



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Make disciples, Serve selflessly, Live faithfully

The Voice



July 2024 Issue



Dear Friends in Christ:

The Fourth of July is a secular holiday. And yet, of all people, Christians naturally respond to the idea of Freedom from our heart. Jesus made a point of reminding us that we were in slavery to sin and that faith in him would set us free. In fact, Paul says “For freedom we have been set free.” Galatians 5:1. Christians, of all the people in the world understand that we are free. For us, as Americans, it should be an easy translation to freedom for all. What started as a sort of experiment in freedom has lasted for almost 250 years. Imperfect? Yes. And yet, our freedom as a people, gives us a chance to make things better over time. So as we celebrate this year, let us remember with thanksgiving what God has given us.

Be grateful this Fourth of July. Grateful to God for our freedom from sin and grateful for all who gave so much for our freedom in this world.

Read John 8:31-36 and always remember that God loves YOU.

In Christ's love: Pastor Ed

PRAYER REQUESTS



PUB THEOLOGY Will meet on Wednesdays, July 10th, 17th and 24th to share views about How does God interact in our everyday lives? The group will meet at the Beef O’Brady’s Lakewood Ranch Blvd at 6:30pm. The format is simple: beer, conversation, and God. For more information contact Doug Holst at (813) 447-9917.

LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION

The second Thursday of every month the LLL lunch bunch meet at 11:30 am. The next luncheon will be on Thursday July 11th, 2024 at Skillets on State Road 64. This luncheon is open to all who wish to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Cubberly 941-773-3517.

Hey members of Fellowship, Celebration of Life, Sunshine Committee, Outreach and Handicrafts Ministry, Stephen Ministries , Faith Community Nurses, Christian Life Groups, Pub Theology!

The Parish Life team is meeting the first Sunday of July at 10am in the Sanctuary Hall. Hope someone from your team can join us.

JULY BIBLE STUDY

All are invited and welcome to join the July bible study with Pastor Ed focusing on the Book of Galatians. Join us every Wednesday at 1:00pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Theo Bullington	Josh Myers Behler
Rob Babel	Chris Mork
Kristine Mylett	Shirley Smith
Susanna Scott	Will
Gordy Havey	Nan Fisher
Janet Castner	Calvin
Liz Howell	Gene Rahn
Wyly Pope	Lori Rapp
Sue Pinkerton	Jim Pinto
Linda Henkelmann	Tony Zubricky
Jacob Rodriguez	Joe Kitchie
Suzanne Dietzel	Rade Mallkovich
Nancy Woodworth	Sharlene Jones
June Hartlieb	Shirley Kitsmiller
Family of Janet Burkman	Linda Couch
Ron Silver	Jeanne Thum
Andrew Catanese	Ray Rankl
Family of Glenda Masch	Jim and Sandy Kudrin
Laura Apeathy	Becky Berka
Frankie Vasquez	Debbie Skelly
Nayda Rivera	Jeff Shaw
Elaine Truitt	Valerie Walden
Ralph Hanson	Peggy Smith
Bob Ready	Dan
Brian Brockschmidt	Dawn Schaeffer
Family of Brian Schmidt	Family of Marlene Saum
Kathy Rodd	John Saum
Terrie Dale	Linda
Schrand Family	Roger Henkelmann
Family of Helen Marr	Family of Margitta Rizzo
June Jorgensen	Bradley
Nan	Tracy B.
Kathy Murgatroyd	Family of
Meri Capithorne	Charlie Croatman
Alexa	Denise
Deb Miller	Gay Jeffreys
Family of Don Gangnagel	Patricia Vitale
Family of Lenore Serstad	Call Committee
Peter Aument	Mike
Jan Hillman	Troy and family
Gisele Phipps	Family of Jana Hanson



All God's Children Preschool is just starting summer camp. We have seven weeks of camp for our current students, graduating students, and children in the community that attend other schools. We always have such an amazing time over the summer. It is so nice to be able to see our AGC families once again as well as meet new families.

We had our first week of camp and the theme was science!! It was out of this world, literally. We learned about space, weather, and other fun science topics. We did crafts, got messy making slime, moon dough, and elephant toothpaste. We had 30 campers the first week and each camper had a blast playing with their friends, getting creative, and learning along the way.

Fun is what the campers at All God's Children preschool are having everyday! This week we are doing arts and crafts, letting the campers use their imaginations to create art and participating in age appropriate art projects. Each Friday, our campers have water/bounce day and we transform our playground into a water park with slides, pools, and bounce houses. It is the perfect way to end the week and cool off from the hot summer sun. It is always a pleasure to watch our campers enjoy one another and learn many new things in a fun way.

