



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

July 2026 Issue

June was the time of wonderful celebrations. We had preschool graduations and transitions. We had summer camp. We had the celebration of anniversaries for Maggie and Pastor Linda. I want to thank everyone who participated, came, helped, or gave gifts and donations to make these times so special. Living Lord Lutheran Church continues to amaze me with the many ministries and caring members who give their all. Hospitality is a spiritual gift, and it can be found here and in abundance.

Personally, I would also like to thank everyone who prayed for, visited, and brought goodies to my husband, Rudy when he was in the hospital. While we are continuing to work on healing and health, we know that your prayers are working and getting us through.

When praying for healing, I often tell God, "you know the prayer of my heart is for complete healing. Help us to see the kind of healing you are working, and help us to remember your presence with us and around us in difficult times." Sometimes we miss the little miracles that God makes happen while we continue to pray for the big stuff. But little miracles teach us to see God in our life, increasing our faith and showing us how neat God is.

Again thank you for being little miracles to us and to others as disciples of our Christ.

Pastor Linda



A very special heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone for all of the celebration, good wishes, blessings and gifts I received for my anniversary with Living Lord. I genuinely feel blessed for being able to serve the Lord and the many wonderful congregation members over the years. It has been my pleasure and I thank you for having me. I'm praying for many more years of blessings to come.

Love and hugs,

Maggie



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	Call Committee and
Jan Hillman	Pastor Nicole Eastwood
Sandy & family	Ronald Hansen
Bill and Marty Mork	Jacob Kudrin
Lori Norgart	Lisa Keefer
David Gangnagel	Family of Mike Tetmeyer
Sarah Mia Rivera	Betty Potts-Cerio
Steve Wilson	Tony Preston
Pastor Ed Holloway	John
Jeanette Johnson	Denise Kleiner and family
Joan Beiner	Berniece Knight
Family of Kevin Shinn	Bruce and Cindy Lewis
Amanda Rose	Family of Ralph Hanson
Augie Bottiger	Vaughn Williams
Kim Wilson	Tom
Kati Connell	Jamie
Kathy	Mike and Jan
Mary	Rudy Fernandez
Linda	Rhoda Olson &
Corrine Conte	Al Kersten
Jennifer	Pauline Priest
	MaryAnn Holt

Summer Fun is in Full Swing at All God's Children Preschool!

Summer camp is officially underway at All God's Children Preschool, and we couldn't be more excited! We are thrilled to welcome back our current students and graduating preschoolers, while also meeting many wonderful new families from our community. Summer camp is always a special time at AGC, filled with laughter, learning, friendships, and unforgettable memories.

We kicked off the summer with a cool theme **Florida Sea Life**. This week, our campers dove into the wonderful world of Florida sea life! We learned about amazing ocean animals like dolphins, sea turtles, manatees, fish, and starfish that call Florida's waters home. Through fun crafts, games, stories, and hands-on activities, the children discovered how these special animals live and why it is important to keep our oceans clean and healthy. It's going to be an exciting week of learning, exploring, and having fun under the sea!



Upcoming themes for this month are **Dinosaurs**, and **Fourth of July/Superheroes**. Each week is filled with engaging crafts, hands-on activities, exciting games, and creative projects that bring each theme to life. Our campers love discovering something new every day while learning through play and exploration. We are also focusing on kindness and how to be a good friend. Our campers are helping each other learn how to make new friends and lending a hand to each other when needed. It is truly a magical site to watch our campers laugh, play, create, and make special memories.

Every **Friday is Water Day**, one of the highlights of the week! Our playground transforms into a mini water park complete with water slides, splash pools, bounce houses, and plenty of opportunities to cool off under the summer sun. It's the perfect way to celebrate another fun-filled week of camp!



