



# BELLWETHER

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

**LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## From the Pastor

### LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>

The Season of Lent is once again upon us. We enter this season with humble hearts – seeking as always to discern God’s will for us and for our lives in the faith. We will be reminded on the Sundays in Lent about Jesus’ journey toward his appointment with Calvary’s cross and will hopefully glean some insights for the living of these days. We continue to offer in-person worship services at 10 a.m. (English) and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) or you are always welcome to worship online with us via our Facebook or our Web page.

Although the pandemic continues to present challenges for us, we are also excited to offer Midweek Lenten Services for six weeks in a row beginning on Ash Wednesday (2/17/21). We will be offering identical services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. This year the theme will be the “*Signs of Lent.*” In this stimulating series, we will be looking at Road Signs and what they have to say to us about our walk with the Lord. For example, on Ash Wednesday, we will be dealing with the “*U-Turn*” sign, which as you might imagine, will have something do with the importance of repentance and the need for redirection in our lives.

We continue to try to be creative in our ministry offering during this pandemic period and appreciate your continued support. Without your prayers, financial support and regular participation – we could not accomplish all that I believe God envisions for us.

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#### Tithes & Offerings

- Facebook
- Mail or
- Drop off during office hours

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On Saturday, February 20 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Lamb of God Church will be participating in this year's edition of *Operation Inasmuch*. There are a number of service projects available to those interested in volunteering on this special day of service in our community. Here at Lamb of God, we will be putting together hygiene kits and "care packages" for our local Nursing Homes which will also include cards of encouragement.

God's blessings to all!

—Pastor Joe

### **"Peace Keeping" Class continues on Sundays at 8:45 a.m. and Wednesdays via Zoom at 7 p.m.**

The Peace Keeping Class will be running through the month of February. The Zoom group will need to look for an alternative day and/or time to accommodate Midweek Lenten Worship. We have had stimulating conversations on the subject of "Peace Keeping" especially in relationship to the divisive culture in which we are currently living. The emphasis of the class is on listening and seeking common ground with those who have different opinions than our own. All are welcome to be a part of the class as their schedule permits.

#### **Zoom Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89134400061?pwd=aS9oU3F4MFJ1SXFOOTJlMmVLTWtwZz09>

**Meeting ID: 891 3440 0061**

**Passcode if requested: 909536**

### **Thursday Noon Bible Study**



We continue our study of St. John's gospel and will be meeting the first two weeks of February (Feb. 4 & 11) before taking a break for the Lenten Season. We will be finishing up our study of John's gospel during the Easter Season. We will come back together on April 8<sup>th</sup> (the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday after Easter).

### **Operation Inasmuch Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

Operation Inasmuch – a day of service in our community – will be held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Projects for this year include: yardwork, power washing, producing Care Packages for the Way Center and Nursing homes, carwash and prayer tent, feeding Washer and Dryers at the Laundromat, and painting.

Please consider joining us! Check in is at the Lake Eva Bandshell beginning at 7:15 a.m. Social Distancing, mask wearing, etc. You can register via Hard copy by filling out the registration and placing on the offering plate on the next 3 Sundays or online via the following link:

[www.jotform.com/53005759750154](http://www.jotform.com/53005759750154)

Lamb of God's project of assembling hygiene kits and care packages, will be held from 8:00 a.m.—noon in the Fellowship Hall at Lamb of God.

## Quinlan's Corner — You're Never Too Old to Learn (or Teach)

Pastor Joe and Church Council President Kathy Dierker both have been going well beyond what one might reasonably expect them to do in the face of the deadly and perhaps worsening COVID crisis that threatens us all. Since the Church reopened in the fall, Pastor has taught one set of Adult Sunday School lessons, and is busy teaching a second set. In between, Kathy taught a set of lessons herself.

While the Church Council has established a strong set of protocols designed to keep us safe, we all are aware that there are no guarantees, that no safety precautions can ever be full-proof. It seems clear to me that both Pastor and Kathy see themselves called to a higher duty: to risk their own health and safety in the interest of spreading the Word of God.

Pastor is currently teaching a course in peace keeping through February in-person in the Fellowship Hall from 8:45 am until 9:45 am on Sunday mornings, and on-line on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Attendance at the former is sufficiently limited so that participants are well spaced apart from one another; of course, they're wearing masks as well. The on-line version is held by way of both ZOOM and telephone. Both formats enable dialogue among students and between them and Pastor. To register for ZOOM, or to get the telephone number, please call Church Office Manager Evelyn Brewer at (863) 421-2811 at least 48 hours in advance.

Your suggestions, offers, gripes, plaudits and other ideas are always welcome. Contact Bill Quinlan, Church Council Liaison for Education, in person, by phone at (863) 412-7796 or by email at [wquinlan2@gmail.com](mailto:wquinlan2@gmail.com).

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### Memorial Garden Committee Opening

There is an opening on the Lamb of God Church Memorial Garden Committee. Should you have an interest in learning more about this committee and/or would like to serve, please contact Tim Leiwig, Committee Chairperson at [leiwig1@yahoo.com](mailto:leiwig1@yahoo.com) or call him at 863-439-8326. You may also contact Pastor Joe at the church.



