



March 2025

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

forestoakslutheran@outlook.com

forestoakslutheran.com

Being Hungry

Proverbs 7:1-3 (Message version) "Dear friend, do what I tell you; treasure my careful instructions. Do what I say and you'll live well. My teaching is as precious as your eyesight-guard it! Write it out on the back of your hands; etch it on the chambers of your heart."

Let us be hungry for hearing and reading God's word. Read-learn-and inwardly digest!

I am one proud Grandma, recently my daughter, Alison, told me her 15 year old daughter, Eva, who is a beautiful high school freshman; a good student; and a very talented athlete in three sports in school and travel teams. Eva is reading the NIV Bible she received for Christmas, and after traveling for a couple of days with her volleyball team she was looking forward to getting home to continue her Bible study. Eva has a hunger for God's Word and she is journaling her prayers – my heart is bursting! With the crazy busy sports schedule with two athletes in the home they do not attend church understanding the word of God. A Grandma's prerogative to give advice.

Personally, I have been following a new eating plan since September. A vegan, no meat, eggs, dairy, oils, but high starch i.e., potatoes, rice, pasta, bread, lentils, and beans. I am not hungry for food, I eat until I am full. This is taking commitment and discipline as is reading through the Bible with the Bible app on my Ipad in the Message version this year. The Bible app has it all planned for each day and gives the capability to listen to a recording and reading along each day. Next year I will take on the King James which I haven't tried so far.

Here is one more Bible verse: 2 Peter 1:5-8 (NIV) "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

God Bless you

With Love, Jackie Bearden, Church Council President

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 5

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, repentance, and spiritual preparation leading up to Easter. Ash Wednesday serves as a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for repentance. During Ash Wednesday services, a priest or minister applies ashes in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of worshippers, there are three reasons why Lutherans go to church to receive ashes on Ash Wednesday. First, the ashes remind people of their sinfulness. Second, the ashes remind people of their mortality. Third, the ashes remind people that they have been redeemed.

LADIES GUILD NEWS

Bakeless Bake Sale is being continued through March. There has been some confusion over how to donate. Simply put your cash or check payable to Ladies Guild in an envelope (any envelope). Mark the envelope Ladies Guild and put in the collection plate. Thank you!

Positions for Fall 25/Summer 26 for Vice-President, Secretary and LWML Chairperson are now open. If you are interested in joining our Board and in one of these positions, please send your name and phone number in an email to Deb Hennessy at danznd57@gmail.com. Thank you Deb!

Vice President is responsible for filling in for the President when needed and for preparing and delivering the Opening Devotion at our monthly meeting.

The Secretary takes and presents minutes at monthly and special meetings.

LWML Chairperson sets up and collects monthly Mites; works with the Pastor on LWML Sunday and keeps the Guild aware of LWML activities. Please consider joining our Guild and our Board.

Ladies remember — if you are a member of FOLC, you are automatically a member of our ladies Guild. We need each of you for your fellowship and ideas!

LWML SPRING RALLY: March 8, at Christ Lutheran Church, in Brooksville. Lunch will be paid for by the Ladies Guild. There is a sign up sheet at the members desk. We will carpool. Meet at 7:30 AM at the church parking lot to carpool.

FOREST OAKS LUTHERAN CHURCH LADIES GUILD FUNDRAISER

NO BAKE BAKE SALE

A bit of news we have today...

a "No Bake Bake Sale" is on the way.

In these busy days, who wants to bake

a pie or cookies or even a cake

You'd be surprised if you counted the cost,
of ingredients, heat, and the time you've lost.

Baking for sales is extra work,
yet nobody really wants to shirk.

So, we've thought of a plan that's really grand,
and feel quite sure you'll understand.

In an envelope, please include the price,
of a pie or cake or anything nice.

Without fuss or bother, you've done your part
we hope you'll give with a willing heart

Wishing our Ladies Guild success for our "No Bake Bake Sale"

this is the end of our little tale.

Shrove
Tuesday



SHROVE TUESDAY MARCH 4

PANCAKE SUPPER Pancake supper, will start at 5 PM On March 4th. Please sign up if you are attending, we need to know how many to prepare for.



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. Join us for the **Ash Wednesday Service at 11 AM March 5.** This is also the beginning of the season of Lent.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCHES AND LENTEN SERVICES

