



Living Lord Lutheran Church

Living Lord's VOICE

Volume 23, Number 7

July, 2010

“Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’” Genesis 1:26

As I am writing this article, thousands of gallons of oil are being spilled into the Gulf of Mexico. The fact that we are in close proximity to the Gulf makes this situation very disconcerting. Living creatures of the air and sea, covered with oil, with the grim prospect of a future that will get worse before it gets better affects us all profoundly. I did not even mention the people on the Gulf coast who are still recovering from Katrina as they watch their livelihoods disappear.

When this is printed, being an optimist that I am, it is my fervent hope and prayer that leak is plugged, even temporarily. It is my hope that creatures by the thousands will be saved by volunteers by the thousands and life will get back to normal, or as close to normal as it can get.

Will that mean the problem is solved? Some of you may say “yes”. If you are one of those people, you may want to stop reading. But I believe that this crisis is a symptom of a greater crisis that afflicts us all and none of us are without guilt.

You may say: “Speak for yourself, Pastor.” And I will, in the form of a prayer seeking absolution:

Lord God, I have sinned in my disregard for your creation. I have not done everything in my power to be a good steward of your resources. I have been careless in how I perceive your creation and I have not lived up to the responsibility you bestowed upon me on the day of my creation. As one granted dominion, I have behaved irresponsibly.

I repent. And I ask you to awaken my conscience, inform my decisions, and direct me with wisdom to alternative ways to satisfy my needs. Help me prioritize and organize my life in a way to be efficient in my consumption of energy. And may I no longer be a burden on creation but a blessing, as you have blessed me with your creation. Amen.

Blessings to all,
Pastor Jeff

In this edition of Voice:

Here are a few important articles you might want to read:

	Page		Page
President’s Message	2	Church Council Minutes	None for this month
Treasurer’s Report	2	Birthdays and Anniversaries	10

President's Message

By John Moyer

We can sure tell it's summer time even though it's not yet June 21. Attendance on Sunday is looking a little sparse in our big new sanctuary. We all love to take vacation, especially those of us who are still working. It is a time for family reunions, beach or mountains, picnics and the like. Wherever you go, we wish you God speed and a safe trip to and from your favorite place. Before you depart, please consider mailing or delivering your offering at church. While we all like to go on vacations, unfortunately our utility bills, mortgage payments and employee payroll do not. During the summer months we are often hard-pressed to cover all our bills without borrowing from other church accounts.

Thank you in advance for helping by keeping your pledge current.

Treasurer's Report

The total net financial position for Living Lord Lutheran Church as of May 31, 2010 is:

	<u>Jan - May 2010</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Church Receipts	153,987.62	174,607.00	-20,619.38
Church Disbursements	140,648.17	153,034.00	-12,385.83
Net Church Financial Position	13,339.45	21,573.00	-8,233.55
AGC Receipts	87,777.30	78,403.00	9,374.30
AGC Disbursements	77,241.40	92,174.00	-14,932.60
Net AGC Financial Position	10,535.90	-13,771.00	24,306.90
Total LLLC Receipts	241,764.92	253,010.00	-11,245.08
Total LLLC Disbursements	217,889.57	245,208.00	-27,318.43
Net Total LLLC Financial Position	23,875.35	7,802.00	16,073.35

During the month of May, 2010, the church had a \$3,306.06 positive financial position. AGC also had a positive financial position.

The following is provided to keep everyone up to date on the building funds:

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
Solar Equipment	550.00	
Planting the Seeds	38,609.85	
Kitchen	381.40	
Audio Visual Equipment	4,640.19	
Sanctuary Chairs/Furnishings	144.81	
Donation-Mah Jongg Club	276.00	
PTS Giving Tree - Building Interior	7,452.72	
Signage Receipts	1,630.00	
Capital Fund Drive		53,684.97

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Farence, Treasurer

What's in YOUR Wallet?

