



# April 2026

**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  
Confirmation Class  
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.com](http://forestoakslutheran.com)

## Becoming An Influencer for Jesus

### Part two

In David Jeremiah's magazine Turning Point the January article titled "365 Opportunities to Live Like Jesus" by David Jeremiah there are two more recommendations for our benefit.

3. Love Like Jesus. Love is not a sensation; it is not a warm feeling in your body. The love of Jesus rolls up the sleeves and handles the everyday issues in our lives. It is very practical: hugs the lonely, feeds the hungry, tends to the sick, comforts the sorrowful, and it puts up with the insufferable. Love is kind and longsuffering. "It's pure and perceptive and positive in its outlook. It is truly one of the foundations of a life beyond amazing."

It is interesting, until Jesus came to this earth, nobody had ever experienced that kind of love. The *agape* love. The world's love is very self-centered. It demands something in return. "But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us!" Romans 5:8

And John 13:34 Jesus said, “A new commandment I give to you; Love one another. As I have loved you, that you also love one another. “

4. Light up the world like Jesus. As we learn more about Jesus, live like Him, and love like Him, we will become a light bearer in a world of darkness. The Bible said of God’s people: “They looked to Him and were radiant” Psalm 34:5

There is a story about a little girl in a church who was asked what a saint was. She looked at the stained-glass windows and said, “they are the people the light shines through.” The spirit of hope and joy is in short supply in our world today but as we live and love like Jesus, and we light up our world one moment at a time and become influencers for Jesus.

God Bless you my fellow influencers for Jesus,

Jackie Bearden,

Church Council President



## **FROM THE LADIES GUILD:**

Ladies Guild news — If you plan to attend Easter Service, please remember we have a Flower Cross at the 2nd service. Bring cut flowers to place on the cross!

Our April meeting will be Wednesday, April 8 at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Ladies of Forest Oaks come join us as we meet in fellowship to learn and spread God's word.

We are still searching and praying for someone to step up and become our new Treasurer October 2026. Please consider joining us.



### **A New Generation Walk for Life**

Can one person make a difference? YES!! And TWO can be unstoppable! Bring a friend and double your fun. If you both raise pledges, you'll double your funds. Sign up today for A New Generation's Walk for Life on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at Tom Varn Park in Brooksville. Together, our steps will make a difference for women, teens, and families all over Hernando County. Visit our WALK display table to register, or visit: <https://donors.anewgen.org/walk-for-life>.



**Men's Club Group:**

Men's Group meets the second Wednesday of the month. Time varies so watch the bulletin for information.



**Easter Breakfast on April 5:** It is a tradition to have Easter Breakfast after the sunrise service and the Resurrection Day service. Thank you to all who brought in strata, fruits and pastries. Enjoy Easter breakfast with us

**Are you interested in learning CPR?** The Church will have an AED (portable Automated External Defibrillator) on site. If you are interested in learning CPR and being certified please look for the sign-up sheet. We will have classes if we have enough people to sign up.



## QUILTERS GROUP

The Quilters group has much news in march. We thank our member Marcy who obtained a Thrivent grant to purchase several rolls of batting for our quilts. Our member Betty has made many more baptismal napkins. These are given to the families. A beautiful little girl was recently baptized and gifted with a quilt. Our member Darlene makes colorful dog quilts and pillows for our furry friends. We are an active and caring group who meets each Monday from 1-4 PM. Please stop by and add your talents to our friendly group



## The second Sunday of each month is Mites Sunday

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" offerings that fund the national mission grants. Please continue to donate \$1.00 bills with the letters **L** for Lord, **J** for Jesus, and **C** for Christ as well as any change you have. Offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national **mission grants** and implement the LWML program.



**Mite Boxes**, are distributed to every woman in a society, and to each member of the congregation. Local groups submit Mite Box offerings to the appointed district officer.

### The Widow's Mite

*Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a*

*poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on" (Mark 12:41–43).*

### LWML History

"There's no question the church is behind you because in so many ways you are ahead of the church." With those words, a Lutheran historian applauded the progress of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) since its founding in 1942. Its roots, however, go back nearly a century earlier. Beginning in the 1850s, women of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org) started local auxiliaries to meet the needs of people—mending clothes for seminarians, equipping hospitals, establishing schools, developing convalescent and retirement homes, assisting orphanages and residences for people with disabilities, gathering clothing, furniture and food for indigents, and funding mission endeavors at home and abroad.

Not until the 1920s, however, did members of congregational societies begin to coordinate their efforts by uniting in state and regional leagues. Oklahoma was first in 1928, but it took more than a decade before official approval was granted for a national LCMS women's organization. Written by Marlys Taege Moberg

In response to resolutions from two district groups, the 1938 LCMS convention established a committee to study “the problem” (of establishing a synodwide women’s organization). The committee’s 1941 report was favorable, and the Synod not only approved, but encouraged the creation of a general organization of women. Five pastors were appointed to arrange a meeting of representatives from interested districts.

At that meeting, held July 7–8, 1942, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois, the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League was founded by delegates from 15 districts. Today it is active in every district of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. LWML has set a pattern for similar organizations in other countries where there are LCMS partner churches.

