

Glimpses

of

Grace



Love Boldly, Serve Joyously, Lead Courageously
May 2026

Thursday, May 7, 2026



The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, the law was unanimously amended by both the House and the Senate and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on Thursday, May 5, 1988, designating the first Thursday of May as a day of national prayer. Every president since 1952 has signed a National Day of Prayer proclamation.

Prayer brings people together. Prayer builds bridges between opposing persons and even political parties. Prayer reminds us that we are created in God's image and He desires for us to represent Him everywhere we go. The theme for May 7 is: **“Glorify God Among the Nations– Seeking Him in all Generations.”** This is from 1 Chronicles which reads: **“Tell of His glory among the nations, His Wonderful deeds among all the peoples.** (NASB) and this has inspired our theme, “Glorify God Among the Nations– Seeking Him in all Generations!”



His Master's Voice

In Francis Barraud's old painting, a little terrier named Nipper sits in front of a gramophone, head tilted, ears alert, listening for the voice he loved. The story goes that when his master died, the family kept recordings of the man's voice, and whenever they played them, the dog would come running. He knew that voice. He recognized it. He leaned toward it with trust and expectancy.

That image became the famous RCA logo, "His Master's Voice". But it also offers a quiet parable for us. In a world full of noise—political noise, cultural noise, commercial noise—how do we recognize the voice of Jesus? How do we distinguish the Shepherd's call from all the other voices demanding our loyalty, our fear, our attention?

In John 10, Jesus says that the true shepherd "calls his sheep by name," and the sheep follow because they know his voice. That's not about volume; it's about relationship. Discernment grows from time spent listening—through Scripture, prayer, worship, and the shared life of the church—until the voice of Christ becomes familiar enough to rise above the static.

We may not always hear him loudly. But he still speaks—faithfully, recognizably, personally. The question is not whether Jesus is speaking. The question is whether we are becoming the kind of people who can still recognize his voice.

See ya in church.

Grace and Peace –

Dean



His Master's Voice



UPCOMING EVENTS

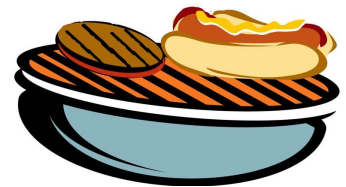
The next Free Community Dinner here at Grace will be

Thursday, May 28 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

It is the first **Grillin' Out** of the season.

Plan to come and help or join our neighbors in enjoying a delicious meal with a chance to visit with them.

Grillin' OUT!



You'll be glad you did!

Bryanne, Carole & Ruth



Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones — especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's

liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."

May Friendship Day~ Friday, May 1

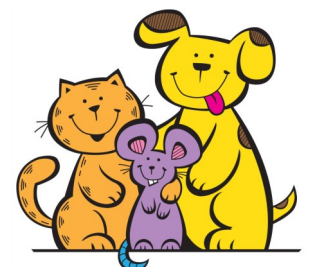
Theme ~ "Shelter Me– See, Hear, Respect, Protect"

2026 Theme Scripture ~ Psalm 24:1 (NIV)

"The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it."

FRIENDS LOVE AT ALL TIMES

Life is Better With Friends



May Friendship Day

Our Church Family



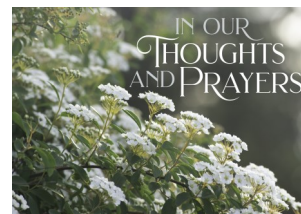
- 1 Olivia Reyes
- 6 Beth Smith
- 9 Scott Dunn
- 11 Jessica Rice
- 12 Felix Reyes
- 12 Ruth Garnet Leedy
- 13 Blair Thompson Leedy
- 13 Angel Hoggatt
- 15 Caleb McCullough
- 19 Edna Schmied
- 20 Oliver Quinn Bailey
- 20 Andy Smith
- 24 Alicia Fravel
- 27 Kathy Snowball
- 27 Ellen Binkley Hill



- 12 Tom & Amy Allen
- 29 Dave & Barb Blocker

If you or someone you know would like to be included on our birthday and anniversary list, please contact the church office.

Carren Yuppa, Paul & Kim Barron, Betty Adams, family of Avonelle Williams, Morris Hale, Juanita Curtis, Cindy, Dave & Chris St. Claire, Ron McHenry, Trent Ashbury, Toron Franklin, Students and teachers during State Testing, Laura Haines, Martha Joyce, Mary Beth McCullough, John Paddock, Ethan Brookshear, L. J. Rineair, Jerry Campbell, Allen Collett, Allen Willoughby, Brandon Peery, Leroy Addis, health care professionals, those in hospitals, the jobless and homeless, our church, our village, our state, **our nation** and our world. Lt. Col. Adam Putman, Senior Chief Electrician Kyle Hoggatt, Major Morgan Bennett, 1st Sgt. James Beckelhymer, 1st Sgt. Josh Fox, Christopher Bennett



Family Worship Nights

Family worship nights can be done as a family unit or with friends! Hold them weekly or monthly but make them special. Creating this tradition as a more frequent rhythm keeps kids excited about connecting with Jesus as a family. Keep it simple and fun. There are a thousand ways to worship the Lord and learn about Him as a family. Consider what works best with your schedules and personalities, and let the whole family be part of the planning process. On one of our worship evenings, we let the girls dress up in their tutus and leotards, and they performed dance routines that incorporated classical music. Afterward, we gathered them into a circle, read scriptures about praising the Lord, and talked about the many ways to worship. We closed with a song. You can bet that the kids were excited for the next family worship time.

