

INFO

Please complete this slip and place it in the oak box to the right of the door as you leave.

This aids pastoral care and communication. Thanks!

I/We are:

☐ 1st ☐ 2nd ☐ 3rd time Guests ☐ Regular attenders

I/We heard about Word of Life

from: _____

I/We would like:

- ☐ the pastor to call me
☐ to request personal, spiritual care
☐ to be baptized
☐ to receive foundational teaching

Adult Name(s) Please Print

Youth/Children (grade)

Please complete unless our information is current:

Address

City, ST Zip

Email

Can We Text You?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Phone

Additional Info

Building a bigger heaven and better lives!

February 1, 2026

We Thank You Lord...

- that in Christ You call blessed what the world overlooks and are at work precisely where we feel weak, small, and unseen.
- for a safe labor and delivery for the Bristow family (**Doublestein**)
- for the blessings and resources You have entrusted to our care and Your promise to multiply our offerings to build a bigger heaven and better lives.

We Ask You Lord...

- to free us from our addiction to the impressive, and teach us to trust that Your cross is our true strength and blessing.
- to bless the directors our district's Catalyst Innovation Lab as they make important decisions to approve proposals for new and effective outreach and mission strategies
- to bless all leaders with godly wisdom and move them to lead according to Your will
- to bless victims of violence, oppression and disaster
- to restore broken marriages, engage disengaged parents, reconcile estranged family members, heal and strengthen families, add to our families by giving us love and mercy
- to grant healing and recovery to those battling anxiety and addictions and to give love, peace, and patience to family and friends who support them
- to bless **Jerry Johnson's** preparation for and performance in his upcoming LCMS Specialized Care Chaplaincy endorsement interview
- to bless Cecilia Friesenhahn & her family (**Flowers**)
- for provision, guidance, and healing for the Funke family (**Mitschke**)
- for blessing and guidance regarding life changes, including employment and relationships for **Dennis Hatfield, Mickey Molina, Jayme Edwards, Audry-Anna Edwards**, and Bethany Torres
- for safety, health, and growth for baby Orlin (**Molina**)
- for a safe pregnancy and delivery for the **Stover** family
- to give comfort and peace to Susan Blaker and her caregiver, daughter Teresa Cox
- to grant peace and comfort to Marjorie Schroeder (**Mitschke**) in her last earthly days and grant strength and rest to her family and caregivers
- to comfort the family and friends of Alma Rosa Timmons (**Flowers**), Dilva Galan (**Stafford**), Rusty Smariga, and Roy Kasper (**Mitschke**) as they mourn their deaths
- to heal and comfort **Kathy Raymond, Margie Dominguez, Thomas & Denise Bruce, Joyce Givens, Al Fennigkoh, Baby Koen Slates**, Monte Easley (**Beveridge**), Joshua Tolin (**Bruce**), Clarice Craigmile (**Craigmile**), Cheryl Smith, Mary Lu, Robert Ferry (**Dominguez**), Debbie Arriaga, Bubba & Donna Ahrens (**Flowers**), Alejo Garcia (**Garcia-Treviño**), Tracy Parks (**Hatfield**), Roger Fields, Robbie Smith, Sandy Doering, Iris Trahan (**Mitschke**), Lewis Starkey, Ruby Brunelle, Marianne Powell, Carson (**Nightingale**), Mark McQuaid (**Paxton**), Phil (**Peterson**), Miriam Prieto (**Prieto**), Sef Alvarado (**Stark**), Bud, Riley (**Stemmermann**), Diana Paddison, Andy, Beth Lukasiewicz, Nicole Garcia, Mande, Nicky Lahren, Beth Roberts (**Stevens**), Robert Maggiano, Naomi Reese (**Valentine**), Terry Walker (**Wagner**)
- to heal those battling cancer: **Rick Wimberley**, Lyndal Cadel, Guy Morgan (**Craigmile**), Wesley, Pedro, Betty Ruff (**Dominguez**), Rodney Edwards, Margaret Swartz (**Edwards**), Gladys (**Garcia-Treviño**), R.D. Latimer (**Latimer**), Tina Kelleher, Connie Barz, Cathy Brigham, Laurine Watson, Kathy Jennings (**Mitschke**), Maria Molina (**Molina**), Becky Plumley (**Nichols**), Meredith Powell (**Nightingale**), Eddy & Chad Holloway (**Paxton**), Chuck Warner (**Pointer**), Kenton Stafford, Leena Prindle
- to help those we now name in our hearts and minds
- to connect people to Jesus and His Kingdom