Our summer camp staff, Ms. Heather, Ms. Erin, Ms. Colleen, and Ms. Maria. We also have our teen camp counselors Kendall, Sophia, Morgan, and Aiden who will be working very hard everyday to show our campers how fun summer can be at AGC! It is so wonderful to see work with the teens in our community, they love coming to our camp to assist the teachers with lessons, play with the campers, and also learn about having a job and the responsibilities that come along with it. It is a blessing to see our teens engaging with our preschool age children. It's a beautiful relationship! We are looking forward to the awesome adventures ahead!



An Update on the Work of Your Call Committee

Greetings from the Call Committee!

The Call Committee has been working diligently since late March to complete a Mission Site Profile (MSP). This is the first milestone in the committee's portion of the call process.

The MSP is a document that will be the first introduction of our congregation to any prospective call candidates. You may think of it as our resume, or as being somewhat like a dating profile.

Prospective candidates complete a similar profile called a Rostered Minister's Profile (RMP).

Once Synod approves our MSP, they will develop a list of potential call candidates by matching our MSP to the RMPs of available candidates.

The Call Committee will review the list of candidates to select those that most align to our congregation, it's mission and goals. From there we can begin an interview process to find the right candidate for Living Lord.

Now, we're pleased to let you know that we expect to complete our MSP and submit it to our Council for review and approval in July.

Following Council's approval, the MSP will be submitted to Synod for their review and approval.

While completing the MSP is a major milestone, I'd like to manage expectations.

The Synod review of the MSP could take some time. Before approving our MSP, they will likely have feedback and recommendations for the Call Committee, and Council, to consider.

Once Synod has approved our MSP, development of the call list will also take some time

It's difficult to project when these steps will be completed, and when we'll be able to call a new pastor. But be assured that this is a process driven by the Holy Spirit working within us, and the candidates, to lead us both to a successful and productive relationship to fulfill God's purpose.

And that outcome is worth the time it takes.

I'd like to thank the Committee members, Maggie and her team, Pastor Ed and, importantly, the Congregation for their hard work and feedback to help us reach this milestone.

In Christ's Love,
Jeff Taylor, Chair
LLLC Call Committee

THANK YOU TO ALL who gave so generously of their finances, materials and time, to make Day Camp a success. Campers and Luther Springs counselors all had a wonderful week!



Attendees: Pastor Ed Holloway, President Rebecca Powers, Beverly Brockschmidt, Rae Dowling, Mike Gutzler, Mary Hunter, Rich Jones, Patty Kunkel, Stephney Rose Absent: Rhoda Olson, Brooke Palmtag.

The meeting was called to order by President Powers at 7pm.

Pastor Ed led us in prayer and devotions from "Traveling Light" by Max Lucado.

Minutes Approval: A motion was made to approve the April 2024 minutes by Beverly and seconded by Patty. They were approved unanimously.

Team Reports: All reports were submitted electronically. The following are additional notations.

Pastor's Report: A good month, albeit a bit quieter than April.

All Gods Children: Graduation is May 17th at 11am.

Worship & Music: The worship and music team has made requested to purchase a "new" Yamaha piano using \$14,900 from the restricted funds in the W&M budget. The new instrument has been tested/played by Tom, has gorgeous tone and sounds like new. The old piano, although is looks great and Tom makes it sound beautiful, it has a lot of keys that don't work and the soundboard has serious issues. A motion was made by Rae and seconded by Rebecca to purchase the piano. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: The treasures report is still being worked on with our new bookkeeper, however all is going well.

Call Process: The Call committee continues to meet. The data from the survey that was taken in April is being analyzed and all is moving forward.

Other Business: Building Improvement Committee:

The following gifts have been received by the church.

\$30,000 for improvements to the Activities Hall

\$25,000 for signage improvements and replacements

A gift of \$50,000 has been pledged, contingent upon the congregation also raising a matching \$50,000.

This gift will be given with the intention of improving flooring, hallways and restrooms.

A motion was made by Patty and seconded by Beverly to accept the gifts.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Work has already begun on the Activities hall and is expected to be completed mid summer.

All God's Children maintenance agreement.

After a thorough discussed it was agreed that an agreement for the financial responsibility of the building structure and exterior of the building is a good thing for both the church and AGC, the important education mission of the church. This will be framework for expenses, however there may be times when either the Church or AGC will need to be flexible in how the agreement is implemented.

The AGC board of directors will provide the council with a draft agreement for review and acceptance

Graduation Sunday

2024 high school graduates will be recognized on May 19th. Families will put together a slide for viewing by the congregation about the graduate and their future plans.

