



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



August 2026 Issue

Dear Friends in Christ,

Every year at this time as we see our kids and our grandkids and the little ones in our neighborhoods getting ready to go back to school, we have the opportunity to reflect back on those days when it was us worried about clothing and supplies and lunches. But this year it also made me think how about what was it that I learned back in those days and do I still use it today?

Due to seminary, graduate school and continuing education I probably have had more classes than I want to think about. The stuff relating to my job I try to remember. But I never expected that I would have to use things like geometry or English lit. So I just let that go. Until I had to measure the areas around my pool for a fence and write a professional type letter to the insurance company about it!

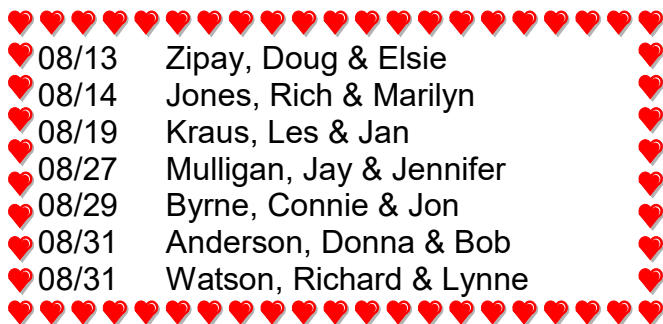
The same thing can be said about the church. How many of us remember what we were taught in confirmation. We probably remember who taught it more than what was taught. in Phil 4:9 Paul writes ***:Practice what you've learned and received from me, what you heard and saw me do. Then the God who gives this peace will be with you.***

Over the years we probably have been taught many things about scripture, church history, sermons about how we apply all of this to our lives. The reason why it's good for us to remember is first, because when things get difficult we can pull these memories out to comfort us and to clarify our own relationship with God. Second, because we are also asked to preach the good news of the Gospel which is in us.

We probably can all share the basic story of Jesus and Grace, but what happens when people ask us, why do we believe this? Or, what does this mean? That's when we need to pull out what we know and continue studying ourselves so we know more.

Trust that God will continue to send you pastors and teachers, and the opportunities for study and for living out the gospel along the way. Remember that scripture is our guidebook and prayer is our opportunity to ask questions of the Great Teacher. And with the whole Body of Christ your joy and peace will increase.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Linda



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	Lisa Keefer
Lori Norgart	Family of Mike Tetmeyer
David Gangnagel	Betty Potts-Cerio
Sarah Mia Rivera	Tony Preston
Steve Wilson	John
Pastor Ed Holloway	Denise Kleiner and family
Jeanette Johnson	Berniece Knight
Joan Beiner	Bruce and Cindy Lewis
Family of Kevin Shinn	Family of Ralph Hanson
Amanda Rose	Vaughn Williams
Augie Bottiger	Tom
Kim Wilson	Jamie
Kati Connell	Mike and Jan
Kathy Schneider	Rudy Fernandez
Mary	Al Kersten
Linda	Family of Rhoda Olson
Corrine Conte	Pauline Priest
Jennifer Jones Bowles	MaryAnn Holt
Family of	Bob Scott
Nancy Hammond	Family of Andrew Walsh
Family of Casey Carter	Marty Hilliard
Glen and Brenda Clarke	Jacob Kudrin
	Rich Jones



What an incredible six weeks we shared together at summer camp at AGC! This summer was filled with laughter, learning, creativity, friendship, and so many meaningful moments that made our time together truly special. From the first day of camp to the last, it was a joy to watch the children grow in confidence, build new friendships, try new activities, and create memories that we hope will last long after summer ends. Each week brought its own excitement, and the energy, enthusiasm, and joy that filled our camp made this season one to remember.

Our final week was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of camp as we dove into an ocean-themed adventure filled with pirates, mermaids, and plenty of fun. The children fully embraced the theme, and the week was packed with exciting activities that brought imagination and adventure to life. One of the highlights was our ukulele concert, where campers performed pirate-themed songs with great enthusiasm and charm. It was so special to see them sharing what they had practiced, and their excitement and confidence made the performance a memorable moment for everyone. We also enjoyed a treasure hunt that sent campers on a fun-filled search for hidden surprises, encouraging teamwork, problem-solving, and lots of laughter along the way. To top it all off, we ended the week with a water day celebration that brought refreshing fun, happy squeals, and big smiles all around. It was the perfect way to close out not only an exciting final week, but a fantastic summer as a whole.

