



# **LORD OF LIFE** **LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**LIFELINE MARCH 2026**



## Pastor's Prattle

As I write this article, there is a huge winter storm hitting the northeastern U.S. There are blizzard conditions from New Jersey up into New England, with high winds and very large amounts of snow. People are not able to get out, and many are starting to lose power. We know a little of what that will be like for them, since we recently had our own serious winter storm.

We know, too, that in about a month, we will be entering our Spring severe weather season. As the cold and warm air masses start to collide, storms will arise that could be severe. There will also be the possibility of tornadoes and serious wind events. Like in any storm, all you can do sometimes is to hunker down and endure it.

We also know what it is like to endure some of the storms of life. There are many things that we will face in this life—financial struggles, family stresses, illnesses, loss of loved ones. Some of the storms are brief and mild; some are prolonged and strong. Sometimes, all we can do is hang on and endure.

We don't always realize it, but the greatest and most significant struggle that we face is the battle with sin. It is constant and life-long. The power of sin is strong and has the ability to destroy us. The consequences can be eternal. It is nothing less than the battle between the forces of good and evil.

The season of Lent is an opportunity for us to take an honest look at that struggle in terms of our own lives. It is a chance for us to see how we are faring in that battle. If we are honest, we will realize that we are not able to come out on top and, try as we might, we don't have the strength to overcome the power of sin. At least, not on our own.

So we turn to God in penitential prayer, asking him to forgive our short-comings and to empower us to defeat our enemy. It is when we turn to him and his power that the tide of the battle turns, because we know that it is his power within us that overcomes the power of sin. It is when we rely on him that we know we will win in the end.

Let us spend this season of Lent in prayerful self-examination, putting the outcome of the storm in God's hands. Then, when we celebrate Holy Week and Easter, we will be overcome with joy, as we see once again the lengths God went to, in order to offer forgiveness and Life to us.

*Pastor Jim*



**LORD OF LIFE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND PRESCHOOL**  
6865 Poplar Pike  
Memphis, TN 38119

**Church Office**  
901.754.0669

**Preschool Office**  
901.309.3980

**Email**  
[lordoflife@bellsouth.net](mailto:lordoflife@bellsouth.net)

**Online**  
[lordoflifememphis.com](http://lordoflifememphis.com)

**Church Office Hours**  
9:00AM to 1:00PM  
Monday to Thursday  
Office Closed on Friday

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8:30AM Traditional  
11:00AM Contemporary

**Rev. Jim Shears**  
Pastor  
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**Debi Lawler**  
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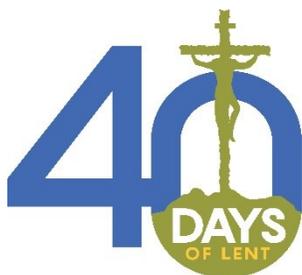
**Nancy Bergeron**  
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Church Pianist  
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### Got Facebook?

'Like' our Facebook page so you can get updates on activities and share events with your friends.



Just before each Thursday Lenten service, we will have different soups each week with various crackers, breads, or sandwiches, for anyone who wants to partake.

Please sign up on the sheet so we will know how many we are serving.

Meals begin at 5:45PM and service is at 6:30PM.

February 26th – John Houck  
March 5th - Kenny Friend  
March 12th- Donna McKinney  
March 19th – Kathy Marsh  
March 26th – Al Lyles



### ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

For the sake of many allergy sufferers, we will be having azaleas again this year! Each azalea will cost \$17.00. If you would like to provide flowers for Easter service, and then have one to take home, please sign-up on the board in the narthex. You may put your payment for azaleas in the offering plate marked "Easter flower". Thank you. **Deadline is March 29th.**



### LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

**Thursdays at 6:30PM**

**March 5, 12, 19, 26**

**Maundy Thursday – April 2 @ 7pm**

**Good Friday – April 3 @ 7pm**



### Wooden Plate Offering

The FIRST Sunday of each month the Wooden Plate is passed in addition to the regular offering plate.

All money going into the **Wooden Plate** is split between two Community Service local outreach

Ministries ONLY. Those Ministries are Memphis Interfaith Association (MIFA) & St. Luke's food pantry. Thank you for your generosity, you make a difference!

--Community Service Ministry



Don't forget or you'll be late for church



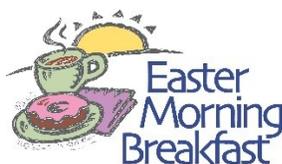
**PALM SUNDAY** March 29 at 8:30AM and 11:00AM  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** April 2 at 7PM  
**GOOD FRIDAY** April 3 at 7PM



**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**April 5th**

Join us as we worship and celebrate!

