



Kinsmen

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rooted in Faith. Relevant to Life.

March 2026

CONNECTION

12100 Champion Forest Drive
Houston, TX 77066
281.444.3126

Faces of

GRACE

Lenten Sermon Series

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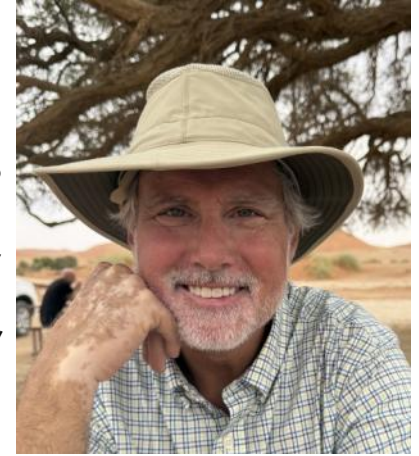
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Growing Together During Lent



After a bit of a windup, I am finally official. March is my first full month as Interim Pastor at Kinsmen so it's time to get to know each other. I'll go first. I am married to Kathy, who is a lawyer in downtown Houston, and I am happy to talk about her whenever you have time to listen to me tell you how proud I am of her. We have three boys, Connor, Dylan, and Andrew, and a dog named Sophie. I can talk about them too, all day long. My interests are photography, gardening, golf, good books of all kinds, good Netflix shows, and good food, not necessarily in that order. I believe in true love, especially the Princess Bride kind, and true God from true God. Brownie points if you can tell me where "true God from true God" comes from. That's my way of saying I hope to see you during this season of Lent! Lent is a time to deepen the spiritual commitment of our members, and—at the same time—deepen our commitment and outreach to the community around us.

Lent is one of my favorite times of the year. It leads us into Palm Sunday on March 29, and Easter Week in early April. It is a time of preparation and devotion, a time of self-examination, reflection and repentance, in preparation for the coming of Easter. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. It is a good time for an intentional 'decluttering' of our lives so we can focus on developing our relationship with God. Here is my suggestion for you for Lent: Add a specific prayer or meditation to replace other, dare I say, doomscrolling habits.

Here's an easy way to add prayer. Martin Luther describes doing it not just in the heart, but also by repeating the Scriptures or words out loud. Sing, speak, or hear them on a phone app over and over. Luther learned to do this as a monk (but not the phone app part!), singing the psalms every morning. Now people have been known to groan around me when I pray too long, especially before meals. So, I'm not suggesting that! In fact, meditative prayer should be a brief phrase that is repeated for focus. Just a word, like, **"Jesus,"** or **"Peace."** Some would call this a mantra. Father Thomas Keating in his book on Prayer says this kind of meditation is an ancient form of centering prayer.

Speak your word or phrase a few times, Jesus . . . Jesus . . . Jesus or Peace . . . Peace . . . Peace, then be silent, or maybe listen for . . . you know who. When your mind wanders—and it will—return to praying your word or phrase. Your word or phrase is simply a way to center yourself, quiet your mind and make you receptive to the Holy Spirit.

We all know how hard it is to sit still and slow down our thoughts. Most of us are simply too distracted. This kind of prayer can really help you deepen your connection with God. Go for a walk if you cannot sit still. A daily walk is a great time to try this. Or just sit down and get comfortable. Pick one word, a phrase, or a short scripture. Here are some more possibilities:

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer." (Psalm 19:14)

"God, have mercy on me, a sinner." (Luke 18:13)

"Give me peace in my mind and joy in my heart."

Or try even shorter "breath prayers:"

"O Lord, baptize me with love."

"Teach me gentleness, God."

"Jesus, let me receive your grace."

(continued on next page)

“Gracious God, remove my fear.”

“Reveal my sin, O Holy Spirit.”

“Lord Jesus, help me feel loved.”

Find a phrase that puts your focus where it needs to be, then repeat it with periods of silence in between. Try this kind of prayer for Lent and see what happens. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “Just as you do not analyze the words of someone you love, but accept them as they are said to you, accept the Word of Scripture and ponder it in your heart, as Mary did. That is all. That is meditation.” God bless each and every one of you! I hope you will keep your neighbors and the ministry of Kinsmen Lutheran Church in your prayers and meditations this Lenten season! And please join in the many opportunities to deepen your relationships with God and one another during Lent.

