



May 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

Continuous learning

A fun day when reading through the Bible is reading a message that you remember. I recently read about Samson in Judges. There are always parts that I forgot when I read the book a year ago.

We can continually learn new things about God's love for us from our Pastor and from our own studies. I recently read an article about a Pastor who asked his Bible class what three items were held inside the ark of the covenant. I remembered the broken tablets of the 10 commandments written by God's hand, then broken by Moses when he came down from Mount Sinai and found that the people made a golden idol to worship. The second item I remembered was the golden pot holding manna given to the Israelites in the wilderness symbolizing how God took care of them for 40 years. But the third item was a puzzle –

it was Aaron's staff that had miraculously bloomed to confirm Aaron's appointment to priesthood in Hebrews 9:4. Additionally, the Ark of the Covenant had a lid made of solid gold known as the 'Mercy Seat' representing the presence of God and two cherubim with outstretched wings. The mercy seat would be sprinkled with blood to atone for sin foreshadowing Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We should never stop examining and learning about God's Word and from that Word feeling the love He has for us His children.

God Bless you all. And Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mom's.

Love, Jackie Bearden

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We had a wonderful Easter celebration in Sunday School this year. The students enjoyed playing a Bingo Game for Sunday School, where they had to look for the Christian symbol versus looking for the called number. All were able to enjoy small prizes from the Treasure Box after playing! It is so heartwarming to see how students are bringing their friends to Sunday School with them this year. We have had four new students attending! "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'" Matthew 19:14 NIV . I was very happy to see Kyle, who moved away and I have not seen in a while, stop in on Easter Sunday and join us! Sunday School is from 10:45-11:45 AM. Congratulations to Joey who was also baptized on Easter! A huge thank you to Jodell Burgdorf for continuing to create beautiful bulletin boards for Sunday School!



SOME PHOTOS OF SET UP FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER



Men's Club Group:

What an amazing turnout we had for our Lent fish fry. We had a count of 52 people on the sign-up sheet and a count of 54 people at the event. Everyone was truly enjoying the event which was exciting to see. A lot of people getting to know other people, having a good time, and many compliments on the food served.



The Men's Group did an amazing job with a big turnout themselves. So many showed up early and pitched in helping with all the prep work to help everything run smoothly. And the same with the clean up afterwards. The better we have gotten with this, the more events we are being asked to run. So maybe in a couple months we will plan out another

event to help bring people together. A big Thank You to Thrivent and another sponsor for making this event possible. So many people did so many things that I would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who contributed in their own ways to help make this possible for everyone else to enjoy and let's continue to grow upon what we have been building, fellowship of Christian's! And there are



already ideas for an even more encompassing events to be discussed at the next Men's Group meeting. Peace and Blessings Keith Higgins



We had a great turnout this past Saturday for the work day on the landscaping project. A total of 9 guys were here to work on the cleanup of the hedge row of bushes around the AC units. Starting around 8 am until sometime around noon.



They were pulling out weeds, saplings, frons, and poison ivy. Pulled out the dying bushes, fertilized the ground and planted 4 new bushes to fill in the empty spots. It will probably take 2-3 years for the new bushes to grow to the height of the established bushes but that will happen.

The guys also pulled out 4 of the dying bushes

leading to the main entrance of the church and replaced those with 4 new ones and also planted a 5th bush in a spot where 1 of the bushes had died out many years ago.

This completes the phase of the project that was sponsored by the great group of Thrivent sponsored by our member Kathy Hougen who was recently married here to Alan at our church. Thrivent, along with members of our church such as Kathy and Marcy have sponsored other events here at Forest Oaks Lutheran Church including the recent fish fry. So, if you haven't started an account with Thrivent yet please do. They do many things for us here. You can enroll online, or get an application from Marcy or myself. We are still working on the last part of the landscaping project that we want to finish through the Men's Group. We have not scheduled any work towards this last phase yet but will keep everyone informed when we come up with a day to work on this. If anyone would like to apply to Thrivent to help with the cost of this last part please let Dan Derenski, Dennis Dix, Eddie Gottsman, or myself know so we can get that rolling along.



This next phase is for the retention pond in front of the main entrance to the church. This is also not as labor intensive as the other part had been. We will be needing to get 20-25 of the low shrubbery to fill in all the bare spots where the original shrubbery did not take well. And also, to get a pallet of sod to cover the big dirt area inside of the retention pond where the grass had died out over

the years. The irrigation has already been adjusted to make sure everything and everywhere is getting the water that it all needs so that none of the work we are doing is for nothing.



Recycling Aluminum Cans We want to give everyone a little reminder that the church does collect aluminum cans to recycle. The money raised from this goes to the Sunday School account and is used for various items between the Sunday School and the Youth Group. It is used for snacks and drinks, crafting supplies, and lessons for teaching. Thank You to all who have been supporting this endeavor!

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 on using the Defibrillator on May 30th time probably 4-7 PM.** The class is free for training. If you want the CPR certification card there is a cost of \$25. You do not need the certificate to use the Defibrillator. We have several signed up and you still have time to add your name



QUILTERS GROUP

Here are some Doggie Beds made by Quilter Darlene and some baby items made by other quilters. Join us Mondays starting at 1 PM.





THANK YOU NOTES

Dear friends and members of FOLC, I have received over 100 cards of sympathy for Shari's going home to heaven. Her husband Patrick also received many cards. I could not be more pleased with the Service that pastor Fischer brought on Shari's memorial. It was just a beautiful service. The food was wonderful, I could not have wished for anything better. Thank you to all who helped with the memorial service and for all the cards, calls, and prayers you sent. Blessings to you all,
Mary Lou Kading



LADIES GUILD: May Meeting will be Wednesday, May 13. This is our last meeting until September. We're meeting at 11 AM at the China Buffet on Cortez (across from Walmart). A sign-up sheet will be at the Information Center early May. Hope to see you there!

