




# BELLWETHER


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

## LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Interim Pastor Notes...



**I**went home to Pennsylvania for my last uncle's funeral a couple of weekends ago. As I was driving from the airport to my hotel, I couldn't help but notice the color of the changing leaves across the mountains, and the crisp chill in the air. Those are some of the things I miss the most about Pennsylvania. Those are some of the things that remind me that all of God's creation revolves around an ever-changing cycle.



These days, I am vividly reminded of that truth as Lamb of God moves through some change as it transitions between pastors. . . and as it begins to more fully clarify its relationship with Misión Hispana Luterana Cordero de Dios. . . and adjusts its worship life to meet current needs.

**W**hen it comes to preparing for a new Lead Pastor, the Council and I continue to work hard behind the scenes to get administrative things in order, so the transition is smooth under new pastoral leadership. It is slow, tedious work . . . but necessary. We still have some financial things to do, draft a Disaster Plan for the building and congregation, do a Risk Management Assessment in multiple areas, and set a date for a Congregational Mission Planning Day.

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In addition, much of my work as Interim over the past few months, has been to recognize the need to more fully clarify the partnership between Lamb of God English and Spanish. Because not much work has been done in this area since the Mission formed in 2015, there are some questions and confusion. Nevertheless, it is necessary work, so the Spanish/English partnership is in a healthy place for the next Pastor. We are grateful to Bishop Suarez, Assistants to the Bishop El-Yateem and Connie Schmucker for their help in these conversations.

As this partnership evolves and grows together, here is some of what leadership has been talking about and learning. . .

- The partnership between LOG English/Spanish is a unique model for growing a mission community; with the Mission embedded in the larger ministry of Lamb of God English.
- Simply put, LOG is one congregation with both an English and Spanish expression.
- In order for ELCA mission grant monies to be available, LOG English was appointed the “fiscal agent” for the Mission by the ELCA. This means LOG English is responsible for overseeing all English/Spanish monies, for now.
- Pr. Izzy was called as Associate Pastor to Lamb of God because the Mission does not have enough members to officially organize and call a Pastor yet.
- The Mission recently elected its Mission Steering Committee, who will work closely with LOG Council in planning LOG ministry together. It is expected that some LOG ministry programs will be shared, and some programs will be “culturally specific.” (for example, both Spanish and English worship.)
- Pr. Izzy’s primary focus is to develop the Spanish Mission, and help grow the relationship between LOG Spanish and English, under the guidance of the Mission Steering Committee, and approval of LOG Council.
- It has always been the vision that LOG Spanish and English would grow its relationship together, so that more of those outside LOG doors can know the love of God in Christ Jesus. What that looks like in this time and place, and in the future, will be an ever-growing conversation with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- The next step is for the LOG Council and Mission Steering Committee to meet and do some joint planning together; and to appoint an English and Spanish Liaison to serve on each others’ Council/Steering Committees.



And as LOG prepares for the Advent and Christmas Seasons, Council has been talking a lot about worship. After taking into consideration attendance for the past several years, a persistent virus, and the best use of the building, financial resources and those serving for each worship service. . . Council has prayerfully decided the following, FOR THIS YEAR.

- Thanksgiving worship will be celebrated Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, rather than the night before Thanksgiving, THIS YEAR.
- Saturday night worship will not be celebrated in person, THIS YEAR; but online worship will be offered.
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday service will be considered, when attendance suggests it is time.
- And like last year, Christmas Day worship will be offered online only.
- Beginning All Saint's Sunday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, we will reintroduce no-touch "Sharing of the Peace" with those sitting near you, as part of the Gathering.

I know this is a lot of information to take in, and I appreciate your willingness to listen. I know some may be disappointed with some things, and happy about other things. In any event, I ask that you share any thoughts and concerns with me as we look ahead to 2022-2023.

