



# Living Lord's Voice

November 2016

**Living Lord Lutheran Church  
Pastor Pam Wellons, Interim Pastor**

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Sunday Worship Services at:  
8:00 AM - Traditional Worship  
9:15 AM - Contemporary Worship  
11:00AM - Traditional Worship  
Sunday School at 9:15 AM September—May

## Martin Luther (1483-1546)



“Martin Luther was eight years old when Christopher Columbus set sail from Europe and landed in the Western Hemisphere. Luther was a young monk and priest when Michaelangelo was painting the Sistine Chapel in Rome. A few years later, he was a junior faculty member at a new university in small-town Germany, intently studying the Scriptures, “captivated with an extraordinary ardor for understanding Paul in the

Epistle to the Romans.”

In these days Luther was tormented by the demand for righteousness before God. “I did not love, yes, I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners, and secretly, if not blasphemously, certainly murmuring greatly, I was angry with God.” Then, in the midst of that struggle with God, the message of the Scriptures became clear, like a long-shut door opening wide. When he realized that a “merciful God justifies us by faith ... I felt that I was altogether born again and had entered paradise itself through open gates.”

What Luther discovered is the freedom of Christians trusting God’s mercy in Christ. As he later wrote, “Faith is God’s work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. This faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that believers would stake their lives on it a thousand times.”

This discovery set Luther’s life on a new course —both his own life and his public service as a preacher and teacher. When a church-endorsed sales team came to the Wittenberg area in October, 1517, Luther was concerned that the promotion and sale of indulgences undermined the promise of God’s unreserved mercy in Jesus and the faith that trusts that promise. His *95 Theses or Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences* became the first of a life-long stream of books, sermons, letters, essays, even hymns in which he expressed his confidence in this life-giving promise from God, the Gospel, and its liberating implications for all of life in church and society.” ----ELCA website

*“Faith is God’s work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. This faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that believers would stake their lives on it a thousand times.”*

I think sometimes we forget about faith as a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. Take some time to meditate and pray on that the week of Reformation. As All Saints’ Day approaches, take some time to remember the saints you have known and honor their impact on your life of faith. And you, dear hearts, have faith during this time of transition.

Peace,

Pastor Pam, Interim Pastor

## ELCA Youth Leadership Summit

The ELCA Youth Leadership Summit is an annual gathering for high school youth identified as leaders, and adult representatives from each synod across this church. This summit focuses on leadership development, through engaging speakers and leaders in key areas, that focus on the intersection of leadership and faith in daily life, faith formation and building connections for high school youth in the ELCA. Youth will be challenged to take home what they have learned to inspire action in their own synods and youth groups.



This a great honor to be asked to attend this event as a representative for our synod, and one of our very own youth has been selected as one of 3 youth representatives for the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Sami Copeland will be traveling with our youth director, Kristen Hitchcock and 2 other high school youth from our synod on November 3-6 to participate in this event. The event will be held at Lutheridge in Ashville, NC. Check back next month to hear more about this trip.

## ELCA Youth Gathering 2018



Some exciting news to share...Nathan Gross has been selected as 1 of 12 young adults that will be serving on the stage crew team for the 2018 Youth gathering in Houston, TX. This is a great honor and a big job to

be part of. The stage crew helps with lighting, sound, props, stage talent and more. Way to go Nathan!!!

There will be a Night in Bethlehem volunteer meeting on Monday, November 14th at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary Hall.



Fall is in the air and the youth group will be hosting their annual Pancake Harvest on:

**Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup>.**

Breakfast will be served from 8:30am – 11:30am. All proceeds go towards the youth group 2017 summer trips.



## Family Advent Night

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the **Family Advent Night** on Wednesday, November 30th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm.

We will begin the evening with a pot luck dinner and then provide a craft for families to assemble together. The evening finishes with the Advent Service at 7:00 pm, where the youth group will be serving as worship leaders.

Check the Narthex for the pot luck sign-up and to RSVP to this fun fellowship event.