7:00AM Sunrise Service  
 8:30AM Traditional Easter Worship  
 9:15AM Easter Breakfast  
 10:00AM Egg Hunt  
 11:00AM Contemporary Easter Worship



**EASTER MORNING**  
**BREAKFAST**

Easter is just around the corner! There will be a free will offering to help fund scholarships for youth activities. Breakfast starts at 9:15AM – come and enjoy! If you would like to help with breakfast please sign-up on the board in the hall or let Kathy Marsh know.

**EGG HUNT**



Please bring bags of individually wrapped candy for the Easter egg hunt on April 9th. Please place it in the marked bin. The youth will stuff the eggs on Good Friday.

**Youth Lock In – Good Friday**

The youth and LOL kids are invited to a lock in on Good Friday, April 3. LOL Kids who are in grades 3 to 5 are invited to stay until 10 pm on Friday night. Youth who are in grades 6 to 12, and college, are invited to stay until 10 am on Saturday morning. We will attend worship, play some games, watch a movie and help get the church ready for Easter. Friends are invited as well. All attending must have a form signed by their parent. Please contact Kathy Marsh (901.219.8734, [gssunfish@yahoo.com](mailto:gssunfish@yahoo.com)) to sign up and to get a copy of the required form.



**Food, Fellowship and Trivia!!**

Come hang out with friends on **Monday, March 16** at Mellow Mushroom in Germantown as we get back to our monthly Trivia nights! Come eat and leave, or eat and trivia, or just trivia (7:30 pm). Please text Victoria if you want to get a place at the table and monthly reminders for future events! 901-828-0670



## MISSION GUATEMALA 2026

We are going to Guatemala this coming June 13-20. Those that have gone can tell you that it is a wonderful, moving experience. It is time to start thinking about it and planning for the trip. The total cost is around \$2,000, depending on the cost of airfare. Registration will open up in January. We invite you to begin praying about this opportunity to share the Good News with the Mayan people. If you want to know more about the ministry there, go to Prayamerica.org. If you have any questions, let Pastor Jim know.



From the Call Committee:

The Call Committee has received Council approval to proceed with the call of Pastor Wes Brown.

We will have a special Congregational Meeting on March 15th between services for the congregation to approve Pastor Wes. We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, and we are excited for where God is leading us.

Blessings, Tony Marsh - Call Committee Chair



## BELTLINE COMMUNITY PROJECT

**Sisters of Service** are continuing to collect items for women in the Beltline community.

During **March**, we will collect shampoo and hair care products. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please put "Beltline Women" on the memo line of your check. We will purchase items and deliver all items for distribution. Thanks for your help!



## WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES GROUP ☺

**Wednesday mornings from 10:00am-11:30am in the adult classroom.**

Wednesday Morning Ladies/Life Threads (LOL's prayer shawl ministry). We are a group of ladies who meet to talk, share stories, eat, joke and laugh. Some of us bring a craft to do such as needlepoint, crochet and knitting. Even if you don't do a thing but talk, please come and enjoy a cup of coffee, a weekly snack and fellowship!



## AUDIO-VISUAL

---Team---

We need some volunteers to help do the big video screen for 8:30am church service.

No experience needed, we will teach you what needs to be done. All volunteers welcome and as soon as possible! Please speak with Pastor Jim, or Steve Manasco.



The Women at the Well, after Easter, will begin "Love Stories of the Bible Speak", by Shannon Bream. Come join us!

## Preschool closed for Spring Break

### March 16 – 20





Brandon Furr	3
Mary Jones	5
Terri Hill	6
Julie Furr	13
Ray Schultz	14
Pam Anderson	23
Cole Cunningham	31
Norm Rodriguez	31
Lydia Johnson	

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

#### February

1st	Ice storm
8th	57
15th	64
22nd	61

### THOSE SERVING THE 8:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE

March 1 – Lent 2  
 Assisting Minister: Brent Berry  
 Acolyte: none  
 Crucifer: none  
 Lector: Donna McKinney

March 8 – Lent 3  
 Assisting Minister: Shirley Lyles  
 Acolyte: Chloe Collamore  
 Crucifer: Leah Collamore  
 Lector: Jill Koch

March 15 – Lent 4  
 Assisting Minister: Jim Gienapp  
 Acolyte: none  
 Crucifer: none  
 Lector: Jim Gienapp

