Volume 26 Issue 7 July 2020



### BELLWETHER

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

#### LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### From the Pastor

Every day that goes by, I think I understand better the following words that St. Paul wrote to the believers in Philippi:

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayer for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:3-8)

It seems like it has been forever since we have been together and yet I still find great strength in the fact the we continue to be the Church even when we are not able to physically gather for in-person worship. We continue to minister to one another, support one another in prayer and even support Lamb of God's ministry through our regular offerings and tithes.

Although we cannot physically gather for worship, we are able to participate in weekly devotions on Tuesdays and Thursdays and offer a worship service online each weekend. We are especially thankful for Pr. Harold Heidegger's devotional offerings on Tuesdays. Hopefully these online offerings are providing some basic spiritual sustenance.

Keep the faith! Longing for the day when we can gather once again to lift our praises unto the Lord. Stay safe in the interim.

God's blessings, Pr. Joe

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### Tithes & Offerings

- Facebook
- Mail or
- Drop off during office hours

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#### **COVID-19 UPDATE #3**

June 15, 2020

Dear members, family, and friends in Christ:

Your Lamb of God Council and Clergy have been prayerfully, thoughtfully and diligently preparing to return to in-person worship services at Lamb of God. We will do so when it is deemed safe and healthy for all of us. However, every person must determine when it is best for him/her to return to in-person worship services.

The Council and Clergy are establishing guidelines for return to in-person worship, which will be published shortly. The process includes studying and applying, when appropriate, recommendations from CDC guidelines, State of Florida guidelines, ELCA guidelines, Florida-Bahama Synod guidelines, and best practices of other churches/businesses. These guidelines will be sent out to you via email, US Postal Service, and posted on our website.

<u>PLEASE BE ASSURED</u>, we will continue our online worship and devotions. We will also continue to have the church open on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for prayer and self-communion.

We miss you. We pray that you are, and remain, safe and healthy. We look forward to joining you in worship, fellowship, and celebration of our Lord and the blessings He has bestowed on us.

In Christ,

Church Council Pastor Joe Vicar Izzy

#### Actualización del COVID-19 #3

15 de junio del 2020

Queridos miembros, familiares y amigos en Cristo:

Nuestro Consejo de Lamb of God y el Clero han estado orando, considerando medidas y diligentemente preparándose para volver a los servicios de adoración en persona en Lamb of God y Cordero de Dios. Lo haremos cuando se considere seguro y saludable para todos nosotros. Sin embargo, cada persona debe determinar cuándo es mejor para él o ella volver a los servicios de adoración en persona.

El Consejo y el Clero están estableciendo directrices para el retorno al culto en persona, que se publicarán en breve. El proceso incluye el estudio y la aplicación, cuando sea apropiado, de recomendaciones de las directrices de la CDC (siglas en Inglés), del estado de la Florida, de la IELA, del Sínodo de Florida-Bahamas, y las mejores prácticas de otras iglesias y empresas. Estas pautas se les enviarán por correo electrónico, servicio postal y se publicarán en nuestro sitio web.

<u>TENGA SEGURIDAD</u> de que continuaremos transmitiendo nuestros servicios y devociones en línea. También continuaremos abriendo la iglesia los miércoles de 10 a.m. a 12 p.m. para tiempo de oración y comunión.

Los extrañamos. Oramos que estén bien y se mantengan seguros y saludables. Esperamos por el día que podamos congregarnos con ustedes en adoración, comunión y poder celebrar a nuestro Señor y todas las bendiciones que nos ha otorgado.

En Cristo,

Consejo de la Iglesia Pastor Joe Vicario Izzy

#### **Happenings at Lamb of God**

#### SCHOOL MEALS DISTRIBUTION

As of Monday, June 22 Lamb of God became a Kids Meal Distribution Site. We thank the members who came for the training and have volunteered to help distribute the meals. We had a slow start but as word spread, it has started to pick up. We are excited to be able to



#### **A House Blest Food Pantry REOPENED!**

A House Blest Food Pantry has reopened, albeit, with reduced days and hours. Just on the first and third Fridays of the month from 4:00 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The increased need, not only in our county but also of neighboring counties, makes it difficult for Feeding Tampa Bay, our supplier, to provide the amount of food A House Blest requires to return to full capacity.

