



# BELLWETHER

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

## LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

### LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

For over 1800 years the church has observed the season of Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and runs for 40 days not counting the Sundays located in the Season. Although early in the life of the Church, the Lenten season was observed with daily fasting, in recent centuries the season has focused more on personal reflection and service.

Although I know that people often give up things for Lent, there has been a move in our Lenten observances in recent years to take on things. For example, many use the Lenten season as an opportunity to work on their relationship with the Lord through more intentional study, reflection and prayer. I personally believe it is also helpful to consider taking on things for Lent so that we have the potential to grow in relationship with God and others.

Some opportunities that you may want to consider this Lenten Season:

1. Make a commitment to make better use of “the means of grace” through regular participation both on Sundays and at Midweek (Wednesdays at either 11 a.m. or 7 p.m.);
2. Consider participating in our Thursday Noon Bible Study during Lent which will focus on Jesus’ move toward Jerusalem and the events of the passion as shared in St. Matthew’s Gospel;
3. Support the “Lent-a-Hand” Program by making special offerings (in kind and/or financial) in support of A House Blest;
4. Consider becoming a part of our Music Ministry this Lenten Season;
5. Volunteer to serve on Sunday mornings with the various worship related ministries of our congregation.

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6. Join the quilting ministry; 7. Participating in the Operation Inasmuch on Saturday, March 21; 8. Making time to pray for the ministry of Lamb of God Church as we begin the Vitality Process and as we search for a clearer vision of the ministry to which God is calling us in 2020 and beyond.

By taking on something new, who knows how you or I might be changed. May God bless our pilgrimage through this year's Lenten Season!

-Pr. Joe

## Operation Inasmuch Saturday, March 21, 8am—12pm

Lamb of God Church will once again be participating in this year's edition of Operation Inasmuch. For those who are new to the congregation, Operation Inasmuch is a ½ day of service to our community in conjunction with other congregations who are part of the Heart of Florida Coalition of Churches (HOFCCC). This year's projects will be more ministry related to include Nursing Home Visits and a Prayer Ministry. We will be feeding washing machines at local laundromats and will be doing some yardwork at both A House Blest and The Way Center and Home. Please consider joining us. You may register either via paper registration (available from the Office or at the Hospitality Desk) or online at <https://form.jotform.com/80224680531147>.

## Vitality Retreat Saturday, March 7 @ 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting our conference's Vitality Retreat sponsored by Florida Bahamas Synod. We will begin at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast, followed by a brief Lake Conference Meeting at 9:30 a.m. which has on its agenda to elect a new Dean. Pr. Joe will be retiring from his duties as Dean after 6 years of service. The Synod Staff will be leading a retreat beginning with Pr. Rob Carlson sharing about the Vitality Program and we will also have presentations on Stewardship and the computer resource, Mission Insite. Our Church Council will be participating with the other Church Councils in our conference but guests are welcome. If you are interested, please call the Church Office to register for this event. It is important to register because we will be providing both breakfast and lunch and will need an accurate count of participants. Perhaps this is another opportunity to take on something for Lent.



# MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES

Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
beginning on March 4

This year's Midweek Lenten Series will be built around the theme: **"Come, Follow Me."**

For five consecutive Wednesdays we will gather for devotional services  
built around monologues presented by members of the congregation.

We will hear the stories of the following players who experienced Jesus's passion first hand:

March 4	Nicodemus
March 11	Martha
March 18	Judas
March 25	Mary Magdalene
April 1	Peter



## CLARION BRASS QUINTET IN CONCERT 3PM SUN. MAR. 8

Entrance: Free-will donation

This concert features the highlights of the Clarion Brass' repertoire. These various works offer a spectrum of composers, styles, and historic perspective of the literature for brass quintet. Early music of composers like Henry Purcell, Giovanni Gabrieli, and Johann Pachelbel represent pieces composed specifically for brass and adaptations of church music for other instruments. Arrangements of keyboard works by Johann Sebastian Bach will be performed. Settings of hymns like "Ein Feste Burg" and "How Firm a Foundation," and popular songs from the likes of Lennon and McCartney are featured too.



**The Way Center** of Haines City is looking for sponsors to help furnish and decorate the WAY HOME ADDITION as well as with extra utility and unexpected expenses.

*Will you help them reach their goal of \$7,000?*

You can donate through their secure website at

[www.thewaycenter.org](http://www.thewaycenter.org) or [PayPal.me/WAYCenter](https://www.paypal.me/WAYCenter)

or their facebook page

@TheWayCenter.