March 22 – Lent 5  
 Assisting Minister: Tony Marsh  
 Acolyte: Cole Cunningham  
 Crucifer: Ian Cunningham  
 Lector: Chrissy Cunningham

March 29 – Palm Sunday  
 Assisting Minister: Karen Manasco  
 Acolyte: none  
 Crucifer: none  
 Lector: Karen Manasco



**The Flowers in March are given by:**

1 – Lent 2  
 8 – Lent 3  
 15 – Lent 4  
 22 – Lent 5  
 29 –



**The Memorial Candle Is Given by:**

1 – Bonnie Stevens – family birthdays  
 8 – Toni Pittman – in memory of Pop.  
 15 –  
 22 –  
 29 – the Ethertons



## SPECIAL THANKS

Our Preschool Director, Allie Reynolds, would like to convert one of the preschool rooms to a "baby" room for children ages 6 to 17 months. A sale of duplicate items was held on February 14-15 to raise money for cribs and mattresses. Any unsold items will be offered again later in the year. Thank you to Jenny Davis and Kathy Marsh, who posted items on social media and managed many of the sales online with Venmo, and Cashapp. In addition we are also grateful for Terri and Stacey Hill, Al Lyles, and Tony Marsh who tirelessly moved items from around the building.

Grace and peace,  
Shirley Lyles



The church's website address is [lordoflifememphis.com](http://lordoflifememphis.com), please try to visit the website at least once per week. The more often lots of people visit, our church website grows in popularity to help promote Lord of Life. Thank you!



We have an Instagram Account! For anyone who follows Instagram you can find us at:  
[lordoflife\\_memphis](https://www.instagram.com/lordoflife_memphis)



**GriefShare** is a 13-week program where participants will meet weekly to view a 30-minute video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals speaking on grief-related topics. Afterward, there is a small group discussion to allow people a time of sharing, support, and personal application of what they learned on the video. Group participants will get a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating their personal grieving process.

You may visit [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup) to find a group in your area, or online.

## NEW CLASS Alert!

### LUTHERANISM 101

Are you interested in learning more about what Lutherans believe? Do you have questions about our teachings? Would you just like to review?

Beginning on March 1, we will have a 4-part survey of Lutheranism. We will look at our origins, our history and our central teachings. This class serves as a new member class, as well as an opportunity for members to go over what we believe once again. It is also an opportunity for anyone to check us out, whether or not they are interested in membership.

It will be held during the Sunday school hour, beginning at 9:45, on four Sundays beginning on March 1.

We would love to have you attend! Let me know if you have any questions. - Pastor Jim

### GIVING COMMITMENTS

If you haven't already done so, we would like to invite you to take one of the commitment envelopes in the lobby and fill it out. It is an opportunity to prayerfully consider your giving to the ministries at Lord of Life. Fill it out, seal it, put your name on the envelope and put it in the offering plate. We will not look at it; it is between you and the Lord. We will return it to you with a statement of giving, in order to compare. May God bless you as you continue to share what he has given you.



### COMMUNITY SERVICE

On February 11 a small group gathered to fill "blessing boxes" for families and individuals in the Beltline who receive weekly meals and non-perishables through Jacob's Ladder. Thank you to all who provided personal care and household items for the boxes and to Terri Hill, John Houck, Kim Houck, Lynn Howell, Al Lyles, and Kathy Marsh who filled the boxes and included messages for Valentine's Day delivery.

Grace and peace,  
Shirley Lyles

## Lord of Life PRESCHOOL

A sale of duplicate preschool items was held on February 14-15, to raise money for cribs and mattresses for the addition of a new baby room at the preschool. Any unsold items will be offered again later in the year.

Thank you to Jenny Davis, and Kathy Marsh who posted items on social media and managed many of the sales online with Venmo, and Cashapp. In addition, we are also grateful for Terri and Stacey Hill, Al Lyles, and Tony Marsh who tirelessly moved items from around the building.





