Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church
We are glad you are here!
Palm/Passion Sunday

9:30 A.M. Worship **10:45 A.M. Sunday School** **March 28, 2010**

Invitation and Gathering

Gathering music, fellowship, sharing with family and friends, announcements.

Call to Worship
Honor.
Honor and praise.
Honor, praise, and glory.
Honor, praise, and glory are yours Almighty God, now and forever.
In celebration, we join the crowds of old,
waving branches, giving honor to the Messiah.
Yet, our celebration is bittersweet, for our story doesn't end here.
We know the pain of what lies ahead.
Today anticipates the rest of the story—
a story of betrayal and death, a story of hope and resurrection.

Opening Prayer

*** Opening Hymn FWS 2070** **Precious Name**

Proclamation and Response

Prayer of Confession: Lord Jesus, we are a fickle people, quick to turn away. We are quick to flock to you when all is well, but we are prone to scatter when there is opposition or criticism. Too often we have kept silent before you, afraid to proclaim your praise. It is easy to join the crowd as you ride triumphantly into Jerusalem—singing our joys and expectations, dancing our hopes and dreams. It is far more difficult to stand by you as the crowd cries for your crucifixion. Forgive our weakness when we turn away. Strengthen us for the journey ahead as we relive your suffering and death, that we might stay beside you to the end. Give us the courage to shout our hosannas, not only today, but each and every day. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Special Music **Hosanna To The King** **Chancel Choir**

Children's Moment

Gospel Reading **Luke 19:28-40** **Mark Reeder, Reader**

Witness to the Word

Response to the Word

Prayers of the People

Prayer Hymn: UMH 349 **Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering, Offertory, and Doxology **Mr. Andrew Salyer**

Sending Forth

Benediction

***Choral Benediction UMH 536** **Precious Name**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Thanksgiving: beautiful Spring weather.
Prayers for our Active Duty Military Personnel: Tom Alexander and Jamie Perry.
Prayers For Upcoming Events and Our Community: Holy Week and Easter Sunday.
Prayers for: Our Home Bound and Nursing Home Members; All Christian Congregations of Jacksonville; Our Bishop; Our District Superintendent; Our Pastor; Our Church; Its Ministry; and Its Stewardship.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women (UMW) will be collecting the following items for the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House and the Cunningham Children's Home to take to their Spring District Meeting at Pittsfield United Methodist Church on Thursday, April 15 from 9-2:00 pm.

Items needed for the Lessis Bates Davis Neighborhood House: feminine hygiene products, soap, hand towels.

Items needed for Cunningham Children's Home: hair GEL (any brand/NOT hair spray), quilts, gift cards for Wal-Mart, Subway and McDonalds, box tops for education.

There will be a place set up in the Parlor to leave your donated items. Thanks for your help!

If you are interested in attending the district meeting on April 15th, contact Pat Pennell for information.

Easter Trays – Don't forget we are assembling trays for our homebound members and we need donations of small, preferably home-made cookies and fruit. The fruits needed are small applies, oranges, bananas and small bunches of grapes. Please wash the grapes and cut into small bunches at home. Food donations can be left in the kitchen during the last week of March or join us to assemble and deliver the trays on April 1st.

Attention All Women of the Church – Women, you are **ALL** members of the UMW organization , whether you attend a Circle or not. UMW, like all organizations, depends on their members to support them by pledging an amount of money. The amount of your pledge is up to you, but it is due now. This money helps UMW carry on the programs here in the church—like providing dinners after a funeral, filling and delivering holiday baskets for homebound members, and the like. Please make and pay this pledge to Mary Adams, Treasurer or deliver it to the office. Thank you.

MISSION NEWS

This Spring it is anticipated that floods may be severe, given the winter most of the country experienced. This month we will be collecting items which are included in the Cleaning Bucket. You will find the list on the table in the Parlor, or listed in the April Newsletter. If you can't secure all of the items, bring what you can. It will be appreciated.

EASTER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Easter Vacation Bible School promises to be lots of fun for our Grace Church Young Disciples and their friends in grades 1st to 6th. We are using some Veggie Tales materials. The name is Pistachio, The Little Boy That Woodn't. The time will be 9:15-11:30.

ALL-CHURCH MEETING

There will be an All-Church Meeting on April 18, 2010. More details to follow!

NEW BIBLE STUDY

A new Bible study will start on April 13th, at 7:00 pm, in the Parlor. It is a six-week study, led by Beth Fender, and the readings are from the Acts of the Apostles. The title of the study is *Hearts afire and the four areas of focus.* While the study was designed for use by adults, it could be adapted for use with youth. The study consists of two components: daily participant reading and weekly group lessons. The readings will start on April 7th and the group lessons will begin on April 13th.

Join other Methodists for the in-depth study which includes a passage of scripture or an excerpt of John Wesley's writing, questions for reflection, a prayer suggestion and space for recording notes.

You may download the Bible study from the IGRC website, www.igrc.org or sign up in the church office.

CAMPING REGISTRATIONS

Camping registrations are due in the office by **APRIL 6th** if you want to be in on the Early Registration. Brochures and information can be obtained on the revolving rack across from the office and in the office. Please be sure to pick up the registration form and health history form, fill them out and return them to the office no later than April 6th with a check for the initial registration. If you can help us by getting your registration in that early, then we can get everyone's information to the district camping office by their deadline.

REMEMBER THE 2010 CENSUS

If you haven't completed and mailed back your census form, we encourage you to do so. Census data will have an important impact on our community. Data will influence grant opportunities for our faith community and guide decisions about where to build new roads, schools, hospitals and more. Every person and every census form matters. Help to ensure our organization and our community are eligible for the funding they need for a bright future. Please complete and mail back your census form and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to do the same.

SALVATION ARMY SPRING ROUND-UP

Get on board for the big **Spring round-up**. Yup, **The Salvation Army** is rounding up furniture and other household items to assist needy families in this area. Items needed range everywhere from hide-a-bed, tables & chairs, and mattresses to dishes, towels and pots and pans. So, if you're moving, down-sizing, wrapping up your garage or yard sale, or just **"Spring-Cleaning"** and have some extra stuff, please donate it to **The Salvation Army Thrift Store.** Store hours for drop-off are 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Saturday or call 243-3532 and arrange for free pick up. The Salvation Army Thrift Store is located at 622 N. Main in Jacksonville, IL. Blessings, Alan Bradish, Salvation Army Social Caseworker.

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. Jacksonville UM Deaf Faith Church will be hosting the Holy Spokes Lenten Service in our Sanctuary.
Thursday, April 1st @ 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service in our Sanctuary.
Friday, April 2nd from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. the Conference of Churches will be holding Good Friday Services in our Chapel.
Friday, April 2nd @ 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Holy Spokes Lenten Service at Wesley Chapel.
Sunday, April 4th join us starting at 9:00 a.m. for fellowship, 9:30 a.m. Worship and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28
Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Deaf Ministry
1:00 p.m. Deaf Youth Group
4:00 p.m. Holy Spokes Lenten Bible Study @ Grace UMC
5:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Youth to help with Lenten Fellowship
6:00 p.m. Lenten Service @ Grace UMC

MONDAY, MARCH 29
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 30
6:30 p.m. Chick Flicks
7:00 p.m. Deaf Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31
5:30 p.m. Covenant Group
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

THURSDAY, APRIL 1
9:30 a.m. UMW Easter Tray assembling & delivery
11:00 a.m. Grace's Lenten Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 2
11:30-1 p.m. Conference of Churches Good Friday Services
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Holy Spokes Lenten Service @ Wesley Chapel