



MARCH 2026 VOLUME 147

THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - NO DOUBTS

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NEWS

- Mark your calendars and join both *St. Thomas Lutheran* & *Christ the King* for the launch of a new **Men's Ministry** with a relaxed breakfast gathering focused on fellowship, fun, and camaraderie. **Saturday, March 7 9:00–11:30 a.m.** at St. Thomas Lutheran Church.

This gathering is open to men age 18+ from both congregations. Come meet other members, share a meal, enjoy good conversation, and help shape what this ministry might become together.

Please RSVP to Pastor Bill at pastorwiecher@ctkmiami.org so we can plan accordingly. Come as you are, bring a friend, and be part of the beginning.



Services

- March 29th** *Palm-Passion Sunday* 10:00 a.m.
April 2nd *Maundy Thursday* 7:00 p.m.
April 3rd *Good Friday* 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
April 5th *Easter Sunday* 10:00 a.m.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. THOMAS' 60TH ANNIVERSARY

In **2028**, St. Thomas Lutheran Church will celebrate its **sixty years of existence**, a historical milestone of faith and service in our community. It is a time to reflect upon the journey through which God has led the congregation, to celebrate the blessings received, and to look forward to the future with renewed hope and purpose.

To commemorate our shared history, we will embark upon an initiative to honor the past by remembering the people and events that shaped the church's beginnings and growth as well as to acknowledge the unity, service and impact the church has made in the community.

We will create a narrative and illustrative history of St. Thomas from its establishment to the present. For this effort, we ask you to share photographs, documents, etc. that tell our story. Since this is an extensive undertaking, we are getting started now. Please look through your church records, reach out to others who may no longer worship among us, and contribute your input. Items should be identified by date; occasion; participants, in the case of photos; and location, if other than our present worship site.

Please help us to memorialize our six decades of Lutheran faithfulness by reconnecting our past with our present and future.

Electronic submissions may be sent to smazz@bellsouth.net, texted to 305-775-9529, or given to *Shanda Mazzorana*. Non-electronic material will be promptly returned.



PASTOR'S CORNER

By: Rev. Wynemah K. Hinlicky

Our Lenten journey has begun. Upon receipt of this Newsletter, we will actually be more than a 1/5th into this season often referred to as “the springtime of our souls.” That’s because this blessed time serves as an opportunity to seriously consider our need for healing so we can turn to God and rise to new life offered in Christ Jesus. As I shared in my sermon on the First Sunday, “Lent is a journey to resurrection. It’s not just a long 5 weeks we *slog* through until we reach Easter Sunday when we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Lent is a journey to our very own resurrections. ...



“Lent not only symbolizes those times in our lives when we find ourselves in the wilderness; times when we experience suffering, alienation, abandonment, and loneliness; times characterized by conflict, compassion fatigue, and the pain of letting go of the earthly attachments to which we cling so desperately and dearly. It also affords us the opportunity to get clear about our priorities and mission as disciples who follow Jesus. It is an invitation to find our rest in Christ and to be fortified by Him, the Word of God, the Bread of Life -- the One who renews us and raises us up to new life.”



A blessed Lent to you.

Pastor Wynemah +

Though we won't be offering our traditional Lenten Mid-week Soup, Study and Service, I encourage you to join us on Sunday's for "Conversation with Jesus" during Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 am and the Service of Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m. There's also Mid-week Bible Study that meets at Christ the King on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. followed by a brief service and Thursday Bible Study that meets at 10:00 a.m. here at St. Thomas. Staying connected with God's Word and Communion fellowship are two gifts that promise us Divine Sustenance along the journey that always leads us from death to resurrection as we die to sin and rise to new life every day.

MINISTRY MOMENTS

COMMISSIONED TO SERVE

On **Sunday, February 15th**, we joyfully celebrated the installation of our *Congregational Council* and elected officers during the worship service. We give thanks for their willingness to serve and for the gifts and leadership they bring to our church family.



From left to right: Richard Thompson, Grace Engler **Vice-President**, Shanda Mazzorana **President**, Annemarie Roberts **Secretary**, Beth Schmekel **Treasurer**, Cedric Mar.
Not Pictured: Vicki Ross, Deacon Carol Petrusky



Please keep these faithful servants in your prayers as they begin their term of service. May God grant them wisdom, unity, and guidance as they work together to support the ministry and mission of our congregation.

FROM PALMS TO ASHES

The Sunday before Ash Wednesday, members of our church gathered to burn the palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday. This meaningful tradition marked our transition into the Lenten season.



