

# The Messenger



Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

—Proverbs 3:5

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LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
OF OUR  
SAVIOUR

8401 W. Hillsborough Avenue, Tampa FL 33615  
[www.lcostampa.org](http://www.lcostampa.org) ~ 813-884-1232  
[www.facebook.com/lcostampa](https://www.facebook.com/lcostampa)  
Email ~ [office@lcostampa.org](mailto:office@lcostampa.org)

## OUR VISION

Through LCOS all come to know the unconditional love of God, grow in their faith, and share their love and faith with others.

## OUR MISSION

That all may experience the love of Jesus Christ, we reach up through worship celebration. We reach out by sharing our faith. We reach in through prayer and study.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>8:30am</b>
<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>9:30am</b>
<b>Fellowship</b>	<b>10:30am</b>

## CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jon L. Culp, **Interim Pastor**  
Naoko Okada, **Minister of Music**  
Charlie McCoy, **Accountant**  
Roger Swain, **Financial Secretary**  
Ginnie Berge, **Temporary Office Manager**

## CHURCH COUNCIL *(Ministry Area)*

Sara Berge, **President**  
*(Governance & Administration) and (Technology)*  
Don Richardson, **Vice President**  
*(Facility & Grounds)*  
Jan Spaulding, **Secretary** *(Education)*  
Kristi Saligame, **Finance/Treasurer**  
*(Stewardship & Financial) and (Social Media)*  
Charlie McCoy *(Stewardship & Financial)*  
Lynne O'Reilly *(Care)*  
Fran Palermo *(Fellowship & Hospitality)*  
Sharon Rozell *(Outreach)*  
Judith Stocker *(Worship)*

## MISSION TEAMS

<b>Acolytes &amp; Crucifers</b>	Cherri Krall
<b>Adult Education</b>	Don Richardson Kent Chetlain
<b>AV Team</b>	Heidi Richters
<b>Bulletin</b>	Ginnie Berge Karen Muir
<b>Call Committee</b>	Heidi Richters, Linda Dillinger, Liam Heselius, Cherri Krall, Rick Padin, Noah Rozell, Martin Stewart
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Martin Stewart Heidi Richters Fran Beauregard
<b>Communications</b>	Karen Urban
<b>Counters</b>	Kristi Saligame Roger Swain
<b>Education</b>	Jan Spaulding
<b>Facility &amp; Grounds</b>	Don Richardson
<b>Fellowship &amp; Dinners</b>	Don Richardson Martin Stewart
<b>Food Bank</b>	Kristi Saligame
<b>Greeters</b>	Heidi Richters Fran Beauregard
<b>Information Technology</b>	Kent Chetlain
<b>LAFFS</b>	Lynne O'Reilly
<b>Lay Pastoral Care</b>	Lynne O'Reilly
<b>Newsletter Team</b>	Karen Urban, Rick Padin and Ginnie Berge
<b>Note Folks</b>	Linda Dillinger
<b>Outreach</b>	Danielle Kearney Sharon Rozell
<b>Ushers</b>	Martin Stewart
<b>Website &amp; Social Media</b>	Kristi Saligame
<b>Worship &amp; Music</b>	Naoko Okada

## Welcome Pastor Culp to LCOS!

Dear People of LCOS. I am so very honored to be invited by the congregation to serve as an interim pastor for the remainder of the year. I look forward to getting to know all of you. More important, I am excited to be a part of your Mission, "That all people may know the unconditional love of Jesus Christ".



I will be in the office on Tuesdays from 10am-2pm. Please feel free to drop by and introduce yourself. I look forward to hearing your stories. With that, let me begin by sharing a little bit about me.

### ***Bio: Rev. Jon L. Culp***

Pastor Culp is a Native Hoosier. Born in Fort Wayne, he developed a new mission congregation in Indianapolis prior to moving to Florida in 1999. He has served congregations in Naples and Clearwater, FL. He earned his Master of Divinity at Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Columbus, OH.

Prior to ministry, he was in business as a buyer in the building materials field. He has extensive knowledge of building, design, and church architecture. He is a Mission Developer in the ELCA.

