

April 2026

He is Risen!



The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

Matthew 28:5-6

Session Meeting Highlights

February 2026

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Proposed budget was finalized and approved. MOTION CARRIED to approve the 2026 budget.

Christian Ed

Met with Bill Preston on Wednesday 3/25 to discuss plans for painting and replacing the floor in the nursery. The upper shelves will be removed. The plan is to move the nursery to the Sunday school room, which has carpet, and turn the nursery into the Sunday School classroom.

Nominating

Elder nomination will commence soon. Meeting TDA

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & MISSION

St. Francis House—Next meal will be Friday, April 17th

Family Promise— Annual Bed Race was a success.

Rural Women's Health Project, - continuing to collect baby items in Narthex

Directory Updates: been working on attaining updated information

Canned meals with pop top lids will be brought to hand out to those seeking food.

Easter Breakfast to be served before Easter Service 4/5/26.

Next meeting: April 7th at 11am in Office Conference Room.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONEL

GPC is seeking a nursery worker. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please contact Jay Collins.

Concerns have been expressed about the cleanliness of the sanctuary building. This will be addressed with the custodian, Juan Rivera.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Palm Sunday children joined in singing with adult choir

Easter Sunday will serve communion and present Easter Lilies for loved ones.

Capella Nova Choir presents their Spring Concert at Grace on 4/18/26 at 4PM

Possible American Guild Organist concert— To be determined.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 19th after worship

Highlights continued to next page

PROPERTY & OPERATIONS

- The repair and painting of the exterior doors of the church Fellowship Hall and Studios, along with the inside of the main doors to the fellowship hall, was completed on Thursday the 26th off March.
- The air conditioner has been fixed in the Sunday School Room.
- The mosaic studio has donated mosaicked pavers to connect the parking lot and the sidewalk in front of the mosaic studio. Kirk Meade is installing.
- Bill Preston fixed the light fixtures in front of the church office.
- Kirk Meade has finished replacing the fence around the manse.
- Artists of the studios continue to work on the courtyard garden, Wandering Thyme in the memorial garden.
- Monday March 23 a homeless lean-to/fort was removed from the front lawn of the church and the inhabitants were trespassed by Officer Armstrong of the GPD.
- Bill Preston is heading up the nursery refresh. He has measured the floor and will be installing it after the nursery has been repainted.
- The plumber was called on Sunday, February 15th, because the toilets were backed up in the Fellowship Hall Bathrooms.
- The Gainesville Fine Arts Association art studio tours will be May 23rd & 24th, Memorial Day weekend. In addition to the Artists on site, Adrienne Gonia, Candace McCaffrey & Linda Krause will be showing their artwork. This brought over 200 visitors to the church in 2025.

Next Session Meeting will be Sunday, April 26th after the Worship Service.

Financial Update

For it is in Giving That We Receive

Ways to Support Grace Presbyterian Church:

1. Mail a check to the church office.
2. Use your bank's online bill pay system.
3. Use the electronic funds transfer from your savings or checking account.
4. Use a debit/credit card at the link on our website under the giving tab (there is also an image that you can click).

APRIL 2026

Grace Presbyterian Church
3146 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609

Phone: 352-376-5654
Email: office@gpconline.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.GPCONLINE.ORG

The finance committee would like to keep the congregation informed about our General Fund income and expenses and our pass through donations. If you have any questions, contact Lois Butler at 352-262-5893 or treasurer@gpconline.org.

	February	March	Through 3/31/26
Income	\$17,029.22	\$34,591.06	\$58,263.06
Expenses	\$15,560.47	\$11,017.27	\$41,646.92
Pass Through Donations			
Hearts and Hands Offering	\$ 6.43	\$ 4.44	\$ 64.21
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 100.49	\$ 46.36	\$ 148.81

Liturgy Passages for April 2026

April 1: Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 70

Hebrews 12:1-3

John 13:21-32

April 2: Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 3: Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

John 18:1-19:42

April 4: Easter Vigil

A minimum of three Old Testament readings should be chosen.

The reading from Exodus 14 should always be used.