The need is great and you can help by making either food or monetary donations. Food can be dropped off at Lamb of God, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.—4 p.m. Or by check made out to Lamb of God specifying that it is for the food pantry. As always, your assistance is greatly appreciated.

#### Cordero de Dios

#### Sending with Blessings!

Our very own Gabriel Rosado was accepted to be part of our Armed forces (Army Branch). He left to begin training on June 16, 2020. A very bittersweet moment for the entire family.

Please keep Gabriel and his family in your prayers as he has decided to step up for our freedom and protection even in these times of pandemic.

Thank you in advance for your continued prayers.

"The work you have in front of you, will never be larger than the POWER OF THE LORD THAT WILL SUSTAIN AND PROTECT YOU."

#### *Izzy*Vicar and Mission Developer

#### ¡Enviando con bendiciones!

Nuestro propio Gabriel Rosado fue aceptado para formar parte de nuestras fuerzas armadas (Rama del Ejército). Se fue para comenzar a entrenar el 16 de junio del 2020. Un momento de regocijo y tristeza para toda la familia.

Por favor, mantengan a Gabriel y a su familia en sus oraciones, ya que ha decidido dar un paso adelante por nuestra libertad y protección aun en estos tiempos de pandemia. Gracias de antemano por sus oraciones. "El trabajo que tienes delante de ti, nunca será más grande que el poder del Señor que te SOSTENDRÁ Y TE PROTEGERÁ."

*Izzy* Vicario y Desarrollador de Misión



#### Tiempo de Reflexión

Cada semana mi esposa Wanda y yo les llevamos a sus hogares temas interesantísimos todos apoyados y respaldados por textos bíblicos para mejorar su vida espiritual.

Traemos temas interesantes de acuerdo a la necesidad que tenemos del Señor y de interés Cristiano, alimentando tu vida espiritual!

Pueden conectarse semanalmente en Facebook y en YouTube atravez del website de la iglesia Lamb of God.

Dios les continúe bendiciendo hoy mañana y siempre.

Vicario Izzy



#### Time for Reflection

Every week my wife Wanda and I bring to our Spanish speaking homes interesting themes based on biblical liturgy to support our spiritual life. People can connect through Cordero de Dios' Facebook page and Lamb of God's YouTube and website.

May God bless you today and always.

#### Escuela Bíblica de Niños y Jóvenes

Continuamos llevando el mensaje a todos los niños educándolos en su iglesia. Wanda, su maestra de escuela bíblica, los tienen al dia. Cada semana es algo diferente y nuevo para aprender. Dios

> le continue bendiciendo en este ministerio tan bello a la comunidad de jóvenes y niños.





#### Children's Bible Study

We continue bringing God's message to all the children in our Spanish church.

Wanda, their teacher, keeps them up to date teaching them something new and different every week.

May God continue blessing this ministry.

#### **Quilters' Guild**

#### Quilters donate quilt to Sierra Leone

Two babies who came to our Mariatu's Hope Infant Nutrition program were born deaf. They are Morlai and Aminata. These children are now 6 years old. We were able to get them placement in a school for the hearing impaired. They will receive a full education there thanks to a very generous donor who paid for the first year of their education. We are committed to 12 years. The quilters donated one of their quilts for Aminata. The quilt had a quilted design put on it with Lamb of God by one of my friends. The other picture is Morlai wrapped in a quilt that two of my friends and I made. We wanted the children to have something tangible to represent God's love for them so they never feel alone. As they go to sleep at night, we told them they are wrapped in God's love. The children were so excited to receive these beautiful quilts. Many thanks to the quilters at Lamb of God!!









Robert, Ruth and Mariatu Search would like to thank everyone who reached out to us with calls and cards at the death of Robert's mom, Barbara Search.
Robert continues on in Sierra Leone. When he returns, we will have a memorial service.

Thank you from the Search family.

We would like to extend a thank you to all who supported us when our Mom, Betty Mezen, passed away in May.

All the cards, calls, flowers, and donations to the church are all appreciated and brought us comfort. You all are very special to my family.

May God continue to Bless you and

Lynne Martin and Family

keep you safe.

#### Recipe of the Month—

#### **Martha's Strawberry Bread**

Submitted by Joyce Hines.

