



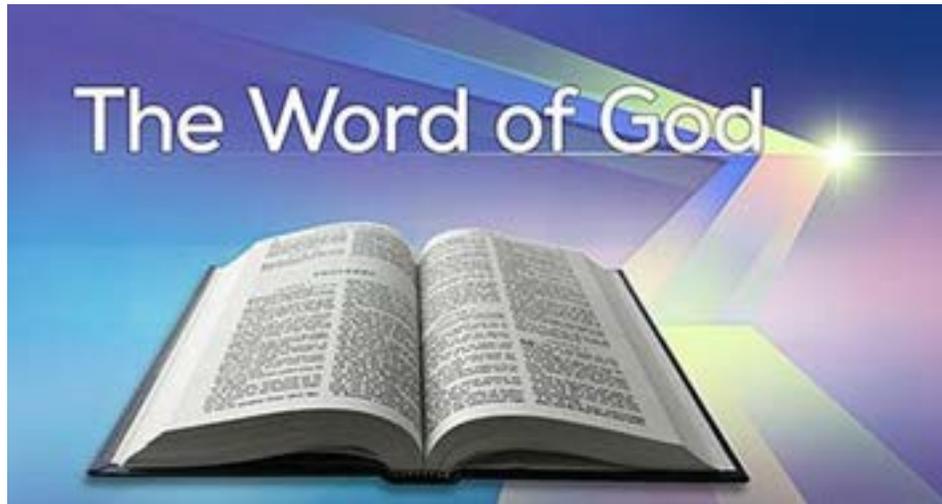
Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



August 2025 Issue



Words are truly powerful. The Word of God has driven our church for centuries. The lifting up of Jesus and his love for us is conveyed in word and deed. Sometimes the deeds need to come first and yet words are very powerful. God's Word is embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. A life dedicated to letting the people around him know the pathway to God was through love and care for others and love for our creator. We love to hear God's word in song and readings and messages. We love to hear how much God loves us.

How do we feel about the words we hear from others? Or the words we say? Our words have power also. When we give words of anger and rumor, they definitely hurt those toward whom they are aimed. So too, when we give words of love and encouragement they lift the hearts of those who hear. I have heard both as have you. The words of Jesus remind me of which way I need to talk to others. We are to spread the Word of God in love to everyone we meet through our deeds AND our words. Let us think before we speak and pray always that our word leave a mark of peace and love. May the Word of God uphold you and those to whom you speak.

Read James 1:19-21 and always remember that God loves YOU and so do I.

In Christ's love: Pastor Ed



It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of summer, time does fly by when you are having fun. Fun is what the campers at All God's Children preschool are having everyday! We started our camp on June 16th and our final day was July 25th. We have had different themes from STEM to Animal Safari. Our campers have done science experiments, cooking and baking, scavenger hunts, creative crafts, and of course got to play with all of their friends before school begins again. Each Friday, our campers had water day and we transformed our playground into a water park with slides, pools, and water tables. It was the perfect way to end the week and cool off from the hot summer sun. It has been a pleasure watching our campers enjoy one another and learn many new things in a fun way.

We were also very lucky to have a concert our last week of camp. Aloha Ukulele came to visit our campers and performed pirate themed songs. This was such an amazing and age appropriate concert for our students. They got to dance, sing, and even play instruments with the band members. It was a magical day for everyone, and ended our summer journey on a high note!

Our summer camp staff was Ms. Heather, Ms. Erin, Ms. Colleen, Ms. Marianne, Ms. Mya, Ms. Maria, Ms. Mariska. We also had a fantastic group of teenage camp counselors, Morgan, Kendall, Gretta, Bailey, Macklin, Elin, Chase, and Kate. It was such an outstanding team who worked together with planning, and executing all of the awesome activities. We worked very hard and it showed in all of the smiles our campers have on their faces each day. It was a special gift for teachers to watch teenagers guide our young campers in such a fun and positive way. We all learned from each other! We look forward to school starting in a few weeks and embarking on another year full of wonderment and learning!



Living Lord Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes June 11, 2025

Attendees: Pastor Ed Holloway, President Nancy Taylor, Vice President Rich Jones, Secretary Ray Dowling (absent), Treasurer Mike Gutzler, Beverly Brockschmidt, Stephanie Rose, Scott Smith, Rhoda Olson, Patty Kunkel.

Welcome and Prayer—Nancy Taylor

Minutes approval – Approval of the May minutes motioned by Rhoda, seconded by Mike Gutzler and passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report – Pastor reported on his Synod attendance, commented on communications and thanked the Council for working together. Pastor's monthly report was submitted separately. All team reports are available in the church office.

Special Request – Beverly thanked the Council for allowing her time to give a brief update on the condition and progress of her friend, Lisa.

Campus Improvement Team -- Rich Jones assured the Council that only restricted funds on hand are being spent. Bathroom floor plans were distributed. Plumbing issues are an ongoing discussion. Bill Hoth has the damage to the swale on the western perimeter under control.

