



BELLWETHER

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

LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

From the Council

Under the leadership of our Interim Pastor, Pr. Cheryl Berner, your Church Council has begun the lengthy and detailed process of taking certain actions required by the FL-Bahama Synod of the ELCA so that the candidates referred to us by the Synod best match our ministry needs for Senior Pastor. This is a great opportunity to prayerfully discern where our church has been and where it wants to go. For example, do we want to emphasize growing our ministry for families with young children? If so, what are the implications for worship and other church activities? What kind of gifts will we need in a pastor?

This process involves two separate Lamb of God entities: your Church Council and the Call Committee. The first part of the process belongs to Council as they work to complete the Synod "Transition Process Check List." The purpose of the checklist is to get us as ready as possible to form the Call Committee, interview candidates and ultimately call a new pastor.

The list is divided into three categories: 18 administrative actions, 10 financial actions, and five key areas of planning. The Council has completed eight of the 18 required administrative actions and one of the required financial actions. These nine items were relatively easy to check off the list. Others will require considerable work, and some will not be completed for some time. One critically important financial action will be to clarify and reorganize our accounting structure; to that end, the Council decided at its most recent meeting to consult an expert on how best to do that.

In this issue

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Sunday School | 2 |
| From Pastor Berner | 3 |
| Safeguards Update | 4 |
| Quilters' Guild | 5 |
| Cápsulas del Corazón | 6 |
| Helping Our Community | 8 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries | 10 |
| Calendar | 11 |

Tithes & Offerings

- Facebook
- Mail or
- Drop off during office hours

901 Scenic Hwy
Haines City, FL 33844
Tel: 863-421-2811
Fax: 863-421-0651

www.lambofgodhainescity.com

Once these 33 tasks have been completed, it will be time for the Call Committee's work. At this point, the Council will recommend a Call Committee of 6-8 church members who represent a broad spectrum of the congregation for election by the congregation. The Call Committee's first task will be to gather input from the congregation and prepare the Congregational Profile for the Synod.

The Call Committee will then interview each of the candidates the Synod refers to us. This interview process will be confidential; even the Council will not be privy to the details. Because a great deal of work will have gone into matching ministry needs with pastoral candidate gifts, it is likely that the Council will then be able to recommend a Senior Pastor to the congregation; however, one or more additional rounds of candidate interviews is always possible.

The Council will continue to apprise church members of its progress as it works through the Synod checklist. At the appropriate times in the process, all Lamb of God members will be asked for their input.

If past is prologue, it may well be a year or more before we welcome our new Senior Pastor. Pastor Berner's role is to guide us through the process.

The Council will continue to proceed prayerfully. Please do not hesitate to talk with me or Pr. Berner, if you have questions. We will appreciate your prayers as well.

Kathy Dierker, Church Council President

Sunday School

We are looking forward to two upcoming Sunday School offerings this summer. Hope to see you there!



Do you have questions about the Bible, our teachings, Christian Life, or would you like to know Pr. Berner a little better.

Pr. Berner is inviting folks to come and chat informally at 8:45 a.m. July 18th and 25th during the Sunday School time. Bring your questions, and things to share with her as we take some time to get to know each other better.



Beginning on August 1st, Pr. Berner will lead a four-week bible study on the Book of Ruth during Sunday School. As we all navigate through this time of transition between pastors, a study of Ruth seems especially appropriate. Come join her.

Pastor Cheryl L. Berner's Notes...

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. . . a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted. . . a time to tear, and a time to sew." (Ecclesiastes 3:2b, 7a)

Beginning in June we move into the "Sundays After Pentecost" season of the church year. It is also known as "Ordinary Time," because there are no major festivals. And by tradition, worship is often less formal liturgically – so you will notice there is no Hymn of Praise or Kyrie, and the Eucharistic Prayer is simpler on Sunday mornings.

This time in the church year is also known as the "Green Season," which is especially appropriate as we begin our journey together as Interim Pastor and Congregation. As this "Green Season" begins, we are reminded of the growing season – the soil is made ready, seeds are carefully planted, the sun and rain give nourishment for growth, and God breathes on the planting, SO THAT the land produces a good harvest for sharing.

So it is with Lamb of God in this time of transition. There is surely some uncertainty about what the future will look like, and even a bit of anxiety for some of us. But this time "In-Between" pastors is also a good growing "Green Season."