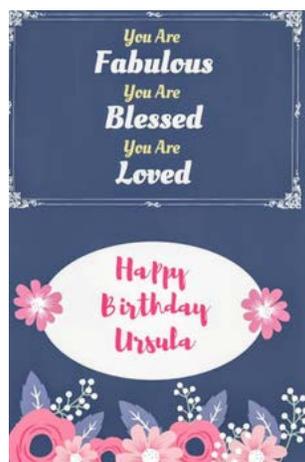
As the palms were reverently reduced to ashes, we were reminded of the full journey of our faith. Those ashes were later used on Ash Wednesday, as we heard the words, "*remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*"

The burning of the palms beautifully connected celebration and repentance, reminding us that God continues to bring renewal and new life through every season.

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

On February 22nd, our church family had the joy of celebrating a very special milestone, **Ursula Thermes'** 90th birthday! Following the morning service, we gathered for a small reception filled with warm fellowship, laughter, and gratitude for her many years of faithful witness and service.

Many of Ursula's family members and friends traveled to enjoy cake and light refreshments, while sharing memories and well wishes. She shared that her entire weekend had been one big party. It was a beautiful time of honoring a beloved member whose life has been a blessing to our congregation. We thank God for her 90 years and pray for His continued grace and joy in the days ahead.





OUTREACH



Mission Statement: *To share God's light by offering inspiration, hope, and affirmation to those in need within our community, nation, and world.*

We will be assembling food bags for our homeless neighbors on **March 1st** immediately following the service. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community and share God's love in a practical way. Stay and lend a hand!

CHRISTIAN FAITH FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION - SUNDAY SCHOOL

You are invited to join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.** for a half hour study prior to worship at 10:00 a.m., led by Pastor Wynemah. We hope you will join us!

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Highschool and college age young adults are invited to join Cedric Mar for group bible study each Sunday before service, **from 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** in our youth room.

MIDWEEK STUDY

Our midweek Bible Study will meet in the Red Room at Christ the King Lutheran Church (located at 11295 SW 57th Ave) **weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.** We will continue our study of the minor Prophets, led by Pastor Wiecher.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Story of Redemption is a four-volume study that walks through the entire Bible. The study highlights how each chapter of the Bible points to Jesus Christ and where it fits in the big picture story of Scripture, the story of redemption. Each lesson includes written content that covers an average of three chapters to help you understand and apply the text, as well as daily reflection questions. This study will help you understand the big picture of Scripture and how each individual book, chapter, and verse fits into it. **We are currently studying the book of Psalms. Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Pastor John Roth at 786-403-5030.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1** Yvette Salas **3/16** Jan Olson
3/1 Kaylee TerKeurst **3/16** Linda Connelly
3/8 Ryan Oursler
3/10 Pat Kuhlman
3/11 Ron Olmstead



On the first Sunday of every month, we will recognize those celebrating birthdays. We offer the following birthday blessing, sung to the tune of "We Gather Together."

"We celebrate with you the life that God gave you. We thank you for letting us share in your joy. God bless you and keep you, and shine his light upon you. With love we sing together Happy Birthday to you."

PRAYERS

Prayer lists are updated weekly. Please email stthomaschr@aol.com, noting the person's name and need, if you would like to add or remove a friend or family member's name from the list. Please ensure you have the person's permission to publish his/her name and need.



ETERNAL CANDLE

Burns this month...
for the Glory of God.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

- 3/1** In honor of Lars Schmekel & Izzy Quintas' birthday.
from, Beth Schmekel
- 3/15** In memory of my husband, Wes.
from, Annemarie Roberts
- 3/22** In memory of Joyce Sleronshi, my mom.
from, Linda Connelly



Sign-up sheet for the Sanctuary Flower & Eternal Candle dedications are available in the [Fellowship Hall](#). You may also call the office at **(305) 232-1227** to reserve a dedication slot.

JOIN US THIS MONTH!



MEN'S MINISTRY



KICKOFF BREAKFAST

Fellowship • Fun • Camaraderie

MEN 18 & UP

CHRIST THE KING & ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCHES



9:00–11:30 AM

**📍 ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH
17700 OLD CUTLER ROAD**



JOIN US!

**RSVP TO PASTOR BILL:
pastorwiecher@ctkmiami.org**

CHRIST THE KING HAS INVITED US TO:

Brain
Exercises

Functional
Strategies

Emotional
Health



Attitudes About Aging

Supportive
Services

Ask the Expert... Quips & Tips...

