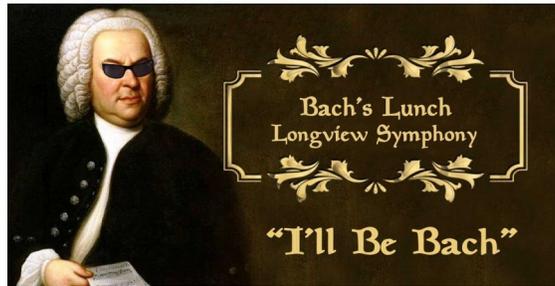


# First Lutheran

relationships that transform

## March 2026 Newsletter



### **Bach Lunch Friday, March 27 at 12:00 pm**

The Longview Symphony presents The Bach's Lunch series. These lunchtime recitals feature the music of Bach and other classical pieces while showcasing local musicians. There is no charge for these concerts. Make plans to join us!!



**FEBRUARY 18–March 25**

#### **The Wednesday schedule for Lent:**

**12:00 pm Worship**

**5:00–6:00 pm Dinner**

**5:30 pm Bell Choir**

**6:15 pm Worship**

**7:00 pm Youth Activity Hour**

**7:00 pm Choir**



10 Volunteers are needed each week to provide Wednesday Family Suppers during Lent

Meal begins at 5:00 pm

Worship at 6:15 pm

Each volunteer should bring enough soup or sandwiches to feed 10 people.

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

**Thank you!!**

## From the Mind of Pastor Jeff

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)*

On the one hand, it is hard to believe that we are already entering the third month of the year (wasn't it just Christmas??). But, on the other hand, when we look around us, we realize that all the aspects of the third month of the year are present. The new life of spring is drawing near. The college basketball tournament is right around the corner. And we are in the middle of the liturgical season of Lent. So, by those markers, it is clearly March.



March is for us a time for a new beginning. The season of Lent began with the words from Psalm 51 (see above). We are reminded during this liturgical season to turn our lives toward God, repent of our sin, and be renewed and refreshed in our living, through our relationship with God. During this month we are reminded that renewal and refreshment that happen in the world around us as the seasons change comes because of the work that the Creator is doing among us. We are reminded that all things come from God, for the sake of the world.

So, as we move through this month of new beginnings, remember God's presence that goes with you. That presence will create something new in you, even in the midst the ordinary, expected, aspects of life. As we go on this journey we continue to seek God so that we will be renewed and refreshed for all of our days.

In Christ,  
Pastor Jeff

Relationship with  
God

*Tuesday Morning Bible Study*

**FRIENDSHIP  
CIRCLE**

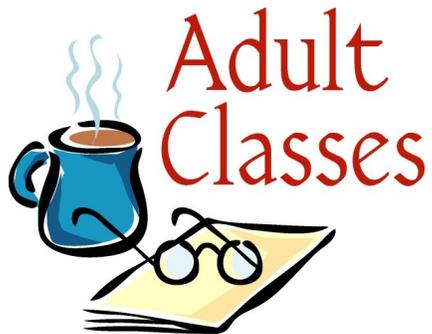
1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

**March 3 and  
March 17  
9:30 am**

× × × × ATTENTION MEN × × × ×

**SATURDAY  
MORNING  
BREAKFAST**

**March 14 @ 8:00 am  
FLC Fellowship Hall**



**Adult  
Classes**

**Adult Classes offered on  
Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am**

**Introduction to Bible Study Methods**

Led by Vivian McElligott.

**Study of the book of Genesis**

Led by Kevin Bond

**40 Days with Martin Luther**

Through the season of Lent

Led by Pastor Jeff



Bibles, Buddies & Beverages

Men's Fellowship

March 16 @ 6:00 pm

FLC Fellowship Hall

**DORCAS  
CIRCLE  
BIBLE STUDY**

**March 9th**

**6:00 pm**

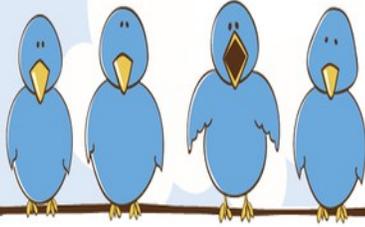
**SUNDAY NIGHT  
BIBLE STUDY**

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Taught by Dr. Martin Batts

## Relationship with One Another

Meeting March 3rd @ 1:00 pm  
at BJ's Brew House  
314 W. Loop 281



Birds of a Feather  
Flock Together

Ladies Group

## BUNCO NIGHT



Monday, March 16  
@ 6:00 pm  
Church Café

Come and join the  
First Lutheran

## BOOK CLUB

- Meetings monthly on 3rd Tuesday in the Cafe' @ 6:00 pm
- Discover New books
- Make friends

On March 17th  
discussing the book  
Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid



COME JOIN THE FLC QUILTING GROUP!  
WEDNESDAYS @ 10:00 AM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

## EXERCISE CLASS



Tuesdays &  
Thursdays  
4:30—5:30 pm  
Fellowship  
Hall



The Classic Quilters Group  
meets on Saturday, March  
14th in the activity room. See  
Susan Kay Smith for  
information.