Much of our work together will be looking at what Lamb of God's ministry has been in the past and what we hope it will be in the future. It will be a time for us to lay the groundwork spiritually and administratively for healthy ministry with a new pastor. It will be a time to prayerfully discern who God is calling Lamb of God to be in this time and place. And it is surely a time to imagine. . . even re-imagine. . . how we might grow the ministry of Lamb of God, for the sake of sharing the love of God in Christ Jesus.

And so, this "Green" "In-Between" time is a gift. . . the soil is being prepared, and ministry seeds being planted. May we be nourished by God's Word and at Christ's Table. And may God's Spirit breathe on our work together SO THAT our ministry today and tomorrow may produce good fruit for sharing in Christ's name.

*Blessings,
Pastor Berner*

June Offerings

Thank you for your continued support of our Church with your time, talent and treasure.
Offering totals include English and Spanish Congregations combined.

Offerings Collected: \$14,922

Budgeted: \$25, 420

COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATE

Beginning with services on Sunday, July 4, we are implementing changes to our worship service recently approved by the Worship and Music Committee and the Church Council.

The rationale for easing some areas, and not others just yet, is based on current CDC, local health and ELCA guidelines -- which take into consideration increased vaccination rates, less emphasis on spread by touch, but continued emphasis on spread through breathing, and especially indoor singing in public settings.

With these things in mind, we are returning to our regular order for worship with communion celebrated in its normal place in the service. We will still commune by station, but return to our seats after receiving communion; only new guests will be checked in when they enter the building; and the pastor and assisting minister will have the option to wear a mask and gloves only, and not a shield while serving communion.

These guidelines will remain in place for now: seating distances will continue to be marked off in the pews, masks will continue to be worn, there will be no passing of the peace or offering plates, no hymnals or other literature in the pews, and soft singing requested.

In addition, vaccinated small groups meeting in the building have begun to talk among themselves as to their comfort level with mask wearing and social distancing in their meeting.

Your Church Council will continue to monitor the situation, and will ease other guidelines as soon as it is safe to do so. The Council gives thanks for the many ways you continue to love and care for one another in Jesus' name in these challenging and ever-changing times.

Lamb of BREAKFAST BUFFET God's

RISE & SHINE ON
JULY 25, 2021 |
11AM

\$10 PER PERSON

TICKETS AVAILABLE
AFTER SERVICES OR
IN THE OFFICE

MENU

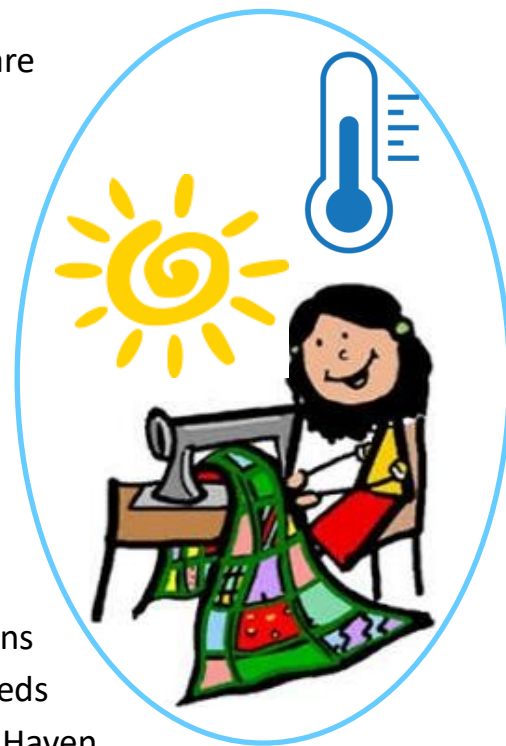
Scrambled eggs, ham
steaks, bacon, sausage,
home fries, French
toast, an assortment of
bread and pastries,
coffee, tea, and orange
juice will be served.

Come hungry!