As we reflect on these past six weeks, we are filled with gratitude for the many people who made this camp possible. Our staff did an amazing job every single day, bringing patience, creativity, kindness, and endless energy to each activity and interaction. Their dedication helped create an environment where children felt welcomed, cared for, and encouraged to have fun and be themselves. We are also so thankful to our parents for their support, trust, and partnership throughout the summer. Your encouragement and involvement helped make this experience even more meaningful for the children. Finally, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to LLLC for its support of this ministry and for helping provide a place where children could learn, grow, and enjoy such a joyful summer together. It truly took the support of our whole community to make these six weeks at AGC such a success, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who played a part in making this summer so memorable.



FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

August marks *National Wellness Month*, a time to focus on physical, mental, and emotional health, and encouraging individuals to prioritize their overall well-being. Self-care is the intentional act of supporting your own well-being' this is not just helpful, it's essential!

Did you know that stress can play a major role in how you feel overall? The following are steps you can take to reduce stress and develop healthier habits that can positively impact your health and happiness.

Strive to eat healthy meals and snacks. Limit sweets such as baked goods, candy and regular soda as they often contain a high amount of sugar. Adopt a diet that is well-balanced and rich with various fruits and vegetables.

Drink water. Staying hydrated is important. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), dehydration may cause overheating, mood change, unclear thinking and more.

Develop healthy sleep habits. Try to get approximately eight hours of sleep each night. Going to bed and getting up at the same time every day will help you get into a routine.

Make time for fun. Take part in an activity or project that you enjoy and look forward to doing.

Exercise on a regular basis. Walking is a good form of exercise as it helps you maintain mobility. Try to walk for 30 minutes a day, at least three times a week. (Be sure to check with your health care provider first.) Exercise not only keeps you physically healthy but it can also improve your mental health since it reduces stress hormones and can improve your mood.

When it comes to self-care, older adults should also make **fall prevention** a priority. In the U.S. one in four older adults report falling each year, according to the CDC. For older adults, maintaining strength and having good balance are key to fall prevention. There are a few specific exercises that can help you build your strength and improve your balance. Talk with your health care team about strength and balance exercises that would be best for you.

In addition to staying strong and improving your balance, there are other measures that older adults can take to help prevent falls.

Chronic health conditions such as arthritis and diabetes, as well as vision or hearing loss are factors that can increase fall risk. Additionally, be sure to check your medications as some have side effects that can make you tired or lightheaded which may increase your risk of falling. Be sure to have regular health check-ups, including vision and hearing exams.

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. Proverbs 3:1-2

LLLC BOOK CLUB

The next meeting will be **August 5th at 9:30 am**. We meet in the Activity Hall for discussion and a light snack and beverage. This month's book is *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar. If you like book discussions, join us. Contact Marilyn Jones, 614-570-5483 for information.

2026 FLORIDA-BAHAMA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

It was my privilege to attend the 2026 Florida-Bahama Synod Assembly, June 4-6 in Kissimmee, Florida. The theme of the assembly was DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

Bishop Saurez referenced Acts 8:26-40 when he asked us to take our words, service and sacrifice to the people, just as Philip did. Philip didn't go to insiders. Philip went to the people who were not traditionally welcomed, such as the eunuch. Bishop challenged us to be Philip people...our Chariot is waiting!

Episcopal Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Douglas Scharf, reminded us that the Spirit of the Living God is still with the church as we go through a giant paradigm shift. We, the church, need to remember that Jesus will catch us if we fall, but...we should be ready to be surprised!

Rev. Jamie DuPont spoke about a Connected Church and the generosity of the ELCA. That generosity, referred to, opens doors and restores well being for people in need. Areas included in her talk were ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, and Mission Support. She emphasized that when one member suffers, we all suffer...reminding us to Love One Another!

The Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Rev. Bishop Yehiel Curry, spoke via video reminding us that we are stronger together than alone. Parish lay ministers, congregations, and synods make up a wide organization, the Church. We are one big connected Church...we are not alone!

The Keynote speaker, Pastor Shannon Kiser based her talk on Ephesians 3:14-21 suggesting we should follow God into the towns and villages. Find different ways of engaging. Be present with people in their home, school, work place, and gathering spaces. The goal is not to fill pews, but to go outside the church buildings. Be accessible. Be authentic. Be activated disciples. Follow the ways of Jesus by going into the community...Connect!

There was a lot of talk during these 3 days of the stress, uncertainty, isolation, disconnect in our homes, communities, and world. The church building is the place we plan, organize, encourage one another so we can go from that building to build relationships, show love and our faith.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

Thanks again for this privilege,

Marilyn Jones 614-570-5483 for questions

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.