Peace and Blessings,

Arthur Murphy

Interim Pastor

Lent Sermon Series: Faces of Grace

Grace is not an idea—it’s experienced in transformational encounters. God’s grace meets real people in real moments—curious seekers, wounded outsiders, the overlooked, the grieving, and the fallen. From Nicodemus in the night to a Samaritan woman at the well, from a man born blind to a family standing at a tomb, we see grace that invites, restores, opens eyes, and raises the dead. We will hear and see that grace is not an abstract idea, but the living face of Christ turned toward us in love. Join us in worship and in a group during this season of Lent.



Date	Season	Sermon Title	First Reading	Gospel
February 28/ March 1	Lent 2	Nicodemus: Uncontrollable Love	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
March 7/8	Lent 3	The Samaritan Woman: Fully Known and Loved	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
March 14/15	Lent 4	The Blind Man: Grace That Helps Us See	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
March 21/22	Lent 5	Mary, Martha, and Lazarus: Love Meets Us in Grief	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45
March 28/29	Palm/Passion Sunday	Crowds and Disciples: Grace Welcomed and Rejected	Palm/Passion Sunday Narrative	Palm/Passion Sunday Narrative

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

5:30 PM

Pizza & Salad in the Coffee House.

Movie Group Studies will take place
in the Conference Room and Parlor.

7 PM

Holden Evening Prayer
Worship

Lent Devotions

Did you know that there are always devotions available at Kinsmen? We order hard copies of the "Christ in Our Home" devotions that are available in the narthex. Here are other devotions people have recommended:

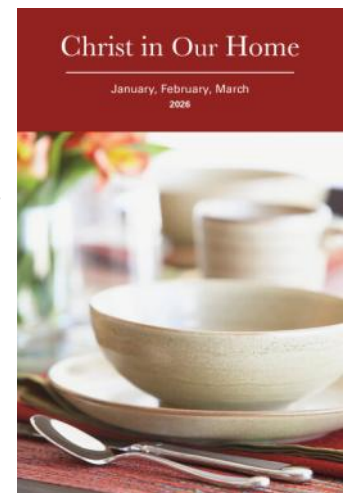
God Pause Luther Seminary devotions: <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>

YouVersion Bible app: <https://www.youversion.com/>

Moravian Daily Texts emails: <https://www.moravian.org/>

Richard Rohr daily meditations: <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/>

We encourage you to use one or more of these devotions year-round, but especially during Lent!



Send Us Your Selfies!

With a new Interim pastor coming on staff, it would be good for him to have a photo directory to look through and learn names. Please email us your individual selfies or photos [HERE](#), or to office@kinsmenlutheran.org, so we can update our photo database. Thank you!



Holy Week Worship



Palm/Passion

March 28/29
Saturday 5:30 PM;
Sunday 8:30 & 11AM



Maundy Thursday

April 2
7PM



Good Friday

April 3
12PM & 7PM



Easter Sunday

April 5
6:15, 8:00,
9:30, 11:00AM

ORDER YOUR EASTER LILY

You may order your lilies at
<https://bit.ly/2026EasterLilies>

The deadline to order is Monday, March 30.



Be Part of a Beautiful Easter Tradition Flowering the Cross Sunday, April 5

On Easter Sunday, April 5, you are invited to be part of the Flowering of the Cross, an ancient and meaningful tradition that represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus' death to joyful celebration of the resurrection.

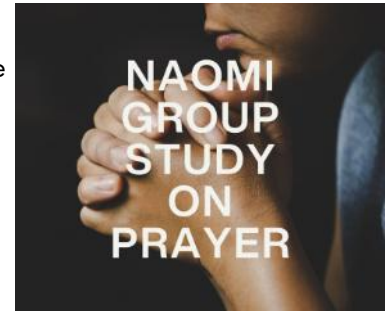
As you prepare for Easter worship, purchase or pick fresh flowers and greenery from your garden or yard and bring them to church. When you arrive for any of our services, place your flowers on the cross that will be located in the narthex (entrance area to the sanctuary).

Together we will transform a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus' death, into an Easter symbol. Covered with fresh, living flowers, the cross serves not only as an emblem of Jesus' resurrection but also of the continuing presence of Christ among today's Christians. Together, let us make this Easter a celebration of new life!