And just as the changing of leaves, and some cooler weather, remind us of the beauty of God's ever-changing good earth...may the changing of the seasons in our life together as a community of faith remind us of God's never-failing presence in the midst of all things. And may the Spirit teach us ever-changing exciting ways to serve one another, and our neighbors, in Christ.



Together in Christ -- *Pastor Berner*



## Fall Annual Meeting

We will be holding our Annual Congregational Fall Meeting on **Sunday, November 21**. During this meeting we will address three important business items. We will review the required changes to our constitution, adopt the 2022 budget, and elect Church Council members. Please mark your calendar and do your best to be a part of this important meeting.



## Happenings at Lamb of God

### New Members & Reformation

We welcomed our newest members —  
*The Morales Family: Juan, Kelly, Pamela, Luna,*  
*and Juan & The Horst Family: Connie and Ruth*  
— on Reformation Sunday, October 31.  
The celebration continued with a potluck  
meal shared by both Lamb of God  
and Cordero de Dios.



### Car Wash Fundraiser



### TRUNK OR TREAT



*Thanksgiving Worship Service*  
*Sunday, November 21 @ 10 a.m.*

*Hanging of the Greens*

**Tuesday, November 23 at 10 AM**







# Memorial Garden Workday

**Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021 9:30 am. - Noon**

- pulling weeds,
- some trimming,
- sweeping,
- fertilizing and
- mulching

**Help keep our Memorial Garden in good condition.**



## **TURKEY GIVEAWAY & FARMER'S MARKET DRIVE THRU**

### **Donations Needed**

**Saturday, November 20  
10:00 AM**

**Oakland Community Center  
915 Ave E, Haines City , FL**

Lamb of God Church & Cordero de Dios have joined forces with UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY and A HOUSE BLEST to provide turkeys and food items for the needy in our community for this Thanksgiving Holiday.

We will be collecting donations for the purchase of turkeys and boxes of stuffing. (our goal is 400 boxes by 11/17).

Help us make this project a success once again!



## **ANNUAL BASKET RAFFLE**

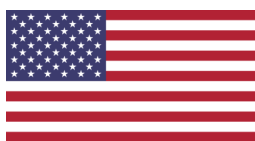
**TICKETS GO ON SALE ON 11/28  
RAFFLE ON 12/19**

**TICKETS:  
3 FOR \$5  
1 FOR \$2**

- 1: SPA DAY
- 2: BUT FIRST COFFEE THEN A LITTLE CHOCOLATE
- 3: EVERYTHING FLAMINGOS
- 4: IT'S 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE WINE BASKET
5. GIRLS NIGHT OUT
6. GONE WITH THE WIND
7. QUILT





**ALL VETERANS CENTER, INC. FOOD PANTRY**  
**November 16 | 12:00 noon**

# Thanks Giving

EACH WEEK ADD AN ITEM TO THE  
FOOD TABLE IN THE NARTHEX  
ALL ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO  
*A HOUSE BLEST*

**WEEK 3—Nov. 1 – Nov. 7**

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

**WEEK 4—Nov. 8 – Nov. 14**

**PASTA, SAUCE, COOKING OIL**

**WEEK 5—Nov. 15 – Nov. 21**

**PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP, DRY MILK**

**WEEK 6—Nov. 22 – Nov. 28**

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



## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

**Starts November 28**

This holiday season we will be having a plant sale for your holiday keeping or giving! The natural beauty of the plants will be enhanced with seasonal decorations and will be a delightful addition to anyone's décor. There will be a variety of sizes and prices for your choosing. Their names range from Angel Wings to Ruffled Ferns, Pregnant Onions, Mother of Millions, Snake Plants, and Alligator Tears along with ivies and other house plants!



## Angel Tree Gift Drive

**NOVEMBER 21–DECEMBER 12**

A gift of toys or clothes can make a difference  
to children and their families.

Take a tag from the tree and help bring joy  
to a child this Christmas!

Gifts must be new, wrapped,  
with the name tag provided.

