



FEBRUARY 2023

LEAVES FROM THE FOREST

**Forest Oaks
Lutheran Church
8555 Forest Oaks
Blvd.
Spring Hill, FL
34606
352-683-9731
Pastor Glenn E.
Fischer**

**Services
Sunday Worship
9:30 AM
Sunday School
10:45 AM
Pastor's Bible
Class, 11 AM
Fellowship hour
after morning
worship**

**Thursday Bible
Study
9 AM in the
Conference Room**

**Food Ministry
Tuesdays from
9AM- NOON**

*From Our Congregational President,
Jackie Bearden*

The definition of invest is to put aside money with the expectation of achieving a profit. The people who prepare definitions should know that we can also invest in time with God! Investing our funds is a very confusing process for most people, they often turn to a financial advisor to help guide them in how to invest their money. Much like we turn to God's Word and to our pastor's messages on how to navigate in this world as a Christian.

I believe in investing for retirement living, it was part of my career and my life with my husband. A big concept one learns when helping people navigate the investment world is compounding. Meaning money is put into an investment (can be small amounts every month) and the money and the interest is not touched over time. This investment usually will multiply; every month the investment grows because there is interest made on the previous month's interest over and over through the years. Same with our growth and maturity in Christ. Invest and see growth, hopefully compounded, as we inwardly digest God's Word. Invest a special time for prayer, reading the Bible and with giving your gifts and talents to the church.

I love the Concordance in my NIV Bible, even though it does not list scripture for invest or compounding we can find messages to give us a positive side of investing our time with God. This is under grow:
Colossians 1:9-10 “For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

God Bless you all- with love,
Jackie Bearden
Forest Oaks Lutheran Church
Council President

From Our Properties Manager: Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

I bring up this passage because I would like to talk about volunteering. We have many areas, basically all areas of the church where we could really use some volunteers. Probably most important right now though would be volunteering for areas of usher's, greeter's, finance department, counters, and the kitchen.

We have volunteers, but we're stretched thin. This puts pressure on them and makes it hard for them to take a break when they need it. I would like us to have so many volunteers for all positions that we stumble over each other trying to fill them. We definitely have enough people in our congregation to do this and that would be amazing.

And not only do we do this for God, but also for all our brothers and sisters here. Servings and helping others and God for God. I wish everyone peace, love, and joy. And I would like to leave you with this.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

By the way, I didn't give the book, chapters, or verse numbers. I would encourage you to try and find them on your own to do some reading. Again, hope you all have a blessed day!

Keith Higgins, Property Manager



Forest Oaks Lutheran Church
Friday February 3rd
&
Saturday February 4th, 2023
8 AM-NOON

Women's Guild Meeting: Wednesday February 1, at 9 AM. We will have a business meeting and then around 10 AM we need all volunteers for the rummage sale to be here and ready to set up for the sale.

The First Ever “No Hayride”
Hayride!





INTENTIONAL GOSPEL PROCLAMATION



"And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8

Learn more | 888.495.9005 | missionofchrist.org

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Students growing up in Chiayi, Taiwan (a rural county which has more Buddhist and Doaist gods than people), may not know a Christian who could tell them about Jesus. But more than 2,000 students attend Concordia

Middle School which is known for their foreign teachers and excellent English program. Here they get to hear the Gospel every day from both foreign and Taiwanese teachers.

Children in the Fish Island community in Kampot, Cambodia come from primarily Buddhist and Muslim families; however, their parents send them to Stronghold Cambodia for meals, English and computer classes, and a safe place to play. Here children experience the love of Jesus from both Cambodian Pastor Jesse and his wife, Naomi, and from American missionaries. And at Stronghold they hear the Gospel in both English and their native Khmer.

Teenagers in Parrita, Costa Rica have few educational opportunities and often grow up caught in cycles of poverty, abuse, and sex trafficking. Missionaries with LightHouse Transformation Ministries, however, have the opportunity to come into the public high school, support English instruction (a skill that can transform students' lives in a tourism dependent economy!), and share the Gospel both formally and informally as they mentor students and support teachers.