 This year we are teaming up with The Twig Warehouse in Venice. Twig stands for “The Way to Inspire and Give” and is a clothing boutique for foster families. They give foster families the chance to bring their kids to shop for clothes and necessities free of charge. We are asking that everyone that attends Night in Bethlehem bring a **NEW** non-flannel pajama in any size from birth-teen to donate to this wonderful organization.

*Additionally we are in need of toilet paper rolls. Please save them over the coming weeks and drop them off to church on Sunday mornings.*





## *A Night in Bethlehem is coming!!!!*

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual **Night in Bethlehem** is coming up on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-8:30 pm. In order to make this event a success, we need your help. Please visit the sign-up board to see all of the ways you can use your gifts and help this wonderful and growing ministry.



### **Give Thanks Together**

The Lunch Bunch will dine at Whetstone Restaurant at the Manatee Technical College Campus on SR 70 on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Please note that the starting time for this event is earlier than usual for our group. If you want to carpool, meet at the church at 11:00 or arrive at the campus at 11:30. The menu will be posted in the church narthex the Sunday before the luncheon.

**NOTE:** Seating is limited to 30 people. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex and only one name per line is permitted due to the seating limitation.

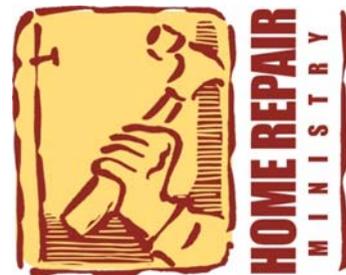
**Gentlemen are Invited Too!**

### **Youth "Save the Dates" for November**

- Nov. 1 — Youth Group — 6:30-8:00 pm
- Nov. 3 — ELCA Youth Summit
- Nov. 6 — Pancake Harvest
- Nov. 9 — Youth Group — 6:30-8:00 pm
- Nov. 11-13 — Trailblazers & Confirmation Retreat at Luther Springs
- Nov. 16 — Annual Youth Group Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration — 6:30 pm
- Nov. 19-20 — Happening Team Overnight Meeting
- Nov. 30 — Family Advent Night — 5:30-7:00 pm

### **Our Men in Action!**

*Living Lord's Men's Ministry* has launched a new service for our congregation. We have men who will help with the "Honey Do" lists of our



widows, single mothers, and elderly. If there are shrubs to be trimmed, holes to be patched, furniture that needs moved, light bulbs to be replaced, and other small jobs that need taken care of we'd like to help. Note that we will **NOT** be doing any tasks that would require a licensed contractor.

If you're in need of help with those tasks around the house, please contact Steve Long by phone at (860)-810-5315.

If you're a guy and you enjoy doing odd jobs around the house and want to be on the list of helpers - call Steve about that too!

The greatest thing is to give thanks for everything. He who has learned this knows what it means to live. He has penetrated the whole mystery of life: giving thanks for everything.

—Albert Schweitzer

## A message from your Faith Community Nurses

November is American Diabetes Month as well as Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for.

Diabetes is a disease in which the sugar cannot get into the body's cells. There are several types:

Type 1 Diabetes is a pancreas makes little or no insulin due to an auto immune problem.

Type 2 Diabetes is the body does not make enough insulin or insulin doesn't work the way it should.

Pre-Diabetes is when insulin is made but does not work properly.

Secondary Diabetes is due to some process that either reduces insulin production or insulin useage. Example is pancreatic disease, steroid use or other causes.

Gestational Diabetes is when pregnancy affects the way the body uses sugar and is at risk for Type 2 Diabetes.

Diabetes does not mean the end of a full, active life. Some changes might be required, but you still can do many things you enjoy.

Self management survival skills are Learning as much as you can about Diabetes. Monitor your blood sugar levels at least twice a day, once before breakfast. Keep a daily record of your results. If you take insulin , you will need to monitor it more frequently. Control portion sizes and eat the same amount of carbohydrates at each meal. Meal Planning is important. In Medication Management, take the right amount of medication at the right time as instructed by your Doctor. Be Active. Walking is safe for most people. Start slowly and gradually increase your activity.