## Quilter's Guild

Quilters are savers, so in that tradition we have been saving our scrap fabric and batting to put together 30 doggie beds using donated pillow cases which were delivered to the Polk County Humane Society on Dundee Road in Winter Haven in January. They greatly appreciated our donation. Quilt Sunday was early this year, January 31<sup>st</sup>, due to the loss of a drop off point and the scheduling of the trucks from Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to pick up the quilts. We are currently beginning to prepare to pack up the quilts on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and on Tuesday, February 2nd we will take them to Good Shephard Lutheran Church in Tampa, our drop off point this year. Resurrection Lutheran Church in Winter Park has withdrawn from a drop off point after many years of service. We thank them for their years of serving as a drop off point. In February we will be meeting on the first Wednesday, February 3 and the third Thursday, February 18. We will begin with house-keeping chores: cutting batting, putting together the sheets that were the incorrect size by sewing additional strips and patches to make them usable as backings. We also prepare any fitted sheets to make them backing ready. We will also be cleaning and organize the quilt closet. Won't you consider joining this worthwhile program?



***“Remember if you can tie a knot then you can quilt”***



# OPERATION INASMUCH

**Serving the Community as One**

***A ministry of the Heart of Florida Coalition of Christian Churches***

“...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these... you did to me.” -Matthew 25:40

**February 20, 2021**

**8:00 a.m.—noon**

Join us Saturday, February 20, as we work side by side with brothers and sisters in Christ from other local congregations on service projects in our community.

Our rally point will be the lawn in front of the Lake Eva Band Shell,  
located at the 555 Ledwith Avenue in Haines City.

Registration tables will be available from 7:15 am until 8:00 am when the event begins.

You can also register online at: [www.jotform.com/53005759750154](http://www.jotform.com/53005759750154)

For any questions, please contact us at [hofccc@gmail.com](mailto:hofccc@gmail.com)



# Happening at Lamb of God

## Service Award

We thank our Service Award winner, Phyllis White for her dedication, work, and love for Lamb of God. Your work and dedication throughout the years has not gone unnoticed. You are an example of what it means to be a Servant of God.



## Annual Meeting

We want to thank all who were in attendance at our annual meeting in-person and via Zoom. A copy of the report can be found on our website.



## LENT A HAND

EACH WEEK ADD AN ITEM TO THE FOOD TABLE  
IN THE NARTHEX

ALL ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO  
*A HOUSE BLEST*

### WEEK 1

CEREAL, OATMEAL, GRITS,  
GRANOLA BARS

### WEEK 2

CANNED MEAT  
(chicken, fish, beef stew/chili, ham/SPAM)

### WEEK 3

RICE, MASHED POTATOES, MAC & CHEESE  
(individual boxes)

### WEEK 4

PASTA, SAUCE, COOKING OIL

### WEEK 5

PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP, DRY MILK

### WEEK 6

CANNED GOODS  
(fruit, vegetables, soup, beans)

## Gifts From God and How Do We Know What is a Gift ?

In 1981, my family and I returned to the United States after two decades of foreign residency in five different countries. Upon returning to the U.S. I decided to earn a Doctorate degree in Ed. Admin. I went to the U. of Utah in Salt Lake City, with a Master's in Ed., but was informed by the Dean of the College of Ed., this field was overcrowded with Doctors in education; and I should go to the College of Business Admin. I was dismayed because I had no interest in Business, so I returned to the classroom. My Principal, a white Mormon woman, asked why I was not in a doctoral program ? When I shared I had attempted to enter the U. of U. Doctoral program in Ed. Admin and was turned away, she asked me if I understood what had happened to me? I was puzzled. She told me I had been discriminated against, because I was a woman and I was black. The same man had asked her, when she applied for the Program, "Why don't you go home and be the good Mormon wife your husband married ?" I was disturbed by how disarmed I had become while I lived in the open acceptance abroad, as an *American first, then as an educated woman . My ethnicity did not come into play with how I was perceived. What was I to do in moving forward with my career ? What were my strengths and how should they be developed ? How do I discern personal biases blocking the system ? I applied to Brigham Young University, (a Mormon University ) where I would be more alert to biases in the System. There were none that thwarted my education. I earned an Ed. Specialist degree ( -13 hrs. of Ed. D.)*

There is an educational tool used in helping people determine what career choices they should consider, by comparing their interests (and their aptitudes ) with people in different careers having the same interests. It is called *The Strong / Campbell Interest Inventory*. *People have things they naturally like to do which they are generally good at doing. This is a confluence of interest and aptitude ( I call them gifts from God ). I took the Inventory to learn more about my strengths and areas which " were not my cup of tea " and my service to Lamb of God aligns with my God given talents. They follow:*

***Artistic : (Very High Similarity 66%) - Dramatics 71%, Art 68%, Writing (High) 63%***  
***Enterprising : (High Similarity 59%) - Public Speaking (Moderate High) 57%, Law / Politics ( MH 58%), Merchandizing & Sales (VH 62% ), Elected Public Official (Similar 49***  
***Social : (Average 53% ) Social worker (58%); Elem. Tchr / Special Ed. (VH 59 ), School Admin (MH 53%) YMCA /YWCA Director ( VH 56% )***