Naomi Bible Study Continues Study of Prayer

We know prayer is an important part of our relationship with God and one of the ways we respond to God speaking in our lives. We had an amazing session in February, with Sara Ray sharing a variety of unique and new ways to consider praying with our bodies. Scripture inspires us to regard the natural world as both sacred space and our neighbor. In March, we will explore ways we can pray not only for creation but with creation as our sacred neighbors. As we pray, even the trees and rivers are our prayer partners. We invite women of all ages to meet with us on March 3rd at 10:00AM in the Coffee House in the Community Life Center. Bible readings are combined with application to issues in our lives, community and world. Studies have some leader-led direction but a lot of sharing. Naomi Bible Study is informal with a caring group of women. We hope you will join us! For any questions, contact [Pastor Beth Warpmaker](#).



Reflecting on "Faces of Grace" During Lent

Grace is not an idea—it's an encounter. During the Lenten season, the sermon series is focusing on Faces of Grace, where we will explore how God's mercy shows up in unexpected people, difficult moments, and ordinary lives. It calls us into lives of hope, courage, and love. But what does grace look like in real life? Through film, Scripture, and conversation, our Lenten group focus is exploring how God's mercy shows up in suffering, forgiveness, courage, and hope. God's grace is bigger than our mistakes, deeper than our pain, and more present than we imagine.

It's not too late to join one of the group studies with two movie options focused on grace. You can easily catch up so consider joining one of the many groups discussing the movies:

Amazing Grace - "Grace doesn't erase the past—it redeems it."

I Can Only Imagine - "Grace meets us in our deepest wounds."

Meet with members of your Kinsmen family and discover how grace shapes daily life. We'll explore how God's mercy meets us again and again, often in ways we don't expect. Join a "Faces of Grace" group during Lent by registering [HERE!](#)



In His service,
The Discipleship Team

Community of Hope Lay Chaplains Re-Commissioning

March 14/15

Community of Hope International equips lay people to serve in all forms of pastoral care. Pastoral care is when a person is being "present" in a listening, compassionate, non-controlling manner to an individual or group for the purpose of consciously or unconsciously representing God to them and seeking to respond to their spiritual needs.

Through ongoing, spiritual formation and practical lessons on care giving, members learn to match theological insights and spiritual practices with their experiences of ministering to others and giving spiritual guidance.

Kinsmen is a Community of Hope International Center. The Lay Chaplain training is comprised of a 14-week training course (42 hours) where the Lay Chaplains come to recognize and understand their spiritual gifts and the value of relationships. As the chaplains grow together, they experience the unfolding of pastoral identity and the ministry of presence begins. Lay Chaplains are trained to listen with the ear of their heart.

If you are interested in learning more about Community of Hope International or are interested in having a Lay Chaplain visit you, contact [Lynnae Schatz](#).



Chair Yoga

Mondays & Fridays at 10:30AM

Chair Yoga meets every Monday and Friday from 10:30-11:30AM in the narthex. The suggested donation is \$5 per class. Have questions or concerns? Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) or Terri Beeler.



Mental Health Matters Initiative

Living with a mental health condition—or simply navigating everyday life—can be challenging, stressful, and at times, lonely. The Mental Health Matters Initiative offers a supportive space twice a month (once in person and once online) where you can share what’s on your mind or simply connect with others who understand. Each gathering is facilitated by a trained mental health peer specialist, creating a welcoming environment where you’re not alone.

Happy March, friends! Mental Health Matters will meet in person on March 4 and March 18 after the Midweek Lent worship services at 7:30PM in the Coffee House. Questions? Contact Sarah Hornstein or [Lynnae Schatz](#).

55+ Ministry

Upcoming Dates

Join us for lunch at 12:30PM on the following dates:

- Monday, March 9 at R&R Craft House Grill
12910 Malcomson Rd
- Monday, April 13 at Red Robin
22455 TX-249

Contact [Colette Edwards](#) for more information.



Pickleball

Thursday, March 12 & 26 at 6:30PM

Join in on the fun on Thursday, March 12 and 26 at 6:30PM. All equipment is provided. Dress comfortably. Questions? Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) or Ken Mersiovsky!