## Quilter's Guild

We have formed a Thrivent Action Team to help us purchase batting to make our quilts. The batting is the one item that we purchase and with Thrivent's help we were able to purchase 3 rolls of batting which will make about 75 quilts. Our winter quilting members are beginning to return and we are very thankful for their participation. If you would like to find out about quilting here at Lamb of God, please come and join us. We meet the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month from 9 AM to 12 Noon. For November we will meet on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> respectively. We look forward to this time together and to help others in need by putting together mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We invite you to join us for this worthwhile program. If you have any questions contact Laverne Tillson, Quilt Coordinator at 863-326-6018 or the church office.



[This Photo](#) by

## Recipe of the Month

### Strawberry Lemonade Cake

#### Instructions

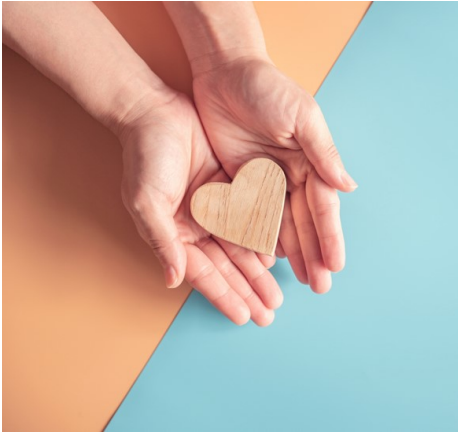
1. Mix first 6 ingredients and bake in 3 – 8-inch pans (lightly greased and floured)
2. While cake is baking, stir lemon curd until smooth
3. In a separate bowl, make stabilized whipped cream: Whip one container of whipping cream to soft peaks. Add sugar and instant lemon pudding. Whip until mixture reaches a creamy consistency.
4. Wash and slice 2 cups of fresh strawberries. Sprinkle with ¼ cup powdered sugar and place in refrigerator.
5. After cakes bake, allow the layers to cool completely. Level, if necessary. Stack cakes: start with the first layer of cake, spread top with lemon curd, then add berries. Top off with lemon-flavored whipped cream. Add the next layers repeating the same steps until you complete the assembly.
6. Finish by adding whipped cream to the sides using frosting tips, if desired, and top off with fresh berries.

#### Ingredients

- 6 large eggs
- 2 white cake mixes
- 1 cup lemon juice
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- Yellow food coloring (dash)
- 1 – 10 oz. jar lemon curd
- 2 cups fresh strawberries
- ¼ cup powdered sugar
- 1 pint heavy whipping cream
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 pkg. instant lemon pudding



## Snippets from the Heart— FORGIVENESS



My dear brothers and sisters, this month's capsule takes me to talk about *Forgiveness*. Yes, that forgiveness that we hear so much about in the church, in the Bible, and in our own lives. A very appropriate topic, considering that we are approaching the end of this year.

The Heavenly Father exhorts us in multiple Bible verses to forgive our neighbors. Ephesians 4:32 "rather, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgive one another, just as God forgave you in Christ;" or in Mark 11:25 "And when you are praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him so that also your Father who is in heaven will forgive you your sins."

If we wish to be faithful servants and disciples of Christ, we must first recognize in our minds and hearts the need to forgive and/or recognize that we must ask for forgiveness for our actions.

How does forgiveness benefit me?

### **5 Benefits of Forgiveness:**

1. I feel Peace; yes, you will feel peace, comfort, and great joy in your heart. It eases my burdens.
2. It helps me in my physical and emotional health; it takes me away from depression and anxiety.
3. It increases my relationship with God, and the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in me.
4. I am more helpful and effective in offering my talents to the Service of God.
5. I recognize the supremacy of God, by leaving everything in His hands.

