



Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District

The church that cares, our roots are strong

Newsletter

Worship Services

Sunday - 10:00 am
Communion Weekly

Location

Whispering Pines Park Recreation
Center
1700 Forest Drive
Inverness, FL 34453

Mailing Address

2659 E Gulf-to-Lake Hwy #410
Inverness, FL 34450
Phone #352-419-7359
(leave a message)

Guest Pastors

Pastor David Raetz
Pastor Paul Sutterer

President

Ron Hansen

Vice President

Rich Grable

Treasurer

Sharon Hansen

Secretary

Karen Huscher

Trustees

Rich Grable
Matthew Manchester

Elders

Bob Morris
Ron Fullerton

Christian Education

Kim Carrol
Kim Jackson
Sue Grable

Bible Class

Sunday - 9am
Whispering Pines

www.treeoflifelc.org

*"You have ears; then listen to what the spirit says to the churches.
Be victorious, and I will let you eat from the Tree of Life that
stands in God's Paradise." Rev. 2:7*

Message from the President

Why do churches exist? What is their purpose? We at **Tree of Life** have a plan to build our congregation and expand into the community to spread the Word of **God** and His Grace. It is nothing more than that.

When man's (and woman's) egos and self-aggrandizement creep in, the purpose is lost. At *Tree of Life*, I feel that attitude does not exist. We were formed in an effort to put **God** in the forefront and move on with his mission. I commend our congregation for holding to that promise.

There are great things ahead in the coming months. On June 12, we are celebrating Rally Day with a cookout and many outdoor activities. We are advertising it in several places and hope that people of the local community will join us and see what *Tree of Life Lutheran Church* is all about. We will be participating in VBS in conjunction with Faith Lutheran Church in Lecanto and will be beginning Confirmation Classes. Plans are also underway to begin Sunday School classes along with the continuing Bible classes. Fund raising projects are being formulated to add to our building fund and outreach efforts.

I am encouraged by the level of individual participation into each of these and other projects that we have planned and if we are true to our goals, we will exceed our objectives as we have in the past, with **God's** guidance.

Yours in Christ

Ron Hansen

Where do the ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from?

They are made by burning palm fronds which have been saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday, they are then blessed -- blessed ashes having been used in God's rituals since the time of Moses (*Numbers 19:9-10, 17*).

Why are ashes from the previous year's Palm Sunday used?

Because Palm Sunday was when the people rejoiced at Jesus' triumphal entrance to Jerusalem. They celebrated his arrival by waving palm fronds, little realizing that he was coming to die for their sins. By using palms from Palm Sunday, it is a reminder that we must not only rejoice of Jesus' coming but also regret the fact that our sins made it necessary for him to die for us in order to save us from hell.

Why Wave Palm Leaves?

There are a couple of explanations. One is that it was common practice in the ancient world to welcome home a king or war hero by laying out a path of branches for him to ride/walk on – similar to rolling out the red carpet today in English-speaking countries. Others suggest that Romans honored champions of the games and the military with palm branches. Another explanation is that it is a reminder of the Festival of the Booths commanded in *Leviticus* and *Deuteronomy*. For this festival the Israelites were commanded: "And you must take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, the fronds of palm trees and the boughs of branchy trees and poplars of the torrent valley, and you must rejoice before Jehovah your God seven days." The palm branches were used as a mark of rejoicing. The temporary booths were a reminder that Jehovah had saved his people out of Egypt, to live in tents in the wilderness. "The alien resident and the fatherless boy and the widow" shared in this festival. All Israel was to "become nothing but joyful." *Leviticus 23:40; Deuteronomy 16:13-15* However others believe there is no connection between this festival that occurred months after Passover and the triumphal entry into Jerusalem by Christ just before his death and resurrection.



Where the Heart Is

*Home is where the heart is, we've often heard recited—
So we come to this family altar to keep our hearts united.
With thanks we come to worship, we offer up our praise—
We marvel at Your goodness as mercy renews our days.
We cast our cares upon You, we bid You, take the lead—
As You fill us with Your presence to more than meet our needs.
Now, may we serve each other, as we love and obey You, Lord—
Help us grow in wisdom to hear and do Your Word.
Let us live to please You, giving glory to Your name—
Shinning forth a witness of Your unending fame.
Lord, You're where our heart is, our treasure beyond compare—
Holding this family together and answering our earnest prayer.*

--Mary Fairchild



<p style="text-align: center;">May Snack List</p> <p>5/1 Arlene Messner 5/8 Jessica Jones 5/15 Kim Jackson 5/22 Sue Fullerton 5/29 Bev Morris 6/5 Kim Carroll</p>  <p>Alternate: Gladys Baker 203-0576</p> <p>Interested in bringing snacks? Contact Rose Otis 201-0924</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Chain Requests</p> <p>A list of those in need of prayer can be found on table at church entryway.</p>  <p><i>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Timothy 2:1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Elder Visits</p> <p>Elders are willing to visit the sick and home bound with prayer. Will also bring the sacrament of Holy Communion to either the hospital or home bound upon request.</p>  <p>Contact: Ron Fullerton: 352-344-0905 Bob Morris: 325-628-6452</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lectors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May</p> <p>Karen Huscher Psalm/Epistle Bob Morris Gospel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June</p> <p>Rose Otis Psalm/Epistle Matthew Manchester Gospel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">July</p> <p>Kim Jackson Psalm/Epistle Rich Grable Gospel</p>
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