Cydney Beets, Brent Berry,  
Nanci Gienapp, Sarah Gulla,  
Frank Howell, Kelli Howell,  
Robby Jacqueline, Mark Kooker,  
Joe Lowry, Phyllis Nichols,  
Norm Rodriguez, Don Sass, Laurie Soffos,  
Mike Tibbets

## RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Anderson, Shelly -  
Baechler, Wendell - former member  
Benfield Family, Ben Brian – friends of Joe Lowry  
Brister, Tish & Ron – Donna McKinney's sister & BIL  
Cavalier, Roy, Angie & Faye –friends of Naomi Mertes  
Coleman, Vicki – friend of Floyd Johnson  
DeLoach, Katherine - former member  
Easton, Gavin - friend of Laura & Kelvin Hill  
Edgerton, Ruth – mother of Katherine DeLoach  
Ellis Family Cousins of Georgette Etherton  
Etherton, Jim – Bob Etherton's brother  
Froelich, Jack + Gerry – in-laws of Linda Froelich  
Geerdes, Rosemary – wife of Bob Geerdes  
Haggard, Barbara – friend of Floyd Johnson  
Hare, Vicki – friend of Bob & Georgette Etherton  
Holman, Kathy – friend of Pam & David Anderson  
Hoover, Tom – brother of Nanci Gienapp  
Howe, Jake – friend of Naomi Mertes  
Hugel, Susan – friend of the Bethany people  
Inman, Clark – grandson of Marla & Page Inman  
Inman, Jack, Emma & family – son & daughter-in-law  
King, Scott – friend of Jim Gienapp  
Loewenstein, Kim & family - Jim Gienapp's sister  
Lois – a Beltline meal recipient who had heart surgery  
Loven, Myra - Naomi Mertes' mother  
Marsh, Brenda & Bill – parents of Tony Marsh  
McNeill, Sr., Phillip – friend of Erin & Ray Schultz  
McStay, Lori – daughter of Nanci & Jim Gienapp  
Mittler, Airana – granddaughter of Ginger McDowell  
Mueller, Shannon – cousin of Jim Gienapp  
Pearson, Jeff – Pastor Jim's youngest brother  
Pyburn, Barbara & family in NewOrleans, lost 2 Sons  
Quesenberry, David – on the loss of his mother  
Rindels, Joyce - friend of Naomi Mertes  
Roux, Denis – brother-in-law of Sue Hall  
Sanders, Betty – sister-in-law of Kim Sanders  
Sanders, Faye – mother-in-law of Kim Sanders  
Saum + family – son of Nancy Balazadeh  
Suzanne, Devin – friend of Laura & Kelvin Hill  
Taylor, Don – friend of Joe Lowry  
Taylor, Tony – friend of Naomi Mertes  
Tully, Loni – friend of Laura & Kelvin  
White, Bill – our former pastor  
Williams, Donna – friend of Laura Hill

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

A-3 Brendon Brotherton, Navy – stationed at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, grandson of Mike Tibbets

CDR Eric M. Etherton, USN, is attached to The Joint Services War College in Norfolk, VA, as an instructor. He is the son of Bob & Georgette Etherton.

Staff Sgt. Fletcher Lewis, Airforce – (stationed at Dyer AFB in Abilene, TX), nephew of Sue Hall

## PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Dave & Elizabeth Linkenhoker (daughter Grace) (Haiti)

Josh & Nani Harris (Singapore)

Debbie Ward (Panama)

Pastor Didi Panzo– NALC missionary (The Democratic Republic of the Congo)

## PRAY for the underground churches in North Korea and their pastors/overseers and families.

# MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 Lent 2</b> 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Congregation Meeting 11:00AM Cont	<b>2</b> 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00am Ladies Group	<b>5</b> 5:45PM Soup Supper 6:30PM Lent Service 7:15PM Adult Choir	<b>6</b> Office Closed	<b>7</b> 8-1 DFS
<b>8 Lent 3</b> 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont Daylight Savings Begins –Turn Clocks Forward	<b>9</b> 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00am Ladies Group	<b>12</b> 5:45PM Soup Supper 6:30PM Lent Service 7:15PM Adult Choir	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b> DFS Spring Break
<b>15 Lent 4</b> 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	<b>16</b> 10:30am Adult Bible Study 7:30pm TRIVIA at Mellow Mushroom	<b>17 St Patrick's Day</b> 	<b>18</b> 10:00am Ladies Group	<b>19</b> 5:00PM Worship & Music 5:45PM Soup Supper 6:30PM Lent Service 7:15PM Adult Choir	<b>20 First Day of Spring</b>  Office Closed	<b>21</b> 8-1 DFS
Preschool closed 16 – 20 for Spring Break						
<b>22 Lent 5</b> 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	<b>23</b> 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>24</b> 5:00PM BBQ Team Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:00am Ladies Group	<b>26</b> 5:45PM Soup Supper 6:30PM Lent Service 7:15PM Adult Choir	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> 8-1 DFS
<b>29 PALM SUNDAY</b>  8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Office Closed	<b>4</b>



**\*\* Reminder... there is no Wednesday night dinner during Lent. See you in April!**