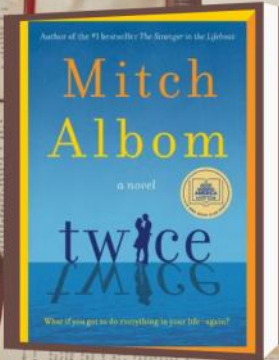
JOIN US FOR

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, March 17
at 7PM
in C132 (Room 17)

Kinsmen has a book club that meets once a month. We read and discuss a variety of genres, and all are welcome. Our March selection is *Twice* by Mitch Albom.

Twice follows a man who has the unbelievable power of doing everything in his life twice. It is a wonderful love story that dares to explore how our unchecked desires might mean losing what we had all along. We will discuss this book on Tuesday, March 17 at 7PM in C132 (Room 17).



Lutheran Theology Class: Making Sense of Martin Luther

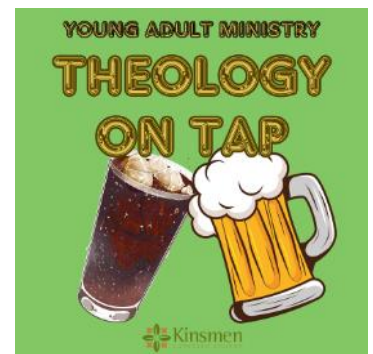
Sundays at 9:45AM

Every year during Lent we try to schedule a class that looks at the basics of Lutheran Theology. This year the class will explore how Luther's understanding of God's life-changing gospel informs day-to-day faith and life in the world today. This will be a video and discussion class led by Pastors Beth and Arthur. To get the most out of the class, you are encouraged to download the book on Kindle or order it in paperback on Amazon or Augsburg Fortress. Having a book is recommended, but not necessary. Register here: <https://bit.ly/Luther2026>



Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap has moved to the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30PM. Pastors Beth and Arthur will take turns facilitating. This is a time for young adults (over 21 and under 40) to gather, connect, and wrestle with questions about God, faith, and life. The location changes each month, so send an email to office@kinsmenlutheran.org to receive the texts and updates!



Apply to Serve at Camp Hope!

Camp Hope is one of the most joy-filled ministries of our summer — and we're looking for **staff** to help make it happen! Camp Hope is a week-long day camp where children (K–7th grade) experience God's love through Bible stories, games, worship, creative activities, and meaningful relationships.

What makes Camp Hope special is the people who serve. As a staff member, you'll build leadership skills, grow in faith, and make a real difference in the lives of kids - all while having a lot of fun. Many staff members are former campers themselves, stepping into a role that shapes the next generation.

If you've completed 7th grade through high school and are looking for a meaningful way to serve this summer, we encourage you to apply. Camp runs multiple weeks in June, and applications will open this spring. Learn more and keep an eye out for application details at <https://bit.ly/CHStaff2026>. Let's make this a summer full of faith, laughter, and hope!



Camp Hope Camper Registration Coming Soon!

Camp Hope 2026 will be June 8-12, June 15-19, June 22-26.

Camp Hope is a day camp run by the Kinsmen youth and is for children currently in Pre-K (entering Kinder in fall 2026) through 7th grade. Youth currently in 8th grade and older can apply to be part of the Camp Hope Staff. Registration for campers and applications for staff will be open this spring! To be the first to hear when registration or staff applications are open, click [HERE](#) or go to <https://bit.ly/CampHopeInterest>.



Playground Playdate

Saturday, March 7 at 10 -11:30AM

Join us on the preschool playground to enjoy the beautiful spring weather in Houston! Can you find the leprechaun hidden on the playground? And we will have a special green snack. Our preschool playground is located off Pinewood Springs Drive.



Family Yoga

Saturday, March 21 at 10AM

Bring your children (ages 3+), bring your adults and come have fun moving your bodies with us! Everyone is welcome.

Terri Beeler is a certified yoga instructor and she also has decades of experience in education. She's combining her two passions of yoga and people to bring us this wonderful parent child yoga class!

Wear comfy clothes, bring a yoga mat or bath towel, and a water bottle. It'll be a fun time with all ages! Click [HERE](#) or go to: <https://bit.ly/FamilyYoga26> to RSVP!

Let's Go to Lutherhill!