Receipts to date for our mortgage pay-down total \$209. Keep up the good work everyone! Remember that there are envelopes in the pew/chair-backs every Sunday. Think about opening your wallet and pulling out a few stray bills (you won't even miss that \$5 or \$10 bill) and put it into the envelope. Every little bit helps. Thank you!



Bring a Ray of Sunshine into Someone's Life

By Pat Kunkel

The new "Sunshine Ministry" is a result of our recent retreat. This new ministry will meet the caring needs of our church family, just like you would meet the caring needs of your own family. We hope that everyone, from our youth through our seniors will get involved. You will be known as "helpers". You will perform such basic tasks as providing meals for the ill, rides to and from Doctor's appointments, helping caregivers by shopping for them or staying at the house while they shop, maybe doing yard work or just sitting and visiting. The list can go on but you get the idea. As a church family we hope you will participate in this very special ministry. Sign up sheets will be placed in the narthex. This will be a part of the Evangelism Ministry Team. If you have any questions or suggestions, please speak to Pastor Jeff at the church office at 753-9365 or Pat Kunkel at 748-6669.



Samoset School Supply Drive

By Randy and Pam Griffith, Outreach Team Coordinators

During the month of July the Outreach Ministry Team collects school supplies for Samoset elementary school. The school is situated in a low-income area of Bradenton where 94% the students' families are disadvantaged. Many students show up on the first day of school with literally nothing but the clothes on their backs. They have no new crayons, pencils, paper, scissors or backpack to carry them.

During the many years we have supported Samoset, our team has been able to deliver a SUV-load of much needed supplies for students as they begin the new school year. As you may remember last year was the first year the school earned an "A" rating. So, they really try to provide a quality education.

The time has come again for us to support Samoset with our contributions. They are in desperate need of: pencils, crayons, child's scissors, spiral notebooks, backpacks, markers, computer paper, glue, etc. They have also requested child's underwear sizes 4 through 8 in boys and girls. Please consider using our Church Scrip Program to make your purchases. This will benefit LLLC as well as Samoset.

The staff of Samoset is a high energy, engaged team and the school is remarkable, given their circumstances. Your contributions are truly going to a good cause and are a direct complement to their successful teaching. Thanks for your support during this drive.

Sunday Worship Attendance, May, 2010

Sunday	8:00	9:15	10:45	Total Attendance
May 2	38	84	97	219
May 9	48	100	122	270
May 16	35	80	78	193
May 23	44	83	74	201
May 30	34	82	83	199
Average for May, 2010	40	86	91	217

Previous Years' Average Sunday Worship Attendance May 2005 - 2009

Year	8:00	9:15	10:45	Avg. Total Attendance
2009	34	120	86	240
2008	38	102	85	225
2007	37	104	75	216
2006	34	105	80	219
2005	39	100	92	231

Disaster Hosting Program

Reprinted from last year's Voice, as a reminder!

This year's hurricane season has, started out quietly, however, as the height of the hurricane season nears, I would like to remind everyone about the Disaster Hosting Program, formerly the Hurricane Hosting Program. Since natural and man-made disasters can happen year round and not just during hurricane season, the Hurricane Hosting Program has been renamed to the Disaster Hosting Program and is ready to be implemented at the onset of any situation that may arise that would require a member of our congregation to evacuate their home on a temporary basis, for safety reasons.

At the beginning of the hurricane season, our awareness of being prepared and having a plan is at a heightened level due to media coverage. This is a good time for anyone in our congregation who has previously completed an evacuee or host family questionnaire to review their current situation and either fill out a new questionnaire if there are any changes, or call the church office and someone will be in touch. If you have not previously participated in the program, questionnaires for both potential evacuees and host families are available in the Narthex.

Each year we pray that we won't need to implement the hosting program and each year our prayers have been answered, but it is comforting to know that we have people in our congregation who are willing to open their homes to others if the need arises, to avoid having them go to a public shelter.

If you have any questions about the program, or are interested in helping organize and implement the program, please feel free to contact me at ajamesgross@att.net or call me at 920-8779.

