



April 2026

## Holy Week Schedule



4/1: No Bible Study

4/2: Maundy Thursday - Dinner will begin at 5:30. The Christian Ed Board will provide chicken and we are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. A worship service observing Good Friday will follow in the sanctuary.

4/5: Easter - He is Risen! Easter breakfast will be provided beginning at 9am. Come enjoy the fellowship and good food!

Please RSVP on the Get Connected slip in your bulletin or by calling the church office if you plan to attend either of the meals.

Our congregation is invited to a gathering of the Northwestern Association of American Baptist Churches of Ohio. We will meet with other Baptists from our area at Lauer Historical Barn (800 Roush Rd, Lima OH) on April 25th from 2pm to 3:30pm. Come enjoy a time of fellowship as we get to know our neighbors!



**The 2026 Church Spring Workday will be Saturday, May 23rd from 9am to noon. Be sure to get there early for donuts and coffee! The Trustees have a plan and there will be something for everyone to do, including cleaning, mulching, painting, washing, planting, and more. Pray for good weather!**

**We hope to see you there!**

**April's Mission Focus:** Churches United Pantry, aka CUP, was started in 2001 by several individuals who saw a need to provide food for Lima's hungry neighbors. Their foundation is ten Lima churches who support the ministry with volunteers and finances to purchase food for the pantry. Each month, they serve close to 2,000 Lima residents, who meet USA financial guidelines, have picture ID, and proof of residence. Clients are able to visit the pantry once every 30 days. From late July through September, they also host weekly fresh produce days.



Each month, we choose a focus for our donations (**April's is shampoo and conditioner**), but CUP is also able to meet the needs of their clients through partnering with West Ohio Food Bank. Your monetary donations help them keep their shelves stocked. Your prayers for the CUP volunteers and clients keep them going. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important local ministry.

## Pastor's Article: Varying Kinds of Worship During the First Holy Week

Jesus met several kinds of people in Jerusalem on Holy Week. Those who could be described as having -

- 1) Unconditional Worship
- 2) Conditional Worship
- 3) No Worship at All
- 4) Unexpected Worship

Let's take a moment and look at each.

1) Unconditional Worship: Mary, Martha, Lazarus each loved Jesus. There is nothing mentioned wrong in how they worshiped Jesus during Holy Week. They spent time with Jesus (Lazarus) served Jesus food (Martha) and anointed Jesus for His burial (Mary). There was also Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea. They cared for Jesus' body, gave of themselves, their time, and humbly stood up to do a loving job.

2) Conditional Worship: Some of those who welcomed Jesus on Palm Sunday did so because he had worked miracles, others because they thought he was going to redeem the Jewish people from the Romans. Others had other conditional reasons, like hoping for a good job in the future Kingdom (James and John, Sons of Zebedee). And many disciples ran away when following Jesus became unsafe.

3) No Worship at All: Those who were trying to kill Jesus had been trying for some time, they tried to stone him, throw him off a cliff, undercut his authority, and falsely accuse him. They managed to have him wrongfully convicted and executed, and it seems they had no love for Jesus at all.

4) Unexpected Worship: Herod didn't expect to meet Jesus, and had chance to worship Jesus, but he didn't, Pilate could have done the right thing in keeping Jesus safe and sound, but didn't. The criminal on one side of Jesus decided to worship Jesus while he was already being crucified, and was saved. The Centurian who saw the miracle of darkness and earthquake said "Surely, this is the son of God." This was not something he expected to say, or we would expect him to say.

You have the opportunity to worship Jesus this week, will you take it?

In Love, Rev. Andrew Shields – Senior Pastor

If you've ever thought of joining our First Baptist Family, but aren't sure what is involved, talk to Pastor Andrew Shields and he will be more than happy to answer your questions. We would love to have you as a member!



The First Baptist Daycare and Preschool invite you to attend their Spring Program on April 8th at 6:30pm. Come and see the joy and enthusiasm of our kids!

Donations of cookies or other treats for the gathering after the program would be greatly appreciated!

## First Baptist Daycare and Preschool

*His faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5*

I've worked here for about three years now and as spring approaches, I'm learning to be more thankful for the season that I am in in life and just to be way more intentional with time. This job has taught me a lot about children and everyday real life. I'm grateful for the journey it has taken me on and for God blessing me to be able to help and teach the next generation. I am happy to be passing down God's faithfulness.

- Miss Odessy, Substitute

### April birthdays...

21<sup>st</sup> - Miss Ebony - Lead Wobbler Teacher

21<sup>st</sup> - Miss Allee - Lead Toddler 1 Teacher

30<sup>th</sup> - Miss Kyran - Lead 3's 1 teacher

### April Workversaries...

2<sup>nd</sup> - Miss Odessy - 3 years

### Upcoming events...

April 3<sup>rd</sup> - CLOSED - Good Friday

April 8<sup>th</sup> - Spring Program at 6:30pm - Refreshment donations welcomed 😊

### April 2026 Teacher of the month: Miss Sandra



Miss Sandra joined the First Baptist Daycare & Preschool team on November 10, 2025. She is new to teaching and is currently an Assistant Teacher in our Toddler 2 classroom. She has a strong relationship with God and we are thankful that she joined our team. Miss Sandra has two children, her 17 year old daughter Nautia and 14 year old son Dante. In her free time, she enjoys worship, fellowship, and going to the gym. Family time is also a priority for her. A few fun facts about Miss Sandra: her favorite colors are ALL of the colors, her favorite treats are mint chocolates, and she also enjoys drinking coffee and Barq's Root Beer.

## February Financial Update

February was a more typical month for expenses and receipts were back on target to budget. After two months, we've received about \$2,159 less income than actual expenses but, that's mostly due to the timing of the semiannual tax payment. Adjusting for taxes, *actual giving to actual expenses* shows us slightly positive through February.

*God is Good and continues to bless!*

|                | January         | February        | YTD             |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| *Giving:       | \$16,337        | \$23,577        | \$39,914        |
| <u>Budget:</u> | <u>\$20,167</u> | <u>\$20,167</u> | <u>\$40,334</u> |
| Difference:    | -\$ 3,830       | \$ 3,410        | -\$ 420         |

\*Giving includes Day Care reimbursements and is adjusted for prepaid offerings.

The wind storm damage to the storage building on March 13th has caused us to tap into our contingency fund to cover at least a portion of the cleanup and repair. The trees are off the building and the Trustees are assessing the damage. More to follow.....



This is the QR Code for our church website. Use your QR reader in your phone's camera to scan it. The link will take you to our website where you will find recordings of our services, the weekly bulletin, the opportunity to give to our Church and missions, and more.

**Our focus at First Baptist Church is to increase our commitment to Jesus Christ and introduce Him to others.**