A cake reception will follow the I Iam service. Our graduating high school seniors are: Myles Fetterman, Brooke Laschke and Robert Powers.

New Business: On our Outreach team, the Sunshine Committee would like to change it's name to Congregational Care. A motion was made by Rich and seconded by Beverly to allow the change and it was approved unanimously.

Beverly and the Congregation Care team would like to provide some opportunities for medical education, ie., CPR, AED defibrillator, and emergency response and also security education, ie., things to do and watch out for when you're at the church with limited number of people there, or when a service is going on with all attention focused in the sanctuary. The council agreed this was a good thing to offer. The team will move forward with putting this together. Thank you team!!

Council next meeting dates:

June 19th, 2024 – 7pm – at Living Lord Lutheran.

August 7th, 2024 – 7pm – at Living Lord Lutheran.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lords Prayer at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rae Dowling

SCRIP is available in the narthex after each service.
 "What is SCRIP?" you may ask. It's an ongoing fundraiser designated towards the purchase of an electronic sign. Your part in this effort is to purchase gift cards at our table for face value. A percentage of every purchase goes toward our goal. The success of this fundraiser depends on your continued support, not just for gifts, but for your everyday expenses such as groceries, gas, entertainment and much more. Pick up a catalogue at our table, listing over 500 selections. Orders are placed every week for pick-up the following week. Checks or cash payment accepted.
 Ed & Marsha Holloway

GENERAL OFFERING #4010		
YEAR-TO-DATE	2024 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL
May 31, 2024	May 31, 2024	May 31, 2023
\$141,700.63	\$179,786.19	\$177,022.43

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		Online People Reached	In-Person Attendance	Total I
MAY 2024	5-May	394	122	516
	12-May	147	116	263
	19-May	377	128	505
	26-May	304	125	429

Living Lord Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2024

OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2024	Jan -May 2024 Actuals	Jan - May 2024 Budget	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	156,818.81	194,319.19	(37,500.38)
Church General Fund Disbursements	152,967.09	164,602.95	11,635.86
Net Church General Fund	3,851.72	29,716.24	(25,864.52)
Church Restricted Receipts	70,185.98		
Facility Fundraiser (Scrip)	1,130.37		
Youth Group Fundraiser	521.06		
Church Restricted Disbursements	45,329.70		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>30,359.43</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	151,801.14	140,614.20	11,186.94
AGC General Fund Disbursements	113,662.95	110,147.55	(3,515.40)
Net AGC General Fund	38,138.19	30,466.65	7,671.54
AGC Restricted Receipts	-		
AGC Fundraisers	11,694.82		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	7,954.55		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>41,878.46</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	308,619.95	334,933.39	(26,313.44)
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	266,630.04	274,750.50	8,120.46
Net LLLC General Fund	41,989.91	60,182.89	(18,192.98)
Fundraising Balances	13,346.25		
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	70,185.98		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	53,284.25		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position(Includes restricted)	<u>72,237.89</u>		
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2024 VS 2023	Jan -May 2024 Actuals	Jan - May 2023 Actuals	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Church General Fund Receipts	156,818.81	149,325.20	7,493.61
Church General Fund Disbursements	152,967.09	109,690.25	(43,276.84)
Net Church General Fund	3,851.72	24,499.79	(20,648.07)
AGC General Fund Receipts	151,801.14	149,325.20	2,475.94
AGC General Fund Disbursements	113,662.95	109,690.25	(3,972.70)
Net AGC General Fund	38,138.19	50,753.77	(12,615.58)
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	308,619.95	340,451.49	(31,831.54)
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	266,630.04	300,017.28	33,387.24
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>41,989.91</u>	<u>40,434.21</u>	1,555.70

Church general fund receipts through May are \$7,000 less than last year and \$37,000 unfavorable for the budget year.

AGC is \$38,000 favorable to disbursements through May

Karen Symos, bookkeeper

FROM YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

July is Park and Recreation Month. For nearly 40 years the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPS) has celebrated Park and Recreation Month in July to promote building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. This month is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the more than 160,000 full-time park and recreation professionals — along with hundreds of thousands of part-time and seasonal workers and volunteers — who maintain our country's local, state and community parks.

This year's theme — **“Where You Belong”** — celebrates the many ways park and recreation professionals across the country foster a sense of belonging in their community by providing welcoming and inclusive programs, essential services for all ages and abilities, and safe, accessible spaces to build meaningful connections.

This Park and Recreation Month let's unite and uplift the many reasons why local parks and recreation truly embodies the essence of belonging. Together, we can demonstrate why these spaces are *Where You Belong*.