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.

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.

2025-2027 MISSION GRANT NO. 9

INTRODUCING MUSLIMS TO THE SAVIOR

LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION, GLOBAL | \$100,000



Sharing Christ's Love with the Muslim Community Far and Near

Many of the almost two billion Muslim men, women, and children in the world haven't heard about Jesus. Those that have heard of Jesus may be in fear, because believing in Jesus may put them in danger ranging from rejection to physical attacks and even death.

Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) will be using two different ways to reach out to these people who hunger to learn about Jesus but must do so secretly. One of the ways is to follow the example set in Somalia, where people are hearing the Gospel online. They plan on making as many titles as copyright permissions will allow available online and downloadable from the LHF website and other platforms like Issuu (and Spotify and Apple Tunes, where audiobook versions are available). That way even those in highly persecuted areas would be able to access the Good News.

The second way LHF will be sharing the Gospel is through printed books, like the Small Catechism, devotions, and tracts that will be printed in their own language. The books will be translated into several languages, including Arabic, Farsi, Bahasa Indonesian, and Kazakh.

Almost three and a half million Muslims live in the United States and there is a huge need to share the love of Jesus to the people that live here in our own country. Through this mission grant, LHF-translated materials can freely be given to LCMS Muslim-outreach programs like POBLO (locations in 10 states from Ohio to California) and Disciples of the Way (Texas) and individual congregations that are sharing the Gospel with Muslim immigrants. The cost to translate and publish Small Catechisms is approximately \$5 per book, which means that 20,000 books can be distributed around the world. Because LHF's books are translated into a language that these immigrants are able to read and understand, it will help introduce them to our Lord.

This LWML grant will provide funding for the development of social media and printed materials that will share the news of our Lord and Savior.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands (Rev. 7:9).

2024-2026 MISSION GRANTS AS OF 2/16/2026

Highlighted items changed this quarter

GRANT RECIPIENT	GRANT	DISBURSED	BALANCE
#1 Facilitating Futures: Forward Paths for Young Men and Women Aging Out of Foster Care	10,000.00	7,500.00	2,500.00
#2 Reaching College Students So They Thrive in Christ	9,000.00	4,663.50	4,336.50
#3 Wheels of Plenty	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
#4 Center for Seafarer Mental health	8,750.00	0.00	8,750.00
#5 Proclaiming Jesus to the Visually Impaired	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
#6 Christian Care and Early Childhood Education	10,000.00	2,157.50	7,842.50
#7 Surgical Sterilizer	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
#8 Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
#9 Who Is My Neighbor? Bible Books for Non-English speakers	8,500.00	8,500.00	0.00
#10 Missionary Couple for Christian Outreach to International Communities in the FloridaGeorgia District	10,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
#11 Trinity Lutheran Academy Security Locks	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
#12 Buma Village Project (partial)	487.83	487.83	0.00
TOTALS	106,737.83	68,308.83	38,429.00

Praise GOD for His
blessings!

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the LWML FL-GA District is to share the love of Christ with women of all ages and diversities and to foster a recognition that the mission field exists both at home and abroad.

Anniversaries

05/04	Marliss & Harry Kyler
05/10	Glenn & Jocelyn Fischer
05/17	Matt & Cindy Pederson
05/24	Daniel & Lyn Drenski
05/24	Ken & Bobbi Mattia
05/27	Jess & Judy Ward
05/28	Kenneth & Pamela White

Birthdays

05/06	Carol Ann Blue
05/07	Ramon Rivera
05/09	Logan Braun
05/09	Suzanne Wood
05/09	Kathy Hougen
05/10	Bob Schuleit
05/20	Michele Jefcoat
05/29	Rod Marques

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>
Janette & John Corlito	(M) Otto Prostka	Unspecified
Bob & Sharon Pavlik	(M) Shari Farra	General
Bob & Sharon Pavlik	(M) David Gottsman	Food Pantry Fund
Anonyomous	(M) Joyce Neuber	Unspecified
Cindy Braun	(M) Shari Farra	Food Pantry Fund

May 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class 10:45 AM Fellowship Time Youth Group 11:15 AM Pastors Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM	4 Office Closed Quilters 1 PM	5 Office open 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	6 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Game day 1 PM	7 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	8 Office open 9 AM-1 PM	9 Office closed Postal Food Drive Noon- Women's Bible Study 10 AM Greif Support 11:30
10 Mites Sunday Mother's Day Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastors Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM *Communion	11 Office Closed Quilters 1 PM	12 Office open 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	13 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Game day 1 PM Ladies Guild last meeting until September China Buffet on Cortez, 11 AM	14 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	15 Office open 9 AM-1 PM	16 Office closed
17 Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastors Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM	18 Office Closed Quilters 1 PM	19 Office open 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	20 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Game day 1 PM Lunch Bunch	21 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Produce Drop Bible Study 9 AM	22 Office open 9 AM-1 PM	23 Office closed Women's Bible Study 10 AM Greif Support 11:30
24 Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastors Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM *Communion	25 Memorial Day Office Closed Quilters 1 PM	26 Office open 9 AM-1 PM TOPS 9 AM Food Pantry 9 AM	27 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Game day 1 PM	28 Office open 9 AM-1 PM Bible Study 9 AM	29 Office open 9 AM-1 PM	30 Office closed
31 Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Confirmation class Fellowship Time Youth Group Pastors Bible class Choir Rehearsal 12:30 PM *Pot luck lunch*						

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY MAY 10



MEMORIAL DAY MAY 25