## A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



Stepping into God's will and purpose for your life

**TUESDAYS**  
**6:30 PM**

Join us in taking steps that can help  
develop a healthy, peaceful, and  
harmonious relationship with God,  
with others, and with yourself.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, & the wisdom to know that one is Me. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as Jesus Christ did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that Jesus will make all things right if I surrender to His will. So, that I may be reasonably happy in this life & supremely happy with Him forever & ever in the next! Amen!

SERENITY PRAYER

First Lutheran Church  
3901 Bill Owens Parkway  
Longview, Texas 75605  
(903) 295-7423

## Relationship with Community



We are thrilled to announce that First Lutheran now has our very own YouTube channel! This exciting new venture will allow us to live broadcast our services and events, enhancing our connection with the community.

Beginning the month of February FLC worship will no longer be broadcast on Facebook. So, look us up on YouTube and subscribe to the channel. Just type "First Lutheran Longview Tx" in the search bar. Then click "subscribe"!

If you have any questions, please talk to Eric Chandler. He can usually be found in the sound booth, or call the church office.

**TRAUMATIC  
BRAIN  
INJURY  
GROUP**

- Education
- Awareness
- Support
- Friendship

**Tuesday, March 10  
6:00 pm**

For more information contact  
Mary Stuart  
903-738-3613

### MONTHLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH

#### HOUSE OF HOPE

Make and serve supper to approx. 35 people on the second Monday of every month. (4:30 pm-5:45 pm)  
Contact Rick or Gayle Poland  
(903)576-2563

#### MEALS WITH LOVE DELIVERY

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 11:00 am

4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 10:00 am

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 11:00 am

Contact Bill or Renee Slegeir  
(903)736-8546

## WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE.

*Jesus came to serve, not to be served. We learn to serve well by following His example.*

"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."  
Matthew 20:27

#### NEWGATE

Make and serve breakfast on the second Saturday of most months (7:00 am-9:00 am)

#### NEWGATE

Serve lunch on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month (11:15 am-12:30 pm)

Contact Rick or Gayle Poland  
(903)576-2563

# FINANCIAL REPORT



## Financial Report - January 2026

Operating Account - January 2026						
	December Operating Account			Year to Date Operating Account		
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)	Year to Date	Budget	Over/(Under)
<b>Contributions</b>	\$ 86,233	\$ 51,106	\$ 35,127	\$ 86,233	\$ 51,106	\$ 35,127
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 45,017	\$ 51,106	\$ (6,089)	\$ 45,017	\$ 51,106	\$ (6,089)
<b>Difference</b>	\$ 41,216			\$ 41,216		

We thank God for the care He has given us and follow where He leads when caring for others. Let us be mindful of the needs of our neighbors and share the mercy and grace we have received from Our Father with all we encounter.

Ranette Carter  
Treasurer



## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Leo & Melba Sparkman Memorial Scholarship In honor and memory of Leo and Melba Sparkman, an annual college scholarship has been established for members of First Lutheran Church who are high school students planning to attend college upon graduation.

Applications are available through the church office. These must be returned by May 15 with a transcript, teacher recommendation, statement of needs and future aspirations.

Church Staff		2026 Church Council	
Jeffrey Borgwardt	Pastor	Beverly Bell	President
Donna Ashby	Dir. Of Music	Randy Cathey	Vice Pres
John Parsons	Family & Outreach	Arlene Hicks	Secretary
Tina Sewell	Office Administrator	Ranette Carter	Treasurer
Karen Smith	Bookkeeper	Jenn Belcourt	Relationship/God
Steve Howie	Facilities Coordinator	Johnny Davis	Relationship/Community
		Mary Stuart	Relationship/One Another

