



**Forest Oaks Lutheran
Church**

**8555 Forest Oaks Blvd.
Spring Hill, FL 34606
352-683-9731**

**Pastor Glenn E. Fischer
Secretary: Lyla Mock
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**

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AUGUST 2025

Renovation Project Experiences

Home renovation projects for me bring Contractors, painters, and a lost baby gecko. The gecko was first found under a card table I was putting away and while carefully transporting him (assuming it is a he) to the garage, he jumped off, we did a little dance in the kitchen but I couldn't step on him and he scooted under the refrigerator. A day later I was moving a picture from the wall and he was hiding behind the picture. This time I tried to move him out the front door and he jumped off into the inside of the door jamb. I believe he went back outside. The contractors are interesting: quietly working, concentrating, measuring, cutting, installing flooring, baseboards and soon new showers. There is not much talking, just instructions, and training. A father and son team came in for a day and a half, making a mess with plaster so I left them alone.

The painters were here 2 days, there was non-stop loud communications, teasing one another, informing one another what was to be done.

They need to come back again. A husband-and-wife team came in to install cabinets; they work perfectly together and he builds beautiful cabinets. All these individuals are working together to carefully transform my home.

This does remind me of the rebuilding of the temple in Ezra 3:9b “all Levites-joined together in supervising those working on the house of God.” Ezra 3:11 when the rebuilding was completed: “With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord: ‘He is good’; all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord” However the older priests were weeping because the transformation wasn’t the same as before. Nehemiah is a book on renovation, the people working as a team even under peril.

Revelation 21 details a new heaven and a new earth.

I will be celebrating with joy at the renewal of my home. The home that I love and thank God for daily. When the transformation is complete; Lord willing I will be here for many years.

God Bless you all, Jackie Bearden

Greetings to everyone for the start of August. There is not much for news regarding the property. It has basically just been some regular maintenance/upkeep right now. The last big repair was one of AC units just as summer hit us. And the last repair to need done still is the shed roof. And a check of the sound system again.

Other news however, most of our confirmation class graduates from this past April had expressed interest in us starting a youth group again here. But with another possible confirmation class this October I was a little worried about all the work involved to make it happen.

But so many people have come through. I give many thanks to all of them, especially Lauren Brandimarto, Skip and Sue Guthrie's daughter. Who not only volunteered to help run the youth group, but also volunteered to help run the next confirmation class. And there's been different support for the class from Pastor Fischer, Judy Ward, Marcia Pridgen, Kathy Ridder, and Lyla Mock, thank you all for contributing to get the group going.

So, Sunday August 3rd will be our first day of youth group. We will be meeting after church services every Sunday thereafter. The youth group is going to be a nice mix of Bible lessons, community projects, discussions, and of course some fun and games. And outings like bowling and mini golf, or a movie day at the Church. It will be fun to keep you posted, well they will, with the bulletin board at the east end of the Narthex.

And that brings me to the men's group. There has been a little interest in this before but not enough to really get going. But lately that has seemed to increase. So, Lyla said she would put a signup sheet at the members center by the main doors in the Narthex. If there is enough interest, I will set up a day and time to meet and we can work everything out to get a group rolling again. **Update** we had enough interest to schedule The Men's Group will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 AM. Our first meeting is August 13th at 10 AM.

I was thinking the group would meet once a month. We would have a little Bible study/discussion, news on who needs what and who can do it, any projects around the Church or community, and whatever else we come up with.

But we would go out to do other things during the month like our main purpose to be to help our sick, shut-ins, and elderly members who need little things done around their house. We would go out in two's or more to do this. There are also different community projects we could do.

We could also have outings like going out to eat, or bowling, golf. We could go on a trip somewhere.

But I know a lot of good ideas are going to come to the table and that is what the first meeting or two will be to work out, what all we're going to do.

There will also be things around the Church itself. Like right now, we have a good amount of fellowship hall chairs that need to be repaired that are off to the side right now. And there's little projects that happen here and there. So, if you're interested, please sign up at the members center.

Blessings and Peace! Keith Higgins



Lutheran Women in Mission: The 2025 FI/GA Fall Retreat is Friday September 5, through Sunday September 7. St. Simons Island GA. There is a signup sheet and information on cost at the welcome center. The deadline to register is August 1. So, pick up your form fill it out and return to Debbie Hennessy.

