



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



October 2026 Issue

All God's Children Preschool

Growing, Learning, and Building Community

The school year at All God's Children Preschool is well underway! Our first day of school was August 31, and it is hard to believe that we have already completed an entire month together. As with the beginning of anything new, we are all learning, growing, getting to know one another, and beginning to form a beautiful school family.

We also welcomed our families back with our annual "Cheers or Tears" Breakfast! This was our second year hosting this special event for families who were returning for another school year, as well as those dropping their little ones off for the very first time. It was a sweet opportunity for parents to enjoy breakfast and coffee together, celebrate the beginning of a new school year, and share in all the emotions that come with it. There were certainly plenty of "cheers" as we looked forward to a wonderful year ahead, along with a few "tears" as parents realized just how quickly their little ones are growing up! We love this tradition because it reminds us that starting a new school year is about more than new classrooms and new routines—it is about celebrating milestones, supporting one another, and being part of a community that understands the joys (and sometimes the tears!) of watching our children grow.

Our hallways and classrooms are filled with laughter, artwork, play, and, of course, lots of learning! Our students are learning so many important skills as they settle into their new routines—how to make friends, share, sit together at the table, follow directions, transition from one activity to another, and, most importantly, how to play and have fun together.

Our teachers have been busy introducing exciting new activities and lessons, showing our students just

how fun learning can be. Through hands-on experiences, play-based centers, small and large group activities, and time outdoors, our children are given many opportunities to explore, discover, and learn at their own pace. Each classroom has been beautifully decorated to create a warm and inviting environment for our students. The children have exciting centers to explore throughout the day, while our teachers provide opportunities for learning and connection in both the classroom and outdoors. We are excited to see what the coming months will bring as our students continue to learn, grow, make friends, and discover the joy of learning together. What a blessing it is to watch our AGC family grow!





Theo Bullington	Josh Myers Behler
Rob Babel	Chris Mork
Susanna Scott	Shirley Smith
Gordy Havey	Will
Liz Howell	Joe Kitchie
Wyly Pope	Tony Zubricky
Nancy Woodworth	Ron
June Hartlieb	Gayle
Ron Silver	Bradley
Brian Brockschmidt	Tracy B.
Kathy Murgatroyd	Gay Jeffreys
Meri Capithorne	Ronald Hansen
Jan Hillman	Lisa Keefer
Sandy & family	Family of Mike Tetmeyer
Bill and Marty Mork	Betty Potts-Cerio
Lori Norgart	Tony Preston
David Gangnagel	John
Sarah Mia Rivera	Denise Kleiner and family
Steve Wilson	Family of Berniece Knight
Pastor Ed Holloway	Bruce and Cindy Lewis
Jeanette Johnson	Family of Ralph Hanson
Joan Beiner	Vaughn Williams
Family of Kevin Shinn	Tom Bond
Amanda Rose	Jamie
Augie Bottiger	Mike and Jan
Kim Wilson	Pastor Linda and Rudy Fernandez
Kati Connell	Al Kersten
Kathy Schneider	Family of Rhoda Olson
Mary	Pauline Priest
Linda	MaryAnn Holt
Corrine Conte	Bob Scott
Jennifer Jones Bowles	Family of Andrew Walsh
Family of Thomas Beiner	Jacob Kudrin
Family of Casey Carter	Rich Jones
Glen and Brenda Clarke	Karen Symos



AGC Ice Cream Social

This month, AGC also hosted our third annual Ice Cream Social, inviting our families, staff, and students to join us for a fun family evening together. We enjoyed Jeremiah's Italian Ice and vanilla and chocolate ice cream. Although it was a rainy evening, it didn't stop us from having a wonderful time! Families gathered, children played, teachers and parents had the opportunity to visit and get to know one another, and our AGC community enjoyed simply being together.



One of the sweetest parts of the evening was watching our families connect with one another. We hope this event is the beginning of many friendships and lasting relationships within our preschool family. A very special thank you to our AGP (All God's Parent) group for all of their hard work in putting this wonderful event together! We are so grateful for the time, energy, and love they poured into making the evening special for our AGC families.

Save the Date- Nov 8th 10 am One Combined Service

Pot Luck following the service and LLLC Updates

Bring your favorite dish to share and hear updates from Finance and Team Leaders.

FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

October is Domestic Violence Month: Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior used by one person to gain or maintain power and control over another in an intimate or domestic relationship.

Definition and Dynamics

Domestic violence, also called domestic abuse or intimate partner violence, involves repeated abusive behaviors aimed at controlling or intimidating a partner, family member, or cohabitant (such as a roommate or caretaker) rather than isolated incidents of anger or conflict. The abuse is systematic and escalating, often increasing in severity over time, making it difficult for victims to leave safely.