## WISH LIST

Item	Est. cost
Bed for housemom	\$500.00
Dresser	\$350.00
Towels, small appliances, etc	\$300.00
Small table & Chairs	\$250.00
Window Shades	\$150.00
Bedding & pillows	\$150.00
Refrigerator	\$1,000.00
Deep Freezer	\$500.00
Shelving/ cabinets for pantry	\$300.00
Security equipment and labor	\$500.00
<b><u>Unexpected/ additional Expenses</u></b>	
Water bill- pipe break	\$1,500.00
Electric- temp. pole/ meter	\$1,500.00
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<b>Total estimated Value</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>



## 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—MARCH 1 – MARCH 7**

**CEREAL, OATMEAL, GRITS,  
GRANOLA BARS**

**WEEK 2—MARCH 8 – MARCH 14**

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

**WEEK 3—MARCH 15 – MARCH 21**

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

**WEEK 4—MARCH 22 – MARCH 28**

**PASTA, SAUCE, COOKING OIL**

**WEEK 5—MARCH 29 -APRIL 4**

**PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP, DRY MILK**

**WEEK 6—APRIL 5 – APRIL 11**

**CANNED GOODS  
(fruit, vegetables, soup, beans)**



*St. Patrick's Day*  
**POTLUCK**

*Let's celebrate St. Patty's Day  
with a potluck lunch!*

**SUNDAY  
MARCH 15  
2:30 PM**

**SIGN UP TO BRING  
YOUR FAVORITE  
POTLUCK DISH  
TO SHARE.**



# 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

**March 21, 2020  
8:00 a.m.—noon**

Join us Saturday, March 21, 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: <https://form.jotform.com/80224680531147>

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



## Happenings Around Lamb of God

### Men's Group Update

Thank you for your support of our recent BBQ dinner. We are happy to report that with your faithful participation we have made a \$1,200 contribution to the ongoing work of the Sunshine Foundation. This contribution represents a 100% of the profits from this fundraiser. Although there were a couple of glitches, we will work them out and hope to do this again in the fall.

The Group will have two more events this spring season:

1. Our regular meeting on Tuesday, March 17 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall - *Happy St. Patrick's Day*

2. Our Annual Steak Fry at the Sunshine Foundation's Dream Village - April 14

This year, we are inviting everyone to join us! Watch for details on Sunday morning and in next month's newsletter.



### Women's Retreat



## Quilters' Guild

The Lamb of God Quilters would like to say a special **thank you** to everyone who took part in making Quilt Sunday a wonderful and joyful experience and especially to Rose & Jerry Corn, Sandy & Jim Barnhart and John & Laverne Tillson who took the 30 boxes containing 149 quilts to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Winter Park for pickup by Lutheran World Relief (LWR). We also donated one of the quilts to Mariatu's Hope for a young deaf girl in Sierra Leone; Robert Search took the quilt with him when he returned to Sierra Leon in February to present to her. Now it's time for house-keeping chores: cutting batting, and putting together the sheets that were not the correct width or length by sewing additional strips and patches to make them usable as backings. We are always looking for donations of new or gently used sheets (any size) to use for quilt backings. We also need individuals to cut quilt squares – instructions provided. If you are looking for a worthwhile project come and join us as we begin a new quilting year. We meet the first Wednesday (Mar 4) and third Thursday (Mar 19) between 9 am and 12 (noon).



*We start with an empty closet, work twice a month, fill up the closet with quilts, set up for Quilt Sunday, and ship to those in need. A labor of love from beginning to end.*



### Mark your Calendars

WELCA Upcoming  
Events:

**April 4—See Ya!  
Luncheon.**

**April 12—Easter  
Bake Sale.**



## Cordero de Dios—Valentine's Day Celebration

It is true, at Cordero de Dios we love to celebrate. Every and any occasion is a great reason to share with our church family and of course we could not miss the opportunity to celebrate Valentine's Day and show the love for God and each other while having a little bit of fun. Below are a few pictures of our children's dance group "Seguidores de Cristo/Followers of Christ," who had two very special dances prepared for us—Jesus Loves Me and When I Look. After worship we stayed to celebrate with food (there is no celebration without food) and games. We had three brave couples who played the "Dating Game." We laughed to our hearts content as they tried to match their spouse's answers, and learned about each other! Lots of fun, food, and fellowship growing in the faith! All are welcome to join us at the services in Spanish at 12:30 p.m. and to stay for fellowship after service! Thank you always for your love and support of the Spanish Mission here at Lamb of God Lutheran Church.