### **Why Purple?**

The official colors of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League are purple and gold. According to the Southern Illinois Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly Supplement, October 1948, the Southern Illinois district was the first to adopt the colors of purple, symbolizing royalty, and gold, symbolizing value and integrity. The LWML Executive Board adopted purple and gold at their board meeting held on July 24, 1951, at the Commodore Hotel New York, New York. The minutes of this meeting state: “Motion was made by Mrs. Emil Frank to recommend that the colors Purple and Gold as suggested in the Handbook, be adopted as the official League colors. Action – Adopted.” This historical decision is noted on page 77 of Wings (© 1991).

2025-2027 MISSION GRANT NO. 6

## CHRIST-CENTERED HOPE FOR CANCER PATIENTS

PHIL'S FRIENDS | \$100,000



### *Visiting Cancer Patients with the Compassion of Jesus*

Phil's Friends touches or "visits" cancer patients and their families in profound ways. In the past 18 years, nearly 60,000 care packages and more than one million Cards of Hope were sent across the United States and even to Liberia. Each cancer patient can't be seen in person, but they can be "visited" with the mercy, love, and compassion of Jesus Christ through free care packages and monthly Cards of Hope. It is during difficult times when people are most likely to ask searching questions and are open to the Gospel. Simple acts of kindness, such as receiving a care package or encouraging cards, become the most meaningful and impactful.

The cost to support one cancer patient for a year is \$100. This total includes the care package, 12 Cards of Hope, and postage. Since Phil's Friends is 100% donor supported, this \$100,000 grant will help reach 1000 patients with Christ-centered hope and compassion.

Each care package is lovingly hand-decorated, and the contents are customized according to the age and gender of the recipient. Care packages are filled with both practical and comfort items that a cancer patient can use during their treatments such as lip balm, a water bottle, lotion, a knitted hat, socks, a homemade blanket, a journal, puzzle books, and stuffed animals for children. The most important thing that is included in every package is the Bible, the only true source of hope and comfort.

Phil's Friends operates in the LWML Northern Illinois District, and the Bible verse from Matthew 25:36 is at the core of its mission. Testimonies are received every week from recipients telling how their care package and ongoing Cards of Hope strengthen, encourage, and uplift their spirits. Some recipients say they began reading the Bible for the first time and came to faith in Jesus. Phil's Friends plants Gospel seeds, reaches the spiritually lost, and rejoices over every person who will join Jesus in heaven.

*I was sick and you visited me  
(Matthew 25:36).*

*Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.  
(Matthew 11:28).*



# Anniversaries

04/14 Phil & Sharon McKenna

# Birthdays

04/18 Jeffrey Pridgen  
04/20 Starr Magaldino  
04/30 Diana Koelling

If your name is not listed on the birthdays or anniversaries, please call Lyla at the church office and give her the information.  
352-683-9731

## MEMORIALS

<u>Memorial Gift From:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>For the Benefit of:</u>
Margo Hoyt	Cliff Hoyt	Future Maintenance Fund
Audrey Dean	Harold Dean 12th Anniversary of Passing	Unspecified General Fund
Cathy Walter	John Hoch	Food Pantry Fund
John & Jeanette Corlito 1 Lagoon Dr., Brightwater, NY	Otto Prostka	Unspecified General Fund

# LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

The Wednesday services were well attended and the soups were just wonderful. Thank you to Pastor Fischer for these studies during Lent and Thank you to all who brought in homemade soups, Now, we are at the end of lent and ready for holy week and begin the Easter season.



# HOLY WEEK

April 2 Maundy Thursday 7 PM

April 3 Good Friday 7 PM

Sunday March 5 Easter Day

7 AM Sunrise Service Breakfast Following

9:30 AM Easter Services, Easter Breakfast Follows





# April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>5 Easter Sunday</b> Sunrise Ser, 7 AM Breakfast Resurrection Day 9:30 AM Breakfast	<b>6 Office Closed</b> Quilters 1 PM	<b>7 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	<b>8 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM <u>Finance Mtg. 9 AM</u> <u>Ladies Guild</u> <b>Men's Club, 10 AM-Game day 1 PM</b>	<b>9 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	<b>10 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	<b>11 Office Closed</b> Women's Bible Study 10 AM Grief Support, 11:30 AM
<b>12 Mites Sunday</b> Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastor's Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM	<b>13 Office Closed</b> Quilters 1 PM	<b>14 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	<b>15 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM <b>Game day 1 PM</b>	<b>16 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM Produce drop 9 AM	<b>17 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM	<b>18 Office Closed</b>
<b>19 Service 9:30 AM</b> Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastor's Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM	<b>20 Office Closed</b> Quilters 1 PM	<b>21 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	<b>22 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM <b>Game day 1 PM</b>	<b>23 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	<b>24 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM	<b>25 Office Closed</b> Women's Bible Study 10 AM Grief Support, 11:30 AM
<b>26 Service 9:30 AM</b> Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastor's Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM <b>Communion</b>	<b>27 Office Closed</b> Quilters 1 PM	<b>28 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	<b>29 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM <b>Game day 1 PM</b>	<b>30 Office open</b> 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM		
				<b>2 Maundy Thursday Sedar</b> 7 PM	<b>3 Good Friday</b> 7 PM	<b>4 Office Closed</b>