Lutherhill is a camp and retreat center in La Grange, Texas, and Kinsmen has been taking children, youth, and adults there for years! You and your family can be part of that tradition in these ways:

Family/Communion/Confirmation Retreat

March 27-28, \$100 per adult and kids go free!

Explore Retreat

May 1-3, \$125 per camper, 1st-5th graders

We need a couple adults to travel with us! This is a great way to practice for summer camp.

Open Camp Day – FREE!

May 30 from 10AM to 4PM

Come and check out Lutherhill! A free day with all the camp activities. Families will travel on their own to this event for ultimate flexibility!

Summer Camp

July 26-31 – ages 1st-8th graders (1st graders leave on Wednesday, July 29) Register by March 15.



Questions? Talk to [Sara Ray](#)!



ELCA Lutheran Schools Week

March 1-7, 2026



During ELCA Lutheran Schools Week, we give thanks for the ministry of Lutheran education and the ways it nurtures faith, curiosity, and love in children of all ages. Our congregation has been blessed to be in ministry with Kinsmen Children's Academy for over 52 years, together serving the children in our community. Our school is a place where children are known by name, surrounded by care, and introduced to God's love through play, learning, and relationships.

This week is a joyful opportunity to give thanks for the faithful leadership that makes this ministry possible. We are deeply grateful for our preschool director, Rachel Santellana, whose vision and care guide the daily life of the school; for our dedicated teachers, who show patience, creativity, and Christ-like love each day; and for our School Board, whose wisdom and steady leadership support the school's long-term health and mission. This partnership between church and school is a true gift. Together, we prepare God's children to be Christ-like examples in the community and the world. For this important work, for these dedicated leaders, and for a congregation that supports us, we say: thanks be to God!



Food Distribution

Sign Up to Volunteer for March 7

Can you help serve the community? We are blessed to be able to provide food to the community the 1st Saturday of the month in partnership with Bridging for Tomorrow and The Houston Food Bank. There's plenty to do. Shifts start as early as 6:30AM and we are done by 11AM. Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) for more information. Sign up for a shift by clicking [HERE](#) or go to <https://bit.ly/MarchFoodDistribution>.



Give the Gift of Life This Spring

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center's mobile coach will be at Kinsmen, Sunday, March 8 from 8AM – 12:30PM. Sign up to schedule your appointment today using this link: <https://bit.ly/BloodDriveScheduling>



Good Friday Service Project

Friday, April 3 10AM—12PM

School is out, so let's serve together! The congregation is collecting supplies for LWR Personal Care Kits and we will assemble them on Good Friday, along with other projects. All ages are welcome!



Personal Care Kit Collection Continues

Personal Care Kits are one of LWR's most requested items and make a simple yet profound difference to families struggling in poverty. In a world filled with strife, the demand for kits grows every year and LWR relies on our generous hearts to make sure those with the very least are not forgotten.

Often, when natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Personal Care Kits were handed out by LWR following the floods in Central Texas last July.

Making Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need. LWR Personal Care Kits are specifically designed to help people cope with poverty, disaster, conflict and more.

These kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations. Items needed for the personal care kits are:

- Light-weight bath-size towel – dark color recommended
- Bath-size bars of soap in original wrapping
- Adult-size toothbrush
- Sturdy comb
- Metal nail clippers

LWR Personal Care Kit items will be collected in the narthex through Maundy Thursday, April 2. The kits will be assembled on Good Friday, April 3.



LENT IN KIND DONATIONS

Personal care kits will provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, basic hygiene tools to our brothers and sisters in need.

- Bars of soap (4-6 ounces, any brand, in original wrapping)
- Bath towels (light-weight, maximum 52"x27", dark color recommended)
- Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)
- Metal nail clippers
- Combs



ITEMS WILL BE COLLECTED THROUGH APRIL 2!

Scan the QR code to access the Amazon wish list!

We will assemble kits on Good Friday, April 3





Kinsmen Generosity Team



*We enjoy shade from trees we did not plant and water from wells we did not dig.
Deuteronomy 6:11*

Call for Project Proposals to Benefit from Endowment Fund Allocations!

The Kinsmen Generosity Team is now accepting proposal requests to fund ministries and projects apart from the Kinsmen Lutheran Church annual budget – rather the funds would come from the Kinsmen Endowment Fund. Prospective ministries and programs must be connected in some way to the values, vision, and purpose of Kinsmen Lutheran Church.

