



# Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

## The Voice



October 2023 Issue

Welcome Fall! Here we are in a new season and just as seasons change, we are also changing here at Living Lord as we say farewell to one pastor and welcome our new interim pastor, Pastor Ed Holloway.

Thanks to all of those who helped coordinate a wonderful retirement luncheon for Pastor Terry and Ann. It was a great day of celebration as Pastor Terry closed out his ministry at Living Lord.

In preparation for our next step in the transition process, the council met with synod representatives on Sep 5<sup>th</sup> to elect a new interim pastor. Pastor Ed Holloway was presented to the council and accepted as our interim pastor.

### **Why an Interim Pastor and a Transition Process?**

There are often those who will ask why it is that a congregation needs to have an interim pastor and a transition process to follow, as opposed to immediately forming a Call Committee and getting on with the business of finding a new pastor. Such questions often reflect the anxiety that is caused by the departure of a pastor and the unknown road ahead until a new pastor arrives. No one likes to be anxious, but anxiety is a natural part of transitions everywhere, in life and in the church.

1. Addressing such anxiety is one of the first reasons for having an interim pastor and a transition process that is intentional and measured in all its parts. The interim pastor, through ongoing preaching, teaching, pastoral care and interaction with the members of a congregation, can help restore a sense of stability for everyone so that all minds can be clear and free of anxiety when approaching a call process. The interim pastor is there to speak that good word from God for these moments of uncertainty and anxiety: "Do not be afraid. God is here, and God will lead us." (Gen. 15:1; Isaiah 41:10). Most people understand that making quick choices while being anxious will not always bring the best result. So the interim pastor and the intentional transition process of the Florida-Bahamas Synod helps to lower the anxiety and provide a place for the Holy Spirit to work in and among the people to guide their steps for a call process

that can better result in a pastoral candidate of God's own choosing.

2. Another reason for an interim pastor and an intentional transition process is to give a congregation time for reflection between pastors. Congregations will often be defined significantly by the personalities and gifts of the pastor who serves them. And yet congregations have their own sense of call from God and have a history that is also filled with God and with ministries that God has inspired that go beyond any one pastor who has served that church, regardless how long. At the same time, congregational members come and go during any pastor's service period. That means the gifts and talents in a congregation are always changing, which means that the possibilities for ministry and what God might be calling that congregation into is something that changes as well. So an intentional transition process following a pastor's departure or retirement provides the opportunity for the congregation to reflect on questions such as these: "Who are we apart from the pastor who last served us? What is different in our congregation and in our context for ministry from when the Section 2, Interim Pastor Page 2 of 6 last pastor arrived? What new blessings have come to us and what new talents and gifts are now a part of us that God might use for ministry? Where might God be calling us as a congregation now in this changed context? The interim pastor and the intentional transition process help congregations to take time to discern God presence, blessings and leading.

3. Some congregations have been blessed with long stays by pastors serving them for many years, perhaps even decades. Such long-term ministries can provide stability within a congregation that can have a comfortableness and familiarity to it that is most welcome and satisfying for congregational members. Even in shorter-term ministries, church members can develop strong attachments to their pastors and really come to depend on those pastors for personal and ministry assistance. The departure of such pastors can therefore leave some church members with a real sense of loss.

Continued next page

Learning to live with such loss can take time and can include typical grief patterns of anger, depression, denial, and bargaining before acceptance sets in for all and a congregation is ready to move forward with a renewed sense of dedication and purpose in God's mission. The interim pastor and the intentional transition process is sensitive to the time that it might take for a congregation to grieve and process their loss prior to moving into a call process. The interim pastor keeps the Office of the Bishop informed as to the progress of a congregation as they work through grief, offering helpful tools and comforting care. Finally, the interim pastor will advise the Bishop and the congregational Council as to when the congregation seems ready to begin a call process.

4. A call process, once begun, will bring pastoral candidates to the church campus for interviews. Most congregational members look forward to this with eagerness, because they know that this will be their first look at possible pastors for their ministries. It should not be forgotten, however, that these pastors are coming to look over the church campus and the congregation that they are being invited to consider serving. Are all things ready for this at the church? Is the church physical plant in good working order, tidy in each of its sections and rooms, and ready to be seen by someone new? Is the congregation itself in good working order, eager and active in their ministries, with positive attitudes, ample volunteers, and good support providing adequate resources for all that God calls the congregation to do? Or does some of this need some attention and work? Has there been something that the last pastor had to deal with that the next pastor should NOT have to deal with? The interim pastor and the intentional transition process helps a congregation to get ready for a call process by bringing tools that will allow members to evaluate their situation and to make improvements where necessary. The interim pastor also brings a fresh set of eyes to see things like an outsider might see them. The interim pastor also brings a fresh perspective that may not have been considered before as the leaders and congregation review their situation together. The goal is to have the best possible call process and the best possible outcome to that process – one that is filled with God and guided by the Holy Spirit. So intentional time and effort will be put into preparation for that process through forms that will help to evaluate the ministry's situation and make sure that all things that need to be looked at have been assessed and addressed.