The holidays and big family gatherings are approaching. Meditate on the importance of Forgiveness and begin to work on it, so that during these holidays you may enjoy that peace, freedom, joy, and mercy that God has prepared for you. Yes, for those who seek it in spirit and in truth. Initially it won't be easy, but with your constant prayer to our Heavenly Father, He promises you His full help. In Jeremiah 33:3 the Word exhorts us to "Cry out to me, I will answer you and teach you the great and hidden things that you do not know." Start the process today, free yourself, have faith, and be happy!

**Let us pray:** Merciful Lord. You know my heart and my burdens, weaknesses and failings. Help me to forgive \_\_\_\_\_ through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Wanda Bongo-Sánchez, Christian Education Ministry Cordero de Dios*



## Cápsulas del Corazón— EL PERDON

Mis queridos hermanos(as) la cápsula de este mes me lleva a hablar sobre el *Perdón*. Si ese perdón que tanto oímos en la iglesia, en la Biblia y en nuestras propias vidas. Un tema muy apropiado, considerando que ya estamos por finalizar este año 2021.

Nuestro Padre Celestial nos exhorta en múltiples versículos bíblicos a perdonar a nuestro prójimo. Efesios 4:32 “más bien, sean bondadosos y compasivos unos con otros, perdónense mutuamente, así como Dios los perdonó a ustedes en Cristo” o en Marcos 11:25 “Y cuando estén orando, si tienen algo contra alguien, perdónenlo para que también su Padre que está en el cielo los perdone a ustedes sus pecados.”

Si deseamos ser siervos fieles y discípulos de Cristo, debemos primero reconocer en nuestra mente y corazón que necesito perdonar y/o reconocer que debo pedir perdón a mi hermano por mis actos.

¿Cómo el perdón me beneficia?

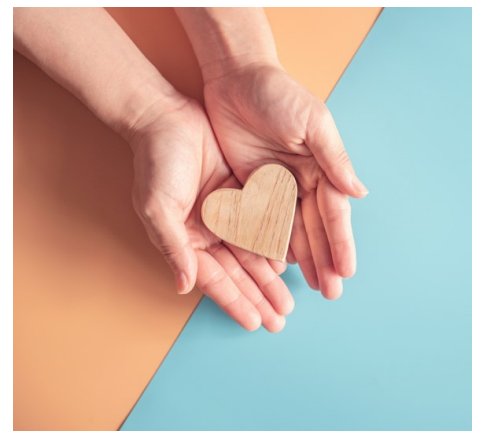
### 5 Beneficios del Perdón:

1. Siento Paz; sí sentirás paz, consuelo y un gran gozo en tu corazón . Alivia mis cargas.
2. Me ayuda en mi salud física y emocional; me aleja de la depresión y la ansiedad.
3. Aumenta mi relación con Dios y la manifestación del Espíritu Santo en mí.
4. Soy más útil y eficaz al ofrecer mis talentos al Servicio De Dios.
5. Reconozco la supremacía de Dios, al dejar todo en sus manos.

Ya se acercan las grandes fiestas familiares y días festivos. Medita en la importancia del perdón y comienza a trabajar en ello, para que en estas fiestas goces de esa paz, libertad, gozo y la misericordia que Dios tiene preparado para ti . Sí para aquellos que lo buscan en espíritu y en verdad. Inicialmente no será fácil, pero con tu constante oración hacia nuestro Padre Celestial, Él te promete su total ayuda. En Jeremías 33:3 la palabra nos exhorta “¡Clama a mí, yo te responderé y te enseñaré las cosas grandes y ocultas que tú no conoces.” Comienza el proceso ya, libérate, ten fe y sé feliz!

**Oremos:** Señor Misericordioso. Tu conoces mi corazón y mis cargas, flaquezas y debilidades. Ayúdame a perdonar a \_\_\_\_\_ y a sentirme perdonado para así poder sentirme un Siervo Fiel ante ti para así gozar de tu Gracia y Amor. Por tu Hijo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amén.