Finance – General church funds and offerings year-to-date have slipped below plan and last year. AGC receipts are \$40,000 greater than expenses year-to-date. Complete monthly report is available in the church office.

The Call Committee is prepared and ready when we receive a candidate from the synod.

Evangelism – Patty discussed Facebook – now YouTube – for Sunday service broadcast. No action taken at this time.

Worship and Music – Rhoda gave an extensive report on everything from vacation time to drummer to bells. The bells are not for sale. No action taken by council.

Education – Summer Day Camp (Luther Springs) went well. Scott is seeking additional information on various education programs.

Old Business – Council members held a FaceTime meeting with Andy BZ Creative regarding a webmaster. No action was taken as the council is seeking more information.

Council is prepared for the Special Meeting when we vote to extend a call to a new pastor.

New Business – Motion by Treasurer Mike Gutzler. All donations to Campus Improvement Fund will now go into the General Fund starting July 1, 2025. Seconded by Patty. Discussion followed and the motion passed unanimously. Mike will inform the congregation of the Council decision. For additional information see Maggie in the church office.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's prayer. Next meeting will be 8/20/2025 at 4 PM at the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Gutzler, Treasurer

LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION

The second Thursday of the month, the Lunch Bunch meets.

August 14 at 11:30am.

We will meet at the Rosedale Golf and Country Club at 5100 87th St E Bradenton. This luncheon is open to all who wish to attend. There is a signup sheet posted in the narthex.

The Handicrafts group—A Stitch and a Prayer is looking for donations of used sheets (any size, color, or patterns), CD discs, and buttons (nickel size or bigger) for various projects we are working on. As usual, any fabric and batting donations are also welcome. We will gladly come to pick up donations you are unable to bring in. Please look forward to our annual holiday raffle/fundraiser this December. Contact Marsha Holloway (352)843-0353 or Sue Chan (612)743-3010 for any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

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

	Jan- June 2025 Actuals	Jan -June 2025 Budget	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2025			
Church General Fund Receipts	190,780.92	188,256.62	2,524.30
Church General Fund Disbursements	186,013.08	181,424.86	(4,588.22)
Net Church General Fund	4,767.84	6,831.76	(2,063.92)
Church Restricted Receipts	48,047.01		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	342.90		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	99,203.41		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>(46,045.66)</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	182,921.52	163,582.12	19,339.40
AGC General Fund Disbursements	148,341.62	127,701.74	(20,639.88)
Net AGC General Fund	34,579.90	35,880.38	(1,300.48)
AGC Restricted Receipts	-		
AGC Fundraisers	7,369.28		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	19,109.46		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>22,839.72</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	373,702.44	351,838.74	21,863.70
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	334,354.70	309,126.60	(25,228.10)
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>39,347.74</u>	<u>42,712.14</u>	<u>(3,364.40)</u>
Fundraising Balances	7,712.18		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	48,047.01		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	118,312.87		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(includes restricted)	<u>(23,205.94)</u>		

	Jan- June 2025 Actuals	Jan - June 2024 Actuals	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2025 VS 2024			
Church General Fund Receipts	190,780.92	183,049.21	7,731.71
Church General Fund Disbursements	186,013.08	180,918.83	(5,094.25)
Net Church General Fund	4,767.84	2,130.38	2,637.46
AGC General Fund Receipts	182,921.52	153,994.52	28,927.00
AGC General Fund Disbursements	148,341.62	131,451.25	(16,890.37)
Net AGC General Fund	34,579.90	22,543.27	12,036.63
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	373,702.44	337,043.73	36,658.71
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	334,354.70	312,370.08	(21,984.62)
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>39,347.74</u>	<u>24,673.65</u>	<u>14,674.09</u>

Church General Fund receipts through June are \$7700 more than last year and \$2500 above budget
AGC is \$34,000 favorable to disbursements through June

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper

GENERAL OFFERING #4010		
YEAR-TO-DATE	2025 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL
June 30, 2025	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024
\$175,884.03	\$171,253.04	\$165,348.92

FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

In Florida, for the 2025-2026 school year, most school districts will begin classes on Monday, August 11, 2025. This is the earliest start date allowed by Florida law. Back to school can be an exciting time, but it's common for children to be a bit anxious about it, too. After all, they will have new teachers, new routines, etc. They may be worried about a lot of unknowns ... missing the bus, liking their new teacher, being able to perform at the new grade level, the quantity of homework, and, of course, relationships with friends and peers. All children can benefit from feeling prepared, and parents can play a big role in helping ease back to school fears.

Listen to worries and problem solve.

Children may ask a lot of questions. Listen, try to answer their questions accurately and help them problem solve. Empty reassurances such as, "It will be fine!" can make some children feel even more anxious

Example: If your child is worried about remembering a new locker combination, practice on a combination lock at home the week before school starts.

Attend school open house together.

