

# Grace Weekly Email Update

April 1, 2026

## Message from Pastor Jeff



We currently have rain in the forecast for Saturday, but the Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt will go on rain or shine. We have plans for the Easter Egg hunt to happen indoors if it is rainy or muddy.

There are a few things you can do to help us communicate the love of Christ this weekend. First, invite someone to come to church with you. A simple invite is often all it takes. Second, everyone is a greeter this weekend. Say hello to the people around you. This is the number one complaint of people who visit churches: "I went and no one talked to me." Third, if you are coming to the 9:30am service and are able to walk a bit, please consider parking in Rehab Center parking lot (parking and space is not typically a problem for the 11:00am service). There is a gate and concrete sidewalk from the rehab center to our parking lot midway back in the parking lot and we will have a temporary bridge at the corner of the fence closest to the worship center as well. Fourth, when leaving after the 9:30 service, if you will turn right out of the exit drive and head toward Cook School (which will be the long way around for some of you), it will help everyone to get out the parking lot in a timely and safe manner. Finally and most importantly, pray for our services this weekend and for the power and truth of the resurrection to be on full display by the power of the Holy Spirit!

I look forward to celebrating with you!

Jeff

## WORSHIP SERVICE — April 5 & 6 EASTER CELEBRATION

### Traditional (8:30am Sunday)

Hymns: Up From the Grave He Arose!; Because He Lives

### Modern (9:30 & 11:00am Sunday, 6pm Monday)

Live Stream @ 10am Sunday: [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)

Past Sermons/Materials: Click [HERE](#).

### Grace Community Church

4001 Brooken Hill Dr. / Fort Smith, AR 72908 / 479.646.1177

Email: [contact@gracefs.com](mailto:contact@gracefs.com) / Office Hours: 9-5 Monday-Thursday

Website: [www.gracefs.com](http://www.gracefs.com)

*Grace Community Church exists for the glory of God,  
to make visible the kingdom of God, and  
to declare the grace of God to all the world.*

# KIDS MINISTRY

**Jr. Kids: Infants—PreK**

Contact: [Christine Turpin](#)

**Kids Church K-5th Grade**

Contact: [Sarah Reykers](#)



## Jr. Kids Theme: Countdown to Easter

So much happened during the last week of Jesus' life, as he prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for us. This series is designed to show the events leading up to and including Jesus' death on the cross – where he made a way for us to be saved.

*Memory Verse: "But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8*



## Kids Church K-5th Grade

During the month of March we'll have some eggciting science eggperiments by Dr Jellybean and Professor Eggbert that help us learn about Easter! Can the egg really fit inside THAT? Walking on...eggs? Come eggperience the fun!

*Memory Verse: "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid." Hebrews 13:6*



## VBS — Coming Up Soon—June 7-10

### Need Volunteers + Old T-shirts/Towels

What A Mess VBS is underway! Sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer. Have questions? Text (479-414-2071) or email [Sarah!](#) **Also, looking for**

**donations of old towels and old adult size t-shirts.**

## DASH & FM

(6-8th grades) & (9-12th grades)

Contact [Dana](#) For DASH and FM

Dash/FM Page on Grace Website—Click [HERE](#)



## Join Us on Wednesday Evenings 6-7:30pm

During the school year, DASH and FM meet routinely every Wednesday from 6-7:30pm. We have dinner, games, worship, biblical lessons, and small groups. Small groups are split by grade level and male/female.

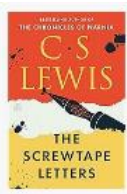


## Senior Sunday

**April 26, 11:00 Service Luncheon for Students and Their Families to Follow**

Check out full details and to sign up for the lunch by clicking [HERE](#).

**BIBLE STUDIES:** Full details & sign-ups click [HERE](#).



**The Screwtape Letters (by C.S. Lewis)**

**Wednesdays, 10-11:30am; April 8-May 20**

**Cost \$10 (order you own book); Activity Center**

**Facilitator: Kathryn O'Brien**

**Co-Ed Bible Study**



**Peace for the Anxious Heart**

**Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm, April 1-May 20 (8wks)**

**Facilitator: Amy Sweeten; Cost is \$10**

**Meets in church office conference room.**



**The Journey from Easter to Pentecost**

**Wednesdays, April 8-May 20, 6-7pm (7wks)**

**Worship Center; Co-Ed Bible Study**

**Facilitator: JD Cunny & Terry Gallamore**

Join us for a 7-week journey from Easter to Pentecost as we follow the risen Christ and the transforming work He began in His disciples. Together, we will trace the movement from the joy of the resurrection, through doubt, restoration, waiting, and mission, to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2.