2023-2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 31

BREAKING GENERATIONAL POVERTY IN DETROIT

CAMP RESTORE DETROIT, MICHIGAN | \$58,988



Overcoming Hopelessness with God's Love

Detroit, Michigan, is home to 632,500 people. Since 2000, there has been a 33.5% decrease in population. While Detroit is about 139 square miles, approximately forty square miles are either vacant, abandoned, or have burned out houses occupying the lots. Sixty percent of the children in Detroit live in poverty, which means parents are often out of the house trying to make ends meet, school time is often spent focused on basic needs such as food and clothing, and the educational, emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical well-being of the children suffers. The ability to learn and grow along with peers becomes a seemingly unattainable dream, which sets the foundation for the cycle of generational poverty to continue and the number of children in poverty continues to increase. When parents are unable to focus on a bright future for themselves or their children, hopelessness can feel overwhelming.

Camp Restore, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), is located in what was the most violent area of Detroit, the 9th Precinct. Looking at the physical appearance of the area, it may look like a lost cause. However, there is a strong resilience in the community and strong community leaders. They have the goal of uplifting one another by investing in the people and the places in the neighborhood.

The goal of this grant is to work in partnership with families and community leaders to break the cycle of poverty by providing a Christ-centered atmosphere, full of God's love and grace where families can learn and grow, with access to the needed education and resources. The grant funds will be used to purchase desks, tables, and bookshelves for their outreach centers, tools for all aspects of learning including materials for Bible studies, tutoring, art, and science. Plans include a place to learn technological and vocational skills for adults. Through education and God's love the cycle of generational poverty can be broken.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11).



Our quilt group here at FOLC has been very busy these past months. As is our custom our made quilts were recently given to two children baptized in our church. Also, Graci a member of our youth group received a quilt after her Baptism.

Our group and several other LWML quilters groups to the victims of the recent floods in Texas.

Most of the quilts are shipped to Lutheran World relief and are sent to various poorest areas in the world. Although we are blessed

with donations from many, we do need to purchase supplies at various times. At this time our quilters are making several pieces for our October raffle and craft events during the holiday season. Last year our raffle quilt was won by Jackie Bearden.

We meet on Mondays from 1-4 PM. You are invited to spend as much time with us as fits your schedule. Please stop by and have a look at what we do.

CARE MINISTRY IT'S BEEN A FUN SUMMER!

Susan Russo put an amazing 4th of July celebration. If you missed it I'm sorry because you missed great fellowship and amazing picnic food. It would be wonderful to list each person that stepped up to bat and helped Susan. Sure, as the world turns, we'd miss someone. You know who you are and those that were around you should give each other a pat on the back for a job well done. Most of all we thank Susan for putting on a great party.

We also thank Thrivent for the donation to offset expenses.

Judy Ryder plans Lunch Bunch, which meets monthly. She checks out and selects different restaurants. This group welcomes friends and family to join in. We like to know if you plan to join in so we have a seat reserved for you.

A signup sheet is on the Information Counter. Watch the Bulletin and Newsletter for Judy's next planned restaurant.

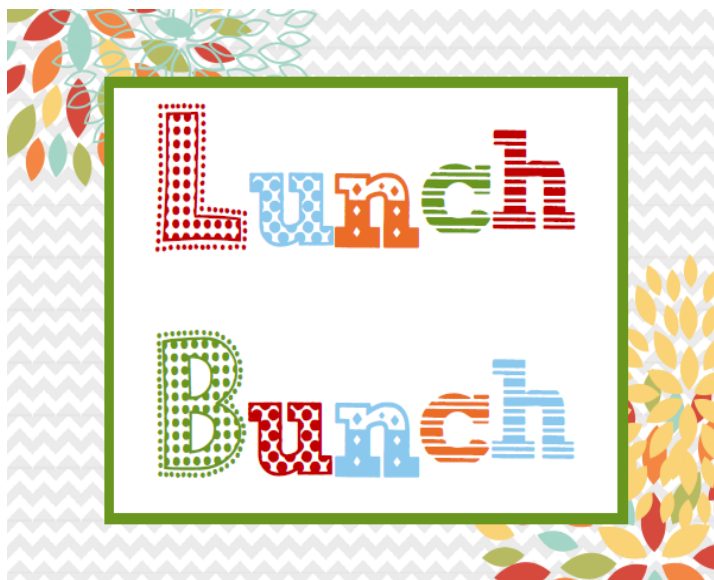
Come one, come all and enjoy a restaurant you may have not tried let alone fellowship with each other. This is a well-attended event. So, join in. Well, done, Judy. We appreciate you.

It's wonderful for people to suggest activities, plan or help with an event.

Many hands do make little work. You are never alone to do any of these things. There are always others who step forward to help.