Since 1999, I believe I was sent to Lamb of God with my ethnicity, unique life and work experiences, organizational skills, education and driving concerns, using my gifts and talents. Lector

readings, drama and directing dramatic performances are tied to my love of performing arts. My education skills urge me to teach Adult Sunday School, English as a Second Language, coordinating & directing Outreach seminars. Serving on Synod and Church Councils for 6 and 12 years respectively, at A House Blest, as Communion Deacon and various committees to organize church wide special events and banquets, uses my gifts in administration & working with people. It also included directing 32 website upgrade videos and an on-camera video for re-opening the church to the congregation which has been put on hold. Intercessory Prayer Deacon is an engaging personal service, since often the prayer comes to you from HIS Holy Spirit. I thank you humbly for your appreciation of my service and the lovely engraved clock. The Christian mandate of loving your neighbor remains an expectation, in personal interaction with others, and biases are antithetical. Christ's Ministry leads people to God's relationship with HIS creation, and love in service through Social Justice. Such service is not always welcomed by some in society, but is received well by those in need. We must use the gifts God has given us. HIS Holy Spirit helps us discern essential service and qualifies us. A bit of advice, "Do not ask for God's guidance, if you are not willing to move your feet" because HE will show you the unexpected. *GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.*

*Your sister in Christ,*

*Phyllis Fludd White*



## Congratulations to...

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

### Birthdays in February

- 🕒 Michael Grip 02/01
- 🕒 Bonnie Chastain 02/03
- 🕒 Krystyna Bailey 02/06
- 🕒 Richard Kresge 02/08
- 🕒 William Quinlan, Jr. 02/09
- 🕒 Dorothy Scarlett 02/09
- 🕒 Jerry Stoner 02/12
- 🕒 Samantha Turzyn 02/12
- 🕒 Kathryn Frazee 02/13
- 🕒 Frank Farrugia 02/18
- 🕒 Crystal Valle 02/20
- 🕒 Shirley Funk 02/21
- 🕒 Pam Thomas 02/22
- 🕒 Robyn Eastridge 02/23
- 🕒 Margena Howard 02/23
- 🕒 Andrea Frederick 02/25
- 🕒 Cathy Hollowell 02/27



### Anniversaries in February

- ♡ 02/03 Marge & Dick Clavette
- ♡ 02/05 Glenys & Richard Lorenz
- ♡ 02/14 Sandi & Jim Barnhart
- ♡ 02/14 Richard & Mary Winship
- ♡ 02/17 Carmen & Bill Quinlan, Jr.
- ♡ 02/26 Wendell & Arlene Roddy



## *Ash Wednesday & Midweek Lenten Worship Schedule*

### **Ash Wednesday Worship**

Morning Service: 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service: 7:00 a.m.

### **Midweek Lenten Services**

Every Wednesday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

### January Offerings

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

**Offerings Collected: \$22,644**

**Budgeted: \$31,775**

### 2021 CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

The 2020 Contribution Reports have been mailed. If you have any questions, please call the office.

## Thank You For Your Contributions

### Tribute Fund

**Teresa Liberta**

in memory of Larry Vaughn

**Lynne and Dennis Martin**

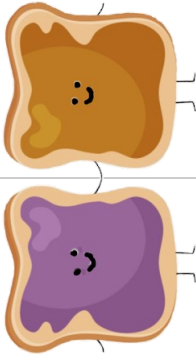
in memory of Judy Davis

**John and Laverne Tillson**

in memory of Judy Davis



# FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> SPREAD THE LOVE— PB&J DRIVE BEGINS	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild 10:00 am—12:00 pm self-serve communion	<b>4</b> 12:00 pm Bible Study	<b>5</b> 1:00 pm—3:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest	<b>6</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>7</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00 am—12:00 pm self-serve communion <b>7:00 p.m. Adult Education</b> via Zoom	<b>11</b> 12:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Council Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>14 Valentine's Day</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>15 President's Day</b> <b>BELLWETHER</b> SUBMISSION DEADLINE	<b>16</b>	<b>17 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 11:00 am Worship Service 7:00 pm Worship Service	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild	<b>19</b> 1:00 pm—3:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest	<b>20</b> <b>OPERATION</b> <b>INASMUCH</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>21 WEEK 1— LENT</b> <b>FOOD DRIVE</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 11:00 am Midweek Ser- vice 7:00 pm Midweek Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:00 pm Worship Service
<b>28 WEEK 2— LENT</b> <b>FOOD DRIVE</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español						



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**March Bellwether submissions deadline is February 15**

Editors: David Reedy and Evelyn Brewer

### **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.

### **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.

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

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Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Vicar

Evelyn Brewer, Office Administrator

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#### **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      10:00 am Holy Communion**

**8:45 am Adult Sunday School**

**Advent thru Lent      Saturday, 6 pm**

**Lent      Wednesday, 11 am & 7 pm**

**Spanish Service      12:30 pm Holy Communion**