



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



October 2025 Issue



Dear Friends in Christ:

There is a story about how a congregational spit happened in northern Minnesota. The congregation could not decide the right way to slice pickles; lengthwise or into chips. The argument was so bad that some people left the church. This is a true story. Pickles were really not the issue but the last straw.

I think that the bottom line was the inability to disagree and still show Christ's love. Many congregations have that problem. We forget that Christ's love is the driving force for all we do. We set our sights on buildings and paint colors and small stuff so much so that we forget how much Jesus loves us and all the people in the world. Our world becomes small. We think being right is more important than being loving. I know it has happened in my life and I think it has in yours also.

There is a solution. Remember every time you talk to another person that the other person is also loved by God and our response to them needs to be out of Love for them as Jesus loves them. I guarantee that it is not always easy but always productive, for you if not the other person. God loves you so much that Jesus died for you even when you were far away from him. We need to show love in our interactions with each person in our families, our congregation and our community. Love does indeed conquer all.

Read John 15:12-17 and always remember that God loves YOU and so do I.

In Christ's love: Pastor Ed



All God's Children Preschool school year is under-way! Our first day of school was August 25th and it has been a fantastic first month of school. As with the start of anything we are all learning new things, getting to know one another, learning classroom rules, learning a schedule, making new friends, and of course starting to form a beautiful school family. Everyday our hallways and classrooms are full of laughter, art work, learning, and of course PLAY! Our teachers are doing an outstanding job. They are introducing many new activities and lessons to our students, they are showing them how fun learning can be and having them engage in hands-on activities and play-based centers. Each of the classrooms are decorated beautifully, warm, and inviting.

We had AGC spirit week this month and each day had a different theme and a different opportunity to donate items to our community. The students got to dress up in the daily theme and the families gave items like diapers, wipes, pantry goods, and dog and cat supplies. We dropped these items off at the local food pantry, Mother's Helping Mother's, and Nate's Honor. It was heartwarming to see the amount of kindness shown by our AGC families, it is what makes this school and community so special.

We have also been busy building relationships with our AGC parents. We do not only want to help our students form relationships, we want to help our parents form bonds and friendships as well. One way we do this is by having our annual AGC Ice Cream Social. We held this event for the third year in a row on September 11th. We invited all of our families, staff, and students to join us for a fun family night out. We had an ice cream vendor as well as a local coffee/pastry truck provide treats for children and parents. Our students played on the playground with their friends and teachers got the opportunity to talk to the parents and spend some time getting to know one another. The music was playing, the children were dancing, the adults were chatting, and the night could not have been better. The best thing about this event is that we were together as a family! A big thank you to our AGP (All God's Parent) group for all of their hard work putting this wonderful event together!



The Orion Trio
PRESENTS
A Fall Jazz Event
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2025 4 PM
LIVING LORD LUTHERAN CHURCH
11107 Palmbrush Trail, Bradenton, FL 34202
FEATURING
Scotty Wright - Vocals
Valerie Gillespie - Sax/Vocals
John DePaola - Trumpet
AND
THE ORION TRIO
THOMAS PIZZI - PIANO
RICH MacDONALD - DRUMS
JOE PORTER - BASS
Admission \$15 at the Door
Email: Info@LivingLordFL.org
941-753-9365

LIVE STREAM – presented on 

- Go to the church website:
www.livinglordfl.org
- Scroll down to the listed service times
-  **“Click here to go the Living Lord’s YouTube page”**

Takes you to recorded live streams



SCRIP Ease the financial burdens of the holidays by gradually purchasing your gift cards now. Proceeds benefit LLLC.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING October 2nd at 10:30am

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, Oct. 26 – Town Hall – 10am. State of Living Lord. Hear the latest updates on the Call Committee, Property and Living Lord finances.

Sunday, Nov. 2 – Teams Meet and Greet – 10am. Meet your team leaders and learn about volunteer opportunities.

