



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



June 2026 Issue

One of the joys that I have had at Living Lord Lutheran Church so far is working with our youngest brothers and sisters in Christ. Whether it is Sunday children's sermon or Wednesday children's chapel, it always amazes me how receptive they are to the presence of Jesus in their midst. Even our youngest know who Jesus is and point to the glass above the altar. Were they understand when things come into their life that the presence of Jesus is with them. Maybe it's because they haven't had time for the world to interfere with their spiritual connections, God one-on-one with them.

When I was ordained 45 years ago, I had the joy to be able to be with 200 kids in an after school program everyday. Their families came from a difficult background and some of them had already been through trauma we can't even imagine. Jesus was their hope and their redeemer especially when times got tough. When we look at our children, may we continue to see the precious love of Jesus on each of their faces and nurture it.

Be safe in your travels and pray for us this summer.

Pastor Linda





WE DID IT!

All God's Children Preschool is proudly wrapping up the 2025–2026 school year on the highest note, and what an unforgettable year it has been!

The final month of school has truly been one for the memory books. Alongside all of the celebrations, parties, and special activities, our teachers remained dedicated to preparing each child for their next big step—whether that means moving into the next preschool class or heading off to kindergarten. Throughout the year, our students have gained confidence, friendships, independence, and important skills that they will carry with them wherever they go. We are incredibly proud of every child and excited to watch them continue their educational journey.

In May, our amazing AGC families made Teacher Appreciation Week extra special. Our staff was showered with kindness and generosity all week long with delicious breakfasts and lunches, sweet treats, thoughtful gift cards, and even a brand-new microwave for the office! We felt so loved, appreciated, and blessed. We truly have the BEST families, and we are so thankful for the support and encouragement you show our school each and every day.

The halls of AGC have been overflowing with laughter, music, smiles, and celebration as classes enjoyed all the fun that comes with the end of the school year and the arrival of spring. From butterfly releases and water days to picnics, field trips, and glow dance parties, our students made beautiful memories together that will last a lifetime.

One of the most meaningful moments of the month was our VPK Graduation Ceremony. It was truly a magical day for everyone at AGC. The church was beautifully decorated with purple balloons as we celebrated our graduates and all they have accomplished. The children proudly sang songs, received their diplomas, and shared their dreams for the future by telling us what they hope to become when they grow up. Families gathered to watch, celebrate, and capture these precious memories.

As always, graduation brought both joyful smiles and a few tears as we said goodbye to children and families who have been such an important part of the AGC family for many years. They all came together at Lido Beach for a fun day in the sun to end a wonderful year! While we will miss them dearly, we know our graduates are ready to shine in kindergarten and beyond. We wish them nothing but success and happiness, and we hope they will always come back to visit us!

From all of us at All God's Children Preschool, thank you for an incredible school year filled with love, learning, laughter, and unforgettable memories. We are looking forward to a fun-filled summer and all the adventures it will bring. We wish all of our families a summer full of sunshine, magic, joy, and special moments together. We cannot wait to see what the next school year has in store for all of us!



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THANK YOU

For all the generous donations to
Hope Family Services.
They are so grateful for our contin-
ued support every year.

The Outreach Team



CELEBRATE with us on Sunday June 14th with one combined service at 10:00am.
Let's celebrate Pastor Linda's 45th Anniversary of Ordination and Maggie's 20th anniversary with
Living Lord.
Brunch will be served following service.

LLLC DAY CAMP is scheduled for June 8th - June 12th, 9am to 4pm.
Children must have completed kindergarten and are eligible thru the completion of 5th grade.
There are limited spaces available, so if you know anyone interested please let them know of this
opportunity for a fun-filled, Christian-based week!

Living Lord Lutheran Church Council Meeting April 15, 2026

Attendees: Pastor Linda Fernandez, Rae Dowling, Ron Gerdes, Mary Hunter, Rich Jones, Stephney Rose, Scott Smith, Karen Symos, Pauline Priest, Lisa Pyeatt, Shannon Van den Bosch. Guest Dennis Pyeatt Absent: Patty Kunkel

Opening Prayer & Devotion: Rae opened the meeting and Pastor Linda led us in Prayer.

Minutes Approval: A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 2026 minutes, the motion carried unanimously. There was no March 2026 meeting due to schedule conflicts with Holy Week.

Financial Report: The full financial report is available in the office for review. General Funds receipts for the Church through March are \$15,000 more than last year and \$7,600 above budget. Church general fund disbursements are \$19,000 below budget. All God's Children budget is \$50,900 favorable to disbursements through March.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Linda is fully entrenched in the work of Living Lord. Lenten programs were well attended and received. Palm Sunday was highlighted by a wonderful cantata, and the bell choir provided a wonderful processional on Easter. The Pastor's contract has been extended officially through the end of July, however she has agreed to stay with us until a new pastor is called.

Team Reports: Team reports were submitted electronically and available in the office for review. Highlights include:

Worship and Music – We will celebrate Pastor Linda's 45th anniversary of her ordination with a single combined 10am service on Sunday June 14th, 2026.

All God's Children –

The Spring Carnival was very successful! Thanks to the hard work and generosity of everyone more than \$22,000 was raised for the Pre-School.

The school year is quickly coming to an end, with graduation to be held on May 15th.

Changes to the inside of the education building have been requested by AGC director. AGC are working to secure permits and will provide the council with a drawing representing the proposed changes.