What do all these places and missionaries have in common? They are all part of **Mission of Christ Network – a Lutheran missionary sending organization that works through local partnerships in 20 countries around the world, sending today 42 missionaries (called mission partners) to proclaim the Gospel.**

Mission of Christ Network (MCN) is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2023, and in these ten years MCN has sent 87 mission partners into more than 20 countries. MCN emphasizes 1) Intentional Gospel Proclamation, a singular focus on and passion for proclaiming Christ 2) Best practice training and highly experienced leadership 3) Excellent member care to support and sustain mission partners so they can thrive on the field 4) Lay leadership and a focus on lay missionary sending and 5) Needs established by the field with MCN responding to our local partners instead of directing from the US.

Mission of Christ Network and all its Mission Partners are 100% funded by donor support from congregations and individuals. Thank you to Forest Oaks Lutheran for partnering with MCN to send and support missionaries so more and more people can know the light, love, and peace of Jesus Christ. Your gift helps make Jesus known to the world!

Want to learn more? Go to missionofchrist.org or search Mission of Christ Network on Facebook or YouTube.





Pancake Supper Shrove Tuesday

February 21. This is Shrove Tuesday the day before Lent begins. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for pancakes, juice and fruit. Starting at 5 PM.



Ash Wednesday:

February 22, 2023. Ash Wednesday officially known as the Day of Ashes is a day of repentance, when Christians confess their sins and profess their devotion to God. During the service, the pastor places the ashes on a worshiper's forehead in the shape of a cross. The ceremony, is meant to

show that a person belongs to Jesus Christ, and it also represents a person's grief and mourning for their sins, the same sins that Christians believe Jesus Christ gave his life for when he died on the cross. Join us for the Ash Wednesday Service at 9:30 AM.

Lay Readers: Share God's Word: become a lay reader at our Sunday worship service and share the Old Testament and Epistle readings. Please sign up at the Information Center. When you sign up, you will be signing up for a particular Sunday. Once you claim that Sunday as yours, if you find that you will not be able to be at church on that day, it will be up to you to find a replacement and notify Lyla in the office of the change. Thank you for using your talent to the Glory of God and for your cooperation as we try this new method

Greeters and Ushers Ministry: This is an important function for our church as you welcome worshippers to the service and assist them during the service. Please prayerfully consider serving in this ministry and sign-up at the Information Center.

The Finance Committee: needs new members to help with the business of our church and assisting the church council with the mission of the church and future endeavors. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00am in the conference room. Please prayerfully consider assisting in this important work and come to the next meeting, which will be held February 7th (a change for this month) or contact Jess Ward (352-754-3041) for information.

Birthdays

02/05: Wilbur Heier
 02/06: STAMER, Barb
 02/07: John Hoch
 02/07: Hank Rullman
 02/09: Loretta Gilchrist
 02/13: Lawrence Schmitz
 02/14: Stan Benmore (81)
 02/18: Carl Kolling
 02/20: William Hammond
 02/21: Kathleen Ridder
 02/28: Ken Mattia

Anniversaries

02/14: Robert & Kimberly Lineback
 02/29: Cindy & Mike Braun

FOREST OAKS LUTHERAN CHURCH DECEMBER MEMORIALS

DATE	IN MEMORY OF:	FUND OR FOR BENEFIT OF:	DONATION FROM:
Sunday, November 27, 2022	Dianna Pittman	Sunday School	Mrs. Jodell Burgdorf
Sunday, December 26, 2022	Lillian Heier	General Fund	Mr. Will Heier
Sunday, January 8, 2023	Norma Jean Borger	Unspecified	Mr. Jacob Sandles
Sunday, January 15, 2023	Lillian Heier	Food Pantry	Mr. Will Heier
Sunday January 15, 2023	Dianna Pittman	General Fund	Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Postel
Sunday January 15, 2023	Cliff Hoyt	Unspecified	Mrs. Margo Hoyt

CHEESE!