Sincerely,
Jim Gross

Ask the Weatherman

By Bill Mork

How hot is it? The month of May was the third warmest May on record at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport with an average temperature of 79.6 degrees, 3.2 degrees above normal. June is also off to a very warm start with record high temperatures of 96 on June 8, 98 on June 12, and 96 on June 13.

What is all this talk about a high risk hurricane season? On May 27, the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center said it is expecting an "active to extremely active" hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin this year. There is a 70 percent chance of 14 to 23 named storms (top winds of 39 mph or higher), 8 to 14 hurricanes (top winds of 74 mph or higher), and 3 to 7 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4, or 5 with winds of at least 111 mph). The outlook exceeds the seasonal average of 11 named storms, 6 hurricanes, and 2 major hurricanes. Expected factors supporting this outlook include upper level winds conducive to storms (El Nino has died), record warm Atlantic Ocean water (up to 4 degrees above average), and the continuation of the high activity era. Since 1995, the tropical multi-decadal signal has brought favorable ocean and atmospheric conditions in sync, leading to more active hurricane seasons. Eight of the last 15 seasons rank in the top ten for the most named storms with 2005 in first place with 28 named storms.

ARE YOU PREPARED? The Florida Division of Emergency Management has created a website that will help you create a preparedness checklist. Create a hurricane plan for:

Your family: <http://www.floridadisaster.org/family/>

Your business: <http://www.floridadisaster.org/business/>

According to NOAA, what will a hurricane do to the oil slick in the Gulf? The high winds and seas will mix and "weather" the oil which can help accelerate the biodegradation process. The high winds may distribute oil over a wider area, but it is difficult to model exactly where the oil may be transported. Movement of oil would depend greatly on the track of the hurricane. Storm surges may carry oil into the coastline and inland as far as the surge reaches. Debris resulting from the hurricane may be contaminated by oil from the Deepwater Horizon incident, but also from other oil releases that may occur during the storm. A hurricane's winds rotate counter-clockwise. Thus, in general terms, a hurricane passing to the west of the oil slick could drive oil to the coastline and one passing to the east of the oil slick could drive oil away from the coast.

What will happen to a hurricane that runs through this oil slick? Most hurricanes span an enormous area of the ocean, far wider than the current size of the spill. If the slick remains small in comparison to a typical hurricane's size, the anticipated impact on the hurricane would be minimal. The oil is not expected to appreciably affect the intensity or the track of a fully developed tropical storm or hurricane. The oil slick would have little effect on the storm surge or near-shore wave heights.

Playing for Pizza?

After playing four years of college softball, member Melissa Dowling decided to take an unusual route for a career. She hopped a plane, flew to Italy and reached her dream when she signed a contract to play professional softball. She is playing for LaLoggia, a small town about 10 miles outside of Torina. It is in a nine team league that is the highest division of Italian professional softball. Her proud parents, Rae and Joe Dowling will be spending time with her in June. We hope to hear great things from them when they return and hear all about their daughter in the pro ranks. Go Melissa.

Meet Our Sexton

Mike Seminick assumed the job of sexton at Living Lord Lutheran Church early this year. Prior to that, Mike worked as a substitute for the former sexton, Jim Fath, as Jim was recovering from health problems. We are very fortunate that Mike was available to take over the job full time when Jim retired. Mike was a member of the church council and a volunteer worker with the property committee for many years. We thank Mike for his many hours and days of volunteer labor in his effort to make Living Lord a better place to live and worship.

Mike grew up on farms in the suburbs of Chicago and studied Beef Science at the University of Illinois. In the early 1980s, Mike was a professional calf roper on the national rodeo circuit. After marriage to Toni at Schaumburg, IL in 1994, they managed farms near Belvidere IL and Dodgeville, WI. You may have heard of Dodgeville, as that is the home of Lands' End, Inc. where Toni worked as a Professional Project Manager in Information Services.