February 1, 2026

Word of Life Fellowship

Worship • 9:00a & 11:15a

K-5th Sunday School • 9:00a

Youth and Adult Bible Class • 10:15a

www.WordofLife4u.com • BetterLife@WordofLife4u.com

210-566-2237

Blessed in Ways That Don't Impress

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

- There is a question almost everyone in this room has asked at some point: "Is this _____?"
- I'm trying to do the right things, I'm showing up, I'm staying faithful - and yet it still feels _____.
- If God is really at work in my life, shouldn't it look better, or at least feel _____, than this?
- That's not rebellion talking; that's _____ talking.
- When Jesus opens His mouth in Matthew 5, He doesn't say what anyone _____ Him to say.
- "Blessed are the poor in spirit... blessed are those who mourn... blessed are the meek... blessed are the _____."
- That's not propaganda copy. It's not a TED Talk, It's not how you grow a _____.

- Jesus is not describing aspirational traits; this is not “try harder,” this is a _____.
- The Beatitudes are not a to-do list; they are a _____.
- Paul puts it bluntly: “The word of the cross is _____ to those who are perishing.”
- God chose what is weak, God chose what is low, and God chose what is _____.
- Not accidentally, not temporarily - God _____.
- The Heidelberg Disputation says, “The theologian of the cross calls the thing what it actually _____.”
- Here’s what we don’t want to call what it actually is: we are addicted to the _____.
- When our lives don’t look impressive, we quietly assume God must be _____.
- Micah refuses our bargaining and answers the question, “What does the Lord require of you?” with three words: do justice, love kindness, and walk _____.
- Not *perform* humbly - **walk** humbly, daily, quietly, and _____.
- Micah says God is not impressed by _____; He is pleased by faithfulness.
- Jesus does not bless suffering as such; He blesses those who suffer _____.

- We do not seek weakness, but when weakness comes, God does not _____ us to it.
- Bonhoeffer writes, “God lets himself be pushed out of the world and onto the _____.”
- Let me say this plainly: your life does not look _____ to God.
- The quiet endurance, the unseen faithfulness, and the forgiveness no one applauded are not weakness; they are strength shaped by the _____ of the cross.
- Jesus offers a self anchored outside itself - named before it performs and _____ before it succeeds.
- You are free to serve without curating, free to love without leverage, and free to be faithful without _____.

Scripture Readings:

- Micah 6:1-8
- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- Matthew 5:1-12

Family Discussion

- For Adults
 - Where do you feel pressure for your life - or faith - to look more impressive than it actually is?
 - Which Beatitude do you find most uncomfortable, and why?
 - How does the cross redefine what “blessing” means for you right now?
- For Teens
 - Where do you feel like things only “count” if they’re seen or noticed?
 - What would it look like to be faithful even when no one is watching?
- For Children
 - Jesus says people are blessed even when they feel sad or small. Can you think of a time when God helped you quietly?
 - Who can you show kindness to this week without telling anyone?
- Prayer Together: Lord Jesus, teach us to trust that You are at work where the world sees nothing, and to believe that in You, we are already blessed. Amen.

Prayer Requests/Thanksgivings:

☐ Confidential (for pastors only)
Please Print CLEARLY



Have you or a friend been wanting to take a deep look at what the Bible says about faith, certainty, eternity, Jesus, and other important topics and events?

Do you have a schedule that keeps you from attending Bible studies or groups?

Pastor Phil is offering an individually-scheduled theology course - *don't worry, it's super accessible for anyone* - for adults via Zoom, in person, or a hybrid.

If you missed youth confirmation, or have never received any instruction as an adult, this is a great opportunity that we encourage you to consider.

☐ **Yes, contact me at the number on the reverse form.**