He describes himself as creative and innovative. He has written many original services. He enjoys writing poetry. He is currently working on a grant to create an online footprint and an interactive worship experience entitled The Millennia Force. It is an effort to reach out to the unchurched young adults and their families.

Pastor Culp currently resides in Tampa, FL.

He is the proud owner of a black lab dog named Shibo and enjoys swimming and biking. He is an Uncle to his Nephew, Evan, who is the first new child in this generation of his family. His Nieces and Nephews live in Dallas, TX, and New York City. He has other family members scattered about in these states, and friends throughout the country.

You may contact Pastor Culp at [iPastor@lcostampa.org](mailto:iPastor@lcostampa.org), or call him at 727.642.7997. Please leave a message and he will call you back asap.

## President's Report

*Submitted by Sara Berge*



Greetings!

It's hard to believe we're almost halfway through 2026! What a whirlwind the first half of the year has been. We have done a lot in the last 5 months. Our Call Committee has been meeting regularly and they are working on completing our site profile. We wished Pastor Kauffman farewell and best wishes as he retired (again) and moved up to Maryland to be closer to his daughter and her family. We welcomed Pastor Jon Culp as our new interim pastor and had the pleasure of having Bishop Pedro Suárez and Pastor Carlos Ham lead us in worship. And that's just scratching the surface.

The council has been hard at work making decisions regarding the operations of the church and planning for the future. We are still in a bit of a transition phase as we are adjusting to having some of our most active volunteers step down within the past few months. Over the summer, we plan to have one meeting for June/July that will be a longer workshop where we will work on some bigger projects in addition to our regular business. We are excited about the great things happening at LCOS and want to do everything we can to be ready for our next steps.

First Corinthians 12:4-6 says, "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work." Each one of us is a part of the body of Christ and we have our own unique gifts, talents, and interests. As the summer begins and we continue to work towards calling our next pastor, it is vital that we all work together as a community to continue and build the amazing ministries of LCOS. In the coming months, council will be handing out a Time and Talent Survey. I encourage you to take the time to complete this survey and prayerfully consider how you might be able to help at LCOS – whether in small ways with minimal time commitment or in bigger ways. We each have something to give, and we need everyone to work together for LCOS to continue to thrive.

## LCOS Council Meeting Summary April 19, 2026

*Submitted by Jan Spaulding*

Opening prayer 11:00 am.

### **Financial: Kristi Saligame**

March financially looks good as money was moved from Bold Statement for general use. \$2500.00 was moved to fund the Outreach Ministry. Continuing to build the Pastoral Fund. Will begin to get quotes for painting of exterior buildings on campus.



### **Kaye Prox Food Bank: Kristi Saligame**

Continues to serve 350+ families weekly, receiving less product from local grocery stores and Feeding Tampa Bay. Planning to install 2 overhead fans in the Pavilion where the food is distributed to assist with airflow. Blessed to have the weekly volunteers serving our clients. If you are interested in volunteering or have a teen needing community service hours, contact Kristi/Jan or e-mail [volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com). We would love to have you join the team.

### **Technology: Sara Berge**

An upgrade on the sound system continues as Pastor Bruce has been completing power distribution and working on the microphones in the choir loft. Plan to have speakers in the nursery working as well. Naoko will assist with continuing to get the sound system work completed.

### **Facilities and Grounds: Don Richardson**

Thank you to Don Richardson, Martin Stewart and Ernie Largent for keeping our property looking so nice.

This month's projects include replacing the motor and fuses in the AC unit in the sanctuary. Memorial Garden continues to be updated as loose bricks will be secured and more plants added. Need to address drainage from Food bank building to retention pond in the back of the property. Replacing of light bulbs almost completed, considering replacing faucets in bathrooms.

### **Social Media: Kristi Saligame**

Please submit photos taken at events to Kristi right after the event to ensure timely postings.

