



BELLWETHER

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

LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor's Notes...

"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)

What a gift it was to be a part of Lent, Holy Week and Easter Celebrations with all of you at Lamb of God this year. I know my faith journey was blessed, and I pray it was true for you in some way, as well.

It is by far the busiest time of the church year, with all the extra planning and details for special services, on top of all the everyday things of ministry. And it truly takes a faith village for it all to come together.

I give thanks for the hard work and gracious service of our Administrative Assistant Evelyn, without whom nothing much happens at Lamb of God. And our worship life was so rich because of the many gifts of our Music Director Alex, Bell Choir Director Liz, Bell Choir, cantors, and Jan and David for sharing their special gifts. And we would have been lost without our faithful sound room folks Flora, Barb and Frank, who also helped set the tone with lighting.

This year we were blessed by lay folks Tom, Coila, Pam and Georgene, Phyllis, and David, who shared wonderful reflections during midweek services.

And by Pastors Paul Bockelman, Christine Hunsiker, Louise Stromberg, Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Greg Villalón,

In this issue

Call Process Update	2
Adult Bible Study	3
Snippets from the Heart	4
COVID Protocol Update	6
Happenings at LOG	7
Birthdays & Anniversaries	12
Calendar	13

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

www.lambofgodhainescity.com

Harold Heidegger, and Sue Smith who shared powerful messages on Christ's Last Seven Words Good Friday evening.

And, of course, there are so many other hands necessary to make things come together in worship – worship assistants, acolytes, altar guild, decorators, lectors, ushers, greeters, hospitality desk folks, those who clean, make copies and help with wheelchairs, those who share pictures and videos, those who turn on the AC, check up on folks, those recruited at the last minute for whatever needs to be done, those who give near and far, those who make announcements, and answer questions, those who share their faith stories, and those I may have missed; and, of course, all of you who show up and participate in worship from home and in person.

I give thanks for you every day, and hold you all in prayer. What happens in our worship life together and the whole ministry of Lamb of God takes everyone. Thanks be to God for your faithful service!

Together in Christ – *Pr. Berner*

Call Process Update...

Out of 30+ things Council needs to do before forming the Call Committee, we are pretty much down to three. The big things remaining are the completion and submission of Financial and Sustainability Reports to the synod, and participating in a Congregational Retreat.

Once these last things are completed and submitted, the synod will review our documents, and advise if we are ready to put a Call Committee together. While the work that goes into the Transition Process is tedious and deliberate, it is necessary in order to call a new pastor most suited to meet Lamb of God's needs.

One area of attention unique to Lamb of God's Transition Process, is the need to better clarify the relationship between Lamb of God English and Spanish, and to clarify the working relationship between Lamb of God's Associate Pastor and Lead Pastor. This is work that was not done in the past, but necessary now in order to prepare well for a smooth transition for the next pastor.

Please be watching for more about the Congregational Retreat, and continue to hold the Transition Process in prayer. We give thanks for you and your support as we continue in this journey.

– together in Christ, *Lamb of God Council*

Genesis THE BEGINNING

A SERIES OF CLASSES ON A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF
GENESIS, WHICH IS FOUNDATIONAL TO OUR FAITH.

**SUNDAY
BIBLE STUDY**

**STARTING
SUNDAY,
MAY 8
8:45 AM**

JOIN US!

**LED BY
PR. CHRISTINE HUNZIKER**



Cápsulas del Corazón por Wanda Bango-Sanchez

Pascua – Tiempo the Esperanza

La palabra en 1 Pedro 1:3 lee, *“Bendito sea Dios, el Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que en su gran misericordia, nos hizo renacer, por la resurrección de Jesucristo, a una esperanza viva.”*

La Pascua significa la esperanza y “viva” porque creemos en las promesas de Dios sin dudar ni cuestionarlas, porque creemos que son ciertas y verdaderas y que nunca dejarán de cumplirse. Sabemos que Cristo pagó el precio por nuestras culpas y en El tenemos la confianza y la paz que nos uniremos a El eternamente, siempre que nos mantengamos bajo su gracia, orando, estudiando Su palabra y dejándonos llevar por Su espíritu santo. Entonces esforzémonos por llevar una vida recta así obtendremos la salvación que Cristo ya ganó para todos nosotros los creyentes.