Forms of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence can take many forms, including:

- **Physical abuse:** Hitting, slapping, shoving, grabbing, pinching, biting, hair pulling, denying medical care, or forcing substance use.
- **Sexual abuse:** Coercing or forcing sexual contact, marital rape, or sexual humiliation.
- **Emotional and psychological abuse:** Constant criticism, name-calling, humiliation, intimidation, isolation, or undermining self-worth.
- **Economic or financial abuse:** Controlling access to money, preventing employment, or creating financial dependency.
- **Technological abuse:** Using digital tools to monitor, harass, or control a partner.

Spiritual or religious abuse: Manipulating a victim using religious beliefs or authority to control behavior.

The Cycle of Abuse

Domestic violence often follows a **cycle**, making it difficult for victims to recognize or escape the situation:

1. **Tension building:** Stress and minor conflicts escalate, creating fear and compliance.
2. **Incident:** The abuser exerts control through physical, emotional, or sexual abuse.
3. **Reconciliation (honeymoon stage):** The abuser may apologize, show affection, or promise change.

Calm: A temporary period of normalcy before the cycle repeats.

Impact and Prevalence

Domestic violence affects people of all genders, ages, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic backgrounds. It can lead to physical injury, psychological trauma, anxiety, depression, and diminished self-worth. Psychology Today. In the U.S., approximately 1 in 3 women, 1 in 4 men, and nearly half of LGBTQ+ individuals experience domestic violence.

Seeking Help

Victims are encouraged to seek support from hotlines, shelters, and local advocacy organizations. In the U.S., the National Domestic Violence Hotline provides 24/7 assistance, and law enforcement can be contacted in emergencies by calling 911. Recognizing the signs early and accessing professional help is critical for safety and recovery.

Those who bring trouble on their families inherit the wind. The fool will be a servant to the wise. Proverbs 11:29 (NLT)

Council Meeting August 19, 2026

Members attending-Rae Dowling, Patty Kunkel, Pauline Priest, Stephney Rose, Shannon Van Den Bosh, Andy Mueller, Lisa Pyeatt, Scott Smith, Rich Jones, Karen Symos, Absent- Ron Gerdes & Mary Hunter.

Rae opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes were approved with one correction, Andy Mueller was added as attendee at July meeting.

Treasurer- Andy reported the church general receipts are \$23,294.52 more than last year and \$6661.90 below budget. Disbursements are \$54,019.47 below budget. AGC is \$65933.86 favorable to disbursements through July. A CD with Bank OZK has matured and will be reinvested with Bank OZK and Charles Schwab. He requested that a notice be given to the congregation about the Electronic Sign. Rich will have a notice posted in the bulletin.

It was suggested that Doug Holst be compensated for mileage from the church to pastoral visits. Motion was made by Rich. Pauline seconded and was approved by Council.

Rae reported that Pastor Linda's surgery is August 20th.

AGC report was sent to all members prior to the meeting.

Education-Shannon will be meeting with Pam Lange to coordinate Education.

Evangelism-Patty reported 12 new members have been received this year. New members and a baptism will be held Sept 6th.

Parish Life- Stephney suggested that Doug and Pam be thanked for all the help they have given.

Stewardship - Karen reported combined service will be held Nov 8th, followed by Pot Luck luncheon and Town Hal meeting.

Worship-Lisa sent out worship report prior to the meeting. It was suggested that sound barriers be reinstalled to cut noise level. Also power issues at the lectern were noted previous Sunday and were resolved. Any outside groups using the church should not be in the altar area.

Rae reported about 50 people attended the first Meet and Greet for Pastor Bruce. This week's Meet and Greet will begin in the sanctuary with questions for Pastor Bruce, then proceed to the hall for refreshments.

Rae reviewed the congregational meeting process starting at 10:10 this Sunday Aug 23rd. Linda Roche representative from Synod will attend and observe.

Call to Order

Only Business Vote on Pastoral Candidate -Constitution requires quorum 40 members

Introduction-Linda Roche Synod representative, Call Committee, Council

Motion to call Pastor Burbank

Information from Call Committee Tom Marino, Council, Compensation-Andy

Discussion

Vote Secret ballot Two-Thirds needed for call

Tellers- Patty Kunkel, Cindy Humphries, Sue Chan, Karen Symos

Observers- Linda Roche, Rich Jones, Jennie Marino

Results

Prayer & Adjourn

Rich reported regarding Jorge's performance- a new job description is being set. He is now coming in earlier to clean AGC first.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting is Sept 23, 2026 at 4 pm.