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Psalm 46

Genesis 22:1-18

Psalm 16

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18

Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6

Psalm 19

Isaiah 55:1-11

Isaiah 12:2-6

Isaiah 61:1-4, 9-11

Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 7, 36a, 43a

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Psalm 42 and 43

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 143

Daniel 3:1-29

Song of the Three 35-65

Jonah 1:1-2:1

Jonah 2:2-3 (4-6), 7-9

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm 98

Romans 6:3-11

Psalm 114

John 20:1-18

April 5: Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday)

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

April 5: Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Evening)

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 114

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Luke 24:13-49

April 12: Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

April 19: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

April 26: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10



Prayer Requests

Please join us in lifting up prayers for those who have immediate concerns:

Kimberly Cundiff

Jennifer Hemphill's family for passing of her Uncle Victor Upchurch

Karen Russ and her family

John-Peter Ford's family and friends effected by the winter storm in Mississippi

Kimberly Cundiff

Holly Durst, Lois Buttler's sister

Jerry Butler's Family

Karen Upton, Larry Green's mother

Faye Tripp's daughter, Holly

Also pray for those with longer term needs:

April Riley

Mary Williamson

Patsy Bellis

Amanda Totillo

Annette McGee

Kathy Franks

Charlie Evens

Donna Fidler

Lonnie Stevens;

Donna Fidler

Janine Groner

Billie Jean Jones

Our Military

First responders

The safety & protection of those living in areas affected by war, may they be shielded from harm & violence; for the world leaders; and those dealing with natural disasters. In addition, pray for those in our church family and our church.

If there are other people or concerns that you would like to add or delete from this list, please contact Lois Butler by phone at 352-262-5893 or by email at rickloang@yahoo.com or Hannah Luciano by email at kooiha01@gmail.com



The Worship Committee reminds church members and friends that the 2026 Flower Calendar is posted in the narthex. Fresh floral arrangements are \$35 and you may place your name on any selected date of your choosing. Please note that roses added to your arrangement are in addition to the \$35.00 and are \$5.00 each.



Upcoming Events



MUSIC FOR JOURNEYS

Songs of Passage, Hope, and the Road Home

A community chorus
Featuring Artistic Director John-Peter S. Ford
Saturday, April 18, at 4pm

Join us to experience an exciting afternoon of choral music as Capella Nova Gainesville explores the many paths of the human experience—from struggle and reflection to renewal and hope—through a rich blend of choral works spanning centuries.

Admission is free. Donations gratefully accepted.



SUPPORT FAMILY PROMISE DURING

The **AMAZING**
Give  **Family Promise**
building communities, strengthening families

Give on April 23, 2026!

Help us give families with children
the promise of home

Join us for the
Amazing Give Kickoff, where
we will host the play
“Why is the Gym Floor Wet”
At First Magnitude on
April 23rd from 4-8 PM

Camp Montgomery



**MONTGOMERY
CENTER**
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*Welcoming all to experience Christ and Creation in
ways that deepen faith and strengthen relationships.*

88 SE 75th St, Starke, FL 32091 | 352-473-4516

www.montgomerycenter.org

March 12, 2026

Dear Grace Presbyterian Church Family,

I would like to personally thank you for your faithful gifts to Montgomery Center over the years. I find great joy when mail arrives from Grace as it reminds me of your congregation's continued love and commitment to this ministry. I am most grateful for your prayers and support through this season of transition. Over the past several years, we have closely examined our financial structure and have made the difficult changes necessary to move toward long-term sustainability.

During the early years of the financial separation from the presbytery, Montgomery navigated staff and board turnover, plus the simultaneous loss of a \$70,000 annual subsidy and the addition of \$70,000 in annual mortgage payments. The presbytery graciously extended loans during this time to keep the ministry alive. Since stepping into leadership in 2022, I have sought to honor that support while prioritizing annual partial repayments.

While the Presbytery of St. Augustine serves as the guarantor of our mortgage with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP), Montgomery has consistently made the required monthly payments and has paid down \$100,125 in principal since the account opened in 2019.

The year 2025 marked an important turning point. No additional debt was accrued, no subsidies were received, and summer programming operated with a surplus. With the final Covid relief funds, we were able to pay off more than \$140,000 in unsecured debt. Together, these changes represent meaningful progress toward a financially sustainable future for Montgomery Center.

So far in 2026, Montgomery has remained in the black and, for the first time since our financial separation from presbytery, we are building financial reserves. Our finance team is intentionally strengthening financial systems and developing a long-term debt management plan. A sustainability group is also reviewing Montgomery's program and development goals to ensure they align with our financial realities and long-term mission.

At the same time, Montgomery continues to expand its ministry in service to the wider church and community, reflecting our ongoing commitment to stewardship, hospitality, and service. We are actively engaged in leadership development for young people, providing safe shelter and advocacy partnerships that support victims of domestic violence, and strengthening our environmental education and land conservation efforts.

Your congregation's support has been a meaningful part of Montgomery's story for many years. I am grateful for your continued partnership, prayers, and encouragement as we work toward a sustainable future for the ministry.