**Living Lord Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report as of Aug 31, 2025**

OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2025	Actuals Jan- Aug 2025	Jan -Aug 2025 Budget	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	251,138.54	250,440.08	698.46
Church General Fund Disbursements	229,257.05	245,815.60	16,558.55
Net Church General Fund	21,881.49	4,624.48	17,257.01
Church Restricted Receipts	51,135.96		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	344.80		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	114,176.48		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>(40,814.23)</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	210,315.38	208,109.38	2,206.00
AGC General Fund Disbursements	184,036.59	215,889.28	31,852.69
Net AGC General Fund	26,278.79	(7,779.90)	34,058.69
AGC Restricted Receipts			
AGC Fundraisers	14,190.35		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	20,567.46		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>19,901.68</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	461,453.92	458,549.46	2,904.46
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	413,293.64	461,704.88	48,411.24
Net LLLC General Fund	48,160.28	(3,155.42)	51,315.70
Fundraising Balances	14,535.15		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	51,135.96		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	134,743.94		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(Includes restricted)	<u>(20,912.55)</u>		
	Actuals Jan- Aug 2025	Jan - Aug 2024 Actuals	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2025 VS 2024			
Church General Fund Receipts	251,138.54	237,144.68	13,993.86
Church General Fund Disbursements	229,257.05	246,648.94	17,391.89
Net Church General Fund	21,881.49	(9,504.26)	31,385.75
AGC General Fund Receipts	210,315.38	185,918.52	24,396.86
AGC General Fund Disbursements	184,036.59	170,460.26	(13,576.33)
Net AGC General Fund	26,278.79	15,458.26	10,820.53
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	461,453.92	423,063.20	38,390.72
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	413,293.64	417,109.20	3,815.56
Net LLLC General Fund	48,160.28	5,954.00	42,206.28

Church General Fund receipts through August are \$13,900 more than last year and \$698 above budget
Church General Fund Disbursements are \$16,500 below budget.
AGC is \$26,000 favorable to disbursements through August.

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper

GENERAL OFFERING #4010

YEAR-TO-DATE
August 31, 2025
\$221,773.21

2025 BUDGET
August 31, 2025
\$228,335.36

2024 ACTUAL
August 31, 2024
\$215,613.95

FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

When was the last time you sat down to eat together with your family at home? October is **National Eat Better, Eat Together Month**. It's a great time to start enjoying meals together if you're not already. Eating together as a family allows children and adults to focus on the task at hand...EATING!

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics reports that children of families who regularly eat together are more likely to have higher intakes of fruits and vegetables and have a healthy weight, and are less likely to have behavior problems or use drugs, cigarettes or alcohol when they get older. Beyond health and nutrition, family meals provide a valuable opportunity for children and parents to reconnect.

Top 10 Tips

Take time to meal plan!

The first step to enjoying a meal at home is knowing what to prepare. If you have a plan of attack, then you're more likely to prepare a meal at home.

Invite your children to help in the kitchen!

Involving kids in the kitchen gives them confidence and provides them with a life-long skill. In addition, children are more likely to consume what they have a role in preparing.

Move mealtime to the table!

Enjoying your meal at the table brings the focus back to the food and the people sitting with you.

Put away the electronics!

Sit down and enjoy your meal **as well as each other's company**. Setting aside your phone and turning off the television allows you to focus all of your attention on each other. It can lead to great dinner conversation, which opens the lines of communication within your family.

Ask intentional questions!

Speaking of conversation, ask intentional questions that move beyond "How was your day?" Consider asking questions like, "How did you show kindness to someone today?" "What made you happy today?" "What made you sad today?" "What's your favorite activity we do as a family?"

Serve as a positive role model!

Eating together as a family allows you to model proper table manners. Let your child(ren) see you eating a balanced diet. Include foods from all five food groups. Trying new foods together as a family can make it less intimidating for children.

Teach about portion control and healthy choices!

Meal time is a great time to teach children about portion control and making healthy choices. Allow children to self-serve their own portions. Encourage them to take a single serving of every food. If they are still hungry, they can go back for more.

Have realistic meal expectations!

Don't expect children to sit at the dinner table for excessive lengths of time. Stay positive, which will make mealtime more enjoyable for everyone.

Aim for a few nights a week!