En este año litúrgico Pascual hemos pasado de las tinieblas a la luz, NO ESTAMOS SOLOS, JESÚS CAMINA A NUESTRO LADO. Isaías 41:10, *“Así que no temas, porque yo estoy contigo; no te angusties, porque yo soy tu Dios. Te fortaleceré y te ayudaré; te sostendré con mi diestra victoriosa.”*

La Esperanza nace de nuestra convicción en el Cristo resucitado. Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Verdaderamente ha resucitado! En su primera carta a los Corintios San Pablo dijo: *Y si Cristo no resucitó, el mensaje que predicamos no vale para nada, ni tampoco vale para nada la fe que ustedes tienen... Pero lo cierto es que Cristo ha resucitado.* (15, 14. 20). Tenemos la certeza de que el sepulcro está vacío y de que Jesús se levantó de entre los muertos; y la esperanza que tenemos es que un día nosotros también resucitaremos y viviremos junto a El por toda la eternidad.

Oremos: Señor durante este tiempo Pascual capacítame, dame la sabiduría para seguirte y poner toda mi esperanza en ti, guíame, lléname de tu paz y gozo para vivir de acuerdo a tus estatutos. Todo esto te lo pido por tu hijo Jesucristo nuestro Señor. Amén



Snippets from the Heart by Wanda Bango-Sanchez

Easter—Time of Hope

1 Peter 1:3 reads, *"Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy, made us reborn, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, to a living hope."*

Easter means hope and "alive" because we believe in God's promises without hesitation nor question them, because we believe that they are true and that they will never cease to be fulfilled. We know that Christ paid the price for our faults and in Him we have the confidence and peace that we will join Him eternally, as long as we stay under His Grace, praying, studying His word and letting ourselves be carried away by His holy spirit. So let us strive to lead such a righteous life and we will obtain the salvation that Christ has already won for all of us believers.

In this Paschal liturgical year we have gone from darkness to light, WE ARE NOT ALONE, JESUS WALKS NEXT TO US. Isaiah 41:10, *Do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be distressed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will sustain you with my victorious right hand.*

Hope is born of our conviction in the risen Christ. Christ is risen! Truly is risen! In his first letter to the Corinthians St. Paul said, *"And if Christ was not resurrected, the message that we preach is not worth anything, nor is the faith you have worth anything... But the truth is that Christ is risen."* (15, 14. 20). We are certain that the tomb is empty and that Jesus rose from the dead; and the hope we have is that one day we too will rise and live with Him for all eternity.

We pray, Lord during this Easter time give me the wisdom to follow You and put all my hope in You, lead me, fill me with Your peace and joy to live according to Your statutes. For all this I pray in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE



COVID UPDATE

GOOD NEWS—MAY 8TH

At their recent joint meeting, Council and the Mission Steering Committee, made the decision to update the Covid Protocol as follows beginning Sunday, May 8.

- ✓ Masks will be optional
- ✓ No gloves for Pastors; but hand sanitizing/washing prior to communion
- ✓ Red ropes will remain over some pews, with Social Distancing seating
- ✓ Pews and equipment will continue to be wiped down
- ✓ Hand sanitizer will still be available

It has been a long journey, and we give thanks that by the grace of God we have been able to navigate it well together. And we give thanks for everyone's part in helping to keep each other safe.

Please keep in mind that some folks are unable to be vaccinated, and we need to still be cautious as we continue to take care of one another. And if Covid infection numbers begin to rise to dangerous levels again, Lamb of God leadership may need to look at reimplementing some protocols to keep everyone safe.