*Wanda Bongo-Sánchez,  
Ministerio de Educación Cristiana Cordero de Dios*



## Congratulations to...

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

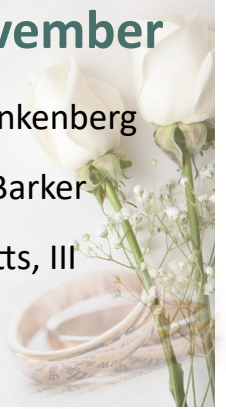


### Birthdays in November

- 🕒 11/04 Michael Riedeman
- 🕒 11/07 Diane Kresge
- 🕒 11/10 John Thomasco
- 🕒 11/11 Alejandro Hernandez
- 🕒 11/11 Wendell Roddy
- 🕒 11/13 Robert Simons
- 🕒 11/13 Carol Vaughn
- 🕒 11/17 Leonard Erb
- 🕒 11/19 Janette Farrugia
- 🕒 11/20 Amanda Frankenberg
- 🕒 11/29 Deniele Pahl
- 🕒 11/30 William Schmick

### Anniversaries in November

- ♡ 11/11 Alan & Amanda Frankenberg
- ♡ 11/19 Darlene & Richard Barker
- ♡ 11/29 Jackie & Tom Tibbetts, III



### VETERAN'S PICTURES



We are still collecting pictures of members who served or are serving in the armed forces to be used as part of our **Veterans' Sunday Worship Service (11/14)** as part of our recognition of our veterans. You can bring them to the office to have them scanned or send them to [officemanager@lambogodhainescity.com](mailto:officemanager@lambogodhainescity.com)

### October 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: \$20,112**

**Budgeted: \$31,775**

**FEEDING  
THE HUNGRY  
@ A HOUSE BLESSED**








**OUR DATES TO HELP OUT ARE:**

**November 5 & 19**

**WE ARE ALWAYS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR  
MONETARY AND FOOD DONATIONS.**

# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Volunteers at House Blest 114 S 2nd St, Haines City	<b>6</b> Tonight, turn your clocks back one hour 
<b>7 ALL SAINTS</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am All Saints Worship Service 11:00 am Worship Committee Meeting 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Veterans' Day</b> 9:00 am Council Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 VETERANS'</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Veterans' Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>15</b> <b>BELLWETHER</b> <b>SUBMISSION</b> <b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> 12:00 pm All Veteran's Food Pantry	<b>17</b> <b>400 BOXES</b> 	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Quilter's Guild	<b>19</b> Volunteers at House Blest 114 S 2nd St, Haines City	<b>20</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>Turkey Giveaway</b> <b>and Farmer's</b> <b>Market</b> 
<b>21 THANKSGIVING</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Thanksgiving Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Christmas Decorating</b> 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Thanksgiving Day 	<b>26 Office Closed</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28 ADVENT 1</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Servicio en español	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				



# Happy Fall



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

Acorn  
Carnival  
Fall  
Halloween  
Leaves  
Reformation  
Straw

Apple  
Colorful  
Football  
Harvest  
November  
Scarecrow  
Turkey

Autumn  
Corn  
Gourd  
Hayride  
Pumpkin  
Squash

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





901 Scenic Hwy  
Haines City, FL 33844

Bellwether, Published Monthly  
November 2021 Vol 27, Issue 11  
**December Bellwether submissions deadline is November 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](http://www.lambofgodhainescity.com)

#### **Staff:**

Rev. Cheryl L. Berner, Interim Pastor  
[pastor@lambofgodhainescity.com](mailto:pastor@lambofgodhainescity.com)

Rev. Izzy Bango-Sanchez, Associate Pastor  
Evelyn Brewer, Office Administrator  
[officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com](mailto:officemanager@lambofgodhainescity.com)

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

8:45 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Holy Communion  
**Spanish Service**  
12:30 pm Holy Communion

#### **ONLINE WORSHIP:**

[www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship](http://www.lambofgodhainescity.com/worship)