Our amazing summer camp staff—Ms. Heather, Ms. Erin, Ms. Colleen, Ms. Mya, and Ms. Marianne—work tirelessly to create a safe, exciting, and nurturing environment for every camper. We are also fortunate to have our incredible teen camp counselors, Kendall, Alysa, Morgan A, Gretta, and Morgan R along with several wonderful teen volunteers. It is such a blessing to watch these young leaders build meaningful relationships with our preschoolers. They assist with activities, play alongside the campers, and gain valuable experience learning responsibility, leadership, and the rewards of serving others. Seeing our teens and preschoolers connect is truly one of the most special parts of our summer camp.

As we continue through the summer, we are looking forward to many more adventures, smiles, and special memories together. We are so grateful to all of our families for making AGC Summer Camp such a joyful place to learn, grow, and have fun. Here's to an amazing summer ahead!

PASTOR LINDA'S NOTES

Martin Luther, in his foundational writings, listed something called the five solas or only 5 Alones. Three of them are listed on a plaque on the left wall as you come in the front door. : Word alone, Faith alone, and Grace alone. For Luther, there couldn't be a church or a Christian life without them. In other words, Scripture alone is the backbone of all we so . We need to read and study scripture on a regular basis. At LLC we have a Wednesday Bible study of the gospel for the coming Sunday, as well as. Pub theology and Christian life groups.

Our Wednesday 1:00 p.m. the Pastor's Bible Study group has decided to take a short hiatus during the summer months. But we are here to meet your needs and during the next month I will be sending out surveys to ask what kind of Bible Study would you love to see? What times would be better for you? Please sign up or let us know we can make your life with Christ

Did you know that there is a spiritual order for service?! On the beginning the first 10 minutes is to help us put aside the world and refocus on our relationship with Christ. Part of that is being intentional about leaving the world outside the church doors.

While it is important for us to check in with our friends in the parish hall. it is also important for us to spend valuable time with Jesus once we pass into the church . Please allow the focus to shift to our savior when entering the church and keep silence, especially during the 5 minutes leading up to the worship opening. Not comfortable with silence? Then look in the BOW for the Psalms and pray with

PARISH LIFE MUSINGS

Our LLLC Book Club meets the first Wednesday of every month. All are welcome to join us at church for these stimulating discussions and yummy snacks.

The Lutheran Prayer Bead group met at the Knot Awl Bead shop in downtown Lakewood Ranch to make bracelets, bookmarks, purse charms, rosaries and more. What fun it was to create beads for prayer.

Continuing our Lord's wish while we wait for a Pastor. Parish Life is looking for volunteers to lead a workshop, if more than 6 to 10 congregants are interested. We would meet weekly and possibly on a Monday morning as that time slot is vacant.

The title of the workshop would be:
"Having a MARY Heart in a MARTHA World, a book written by Joanna Weaver.

If we have no one interested in that one, there are other topics we could consider:

1. Attitudes of Gratitude by MJ Ryan
2. Mother Teresa "No Greater Love"
3. "Living Successfully with Screwed Up People"
by Elizabeth B. Brown

WIDOW'S JOURNEY

You are never alone when you walk with Christ.

LLLC warmly invites all widows to join a supportive and uplifting group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

This gathering provides a safe space to share support, understanding, and fellowship. Whether you seek a listening ear, new friendships, or a quiet moment of solace, this group is here for you.

You do not need to be a member of LLLC to participate - all widows are welcome. If you know of a widow that would benefit from this group, please reach out to Maggie in the church office or contact Beverly Brockschmidt. Come as you are, we look forward to walking alongside you.

LLLC Church Council 05/20/2026 Meeting Minutes

Council Member Attendees: Pastor Linda Fernandez, Rae Dowling, Rich Jones, Patty Kunkel, Andy Mueller, Lisa Pyeatt, Stephany Rose, Scott Smith, Shannon Van der Bosch, Karen Symos. Absent: Ron Gerdes, Mary Hunter, Pauline Priest

1. **Opening Prayer & Devotion** - Pastor Linda Fernandez - Importance of leadership.

2. **April Meeting Minutes** – minutes will be approved at our next meeting.

3. **3. Treasurer's Report....** Karen Symos explained that the monthly financial report has been put in each of the Council team leaders' box across from Maggie's desk. Karen stated that January's giving was good but was better than usual in that one member gave their giving for the whole 2026 year.

