

First Methodist Church

Long Beach

208 Pine Street

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Pine St.

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### The Vision

Our vision is our intended destination or goal. The vision of First Methodist Church Long Beach is to know Jesus and make Jesus known.

### The Mission

Our mission is the roadmap for achieving our vision. The mission of First Methodist Church Long Beach is to connect, coach, and commission people to know Jesus and make Jesus known.

# The Messenger

March 19, 2026

On this St Patrick's Day let me share with you an excerpt from Lectio 365's Daily Devotional:

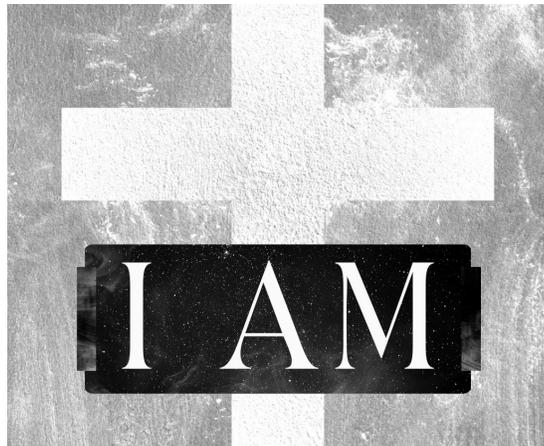
Originally from Britain, Patrick was captured as a teenager, trafficked to Ireland, and made to tend the flocks of his captor. But, in his autobiography, Patrick recounts how this terrible season of enslavement was used by God to form his faith:

*I would pray all the time, right through the day. More and more the love of God and fear of him grew strong within me, and as my faith grew, so the Spirit became more and more active, so that in a single day I would say as many as a hundred prayers, and at night only slightly less. Although I might be staying in a forest or out on a mountainside, it would be the same; even before dawn broke, I would be aroused to pray. In snow, in frost, in rain, I would hardly notice any discomfort, and I was never slack but always full of energy. It is clear to me now, that this was due to the fervor of the Spirit within me.*

Eventually, mercifully, Patrick escaped from captivity and made it back home across the Irish Sea. But a few years later, Patrick received a dramatic series of dreams: an Irishman came to Patrick carrying many letters and, as he read the first one, a chorus of Irish voices cried out "Come and walk again among us."

Bravely and remarkably, he obeyed, returning to the land of his captivity, and his mission was richly blessed. Patrick prayed and performed miracles, preached and baptized thousands, planted churches and established monastic communities earning the accolade "Apostle to the Irish".

-Ben



### Upcoming Sermons

**March 22, 2026**

I Am the True Vine

John 15:1-17

**March 29, 2026**

I Am the Good Shepherd

John 10:11-21



Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Sharon Haulk, Lynn Jordan Beck, Joyce St. John, Pete Seyfarth, Jay Reagan, Pam Serrato, Ryan Serrato, David Serrato, David Berry, Mildred Dilley, Jesse Draime, Maddy Devlin, Patricia Badeaux, Linda Bass, Bob Bullard, Anne Ladner, Paul Hicks, Jim Collins, Glenda Hull, Natalie Schmidt, Nancy Ruff, Dawn Rhoades, John Fales, Becky Collins, Lauren Sullivan, Corbin Altese, Penny Tripp, Jim Westmoreland, Billy Stafford, Gary Cook, Carol Cook, Dan Tisdale, Family of Marie Ward, Family of James Cockrell, and Linda Robinson.



**If you would like to place an Easter Lily** in the sanctuary for Easter service in memory/honor of a loved one, contact the church office at 228-863-9619 or [firstmclb@gmail.com](mailto:firstmclb@gmail.com).

The cost of the lilies is \$25.00 and you may pick up your Easter lily after the 8:30 a.m. service. We have ordered 20 lilies to be sold on a first come first serve basis.



**A donation** was given in memory of Allan Murphy by Melissa Murphy and John & Brenda Thomas.

**A donation** was given in memory of Sue Caldarelli by Robert & Mary Anne Simpson, Kathy Welsh, Anthony & Jennifer Dickens, Eileen Sinks, Phyllis Ouellette, Leslie Marquard, and Bruce Ouellette.

**A donation** was given in memory of Marie Ward by Beth & Larry Lewis.



We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to Wayne Ward and family at the death of his wife, Marie Ward.

We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to John & Jane Cockrell and family at the death of John's father, James Talmadge Cockrell.

We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to Jamey & Mary Beth Edwards and family at the death of their nephew, Dr. Matthew McCue.