These are just some of the reasons that interim pastors are appointed to vacancies in congregations and an intentional transition process is employed in the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Even as the reasons above indicate, the process that is used is tailored to each congregation and the unique situation of their ministry. The Office of Bishop works hand-in-glove with congregations, their leaders and interim pastors to evaluate each ministry setting, navigate the process through the needs of that setting, and pace the process for the sake of a good and Spirit-filled outcome that results in a new pastor for the congregation.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Rebecca Powers

## We Are Praying For You



The staff prays for 7 church families or individuals every week and then sends out postcards letting them know that they have been prayed for. You

are invited to join with us in praying for these families and individuals as well.

This month we prayed for the following:

Lou and Eileen Mezzo

Paula Milenki

Barb Miller

Bill and Deb Miller

Leslie Miller

Bill and Marty Mork

Jim and Ellen Morrison

Michael, Lori, Shannon and Matthew  
Morrisey

Bob and Jan Morsches

Troy, Rebecca and Becca Morsches

Jay, Jenny, Julia, Kiley and Kayte Mulligan

Kathy Murgatroyd

Kris and Anna Mylett

Nancy Neff

Matt, Anke, Meghan and Hannah Neu

Cleo Neynaber

Joan Nye

Ken, Amy, Noah, Emily and Luke Olson

Rhoda Olson

David, Jennifer, Alyssa & Lauren

Otterness

Matt, Becky, Brooke & Lucy Palmtag

Tom and Carole Parke

Steve and Luanna Pierannunzi

Bonnie Pinkerton

Wayne, Janice, Kyle, Amy & Laura

Pinsonneault

Art and Barbara Polk

Lynn and Logan Pope

Margo Post



# Living Lord Lutheran Church Children & Youth News

## Oct. 1

- 8:30 am Painted Pumpkin Raffle
- 10:05 am Faith Formation
- 11:00 am Children's Church
- 1:30 pm Catechism

## Oct. 8

- 8:30 am Painted Pumpkin Raffle
- 10:05 am Faith Formation
- 11:00 am Children's Church
- 12:15 pm Announce Winners of Pumpkins
- 12:30 pm Fruitville Pumpkin Festival

## Oct. 15

- 10:05 am Faith Formation
- 11:00 am Children's Church
- 11:00 am Catechism

## Oct. 22

- 10:05 am Faith Formation
- 11:00 am Children's Church
- 12:15 pm MS & HS Youth Group

## Oct. 29

- 10:05 am Faith Formation
- 11:00 am Children's Church
- 2:00 pm Set up for Fall Festival
- 4:30 pm Fall Festival



### Fall Festival Volunteers Needed

Last year we had over 75 kids, plus their parents, attend the Fall Festival. Help make this year even bigger. Volunteers are needed to decorate trunks and hand out candy, work the registration table, lead crafts or games, serve food, set up and cleanup. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. If you need help with trunk decorations, please let Kathy Schimmoller know, we have some decorations available.



**July 16-20, 2024  
New Orleans, LA**

**For Youth in 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Registration and \$150 Deposit due Oct. 1**



### Children and Youth Family Outing

**October 8, 12:30 – 3:30 pm**

On October 8, we will meet at church after the pumpkin raffle drawing to carpool to the Fruitville Grove Pumpkin Festival. Parking is \$5 per car, admission is free. You will need money for food, games, and other activities.

**Please let Deacon Tara know by Oct. 6 if you plan to attend.**





Sunday mornings, 10:05 – 10:50 am

**PreK – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Children, PreK – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, will meet for Children’s Church during the 11:00 am service.

**4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The older elementary/middle school students are using Connect Curriculum and will complete an in-depth study of the Old Testament this school year. Class meets in Conference Room.

**High School:** The high school youth will be using Faith Lens weekly blog from the ELCA. Class meets in the Youth Room.

