

The church that cares, our roots are strong

## Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District

## Newsletter

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God"

Rev. 2:7

## **Pastor's Message**

Romans 5 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned...the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

Right now, we are in the beginnings of a pandemic (a disease prevalent over a whole country or the world): coronavirus (COVID-19). China tried to hide it, other countries tried to escape it. Some countries are preparing for it. Still others are trying to cure it. People are in the futile attempt to escape it by personally putting on masks, washing their hands often, germ proofing their houses and places of business. It is influencing the way people live and connect with one another. But, no matter the efforts put in, the Coronavirus is still being spread without much resistance.

The same can be said for the disease of sin, but with a greater impact and much more dire consequences. Whereas I predict that not everyone will contract the Coronavirus, everyone, born of a human mother has contracted sin and is suffering from the consequences of sin. Sin's effects are felt by everyone who has ever lived, including the One who never sinned: Jesus! Through not a sinner, *God* placed all of our sins upon Him and Jesus became sin for us.

The coronavirus caught almost everyone by surprise. No one was prepared. We are running short on surgical masks. And we have no anti-virus. The disease of sin caught everyone by surprise, too. Everyone, that is, except **God**! **God** knew that sin would enter the world through one man and infect all mankind. **God** knew this and He already had the cure before the event...**Gen. 3:** "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

The cure is found only in the works of the Son of *God*, Jesus Christ. We receive the cure by *God* bringing us into His "hospital" through Holy Baptism. We receive the cure from Him as He speaks to us words of grace. We receive the cure from as we eat and drink the body and blood of Christ in Communion. We are not quarantined, but we are in the world, spreading the cure to all those suffering.

The cure is such that we do not need to fear temporal things. *Romans 8: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* 

The disease has infected all people. The cure is all encompassing for all people, is given to all people, and is received by few.

Heavenly Physician, you have given us the cure for the disease of sin. Keep us safe in this world that we may come to a peaceful release from this world and live with you. In Christ. Amen.

Worship Services Sunday - 10:00 am Communion Weekly

Location 2991 E. Thomas Street Inverness, FL 34453

Mailing Address 2659 E Gulf-to-Lake Hwy #410 Inverness, FL 34450

Phone #352-419-4100 (leave a message)

> **Pastor** Mark Steinke

**President** Ron Hansen

Vice President Bob Morris

**Treasurer** Sharon Hansen

Secretary Karen Huscher

**Trustees** Rich Grable Sue Grable

**Elders** Ron Fullerton Bob Morris

Christian Education Kim Carrol Kim Jackson

Sue Grable

Bible Class Sunday - 9am

www.treeoflifelc.org

Pastor Steinke

## March Scripture Readings

March 1 March 8	Genesis 3:1-21 Genesis 12:1-9	Psalm 32:1-7 Psalm 121	Romans 5:12-19 Romans 4:1-8 13-17	Matthew 4:1-11 John 3:1-17
March 15	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95:1-9	Romans 5:1-8	John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)
March 22	lsaiah 42:14-21	Psalm 142	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41 or 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39
March 29	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Romans 8:1-11	John 11:1-45 (46-53) or 11:17-27, 38-53



Wednesday Lenten Services 6:00 PM March 4<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>

> Palm Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup>

**Kids in Care** March Outreach Will be held March 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> Contact Karen or Keith for more information *Come join the fun* 





March 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM Please bring your "*work of art*" Snacks will be provided / BYOB - bring your own beverage Contact *Jeanette* 224-627-1857 <u>travelingcook@yahoo.com</u>

**Bible Study** Join us for Sunday Bible Study at 9:00 am - Currently studying Romans! NEW Bible Study: Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM – studying Justification!

Snack List	Prayer Chain Requests	Elder Visits	March
3/1Gladys Baker3/8Laurie Steinke3/15Barb Thornton3/22Arlene Messer3/29Sue Grable4/5Barb Thornton	A list of those in need of prayer can be found on table at church entryway.	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.	<b>Lector</b> Sue Fullerton Sue Grable
4/12 Sharlee Green 4/19 Sue Fullerton	First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be	Contact:	<b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Pastor Steinke <b>Gospel</b>
<b>Interested in bringing snacks?</b> Contact Sue Grable 341-0074	a made for all people 1 Timothy 2:1	Ron Fullerton: 352-344-0905 Bob Morris: 352-651-8674	ousper

Send requests, suggestions for the Newsletter: to emlodge@yahoo.com / Website: webmaster@treeoflifelc.org