A Lunchtime Workshop for Women:

Does Your Memory Still Work?

Presented by Shane Connolly, Director of Community Outreach for the Memory Training Centers of Florida

Friday, March 20 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

\$25 for Program with Quiche, Salad, and Dessert

Reservations limited, and must be made by noon on Monday, March 16.

Email careteam@ctkmiami.org or text Teresa at (305) 951-9411 to reserve your space.

Workshops offered at Christ the King Lutheran Church on Red Road.
(across from Pinecrest Gardens)

~ Part of a series offered to the community:

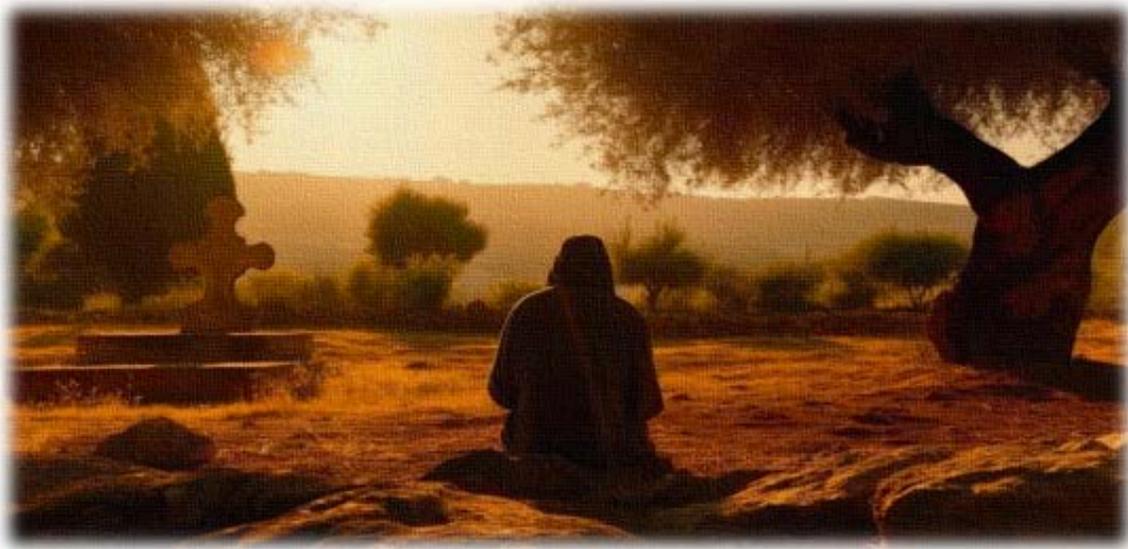


Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota

Christ the King Lutheran Church
11295 SW 57 Avenue
Miami, FL 33156
www.ctkmiami.org



SOUTH MIAMI LUTHERAN
HAS INVITED US TO:



An original drama for Holy Week

“Midnight in the Garden”

Some very different people meet in the Garden of Gethsemane

Sunday, March 29th

7:00 pm – appetizers & pre show music

7:30 pm - Performance in the sanctuary

After show - desserts & fellowship

South Miami Lutheran Church

7190 Sunset Drive

305-665-2562

MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	2	3	4 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	5 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	6	7  9-11:30am Men's Ministry Breakfast
8  9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	9	10 2 pm Council Meeting	11 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	12 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	13	14
15 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	16 7 pm Martha's Monday @ CTK	17 10:30 am Prayer Ministry Meeting 	18 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	19 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	20	21
22 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	23	24	25 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	26 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	30	31				



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

A Christ centered Church dedicated to spreading the word of God through traditional worship, Bible based education, and service to the community.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Adult Faith Formation **9:00 a.m.**

Service of Holy Communion **10:00 a.m.**

ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

17700 Old Cutler Road, Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

Ph. (305) 232-1227 **Email:** stthomaschr@aol.com

Office Hours: Tuesdays - Thursdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Wynemah K. Hinlicky

Deacon: Carol Petrusky

Choir & Music Director: Deborah W. Mar

Parish Secretary: Carolina Escamilla

Sexton: Ned Roberts

EXECUTIVE & COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shanda Mazzorana—President, Grace Engler—Vice President

Beth Schmekel—Treasurer, Annemarie Roberts—Secretary

~Deacon Carol Petrusky ~Cedric Mar

~Vicki Ross ~Richard Thompson