Proclaiming July as Park and Recreation Month is an opportunity for your community and local leadership to officially acknowledge the importance of parks and recreation and the benefits it provides to the people you serve. Having July proclaimed as Park and Recreation Month is also a great way to create community and media awareness for your events — and it's never too early to get the process started!

Park and recreation agencies nationwide are recognizing the month with summer programs, events, contests, commemorations and celebrations.

The services that park and recreation professionals provide are vital to our communities — from protecting open spaces and natural resources to helping fight obesity and providing activities and resources for all people. Park and Recreation Month encourages everyone to reflect on the exponential value park and recreation professionals bring to communities.

As part of Park and Recreation Month, we can also celebrate Park and Recreation Professionals Day on Friday, July 19. This is a day to celebrate all the dedicated professionals who build strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation.

Promote the celebration in your own community and create a tribute to those who selflessly deliver high-quality experiences and opportunities and keep our parks clean, safe, welcoming, inclusive and ready to use. Park and Recreation Professionals Day originally began with the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) as a statewide celebration in 2019, and we're taking it nationwide again this year!

Have a Safe and Happy July!

...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. *Isaiah 40:31*



Ask The Weatherman

By: Bill Mork

Did the summer rains hit hard in Florida? Deep moisture from the Caribbean led to heavy rains 10-14 June which broke the drought in Southern FL and put a dent in the drought in Central FL. A state of emergency was declared for Southern FL with 2 to 3 feet of water in low areas of Broward and Miami-Dade Counties. Storm totals in inches include Big Cypress Everglades 27.95, Miami Shores 21.66, North Miami 20.43, Hollywood 19.96, and Fort Lauderdale 13.69. A slow-moving thunderstorm produced a daily rainfall record of 6.47 inches on 11 Jun at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport with 3.93 inches in one hour. This storm moved south into Sarasota with an unofficial 11 inches of rain at Siesta Key and 2 feet of water on the streets. Weekly storm totals in inches include 11.54 at the airport, 11.97 at Lakewood Ranch, and 5.36 at Parrish.

How bad was the flooding in Iowa? Monumental rains 20-22 June produced catastrophic flooding in northwest IA, southern MN, and southeast SD. At least 20 river gages set records in Iowa on the Des Moines, Big Sioux, Little Sioux, James, Floyd, Rock, and Vermillion Rivers and in MN on the Blue Feather River. A dam south of Mankato MN was near failure. A levee failure on the Rock River produced severe flooding and loss of water supply in Rock Valley IA. The Rock River was 5 feet higher than its previous record. Storm totals in inches include Worthing SD 17.83, Canton SD 13.43, Rock Rapids IA 11.52, and St James MN 8.52.

How destructive were the New Mexico fires? The South Fork Fire and the Salt Fire began on 17 June near Ruidoso NM. The fires have destroyed about 1,400 structures and displaced more than 8,000 people. As of 23 June, the South Fork Fire had burned 17,551 acres, and the Salt Fire had scorched 7,775 acres. The South Fork Fire was 31% contained, and the Salt Fire was only 7% contained. More than 1,100 personnel were fighting both fires near the city of Ruidoso Downs.

Did the drought end in the Oklahoma Panhandle? In just 8 hours on 18-19 June, a 1,000-year flood event produced 7.96 inches of rain at Guymon OK and 7.52 inches of rain at Goodwell OK. This was almost half the average annual amount for that area and broke a severe drought. Flood waters in Goodwell were receding, but parts of town were still under water on 20 June.

Who got the first tropical storm of 2024? Tropical Storm Alberto made Mexico landfall on 20 June, bringing heavy rain and flooding to Mexico's Gulf Coast. Alberto was blamed for 4 deaths in Mexico and brought heavy rain, gusty winds, and moderate flooding to Texas beach cities. Rainfall in inches include 6.31 at Corpus Christi, 5.00 at McAllen, and 2.70 at Brownsville.

Tornadoes in Wisconsin? At Argyle WI on Sat/22 June, a tornado destroyed 130-year-old Apple Grove Lutheran Church. But on Sunday, parishioners brought lawn chairs and held a service next to the demolished church. Other WI tornadoes included an EF-2 near Footville, and EF-1 tornadoes in Watertown, near Marshall, near Delavan, and near Fontana-on-Geneva.

How warm was May? It was the warmest May on record at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport with an average temperature of 81.4 degrees, 3.6 degrees above normal. And it was the third driest May on record at the airport with 0.02 inches, 2.58 inches below normal. Globally, it was the warmest May on record with the surface temperature 2.12 degrees above the average of 58.6 degrees. This was 0.32 degrees above the previous record from May 2020.

“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