4. **Pastor's report** – (full report available in the office) Contract was renewed with an emphasis on the Evangelism team, congregational renewal and social meeting. Pastor has updated the Facebook page and continues to work on the webpage.

Plans are underway for Pentecost and a joint service on June 14th, to celebrate Maggie's 20th anniversary and also the 45th anniversary of Pastor's ordination.

5. **Team Reports** *All team reports are submitted electronically and are available for review in the office. Below are highlights of the reports.*

a. **All God's Children** -Graduation of 20 students was held on May 15th. They released butterflies as a symbol of the children moving on in their educational.

b. **Worship & Music** – a single service will be held on June 14th, as noted above. The last Jazz concert cost the church approximately \$800 in January and \$400 in April. A motion was made and seconded to cover those costs \$1271 from the Worship and Music team's restricted budget account. The motion passed unanimously.

c. **Education**- Vacation Bible School will be June 8th – 12th. 16 students are signed up so far and scholarships are available.

6. **Call Committee Update** Shannon asked for a youth member to be a part of the team. We agreed and will talk with the Call Committee Chair to arrange for that to happen.

7. **Discussion Items**

a. **Council retreat** - A productive council retreat was held on May 16. Next year we need to make sure all team members are in attendance. Unfortunately, we had too many who were not able to make it.

b. **Constitutional update** – Scott continues to make progress and looks to have a first draft available by the end of summer.

c. **Pastor's housing allowance** – Per IRS rules, we need to identify the amount of Pastor's salary is designated as housing allowance. The following motion was made by Shannon and seconded by Scott. It is resolved that up to \$20,000 of the salary for Pastor Linda Fernandez is designated as housing allowance for the 2026 tax year. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. **Synod Convention** – Convention will be held in Orlando June 4th – 6th and we will be represented by Marilyn Jones, Doug Holst, and Pastor Linda.

e. A discussion on how to recognize Maggie and Pastor Linda on their upcoming milestones ensued. It was agreed to provide Maggie with a week's salary as well as an extra vacation day from this point forward. The extra day will be "Birthday Holiday" to be taken as she would like each year, ie. On her Birthday, combined with a long weekend or whatever works for her. A motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously to give a week's salary and an extra day of vacation. For Pastor Linda, a motion was made to give her a \$1000 bonus as well as a clock to celebrate her time in the ministry. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Jones

Future Council Meetings all at 4pm -June 17th July 15th August 19th September 16th
5 October 21st November 18th December 16th

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

OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2026	Actuals Jan- May 2026	Budget Jan-May 2026	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	185,385.61	183,928.00	1,457.61
Church General Fund Disbursements	149,645.82	200,515.00	50,869.18
Net Church General Fund	35,739.79	(16,587.00)	52,326.79
Church Restricted Receipts	27,367.94		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	26.32		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	7,577.62		
Net Church Financial Position	55,556.43		
AGC General Fund Receipts	183,385.80	182,256.00	1,129.80
AGC General Fund Disbursements	135,261.85	183,805.00	48,543.15
Net AGC General Fund	48,123.95	(2,973.00)	51,096.95
AGC Restricted Receipts			
AGC Fundraisers	21,449.11		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	1,623.05		
Net AGC Financial Position	67,950.01		
Total LLC General Fund Receipts	368,771.41	366,184.00	2,587.41
Total LLC General Fund Disbursements	284,907.67	384,320.00	99,412.33
Net LLC General Fund	83,863.74	(18,136.00)	101,999.74
Fundraising Balances	21,475.43		
Total LLC Restricted Receipts	27,367.94		
Total LLC Restricted Disbursements	9,200.67		
Net Total LLC Financial Position(includes restricted)	123,506.44		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2026 vs 2025	Actuals Jan-May 2026	Actuals Jan-May 2025	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	185,385.61	150,603.00	34,782.61
Church General Fund Disbursements	149,645.82	156,602.15	6,956.33
Net Church General Fund	35,739.79	(5,999.15)	41,738.94
AGC General Fund Receipts	183,385.80	173,486.52	9,899.28
AGC General Fund Disbursements	135,261.85	133,326.60	(1,935.25)
Net AGC General Fund	48,123.95	37,008.02	11,115.93
Total LLC General Fund Receipts	368,771.41	324,089.52	44,681.89
Total LLC General Fund Disbursements	284,907.67	289,928.75	5,021.08
Net LLC General Fund	83,863.74	34,160.77	49,702.97

