



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



June 2025 Issue



Dear Friends in Christ:

During the month of June there are two Church celebrations: St. Barnabas on the 11th and Peter and Paul (celebrated together) on the 29th.

Barnabas was probably one of the 70 that Jesus sent out on a mission trip. He sheltered Paul when he came to Jerusalem and was looked upon with fear because of his background. Peter and Paul disagreed on a number of things and Paul called Peter wrong in Galatians. They came from different backgrounds and had some different ideas and yet they were united because of the faith that they lived in. Faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We are not too different from the early Church. Our people come from many places with different backgrounds and differing ideas. And yet, we are united in the same faith as Peter and Paul. And, we have the same mission. We are children of God, called and equipped to make a difference in the world. As long as we share the Faith and the Mission of Barnabas and Peter and Paul, We are the Church. My prayer is that we always be Church together.

Read Ephesians 4:1-6 and always remember that God loves YOU.

In Christ's love: Pastor Ed



WE DID IT!! All God's Children Preschool is ending our 2024/2025 school year on a high note. Our last month has been one for the memory books. Besides all of the end of the year parties and fun, the teachers were still hard at work making sure that each of their students were ready to move forward, whether it is the next preschool grade or kindergarten. Our teachers have instilled so many important skills that each child can take along with them. We are so excited for each and every student as they enter the summer and take the next step in their school journey. Our outstanding, kind, generous, and loving families celebrated the AGC staff for an entire week in May for teacher appreciation week. We were showered with a new surprise everyday. We had breakfast, lunch, sweet treats, gift cards, and even a new microwave for our office. We all felt so blessed and grateful. We have the absolute BEST parents!

The last few weeks have the school full of laughter, music, and smiles as each class celebrates spring, the year coming to an end as well as new beginnings. We have had butterfly releases, water days, picnics, field trips, nature walks, and even dance parties.

One of the most joyous moments this past month was the VPK graduation ceremony. What a magical day for everyone at AGC. The church was covered in purple balloons to commemorate this special day. The graduates sang, got their diplomas and shared what they wanted to be when they grew up. Our families were able to watch their graduates and capture this very special moment. There were many tears, most of joy and some of sadness as we must say goodbye to children and families that have been a part of the AGC family and supported our preschool through thick and thin for many years. We wish all of our graduates the best of luck and know that they will do awesome in kindergarten. We always hope they will come back and visit us as they move up to kindergarten!!

From the entire All God's Children Preschool staff, we wish you all a fantastic summer filled with magic, laughter, love and most importantly memories. We look forward to the next adventure that awaits us all.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:

Melody Fetterman , Emily Holst, Noah Olson, Brooke Palmtag, Katie Powers



Hello from your Call Committee!

It's been some time since we last updated you on our call process (the last time was at the Congregational meeting in January).

In the time since, we have reviewed our progress as a congregation, and reached out to our Synod representative, Pastor Nicole.

As a congregation in the process of a call, we have been operating for some time with an Interim Pastor. We've been so blessed that the Synod agreed to allow Pastor Ed to fulfill a parttime role as our Interim. His leadership and comforting style have provided a calm and settling atmosphere that has allowed us to avoid the anxieties that many congregations feel when working through this process.

In these past number of months we have continued forward as a congregation, resisting the temptation to become stagnant and woeful. We have seen new members join our church. We've participated in baptisms. And, most importantly, we've seen a surge in volunteerism that has allowed us to fill critical roles and keep our ministries growing.

We've seen huge improvements on our campus, including clearing the long-neglected southwest corner of the campus and refreshing areas of our parking lot. We've also refreshed our facilities with new paint, flooring and lighting. And there is still more to come...

We've seen important ministries continue and grow, like adult and tender-aged Sunday school, adult Bible study, and in-depth, adult-led education programs. Our "small group" study groups have continued to flourish and our social groups have continued to meet and enjoy good Christian fellowship.

We've started monthly Family Fun Nights opened to anyone, and we enjoyed Wednesday night Lent Services with supper fellowship before worship.

This embodies the encouragement Pastor Nicole gave the Call Committee last week when she told us to be prayerful, patient and to keep moving forward while we wait for God to reveal our next Pastor to us.

The accomplishments and active participation I described above are not the actions of a church in crisis or decline. Rather, they exemplify the Holy Spirit moving among us and keeping us focused on God's work while we await a new Pastor to lead us.

Please join me in thanking Pastor Ed for his leadership and commitment to our church. And let's all recommit ourselves to living our faith through volunteerism and support for one another.

Join your Call Committee in being patient, prayerful and always moving forward!