Living Lord Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2026

	Jan- Aug 2026 Actuals	Jan -Aug 2026 Budget	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2026			
Church General Fund Receipts	281,451.15	284,680.00	(3,228.85)
Church General Fund Disbursements	236,660.15	296,834.00	60,173.85
Net Church General Fund	44,791.00	(12,154.00)	56,945.00
Church Restricted Receipts	28,908.81		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	94.71		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	23,275.94		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>50,518.58</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	238,393.80	231,441.00	6,952.80
AGC General Fund Disbursements	205,585.80	219,759.00	14,173.20
Net AGC General Fund	32,808.00	11,682.00	21,126.00
AGC Restricted Receipts			
AGC Fundraisers	6,453.54		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	4,195.11		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>35,066.43</u>		
Total LLC General Fund Receipts	519,844.95	516,121.00	3,723.95
Total LLC General Fund Disbursements	442,245.95	516,593.00	74,347.05
Net LLC General Fund	77,599.00	(472.00)	78,071.00
Fundraising Balances	6,548.25		
Total LLC Restricted Receipts	28,908.81		
Total LLC Restricted Disbursements	27,471.05		
Net Total LLC Financial Position(Includes restricted)	<u>85,585.01</u>		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2026 VS 2025			
Church General Fund Receipts	281,451.15	251,138.54	30,312.61
Church General Fund Disbursements	236,660.15	229,257.05	(7,403.10)
Net Church General Fund	44,791.00	21,881.49	22,909.51
AGC General Fund Receipts	238,393.80	210,315.38	28,078.42
AGC General Fund Disbursements	205,585.80	184,036.59	(21,549.21)
Net AGC General Fund	32,808.00	26,278.79	6,529.21
Total LLC General Fund Receipts	519,844.95	461,453.92	58,391.03
Total LLC General Fund Disbursements	442,245.95	413,293.64	(28,952.31)
Net LLC General Fund	<u>77,599.00</u>	<u>48,160.28</u>	29,438.72

Church General Fund receipts through August are \$30,300 more than last year and \$3200 below budget
Church General Fund Disbursements are \$60,180 below budget.
AGC is \$32,808 favorable to disbursements through August.

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

Is El Nino still getting stronger? As of 10 Sep 2026, El Nino is strengthening, with a greater than 90% chance of a very strong event during the Northern Hemisphere fall and winter 2026-27. El Nino strengthened further over the last month, with sea surface temperature anomalies exceeding +3.0 C in the eastern equatorial Pacific. Enhanced convection and rainfall persisted from the central to the eastern Pacific, while anomalies remained suppressed over Indonesia. Multiple models indicate El Nino will continue to strengthen through the end of the year. During the Oct-Dec 2026 season, there is a 75% chance of a historic event that would exceed the strength of previous El Nino events dating back to 1950. This El Nino could mean a stormy and wet winter for Florida. The strong El Nino of 1997-98 contributed to deadly tornadoes in Florida that killed 42 people and injured 365 according to the National Climatic Data Center.

Any hurricanes coming our way? Longer range, there are no specific threats, though there is still a vague possibility of Gulf or northwestern Caribbean intrigue in the first or second week of Oct. In the Atlantic basin, Tropical Storm Fay recently regained strength, and forecasters are monitoring Invest 90L in the eastern Atlantic for potential development. The overall 2026 Atlantic season remains unusually quiet with zero hurricanes recorded so far due to strong El Nino conditions. These same conditions are triggering explosive hurricane development in the eastern Pacific from Hawaii to Mexico. Hurricane Polo reached intensity level 5 on 27 Sep and should spread locally heavy rains into Mexico, West Texas, New Mexico, AZ, CO, and Kansas.

Was August a warm month? August 2026 was a remarkable month in the global climate record. It was both the warmest August and warmest month ever recorded, with global temperatures reaching 1.65 C above pre-industrial levels, marking the return of global temperatures above 1.5 C. Combined with record global sea surface temperatures and the warmest summer on record for Western Europe, these observations show how climate change is driving extremes across both the atmosphere and the oceans. The impacts of these conditions are increasingly being felt by communities, economies, and ecosystems across the world. Much of Europe saw widespread dryness in August, in some cases persisting since May, with severe drought reported in France, the UK, Hungary, Romania, and Serbia. Major European river flows were exceptionally low, including, west to east, the Rhine, Danube, Southern Bug, and Dnieper.

Did the U.S. have a warm summer? The U.S. had its warmest summer (Jun-Aug) in the 132-year record, exceeding the previous records set in 1936 and 2021, by 0.4 F. The U.S. also had its warmest Aug on record with an average temp of 75.6 F for the CONUS. While portions of the Midwest and Ohio Valley regions recorded above average precip in Aug, large areas of the Southern Plains and lower Mississippi Valley received much below average precip. Hawaii had its second wettest Aug on record and had its wettest Jan-Aug on record (91.7% above normal).

Has the drought eased? After a dry Jun and Jul, Aug and Sep look better. Heavier Aug rainfall in inches includes Brooksville 14.46, Parrish 11.35, Tampa 10.46, and SRQ 7.82. Some heavier Sep rainfall in inches through 27 Sep includes Fort Lauderdale 20.77, SRQ 10.27, and Parrish 9.22.

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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