

The Messenger



A voice of one calling: In the wilderness, prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

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Thank you to Print Shop



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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

Bible Study	8:30am
Worship Service	9:30am
Fellowship	10:30am

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)

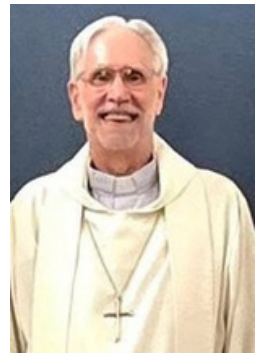
Sara Berge, **President**
(Governance&Administration)and(Technology)
Don Richardson, **Vice President**
(Facility &Grounds)
Jan Spaulding, **Secretary (Education)**
Kristi Saligame, **Finance/Treasurer**
(Stewardship&Financial)and(SocialMedia)
Charlie McCoy *(Stewardship&Financial)*
Lynne O'Reilly *(Care)*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

MISSION TEAMS

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

PC Prospective

Values! What is important to you? What is collectively important to our church as we move forward through this time of transition? Values help us to know the direction as well as our hopes and dreams for the next chapter of this ministry.



Fortunately, Rev. Dr. Derek Hoven, our DEM (Division of Evangelical Mission) is excellent in this area. He has agreed to lead the congregation in the discovery of the values of LCOS. This is a requirement of the call process prior to moving forward. I am certain you will find it very interesting, and it is very important for the Call Committee and the Synod to know as they begin to consider who might serve the congregation in the future. Remember, your input is critical to fully understand as the process moves forward.

So, please mark in your calendars Saturday, January 23rd from 9-12. We will have a good time and no doubt have some goodies to share. I hope everyone will mark their calendars and plan to be there.

Beyond these things are rolling along here at LCOS. We have had a couple of Baptisms as you know. That is always exciting and refreshing. It gives us a sense of purpose and a glimpse into the future. I certainly believe in the future of LCOS. The opportunities are countless. Our current congregation is open and welcoming. We just need to begin to look to the future, develop strategies and tactics to move into the future that God desires for us. Please, as I know, many do; continue to lift up the Council and Call Committee as they do their work. Please speak up and out so that your voice is heard.

As we quickly move towards the end of this church year. We will be busy with year-end business, budgeting leadership decisions, etc. These are important things. Still, as always, we need to trust in God's promises, care for one another and the world.
May we continue to rest in our faith,

PC

Interim Pastor

Pastor Jon L. Culp

Office Hours: Tuesdays from 10am-2pm

Email: iPastor@lcostampa.org

President's Report

Submitted by Sara Berge



Greetings!

The month of November is often a time when people focus on gratitude. I see a lot of people on social media posting each day to share something they are grateful for. With that idea in mind, I thought it would be fun to do something different this month and share 30 reasons I am grateful for LCOS. I would love to hear other reasons that you would include in your personal list. May God bless you through this Thanksgiving season and beyond.

Day 1: Community

Day 2: Faithfulness

Day 3: Love

Day 4: Joy

Day 5: Fellowship

Day 6: Hospitality

Day 7: Leadership

Day 8: Prayers

Day 9: Kindness

Day 10: Trust

Day 11: Commitment

Day 12: Food 😊

Day 13: Gathering

Day 14: Donating

Day 15: Family

Day 16: Prayerful

Day 17: Hugs and Handshakes

Day 18: Helping Others

Day 19: Visitation

Day 20: Volunteering

Day 21: Sharing Gifts

Day 22: Music

Day 23: Guidance

Day 24: Check-ins

Day 25: Reaching Out

Day 26: Uplifting

Day 27: Smiles

Day 28: Conversation

Day 29: Laughter

Day 30: Supportive



LCOS Council Meeting Summary September 27, 2026



Opening prayer 11:03am.

Financial: Kristi Saligame

Church income in August was \$21,649 below our budget of \$24,410. Member graciously donated funds allowing a \$3000 principal pre-payment of our mortgage. Continue to have flat to positive monthly income in 2026.

Kaye Prox Food Bank: Kristi Saligame

Continues to serve 350+ families weekly with faithful volunteers. The hot summer has been challenging as we feel some relief with the weather as fall approaches. Some distributions need to set up under the portico if rain is in the forecast. The client's numbers are consistently increasing as our donated items from local grocery stores are decreasing. Feeding Tampa Bay provides a weekly delivery of produce and dry goods as well. All collected items are distributed weekly to continue to meet the needs of the Town and Country community. Loose gravel has been spread to the area around the pavilion, in the back of the property to provide a service that carts move easily over for staff and clients.

The food bank distributes Monday and Wednesday at 11:30am and Friday at 2:30pm. If you are interested in volunteering or have a teen needing community service hours, contact Kristi/Jan or email volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com.

