



# BELLWETHER

**Bellwether** — the lead sheep of the flock (archaic English)

**LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## From the Pastor

### Advent 2020

We began the year seeking a clearer vision (20/20) of what God wants of us, as God's people. To be perfectly honest we ended up with a year that has been like no other in recent memory. Every nation has been afflicted by the pandemic and the whole routine of our life together as a Church has been disrupted.

While it would be easy to name all the challenges, perhaps it would be helpful to note the things that this pandemic has taught us – we need to be better at staying connected with one another (especially when we don't have the luxury of gathering for worship), that technology can be our friend and that we can use the internet as a platform to share a worship experience with our members, friends and neighbors both near and far, and lastly, that things may not return to normal anytime soon and that we will need to be diligent in our efforts to be the church together even if we are currently in the 2020/2021 diaspora.

Perhaps the best thing about finding ourselves in the Advent Season is that we are blessed with the opportunity to begin anew. For this season reminds us that Christ came into the world on the first Christmas, continues to come into our hearts in the present, and will come again at the close of this age. The truth is that God is always doing something new!

I pray that we will always move forward with optimism, reassured that God has things well in hand!

*Pastor Joe*

### In this issue

Happening Around LOG	3
Quilters Guild	5
Holiday Schedule	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	9
Contributions	10
Calendar	11

### Tithes & Offerings

- Facebook
- Mail or
- Drop off during office hours

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## Thursday Noon Bible Study

The Bible Study Group continues to meet on Thursdays at Noon. We are currently studying together St. John's Gospel. On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will be looking at John 5 and will finish up all fall session looking at John 6 on December 10<sup>th</sup> and John 7 on December 17<sup>th</sup>. We will then take a couple of weeks off before we start again on the first Thursday in January. All are welcome to join us.



## Fall Congregational Meeting Highlights

### 1. Elected to Church Council:

President	Kathy Dierker
Vice-President	Linda Leiwig
Secretary	Lynne Martin
Education	Bill Quinlan
Support	Carlos Robles
Worship/Music	Joyce Hines

### 2. Adopted a Faith-based Budget in the Amount of \$330, 439.80

This is a Deficit Budget in the amount of \$36,439.80.

We will present a financial update on our worship slides highlighting our attendance and offering figures, weekly. Church Council will provide Quarterly Updates to ascertain progress against reducing our Deficit.

## November Offerings

Thank you for your continued support of our Church with your time, talent and treasure.

**Offerings Collected: \$21,885**

**Budgeted: \$29,325**

## Year-End Contributions

### There is still time to make a tax-deductible donation!

We know you have many options when it come to your year-end giving. This year when planning for your year-end contributions don't forget **Lamb of God**.

You can make donations via cash, check, stocks, or to meet your IRA's required minimum distribution. Whichever method your prefer, don't forget your church.

## Happenings Around Our Church & Community

Cordero de Dios and Lamb of God were able to make a dream come true this year through our Turkey Meal Appeal. Thanks to your generosity we were able to give out 30 Thanksgiving Baskets to families most in need from our neighbor Alta Vista Elementary School. The baskets were ready for pickup as a "drive by" at our church parking lot.

The extra "Baskets and Turkeys" went to the "Unity in the Community Turkey Giveaway," our yearly community service.

A great huge thank you to our office manager Evelyn, Kathy our Council President, Pastor Joe, Dennis, and each and every one of you for your donations and support!!! We could not have done it without you!!! And as Liz taught me.... TO GOD BE THE GLORY ALWAYS!!!

May we continue to love each other and service our brothers and sisters in Christ, as our Father has taught us!!!

-Vicar Izzy

Cordero de Dios y Lamb of God fueron capaces de hacer realidad un sueño este año a través de nuestro "Turkey Meal Appeal."

Gracias a su generosidad pudimos dar 30 cestas de Acción de Gracias a las familias más necesitadas de la Escuela Primaria Alta Vista. Las cestas estaban listas para ser recogidas como un "drive-by" en el estacionamiento de la iglesia.