This study will help us see that Easter is not just a day to celebrate, but the beginning of a new life in Christ and a new calling for His people. Each week, we will explore how the resurrection changes everything.

Whether you are longing for renewed hope, deeper faith, or fresh encouragement in your walk with Christ, this study is an invitation to see how the risen Jesus still meets His people, transforms hearts, and sends His church. Come join us as we move from resurrection hope to Spirit-empowered living. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.



**New Connections Class**

**Sundays, 11am-12noon**

**Starts May 3 (6 weeks)**

**Church Office**

**Facilitator: Staci Moore**

Our New Connections Class is a welcoming space to connect

with others, learn more about our church, and a chance dive deeper into what we believe. Whether you're new to Grace or just want a deeper understanding of our mission, this class is the perfect place to start! Click [HERE](#) to sign up!

Click [HERE](#) for details of **ON-GOING GROUPS**

-Upper Room (Women)

-By Hook, Needle & Craft (Women and Men)

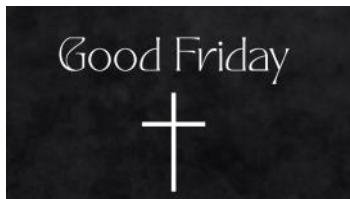
-Men's Fellowship Lunch (Men)

# EVENTS

## Good Friday Stations of the Cross

**THIS Friday, April 3, 11am-7:30pm, Worship Center**

On Good Friday we remember the crucifixion and death of Jesus that made a way for all of us to be restored to a right relationship with God. To observe Good Friday, we will invite you to experience the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross walks you through 14 different moments from Jesus' arrest to his crucifixion. You



may participate in the stations any time from 11am-7:30pm. Childcare for small children (under 5) will be provided from 6-7pm. Parents are encouraged to walk with older children through the stations and to talk with them afterwards about what Jesus has done for us. The time it takes to walk through the Stations of the Cross will be determined by you and how long you spend at each station. Some people move through fairly quickly and others spend more time. It will be up to you. (Be sure to read through Pastor Jeff's message on the front page of this newsletter for more details.)

## RAIN OR SHINE!



## Easter Egg Hunt & Pancake Breakfast

**THIS Saturday, April 4**

**9am Breakfast; 10am Easter Egg Hunt**

Get ready for an Egg-cellent time! Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on

Saturday April 4th.

**9am:** Easter Bunny Arrives and Pancake Breakfast begins in Student Ministry Building

**10am:** Easter Egg Hunt Begins (It all happens fast! Must be here by 10am to participate.) (If raining, go to worship center.)

If you have any questions contact [Sarah Reykers](#).



## Men's 3rd Annual Buffalo River Float Trip

**Wednesday-Saturday, April 22-25**

**Steel Creek Campground, Ponca, AR**

Details [HERE](#).



## Garden Party

**Saturday, May 9, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM**

Details and to sign-Up [HERE!](#) Contact [Reagan Newell](#) with any questions!



## Selah Weekend

**Church Wide FAMILY Retreat**

**October 2-4, 2026 (Fri—Sun)**

**Ozark Natural Science Center**

**Huntsville, Arkansas**

Selah is a church-wide retreat designed for every age! Join us for a full weekend of activities focused on rest, relaxation, and renewal.

Check out full details and to sign up, click [HERE](#).

# SERVE

Contact [Michelle Thomas](#) for more information on local mission efforts.  
Contact [Kathleen Halliburton](#) for more information on mission efforts outside of our community.



## 1st Choice Pregnancy Medical Center Fundraiser Walk & 5K Run for Life April 4, 9:00am, Ben Geren

Grace is sponsoring this fundraiser for one of our ministry partners: 1st Choice Pregnancy Medical Center. See the brochure [HERE](#). To get details about 1st Choice click [HERE](#).