Technology: Sara Berge

Pastor Bruce continues to finalize work on the sound system. The council is continuing to work through details of providing Spanish translation of our weekly service to the slides viewed by the congregation hoping to welcome and include those who don't speak English.

Facilities and Grounds: Don Richardson

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

LCOS Council Meeting Summary September 27, 2026 (continued)

The support columns that support the walkway roof by the main entrance and Luther Hall are disintegrating due to water damage. Don and his team are rebuilding those structural supports and will complete the project as time allows. LED lights changed throughout Luther Hall. Need to add baby changing station in women's bathroom in church and Luther Hall to support young families coming to events.

Community Outreach: Kristi Saligame

Vision 2 Grant has been completed and submitted by Kristi Saligame and Sara Berge. The grant supports the offering of language classes to learn both Spanish and English and eventually to offer meals and religious services once a month. Hope to hear in October if we have received the grant. We are looking for a language teacher to begin to launch language classes in January 2027. Survey to be distributed to LCOS congregation. Food Bank clients and parents of children attending the daycare gathering have interest in these language classes.

Closing prayer at 12:35pm.

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

Respectfully submitted by Jan Spaulding



LCOS Treasurer's Report - October 2026

Submitted by Kristi Saligame



September Financial Review:

Church income in September was \$21,110, vs. our budget of \$25,310 and last year's result of \$21,729.

- Member Giving was \$13,875, below our budget of \$16,800 and year-ago gifts of \$17,082.
- We used \$3,260 in designated funds: \$3,000 from the mortgage reduction fund (a member donation allowed us to make a \$3,000 principal pre-payment on our mortgage), and \$260 from the Portico Fund. In September 2025, we used \$170 in designated funds.
- Facilities income was \$3,975 in September, vs. \$4,477 a year ago.

Church expense was \$25,826 in September, vs. \$22,944 a year ago and our budget of \$27,053.

- Facilities expense in September was significantly higher than budget, including \$2,756 for A/C maintenance, the first half of our new annual contract with Nuccio. The prepayment of principal on our mortgage of \$3,000 is also included in facilities costs for the month. In addition, our electric bill was about \$600 more than last month/last year/expected.
- Other expense categories were in generally below or in-line with expectations.

LCOS recorded a net loss of (\$4,716) in September.

2026 Year to Date:

Month/Q	Current Year Results			Year-Ago Results		
	Income	Expense	Difference	Income	Expense	Difference
Jan-Mar	\$65,592	\$79,883	(\$14,291)	\$67,847	\$62,162	\$5,685
Apr-Jun	\$70,647	\$67,374	\$3,273	\$70,222	\$68,646	\$1,576
July	\$17,664	\$23,171	(\$5,507)	\$28,078	\$35,553	(\$7,475)
Aug*	\$23,649	\$18,429	\$5,219	\$22,869	\$19,697	\$3,172
Sept	\$21,110	\$25,826	(\$4,716)	\$21,729	\$22,944	(\$1,215)
July-Sep	\$62,422	\$67,426	(\$5,003)	\$72,676	\$78,194	(\$5,518)
Total	\$198,661	\$214,682	(\$16,021)	\$210,745	\$209,002	\$1,743

**Aug 2026 totals have been re-stated here; designated funds used in August were \$5,000 (Bold Statement), rather than the \$3,000 (Mortgage Reduction Fund) initially reported.*

At this moment:

In addition to serving as a place of worship, Bible study, and fellowship for two congregations, our campus serves as a meeting place and community service hub for our neighborhood:

Gamblers Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous groups meet weekly at LCOS. We are a delivery hub for Meals on Wheels. Family events/celebrations are held every month in Luther Hall. The Tampa Bay Model Trains Club meets here weekly. The daycare is vital to many young families here in Town & Country. The Kaye Prox Food Bank provides supplemental food distributions here 3 days/week, and the Portico Ministry, based here, serves our unhoused neighbors with daily prepared meals during the week.

Thank you for your generous and faithful support of LCOS; it makes this special place possible! Please continue to keep the mission, ministries, and members of this church in your prayers.

Kaye Prox Food Bank - Holidays 2026

- ♦ We plan to give Thanksgiving meal kits and small Christmas gifts to clients this year. Donations received at the food bank, Thurs 12pm – 1:30 pm and Weds/Fri 10am - 12 noon.
- ♦ Additional volunteers are welcome to help sort/pack/distribute these items. Please contact Kristi at 813.394.4942 or volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com if you'd like to join us.
- ♦ Thank you for your support of the food bank!