Quilter's Guild

Summertime is here and with it the hot weather... so.... if you are looking for a project in an air-conditioned environment come join the quilters. We meet in the back of the fellowship hall on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month. If you have never quilted before, we offer on-the-job training (OJT). We say, *if you can tie a knot then you can quilt*. Although we normally meet throughout the summer months, due to vacations, **in July we will only meet on the third Thursday, July 15**. We are in great need of sheets, of any size that are free of stains and have been washed to use for quilt backings, so in your travels please be on the lookout for them. There are small bags of fabric available to cut quilt squares and instructions provided. Last month we delivered a "baker's dozen" doggie beds to the Polk County Humane Society on Dundee Road in Winter Haven. These beds come from donated pillow cases stuffed with scrape fabric from the squares that are cut, batting, and backing scrapes. Please see Laverne Tillson, Quilt Coordinator if you would like to learn more about quilting here at Lamb of God.



Word Search

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | Y | T | K | I | Q | Y | G | F | J | J | R | N | M | O |
| G | H | Y | J | N | N | M | T | U | Q | H | W | A | F | D |
| Y | L | P | L | J | O | J | S | I | Q | O | R | T | Q | X |
| O | L | O | L | K | D | T | U | P | L | E | O | I | B | L |
| B | L | E | S | S | I | N | G | S | W | I | R | O | N | O |
| L | N | D | E | C | A | E | P | O | T | Y | M | N | F | B |
| Q | D | L | E | N | B | P | P | A | N | I | Z | U | S | S |
| D | L | R | O | W | V | M | T | H | E | B | C | O | H | T |
| I | S | R | O | W | E | R | F | N | M | I | C | E | W | A |
| M | V | I | C | L | M | D | C | R | A | I | O | X | Y | C |
| A | D | V | O | C | A | T | E | S | E | E | A | W | C | L |
| P | Z | K | X | Y | B | U | N | T | O | E | O | U | R | E |
| E | P | H | C | R | U | F | Y | A | I | R | D | B | E | S |
| X | D | E | O | Y | I | C | O | J | N | G | C | O | M | N |
| U | W | R | X | S | D | C | Y | S | Y | T | P | Q | M | P |



4TH OF JULY PRAYER

Redeeming God, we give you thanks for the **blessings** of **freedom** we experience in our **nation**.

Help us use our freedom to practice **justice**, **peace**, **humility**, and **mercy**.

Empower us as **advocates** for those who face **injustice** and obstacles to freedom in our **society** and **world**, through Christ our **Lord**. **Amen**.

From ELCA

Cápsulas del Corazón

Junio—Mes en que homenajeamos y celebramos a muchos padres por su entrega, esmero, amor, y sacrificios hacia su familia. Homenajeamos la paternidad o lazos paternales que los hacen así también merecedores de esta gran celebración.

Celebramos a nuestro Gran y Único Padre Celestial 365 días del año, más en esta cápsula quiero hablar de ti, Padre Cristiano.

Salmo 103:13 **“Tan compasivo es el Señor con los que le temen como lo es un padre con sus hijos.”** Si te consideras un Padre de Dios este versículo bíblico apuntala directamente a tu corazón y esto es el AMOR y la COMPASIÓN. Compasión y Amor, sentimientos que van de la mano cuando conoces al Señor y te ha regalado el privilegio de la paternidad. Sentimientos que van aumentando día a día cuando procuras andar en su camino. “Mira con quien andas y te diré quién eres” y “habla más fuerte lo que dices que lo que haces.” Estos refranes muy populares por nuestros familiares nos repiten a nuestra conciencia: mientras más cerca este de Dios y yo lo imite en mi carácter personal mejor me irá, y así también a los míos; de esta manera ese Dios amoroso y compasivo será así su reflejo en mis actos (acciones), amor y dedicación para mi familia.

Padre, este homenaje viene acompañado con compromiso, dedicación, paciencia y esmero hacia los asuntos de Dios, su casa y el cuerpo de Cristo que somos todos nosotros.

Deseo felicitar directamente a todos los Padres de nuestra iglesia. Han sido ejemplo de esfuerzo, dedicación y el amor de Jesús al ser ejemplo de entrega y servicio en su hogar. Dios los continúe bendiciendo a todos, nos sentimos muy orgullosos de nuestros **Padres**.

Su Hermana en Cristo Jesús,
~Wanda Bango-Sánchez



Snippets from the Heart

June—The month in which we honor and celebrate many parents for their dedication, love, and sacrifices to their family. We honor the fatherhood or paternal ties that make them also worthy of this great celebration. We celebrate our Great and Only Heavenly Father 365 days a year, but in this capsule I want to talk about you, Christian Father.