Projects to be considered typically fall within the \$3,000 - \$5,000 range. A completion of a grant application is not guaranteed to be fully or partially funded. Please complete and return the Kinsmen Endowment Fund Grant Application Form by the 1st Thursday of the month for consideration in that month.

The Grant Application Form is available on the Endowment Fund web page which can be found by clicking [HERE](#) or by going to <https://kinsmenlutheran.org/endowment/>.

If you have any questions about the Kinsmen Endowment Fund or the Grant Application Form, please contact Melissa Turnquist at mtturnquist95@gmail.com or [Pastor Beth Warpmaeker](#).

Peace in Christ,

Melissa Turnquist, Generosity Team Chair

Generosity Team Members: Carsten Alsguth, David Bartholomew, Andrew Hanson, Jen Nash, Kirk Rovang, Lee Smith, Patti Tipping, Melissa Turnquist, and Pastor Beth Warpmaeker.

To see a complete list of projects made possible by the Kinsmen Endowment Fund, visit <https://kinsmenlutheran.org/endowment/>.

Charitable Giving From Your IRA

If you are 73* and have a Traditional Individual Retirement Account (A Roth IRA is not subject to RMD distributions), you are required by law to withdraw a certain amount of money from the account each year — this is known as your required minimum distribution (RMD). Many people find that they don't need the extra income, but they're required by law to take it. Making a gift to charities (like Kinsmen) directly from your retirement account in the form of a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) may allow you to meet your RMD requirement without increasing your taxable income.

If you are an IRA owner age 70½ or older, starting in 2023, the SECURE 2.0 Act (passed in December 2022) provided you with a new way to give using your retirement assets. This option lets you choose to make a one-time distribution of up to \$54,000 (in 2026) from your IRA to create a new charitable gift annuity (CGA) or charitable remainder trust (CRT). This unique version of a QCD also counts toward your RMD if one is due. (Check with your financial advisor for other important retirement provisions in the SECURE 2.0 Act.) Additionally, IRS allows you to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) as soon as you reach the age of 70 1/2 for the 2026 tax year and beyond. The annual limit for a QCD has risen to \$111,000 per individual. The money must go directly from your IRA custodian to the charity. This will lower your required distributions in the future.

*The age to begin taking RMDs from retirement plans is now 73 as of January 1, 2023 (up from 72).

Noisy Offering: Lutheran World Relief

March 7 and 8



Through your faithful partnership with Lutheran World Relief (LWR), you are part of life-changing work that reaches far beyond your walls. Your work with LWR offer powerful reminders of how God's love is taking root in communities facing deep challenges—and how your generosity is making a real difference.

One year ago, your generous hearts sparked a historic expansion of our work to serve the most vulnerable in the United States. By mirroring our longstanding international approach of reaching the most vulnerable through trusted local faith partners, your compassion found those in crisis faster and stayed with them longer. Families affected by the July 4 flooding in Texas received emergency supplies within 12 hours. LWR sent quilts and Personal Care Kits as well as distributed emergency food, water, tarps, clean up kits, and clothing.

Since then, your love has surrounded neighbors impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, the California wildfires, severe weather across the South and Midwest, and catastrophic flooding in Central Texas—while continuing to care for communities around the world. In one year, we have reached our US neighbors with 114,038 quilts, 212,425 kits and \$1.2 million in cash grants. With local partners, LWR is developing programming that provides a safety net for those who suffer the most in times of disaster—neighbors such as the unhoused, veterans, children in low-income settings and the elderly.

And internationally, we started a new initiative in Sierra Leone to Keep Girls in School. In a country where poverty often forces girls out of school at a young age, LWR provided modest cash support and local partnerships that provided mentoring, monitored attendance, and connected families to additional support services to help 853 girls stay in school. The benefits extend beyond the enrolled child, strengthening entire households.

The challenges are great. Needs are growing, and disasters are becoming more frequent. But because of you, a network of hope is spreading. Your continued support ensures that when a neighbor is in crisis, your love will be the first to arrive, bringing comfort and the promise of a brighter tomorrow. Recipients of your generosity often state that simply knowing someone cares has restored their hope. This is the hope that multiplies—one community at a time.