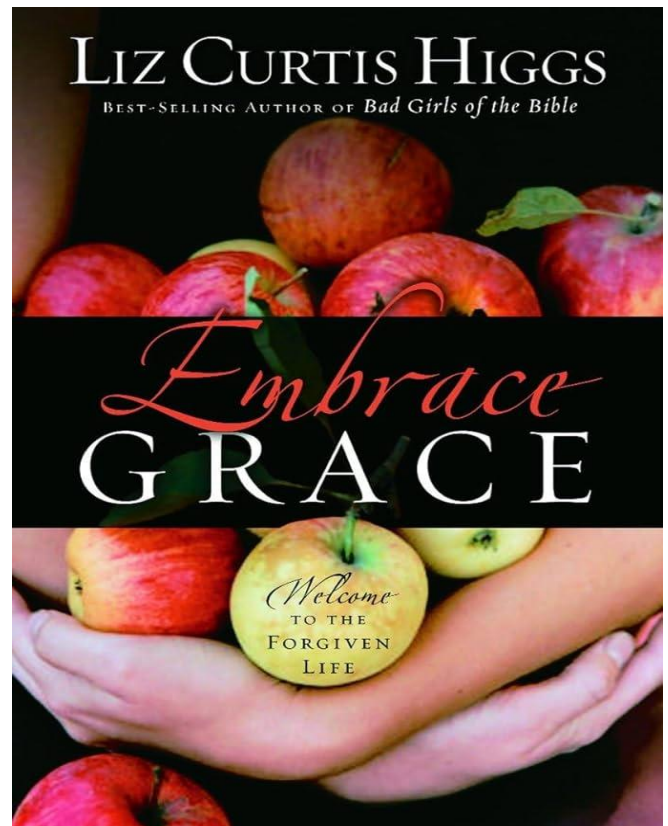
start on March 12. The Lenten service begins at **11 AM** and we have a soup lunch following. There is a sign up sheet for those who can make soup. Prepare for 20 people write your name and the soup you are making.



THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

is starting a new book called "Embrace Grace," and we will have our first class on that book on Saturday,

March 22 at 10 a.m. If anybody has questions, they can ask Cindy Braun.





OUR QUILTING FOR CHARITY GROUP is happy to welcome Kathy Ridder serving as our Group Coordinator. We are thankful for Karen Postel's guidance in the past 11 years. I'm sharing a photo of our enjoyable post-holiday luncheon in January. A reminder that as we share our quilting and sewing skills, we also share a social time on Mondays. Please consider joining us every Monday afternoon from 1 until 4. Spend as much time with us as fits your schedule. For those of us (including me who have trouble threading a needle), there are a variety of tasks that help complete the quilts. Hope to see you. Blessings, Ellouise

HELP WANTED Now don't run away until you read the whole article. I hope everyone enjoys the lunch that follows our Advent and Lenten services because I sure do. You also realize it just doesn't happen like magic. We have been having our soup luncheons for years with great success. For those who have not attended, they follow our Wednesday service during Advent and Lent. Here is my dilemma, I have been responsible for these lunches, please understand our parishioners have been wonderful making wonderful soups chili etc., but I cannot continue without some changes. I am finding the work that goes into this is more than I can do . I would be happy to work with any of our volunteers. It involves setting up making soup for approximately 20 and I usually need two cooks and of course clean up. It is a simple meal and we have kept it simple. I have been thinking of various ways of streamlining and would be delighted to work with anyone who is interested in helping us, now if there is someone in our congregation who would like to champion this committee, please see me. We will be moving into our Lenten season and we will have signup sheets, but please keep in mind there will be some changes. Just remember Ash Wednesday Will have no luncheon. I thank you for your help.
God Bless Lonnie Benmore



Spring Forward

Set Your Clocks Ahead One Hour



OUR NEW MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDEES LUNCHEON

Was a great success. We had an informative meeting and tour of the church grounds. Thanks to all who came and many thanks to all who helped by representing your church groups and committees.

THIS MONTH ON CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council met briefly on Sunday, February 9, 2025, following church to discuss a couple items. Keith Higgins discussed the need to replace the red chairs in the Fellowship Hall that have been randomly breaking when someone sits in them. The Council appointed him to put together a committee to find 50 quality chairs at a reasonable price. Marcy Stortzum also shared with Council that the suggestion has been made that we offer dance lessons for those interested, and she is going to come up with a plan for the logistics of what dances will be taught, liability forms to fill out, and who will be moving tables and chairs and putting them back when the lessons take place.

Cindy Braun, Congregation Secretary

CARE MINISTRY EVENTS FOR MARCH

What does your doctor tell you the best thing you should do for your health? Is it Exercise, lose weight, drink lots of water, and eat healthy foods? You can do just that on March 22nd at 4:00 pm in FOLC Fellowship Hall.

Do you know one of our members; Deb Hennessey is a former Rockette? She will teach us to kick up our heels. No, not really. It will be slow and easy.

Let's get some exercise, eat a healthy snack, drink a little water, and enjoy time with our Christian Family. We will learn the Swing, Cha-Cha, Fox Trot and more. Heck, Pastor Fischer even wants to learn how to Line Dance. Doesn't this sound like fun?

This is a NEW event. Let's start it off with a bang. Remember it's just what the doctor ordered. It gives our body a fun reason to move. It is a form of exercise that's good for the brain and spirit. Mark your calendar March 22, 4:00 pm to put music in your soul and exercise your body.

