



APRIL 2026 VOLUME 148

ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - NO DOUBTS

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APRIL

NEWS

- Bible study and faith formation classes will **NOT** be meeting during Holy Week (**April 1st-April 6th**) and will resume on **April 8th**.
- After a successful beginning, our Men's Ministry will be meeting again on **Saturday, April, 18th from 9-11 AM**, for bagels, coffee, and conversation. This month's theme will be "*Road to Emmaus*," as we gather to reflect, connect, and grow together in faith. More details can be found in our events section ahead.



Services

April 1st *Stations of the Cross* 9:30 a.m.
at St. Andrew's Episcopal
14260 Old Cutler Road

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.

PASTOR'S CORNER

By: Rev. Wynemah K. Hinlicky



Our Lenten journey toward resurrection has come to its apex. Together we have traveled through the wilderness in parched preparation for the great and glorious celebration of Christ's victory of sin, death and evil. Like with most struggles, hardships, and times of suffering, there is a final, often grueling, push before we arrive at that place when we can take a deep sigh of relief and rejoice, knowing all is done, over, behind us. Holy Week and Easter serve as such a time.

Beginning with Palm + Passion Sunday, we entered the final push of our spiritual journey toward resurrection. Our 7 pm service on Maundy Thursday reminds us of our Lord's commandment to love one another through acts of humble service as he loves us. The foot washing, Lord's Supper and stripping of the altar all point to Christ's example of humility and service we are to follow. Offered at NOON and 7 pm, Good Friday invites us to enter more deeply into our Lord's suffering and death for our sake and for that of the world. As we meditate on the cross as a sign of forgiveness, healing and salvation, we celebrate the victory Christ has won for us. All this prepares our hearts for the joyful celebration of Easter morning when, at 10:00 am, we gather to proclaim: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! And, because he lives, we shall live also!!

A blessed Holy Week and joyful Easter to you all!

Pastor Wynemah +

MINISTRY MOMENTS

A STRONG START TO MEN'S MINISTRY

We are excited to share highlights from our very first **Men's Ministry** gathering, held on *March 7*. Men of all ages from both **St. Thomas Lutheran Church** and **Christ the King Lutheran Congregation** came together for a fellowship breakfast, creating a warm and welcoming space for connection and conversation.



With an incredible range of ages represented, from 18 to 92, it was a powerful reminder of the strength and unity found across generations. The gathering was a wonderful success, with a strong turnout and meaningful engagement among all who attended.



We look forward to continuing this growing ministry and invite all men to join us for our next meeting on Saturday, **April 18 at 9:00 a.m.** at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, for bagels, coffee, & conversation.



A SPECIAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOR

We are proud to share that on **March 29**, following our Palm Sunday service, our Pastor was honored by the Mayor of Palmetto Bay, *Karyn Cunningham*, in recognition of Women's History Month.

She was commended for her dedicated service, strong leadership, and the positive impact she continues to have on our church and the wider community since 2019.



This special recognition was made possible through the nomination by *Shanda Mazzorana*, and we are grateful for their thoughtfulness in highlighting our Pastor's meaningful work.

We celebrate this well-deserved honor and extend our sincere appreciation and best wishes for her continued success and ministry.

A HOMECOMING OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

After many years of living away from Miami, *Barbara Cilik* has returned and now resides nearby at St. Anne's Nursing Center and Residence. An active Lutheran all her life, Barbara wanted to return to St. Thomas where she and her family were formerly long time members. On Wednesday, **March 18, 2026**, Pastor Wynemah presided over a membership reinstatement ceremony, attended also by Barbara's daughter, Debbie, and Shanda Mazzorana. It was a spiritual homecoming for Barbara who shared that she felt at peace and has happy memories of St. Thomas.



FAREWELL TO A FAITHFUL SERVANT



We bid a fond farewell to **Ebba Peterson**, who has been a cherished part of our church family for 25 years. During her time with us, she generously shared her gifts in many ways: as Vice President and President of Council, liturgist, choir member, transportation assistant, and President of WELCA.



Her dedication and warm spirit have left a lasting impact on our congregation. Ebba has moved up north to be closer to her daughters, and we send her with our love, gratitude, and best wishes for this new chapter in her life.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY



We are grateful for the caring spirit of *Koa Johnston*, who faithfully serves as a transportation volunteer, helping ensure that members of our church family who are unable to drive can still attend worship. Through this act of kindness and dedication, Koa makes it possible for people like *Ursula Thermes* (left) and *Beverly Rouse* (right) to remain connected to the life of the church. His service is a meaningful example of compassion in action and a true blessing to our community.

COMPASSION IN ACTION: OUTREACH MINISTRY AT WORK



Our Outreach Team continues to be a blessing to the community through the ongoing preparation of care bags for those experiencing homelessness.

Following a recent service, volunteers gathered in fellowship to assemble these thoughtful packages, which include water and snacks to provide comfort and nourishment.

These simple yet meaningful acts of service reflect our commitment to caring for our neighbors in need. We are grateful to all who give their time and energy to support this outreach ministry and make a positive impact in our community.



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 *making cards* on Sunday, **April 12th**, after service for the children's hospital. Join us in brightening these children's days with the light of God.

CHRISTIAN FAITH FORMATION

***Classes will NOT be meeting during Holy Week (April 1st-April 6th) and will resume on April 8th.**

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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/15 Deacon Carol Petrusky
4/21 Marji Hahn
4/28 Sanjay Smith



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...
in memory of our Loved Ones, we love and miss you everyday,
Love, Dawn & Kelli Marlar

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

3/19 In honor of Elijah & Zack's birthdays.