-- together in Christ, LOG Leadership



**FEEDING
THE HUNGRY
@A HOUSE BLESSED**

MAY DATES TO HELP OUT ARE: 6 & 20
WE ARE ALWAYS GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR MONETARY
AND FOOD DONATIONS.
114 S. 2ND STREET, HAINES CITY

Happenings at Lamb of God & Cordero de Dios

Spring Bazaar

A big thank you to everyone for your contributions to the success of our 1st Annual LOG Spring Bazaar. We made over \$2,200. How this money will be used will soon be announced. This was definitely a team effort to put this event together and a huge thank you to: Teresa Liberta and Evelyn Brewer for all the advertising and graphics for the signage and flyers; everyone who donated items for the sale; those who supported the bazaar with your purchases; those who donated delicious baked goods; to Susan who donated her plants; to all the talented ladies who donated their beautiful handmade items; and a special thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who gave so many hours and days of their time to set up and break down the fellowship hall, move, place and price items and work the two days of the bazaar. It took each of you to make this event a success, and WE THANK YOU.

Carol Vaughn, Chair



Thank you to all who donated baked goods and to those who purchased them. Thanks to all of you our bake sale made \$216. All funds collected are donated to missions supported by Lamb of God Women's Group.

Alex's Farewell



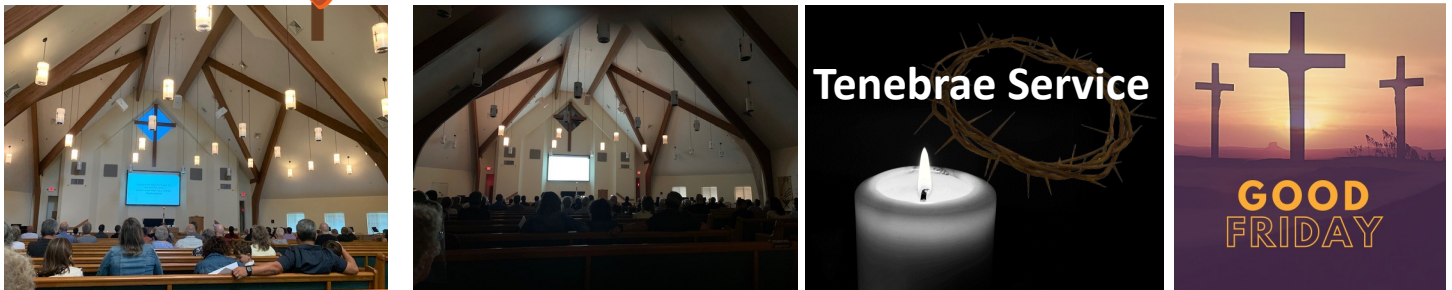
Holy Week

Every Sunday, during worship, we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but during Holy Week we emphasize and recall Jesus' entrance to the holy city, and we follow Him through His journey of suffering, death, and resurrection during the Three Days. During this week we are reminded of Jesus' commandment to love one another, to be humble, to pray for the whole world for which He died, and that Christ has died so we might live. Alleluia! Christ is Risen! And Christ will come again.

Palm Sunday



Good Friday



EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Blessings!



Semana Santa

Semana Santa en nuestro templo comenzando con Domingo de Ramos con procesión. Agradecimiento a Beatriz, Alex y Nancy que participaron arduamente para la decoración de Palmas del Templo. El Martes Santo película Cristiana para discusión y enseñanza donde nuestros niños tuvieron una gran y activa participación. El Jueves Santo la Cena Pascual del Seder inolvidable acontecimiento; y compartimos con nuestros hermanos anglos el Servicio de Penumbra de Viernes Santo. En un cierre final y grandioso la celebración de la Resurrección de Cristo acompañado de la instalación de nuestros niños lo cual completaron el catecismo y educación de la primera comunión, una ceremonia inolvidable; y no podía faltar el Easter Egg Hunt, risas a granel. Gracias a todos los que participaron durante toda esta extraordinaria y ocupada Semana Santa.

Domingo de Ramos



Martes Santo



JUEVES SANTO



Domingo de Pascua y Primera Communion



April Offerings

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

Sunday Offerings Collected: \$18,680
Budgeted: \$23,612

Here are the different ways to send your tithes to church:
 Lamb of God's website www.lambofgodhainescity.com—
 go to "ONLINE GIVING," Vanco App,
 or mail to Lamb of God, or drop off during office hours.



BECOME A MEMBER

& BE A PART OF OUR JOURNEY!