**Adults:** The adult class will begin on October 1. They will be studying either the Psalm or Epistle lesson each week. Roger Raddatz will be the leader. Class meets in the Activities Hall.

*“Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation for your life. Be strong in your faith, just as you were taught. And be grateful.”*

*(Colossians 2:7, CEV)*



The Education Team is collecting wrapped candy during the month of October. Please place candy in the bins in the Narthex. Candy will be used for Trunk-or-Treat and Game Prizes.



**Begins October 1**

**During the 11:00 am Worship Service**

Beginning October 1, children in Preschool – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade are invited to participate in Children’s Church. A teacher will lead the children out of the 11:00 am worship service after the children’s message and they will return for Holy Communion or to receive a Blessing. Children will learn more about the Old Testament or Gospel Lesson, do crafts, play games, or do other fun activities. They will meet in the Conference Room.



**Youth Fundraiser:**

**Help Support our youth going to Retreats, Camp, & the ELCA Youth Gathering.**

**Painted Pumpkin Raffle**

Raffle Tickets will be sold Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, between services & after the 11:00 am service

**The drawing for the pumpkins will be**

**October 8 at 12:15 pm**

**Suggested Donation:**

\$5 for 1 raffle ticket

\$10 for 3 raffle tickets



All God's Children Preschool school year is underway! Our first day of school was August 28th and it is amazing that we have almost completed an entire month of school. As with the start of anything we are all learning new things, getting to know one another, and starting to form a beautiful school family. Our hallways and classrooms are full of laughter, art work, play, and of course learning. Our students are learning how to make friends, share, sit together at the table, follow instructions, transition into new activities, and of course how to play.

Our teachers are introducing many new activities and lessons to our students, they are showing them how fun learning can be by having them engage in hands-on activities and play-based centers. Each of the classrooms are decorated beautifully and very warm and inviting. Each class has exciting centers for the children to explore throughout the day and the teachers are able to do some small group, large group, and even outdoor activities. Our three-year-old team did a very cool sensory activity on the playground. They were learning about the five senses and got an opportunity to see, smell, taste, listen, and touch all at the same time and as a team! AGC also had their very first Ice Cream Social this month. We invited all of our families, staff, and students to join us for a fun family night out. We offered ice cream bars, ice cream sandwiches, and fruit bars to everyone that attended. We also had our students play on the playground with their friends and teachers got the opportunity to talk to the parents and spend some time getting to know one another. The best thing about this event is that it gave our families a chance to network and hopefully build lasting relationships. A big thank you to our AGP (All God's Parent) group for all of their hard work putting this wonderful event together!



# A New Season Calls YOU for Faith Talks!

## Let's get together on Mondays at 10:00-11:30 AM beginning October 9, 2023 in Activities Hall

Beginning in October, we will resume thought-provoking discussions from current news and find what the Bible says to us. All members and friends are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

### What is included in this adult forum experience?

- 1. In the News.** Lessons will present a quick summary of a news topic and cite sources for more detail. (*Selected by The Wired Word editorial team.*)
- 2. The Big Questions.** We will be challenged with 3-6 critical questions raised by the topic being discussed.
- 3. Scripture Confronts the News.** From Old and New Testament, we will read 5-6 verses to enlighten today's issue. What does God want us to know? How is the Holy Spirit calling us to respond? Can we hear the message?
- 4. Participation.** Members explore the ideas presented, contribute their own experiences, raise questions, and consider the Bible's message for us. We expect diverse opinions, expressed in love and friendship. We seek to apply our faith in today's context.
- 5. Closing prayer.** We address God and focus on ways He has guided us today.

*The Wired Word* will select two the topics, based on recent news events. One of these weekly topics will be covered in our 90 minutes together. All printed lesson materials are provided every week at the Monday class to all attending. Unlike previous church courses, there is NO video component for this class. We will read aloud and use our Bibles. We will learn through active thinkers, personal experiences, and conversational insights.

Like God's Gifts, this class is FREE!

Just 90 minutes on Mondays offers a chance to practice and grow by expressing ourselves in matters of Christian daily life.

We are free to speak our concerns and seek answers,  
because we trust our relationships among friends!

Every week has a fresh topic to address.

For more information and to join us, contact Ruth McConnell, Facilitator, 941-751-8053.