Las cestas restantes fueron llevadas para el "Unity in the Community Turkey Giveaway," nuestro servicio comunitario anual.

Un gran agradecimiento a nuestra gerente de oficina Evelyn, a Kathy nuestra Presidente del Consejo, al Pastor Joe, a Dennis, y todos y cada uno de ustedes por sus donaciones y apoyo!!! No podríamos haberlo hecho sin ustedes!!! Y como Liz me enseñó... A DIOS SEA LA GLORIA SIEMPRE!!!

Que continuemos amándonos los unos a los otros y sirviendo a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo, como nuestro Padre nos ha enseñado!!!

-Vicario Izzy



Lamb of God & Cordero de Dios Thanksgiving Meal Baskets



So Very  
Thankful



Come • Come • Emmanuel



All Saints Day,  
Cordero de Dios



Plant Sale



Angel Tree



Basket Raffle

## Quilter's Guild

This is the season of giving and the quilters would like to thank so many who have provided sheets, fabric, batting plus their time and talent. We are pleased to learn that our 2020 quilts were sent to the Republic of Zambia which is a landlocked country in South-Central Africa known for Victoria Falls. This is a very poor nation and in great need of the quilts that were sent.



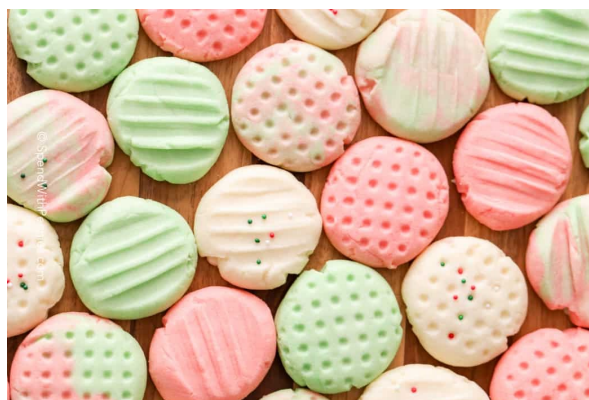
We meet on the first Wednesday (Dec 2) and third Thursday (Dec 17) from 9am till noon in the back of Fellowship Hall. On December 17 we will have our annual Christmas Cookie exchange. Please bring a dozen of your favorite Christmas cookie to share. We will stop early to enjoy our cookies while social distancing... come join us.



## Recipe of the Month — Easy Christmas Cookies

### Ingredients:

2 cups butter  
1 cup powdered sugar  
3 cups flour  
1 ½ cups cornstarch  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
food coloring *optional*



### Instructions:

Preheat oven to 300°F. Cream butter and vanilla with a stand mixer until fluffy. Add flour, powdered sugar and cornstarch a little at a time mixing. If using food coloring, divide dough in two and knead in a few drops of coloring to reach desired color. Roll into balls and place on an ungreased cookie sheet (not a non-stick cookie sheet). Flatten with a fork, or the bottom of a pretty glass. Top with sprinkles if desired. Bake for 20 minutes. Cool completely and let sit at least 24 hours before serving.



A dark blue background with white snowflakes. On the left, there are three gold Christmas ornaments: a large one with a white star, a medium one with a white star, and a large one with a white star. The large ornament in the foreground contains a white silhouette of a nativity scene with a star above it. On the right, the text "Merry Christmas!" is written in a white cursive font. Below it, "THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH US." is written in a smaller, gold, all-caps font. Below that, "HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE" is written in a white, all-caps font. Underneath, "CHRISTMAS EVE" is written in a white, all-caps font, followed by "Thursday, December 24" in a white, all-caps font. Below that, "2:00 PM - In-person Service" and "7:00 PM - In-person Service" are written in a white, all-caps font. Further down, "CHRISTMAS DAY" is written in a white, all-caps font, followed by "Friday, December 25" in a white, all-caps font. At the bottom, "Online Worship Service" is written in a white, all-caps font.