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

OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2026	Actuals Jan- June 2026	Budget Jan-June 2026	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	224,850.57	217,512.00	7,338.57
Church General Fund Disbursements	177,739.55	232,938.00	55,198.45
Net Church General Fund	47,111.02	(15,426.00)	62,537.02
Church Restricted Receipts	27,884.67		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	44.83		
Youth Group Fundraiser			
Church Restricted Disbursements	17,072.26		
Net Church Financial Position	57,968.26		
AGC General Fund Receipts	198,083.80	182,256.00	15,827.80
AGC General Fund Disbursements	151,661.19	183,805.00	32,143.81
Net AGC General Fund	46,422.61	(2,973.00)	49,395.61
AGC Restricted Receipts	695.00		
AGC Fundraisers	19,268.07		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	1,843.84		
Net AGC Financial Position	64,541.84		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	422,934.37	399,768.00	23,166.37
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	329,400.74	416,743.00	87,342.26
Net LLLC General Fund	93,533.63	(16,975.00)	110,508.63
Fundraising Balances	19,312.90		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	28,579.67		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	18,916.10		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(includes restricted)	122,510.10		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2026 vs 2025	Actuals Jan-June 2026	Actuals Jan-June 2025	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	224,850.57	190,780.92	34,069.65
Church General Fund Disbursements	177,739.55	186,013.08	8,273.53
Net Church General Fund	47,111.02	4,767.84	42,343.18
AGC General Fund Receipts	198,083.80	182,921.52	15,162.28
AGC General Fund Disbursements	151,661.19	148,341.62	(3,319.57)
Net AGC General Fund	46,422.61	34,579.90	11,842.71
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	422,934.37	373,702.44	49,231.93
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	329,400.74	334,354.70	4,953.96
Net LLLC General Fund	93,533.63	39,347.74	54,185.89

Church General Fund receipts through June is \$34,000 more than last year and \$7300 above budget.
Church General Fund Disbursements are \$55,100 below budget as we are not funding a full pastor.
AGC is \$46,400 favorable to disbursements through June.

Karen Symos, Bookkeeper



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

Did El Nino cut back the hurricane forecast? In an update released on 8 July, Colorado State Univ is calling for nine named storms to form between now and 30 Nov. The new prediction is down from the 13 named storms originally predicted in April. Four are predicted to become hurricanes with one of those becoming a major Category 3 or higher. The number of hurricanes is down from six in the original forecast, and the number of major hurricanes was reduced by one. The last year with such a quiet season was in 2015.

El Nino? El Nino continues and will strengthen through the end of the year, with a 97% chance it will persist through early spring 2027. El Nino strengthened over the past month, with a large area of sea surface temperature anomalies in excess of +1.0C across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific. El Nino is at record intensity for July. Above normal rainfall is likely in Florida this winter. The strong El Nino of 1997-98 gave Parrish the Nov-Mar rainfall of 42.78 inches which was 310% of normal.

Who is Bertha? Tropical Storm Bertha was a very disorganized system that attempted to bring rain and gusty winds to much of the Gulf Coast in late July. The sheared storm brought relatively few impacts despite two landfalls along its unusual westward track in the northern Gulf. Bertha made its first landfall in St Bernard Parish LA Wed 22 Jul. Bertha made its final landfall near the TX-LA Gulf Coast on Thu 23 Jul after weakening from its peak strength of 60 mph on late 21 Jul. Gusts reached 46 mph at Apalachicola FL and 41 mph at Panama City FL. Coastal inundation of 2-3 feet reached from Pensacola to southeast LA.

Was it a hot June? Global surface temperature in June 2026 was 1.96F above the 20th century average, the second warmest June on record, trailing only 2024. Global ocean temperature was the highest on record for the month. It was the warmest June on record at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport (SRQ) with an average temperature of 84.9 degrees. SRQ had its second driest June on record with only 0.88 inches of rain. There is still no change in drought as of 26 July with Abnormally Dry to Extreme drought across West Central Florida.

Some records? Salt Lake City set an all-time record high with 109 degrees on 12 July. Some all-time record highs in Montana on 12 July include Miles City 115, Billings 111, Baker 110, Sheridan 109, and Livingston 105. There were record numbers of June tornado reports at Illinois 91, Indiana 69, and Missouri 32. Following its wettest June since 1997, Hawaii's year-to-date precipitation reached a record 54.6 inches, more than two feet above normal. Toxic smoke from the Canadian wildfires set records for levels of hazardous air in the eastern U.S on 17 July. Flash flooding from 6-12 inches of rain in southeast MO stranded over 200 people. Two people died in Central TX from 20 inches of rain and flash flooding. On 20-21 July there was a record snowfall of 15 feet at Ski Portillo in Los Andes, Chile.

“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