Holiday Calendar 2026

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Donate Before:</u>	<u>Items Packed/Sorted</u>	<u>Items Distributed</u>	<u>Food Bank Closed</u>
Thanksgiving	Thur. Nov 19		Fri. Nov 20 Mon. Nov 23 Weds. Nov. 25	Fri. Nov 27
Christmas	Wed. Dec 16	Weds. Dec 16 Thurs. Dec 17	Fri. Dec 18 Mon. Dec 21 Wed. Dec 23	Fri. Dec 25 Fri. Jan 1

Thanksgiving meal kit items

- Whole Chickens/Turkeys/pork roasts/hams
- Potatoes (instant or fresh)
- Turkey Gravy (jar or dry packet)
- Cans of Sweet Potatoes
- Canned green beans, corn
- Dessert items (cake mix, frosting, pies)
- Festive napkins/plates

Christmas Market gift ideas

- Coffee mugs, fun socks, ornaments
- Cosmetic/nail gift kits, luxury bath items
- Aftershave (Old Spice), moisturizer
- Insulated water bottles
- Craft kits for kids, Christmas decorations
- New toys, books, puzzles
- Bucs, Rays, or Lightning-themed small items
- Thoughtful gifts for adults, kids

SNAPS & SNIPPETS

Submitted by Karen Urban



Baptism on Sunday, September 27
Bryson Benjamin Wiley



Pictures of newly rebuilt Safety
Harbor Pier and manatee



LCOS BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

Lynne O'Reilly	Nov 1
Kaley Groh	Nov 4
Jim Krall	Nov 6
Charles McCoy	Nov 6
Rick Carroll	Nov 7
Ezra Kearney	Nov 7
Kristi Saligame	Nov 9
Brian Cross	Nov 15
Alexis Richardson	Nov 15
Haley Richardson	Nov 17
Becca Donovan	Nov 26
Aggie Pompeo	Nov 27



DECEMBER

Becky Meier	Dec 1
Liam Heselius	Dec 2
Heidi Richters	Dec 2
Danielle Kearney	Dec 3
Matthew Baun	Dec 5
Matthew Groh	Dec 6
Miles Hood	Dec 9
Jen Donovan	Dec 10
Ronda McIndoe	Dec 10
Jan Spaulding	Dec 12
Terence Hood	Dec 14
Nicki Griscti	Dec 15
April Strouse	Dec 24
Densingh Thambiraj	Dec 28
Angela Padin	Dec 31
Lynn Richardson	Dec 31

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

A/V—Liturgist November Schedule

Sunday	A/V	Liturgist
Nov. 1	Maclin	Heidi
Nov. 8	Noah	Sara
Nov. 15	Heidi	Sharon
Nov. 22	Judith	Heidi
Nov. 29	Liam	Michelle



AUDIO VISUAL

Input November Schedule

Date	Input
Nov. 5	John
Nov. 12	Heidi
Nov. 19	Kent
Nov. 26	John

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:30am-Adult Bible Class 9:30am-Worship with Holy Communion 11:00am-Fellowship 12:30pm-New Ark	2 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	3 10:00am-Pastor Jon Hours	4 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	5 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-New Ark 7:00pm-AA	6 2:30pm-Food Bank	7
8 8:30am-Adult Bible Class 9:30am-Worship with Holy Communion 11:00am-Fellowship 12:30pm-New Ark	9 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	10 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10:00am-Pastor Jon Hours 	11 Veterans Day 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank 	12 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-New Ark 7:00pm-AA	13 2:30pm-Food Bank 7:30pm-LAFFS	14 Event - Carlos
15 8:30am-Adult Bible Class 9:30am-Worship with Holy Communion 11:00am-Council Meeting 11:00am-Fellowship 12:30pm-New Ark	16 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	17 10:00am-Pastor Jon Hours	18 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	19 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-New Ark 7:00pm-AA	20 2:30pm-Food Bank 7:00pm-AA	21
22 8:30am-Adult Bible Class 9:30am-Worship with Holy Communion 11:00am-Fellowship 12:30pm-New Ark	23 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	24 10:00am-Pastor Jon Hours	25 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	26 Thanksgiving Day 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-New Ark 7:00pm-AA 	27 2:30pm-Food Bank	28 Event - Carlos
29 First Sunday of Advent 8:30am-Adult Bible Class 9:30am-Worship with Holy Communion 11:00am-Fellowship 12:30pm-New Ark 	30 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	1 10:00am-Pastor Jon Hours	2 10:30am-Portico Ministry 12:20pm-Food Bank	3 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-New Ark 7:00pm-AA	4 2:30pm-Food Bank	5 Event - Carlos 11:00am-LAFFS Christmas Brunch



Deadline for submission of
December Newsletter items is:
November 10, 2026

Please submit articles or pictures
to: newsletter@lcostampa.org



Printing kindly provided as a charitable contribution
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