IF YOU ARE READY TO JOIN THE LAMB OF GOD FAMILY OR ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT BECOMING A LAMB OF GOD MEMBER, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONNECT WITH US. CALL THE OFFICE TO SCHEDULE A CALL OR IN-PERSON MEETING WITH THE PASTOR TO LEARN MORE.
 OFFICE —863-421-2811. PASTOR BERNER—863-438-1711.

STAY FOR COFFEE HOUR!

Sundays 11:15 AM - 12:15 AM



Catch up with with your friends while sharing a cup of coffee, make new friends or just because.

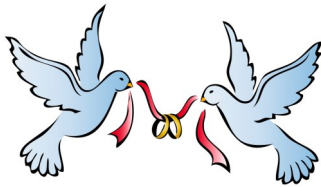
Congratulations to...

Best wishes to our members and friends on their special day



Birthdays in May

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 🕒 05/02 Lisnery Ortiz | 🕒 05/15 Lisa Synstelién |
| 🕒 05/03 Marion Murphy | 🕒 05/18 Richard Donnelly |
| 🕒 05/04 Barbara Maynard | 🕒 05/23 Jeffrey Eklund |
| 🕒 05/04 Robert Spila | 🕒 05/24 Margaret Clavette |
| 🕒 05/10 Thomas Schlagbaum | 🕒 05/24 Frances Hein |
| 🕒 05/11 Phyllis White | 🕒 05/25 Shirley Furry |
| 🕒 05/12 Donald Falkenberg | 🕒 05/27 Marilyn Argue |
| 🕒 05/12 Shellie Falkenberg | 🕒 05/27 Kendall Casillo |
| 🕒 05/13 Terry Barnhart | 🕒 05/31 Jean Westermann |



Anniversaries in May



- ♥ 05/07 Janette & Frank Farrugia
- ♥ 05/08 Linda & Tim Leiwig
- ♥ 05/30 Pam Thomas & Georgene Endy
- ♥ 05/31 Lois & Raymond Harbourt

Thank you for your Contributions

John and Laverne Tillson
in memory of Pr. Don Johnson

John and Laverne Tillson
in memory of Wanda Kimbrel



MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Escuela Bíblica 12:30 pm Servicio en español	2 	3 	4 9:00 am Quilter's Guild	5 	6 Volunteers at A House Blessed 114 S 2nd St, Haines City	7
8 8:45 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Escuela Bíblica 12:30 pm Servicio en español	9 7:00 pm Comité de Música 7:00 pm Crafter's Group	10 	11 5:00 pm Comité Timón	12 9:00 am Council Meeting	13 7:00 pm Comité de tecnología	14 10:00 am Academia Ecuménica
15 8:45 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Escuela Bíblica 12:30 pm Servicio en español	16 7:00 pm Junta de Comité BELLWETHER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	17 	18 	19 9:00 am Quilter's Guild	20 Volunteers at A House Blessed 114 S 2nd St, Haines City	21
22 8:45 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Escuela Bíblica 11:15 am Music & Worship Mtg 12:30 pm Servicio en español	23 7:00 pm Comité de evangelización 7:00 pm Crafter's Group	24 	25 	26 	27 	28 10:00 am Academia Ecuménica
29 8:45 am Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Escuela Bíblica 12:30 pm Servicio en español	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 				



By Phone: 800-638-3522

Mon. through Fri., 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CST.

By mail: Make checks payable to
Lutheran Disaster Response.

Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on the memo
line and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online: <https://www.elca.org/lutherandisasterresponse>

What else can you do? Please pray for those in Ukraine, Russia and neighboring countries that have been affected by the crisis in Ukraine. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.



Bellwether, Published Monthly

May 2022 Vol 28, Issue 5

June Bellwether submissions deadline is May 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/ Lead Pastor
pastor@lambofgodhainescity.com

Rev. Izzy Bango-Sanchez,
Associate Pastor/Mission Developer

Evelyn Brewer, Office Administrator
officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 am Adult Sunday School

10:00 am Holy Communion

Servicio en Español

11:00 am Escuela Bíblica

12:30 pm Servicio con Comuni3n

ONLINE WORSHIP: www.lambofgodhainescity.com