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE		
	LECTOR 8:15	LECTOR 10:45
03/01/2026	ED BERO	JIM MEYER
03/08/2026	BEVERLY BELL	STACEY KEENER
03/15/2026	JOHN PARSONS	RENEE SLEGER
03/22/2026	RANETTE CARTER	BELINDA WALENTA
03/29/2026	RANDY CATHEY	PAT COWAN
	SET UP:	CLEAN UP:
	ALTAR GUILD	
03/01/2026	CAROLYN RAMIREZ	LUCY MAXWELL
03/08/2026	CAROL & RAY BIRD	TERESA DESHAZER & RANDI MCRAE
03/15/2026	GLORIA BERO	EVA TOUCHSTONE
03/22/2026	ED BERO	LESLIE JENKINS
03/29/2026	JOE & DONNA LOUVIER	LUCY MAXWELL
OFFERING COUNTERS		
03/01/2026	MARY STUART	ARLENE HICKS
03/08/2026	BILL ANDERSON	JOHNNY DAVIS
03/15/2026	TERESA DESHAZER	JENN BELCOURT
03/22/2026	DIANN GREIFENKAMP	PERI TOPEL
03/29/2026	RANDY CATHEY	RACHEL GRUNDMANN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>8:15 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Education <b>10:30 am</b> Choir Warm-up <b>10:45 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>12:00 pm</b> Scouts CPR Training <b>6:00 pm</b> Bible Study	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Staff Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Friendship Circle <b>1:00 pm</b> Birds of a Feather <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30 pm-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class <b>6:30 pm</b> Family Improvement <b>6:30 pm</b> Spiritual Journey Scout Blue & Gold Banquet	<b>4</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Quilters <b>12:00 pm</b> Worship <b>5:00-6:00 pm</b> Dinner <b>5:45 pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:15 pm</b> Worship <b>7:00 pm</b> Youth Activity Hour <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir	<b>5</b> <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>11:00 am—4:00 pm</b> Private Event
<b>8</b> <b>8:15 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Education <b>10:30 am</b> Choir Warm-up <b>10:45 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>6:00 pm</b> Bible Study	<b>9</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Staff Meeting <b>4:30 pm</b> Serve Dinner at House of Hope <b>6:00 pm</b> Dorcas Circle	<b>10</b> <b>11:15 am</b> Serve lunch at Newgate Mission Stew Pot Success Center Spring Break <b>4:30 pm-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class <b>6:00 pm</b> Traumatic Brain Injury Group <b>6:30 pm</b> Spiritual Journey <b>6:30 pm</b> Family Improvement Scouts	<b>11</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Quilters <b>12:00 pm</b> Worship <b>5:00-6:00 pm</b> Dinner <b>5:45 pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:15 pm</b> Worship <b>7:00 pm</b> Youth Activity Hour <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir	<b>12</b> Success Center Spring Break <b>4:30-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Serve Breakfast at Newgate Mission <b>8:00 am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>8:00 am—6:00 pm</b> Scouts First Aid Training <b>10:00 am</b> Classic Quilters
<b>15</b> <b>8:15 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Education <b>10:30 am</b> Choir Warm-up <b>10:45 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>12:00 pm</b> Scouts First Aid Training <b>6:00 pm</b> Bible Study	<b>16</b> <b>Pastor Jeff's Birthday</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Staff Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> 3 B's for Men <b>6:00 pm</b> Bunco	<b>17</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Friendship Circle <b>11:15 am</b> Serve Lunch at Newgate Mission Stew Pot <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30 pm-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class <b>6:00 pm</b> Book Club <b>6:30 pm</b> Spiritual Journey <b>6:30 pm</b> Family Improvement Scouts	<b>18</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Quilters <b>12:00 pm</b> Worship <b>5:00-6:00 pm</b> Dinner <b>5:45 pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:15 pm</b> Worship <b>7:00 pm</b> Youth Activity Hour <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir	<b>19</b> <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class <b>6:30 pm</b> Council Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>8:15 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Education <b>10:30 am</b> Choir Warm-up <b>10:45 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>6:00 pm</b> Bible Study	<b>23</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Staff Meeting <b>10:00 am</b> Meals with Love <b>5:00 pm</b> Private Event	<b>24</b> <b>11:00 am</b> Meals with Love <b>11:15 am</b> Serve Lunch at Newgate Mission Stew Pot <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30 pm</b> Fitness Class <b>6:30 pm</b> Spiritual Journey <b>6:30 pm</b> Family Improvement Scouts	<b>25</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Quilters <b>12:00 pm</b> Worship <b>5:00-6:00 pm</b> Dinner <b>5:45 pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:15 pm</b> Worship <b>7:00 pm</b> Youth Activity Hour <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir	<b>26</b> <b>3:30-5:30 pm</b> Success Center <b>4:30-5:30 pm</b> Fitness Class	<b>27</b> <b>12:00 pm</b> Bach Luncheon at First Lutheran.	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>8:15 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>9:30 am</b> Adult Education <b>10:30 am</b> Choir Warm-up <b>10:45 am</b> Worship & Children's Church <b>6:00 pm</b> Bible Study	<b>30</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Staff Meeting	<b>31</b>				