Psalm 103:13 "The Lord is as compassionate to those who fear him as a father is to his children." If you consider yourself a Father of God, this Bible verse props up your heart directly, and this is LOVE and COMPASSION. Love and compassionate feelings that go hand-in-hand when you meet the Lord and he has given you the privilege of parenthood. Feelings that increase day by day when you try to walk in their path. "Look who you walk with and I will tell you who you are" and "speak louder what you say than what you do." These popular sayings by our relatives continue to echo in our conscience; the closer I am to God and imitate him in my personal character, the better I will go, so also my family; in this way that loving and compassionate God will thus reflect in my actions, love and dedication for my family.

Father, this tribute is accompanied by commitment, dedication, patience and dedication to the affairs of God, his home and the body of Christ that we are all. I wish to congratulate directly all the Fathers of our church. They have been an example of effort, dedication and the love of Jesus, by being an example of dedication and service in His home. May God continue to bless you all, we are very proud of our **Fathers**.

Your sister in Christ Jesús,
~Wanda Bango-Sánchez



Helping Our Community



ALL VETERANS CENTER, INC. FOOD PANTRY

July 20 | 12:00 noon

We are excited to announce that we are partnering with ALL VETERANS CENTER, INC. which serves and assists all veterans and their family members with needs above the VA programs. Lamb of God will become a food distribution center once a month on the third Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon. All Veterans Center, Inc also offers assistance in several capacities, such as: Answering questions about VA benefits, Clothing, Furniture, Social Services, Career Center and more.

Hornet Closet Wish List



Help students in need by donating items to the Hornet Closet, where Haines City High School students can go for basic necessities.

Items can be dropped off at: Lamb of God

The high school
2800 Hornet Drive, Haines City, FL 33844

or the Chamber Office
35610 Hwy 27, Haines City, FL 33844.

Women's and Men's Needs

New—clothing (regular & plus size), shoes, undergarments, socks. Gently used—clothing (all sizes), winter clothing, "Business - professional" attire.

Miscellaneous Needs

New—reusable face masks, bookbags, full size toiletries, hairbrush, hair accessories, nail care, and gently used purses

POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL NUTRITION

SUMMER MEALS
2021



SUMMER BREAK SPOT

LOG is a site for distributing pre-packed meals to children age 18 and under throughout our community.

Distribution Days:

Mondays and Thursdays

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This program ends July 26. No meals will be distributed on Monday, July 5.



Helping Our Community

FEEDING THE HUNGRY @ A HOUSE BLEST



OUR DATES TO HELP OUT ARE:

July 2, 16 & 30

WE ARE ALWAYS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR
MONETARY AND FOOD DONATIONS.



GET REWARDED WITH SMILES — VOLUNTEER!

Meals are served daily Monday-Friday. Volunteers pick up meals at locations in Winter Haven, Haines City, Davenport, Auburndale & Lakeland.

Call Susan at 863-299-1616, email her at susan@mealsonwheelspolk.com, or fill out an online volunteer application at <https://mealsonwheelspolk.com>

Recipe of the Month

Three Bean Pasta Salad

Ingredients

- 8 ounces uncooked small shell pasta
- 8 ounces fresh green beans, trimmed and cut into 1-in. pieces (about 2 cups)
- ½ cup thinly sliced celery (about 1 stalk)
- 1 can pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 small shallot, minced
- 3 tablespoons rice wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 2 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon honey
- ¾ cup olive oil
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ cup thinly sliced chives



Directions

Step 1—Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and rinse with cold water; drain.

Step 2—Cook green beans and celery in boiling salted pasta water and cover until tender-crisp, about 2 minutes. Drain and plunge into ice water to stop the cooking process; drain.

Combine pasta, green beans, celery, pinto beans, and kidney beans in a large bowl.

Step 3—Combine shallot and vinegar in a medium bowl; let stand about 5 minutes. Add lemon zest, lemon juice, mustard, and honey, stirring with a whisk. Gradually whisk in oil until well combined; pour over bean mixture. Sprinkle with salt and pepper; toss gently. Sprinkle with chives, and serve immediately.

Congratulations to...