Church Picture Directory:

We are creating a new Church Picture Directory without using an outside company. In order for you to be in the directory, we

need you to forward a current, close-up “head-shot” photo of yourself folc25news@outlook.com along with your name, address, phone number and email address. If you are a couple, please forward a picture of you as a couple. Please have someone take the photograph of you rather than doing a “selfie.” If you do not have a computer, you may provide the actual photo. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Jackie Bearden or Judy Ward. Pictures are coming in slowly, which means that it is taking us quite a while to complete. Thank you for your cooperation in this endeavor.

Sundays in February are Take a picture Day! Get your picture taken for the Picture directory.

QUILTING FOR CHARITY



FEBRUARY 2ND



FEBRUARY 12TH



FEBRUARY 14TH



FEBRUARY 20TH



FEBRUARY 22ND

Of all the February holidays, one really caught my attention. It seems we celebrated the Savior's birth only last week and now it is nearly time for Lent to begin! Our meditations turn to the walk that Jesus took towards the Cross on our behalf. The purpose of his visit among us becomes more evident and because of God's love for us, our worthless souls are redeemed. May your heart be warmed and your spirit be renewed by the thought of how much you are loved. God's only son's life was sacrificed for our sakes! Praise be to God!

The quilters are always busy. Following are photos I submit as evidence.



Animal child's quilt by Barb
of all the ladies who tied them.



Plaid patches by Kathy



Lutheran World Relief quilts by Darlene, Karen and Ilona with



Most of our quilts require the help of everyone to complete them. Some of us cut and assemble, others sew them together, still others tie the quilts and inspect them for quality. Not everyone does everything but all are important to the completion of our quilts. There is always a way for you to help if you are interested. Stop by on Monday afternoon in the Fellowship Hall. We will welcome you between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00.

Our group has yet another "new bride" in our membership. Darlene was married on New Year's Eve. She is pictured below as she opens our gift to her. We wish her and Waldo many blessings and happiness in the years to come.



Our newest bride,
Darlene

Our post-holiday celebration was held January 16th. We took the day off and travelled to Olive Garden for a lovely leisurely lunch together with our invited guests and even a few husbands! You can see the assembly below. There were 14 ladies and 4 men (who were seated at a separate table 😊).



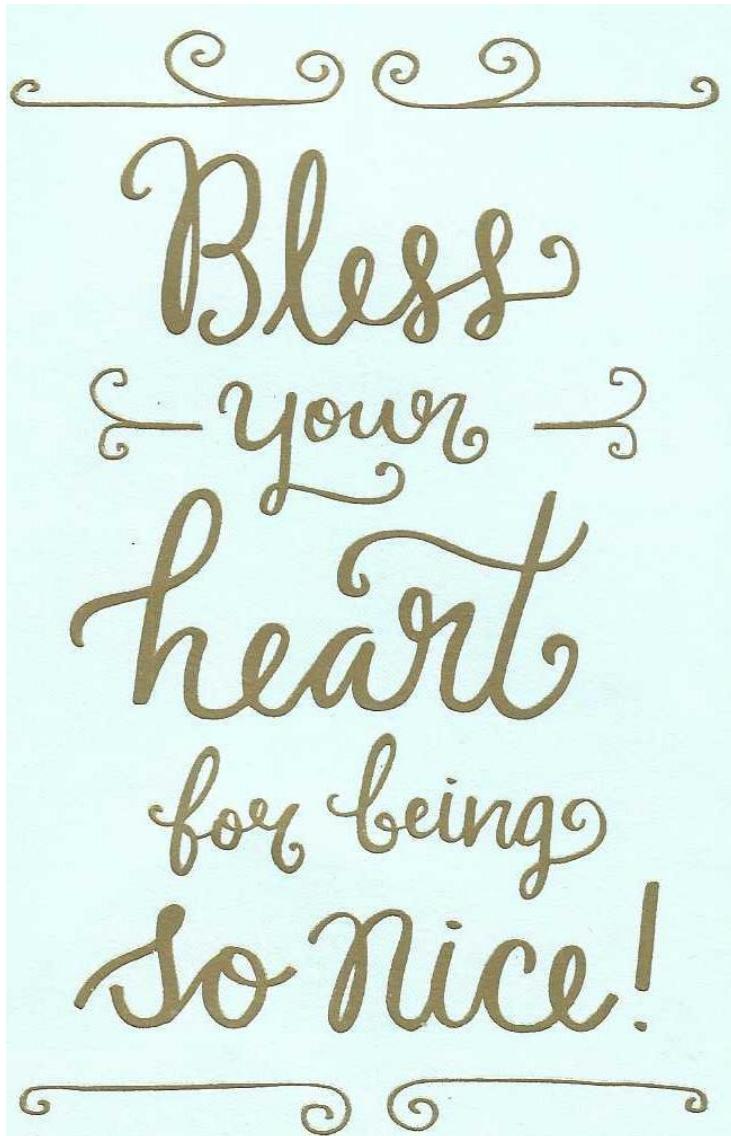
Kelly recently mentioned that patients who undergo infusions at cancer centers could really use something to keep them warm as they lay for extended periods receiving cold fluids in a cold environment. This motivated us to check further. As a result, we are now using our knitters and those who crochet to help us as we donate laprobes and afghans to these patients. Yarn is provided by our group. Anyone who would like to join in this venture can work with us from home or in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays. Just speak to one of us and we will arrange for you to participate.

