

Senior Pastor Report - March 2026

Greetings Leadership Team,

Below are a few updates on activities and events I've been involved with outside of the normal day to day operations. If you have any questions or anything special you'd like for me to report on at our upcoming meeting, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Blessings,

Kyle

General Updates

Associate Pastor: There is a definite excitement amongst the church and staff as we prepare to welcome Rev. Nathan Oney, his wife Kristia, and their son Elliot to the Church of the Servant family. I greatly appreciate your diligence in helping create a profile of what we were looking for and I want to express my appreciation to Rev. Dr. Kim, our District Superintendent, and the rest of the cabinet for the priority they placed upon this appointment. While nothing is set in stone at this time, Pastor Nathan and I are planning some opportunities for him to come and spend time with me as well as members of the staff between now and his official start of July 1st so that he can have everything he needs in place and is able to hit the ground running upon his arrival.

Epworth Villa: I was given the opportunity to preach at the Epworth Villa chapel service on Thursday, March 12th. We have a number of members and friends of the Church of the Servant faith family who are residents and it was a joy to share in that service with them.

Holy Week: An exciting Holy Week is being planned. Though I am focusing on different days of the week in my sermons, we will still open our service on Sunday March 29th with the procession of Palms and celebrating **Palm Sunday**. Following this, we will move into the story of the Passion and my message will focus upon the events of Good Friday. Thursday, April 2nd at 6 p.m. we will celebrate **Maundy Thursday** in our Celebration Center which will include a recreation of the last supper with volunteers serving as disciples. A more traditional service will be held on **Good Friday**, April 3rd at 6 p.m. in the Celebration Center which will include a darkening and draping of the Celebration Center. Easter Sunday will begin with an **Easter Sunrise Service** at 6:45 a.m., which we plan to host in our south grassy lot, followed by our **Easter Celebration Service** at 10 a.m.

Celebration of Life Services: During our staff highlight last month, Matt Schinske mentioned the high volume of Celebration of Life Services we've had since the start of this year and the impact this has on church staff. To provide some details and context, as of this week we will have hosted and I officiated 9 celebration of life services since January 1. With this being the 11th week of the year, that averages out to just under one a week. In total in 2025, we hosted 16 services (I officiated 14 and Pastor Sheri officiated 2). It's a little too soon to tell if the number of deaths amongst members has increased or if there is simply an increase in families choosing to have services here at Church of the Servant and for me to officiate. The longer I (and soon Pastor

Nathan) are here, the more comfortable members and families will become with having us host and officiate their loved one's service. I believe this is something to be celebrated as it demonstrates the strength of our faith community and how our members going through a difficult time place a deep level of trust in our staff and leadership.

As some of you have heard me share previously, I anticipate a service adding an additional day of work to the week (i.e. a minimum of 8 hours). This is either worked into the schedule by condensing or postponing other responsibilities, or working on the service on week nights and weekends. I have already begun conversations with Director of Care Ministries Vicki Roberds and incoming Associate Pastor Nathan Oney about how we will provide pastoral leadership to these services beginning this summer. While we will adjust as plans are put into practice you can anticipate both pastors participating in the services as much as possible, but a more equal share in taking the lead of meeting with the family, planning the service, and providing the message in these celebration of life services. In the months following Pastor Nathan's arrival we will continue to evaluate how to best meet this important pastoral need in our faith community.

Attendance

In Person:	2/1 323	2/8 274	2/15 332	2/22 354	'26 Avg: 332
	Ash Wednesday:	Noon 54	Evening 164		
On-Line:	2/1 459	2/8 378	2/15 344	2/22 309	'26 Avg: 388