



April 5 through April 11, 2026

*But the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" (Luke 24:5).*

*And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).*

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am sitting here on Wednesday afternoon of Holy Week, getting ready for the next few days, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. I hope you can attend joint services at One in Christ, Ambridge, or Good Friday at Ohio.

The first verse above is one of my favorites in Scripture. I remember reading it my first Easter as an ordained Minister. I had trouble keeping my composure as I repeated the question the men asked – a question still profound and meaningful for us today – *"Why do you look for the living among the dead?"*

Are you looking among the dead? As you search for meaning and hope, do you find yourself looking for things that are fleeting, temporary, unsatisfying, DEAD? Is your life spent continually groping in the dark, looking for something better? Something ALIVE?

Indeed, things are difficult for all of us these days – Jesus himself tells us, *"Each day has enough trouble of its own"* (Matthew 6:3). We are surrounded by conflict, depression, bad news, lack of hope, negativity. How many nights do we hit the pillow exhausted? All these feelings come from being surrounded and immersed in DEAD things.

But my friends, take a look at the second verse. Jesus is *with us!* We can have hope! We can walk among the living! Because of Easter (once we get through two very important Holy Week days), we are alive! We have the promise of eternal life thanks to the Resurrection of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us be certain – we are surrounded by things that are temporary and futile. But because Christ is with us, we can walk with the Living – our Living Lord.

Hang in there – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are necessary – Jesus willingly walked through these two days for us. He lovingly and obediently died for you and me so we can look for and walk with the Living.

My prayer is that you have a wonderful and blessed Easter, and spend the rest of your days with the Living.

In Christ,

**Pastor Jim**



### Worship

- Sunday School for children 3yr.-6th grade is during worship after the children's chat
- Adult Sunday School is at 9am
- 104 in church on March 29, 2026
- Easter service is at Ohio UP Church at 10am

### Congregational Care

- Story Time continues on Wednesdays at 9:30 or 10:30am
- Women's Association Meeting on April 7 at 6:30pm
- Ruth Circle will meet at 1pm on April 8

### Mission

- The Lenten Mission project raised **\$3,824** far exceeding the goal of \$3,000. Thank you for your generosity and support!

### Operations

Property Meeting on April 6 at 6:30pm

**VBS Craft Items Needed:** Bottle Caps the size on pop/soda bottles  
CDs or DVDs  
Marbles

There will be a box in the Narthex for the donations.

The Women's Association thanks the congregation for their generous donations to The Adoption Connection.

# Church FAMILY —PRAYER LIST—



- Lynn Smith—Prayers for nephew Mike and wife as they are moving from Georgia
- Mark Mitchell—Prayers for step-daughter, Kiara Kapton's dad who passed on Saturday. He is an organ donor. Prayers for peace for Kiara and the rest of the family and for the families that may receive the organs
- Jeff Davis—Prayers for Mark Douglass who continues his cancer battle
- Megan Hunsberger—Thanks to Simon and parents for watching Grace as Megan was on a work trip
- Pastor Jim—It is good to see John Martin back with us on Sunday.



<b>Anniversaries</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>
<b>Michael &amp; Crystal Saxon 04/13</b>	<b>Holly Diccico 04/01</b>	<b>Evelyn Lawson 04/09</b>	<b>Donna Olexick 04/18</b>
<b>Denise &amp; Chris Mathias 04/25</b>	<b>Ivonne Holsinger 04/01</b>	<b>Logan Palochak 04/09</b>	<b>Hannah Lanctot 04/20</b>
<b>Kenneth &amp; Patti Strominger 04/30</b>	<b>Jeff Davis 04/02</b>	<b>Doug Murdoch 04/11</b>	<b>Jim Williams 04/20</b>
	<b>Jason Cagnon 04/09</b>	<b>Denise Mathias 04/16</b>	<b>Paul Magee 04/27</b>