Once again we of "Quilting for Charity" are happy to welcome a new member to our group. Bobbie has quilting experience and is even having a room remodeled in her home which is dedicated to her passion. I especially enjoy seeing how well the new additions are assimilated into our sisterhood. God truly has blessed us. We look forward to continuing our service to him with our hands and hearts.

As always, we thank all of you for your support in so many ways. Our quilt room overflows with your love shown in donations of supplies and other things. We try to make use of them all and we ask for God's guidance to lead us in our mission. May your Lenten Season be inspiring and meaningful.

God's peace be with you. *Karen*





A Note of thanks:

May God bless each one of you for the beautiful pictures that you made for me regarding the honor flight which I had.

It truly was a great 4 day trip flying from Nevada to Washington DC. We visited historical points of interest.

I want to wish each one of you the very best. We have so much to be thankful for in this great country of ours. And again, thank each one of you for your beautiful messages and drawings.

A special thank you to Marlene Kuhn and Caryl Kellerman. I do so miss you all at church.

Florence Glimpse

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship Hour Sunday School 10:45 AM Bible Class 11 AM *Communion	6 Office Closed Quilters, 1 PM	7 Food Pantry 9AM TOPS 9 AM	8	10	11
12	Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship Hour Sunday School 10:45 AM Bible Class 11 AM Church Council Mtg	13 Office Closed Quilters, 1 PM	14 Finance Mtg. 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM TOPS 9 AM Valentines Day	15	16 Bible Study 9 AM Handbells, 5:30 PM WISE Women's AA	17
19	Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship Hour Sunday School 10:45 AM Bible Class 11 AM *Communion	20 Office Closed Quilters, 1 PM	21 Food Pantry 9AM TOPS 9 AM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5 PM	22	23 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Bible Study 9 AM ASH Wednesday 9:30 AM Imposition of Ashes and Communion	24
26	Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship Hour Sunday School 10:45 AM Bible Class 11 AM *Communion	27 Office Closed Quilters, 1 PM	28 Food Pantry 9AM TOPS 9 AM	29	30	31
5	1 Women's Guild Meeting 9 AM <i>Set up for Rummage sale</i>	2 <u>NO</u> Bible Study Handbells, 5:30 PM WISE Women's AA 6:30 PM <i>Set up for Rummage sale</i>	3 Rummage Sale 8 AM-12 Noon	4 Rummage Sale 8 AM-12 Noon	18 Altar Guild Meeting, 10 AM	
12					25	
19					26	
26					27	