Jeff Taylor
Call Committee Chairperson

Living Lord Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes April 16, 2025

Attendees: Pastor Ed Holloway, President Nancy Taylor, Beverly Brockschmidt,

Rae Dowling, Mike Gutzler, Mary Hunter, Rich Jones, Patty Kunkel, Rhoda Olson Stephney Rose, Scott Smith

The meeting was called to order with prayer and devotions by Pastor Ed.

Minutes Approval – A motion was made by Patty and seconded by Scott to approve the March minutes . The motion passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report- Pastor is seeing that our northern family is beginning to go home for the summer. Pastor encourages all of us to look to the future and prepare for a new Pastor.

Campus Improvement - Work continues to improve the physical campus of Living Lord.

Sanctuary Hall is complete. Roof – Damage for the hurricanes has been repaired and work is complete.

Parking Lot – Blacktop is being added in some strategic places and the team is working to readdress the remaining flooded parking areas. Sanctuary – repainting is coming

Restrooms – the team is looking at options to provide a family / handicapped restroom

A Boy Scout Eagle Project will be providing 2 new benches for the front porch. These will be stronger and more durable.

Team Reports - All team reports were submitted electronically and are in the office for review. The following are some highlights.

- **Parish Life** - Another team meeting will be held on May 6th at 2pm, to determine the specifics of the division of work and duties.

- **Evangelism** – The team is exploring the hiring of a professional web-master to make sure we have a more robust and complete online presence.

- **Education** – The team is planning a movie night and exploring the use of mailers for various events at the church – VBS, holiday services, etc.

Financial Reports – Full Financial reports were submitted electronically and available in the office for review. Church funds receipts through March 31, 2025 are \$5400 more than last year and \$3700 over budget. Disbursements are \$2300 less than budget. All God's Children is \$3700 favorable to disbursements year to date.

The Audit report will be provided to Council at the May meeting.

Appraisers completed their evaluation. Reconstruction costs are as follows:

Sanctuary/Office - \$2,381,523, - Preschool— \$1,214,300 - Storage Shed - \$20,547 The Appraisal report was sent to our insurance agent for comment and renewal quote. The finance committee will meet to discuss deductibles and secure other quotes as needed. The Brightwheel system used by AGC is currently working with Quickbooks.

All God's Children - The Brightwheel system interface is beginning to work LLLC Quickbooks system. Summer Camp is scheduled for June 16th – July 25th, there will be 3 more staff as the camp is full with 40 children/day. Kindergarten Graduation is May 16th at 11am in the Church

The new shade cloth and jungle gym are ready for installation, just awaiting a permit.

Call Committee - No one understands the frustration with the amount of time its taking to find a new Pastor than the Call Committee, the Council and Pastor Ed. However, across the country there are more churches that need Pastors than there are Pastors available. We don't want to settle for just anyone, so we put our faith in the Lord to bring us the right person at the right time.

New Business: A question was raised regarding the livestream of our Sunday services. LiveStream has moved to YouTube. Jeff Taylor has sent Maggie written instructions with pictures to logon to LLLC services. Once you are on Facebook, you follow the link instructions for accessing YouTube and it will take you to the services online.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday May 21st at 4pm.

Respectfully Submitted, *Rae Dowling*

**Living Lord Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2025**

OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2025	Jan- Apr 2025 Actuals	Jan - Apr 2025 Budget	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	123,174.71	125,673.16	(2,498.45)
Church General Fund Disbursements	109,443.38	117,375.48	7,932.10
Net Church General Fund	13,731.33	8,297.68	5,433.65
Church Restricted Receipts	18,027.96		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	291.22		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	43,507.94		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>(11,457.43)</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	150,609.26	128,175.30	22,433.96
AGC General Fund Disbursements	102,347.06	103,082.58	735.52
Net AGC General Fund	48,262.20	25,092.72	23,169.48
AGC Restricted Receipts			
AGC Fundraisers	18,644.35		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	2,908.37		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>63,998.18</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	273,783.97	253,848.46	19,935.51
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	211,790.44	220,458.06	8,667.62
Net LLLC General Fund	61,993.53	33,390.40	28,603.13
Fundraising Balances	18,935.57		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	18,027.96		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	46,416.31		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(includes restricted)	<u>52,540.75</u>		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2025 VS 2024	Jan- Apr 2025 Actuals	Jan - Apr 2024 Actuals	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	123,174.71	129,083.40	(5,908.69)
Church General Fund Disbursements	109,443.38	122,756.32	13,312.94
Net Church General Fund	13,731.33	6,327.08	7,404.25
AGC General Fund Receipts	150,609.26	127,138.92	23,470.34
AGC General Fund Disbursements	102,347.06	89,253.45	(13,093.61)
Net AGC General Fund	48,262.20	37,885.47	10,376.73
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	273,783.97	256,222.32	17,561.65
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	211,790.44	212,009.77	219.33
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>61,993.53</u>	<u>44,212.55</u>	17,780.98

Church General Fund receipts through April are \$5900 less than last year and \$2500 below budget.
 Disbursements are \$7900 less than budget.
 AGC is \$48,000 favorable to disbursements through April.