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

Can you tie a knot? Can you use a safety pin? If yes to either of those questions, you can help quilt for Lutheran World Relief. Join in on this sharing grace opportunity on Saturday, March 14 from 9AM – 11:30AM and/or Monday, March 23 from 1- 3:30PM. On the job training is provided. If you want to know more contact Connie Jackson or [Lynnae Schatz](#) for more information.





BLESSING OF THE COUPLES



On Sunday, February 15, we joyfully celebrated the Blessing of the Couples in our community—a special moment for renewing their promises of love and faithfulness.

Each couple received a lazo, a symbolic cord representing their union, their commitment, and the love that binds them together. It was a beautiful occasion filled with gratitude, hope, and prayer as we accompanied our couples, asking God to strengthen their relationships and bless their homes with peace and joy.



US Citizenship CLASSES

At the request of our community, we have begun the Citizenship Exam Preparation Course.



In this program, participants will learn about the history, geography, structure of the government, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in this country. Our goal is to provide them with the knowledge and confidence needed to feel well-prepared when taking their citizenship exam.

We joyfully support all those who are taking this important step toward their future.



Culinary Course

We are delighted to share that three women from our congregation have been awarded a full scholarship to participate in the 13-week culinary program offered in partnership with *Bite of Hope*. María Auxiliadora, Celene Nucette Gotera, and María Antonieta Pavone will engage in hands-on learning that focuses on healthy cooking, exploring nourishing ingredients, and developing practical culinary techniques. Throughout the program, they will also discover creative flavor combinations and deepen their understanding of food as a means of caring for others.

At the end of the course, they will earn their Food Manager Certification, a valuable credential that opens doors to new opportunities and empowers them to support their families and community in meaningful ways.

Let us keep these women in our prayers, asking that this journey strengthens their gifts and becomes a blessing to all whom they will serve.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

We are excited to share that we have begun working on our Community Garden.

On Monday, February 16, a wonderful group of volunteers from Bridging for Tomorrow gathered to receive tools, seeds, and to dedicate their time and energy to cleaning and preparing the area. We are so grateful for their enthusiasm and support!

In the coming days, we'll finish preparing the garden by adding more soil and getting ready to start planting.

This is a beautiful project that will continue to grow with everyone's help.

And you can be part of it too! If you would like to participate, collaborate, or simply learn more, we would love to have you join us.

You can contact us at:

- [Lynnae Schatz](mailto:lschatz@klch.org) – lschatz@klch.org
- [Adriana Cuina](mailto:acuina@klch.org) – acuina@klch.org

Thank you for being part of this community that grows and flourishes together!





March Birthdays

Timothy Ian Stolz	03/01	Ashley Draper	03/07	Jaqueline Beeskau	03/16	Christian Lester	03/25
Lana Lyons	03/01	Natalie Hughes	03/08	Donna Roberts	03/16	Kathryn Malone	03/25
Sheri England	03/02	Ava Hughes	03/08	Nikita Grimes	03/17	Ruby Remmert	03/26
Daniel Goodell	03/02	Evan Anderson	03/09	Dani Pulcifer	03/17	Melissa Stewart	03/27
Tom Liewer	03/03	Brian Haas	03/09	Patti Benesh	03/18	Lena Rogers	03/27
Graciela Moran	03/03	Brandon Vasquez	03/09	Stephanie Vincent	03/19	Hunter Brown	03/27
Jalaiah Nwachukwu	03/03	Dale Funke	03/10	Erin Sutter	03/19	Margaret Collins	03/28
Carrie Biggerstaff	03/03	Clifford Snyder	03/10	Joshua Simpson	03/19	Lantz Toney	03/28
Grace Henze	03/04	Owen Long	03/10	Henry Long	03/19	Matthew Gillette	03/28
Gloria Plata	03/04	Colton Toney	03/12	Alan Raschke	03/20	Gary Henry	03/28
Kimberly Davis	03/06	Lynn Molinaro	03/12	Mason Wall	03/20	David Harms	03/28
Noah Jyrkama	03/06	Donna Smith	03/12	Azael Giraldo	03/21	Gabby Nemoto	03/28
Alison Jyrkama	03/06	Carol Clark	03/13	Brittany Bayer	03/22	Daniel Jones	03/29
James Herwig	03/06	Kyle Woods	03/13	Santiago Arias	03/22	Michelle Connor	03/29
Melissa Morgan	03/06	Brenda Henning	03/14	Vicki Awbrey	03/22	Michael Cook	03/30
Michael Wangsmo	03/06	Emily Alderman	03/14	Sarah Mosqueda	03/23	Tina Rueda	03/30
Caroline Peltier	03/06	Judith Tennant	03/14	Eric Nelsen	03/24	Carol Hyun	03/30
Casey Aulenbach	03/07	Amelia Contreras	03/14	Grace Merkel	03/24	Linda Brinz	03/31
Angela Novacek	03/07	Colin Hope	03/15	Kelly England	03/25		