## Calendar

### Sunday, March 22nd

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online
- 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Debrief in the Side by Side room
- 4:00 p.m. Easter Egg Stuffing in the CLC

### Monday, March 23rd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

### Tuesday, March 24th

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Side by Side room

### Wednesday, March 25th

- 10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.
- 11:30 a.m. O A.K.S. Luncheon in the CLC
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in the Choir rm.
- 7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in Youth Hall

### Thursday, March 26th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC
- 4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bride's parlor

### Sunday, March 29th

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday school/Discipleship groups @ both campuses
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM & Online
- 2:00 p.m. Seashore Mission Lunch Prep in the CLC

### Monday, March 30th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC
- 10:00 a.m. Depart for Seashore Mission

### Tuesday, March 31st

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study - Side by Side room

### Wednesday, April 1st

- 10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in the Choir rm.
- 7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in Youth Hall

### Thursday, April 2nd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC
- 4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bride's Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday, April 3rd**  
**OFFICE CLOSED**



### Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service @ The Long Beach Harbor  
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Easter Service  
10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt @ USM  
11:00 a.m. The Well Easter Service

Don't forget to bring flowers for the cross outside the lobby.



### Acolyte Schedule

March 22nd Jack  
March 29th Malaina  
April 5th Malaina



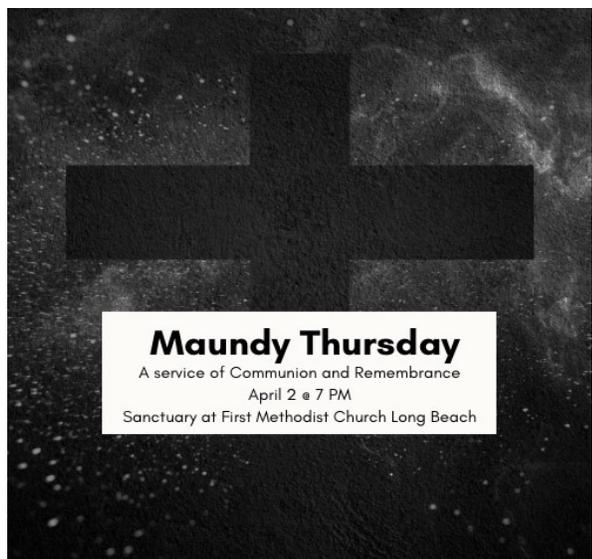
The Oaks luncheon will be Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. in the CLC. Our program will be, Discover The

Power of Nutrition / Along with Trivia. We will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. The items can be placed on the long tables in the CLC. Please come and share fellowship, along with your favorite dish to share.

### Lenten Prayer

The sanctuary will be open for prayer during Lent. A prayer guide will be provided for each week.

- Noon to 1 PM on weekdays from Feb 19 - April 3
- 5:30 - 7 PM on Wednesday evenings March 11- April 1
- 6:30 -7:30 AM on Friday mornings from Feb 20 - April 3



### Maundy Thursday

A service of Communion and Remembrance  
April 2 @ 7 PM  
Sanctuary at First Methodist Church Long Beach

### Youth M28 Egg Sponsorship Sunday, March 15th - March 29th



Select an egg off the tree (located in the lobby of the Well or Sanctuary) from March 15th-March 29th. The number on the egg will be the monetary amount of your sponsorship/donation that will go towards the youth M28 trip this summer. Please be sure to put "Youth Fundraiser" in the memo line of your check. Thanks so much for your continued support of our youth!



### Christmas Eve Lunch Debrief

Join us on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in the Side by Side room as we gather to reflect on the 2025 Christmas Eve Lunch. We will discuss what went well, explore opportunities for improvement, and ensure we are meeting the needs of the community and our church. If you volunteered, attended the lunch, have ideas to share, or simply would like to be involved in the future, we would love to have you join us. All are welcome.



Save the date for  
Vacation Bible School 2026:  
**JUNE 14-18, 2026**

Register now for Kids in PreK- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
and for Volunteers!



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Sunday at 10:15 a.m. at our USM location! We will have an egg hunt for our toddlers

through elementary students as well as a hunt for our youth and college kids! We are currently accepting donations of Easter egg stuffers (candy, small toys, stickers, etc.) You can bring donations to the church office any time or drop them off at a Sunday morning service. If you would like to help stuff all of the eggs for our hunt, we will meet in the Christian Life Center at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22nd!

First Methodist Church  
208 Pine Street  
P.O. Box 375  
Long Beach, MS 39560  
[www.fmclb.church](http://www.fmclb.church)

## Youth Group

7th-12th Graders

**March 22** - Youth Group

**March 25** - Heart & Soul

**No Youth Activities March 29 - April 5!**

**April 8** - Heart & Soul

**April 12** - Youth Group

**April 15** - Heart & Soul

**April 19** - Youth Group

**Save the date for May 3 - Senior Celebration!**

Youth Group is from 5 - 7 PM in Heritage Hall. Our Wednesday night Heart & Soul gatherings are from 5:30 - 6:30 PM in Heritage Hall.



4th-6th Graders  
5-7 PM on Sundays

**March 8** - In-Betweens

**March 15** - In-Betweens

**March 20-22** - Basics of Faith Retreat; There will be no In-Betweens at church on March 22.

**No In-Betweens March 29 - April 5!**

**April 12** - In-Betweens

**April 19** - In-Betweens

**April 26** - In-Betweens

In-Betweens meets in the Side-by-Side room in Moore Hall at 208 Pine Street. Enter on the side facing the park! Pick up in the Christian Life Center on the parking lot side.