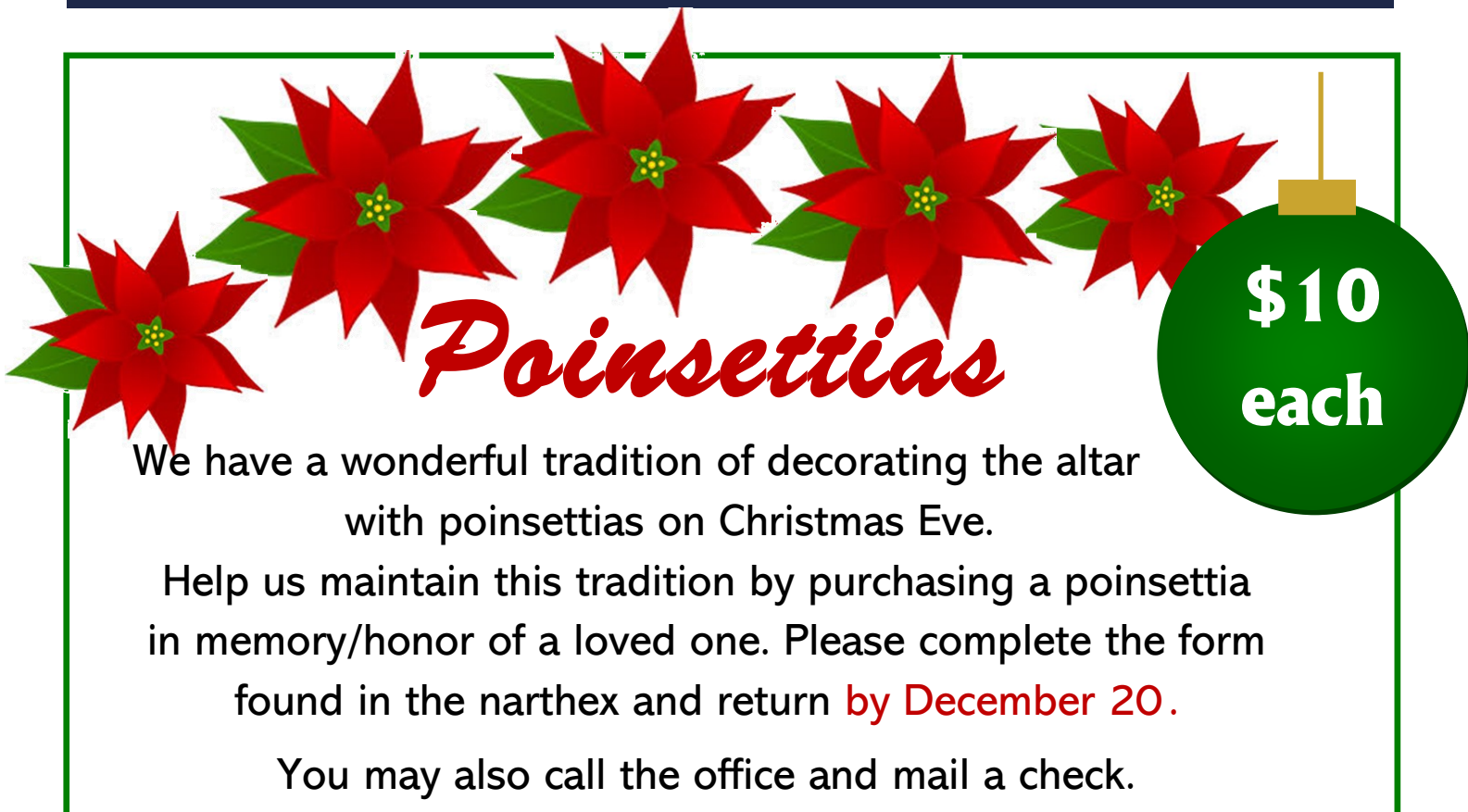
Merry Christmas!