With love and gratitude,

Rebekah Rodgers

Camp Montgomery

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America's top
Summer Camps in
2024!**



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Ages 5-17

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Registration
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88 SE 75th St, Starke, FL

April BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

4/2—Lyn Collins

4/2—April Riley

4/4—Kathey Youngblood

4/6—Lisa Weaver

4/14—Carl Crane

4/18—Cynthia Jean Morgan

4/18—AJ Williamson

4/30—Sarah Youngblood

[illegible]

Bible & Brew

Join Larry for Bible & Brew the **2nd & 4th Thursday (4/9 & 4/23) in from 7-8:30 pm** at the **University Club** (18 E. University Ave.).

All are welcome to join us in an open conversation and relaxed environment. Topics will be decided closer to the date. Please contact Larry if you have any questions.

Mark off **5/14 & 5/28** for next month's **B&B.**



\$1 FUND OFFERING

Our \$1 Fund Offering for the month of **April—June** will go to the **Good Samaritan Fund**.

GRACE - GIVING AND SHARING MISSION

Grace - Giving and Sharing Mission is a food and household item collection benefiting the **Bread of the Mighty Food Bank**. For the month of **April** we will be collecting Dried Beans and Rice.



ELDERS ON

Elders on Call
for April are:

WT Chesnut – 352-256-8628

Karen Russ – 352-262-5419

Two elders volunteer to be on call to help church members and friends who may need assistance when the church office is closed.

Our Daily Bread booklets for April are available in the narthex. If you would like one mailed, please contact Hannah at 701-955-4497.



Men's Noon Lunch & Fellowship

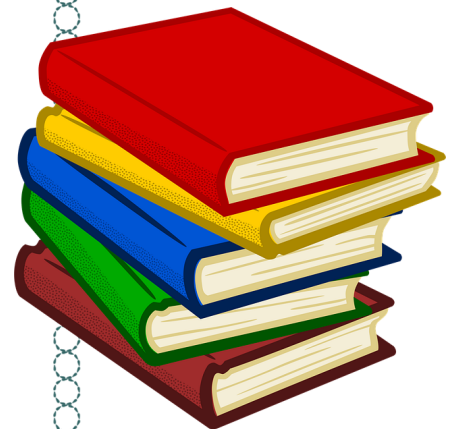


The men of the church are invited to meet each Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm in the library for fellowship. Please bring your own brown bag lunch, beverages will be provided.

Circle News

The Anna Circle will meet April 14 and May 12th in the Library at Noon.

This session will be Parables by John Mac-Arther. Chapter 7 will be this month's discussion.



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 <i>Holy Week</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	30	31	1 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 5-6:30 pm– OE Anonymous 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	2 Maundy Thursday Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	3 <i>Good Friday</i> Service at Westminster at 6pm	4
5 <i>Easter</i> Communion Easter Break-fast 9:45-Choir 11:00 Worship 2 pm-Girl Scouts 7:00-ESWT(AA)	6 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	7 11:00 AM Congregational Life & Mission Committee 7:00 pm– Barbergators	8 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 5-6:30 pm– OE Anonymous	9 7:00 pm— Bible & Brew at “University Club” Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show	10	11
12 9:45-Choir 11:00-Worship 7:00-ESWT(AA)	13 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	14 12:00 Anna Circle 7:00 pm– Barbergators 6:30-9pm Capella Nova	15 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 5-6:30 pm– OE Anonymous 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	16 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	17 6:30-8pm Capella Nova Dress Rehearsal	18 4:00pm Capella Nova Spring Concert
19 9:45-Choir 11:00- Worship Worship Committee 7:00-ESWT(AA)	20 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	21 7:00 pm– Barbergators	22 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch	23 7:00 pm— Bible & Brew at “University Club” Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show	24	25
26 9:45-Choir 11:00- Worship Session Meeting 7:00-ESWT(AA)	27 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	28 7:00 pm– Barbergators	29 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch	30 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus		

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion 9:45-Choir 11:00 Worship 2 pm-Girl Scouts	4 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	5 7:00 pm-Barbergators	6 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 5-6:30 pm– OE Anonymous 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	7 7:00 pm— Bible & Brew at “University Club” Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show	8	9
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24/31 9:45-Choir 11:00- Wor-ship Session Meeting 7:00-ESWT(AA)	25 4:00 pm-Square Dancing Group	26 7:00 pm-Barbergators	27 12:00 pm– Men’s Lunch 5-6:30 pm– OE Anonymous 7:00 pm– ESWT (AA)	28 Girl Scouts 6:30pm– Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus	29	30