Managing Hypoglycemic or low blood sugar. Symptoms can be sweating, rapid heartbeat, shakiness, extreme hunger, headache or have a blood sugar level less than 20mg/dL. You need to eat or drink 15 grams of a carbohydrate. Wait 15 minutes and recheck your blood glucose level. If your blood sugar level remains below 70 mg/dL or you have symptoms, you need to repeat the carbohydrate snack. Repeat the cycles a necessary until your blood sugar level is greater than 70 mg/dL.

Get smart about Carbs. Carbohydrates or carbs are the fiber, sugar, and starch in the foods you eat. How much different foods raise your blood sugar depends on how many carbs and the type of carbs they contain.

Don't forget to have your blood pressure checked every first and third Sunday of each month. We are in the hallway by the water fountain and waiting for you. Our next Faith Community Nurses Meeting is on Tuesday, November 18, 2016 at 1:30 PM in the Sanctuary Hall. All nurses are welcome.

During this Thanksgiving season, we thank you, Father, for giving us all that we need every day; our food, our friendship, our church, our pastor, and your forgiveness. Amen.

## ALL GOD'S CHILDREN PRESCHOOL

Our VPK students went on their first field trip this year to Dankin Dairy Farm. The students had a very educational day. They learned the entire milk making process. They got to observe the cows being washed and got to see the bottling process. They were able to have a lot of fun watching pig races, feeding baby goats with bottles and they got to make their own butter by shaking cream in a mason jar. After the tour and fun, everyone sat back and had picnic while playing on the amazing playground and climbing the enormous sand pile. What a fantastic experience for our AGC families and especially our little explorers!!!



AGC had their first "Mom's Mingler". This is an event that we did at the beginning of the school year to get to know one another and just have some good old fashion fun! It was so exciting to have a yummy dinner and great conversation with our amazing AGC Moms who are always supporting the staff in any way that they can. We are already planning our next "Mom's Night Out"!!!!



Our 3 year old class has been so hard at work using their new skills learned in the classroom. They are cutting, gluing and writing everyday and getting better and better!! So much concentration from our little ones as they make fun projects!!



-Erin Bonifate, Assistant Director

## Family Movie Night — Friday, November 18th

The **Men's Ministry** of Living Lord will be conducting their third **Family Movie Night** on Friday, November 18th at 6:00 PM. This time we will be presenting the recent hit movie, **MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN**, starring Jennifer Garner with Queen Latifah. In a remarkable true story of faith and blessings, a mother tells of her sickly young daughter, how she survived a dangerous accident, her visit to Heaven and the inexplicable disappearance of the symptoms of her chronic disease.



Annabel Beam spent most of her childhood in and out of hospitals with a rare and incurable digestive disorder that prevented her from ever living a normal, healthy life. One sunny day when she was able to go outside and play with her sisters, she fell three stories headfirst inside an old, hollowed-out tree, a fall that may well have caused death or paralysis. Implausibly, she survived without a scratch. While unconscious inside the tree, with rescue workers struggling to get to her, she visited heaven. After being released from the hospital, she defied science and was inexplicably cured of her chronic ailment.

**MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN** will change how we look at the world around us and reinforce our belief in God and the afterlife. [Click Here](#) to watch the official trailer.