Mike and Toni had vacationed on Anna Maria Island and liked what they saw in Manatee County, including the school system. So they decided to make a major change in their lives as they sold their Wisconsin farm and moved to Manatee County in 2004 where Mike went into the swimming pool construction business. They became members of Living Lord in 2004 and since then have been a valuable part of our church family. Toni and the Seminick clan of Justin, Jessica, Jennifer, and Jacob have been very involved with the Youth Group and Sunday School. Mike and Toni also stay busy in the transport business as their children are very active in the Manatee County sports scene.

Mike is still in the swimming pool support business, including pool/lanai power washing and repair work. Another love of Mike's is the food and cooking business. To gain some experience in the industry, he works as a substitute in the Food Service Division of the Manatee County School District. He and a friend are also busy developing Italian recipes as they are making plans for a future opening of an Italian restaurant.

Thanks for all you are doing to keep our church running smoothly, Mike!



Fellowship Committee

By Louise Baar

We hope everyone has enjoyed our events of the year so far. Watch for coming attractions which will always be posted on the board in the narthex. Particularly, look at the sign-up sheet for the Tampa Bay Rays baseball game which will be in August. Go Rays! Sign up and join us.

AGC Summer Camp Begins

On June 14th, All God's Children kicked off its seven week Summer Camp program. Each week features a different theme and activities so attendees will not be bored if they attend multiple weeks.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Theme</u>
1	June 14-18	Under the Sea
2	June 21-25	Around the World
3	June 28-July 2	Patriotic
4	July 5-9	Safari
5	July 12- 16	Sports
6	July 19-23	Space
7	July 26-30	Music

Tuition is \$90.00/week with a one time Registration fee of \$35.00 or \$55.00 Family fee if there is more than one child. All teachers are certified. Hours are 9:00am until 1:00pm. If you have any other questions, please call Crystal Shreve at 739-2776.



Twenty six “campers” enrolled in the first week of our program and were delighted to learn the secrets that hide “under the sea”. However, it’s not all work and no play! Some “campers” take a drink break after some tough duty on the playground.

A Note from your Voice Editor

When submitting photos for the Voice please be sure to re-size before sending. If your submission is larger than 500 KB, we have a difficult time sending to and from the church computer. New computers and/or software could alleviate this problem but for now we just don’t have the funds. Matt Davis, our computer guru is willing to help you learn what you need to do to re-size. Thank you for your help.

Lunch Bunch

By Louise Baar

The Lunch Bunch ladies met Thursday, June 10 at the Red Elephant restaurant. We were happy that one of Living Lord's recent Braden River High School graduates joined us--Lauren Horne. Our next gathering will be on Thursday, July 8. We will be going to the Stingray restaurant--off University Parkway. We welcome all ladies of the church and their friends as we enjoy each other's company and have a nice lunch together. The sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex, so please sign up. We meet at the church to car pool at 11:30 or meet at the restaurant at noon. Call Maggie at church for any more information. Come and join us.

Seventeen AGC Students Move On To Kindergarten



By Bob Daly

With camera's flashing and Video recorders whirring, the VPK classes of Miss Carol and Miss Kristin marched proudly across the crowded Sanctuary floor, observed by a sea of beaming moms and dads. As a special treat for Pastor Jeff, the students recited the Lord's Prayer. We will miss them as they move on but look forward to next year's class which will expand to three class rooms.



(L-R) Miss Carol, VPK Teacher; Miss Crystal, Asst. Director AGC; Bob Daly, Chairman, AGC Board of Directors; Miss Jeri, Director, AGC; Miss Kristin, VPK Teacher

Are You Ready for Christmas?

Well, the ladies of Living Lord are getting ready. They are cutting, pasting, and glittering Chrismons for the two seven foot lighted Christmas trees. Our Sanctuary trees should be a sparkling wonderland after the ladies complete these Chrismons.

Chrismons are decorations such as a cross, flower, bird, angel or other religious symbol. They can be made of various materials such as Styrofoam, beads and sequins.



I'd like to give a big thank you to Anita Kuske, Maggie Smith, Carlyn Kersten, Pat Kunkel, Cheryl Graham, Marie Sankowski, Sue Copeland, Jeri Schultze, Marianne Moyer and Bea Daly for all the time and effort they have put in to these decorations. But we are still a long way from finished, so if you are interested in joining the fun, please call Bea Daly at 744-7612 to come join the fun.