### **Lay Pastoral Team: Lynn O'Reilly**

Pastoral Care Team has lost several members but continues to do shut in visitations with communion and phone calls. In the past Pastor Dave has distributed books to parishioners who have lost spouses, plan to continue with this support. If you are interested in joining this team please contact Lynn O'Reilly at [loreillyfl@gmail.com](mailto:loreillyfl@gmail.com) for additional information.

(Council Meeting Summary continued from page 5)

**South Denmark Girls Choir: Sara Berge**

Performance of the South Denmark Girls choir Saturday, April 4 was well received. The Danish choir enjoyed their time with us, feeling very welcomed like they “joined a family.” Thank you to LAFFS who provided the cookie reception after the concert.

Closing prayer at 12:08pm

Full minutes for all meetings can be found in the church office.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Spaulding

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**Church Office Hours**

Tuesdays, 10am-2pm

Thursdays, 10am-2pm

Email: [office@lcostampa.org](mailto:office@lcostampa.org) / Phone: 813.884.1232

**Interim Pastor**

Pastor Jon Culp will be in the church office on  
Tuesdays from 10am-2pm.

Email: [iPastor@lcostampa.org](mailto:iPastor@lcostampa.org)

**Temporary Office Manager**

Ginnie Berge (remote from ND May-October)

Email: [gberge@lcostampa.org](mailto:gberge@lcostampa.org)

[gkberge7@gmail.org](mailto:gkberge7@gmail.org), 701.429.3279

*Thank you to our church office volunteers  
who will be present in the office  
on Tuesdays and Thursdays.*

# LCOS Treasurer's Report—May 2026

Submitted by Kristi Saligame



## April Financial Review:

Church **income** in April was **\$20,478**, below our budget of \$28,883 and last year's result of \$22,149.

Member Giving in April was \$16,467, below our budget of \$21,473 and year-ago gifts of \$17,883.

We used designated funds of \$236 during the month, from our Portico Fund (ministry to our unhoused neighbors). Last year, our April income included \$1,156 in designated funds.

Facilities income was \$3,775 in April, vs. \$3,110 a year ago.

Church **expense** was **\$21,986** in April, vs. \$23,074 a year ago and our budget of \$25,343.

We set aside another \$1,500 in April for the Pastoral Compensation Fund; the balance is now at \$26,500. The LAFFS fund also continues to grow; after the May gathering it is just over \$2,700.

We had A/C maintenance expense in April of \$3,100 (we replaced the motor in one of the units in the sanctuary), which put our facilities expense above budget.

Personnel and benefits expense continued to run below budget during the month. Our spending plan for 2026 had included a part-time office manager (which we now have) and a part-time Pastor, with benefits (which we did not have in April).

All other expense categories were in generally line with expectations.

LCOS recorded a **net loss** of **\$1,508** in April. Year-to-date, we show a loss of \$15,800, largely because we paid for a new air conditioning unit in February using surplus funds from 2025. 😊

## 2026 Year to Date:

Month/ Q	Current Year Results			Year-Ago Results		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Jan	\$17,076	\$19,490	(\$2,414)	\$19,232	\$20,710	(\$1,478)
Feb	\$22,154	\$39,179	(\$17,025)	\$20,528	\$19,771	\$757
March	\$26,362	\$21,214	\$5,148	\$28,087	\$21,680	\$6,406
April	\$20,478	\$21,986	(\$1,508)	\$22,149	\$23,074	(\$925)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$86,070</b>	<b>\$101,869</b>	<b>(\$15,799)</b>	<b>\$89,996</b>	<b>\$85,236</b>	<b>\$4,759</b>

## This & that:

We welcomed Pastor John Culp to this church family in early May; he has agreed to serve as our interim minister. 2026 is already shaping up to be an eventful year for us -- we are so thankful to have his leadership and partnership.

In the midst of all our moving parts, please keep the mission, ministries, and members of this church in your prayers. Your prayers and your faithful support are vital fuel for this church, as it continues to serve our members and our neighbors in the surrounding community. As always, thank you!