God bless each and every one of you as you put your best foot forward to walk this journey of life. We are not alone; God is with us every step of the way.

Marcy Stortzum, Care Ministry



LUNCH BUNCH meets once a month the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This is a fun fellowship lunch at different restaurants around the Spring Hill area. This month on Wednesday August 20, we will meet at The Lazy Lizard Restaurant at 3192 Shoal Line Blvd. We will be enjoying lunch inside. See you at noon on August 20 at Noon. Please sign up at the

welcome center so we know how many to plan for.



AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Save Saturday October 18th for our new event. This year we are celebrating the **GENEROSITY** of our congregation and volunteers of the food pantry with an authentic “German meal.

This gives us an opportunity to thank everyone who over the years has supported the Body & Soul Food Pantry with donations of food, monies and even shopping bags. Every gift has been greatly appreciated.

In September, I will be adding a sign-up sheet a to the Welcome Center. I will update you with more information at that time. I will need names who will be attending to assist us in planning our menu. It sounds like it will be a good fellowship event and I understand there will be a DJ to lead in German songs and might even give lessons for the **CHICKEN DANCE**.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY We will resume our study of **EMBRACE GRACE** by Liz Curtis Higgs on September 13th at 10:00 in the Sunday School room. Meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month. All ladies are invited. We will begin with Chapter 4.

NEXT GRIEF SUPPORT

NEW TIME! We will now meet the 2nd Friday of each month at 6 PM. If you have a need to talk and cannot make a 6 PM time, Please contact me or the church office and we can make arrangements to talk. The topic for August meeting is “Finding Our Wings, When Life Hurts





Anniversaries

08/06 Skip & Sue Guthrie
08/21 Charles & Paula Ferman

Birthdays

08/01 Margot Hoyt
08/02 Yvonne (Vonnice) Salter
08/02 Mary Lou Thompson
08/03 Frances Schuleit
08/05 Kathleen Guarante
08/07 Don Mourand
08/11 Eddie Gottsman
08/12 Charles Ferman
08/14 Paula Ferman
08/16 Barbara Dix
08/16 Andrew Magaldino
08/17 Donna Brookes
08/17 Linda McPhillips
08/18 Eleanore Lataxes
08/19 Norma Higgins
08/19 Diane Stewart
08/19 Alexia Villarrubia
08/21 Dorothy Ell
08/25 Drema Gottsman
08/26 Kenneth Wright
08/28 Joseph Brookes

August 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Pastors Bible class, 11 AM Youth Group 11 AM	4 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM	5 Food Pantry, 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM	6	7 NO Bible Study	8 Grief Support, 6 PM Conference Room	9
10 Service 9:30 AM Mites Sunday Fellowship Time Pastors Bible class, 11 AM Youth Group 11 AM <i>Communion</i>	11 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM	12 Food Pantry, 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM	13 Men's Club 10 AM	14 NO Bible Study	15	16
17 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Pastors Bible class, 11 AM Youth Group 11 AM	18 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM	19 Food Pantry, 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM	20 Lunch Bunch Noon	21 NO Bible Study	22	23
24 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Pastors Bible class, 11 AM Youth Group 11 AM <i>Communion</i>	25 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM	26 Food Pantry, 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM	27	28 NO Bible Study	29	30 Private Party 6-9 Set up at 2 PM
31 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Pastors Bible class, 11 AM Youth Group 11 AM						

Memorials

MEMORIAL GIFT FOR:

FUND:

GIFT FROM:

Caroline Hilpertshauser	Unspecified	Darlene Keck
Wayne Nibert	Unspecified	Darlene Keck
Vivian Schmitz	Food Pantry	Larry Schmitz
Albert Mutschler	Future Maintenance	Mrs. Margot Hoyt
Agnes Mutschler	Unspecified	Mrs. Margot Hoyt
Otto Prostka	Future Maintenance	Janette & John Corlito
Derald Kading	Food Pantry	Shari Farra
Dennis Hoyt	Unspecified	Mrs. Margot Hoyt
Lawrence Miller	Unspecified	Mrs. Norma Miller
Don Bearden	Future Maintenance	Jackie Bearden
Pastor Milton & Jan Lehr	Choir Fund	Mrs. Jodell Burgdorf
Hank Hanson	Food Pantry	Robert & Sharon Pavlik
Hank Hanson	Unspecified	Unanimous
Hank Hanson	Future Maintenance	Mrs. Margo Hoyt
Hank Hanson	Food Pantry	Mrs. Jodell Burgdorf
Mr. Derald Kading	Food Pantry	Shari & Pat Farra