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH US.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE  
Thursday, December 24  
2:00 PM - In-person Service  
7:00 PM - In-person Service

CHRISTMAS DAY  
Friday, December 25  
Online Worship Service

A green rectangular border containing a row of five red poinsettias with green leaves. Below the poinsettias, the word "Poinsettias" is written in a large, red, cursive font. To the right of the poinsettias, there is a green circular ornament with a gold star on top. Inside the circle, the text "\$10 each" is written in a white, all-caps font. Below the poinsettias, the text "We have a wonderful tradition of decorating the altar with poinsettias on Christmas Eve." is written in a black, all-caps font. Below that, "Help us maintain this tradition by purchasing a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one. Please complete the form found in the narthex and return by December 20." is written in a black, all-caps font. At the bottom, "You may also call the office and mail a check." is written in a black, all-caps font.

*Poinsettias*

**\$10 each**

We have a wonderful tradition of decorating the altar with poinsettias on Christmas Eve.

Help us maintain this tradition by purchasing a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one. Please complete the form found in the narthex and return **by December 20.**

You may also call the office and mail a check.

# 2020 BASKET RAFFLE

Proceeds go towards the  
Landscape Project in  
honor of Larry Vaughn

#1: ICE CREAM SOCIAL BASKET

#2: PAMPER YOURSELF BASKET

#3: HOLIDAY LANTERN

#4: PET BASKET

#5: CHRISTMAS WREATH

Raffle on December 20



TICKETS:

3 FOR \$5

1 FOR \$2



## Angel Tree Gift Drive

NOVEMBER 22 THROUGH  
DECEMBER 13

A gift of toys or clothes can make a  
difference to children and their families.  
Take a tag from the tree and help bring  
joy to a child this Christmas!  
Gifts must be new, wrapped, with the  
name tag provided.





## *Arbol de Angeles* **Colecta de Regalos**

**22 DE NOVIEMBRE AL  
13 DE DICIEMBRE**

Un regalo de juguetes o ropa puede ser la diferencia para un niño y su familia. Tome una etiqueta del árbol y ayude a traer alegría a un niño esta Navidad! Los regalos deben ser nuevos, envueltos en papel de regalo, con la etiqueta de nombre proporcionada.

## **RIFA DE CESTAS 2020**

**Las ganancias iran  
hacia proyectos de  
jardinería de la  
Iglesia en  
honor a Larry Vaughn**

**Tickets:  
3 por \$5  
1 por \$2**

**#1: CESTA DE HELADO**

**#2: CESTA DE MIMO PERSONAL**

**#3: LINTERNA NAVIDEÑA**

**#4: CESTA PARA MASCOTA**

**#5: CORONA NAVIDEÑA**



## *Pascuas*

Tenemos una maravillosa tradición de decorar el altar con pascuas en Nochebuena. Ayúdanos a mantener esta tradición comprando una pascua en la memoria/honor de un ser querido. Por favor complete la forma que se encuentra en el narthex y regresela antes del 20 de diciembre. También puede llamar a la oficina y enviar un cheque por correo.



# Congratulations to...

*Best wishes to our members and friends on their special day*

## Birthdays in December

👤 Rosemary Stoner	12/03
👤 Pedro Concepcion, Jr.	12/03
👤 Myron Bailey	12/06
👤 Richard Barker	12/08
👤 Messmer	12/08
👤 Gladys Hunt	12/09
👤 Ann Conner	12/12
👤 John Tillson	12/12
👤 Marcia Wilson	12/12
👤 Joyce Day	12/15
👤 Connie Jerfita	12/15
👤 Rebecca Casillo	12/15
👤 June Kemp	12/16
👤 John Frederick	12/16
👤 Jocelyn Escobar	12/21
👤 Gabrielle Turzyn	12/21
👤 Joe Conner, II	12/24
👤 Carmen Quinlan	12/26
👤 Douglas Hales	12/30
👤 Gloria Ripper	12/31



## Anniversaries in December

- ♡ 12/03 Crystal & Rob Valle
- ♡ 12/21 Gary & Deniele Pahl
- ♡ 12/26 Sonja & Wayne Munson
- ♡ 12/28 Lenny & Marilyn Erb

**Happy Anniversary!**

# Volunteers!



We urgently need volunteers for the following ministries:

- Audiovisual (Saturday and Sunday)
- Worship: Ushers, deacons, and greeters (Saturday)