**Living Lord Lutheran Church**  
**Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2016**

<b>OVERVIEW YEAR TO DATE 2016</b>	<u>Jan - Sep 2016 Actual</u>	<u>Jan - Sep 2016 Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Church General Fund Receipts	322,176.26	324,437.62	(2,261.36)
Church General Fund Disbursements	330,770.30	345,942.45	15,172.15
Net Church General Fund	(8,594.04)	(21,504.83)	12,910.79
Church Restricted Receipts	47,362.65		
Church Restricted Disbursements	55,268.20		
Net Church Financial Position	<u>(16,499.59)</u>		
AGC General Fund Receipts	123,141.41	115,460.00	7,681.41
AGC General Fund Disbursements	118,689.94	127,396.09	8,706.15
Net AGC General Fund	4,451.47	(11,936.09)	16,387.56
AGC Restricted Receipts	14,469.50		
AGC Restricted Disbursements	19,682.09		
Net AGC Financial Position	<u>(761.12)</u>		
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	445,317.67	439,897.62	5,420.05
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	449,460.24	473,338.54	23,878.30
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>(4,142.57)</u>	<u>(33,440.92)</u>	<u>29,298.35</u>
Total LLLC Restricted Receipts	61,832.15		
Total LLLC Restricted Disbursements	74,950.29		
Net Total LLLC Financial Position	<u>(17,260.71)</u>		
<b>YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON 2016 VS 2015</b>	<u>Jan - Sep 2016 Actual</u>	<u>Jan - Sep 2015 Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Church General Fund Receipts	322,176.26	293,766.13	28,410.13
Church General Fund Disbursements	330,770.30	304,840.63	(25,929.67)
Net Church General Fund	(8,594.04)	(11,074.50)	2,480.46
AGC General Fund Receipts	123,141.41	130,072.53	(6,931.12)
AGC General Fund Disbursements	118,689.94	128,883.89	10,193.95
Net AGC General Fund	4,451.47	1,188.64	3,262.83
Total LLLC General Fund Receipts	445,317.67	423,838.66	21,479.01
Total LLLC General Fund Disbursements	449,460.24	433,724.52	(15,735.72)
Net LLLC General Fund	<u>(4,142.57)</u>	<u>(9,885.86)</u>	<u>5,743.29</u>

Church receipts reflect a 9.7% increase in giving over last year at the same time. Our budget calls for a 9.5% increase in giving. Disbursements are 4% under budget year to date but are \$8600 more than receipts. Currently our overall financial position is \$2,400 ahead of last year. AGC is showing positive results with receipts higher than disbursements by \$4400.

Our balance sheet continues to be strong with \$34,000 in surplus funds.



Lynn Fisher, treasurer/bookkeeper

## Isaac Newton's First Law and You

Everybody knows who Isaac Newton was, and most everybody can recall one or more of his three laws of motion. Did you also know that he was a Christian? Although his laws of motion and universal gravitation are his best-known discoveries, he warned against using them to view the universe as a mere machine. He said, "*Gravity explains the motions of the planets, but it cannot explain who set the planets in motion. God governs all things and knows all that is or can be done.*" He saw God as the master creator whose existence could not be denied in the face of the grandeur of all creation.



Although his fame centers in the area of science, his study of the Bible and of the early church fathers were among his greatest passions. He devoted more time to the study of the Scriptures, the Fathers, and to Alchemy than to science, and said, "I have a fundamental belief in the Bible as the Word of God, written by those who were inspired. I study the Bible daily." He is the one who placed the crucifixion of Jesus at April 3, AD 33, which is now the accepted traditional date. Despite his focus on Theology and alchemy, Newton tested and investigated these ideas with the Scientific method, observing, hypothesizing, and testing his theories. To Newton, his scientific and religious experiments were one and the same.

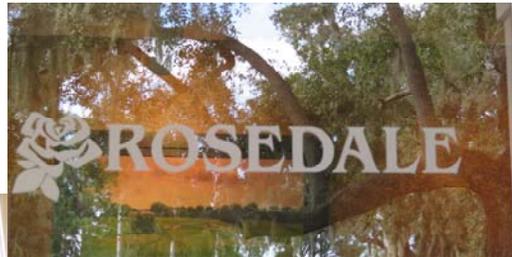
With that background information before us, I'd like to probe a little into his first law of motion and see how it can apply to us as present day Christians. The First Law states that objects in motion tend to stay in motion and objects at rest tend to stay at rest. It is easy to understand that a bike will not move unless something pushes or pulls it. It is harder to understand that an object will continue to move without help. Think of the bike again. If someone is riding a bike and jumps off before the bike is stopped what happens? The bike continues on until it falls over. The tendency of an object to remain still, or keep moving in a straight line at a steady speed is called inertia. I looked up the word inertia and here's what I found: *in-er-tia (noun) 1: apathy – inability or unwillingness to move or act. 2: resistance to change – the property of a body by which it remains at rest or continues moving in a straight line unless acted upon by a directional force.* Next I looked some recent bulletins and Voice's. I found several repeated appeals for help on various committees and boards. The fact that they were repeated indicates a lot of inertia out there.

