Send us a message through ... US Mail, our email at [graftonumc@mail.com](mailto:graftonumc@mail.com) or a voice message at 440-926-2034

We Thank You in Advance



## Administrative Council

Admin Council AND Finance will meet on **April 13th**  
**AFTER** Sunday worship service at **11:00**  
in Howard Tran Hall.  
**ALL** are welcome to attend!



Outreach meeting March 3, 2025

Opening prayer

### Old business:

1. A warm thank you to Bob Brandal for getting the picture hung in Howard Tran Hall in memory of Mary Dawson of the "old church picture".
2. Donations were made to two local charities this month - Love Inc. and Second Harvest Food Bank
3. The Soup & Sandwich Luncheon went great with an extra warm thank you for the additional help and donations.

### New Business:

1. The Spring Rummage is set for May 9th & 10th with donations welcome at ANY time now in the former Nursery Room downstairs.
2. An "ORIGINAL - old-fashioned" coffee hour is scheduled for April 6th everyone is encouraged to stay and ENJOY.
3. Diane Lach volunteered to be the Outreach representative for Administrative Council meetings in the future. Her offer is greatly appreciated.

Next meeting will be April 7th at 11 a.m.

Closing prayers for health concerns and safety for church family and loved ones on trips and mission projects,



# 2025 Holy Week Services



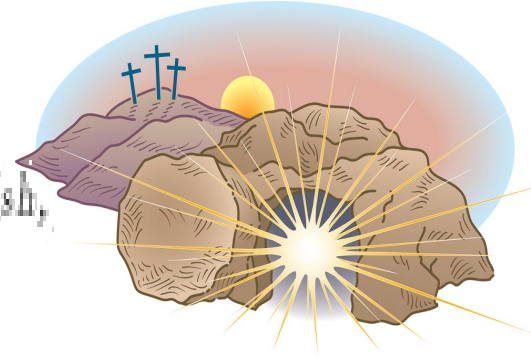
April 17 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm

April 18 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm

April 20 Easter Celebration Service 10:00 am



*For God so loved the world,  
that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish,  
but have everlasting life.*



**FOR**  
*God*  
**SO**  
*Loved*

the world, that he gave  
his one and only Son, that  
whoever believes in him  
should not perish, but  
have eternal life.

**JOHN 3:16**  
[bibleversestogo.com](http://bibleversestogo.com)





Does your New Year's Resolution List include spending more time with the Lord in reading your Bible? If so, there are currently two opportunities offered to help fulfill the desire.

You are welcome to participate in the **Weekly Wednesday Bible Study** that meets at 1pm in Howard Tran Hall located adjacent to the church sanctuary. No need to feel as if you are coming in the middle of something, because each week is a new beginning. Come to see how welcoming and comfortable we will make you feel. Hope to see you next Wednesday.

You are welcome to be a part of the **Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class**.

We meet in the downstairs classroom at the bottom of the front staircase at 9am. Each Sunday is a lesson from the "Our Daily Bread" devotional. Our discussions are lively and help us understand the scripture lesson and connect it to our daily lives. You are invited to come on any Sunday and see what you are missing.

May you have a Blessed New Year and may you grow in your faith and commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Contact Lay Leader Carol Morley for more information. 440-365-7729

## **Grafton UMC Administrative Assistant**



Diane Peters

graftonumc@mail.com

440-926-2034

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Wednesday: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Friday: OFF

# Rummage Sale

Friday, May 9 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday May 10 from 9:00 am - NOON

Got to much stuff?

Clear your clutter and benefit GUMC projects!

Articles may be brought from  
Wednesday, April 3 through  
Thursday MORNING, April 11  
and left in the previously known  
“Nursery Room” Area

Sorting and Pricing of Items will take place  
from 9:00 A.M. on April 30 – May 8  
Helpers will be needed on the Sale Days,  
as well as to clean up and tear down

Won't you join us?

Many hands make light the work for all.