#### Ingredients:

- 2 c. fresh strawberries sliced
- 2 c. fresh strawberries pureed
- 3-1/8 c. all purpose four
- 2 c. white sugar
- 1 T. ground cinnamon
- 1t. salt
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1 t. vanilla
- 4 eggs (beaten)
- 3/4 c. vegetable oil
- 1-1/4 c. chopped pecans



#### Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°.

Butter and flour 2—9"x5" loaf pans.

Place sliced strawberries in a bowl and sprinkle lightly with sugar, set aside.

Combine dry ingredients; mix well.

Blend vanilla, oil, eggs, and strawberry puree into sliced strawberries. Add mixture to flour mixture, blending until dry ingredients are just moistened. Stir in pecans. Divide batter into pans. Bake until teste comes out clean. 45 to 50 mins. Let pans cool for 10 mins. and turn loaves. Allow to cool completely before serving.

#### Notes:

- One Bundt pan may be used instead of loaves.
- If berries are very ripe, cut sugar back to 1-1/2 c.
- Slice and serve with a dollop of whipped cream and a strawberry garnish.

#### Congratulations to...

Best wishes to our members and friends on their special day

#### **Birthdays in July**



#### **Anniversaries in July**



🍳 07/01 Carl Hartseil

2 07/03 Glenys Lorenz

Q 07/06 Saira Bango-Sanchez

2 07/07 Judy Bishop

Q 07/07 Raymond Harbourt

Q 07/08 Dean Casillo

2 07/10 Mindy Vaughn

Q 07/16 John Plath

Q 07/17 Julian Green

2 07/17 Rafael Infante

Q 07/17 Gary Pahl

Q 07/18 Marilyn Erb

2 07/19 Lucy Cruz

2 07/20 Michael Utter

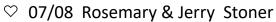
2 07/21 Judy Schroeder

2 07/24 Lynda Collins

2 07/28 Jan Walton

2 07/30 Mary Johnson





○ 07/16 Gladys & David Hunt

♥ 07/18 Norma & Joe Conner

○ 07/20 Phyllis & Gerald Pasbrig

○ 07/21 Emanuel Santiago & Auri Concepcion

○ 07/25 Donald & Mary Johnson

○ 07/26 Cathy & Leo Boruschewitz

○ 07/28 Isoris & Wanda Bango-Sanchez







#### Thank You For Your Contributions

#### **Tribute Fund**

Tom and Jany Leiser in memory of Robert Jones and Betty Mezen

Phyllis White in memory of Barbara Search, Robert Jones, and Betty Mezen

**Ann Conner** in memory of Betty Mezen

**Robin Rogers** in memory of Robert Jones

Jeane Meuser in memory of Robert Jones

Lynne Martin and Family in memory of Betty Mezen

Lois and Ray Harbourt in memory of Robert Jones and Betty Mezen

Don and Shirley Swanson in memory of Betty Mezen

Shirley Nellis in memory of Betty Mezen



## JULY

Sat	4 Independence Day Happy 4th!	11	18	25	
Fri	3 Office Closed	10	17	24	31
Thu	2	<b>9</b> 7:00 pm Council Meeting	16	23	30
Wed	1 10:00 am—12:00 p.m. Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>8</b> 10:00 am—12:00 p.m. Prayer and self-serve communion	15 10:00 am—12:00 p.m. Prayer and self-serve communion BELLWETHER SUBMISION DEADLINE	<b>22</b> 10:00 am—12:00 p.m. Prayer and self-serve communion	<b>29</b> 10:00 am—12:00 p.m. Prayer and self-serve communion
Tue		7	14	21	28
Mon		9	13	20	27
Sun		<b>5</b> Online Worship Servicios en linea	<b>12</b> Online Worship Servicios en linea	<b>19</b> Online Worship Servicios en linea	<b>26</b> Online Worship Servicios en linea



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> the lives of members, neighbors and friends through relevant worship and study of God's Word, and through providing Christian ser-

vice and fellowship opportunities.

sion of Lamb of God Lutheran Church is to transform and enhance Centered in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the vi-

**Our Vision Statement** 

The mission of Lamb of God Lutheran Church is to lead and inspire

**Our Mission Statement** 

God's people into a growing relationship with Jesus.

# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

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# **SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

ONLINE WORSHIP: www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship

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

Holy Communion 8:00 & 10:30 am November - April

9:15 am Sunday School &

**Bible Study** 

12:30 am Holy Communion Spanish Service

Advent thru Lent

Saturday, 6pm