Newton's "master creator" gave each of us 168 hours in a week. Subtract 56 for 8 hours of sleep each day, and subtract 40 for a full work week and we are left with 72 hours. You often hear the term "tithe" and think that it applies only to money. But it also applies to time and talents. If you were to tithe your time that would be 7.2 hours each week devoted to serving the Lord. If you come to one church service a week, take credit for 1 hour (travel time doesn't count). If you come for Sunday School or Bible Class, take credit for another hour. You should be able to find 5 more hours for God. If it were golf, football, soccer practice or television you'd find it. The next time you read or hear that we are looking for someone to help, think of Jesus standing behind you giving you a nudge. Once you get involved, you'll find that it is very rewarding and you'll stay involved. Get into motion!

-Steve Long

## Oktoberfest 2016

What a great time our members had at the first of what promises to be **Living Lord Annual Oktoberfest** event. Almost 100 adults and children had a great time, as shown in these pictures. Besides excellent food, great music, fellowship, and “the chicken dance”, we were also able to raise \$945 for our youth group’s mission trips through the silent auction of a number of gift baskets and a 50/50 raffle.



## Use It All Up

About two-thirds of Americans say eating Thanksgiving leftovers is more important than eating the actual holiday meal. That’s one of the few times people hope food is left on the table. When it comes to giving out blessings, God doesn’t want any leftovers to remain. In Genesis 12:2, God blesses Abraham so he will be a blessing to others.

Charles Stanley writes: “A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else’s need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don’t let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings.”

-Steve Long



"That's not what he meant by giving of your time!"

# Ask the Weatherman

By: Bill Mork



**Did we have a warm September?** The monthly average temperature of 83.9 degrees at the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport, 2.5 degrees above normal, ranks as the warmest September since records began in 1911. The old record of 82.7 degrees in 2007 was blown out of the water. Other Florida locations with record warm Septembers include Archbold Biological Station near Lake Placid, Chiefland, Plant City, Punta Gorda, and Tampa. September 2016 was the second warmest at Lakeland and Tallahassee. Record warmth continues during October in the central and eastern US with at least 195 record highs set 15-19 Oct. Records were set on 17 Oct for warmest temperature for October with 101 at Dodge City KS and 100 at Garden City KS. This was the first time in 142 years of records that both locations reached 100 degrees in October.

**Was Hurricane Matthew a damaging storm?** Hurricane Matthew was a very powerful, long-lived and deadly tropical cyclone which became the first Category 5 Atlantic hurricane since Hurricane Felix in 2007. It was the thirteenth named storm, fifth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the active 2016 Atlantic hurricane season. Matthew wrought widespread destruction and catastrophic loss of life during its journey across the Western Atlantic, including parts of Haiti, Cuba, Dominican Republic, the Bahamas, the southeastern US, and the Canadian Maritimes. At least 1,052 deaths have been attributed to the storm, including at least 1,000 in Haiti, 1 in Colombia, 4 in the Dominican Republic, 1 in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and 46 in the US, making it the deadliest Atlantic hurricane since Hurricane Stan in 2005, which killed more than 1,600 in Central America and Mexico. Causing damages estimated at \$10 billion, Matthew was also the costliest Atlantic hurricane since Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