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper

GENERAL OFFERING #4010		
YEAR-TO-DATE	2025 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL
April 30, 2025 \$114,581.70	April 30, 2025 \$114,170.72	April 30, 2024 \$115,825.91

FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

June is National Safety Month – the annual observance to help keep each other safe from the workplace to anyplace. Each week throughout National Safety Month in June is an opportunity to make a difference in your home, work, and community. Identifying risks around the home or improving safety standards at home and in your community protects everyone. Whether we increase first aid and emergency awareness through drills or provide water safety tips for summer recreation, we're taking steps to provide a safer neighborhood.

HOW TO OBSERVE National Safety Month

Get involved! Report repairs as they are needed. Hold drills at home to help children know what to do in the event of fire. Hurricane and tornados are another natural disaster to prepare for. Volunteer to participate in community emergency preparedness events. Put together a first aid kit. Take a CPR class. Teach someone to change a tire properly and safely. Learn about proper storage and disposal of medications. Take a defensive driving course. Learn how to identify fall hazards in a home.

Rushing, complacency, fatigue and frustration. These mindsets lead to error and injury.

Rushing Most have felt it: rapid heart rate, increased adrenaline, sweating, eyes and mind jumping ahead, skipping steps in a process. Rushing is situational, whether you are working alone at home or with others on a large project. Address the risks of rushing during job-hazard analysis briefings and crew tailgate meetings. Get coworkers thinking about the consequences of rushing and how they might react when it happens. Even when performing a routine task, recognize when you begin to rush, consider the risks and focus on the moment.

Complacency Watch out for the warning signs of complacency, which include working on autopilot, missing or skipping steps in a process and taking shortcuts. Other signs might be a lack of motivation, communication issues or frequent close calls. Address complacency by increasing your focus. This includes recognizing distractions and dismissing them. Especially that smart phone – put it away and concentrate.

Fatigue Long work hours, physical exertion, extended shifts and poor sleep patterns can intensify fatigue. According to OSHA, “Fatigue can cause weariness, sleepiness, irritability, reduced alertness, impaired decision making, and lack of motivation, concentration and memory.” Fatigue reduction includes getting more sleep, staying hydrated, exercising and improving one’s diet. If work demands cause fatigue, discuss possible solutions with your supervisor.

Frustration Long hours, project deadlines and other worksite conditions cause stress. “Frustration is an emotional stress response,” according to webmd.com. “Frustration is the feeling of irritability or anger because of the inability to achieve something.” You might be stuck in traffic or forget to bring equipment to a work site. Your response is essential – you can let frustration build up and boil over or learn ways to manage it. Frustration does not just go away; identifying the cause helps stop it. Talking feelings out with someone or even writing them down can be effective. If your approach to a task is not working, consider doing it another way. Sometimes, accepting a situation for what it is can calm things down. Exercise is also a great stress reliever. It produces endorphins that have a positive effect on the mind and body. Protect yourself and others by identifying and addressing the mindsets that lead to error and injury.

Situational Awareness and Distraction Two other significant topics to consider during Safety Month are situational awareness and distraction. Situational awareness starts with being aware of our surroundings and actively observing and identifying potential hazards. If a risk is identified, we must respond with an action that resolves or avoids the hazard. A basic example is if you see water on the floor, wipe it up. Distraction is one of the biggest enemies of situational awareness. Phones are a primary culprit, with all those calls, texts, emails, social media and other disruptions diverting our attention. There are also mental and emotional distractions such as stress, depression, anger, confusion, substance use, multitasking and more. Sometimes, the workplace can be a distraction. Add heavy machinery, energized equipment, or working at heights to the equation, and the hazards increase dramatically. Distraction also clouds our ability to process information, understand the results and communicate effectively. A misstep in the situational awareness process can obscure the right course of action or stop it altogether. Practicing situational awareness at work will help you increase the practice in your personal life. After all, safety shouldn’t stop after you finish work for the day.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. _Isaiah 41:10

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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11107 Palmbrush Trail
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