



*The church that cares, our roots are strong*

# Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District

## Newsletter

**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](http://www.treeoflifelc.org)

*"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

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*  
**John 14:6**

I don't know about you, but I am suffering from cabin fever. Don't get me wrong, I love staying home and having an excuse to not go out. But, why are we staying in and "social distancing"? So that we have hope and recovery. Hope that eventually we will all stay healthy and recovery for those who are affected by the virus.

So, what exactly did we gain from the Lord's life, death, and resurrection?

We DO receive hope and recovery. Not a hope as in a future desire, but we HAVE hope because the future is already determined for us. That hope is based upon the very body and blood of Christ our Savior that is on our altar every Sunday waiting for us to partake in the heavenly meal.

We DO have recovery. Recovery in that we were lost in our sin, we are now found, rescued and brought back to perfect health. Recovery in that we have become strong and mighty because we are eating a super food more powerful than any supplement, vitamin or medicine. It is the food which nourishes not only our body, but our soul. It changes not only our physical self but more importantly our spiritual self.

The Lord has promised us that He alone is the "the way and the truth and the life." And that "No one comes to the Father except through me." Many health gurus have many methods for us to become healthy and many who work in the mental health field find hope from several sources for their clients.

As for us Christians, there is only one way to maintain a healthy body and a healthy mind. That is through Christ alone. We don't need to go out and look for many answers for our issues, we have Christ, the Good Shepherd, who does lead us in the Way, gives us the Truth, and is the Life in our living.

May the Lord protect you and guide you as we continue to live in this Easter Season of Hope and Recovery.

Please give me a call (614) 406-4478 if you desire me to come visit and bring you the Lord's body and blood in Holy Communion.

My apologies to everyone for delaying the Newsletter. I allowed other things to get in the way of my responsibilities to my flock.

*Pastor Steinke*

# May Scripture Readings

<b>May 3</b>	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
<b>May 10</b>	Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60	Psalm 146	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 3:1-17
<b>May 17</b>	Acts 17:16-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
<b>May 21</b>	Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
<b>May 24</b>	Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 68:1-10	1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
<b>May 31</b>	Numbers 11:24-30	Psalm 25:1-15	Acts 2:1-21	John 7:37-39

## Sunday Worship Web Addresses

<https://video.nest.com/live/BDDlvhSEyb>

and

<https://video.next.com/live/mQEh8veuo>

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."* **Psalm 46:1**

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."* **John 14:27**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

All of us are going through a time of testing; our patience is being tested, our courage is being tested, our resolve is being tested, in some cases our financial health is being tested, and our faith is certainly being tested. Many of us are experiencing things that we only heard about from our parents, like the Great Depression, World War II rationing and scarcity of consumer goods, and the polio epidemics. I still vividly remember, as a 7 year-old, the scary time I spent quarantined in a polio ward at Herman Kiefer Hospital in Detroit. God allowed me to survive and return to health, and continued to pull me through many life-threatening situations. I know that some of you can testify to the same! The point is, that as long as we are here on Earth, we all go through difficult times in our lives. But it always seems that God somehow pulls us through, even though we are so blind that we may not realize it at the time.

Right now, Tree of Life is going through a difficult time. When we, as trouble-making rebels, began worshiping in Grable's home, and outgrew it, God provided another place for our services. Likewise, we were blessed with dedicated Pastors to serve our needs. The blessings continued.... our present place of worship, and most of all, a full-time Pastor. Even though God's mercy and blessings are free, we live in a world that is not. Unfortunately, Tree of Life, like all churches, has ongoing expenses. I've learned that we need an average of \$4,000 per month, just to break even, and we average only \$2,000 per month in our offerings, plus small amounts from bank account interest and from a Thrivent program....that's not even enough to pay the piddly amount we promised to pay our Pastor. Yes, I know, we are to receive a share from the District's 1-1-1 program, but we've not seen anything yet. We are told in Scripture to return time, talents, and treasure to our Maker and Redeemer.....they ARE NOT OURS, but are His gracious gifts to be used to spread the Gospel throughout the world. The Israelites, God's CHOSEN PEOPLE, were COMMANDED to return a tenth, 10%, of ALL THEY HAD, to the Lord as a sacrifice, and anything above that was an offering. We are not under that command; the ultimate sacrifice was made for us on the cross! We, as a congregation, are now at a crossroad.

God willing, we will continue in Christian worship and fellowship here in Inverness, or we can just fade away due to lack of financial support. Many of you have received stimulus checks. I urge you to share your treasures, and continue to share, in order to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If we all dig a little deeper, and truly sacrifice, we can zip right through the crossroad and continue along the path that we've all envisioned for TOL.

*Yours in Christ, Board of Elders, Bob Morris*

The **May Voters Assembly meeting** has been postponed to another date and time....



**Genesis 3:20:** "The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living."

**Luke 2:51:** "And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart."

**Kids in Care - Outreach** Come join the fun

Contact Karen or Keith for more information regarding when KIC will resume






Will resume in June Date and Time TBA  
Snacks will be provided / BYOB - bring your own beverage  
Contact **Jeanette** 224-627-1857  
[travelingcook@yahoo.com](mailto:travelingcook@yahoo.com)

**Bible Study** Join us for Sunday Bible Study at 9:00 am - Currently studying Romans!

**NEW Bible Study:** "On Pause" - Restart-up-date to be announced



Snack List	Prayer Chain Requests	Elder Visits	May
<p>5/3 Gladys Baker 5/10 Laurie Steinke 5/17 Arlene Messer 5/24 Sue Grable 5/31 Sharlee Green 6/7 Sue Fullerton 6/14 Jeannette Rovner</p>  <p>Due to "Social Distancing" the above schedule is very "flexible"!</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> <b>1 Timothy 2:1</b></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: 352-651-8674</p>	<p><b>Lector</b> Sue Grable</p> <p><b>Psalm/Epistle</b> Pastor Steinke</p> <p><b>Gospel</b></p>

Send requests, suggestions for the Newsletter: to [emlodge@yahoo.com](mailto:emlodge@yahoo.com) / Website: [webmaster@treeoflifec.org](http://webmaster@treeoflifec.org)