**Living Lord Lutheran Church**  
**Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2023**

| <b>OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2023</b>                             | <b>Jan - Aug 2023<br/>Actuals</b> | <b>Jan -Aug 2023<br/>Budget</b>   | <b>Favorable/<br/>(Unfavorable)</b> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Church General Fund Receipts                                  | 278,744.07                        | 276,313.00                        | 2,431.07                            |
| Church General Fund Disbursements                             | 292,778.29                        | 279,990.53                        | (12,787.76)                         |
| <b>Net Church General Fund</b>                                | <b>(14,034.22)</b>                | <b>(3,677.53)</b>                 | <b>(10,356.69)</b>                  |
| Church Restricted Receipts                                    | 9,447.18                          |                                   |                                     |
| Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)                                   | 661.55                            |                                   |                                     |
| Youth Group Fundraiser  | 1,730.36                          |                                   |                                     |
| Forward in Faith Receipts                                     | 126,977.37                        |                                   |                                     |
| Church Restricted Disbursements                               | 21,237.09                         |                                   |                                     |
| Forward in Faith Capital Disbursements                        | 266,370.80                        |                                   |                                     |
| Forward in Faith Fundraising Disb                             | 644.48                            |                                   |                                     |
| <b>Net Church Financial Position</b>                          | <b>(163,470.13)</b>               |                                   |                                     |
| AGC General Fund Receipts                                     | 169,863.72                        | 143,905.00                        | 25,958.72                           |
| AGC General Fund Disbursements                                | 150,263.17                        | 150,408.49                        | 145.32                              |
| <b>Net AGC General Fund</b>                                   | <b>19,600.55</b>                  | <b>(6,503.49)</b>                 | <b>26,104.04</b>                    |
| AGC Restricted Receipts                                       | 74,678.80                         |                                   |                                     |
| AGC Fundraisers   | (473.24)                          |                                   |                                     |
| AGC Restricted Disbursements                                  | 71,045.16                         |                                   |                                     |
| <b>Net AGC Financial Position</b>                             | <b>22,760.95</b>                  |                                   |                                     |
| Total LLLC General Fund Receipts                              | 448,607.79                        | 420,218.00                        | 28,389.79                           |
| Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements                         | 443,041.46                        | 430,399.02                        | (12,642.44)                         |
| <b>Net LLLC General Fund</b>                                  | <b>5,566.33</b>                   | <b>(10,181.02)</b>                | <b>15,747.35</b>                    |
| Fundraising Balances  | 1,918.67                          |                                   |                                     |
| Total LLLC Restricted Receipts                                | 211,103.35                        |                                   |                                     |
| Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements                           | 359,297.53                        |                                   |                                     |
| <b>Net Total LLLC Financial Position(includes restricted)</b> | <b>(140,709.18)</b>               |                                   |                                     |
| <b>YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2023 VS 2022</b>                   | <b>Jan - Aug 2023<br/>Actuals</b> | <b>Jan - Aug<br/>2022 Actuals</b> | <b>Favorable/<br/>(Unfavorable)</b> |
| Church General Fund Receipts                                  | 278,744.07                        | 270,464.78                        | 8,279.29                            |
| Church General Fund Disbursements                             | 292,778.29                        | 261,553.74                        | (31,224.55)                         |
| <b>Net Church General Fund</b>                                | <b>(14,034.22)</b>                | <b>8,911.04</b>                   | <b>(22,945.26)</b>                  |
| AGC General Fund Receipts                                     | 169,863.72                        | 138,973.55                        | 30,890.17                           |
| AGC General Fund Disbursements                                | 150,263.17                        | 126,472.79                        | (23,790.38)                         |
| <b>Net AGC General Fund</b>                                   | <b>19,600.55</b>                  | <b>12,500.76</b>                  | <b>7,099.79</b>                     |
| Total LLLC General Fund Receipts                              | 448,607.79                        | 409,438.33                        | 39,169.46                           |
| Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements                         | 443,041.46                        | 388,026.53                        | (55,014.93)                         |
| <b>Net LLLC General Fund</b>                                  | <b>5,566.33</b>                   | <b>21,411.80</b>                  | <b>(15,845.47)</b>                  |

Church general fund receipts through August are \$8000 more than last year and \$2400 more than budget. Some of this difference is due to increased interest income. Expenses are \$12,000 more than budget. Our disbursements are \$14,000 more than receipts. AGC receipts are \$19,000 favorable to disbursements.



Lynn Fisher, bookkeeper

## From Your Faith Community Nurses

National Physical Therapy Month in October recognizes the importance of physical therapy in healthcare. Physical therapy is a medical service provided by trained physical therapists who help patients improve movement, strength and manage pain after an illness or injury.