Don't worry if your family can't eat together every day. If weeknight meals won't work for your family, then try eating together as a family on the weekends!

Make it a habit!

If your family isn't currently eating together, then aim to eat one meal together a week. Schedule it on the calendar. Make sure each family member knows that it's a priority. Once you've consistently met that goal, considering trying to increase the number of meals you eat together to 2 or 3 times per week.

Eating together as a family teaches children that taking the time and effort to eat together as a family is important.

Will you make eating together a priority?

Then Jesus declared, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

How is the hurricane season doing? The 2025 hurricane season is off to the slowest start since 2009. Hurricane Gabrielle formed in the mid-Atlantic on 19 Sep and became the second major of the year on 22 Sep as a Category 4. It weakened and hit the Azores on 26 Sep with less wind and rain than expected. Hurricane Humberto strengthened rapidly into a Cat 3 hurricane on 26 Sep and reached Cat 4 on 28 Sep well east of the U.S. Look for Humberto to slowly turn north then northeast and remain west and north of Bermuda and weakening. Tropical Storm Imelda has formed well offshore from Miami and will move north and then turn sharply ENE 30 Sep with wind gusts 25 mph, rip currents, and locally heavy showers coastal FL, GA, SC 28-30 Sep.

How warm was the earth in August 2025? Globally, August 2025 was the third average warmest August in NOAA's 176-year record, with a temperature that is 1.93 degrees F (1.07 C) higher than the 20th century baseline. This is 0.36 degrees F (0.20 C) cooler than the record set in August 1923 and tied in 2024. The January-August global temperature was the second highest behind 2024. According to NOAA scientists, it is very likely that 2025 will rank among the five warmest years on record. Regionally, the Arctic, North America, South America, Europe, and Asia all saw their August average temperatures rank among the 10 highest Augusts on record, with the Arctic region experiencing its second warmest August on record.

How about our local weather for August and summer? The average temperature for August at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport (SRQ) was 83.0 degrees, 0.4 degree below normal. The average summer (Jun, Jul, Aug) temperature was 82.5 degrees, 0.3 degree below normal. Aug rainfall total at SRQ was 12.78 inches, 140% of normal, and the summer total was 32.52 inches, 138% of normal. The August total for Parrish was 14.22 inches, 158% of normal, and the summer total was 30.60 inches, 121% of normal. With summer drought in South Florida, it was the 3rd driest summer on record at Miami with 22.31 inches, 75% of normal. A dozen states had among their 10 lowest Aug total rainfalls, with the driest Aug on record at Kentucky, Ohio, and Vermont.

Is there trouble on the Mississippi River? Close to half of all U.S. corn, soybeans, and wheat exports move through the Mississippi River system, making it one of the most important export corridors in the world. However, for the 4th consecutive year, historically low river levels are threatening that critical connection to global markets. Persistent drought has once again reduced the depth and width of the navigation channel, forcing barges to carry lighter loads and pushing transportation costs higher. These conditions, arriving during the peak of harvest, are putting pressure on farm prices and raising concerns about the competitiveness of U.S. grain exports.

What is the final price tag for the January Los Angeles fires? Until this year, the 2018 Camp Fire stood as the nation's costliest at \$13 billion. A new report says the two major wildfires that devastated parts of LA County in January cost more than twice as much, totaling \$65 billion in losses. The Palisades (\$37 billion) and Eaton (\$28 billion) fires also became the most expensive wildfire events ever for the reinsurance business and two of the most expensive fires ever recorded globally. The two blazes killed 30 people and destroyed more than 16,200 buildings.

LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION

The second Thursday of the month, we will meet October 9th at 11:30am. We will meet at Linger Lodge 7116 85th St Ct East Bradenton. This luncheon is open to all. See signup sheet in the narthex. Contact Marsha Holloway for questions.

PUB THEOLOGY

All are welcome on Wednesday, October 29th at 6:30pm at Beef O' Brady's, Lakewood Ranch Blvd. Share views about how God interacts in our everyday lives. The format is simple: beer, conversation, and God. For more information contact Doug Holst at (813) 447-9917.

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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