Pat Kunkel and Marie Sankowski are hard at work, but still enjoying fellowship.



Carlyn Kersten, Bea Daly, Marie Sankowski and Pat Kunkel admire their handiwork.

Happy Celebrations to You!

Do you have a birthday or anniversary this month? If so, we hope you have a wonderful celebration.

Greetings to:

Birthdays

Mantone, Jordan	1-Jul
Lustgarten, Elizabeth	3-Jul
Otterness, David	4-Jul
Furey, Margi	6-Jul
Cleveland, Carol	7-Jul
Davis, Matthew	7-Jul
Gross, Denise	7-Jul
Larsen, Janet	8-Jul
Skinner, Doris	8-Jul
Lencke, Linda	9-Jul
Pascarella, Debra	9-Jul
Otterness, Jennifer	11-Jul
Dandy, Don	12-Jul
Ott, Hannah	12-Jul
Bernard, Richard	13-Jul
Frantz, Robert	13-Jul
Seminick, Toni	14-Jul
Berka, Matthew	16-Jul
Furey, Matt	16-Jul
Seminick, Justin	16-Jul
Baar, Amanda	17-Jul
Bower, Shirley	17-Jul
Lustgarten, James	17-Jul
Williams, Angela	17-Jul
Gross, Rachael	18-Jul
Kalb, Katy	19-Jul
Martinsen, Nancy	19-Jul
Murphy, Kelsey	19-Jul
Trompke, Jordan	19-Jul
Behrends, Ty	21-Jul
Scituro, Steve	21-Jul
Shoop, Helen	21-Jul
Gross, Jim	25-Jul
Tetmeyer, Mike	26-Jul
Kersten, Allan	27-Jul
Martino, Catherine	29-Jul
Swartzendruber, Toni	29-Jul
Easton, Peter	30-Jul
Seamon, Elaine	30-Jul
Zipay, Elsie	30-Jul

Wedding Anniversaries

Randy and Pam Griffith	7/1/0000
Greg & Julie Murphy	7/1/1989
Stan L & Ellen T Niemi	7/1/1989
Doug & Marcia McKeen	7/2/2001
Mary Lanier	7/5/1975
Dick and Barbara Suprina	7/7/1957
Matthew and Kristen Hitchcock	7/11/2009
Al and Diane Frohling	7/15/1989
James S. Nancy A. Martinsen	7/16/1954
John & Kirstin Hammergren	7/17/2004
David and Jennifer Otterness	7/23/2005
Duane & Diane DeRosia	7/29/1967
Randy and Ellen Hanson	7/31/1965

A New Version of the Beatitudes...

Then Jesus took his disciples up the mountain and gathering them around him, he taught them:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek.

Blessed are they that mourn.

Blessed are the merciful.

Blessed are they that thirst for justice.

Blessed are you when you are persecuted.

Blessed are you when you suffer.

Be glad and rejoice for your reward is great in heaven.”

Then Simon Peter asked, “Are we supposed to learn all this?”

And Andrew asked, “Do we have to write this down?”

And James asked, “Will we have a test on this?”

And Phillip said, “I don’t have any paper.”

And Bartholomew said, “Do we have to turn this in?”

And John said, “The other disciples didn’t have to learn all this.”

And Matthew asked, “May I leave to go to the boys’ room?”

And Judas asked, “What does this have to do with real life?”

Then one of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus’ lesson plan and inquired of Him,

“Where is your anticipatory set and your objectives in the cognitive domain?”

And Jesus wept.

How would we reply if we were sitting up there on that mountain...?



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“Loving, Learning, Living in Christ”

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Sunday Worship:

8:00 AM **Traditional Worship**
9:15 AM **Contemporary Worship**
10:45 AM **Alternating Traditional/Contemporary Worship**

Sunday school: There is no Sunday school during the summer.
Nursery Service is available during all services.