Bits and Pieces



Attendance and Offering Report

Average attendance in April: 49
Average online viewing in April: 128
Needed in Each Month: \$10,556.00
Giving in April: \$7,041.00

FROM: *Harry & Judy Brumbaugh*
Patti Loftin

Through your generous donations to the food pantry you helped to serve 300+ people in April.

The only needs this month are: **canned vegetable soup, Jiffy cornbread mix,** and as always monetary donations are most welcome. Pantry hours are Monday & Thursday nights 6-7 p.m. Volunteer help is also appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support of this outreach to the community.

Food Pantry Sunday is the first Sunday of every month.



May Friendship Day
Friday, May 1

Trustees Work Day
Saturday, May 2 @ 9:30 a.m.

Communion
Sunday, May 3

Food Pantry Sunday
May 3

National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 7

Trustees Work Day Rain Date
Saturday, May 9 @ 9:30 a.m.

Coffee, Tea and Thee
Sunday, May 10
10:00 a.m.

Good Samaritan Fund Offering
Mother's Day
Sunday, May 10

NAMI
Wednesdays, May 13, 20 & 27
6-8 p.m.

Memorial Day Observance
Monday, May 25
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

June Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, May 26 @ noon

Free Community Dinner
Grillin' Out
Thursday, May 28
4:30-6:00 p.m.

More Bits & Pieces



The deadline for items to be in to the office for the June newsletter is **Tuesday, May 26 at noon.**

Stay in Touch with Us

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Facebook page: Blan Grace UMC

Website: blangrace.org

Office hours: **Mon. 10 a.m.– 1 p.m.**
Tues-Thurs. 9 a.m.-noon
Closed on Friday

To all Committee chairs and congregation members:

Please let the office

know when you plan an event with the date and

time, so it can be put on the calendar in a timely fashion; **2 weeks in advance of the event is preferable.** Thank you.



A Prayer For Mother's Day

Heavenly Father, I speak this prayer to you now in gratitude and praise for the gift of mothers. My mother, those of my friends, relatives, those I'll never know, all mothers. Thank you for the role they play in the family unit. Thank you for their teachings, wisdom, patience, and understanding. Thank you for the physical, emotional, and spiritual gifts they possess. I pray that you help mothers all across the world to be a blessing to their children. Whether delivering affirmation or discipline, I pray that you help every word and action to be done in love. And I pray that children worldwide will take time to honor their mothers and that you will show them how to do so uniquely. Amen.

Laughter is Good for the Soul

Happy Mother's Day



Kids' Korner

GROWING IN GOD'S word



Try this craft as a reminder that we need to continue to grow in God's Word.

What you need:

- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Acrylic paints (various colors)
- Paper plate
- Potting soil (enough to fill the pot)
- Small inside plant or packet of seeds
- Newspaper or paper
- Paintbrush
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker



What you do:

1. Spread some newspaper out on a table for your working area.
2. Squeeze the paint colors that you wish to use onto your paper plate.
3. Paint designs on the pot and plate.
4. When the pot is dry, take the black marker and on the top part of the pot write: Growing in God's Word.
5. Pour a small amount of potting soil into the bottom of the pot. With adults help, place your plant into the pot and surround your plant with the rest of the soil. If planting seeds, follow the packet instructions.
6. Water your plant so the soil is moist. Check your plant everyday and keep the soil moist.
7. Enjoy watching your plant grow, and remember that you too, need care as you grow in God's Word.

2 Peter 3:18 NIV

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

Puzzle!

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verse given for help.



Joash (2 Kings 11:2)

A _____

Obed (Matthew 1:5)

B _____

Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)

_____ C _____

John the disciple (Matthew 4:21)

_____ D _____

John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)

_____ E _____

Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6)

G _____

Jezreel (Hosea 1:4)

H _____

Esau (Genesis 25:28)

I _____

David (1 Samuel 16:19)

J _____

Jacob (Genesis 25:28)

_____ K _____

Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)

_____ L _____

Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)

M _____

Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)

_____ N _____

Jesse (Matthew 1:5)

O _____

Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)

_____ P _____

Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)

R _____

Isaac (Genesis 21:3)

S _____

John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)

_____ T _____

Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)

_____ U _____

Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)

_____ V _____

Jesus (Matthew 1:18)

_____ Y _____

James (Matthew 4:21)

Z _____

Answers: Ahaziah, Boaz, Jacob, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Zebedee, Elkanah, Moses, Hannah, Obed, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Zebedee



Hats of to Ellen Hill for helping fold the Easter bulletins and inserts and putting them all together. It was much appreciated.

Hats off to the Johnsons, Radcliffes, Lynn & Jill for the yummy goodies they had for *Coffee, Tea & Thee* in April. Well done.

Hats off to all who helped in anyway with the Free Community Dinner on April 23. We appreciate you all.

Hats off to Ellen Hill for the Palm Sunday outdoor decorations. They were awesome!

Hats off to Fred Freeman for the repairs and painting in the sanctuary.

Hats off to everyone who ordered Easter flowers that adorned our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. They were beautiful.

If you would like to give a “Hats Off” to someone, please contact the office.

Glimpses of Grace is a monthly newsletter of Grace United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 66, 201 E. Center St., Blanchester, OH 45107; (937) 783-3655. You are welcome to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. Rev. Dean Feldmeyer is Pastor. Anita Rathbun CLM, is Associate Pastor. Patty Williams is Secretary & Newsletter Editor.

Grace United Methodist Church
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