Education –

Vacation Bible School will be held June 8th -12th, 9am-4pm for children who have completed kindergarten -5th Grade. \$75 – Scholarships are available.

Call Committee –

We continue to pray for a candidate to serve our wonderful congregation.

Discussion Items:

A council retreat will be held on Saturday May 16th 9am – 1pm for all council members.

Synod Convention will be June 4-6th in Orlando. Pastor, Marilyn Jones and Doug Holst will be our delegates.

The Constitution needs to be updated and Scott Smith will lead the effort.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rae Dowling

**Living Lord Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2026**

	Actuals Jan-April 2026	Budget Jan-April 2026	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2026			
Church General Fund Receipts	146,525.52	145,344.00	1,181.52
Church General Fund Disbursements	106,241.95	129,866.00	23,624.05
Net Church General Fund	40,283.57	9,096.00	31,187.57
Church Restricted Receipts	11,485.94		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	0.18		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	6,479.98		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>45,289.71</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	156,625.20	136,058.00	20,567.20
AGC General Fund Disbursements	100,902.99	140,047.00	39,144.01
Net AGC General Fund	55,722.21	(2,973.00)	58,695.21
AGC Restricted Receipts			
AGC Fundraisers	21,727.41		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	1,534.95		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>75,914.67</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	303,150.72	281,402.00	21,748.72
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	207,144.94	269,913.00	62,768.06
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>96,005.78</u>	<u>11,489.00</u>	<u>84,516.78</u>
Fundraising Balances	21,727.59		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	11,485.94		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	8,014.93		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(includes restricted)	<u>121,204.38</u>		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2026 vs 2025			
	Actuals Jan-April 2026	Actuals Jan-April 2025	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	146,525.52	123,174.71	23,350.81
Church General Fund Disbursements	106,241.95	109,443.38	3,201.43
Net Church General Fund	40,283.57	13,731.33	26,552.24
AGC General Fund Receipts	156,625.20	150,609.26	6,015.94
AGC General Fund Disbursements	100,902.99	102,347.06	1,444.07
Net AGC General Fund	55,722.21	37,008.02	18,714.19
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	303,150.72	273,783.97	29,366.75
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	207,144.94	211,790.44	4,645.50
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>96,005.78</u>	<u>61,993.53</u>	<u>34,012.25</u>

Church General Fund receipts through April is \$23,000 more than last year and \$1100 above budget.
Church General Fund Disbursements are \$23,600 below budget as we are not funding a full pastor.
AGC is \$55,700 favorable to disbursements through April

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

What is NOAA predicting for the hurricane season? Forecasters with NOAA's National Weather Service are predicting a below-normal hurricane season for the Atlantic basin this year. The agency is forecasting a total of 8-14 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, 3-6 are forecast to become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 1-3 major hurricanes (category 3,4, or 5 with winds of 111 mph or higher). NOAA has a 70% confidence in these ranges. An average season has 14 named storms with 7 hurricanes, including 3 major hurricanes. El Nino is expected to develop and intensify during the hurricane season. El Nino can often suppress hurricane development. In contrast, ocean temperatures are expected to be slightly warmer than normal and trade winds are likely weaker than average. Thus, there is uncertainty how this season will unfold. Remember, it only takes one storm to make for a very bad season.

What storm names will get us excited this year? 2026 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone names include Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gonzalo, Hanna, Isaias, Josephine, Kyle, Leah, Marco, Nana, Omar, Paulette, Rene, Sally, Teddy, Vicky, and Wilfred.

Was April another warm month? April 2026 recorded the second-highest global sea surface temperatures outside polar regions and the third-warmest April on record. This was driven by intense marine heatwaves in the equatorial Pacific and emerging El Nino conditions. Global surface air temperature reached 14.89C, 0.52C above the 1991-2020 average. It was also the third warmest April across the world. The warmest April was in 2024 and the second warmest in 2025. The contiguous U.S.(CONUS) experienced its third warmest April on record, with record warm average temperatures observed across more than 700 counties and affecting more than 50 million people. The last 12 months (May 2025-April 2026) were warmer than any other 12-month period on record for the CONUS. Arctic sea ice fell to its second lowest April extent.

Are we still in drought? As of 21 May, the Drought Monitor continues at Extreme Drought (D3) for Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Exceptional Drought (D4) continues in portions of North Florida and Southeast Georgia. Despite some recent rain, this has not led to any meaningful improvements to the long-term deficit as of yet. The pace of water consumption by vegetation is higher this time of the year, meaning that the rain that is falling is quickly being used up. As rain begins to fall more regularly, this should allow the system to begin recovering, and this will favor gradual improvement of drought conditions over time.

Are we beginning to get into the rainy season? The National Weather Service Tampa Bay Office in Ruskin has evaluated local thunderstorm science and climatology to define the rainy season for West Central and Southwest Florida. The rainy season runs from 15 May to 15 Oct for Southwest Florida and from 25 May to 10 Oct for the rest of West Central Florida. Thunderstorm season in West Central and Southwest Florida is active when the Bermuda High sets up, when sea surface temperatures surpass 82F offshore, when moisture aloft increases, and when surface dew points increase into the 70s. So it is not surprising here in Parrish that it has rained every day from 21 to 26 May and the monthly total has reached 4.41 inches, 173% of normal. Some impressive rainfall totals 1-26 May include 5.78 inches at Clearwater, 7.72 inches at Panama City, 8.81 inches at Apalachicola, 9.12 inches at Albany GA, and 15.83 inches at Mobile AL.

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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