Best wishes to our members and friends on their special day



Birthdays in July

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 👤 Glenys Lorenz | 07/03 |
| 👤 Saira Bango-Sanchez | 07/06 |
| 👤 Judy Bishop | 07/07 |
| 👤 Raymond Harbourt | 07/07 |
| 👤 Dean Casillo | 07/08 |
| 👤 Mindy Vaughn | 07/10 |
| 👤 John Plath | 07/16 |
| 👤 Julian Green | 07/17 |
| 👤 Marilyn Erb | 07/18 |
| 👤 Lucy Cruz | 07/19 |
| 👤 Michael Utter | 07/20 |
| 👤 Lynda Collins | 07/24 |
| 👤 Janice Walton | 07/28 |
| 👤 Mary Johnson | 07/30 |

Anniversaries in July

| | |
|---------|------------------------------|
| ♡ 07/16 | Gladys & David Hunt |
| ♡ 07/18 | Norma & Joe Conner |
| ♡ 07/20 | Phyllis & Gerald Pasbrig |
| ♡ 07/21 | Emanuel & Auri Santiago |
| ♡ 07/25 | Donald & Mary Johnson |
| ♡ 07/28 | Isoris & Wanda Bango-Sanchez |



Thank You For Your Contributions

Tribute Fund

Lynne and Dennis Martin
in memory of Sarah Roberts

John and Laverne Tillson
in memory of Sarah Roberts

Michele and Warren Wilson
in memory of Sarah Roberts

Robyn Eastridge
in honor of Pastor Joe

Education Fund

Phyllis White
in memory of Fred Meuser

Memorial Garden Fund

Don and Mary Johnson
in memory of Sarah Roberts

amazonsmile

Want to help make a difference while you shop? Shop at **smile.amazon.com** or the Amazon app and they'll donate a portion of eligible purchases to Lamb of God, at no cost to you.

You can use the address below or designate "Lamb of God Lutheran Church" (Haines City, FL) as your charity under Program & Features in your

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-3040073>

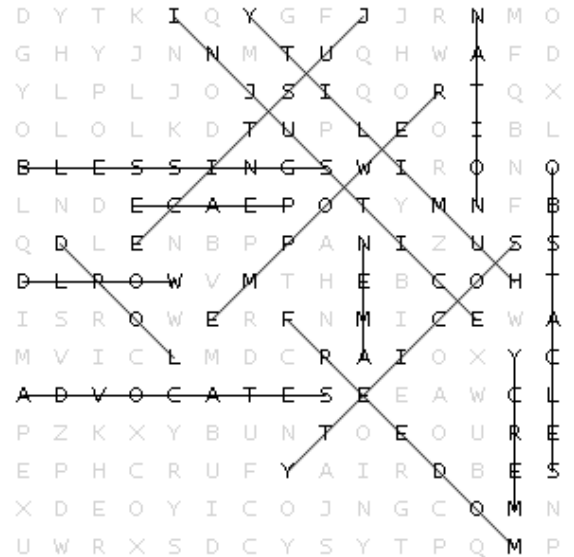


JULY

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|-----|--|---|-----|
| 8: 4 Fourth of July 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español | 5 Office Closed | 6 | 7 | 1 11:30 am Summer Meal Program Begins | 2 11:00 am—1:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest | 3 |
| 11 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español | 12 11:30 am Summer Meal Program | 13 | 14 | 15 9:00 am Quilter's Guild 11:30 am Summer Meal Program BELLWETHER SUBMISSION DEADLINE | 16 11:00 am—1:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest | 17 |
| 18 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español | 19 11:30 am Summer Meal Program | 20 12:00 pm All Veteran's Food Pantry | 21 | 22 11:30 am Summer Meal Program | 23 | 24 |
| 25 8:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser 12:30 pm Servicio en español | 26 11:30 am Summer Meal Program—LAST DAY | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 11:00 am—1:00 pm Volunteers at House Blest | 31 |



901 Scenic Hwy
Haines City, FL 33844



Word Puzzle Solution

Bellwether, Published Monthly
July 2021 Vol 27, Issue 7
August Bellwether submissions deadline is July 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

901 Scenic Hwy., Haines City, FL 33844-8597
Tel: 863.421.2811, www.lambofgodhainescity.com

Staff:

Rev. Cheryl L. Berner, Interim Pastor
pastor@lambofgodhainescity.com

Rev. Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Associate Pastor
Evelyn Brewer, Office Administrator
officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ONLINE WORSHIP: www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship

8:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Holy Communion

Advent thru Lent

8:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Holy Communion
and Saturday, 6 pm

Spanish Service

12:30 pm Holy Communion