Vicar Izzy Bango-Sanchez

*Children's Ministry  
Valentine's Presentation*

*Dating Game during Valentine's Celebration*





## Transfiguration Sunday—February 23

On Transfiguration Sunday, February 23 our Spanish Mission Children's group "Seguidores de Cristo/Followers of Christ" gave a special presentation during the 10:30 am service. They performed the song "Jesus Loves Me" and received a standing ovation. The children also sang Happy Birthday to our member Ms. Margena Howard, whose birthday was on that Sunday.

To top off the day the "Oasis Vocal Harmony" brought us beautiful vocal music and a saxophone soloist that was truly enjoyed by all. A super special Sunday to remember.

To God be the Glory,

Vicar Izzy Bango-Sanchez



*Happy birthday Margena!*



*Oasis Vocal Harmony*

## Recipe of the Month—Lentil Barley Soup

Every month we will feature a recipe provided by a member. You can submit yours to [officemanager@lambogodhainescity.com](mailto:officemanager@lambogodhainescity.com) or you can drop off a copy in the church office. This month's recipe comes from Liz Heidegger. Highly appropriate for this weekend's weather.

- 1 Md. onion, chopped
- 3/4 C. thinly sliced celery
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 T. margarine
- 2 Qt. water
- 1 can (28oz.) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 pkg. (1.7 oz.) vegetable soup mix
- 3/4 C. dry lentils
- 3/4 C. medium pearl barley
- 1/4 t. pepper
- 2 Md. Carrots, thinly sliced
- 1/2 C. reduced-fat shredded swiss cheese optional

In a soup kettle or Dutch oven, sauté onion, celery and garlic in margarine until tender. Add water, tomatoes, soup mix, lentils, barley, and pepper; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 45 minutes or until lentils and barley are tender. Add carrots; simmer 20-25 min. longer or until the carrots are tender. Garnish with cheese if desired.



## Congratulations to...

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

### Birthdays in March

- 03/02 Denise O'Harrow
- 03/04 Katherine Dierker
- 03/06 Larry Vaughn
- 03/07 Virginia Schmick
- 03/10 Carlos Robles
- 03/10 Nancy Spila
- 03/10 Richard Winship
- 03/13 Kaely Soto
- 03/20 Raymond Messmer
- 03/23 Barbara Donnelly
- 03/23 John Till
- 03/25 Coila Hales
- 03/27 Ronald Schroeder
- 03/27 Don Swanson



### Anniversaries in March

- 03/07 Nancy & Edward Spila



*thank you*  
**NOTES**

I appreciate all of the prayers and get well wishes you sent my way. I feel very grateful for your friendship and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

*Larry Vaughn*



On behalf of Food For The Poor, Inc. , I want to thank you for hosting pastor John Burk and allowing us to share our ministry of serving children and families in need. Your kindness and compassion helps us continue our ministry of those living in destitution and has put your faith into action. If you would like to see firsthand the impact you have on the lives of the poor we serve, I hope you will consider participating in an upcoming mission trip. May god bless you in abundance as you continue to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

*Alvaro Pereira*, Food for the Poor.



## Easter Lilies

\$10.00  
each

**If you wish to purchase a lily to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, in memory/honor of a loved one, please complete the form found in the narthex and return **by Sunday, April 5.****

# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Spanish Service <b>LENT A HAND DRIVE</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm Solivita GIFT Group	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Lenten Service 10:30 am NEXT Group 5:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>5</b> 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>9:00 am VITALITY RETREAT</b> 6:00 pm Worship
<b>8</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Spanish Service <b>3:00 pm CONCERT</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting	<b>11</b> 11:00 am Lenten Service 5:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>12</b> 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Council Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:00 pm Worship
<b>15</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 9:30 am Volunteer Training 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Spanish Service <b>2:30 pm ST. PATRICK'S DAY POTLUCK LUNCH</b>	<b>16</b> <b>BELLWETHER SUBMISSION DEADLINE</b>	<b>17</b> 10:30 am Food Pantry at A House Blest 7:00 pm Solivita GIFT Group 7:00 pm Men's Group	<b>18</b> 10:30 am NEXT Group 11:00 am Lenten Service 5:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Quilters 10:30 pm Food Pantry at A House Blest 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>8:00 am OPERA-TION INASMUCH</b> 6:00 pm Worship
<b>22</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Spanish Service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm North County GIFT Group	<b>25</b> 11:00 am Lenten Service 5:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	<b>26</b> 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Bell Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00 pm Worship
<b>29</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Spanish Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				





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**April Bellwether submissions deadline is March 15**

### **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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#### **Staff:**

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Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Vicar

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#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

May - October      9:00 am Holy Communion  
                             10:15 am Sunday School

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

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