**What was the path of Matthew?** Once Matthew reached the eastern Caribbean, it became a hurricane and rapidly intensified, reaching its peak intensity of Category 5 late 30 Sep into early 1 Oct with 160 mph winds at just 13.3 degrees N latitude, the lowest latitude ever recorded for a storm of this intensity in the Atlantic Basin. Matthew then turned northward and made landfall in Haiti and eastern Cuba on 4 Oct as a Category 4. Matthew hammered the Bahamas on 5-6 Oct as a Category 3 and 4 hurricane. Southeastern US was then hit hard as it moved very close to the coasts of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Matthew made one official US landfall on 8 Oct southeast of McClellanville SC as a Category 1 hurricane with 75 mph winds.

**How much storm surge was there?** In Florida on 7 Oct, a record peak surge of 9.88 feet above normal was measured at Fernandina Beach, just north of Jacksonville. Storm surge flooding affected the St Augustine area, including major flooding on Anastasia Island where water was reported to be 2.5 feet above ground level. To the south in nearby Flagler Beach, parts of A1A were washed out by the storm surge. A new inlet was carved between Palm Coast and St Augustine Beach. The St Johns River reached its highest level on record at Shands Bridge and was flowing backwards on 8 Oct. Tide level at Ft Pulaski GA reached a record 12.22 feet.

**What are some top wind gusts and rainfall totals?** Wind gusts were 107 mph at Cape Canaveral, 96 mph at Tybee Island GA, 91 mph at Daytona Beach, and 87 mph at Jacksonville. Storm totals include 18.38 inches at Elizabethtown NC, 17.49 at Savannah GA, 14.82 at Fayetteville NC, 14.04 at Beaufort SC, 12.16 at Virginia Beach VA, 10.48 at Charleston SC, 8.99 at Sanford FL, and 0.25 inches at Parrish FL with gusts to 40 mph. Devastating flooding occurred in NC with record stages on the Lumber, Lower Little, Neuse, and Tar Rivers.



Allen, Nicholas	13-Nov
Baesman, Richard	29-Nov
Barrigar, Robert	26-Nov
Brown, Brian	3-Nov
Brown, Hunter	4-Nov
Burner, Sherry	2-Nov
Copeland, Susan	12-Nov
Engel, Bev	2-Nov
Griffith, Pam	8-Nov
Ireland, Sherry	17-Nov
Johnson, Gary	24-Nov
Karg, Josh	21-Nov
Kitchie, Karen	4-Nov
Krahn, Bettina	11-Nov
Kudenholdt, Isabelle	2-Nov
Langsen, Kate	20-Nov
Mulligan, Jennifer	15-Nov
Mulligan, Kayte	1-Nov
Novotny, Ann	25-Nov
Ovitz, Linda	21-Nov
Perseo, John	15-Nov
Pisoni, Marcia	11-Nov
Poole, Joseph	16-Nov
Pope, Darrell	21-Nov
Quaid, Dylan	15-Nov
Querido, Norma	17-Nov
Raddatz, Roger	3-Nov
Suprina, Barbara	24-Nov
Swartzendruber, Andrew	13-Nov
Trompke, Tamara	4-Nov
Weldner, John	29-Nov

William & Janet Burkman	11/23/1978
Matt & Anne Davis	11/29/1997
William & Karen Hansing	11/29/1964
Jim & Linda Lustgarten	11/24/1990
Kenneth & Margaret Myhre	11/1/2009
Jerry & Sue Tomasso	11/5/1988
Skip & Barb Wegener	11/5/1988

## *Sunday Attendance*

	<b>8:00</b>	<b>9:15</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Total</b>
August 7th	55	93	73	221
August 14th	43	88	72	203
August 21st	58	127	84	269
August 28th	51	132	87	270
Sept. 4th	65	100	80	245
Sept. 11th	63	117	113	293
Sept. 18th	52	105	79	236
Sept. 25th	46	119	60	225
<i>Average</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>245</i>

“Loving, Learning, Living in Christ”

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)



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Living Lord Lutheran Church  
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