-Kristi Thiese, Treasurer

## SNAPS & SNIPPETS

*Submitted by Karen Urban and Sara Berge*

The purpose of this feature is to make it easy for you, the reader, to contribute to the newsletter and to have some fun in the process! All you have to do is send a favorite picture (favorite scene, favorite sunset, church activities, etc.) or something for which you thank God and attach just a brief description of what the picture is. Please remember that pictures must be appropriate for a church audience and be apolitical. Newsletter Team members will choose which pictures to include. Send SNAPS & SNIPPETS to [newsletter@lcostampa.org](mailto:newsletter@lcostampa.org).



I want to thank everyone for their well wishes, cards, text messages and phone calls during my recovery from the fall. It made such a difference

knowing so many of you care. I am so blessed to have such wonderful friends in my church family.

God bless you all!

Love,  
Fran



Pastor Dave Hall who led worship on April 26.

We were blessed to have Bishop Pedro M. Suárez and Rev. Dr. Carlos Ham, Director for Evangelical Mission, of the Florida-Bahamas Synod joined us for worship on Sunday, May 17. Bishop Suárez presided over the Eucharist and Pastor Ham brought the Word. Following worship, Bishop Suárez and Pastor Ham met with our church council.



Pastor Culp, Heidi Richters, Bishop Suárez, Pastor Ham

**Snaps & Snippets**

*Submitted by Karen Urban and Sara Berge*



Deacon Aura, Bishop Suárez, Pastor Culp,  
Pastor Ham, Irela Torres



## LCOS JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Michelle Griffith	June 1
Tom Carroll	June 4
Diane Tolzman	June 4
Fran Beauregard	June 11
Greg Reed	June 16
Della Griscti	June 18
Martin Stewart	June 20
Pamela Donovan	June 21
Rebecca Pusateri	June 23
Diana Meehan	June 25
Elizabeth Pusateri	June 25
Fraser Muir	June 28



## LCOS JULY BIRTHDAYS





Julian Julius	July 4
Janet Thambiraj	July 7
Marie Archondis	July 9
Kelin Heselius	July 16
Jane Stewart	July 16
John Hangartner	July 17
Karen Muir	July 22
Barbara Beauregard	July 26
Kurtis Kaladeen	July 30

*If your birthday is missing from our list, please contact Roger Swain, [roger.swain@tampa.rr.com](mailto:roger.swain@tampa.rr.com), or at 813-886-7961 so we may include you in next year's newsletter.*

## Snaps & Snippets



# JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class <b>9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm New Ark	<b>1</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>2</b> 10:00am Pastor Jon Hours	<b>3</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>4</b> <b>Synod Assembly</b> 6:30pm New Ark 7:00pm AA	<b>5</b> <b>Synod Assembly</b> 2:30pm Food Bank	<b>6</b> <b>Synod Assembly</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class <b>9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm New Ark	<b>8</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>9</b> 10:00am Pastor Jon Hours	<b>10</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank 	<b>11</b> 6:30pm New Ark 7:00pm AA	<b>12</b> 2:30pm Food Bank	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Flag Day</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class <b>9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm New Ark 	<b>15</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>16</b> 10:00am Pastor Jon Hours	<b>17</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>18</b> 6:30pm New Ark 7:00pm AA	<b>19</b> <b>Juneteenth</b> 2:30pm Food Bank 	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>Father's Day</b> <b>First Day of Summer</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class <b>9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm New Ark 	<b>22</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>23</b> 10:00am Pastor Jon Hours	<b>24</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>25</b> 6:30pm New Ark 7:00pm AA	<b>26</b> 2:30pm Food Bank	<b>27</b> 12:00pm Church Council Workshop
<b>28</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class <b>9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00am Fellowship 12:30pm New Ark	<b>29</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>30</b> 10:00am Pastor Jon Hours	<b>1</b> 10:30am Portico Ministry 12:20pm Food Bank	<b>2</b> 6:30pm New Ark 7:00pm AA	<b>3</b> 2:30pm Food Bank	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day</b>



Deadline for submission of  
July Newsletter items is:

**June 10, 2025**

Please submit articles or pictures to:  
**[newsletter@lcostampa.org](mailto:newsletter@lcostampa.org)**



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