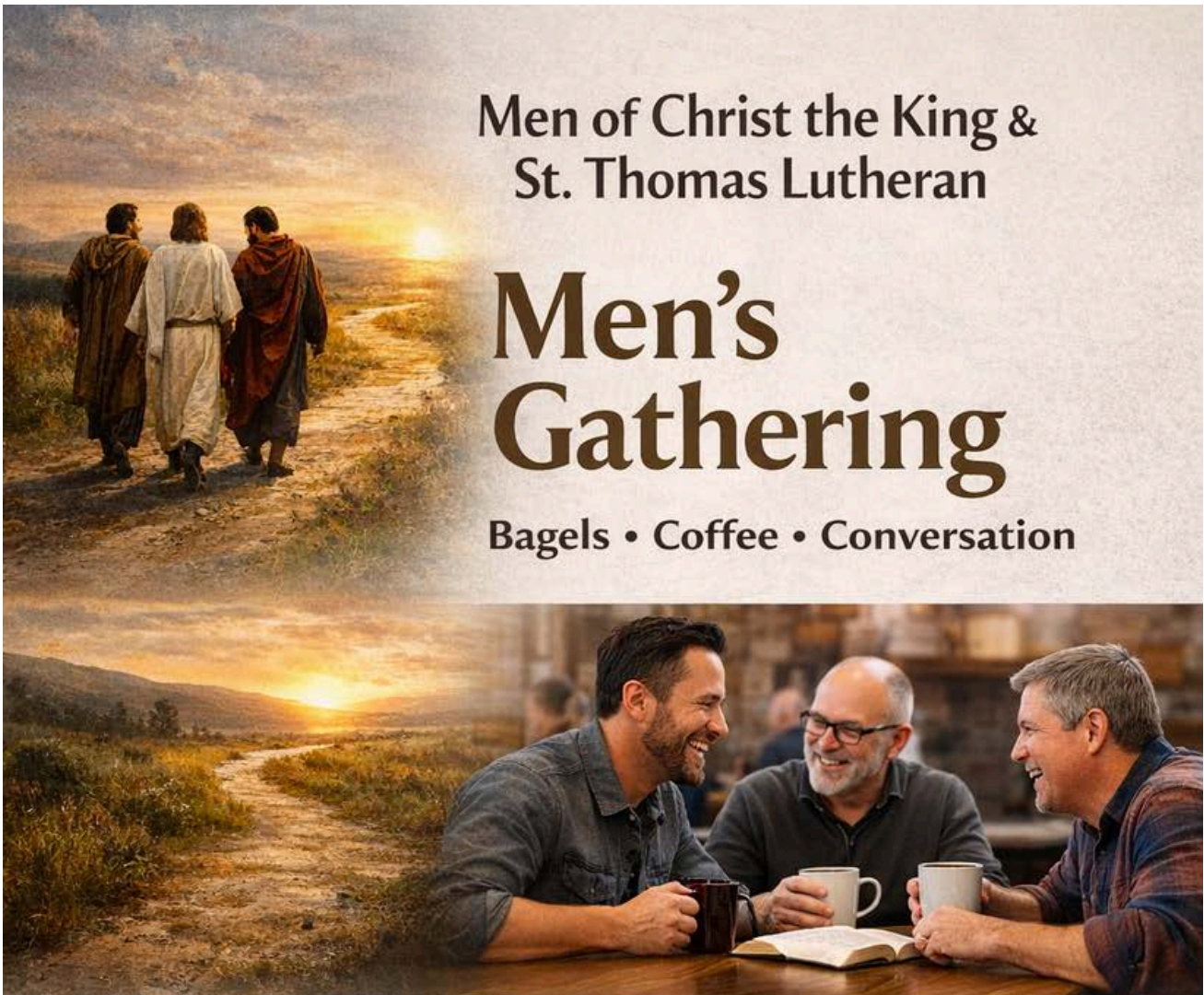
Sign-up sheet for the Sanctuary Flower & Eternal Candle dedications are available in the Fellowship Hall. You may also call the office at **(305) 232-1227** to reserve a dedication slot.

JOIN US THIS MONTH!

Men of Christ the King &
St. Thomas Lutheran

Men's Gathering

Bagels • Coffee • Conversation



Saturday, April 18 • 9:00 – 11:00 AM

📍 St. Thomas Lutheran Church | 17700 Old Cutler Road

"The Road to Emmaus"

(Luke 24:13-35)

Men of all ages!
Walk the road together
in faith and brotherhood.



Scripture



Fellowship



Conversation

"Were not our hearts burning within us..." — Luke 24:32

CHRIST THE KING HAS INVITED US TO:



CTK Congregational & Love In Action *Potluck Picnic*

Sunday – April 19, 2026 2-5pm

We'll grill burgers, brats & hot dogs... you bring your favorite side dish!

Giant Slip 'n Slide – Kayaking - Music - Games

Beer - Lemonade - Ice Cream

Bring your family and friends!!

Sign-ups: March 22, 29, April 5 and 12

Ticket prices:

Adults \$10

Youth 12-18 \$8

Children 5-12 \$5


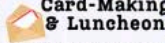

Under 5- free

Day of the Picnic prices: Adults - \$15, Youth 12 to 18 - \$10, Children 5 to 11 - \$6



APRIL 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2  7:00 PM Service	3 <i>Good Friday</i> 12:00 PM Services 7:00 PM Services	4
5 EASTER 10 am Worship Service	6	7	8 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	9 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	10	11
12  9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	13 7 pm Martha's Monday @ CTK	14 2 pm Council Meeting	15 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	16 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	17	18  9-11:00am Men's Ministry Meeting
19 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	20	21	22  10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	23 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)	24	25
26 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship Service	27	28	29 10:30 am Bible Study (CTK)	30 10 am Bible Study (St. Thomas)		



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