*Training available for all positions.*

## Thank You For Your Contributions

### Tribute Fund

**Paula Bamberg**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Oats Realty**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Robert and Crystal Valle**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Dennis and Christine Stoner**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Nancy and Jim Listas**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Carolyn Fritz**

in memory of Charles Fritz

**Don and Mary Johnson**

in memory of Ruth Bockelman

**John and Laverne Tillson**

in memory of Lars Olsson  
and Ruth Bockelman

**Karen Olsson**

in memory of Larry Vaughn

**Robin Rogers**

in memory of Larry Vaughn

**Dennis and Lynne Martin**

in memory of Larry Vaughn  
and Ben Davis

**John and Annette Jack**

in memory of Larry Vaughn

**Paul Bockelman**

in memory of Ruth Bockelman

### Thanksgiving Meal Appeal

**Tom and Jany Leiser**

in memory of Lars Olsson

### Memorial Garden

**Don and Mary Johnson**

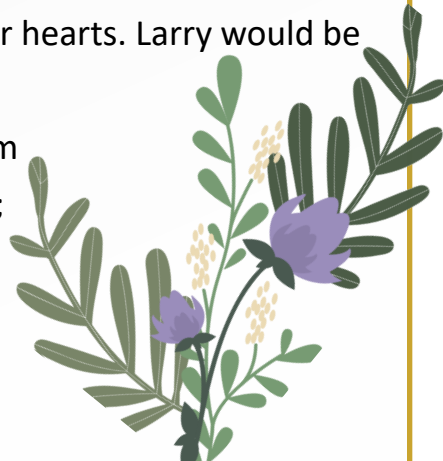
in memory of Larry Vaughn

## THANK YOU

My family is immensely grateful for all your prayers and words of hope during these last difficult weeks. They gave us strength to persevere and warmed our hearts. Larry would be overwhelmed and humbled by your expressions of love for him.

Please continue to pray for Mindy, Larry, Jr. and me as we heal from our loss and move forward in life. Larry was a blessing in our lives; a loving husband, father and grandfather - the best.

The Larry Vaughn Family,  
Carol, Larry, Jr., and Mindy



# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild 10:00 am—12:00 pm Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>3</b> 12:000 pm Bible Study 6:15 pm Bells Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 1:00 pm—3:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest 3:00 pm Food Pantry at House Blest	<b>5</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>6</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30pm Servicio en español	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm Worship and Music Meeting	<b>9</b> 10:00 am—12:00 pm Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>10</b> 12:000 pm Bible Study 6:15 pm Bells Rehearsal 7:00 pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>13 Gifts Due</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>BELLWETHER</b> <b>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00 am—12:00 pm Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>17</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild 12:000 pm Bible Study 6:15 pm Bells Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 1:00 pm—3:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest 3:00 pm Food Pantry at House Blest	<b>19</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>20 Raffle Drawing</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30pm Servicio en español	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00 am—12:00 pm Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>24</b> <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> 2:00 pm Worship service 7:00 pm Worship Service	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Online Worship	<b>26</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>27</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30pm Servicio en español	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00 am—12:00 pm Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>31</b>		





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### Our Mission Statement

The mission of Lamb of God Lutheran Church is to lead and inspire God's people into a growing relationship with Jesus.

### Our Vision Statement

Centered in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the vision of Lamb of God Lutheran Church is to transform and enhance the lives of members, neighbors and friends through relevant worship and study of God's Word, and through providing Christian service and fellowship opportunities.

#### **Lamb of God Lutheran Church**

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Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Vicar

Evelyn Brewer, Office Administrator

[officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com](mailto:officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com)

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ONLINE WORSHIP: [www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship](http://www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship)

**May - October**      **8:45 am Sunday School**  
                                 **10:00 am Holy Communion**

**November - April**      **8:00 & 10:30 am**  
                                 Holy Communion  
                                 9:15 am Sunday School &  
                                 Bible Study

**Spanish Service**      **12:30 pm Holy Communion**  
**Advent thru Lent**      **Saturday, 6pm**