## CASA of Sebastian County Fundraiser Tuesday, April 14, FS Little Theatre Play Production and Silent Auction Doors Open at 6pm; Play at 7:30pm

CASA is one of our ministry partners. To learn about CASA, click [HERE](#). Use the QR code to the right to learn more about the event and to purchase tickets. You can also purchase tickets from our Serve Team Liaison Diane Graham or any other CASAs...Mike & Carol Kirby, Deb Card, or David & Michelle Thomas.

**Tickets available for the next two Sundays!**

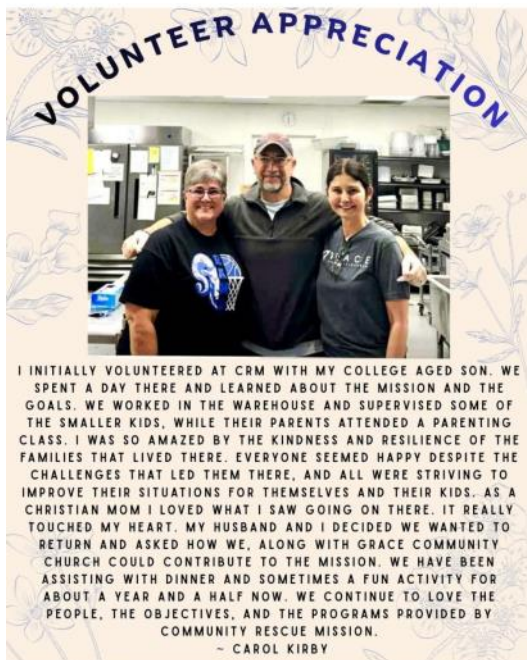


We are also in need of silent auction donation items for the event! Contact [Diane Graham](#) if you have item(s) to donate or for more information. This is a FUN event and Grace members fill the auditorium! Come!



## Community Rescue Mission

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Community  
Rescue  
Mission  
Gives  
a  
Volunteer  
Appreciation  
Shout Out  
to  
Grace  
Serve  
Team  
Members:  
L to R  
Michelle  
Thomas,  
Mike &  
Carol  
Kirby

# SERVE



## Eight Days of Hope Buffalo, NY Outreach

July 18-25, 2026

Sign-Up Deadline: May 15

Click [HERE](#) for full details and to sign up.



## Are you creative? Do you wish to serve?

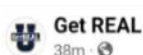


The Community Rescue Mission Liaison for Grace is Carol Kirby (pictured). She and a young helper created all these beautiful Easter baskets for the children living at the facility during a transition phase with their families. When you see Carol, thank her for all she and others do

and ask how you may also serve!

## Serve Team Liaisons and Volunteers Get Out Into the Community

Grace supported several teens with fishing licenses and many of our loving servants joined these young adults on this adventure. Thank you, volunteers, for sharing your time and love!



A big thank you to Grace Community Church for spending the day with our members at the nature center!

Fishing, boating, and plenty of smiles! We're so grateful for days like this.



## MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Contact [Rick](#) for more information.

# Mental Health Ministry



Are you concerned about your personal mental health or that of a family member? Do you struggle with knowing who you can talk to? Do you carry the common concern that others cannot know? Perhaps you are ready to discuss it, but are just not sure what the next right step is? Talk to our mental health team! The form is confidential.

Scan this QR code or go to [Gracefs.com/mental-health](https://gracefs.com/mental-health)

Once the form is received, the director will contact you to set up a confidential meeting to further understand your needs and assist in the options for your potential next steps

[Meet Our Team](#)  
[Mental Health Resources](#)  
[Mental Health Page](#)

# PRAYER

If you have prayer needs, please submit request [HERE](#).

## Community & World

Unsaved  
United States  
Countries in Turmoil  
All Military  
Foster and Adoptive Parents  
Victims of Violence  
Weather Disaster Victims  
Eight Days of Hope Ministry  
Those who are sick  
Those struggling w/mental illness & addictions  
Those struggling with grief  
Christians in Nigeria  
Savannah Guthrie and family

## Grace Families

Jessica Mask  
Barbara Braswell

## Grace Friends

Father addicted to alcohol

## Sympathies

Leonard James & family and Bill James  
(death of Kathy, Leonard's wife and Bill's sister-n-law)  
Joanne Craig (death of her father)

## Pray for our Men Attending 4KK Spring Retreat:

Rocky Burriss  
Christopher Birdsong  
Gregg Mickey  
Scott Synoground  
Brandon Morrison  
Johnnie Grizzle  
Rick Edgerton



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6