

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

February 19, 2026

Here is an Ash Wednesday prayer from Lectio 356, an online daily scripture and prayer guide: Ash in the Bible is a potent symbol for many sobering things. In Isaiah 61:3 it expresses deep grief, in Genesis 3:19 it represents human frailty, and in Luke 10:13 it's a symbol of solemn repentance. For all these reasons, on Ash Wednesday, many church traditions will mark a cross on the foreheads of worshippers with ash made from the burning of last year's Palm Sunday branches. Let us pause now to examine my heart and acknowledge our sins at the start of this

Lenten journey using the prayer of David in Psalm 139.

**Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Point out anything in me that offends you,
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.
Psalm 139:23–24**

I pray slowly through these verses now, starting with just its first few words:

“Search me, O God, and know my heart...” (v.23a)

Holy Spirit, I barely know myself but you understand me completely. I do know that my motives are mostly mixed, my faith is frequently fragile, and my mind is sometimes a mess. Please “teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name” (Psalm 86:11)

Pause and pray

Continuing with the second line, I pray:

“...test me and know my anxious thoughts.” (v.23b)

Lord, it's true that I get “worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed” (Luke 10:41). You've told me again and again not to be anxious about anything, but instead to pray, promising that, if I do so, your peace will guard my heart and mind in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7). And so today, I choose again to cast all my anxiety on you, and to trust you Lord, because I know you care for me (1 Peter 5:7).

Pause and pray

Moving onto the next line of David's prayer, I ask the Lord to:

“Point out anything in me that offends you...” (v.24a)

Yes, Lord, on this Ash Wednesday, remembering your cross, would you point out anything in me that offends you. Spotlight the thoughts, words, or deeds in the shadows of my heart. Holy Spirit, work in me this Lent to make me holy, even as you are holy. (Leviticus 11:34)

Pause and pray

And finally I pray:

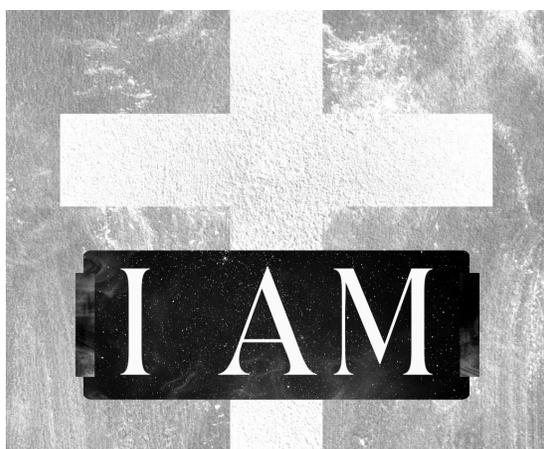
‘... and lead me along the path of everlasting life.’ (v.24b)

Lord, bestow upon me today ‘a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.’ (Isaiah 61:3) Lead me towards the life that lies beyond death, the joy that rises beyond the cross, and the feasting that awaits me on the other side of this season of fasting.

Pause and pray



PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Marie Ward, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Spencer Humphrey, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Dawn McGinn, John Bull, Joyce St. John, Harry Brax, Pete Seyfarth, Charles & Lisa Oliver, Johnny Kersnac, Linda Robison, Ricky Bullock, Tyna Youngblood, Mark Ernst, Gary Smith, Jerry Bowlin, Joanne Jenkins, John Miller, Jay Reagan, Genia Humphrey, Emily Romano, Cindy Tredway, Steve Burton, Pam Serrato, Ryan Serrato, David Serrato, David Berry, Leiland Humphrey, Kathy Hogan, Mildred Dilley, Jesse Draime, Maddy Devlin, Patricia Badeaux, Linda Bass, Bob Bullard, Anne Ladner, Paul Hicks, Jim Collins, Nan Nabor, Kendra Reed, Glenda Hull, Natalie Schmidt, Nancy Ruff, Dawn Rhoades, John Fales, Becky Collins, Richard Gingles, Mandy Reinike, Lauren Sullivan, Corbin Altese, Penny Tripp, Bill Hardee, Jim Westmoreland, and Leo LaCour.



Upcoming Sermons

February 22, 2026

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 14:1-14

March 1, 2026

I Am the Bread of Life

John 6:32-40

Calendar

Sunday, February 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

5:00 p.m. Youth in the Youth Hall

5:00 p.m. In-Betweens in the SBS room

Monday, February 23rd

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

Tuesday, February 24th

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

Wednesday, February 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

1:30 p.m. Seashore Mission Lunch Prep in the CLC

5:30 p.m. Dinner & Workshop 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, February 26th

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

10:00 a.m. Depart Church to Serve lunch @ Seashore Mission

4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bride's Parlor

Sunday, March 1st

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

5:00 p.m. Youth in the Youth Hall

5:00 p.m. In-Betweens in the SBS room

Monday, March 2nd

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

Tuesday, March 3rd

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

Wednesday, March 4th

10:00 a.m. Respite Ministry in the Side by Side rm.

5:30 p.m. Dinner & Workshop 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 5th

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

4:00 p.m. Prayer Group in the Bride's parlor



Pulled Pork Fundraiser

There will be a pulled pork fundraiser to raise money for scholarships to the Home of Grace on Sunday, March 8th, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center @ the main campus. The cost of the plates are \$12.00.



First Methodist Church
Long Beach, MS

O.A.K.S. Luncheon

Please join The O.A.K.S. for a luncheon in the Christian Life Center on Wednesday, February 25th at 11:30 a.m. All are invited and please bring a dish to share. Our program speaker will be Liz Hoop with Hoop Cares LLC. Our friends from Side by Side will entertain us singing "Side by Side"!

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



Acolyte Schedule

February 22nd Ellie

March 1st Raylee

March 8th Jacen



Save the date for
Vacation Bible School 2026:

JUNE 14-18, 2026

Register now for Kids in PreK- 5th Grade
and for Volunteers!

First Methodist Church
208 Pine Street
P.O. Box 375
Long Beach, MS 39560
www.fmclb.church

Youth Group

7th-12th Graders

- Feb 22** - Youth Group
- March 1** - Youth Group
- March 8** - Youth Group
- March 11** - *Heart & Soul: Prayer Boards*
- March 15** - Youth Group
- March 18** - *Heart & Soul*
- March 22** - Youth Group
- March 25** - *Heart & Soul*

Youth Group is from 5 - 7 PM in Heritage Hall. Youth will participate in Wednesday night dinners through March 4. Our Wednesday night Heart & Soul gathering resumes March 11 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM in Heritage Hall.



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

- Feb 22** - In-Betweens
- March 1** - In-Betweens
- March 8** - In-Betweens
- March 15** - In-Betweens
- March 22** - Basics of Faith Retreat
- March 29** - No In-Betweens
- April 5** - Easter - No In-Betweens

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In-Betweens meets in the Side-by-Side room in Moore Hall at 208 Pine Street. Enter on the side facing the park! In-Betweens will participate in Wednesday night dinners through March 4.