The "Let's Dance" will be every other Saturday starting March 22nd and continuing April 5th, 19th, etc. Remember practice makes perfect. Heck, come and listen to the music. It just might make your toes want to tap.

March 12 the Ladies Guild will have their meeting at 9:30 AM.

Ash Wednesday service is at 11:00 AM.

Game Day is always the 2nd (March 12th) and 4th (March 26th) Wednesdays of each month at 1:00.

The 3rd Thursday (March 20th) of each month is Bingo. Bring a wrapped "White Elephant" and when you win you can select a "White Elephant" to take home and enjoy.

Let's gather together and get better acquainted with our caring and loving Christian Family

Lunch Bunch will not meet in March or April.
Care Ministry will not meet during these months as well.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: This is an appeal to anyone who bakes, likes to bake, likes to shop and can help us on Sunday mornings. I would like to give our parishioners a little history on how we have been able to enjoy such lovely snacks on Sunday morning. We have been blessed in being assigned a couple Publix stores which we pick up pastries and bread twice a week. The contributions have been donated to our food pantry, but at times we have a generous amount and have been able to



share with the congregation. Keeping in mind that the pantry must always come first due to the fact this is a donation for them. The Publix on Mariner and County Line is our Sunday pick up. The store is going through a similar renovation as the Publix on Spring Hill and 19.

This means we are on our own. There is a signup sheet on the welcome center where you can sign up for your choice of a Sunday remember anything would be appreciated. I imagine all of us came from a church elsewhere that we did this weekly. I think we might have gotten a little spoiled. By the way we are looking at maybe a year. Again, thank you all. God Bless Lonnie Benmore



Birthdays

03/01	Jocelyn Fischer
03/06	Ted Ryder
03/07	Nancy Skinner
03/08	Casey Braun
03/08	Marcia Pridgen
03/11	Lonnie Benmore
03/13	Lyla Mock
03/13	Pamela White
03/16	Walter Salter
03/18	Audrey Stead
03/19	Bob Pavlik
03/22	Onica Dollins
03/28	Geoff Blackburn
03/29	Keith Higgins
03/31	Mary Arndt
03/31	Louise Hirsch

Anniversaries

03/04	Joe & Donna Brookes
03/21	Ray & Mary K Klein
03/26	Don & Barb Mourand
03/28	Tom & Diane Shay
03/29	Dennis & Barbara Dix



A SILENT SEASON

*Faith may be taken where it has never been,
But God is preparing me for things unseen.*

*No matter how long the time I must wait,
Gods purpose for my destiny won't be late.*

*HIS schedule will always be perfectly,
As HE shows me things that are meant to be.*

*During the journey through time in this life,
Evil trickery penetrates my heart like a knife;*

*Slicing out all the good stored inside,
God will give me refuge and a safe place to hide.*

*I need to be steps ahead of the storm,
As HE helps keep my heart still, soft, and warm.*

*I need HIS understanding so I don't turn cold,
With a path to righteousness , I can stay Bold!*

*If I should feel lost as I travel the road,
I must always remember the written words told.*

HE helped me choose what's right, and I'm following HIS ways,

HIS Favor will bring me victorious days.

Thank You God, that you are only a whisper away!

By Marti Kelley

08/26/2023

MARCH 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Sunday School 10:45 Confirmation Class Pastors Bible class</p>	<p>3 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM</p>	<p>4 Food Pantry 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM Shrove Tuesday Pan- cake Supper 5 PM</p>	<p>5 Ash Wednesday 11 AM</p>	<p>6 Bible Study, 9 AM</p>		<p>1</p>
<p>9 Mites Sunday Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Sunday School 10:45 Confirmation Class Pastors Bible class *Communion</p>	<p>10 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM</p>	<p>11 Food Pantry 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM AARP 12-3 PM</p>	<p>12 Women's Guild 9:30 AM Lenten Service 11 AM Soup Lunch Noon Game Day</p>	<p>13 Bible Study, 9 AM AARP 12-3 PM</p>	<p>14 Grief Support 11 AM</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Sunday School 10:45 Confirmation Class Pastors Bible class</p>	<p>17 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM</p>	<p>18 Food Pantry 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM</p>	<p>19 Bible Study, 9 AM Lenten Service 11 AM Soup Lunch Noon</p>	<p>20 Produce Drop 9-11 Bingo, 1 PM</p>		<p>22 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Dance Class 4 PM</p>
<p>23 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Sunday School 10:45 Confirmation Class Pastors Bible class *Communion</p>	<p>24 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM</p>	<p>25 Food Pantry 9 AM TOPS, 9 AM</p>	<p>26 Lenten Service 11 AM Soup Lunch Noon Game Day</p>	<p>27 Bible Study, 9 AM</p>		<p>29</p>
<p>30 Service 9:30 AM Fellowship Time Sunday School 10:45 Confirmation Class Pastors Bible class</p>	<p>31 OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY Quilters, 1 PM</p>					