Many schools host open houses in the weeks leading up to the start of school. Does your school have one? Find out if they do and plan to attend.

Make back-to-school shopping fun.

Plan a fun back to school shopping trip together. Let children pick out some of their own supplies. It can help them feel more prepared for heading back to school.

Start school routines at least a week before school starts.

Wake up and eat breakfast closer to the usual school morning routine. Rolling back bed time a few weeks before school starts can help your child feel rested and ready to cope with new routines and challenges.

Involve your child in decisions when possible.

Will they ride the bus, walk or be driven the first few weeks of school? What does your child prefer? Hot lunch or cold? Allowing your child to help make some decisions can help them feel like they have more control over a new, and sometimes stressful, situation.

Discuss school rules and routines.

What are the rules and routines that your child will need to know for back to school? Reviewing rules and routines can help with a solid start and can help set the tone for the school year.

Help your child focus on the positive!

Seeing old friends, making new friends, even wearing a favorite outfit are all things that children can be excited about! Helping to remind your child to think about the positive aspects of returning to school can help them to overcome some of their worries.

Model positive coping skills by managing your own stress.

Children watch their parents. Manage your own emotions about back to school. If you appear overly anxious about it, your child will pick up on that and it could contribute to their own anxiety about going to school. Be positive! Managing your own stress about back to school can help your child feel more confident about the process.

Don't forget to reinforce the positive by letting your child know how proud you are of them and the good choices they make as they head back to school this year.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Psalm 32:8



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

Will the hurricanes return this year? After 10 major hurricane landfalls with nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a trillion dollars in Gulf Coast economic damages since 2017, how about some boredom. But most models still look for roughly 55% chance of an above normal season, 40% chance of a near normal year, and a 5% chance of a below-normal year. By September, a warming trend in the Tropical Atlantic and a return of La Nina could help produce an above normal second half of the hurricane season. In 2020, 2022, and 2024, the second half outperformed the first half. Colo State Univ has downgraded its forecast from 9 to 8 hurricanes and 4 to 3 major hurricanes.

Have we had any tropical storm activity? After Andrea and Barry, Chantal was the most interesting, coming ashore near Myrtle Beach on 6 Jul with sustained winds of 60 mph. However, as Chantal moved inland, it interacted with a mid-latitude weather system and triggered 5 to 10 inch rains in central North Carolina with flooding along the Haw River.

What is Corn Sweat? It is evapotranspiration by which summer corn pulls moisture from the soil and then pushes it into the atmosphere. During the growing season, an acre of corn sweats off about 3,000 to 4,000 gallons of water a day. In Iowa alone, corn pumps out a staggering 49 to 56 million gallons of water into the atmosphere each day. That can add 5 to 10 degrees to the dew point, a measure of the humidity in the air on a hot summer day. While corn sweat might make summer days feel more oppressive, larger-scale weather patterns provide much more low level moisture via advection from the Gulf to produce the necessary showers and thunderstorms.

How did the orange harvest turn out? The USDA on 17 Jul estimated Florida will produce 12 million boxes of oranges during the 2024-2025 season, down from 18.06 million boxes during the 2023-2024 season. Florida's citrus industry has been on a steady decline during the past 25 years. The current orange crop is on pace to be the lowest since the state's 1919-1920 harvest.

Does drought continue in Florida? Yes, especially in southeast Florida. Much of southeast Florida is in Severe Drought (D2) as of 24 Jul with Extreme Drought (D3) in the interior of Miami-Dade County. An example is Pompano Beach with 6.47 inches of rain in Jun through 26 Jul, 52 % of normal. Our local counties are Abnormally Dry (D0). Our dryness this year had its source in Mar/Apr with only 0.99 inches in Parrish, 17 % of normal, driest since 2005.

How hot has it been? Tampa set an all-time high temperature record with 100 degrees on Sun/27 Jul. It's the first 100 degree day in Tampa since records began in 1890. Ruskin set daily high temp records with 98 on 27 Jul and 96 on 26 Jul. Hiest temp at SRQ was 94 on 27 Jul.

What are some significant numbers from the Texas Hill Country floods of early July? Total Hill Country deaths stand at 135 with 2 missing as of 27 Jul. Total deaths from the Guadalupe River stand at 108 with 71 adults and 37 children. Sharpest river rise on the Guadalupe River was at Comfort on 4 Jul with a rise of 26 feet in 45 minutes. The Guadalupe River topped out at 34 feet which surpassed the 1987 flood which claimed 10 lives of teenagers. Storms totals 3-7 Jul in inches include Bertram 20.92, Liberty Hill 20.55, Streeter 20.33, and San Angelo 13.51

“Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully”

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Visit our web-site—www.livinglordfl.org



“LIKE” us on Facebook.

[Facebook.com/livinglordlutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/livinglordlutheranchurch)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel
at [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Search for Living Lord Lutheran
Church Bradenton

Living Lord Lutheran Church
11107 Palmbrush Trail
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202