GLIMPSES OF GRACE

Noisy Offering/Living Water International	\$2,119.36
General Mission Support	\$19,355.85
Designated Mission Support	\$191.00
January TOTAL	\$21,666.21
YTD TOTAL	\$21,666.21

KINSMEN BUDGET UPDATE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS FOR January 2026

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Total Income	253,396	265,341	11,945
Total Expenses	171,126	165,007	(6,119)
Net	82,270	100,334	18,064
Year-to-Date (2025)			
Total Income	253,396	265,341	11,945
Total Expenses	171,126	165,007	(6,119)
Net	82,270	100,334	18,064

GIVING UPDATE

Thankoffering			
January 2026	207,417	216,975	9,558
Year-to-Date 2025	207,417	216,975	9,558

GLIMPSES OF SHARING GRACE

CARE MINISTRY

February 2026

Flower Deliveries

41

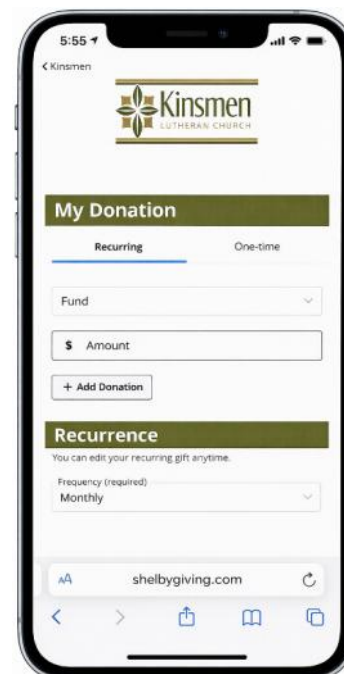
Donate through Shelby Giving

Giving financial gifts through Shelby Giving provides a fast, convenient and secure way for you to give one-time gifts or recurring donations by credit card (American Express, Discover, Mastercard or Visa) or by electronic check through your bank account. To make an electronic check payment, you will need to provide the bank routing number and account number that appears at the bottom of a check.

If this is your first experience with Kinsmen's online giving system, click "Sign In" and then "Register for an Account." This will create your profile with a password and securely store your information so that it is unnecessary to re-enter it with each gift.

4 EASY STEPS:

1. Go to this website: <https://bit.ly/ShelbyGive>
2. Sign In, Register for an Account, and Create your user profile.
3. Choose to pay by credit card or bank account and fill in the appropriate account information.
4. Choose the fund, the amount and click submit to make an online gift.



Donating Through a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)

If you have a donor-advised fund (DAF), consider donating to Kinsmen!

IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

INFORMAL WORSHIP

Saturdays
5:30 PM

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sundays
8:30 AM

EDUCATIONAL HOUR

Sundays
9:45 AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sundays
11:00 AM

MISA en ESPAÑOL

Domingos
12:30 PM

ESCUELA DOMINICAL

Domingos
12:30 PM

Kinsmen Staff

Reach a staff member directly by dialing
281-444-3127, plus their extension

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Ruben Aranda, Custodian

Gonzalo Montes, Custodian

CONNECTION

is a monthly publication of
Kinsmen Lutheran Church.
Deadline for submitting news is
the **15th** day of each month or
the previous church business
day if the deadline falls on the
weekend or on a church
holiday.



Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
9 AM—5 PM
Friday
9 AM—12 PM

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Membership

Interested in learning more
about Kinsmen?

Contact Pastor Beth or Lynnae Schatz
for more information.