Church General Fund receipts through May is \$34,700 more than last year and \$1450 above budget. Church General Fund Disbursements are \$50,800 below budget as we are not funding a full pastor. AGC is \$48,100 favorable to disbursements through May.

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

Who is Arthur? Tropical Storm Arthur was a short-lived tropical cyclone that brought flash flooding to portions of the Southern United States. It interacted with a frontal boundary near the Texas coast and became Tropical Storm Arthur on 17 June. It did not last long due to an ill-defined center and being affected by strong wind shear, degenerating into a tropical cyclone. It opened into a trough early the following morning after making landfall near Galveston. At least 4 people were killed as a result of Arthur. Damages are estimated to be greater than 100 million dollars. A warm Gulf, previous wet pattern, and Arthur combined to produce very heavy rains and flash flooding in South Texas, Louisiana, and southern Mississippi. There were 11 confirmed tornadoes in LA, strongest being of EF1 strength. In MS, the Biloxi River rose 30 feet above typical levels. Rainfall totals in LA peaked at 29.06 inches in Cottonport, making it the most rainfall in LA for 24 hours, surpassing the record set by a tropical depression in 1962.

El Nino? El Nino conditions are present and expected to strengthen into the Northern Hemisphere winter of 2026-27. High confidence in El Nino is also linked to anomalously high oceanic heat content and expanding westerly wind anomalies across the equatorial Pacific Ocean. There is a 63% chance of a very strong El Nino during Nov-Jan that would rank among the largest El Nino events in the historical record going back to 1950. The odds favor above normal rainfall in Florida this winter. The strong El Nino of 1997-98 gave Parrish rainfall of 42.78 inches Nov -Mar which was 310% of normal. Stronger upper-level winds tend to suppress hurricane development in the Atlantic Basin. El Nino is likely to have a negative impact on crop yields in Southeast Asia and India where El Nino is associated with below normal rainfall.

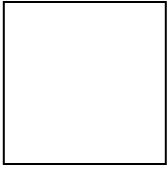
Who is the world's biggest dairy producer? India is the global leader in milk production but also is vulnerable to climate change and extreme heat. With temperatures topping 104F, a farmer in northern India watched one of his cows deliver a calf months early. The newborn was tiny and almost hairless. People said it would not survive, but the farmer bottle fed it milk until it slowly recovered. His farm of 6 cows near Delhi was typical of millions in India, the world's biggest dairy producer responsible for nearly a quarter of global supply, where most milk comes from farms with between 2 and 5 cows. The dairy sector accounts for 5% of India's GDP and supports more than 80 million farmers. But extreme heat means cows eat less, make less milk, struggle to conceive, and produce fewer live offspring. Milk production falls by 30% during extreme heat.

Was May another warm month? Globally, May 2026 ranked as the second warmest May on record, trailing only 2024, with a global average temperature 1.93F above the 20th-century average. In the U.S., warmest May on record was recorded at Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Texas. The CONUS recorded its 6th driest Jan-May on record and driest since 1988. The Sarasota-Bradenton Airport (SRQ) had its warmest May and Spring on record since 1911. We are still in drought with a hopeful change to wet as flow changes from west to east.

Do you want to hike the Grand Canyon? Don't! At the Inner Canyon trails, temperatures can exceed 109 degrees 10 AM to 4 PM. Recent deaths of hikers include an 18-year old man on 3 Jun, a 72-year old man on 12 Jun, and a 67-year old man and 68-year old woman on 16 Jun.

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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