Nearly every part of the body can benefit from physical therapy, especially if you've suffered an injury or illness. Physical therapists assess a patient's pain levels and abilities and develop a plan of treatment they can track. They may provide exercises to be performed at home and document the progress and any further needs. Some of the benefits of physical therapy include:

- Reduction or elimination of pain
- Improved strength and flexibility
- Maintaining independence
- Overall improved quality of life

The observance promotes the importance of physical therapy and the role it plays in improving physical activity and quality of life. Inadequate physical activity results in an added \$117 billion in health care costs in the United States. It also leads to reduced quality of life for millions of Americans. Physical therapists encourage movement to help people manage pain and other chronic conditions, recover from injuries and reduce the risk of future injury and chronic disease.

### HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalPTMonth

During National Physical Therapy Month, give a physical therapist you know a shout-out. Other ways to participate include:

- Learning about the roles of physical therapy.
- Share your experiences as a physical therapist.
- Learn about careers in physical therapy.
- Find out if physical therapy is right for you.

*Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies. 1 Cor: 6:19-20*

Save the Date: Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 10-11am

Meet and Greet Your Teams

Have coffee with your committee heads and get further information on Living Lord's ministries

What do they do?

How often do they meet?

What help do they need?

**COME LEARN** Turn plastic grocery bags into beautiful sleeping mats (and pillows)! These mats are appreciated by homeless, soldiers and campers, and also enable us to keep all this plastic out of our landfills! Please save your plastic bags and bring them to the class and crochet hooks #N and #P, if you have them. We will meet on Tuesday October 17<sup>h</sup> at 1:00pm.





## Who do I contact If I am interested in a particular ministry?

### Church Council

|                               |                      |              |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>              | Rebecca Powers       | 913-306-5415 |
| <b>Vice President</b>         | Rich Jones           | 614-570-6540 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>              | Mike Gutzler         | 978-857-7172 |
| <b>Secretary</b>              | Rae Dowling          | 741-8335     |
| <b>Evangelism</b>             | Patty Kunkel         | 748-6669     |
| <b>Education</b>              | OPEN                 |              |
| <b>Property</b>               | Bill Hoth            | 914-523-8425 |
| <b>Member At Large</b>        | Beverly Brockschmidt | 352-464-1177 |
| <b>Stewardship</b>            | Karen Symos          | 410-370-8666 |
| <b>Worship &amp; Music</b>    | Rhoda Olson          | 201-6304     |
| <b>Parish Life</b>            | Stephney Rose        | 782-8005     |
| <b>Youth Rep</b>              | Brooke Palmtag       | 252-646-8801 |
| <b>Faith Community Nurses</b> | Karen Hansing        | 748-5806     |
| <b>Fellowship</b>             | Pam Lange            | 404-358-1124 |
| <b>Outreach</b>               | OPEN                 |              |
| <b>Stephen Ministry</b>       | Helen Howe           | 315-427-9513 |
| <b>New Members</b>            | Patty Kunkel         | 748-6669     |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>            | Marlene Saum         | 753-1393     |
| <b>Youth Ministry</b>         | Tara Friedrichs      | 813-947-9789 |
| <b>Worship Assistants</b>     | Karen Symos          | 410-370-8666 |

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Theo Bullington           | Josh Myers Behler        |
| Rob Babel                 | Chris Mork               |
| Kristine Mylett           | Shirley Smith            |
| Susanna Scott             | Cason Pope               |
| Gordy Havey               | Will                     |
| Janet Castner             | Ivory Anderson           |
| Liz Howell                | Nan Fisher               |
| Wyly Pope                 | Calvin                   |
| Sue Pinkerton             | Gene Rahn                |
| Linda Henkelmann          | Tony Zubricky            |
| Jacob Rodriguez           | Joe Kitchie              |
| Suzanne Dietzel           | Rade Mallkovich          |
| Joanne Mayer              | Sharlene Jones           |
| Cleo Neynaber             | Shirley Kitsmiller       |
| Nancy Woodworth           | Linda Couch              |
| June Hartlieb             | Jim Pinto                |
| Bill and Janet Burkman    | Ray Rankl                |
| Ron Silver                | Sophia Sahr              |
| Andrew Catanese           | Lori Rapp                |
| Family of Roger Masch     | Jim and Sandy Kudrin     |
| Laura Apeathy             | Becky Berka              |
| Andreas & Anaiya          | Debbie Skelly            |
| Frankie Vasquez           | Jim Morrison             |
| Family of Dick Bernard    | Jeanne Thum              |
| Nayda Rivera              | Valerie Walden           |
| Family of Susan Stodghill | Peggy Smith              |
| Elaine Truitt             | Lynn Echols              |
| Ralph Hanson              | Family of Lowell Welke   |
| Allen Brooks              | Tracy Allen              |
| Family of Gloria Depas    | Jeff Shaw                |
| Steve Pyeatt              | Dawn Schaeffer           |
| Bob Ready                 | Family of Katherine Hoth |
| Brian Brockschmidt        | Tom Bowles               |
| Family of Brian Schmidt   | John Saum                |
| Denny Gilpin              | Family of Marty Smith    |
| Kathy Rodd                | Family of Dick Gross     |
| Tom Jefferys              | Leroy Hurst              |
| Family of Diane Bahr      | Dan                      |
| Lu                        | Family of Roy Wells      |
| Family of Elliot Head     | Lou Symos                |





## Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

**Did we have a warm summer?** It was the warmest summer (Jun/Jul/Aug) on record at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport with an average temperature of 85.0 degrees, 2.2 degrees above normal. Records began in 1911. It was also the warmest Aug on record at the airport with an average temperature of 85.9 degrees, 2.5 degrees above normal. It was also the warmest summer on record at Lakeland, Plant City, and Punta Gorda. The 2023 global summer surface temperature was 2.07F (1.15C) above the 20th century average of 60.1F (15.6C). This was the warmest summer in the 174-year record, and 0.43F (0.24C) above the previous record. It was also globally the warmest Aug on record with an average temp 2.25F (1.25C) above average. North America and the Arctic had the warmest meteorological summers on record.

**Does the drought continue?** Using the 21 Sep U.S. Drought Monitor, Extreme Drought (D3) continues along the coast of Manatee and Sarasota Counties and Moderate Drought (D1) inland. Sarasota-Bradenton Airport rainfall in 2023 through 25 Sep is 22.13 inches, 54% of normal, deficit of 19.33 inches. Parrish 2023 rainfall through 25 Sep is 32.36 inches, 71% of normal, deficit of 12.99 inches. It was the 5th driest summer at the Airport with 12.60 inches, 54% of normal. It was the driest summer in Parrish since 2005 with 15.90 inches, 63% of normal.

**How wet was Idalia?** Hurricane Idalia bailed Parrish out with 1.96 inches on 29 Aug and 4.55 inches on 30 Aug as a feeder band from Idalia remained stationary over us much of the day. Idalia rainfall total in Parrish for 29-30 Aug was 6.51 inches. The Airport total was 3.92 inches. Largest Idalia totals include 7.11 inches in Arcadia and 6.74 inches in Lakewood Ranch.

**What were the results of Hurricane Idalia?** Idalia briefly became Category 4 prior to making landfall on 30 Aug as a Category 3 hurricane in the Big Bend region of FL in Keaton Beach, with sustained winds of 125 mph, causing severe damage in the area. Water levels near Cedar Key reached a record 6.8 ft and the storm surge water level was 8.9 ft. Tampa Bay and Clearwater experienced over 4 feet of storm surge. Storm surge was 3 feet Bradenton south to Ft Myers. Across Pasco County, 2,000 homes were damaged from 5 ft of water. At least 278,000 customers lost power in FL. Tree damage was severe from Perry FL north to Valdosta GA. There were several small tornadoes in GA and SC. There were 7 direct fatalities and 3 indirect. Damage estimates are \$2.2-5 billion. Lowest pressure was 940 millibars (27.76 inches).

**How destructive was Storm Daniel?** From 4-10 Sep, Storm Daniel caused torrential rain in Greece and the Balkans and moved south as a cyclone across the Mediterranean. On 10 Sep, the storm made landfall in Libya near Benghazi. Rainfall 24-hour totals of 6 to 10 inches were recorded across northeastern Libya. The Derna dam collapses were the catastrophic failures of two dams in Libya 10-11 Sep. This released 39 million cubic yards of water, causing flooding downstream as the Wadi Derna River overflowed its banks. The floods partially destroyed the city of Derna. Libya death toll is at least 4,000 with 9,000 people still missing. The event was the second-deadliest dam failure in history, after the 1975 Banqiao Dam failure in China.

**Is the Mississippi River dropping again?** With 63% of the Midwest in drought, most of the Mississippi River is expected to face low water this fall. Last year, drought led to about 40 days of low water which grounded barges and stalled traffic at harvest time for a loss of \$20 billion.

“Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully”

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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