

THE CONNECTION

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

Greetings Lamb of God,

We’ve been doing a series on conflict for the past couple of weeks. Jesus tells us that peacemakers are blessed, so we might be tempted to think that we should always avoid conflict. While it’s true that not every battle needs to be fought, it’s also true that we shouldn’t always ignore the elephant in the room. In my first message, I suggested some questions to help us decide if it’s appropriate to engage in conflict.

For instance, if a person does not share my faith, it’s useless to try to appeal to them based on Christian morality. You might try to reason with them based on their own principles, but those will take time and patience to uncover. I also pointed out that if you were unwilling to allow the other person to correct you, there is no reason to expect them to be open to your argument either. Too often we imagine ourselves in the role of teacher or parent with those who are actually our peers. A dose of humility can go a long way. I also warned that engaging rather than avoiding conflict did not mean striving to win. Too often we engage in conflict with the sole purpose of winning. In doing so, we lose sight of more important goals like maintaining relationships and representing Jesus to others. If we can’t keep these things in mind, avoidance is probably better alternative.

That being said, sometimes peace is only found through conflict. The elephant in the room metaphor I used above paints a compelling picture. When conflict is apparent, but unaddressed, the resulting tension isn’t really a state of peace is it? During that first week I tried to touch on a few hot topics that people will often try to avoid at all costs. One of those was racial injustice.

I’ve seen and read a number of comments that complain about reverse racism. They often point out that the only group its okay to mock today is white males. Maybe Southern-ers. Or Christians. Preferably white male Christians from the South. I will admit there is some truth to this, but I think it’s important to keep some perspective. I’ve read a few books and seen a few films concerned with racial inequality and most of them include long discussions about slavery. White people will often throw up their arms at this and exclaim, “That wasn’t me.”

(continued on page 3)



Inside this issue

Celebration & News.....	2
Worship Opportunities	2
Youth Update.....	5
Haiti Update.....	4

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

3923 103rd AVE SE

Lake Stevens, WA 98258

www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Office: 425-377-2173

Office Hours:

Tues 12:30-3:00 pm

Wed 8:30-3:00 pm

Fri 8:30-2:00 pm

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship: 10:15 am

Pastor: Mike May (314) 775-6956

pastormike@lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Worship/Youth Leader: Jan Novak,
(360) 691-3372

worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Meetings This Month

Council Meeting:

March 9th

Elders Meeting:

March 14th

Worship Services are In-Person and Online!

**Join us for in-person worship on Sundays at 10:15 am. Masks are required and social distancing practices are in place. We will continue to stream to Facebook LIVE and YouTube.*

www.facebook.com/lambofgodlakestevens/

www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Church Office Temporarily Closed

Pastor Mike, Jan and Shara are currently working remotely. Please contact them directly.

Pastor Mike (314) 775-6956 or sidace99@yahoo.com

Jan (425) 418-6270 or worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Shara (425) 299-1518 or secretary@lambofgod-lakestevens.org

****Moving? New Phone Number? Please contact the church office with address, phone number and email changes so we can update our records. Thank you!*

Pastoral Assistance

Pastor:

Mike May (314) 775-6956

Worship/Youth Leader:

Jan Novak (360) 691-3372

Elders:

Ernie Frederickson (360) 668-1234

Larry Aalbu (360) 568-4757

Dale Rahn (425) 422-9789

Gary Beck (541) 740-5727

Debbie Laskey (425) 319-1381

Teri Larsen (425) 356-9281

**Next month's newsletter deadline is
March 24th.

March Birthdays, Baptismal and Wedding Anniversaries

Happy Birthday!

Joel Repp	14
Ernie Frederickson	21
DuWayne Brave	22
Mike Gatterman	22
Jim Repp	23

Baptismal Anniversaries

Marlis Canham	3
Shara Knapp	5
Dale Rahn	5
Jared Rahn	5
Annie Stogin	6
Julia Repp	8
Dylan Knapp	12
Jennifer Wood	16
Ralph Whitman	21
Cherie Gatterman	22
Jordan Gatterman	22
Natalie Hansen	22
Bailey Rahn	24
Pat Roth	25

Happy Anniversary

Jeff & Hayley McClellan 3/15

Kermit & Suzanna Bohling 3/29



(continued from page 1)

Obviously, this is true. But the goal of discussing slavery is not necessarily “white guilt.” It’s safe to say we are all opposed to slavery and everyone winces at the idea of “one person owning another” or “treating a person as property.” But those idealistic phrases do not begin to describe the brutal reality of slavery. I won’t mention specifics here, but these books and films describe details so horrific you would object to an animal being treated similarly. That behavior leaves scars. Scars linger.

Beyond slavery, the films and books also discuss Jim Crow tactics persisting throughout the civil rights era. Again, gruesome, terrible things done to human beings, but now within the lifetime of most of those who will read my words. *To Kill a Mockingbird* is a fictional account of events that really happened in places besides the deep south and more recently than you would expect. The real accounts are much ghastlier though. Guilt aside, it’s important to ask is it realistic that we’ve purged ourselves of hundreds of years of systemic racism in a single generation?

In one of the films I watched, a man described his frustration saying, “We should have fixed this by now.” After all, it’s been more than 100 years since America ended slavery and more than 50 since the Civil Rights Act. But that line hit me differently than he probably intended. It seemed to me he had an image of a future where Martin Luther King’s dream is fully realized. I don’t see that happening before Jesus returns. After all, shouldn’t we have fixed murder by now? Or rape? Or theft? Discussions like these can lose sight of the main thing (Jesus) and overestimate what we are capable of on our own. I don’t want to demean this man’s frustration, or the BLM movement or Dr King’s dream. Just because we will never rid ourselves of prejudice, or hate, or jealousy doesn’t mean we should stop trying. While I can’t believe we should have “fixed” this by now, I do think we should have come further. But it’s probably more helpful to talk about what we can do from here.

I do actually think there are things our society can do (between the extremes of defunding the police and nothing at all) but I’m not going to list them here. I think it’s important that you have those discussions with the people in your lives. I just hope as we do, we will all keep our hearts and minds on the main thing.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike

Community Outreach

Lord’s Little Cooker: Men’s and Women’s clothing needed!—Especially blankets and winter coats! Please leave donated items by the back table on Sunday mornings

Every Saturday Morning from 7:45-9:30 am our faith community joins together with our of friends North Shore Christian Church in Everett to provide breakfast, toiletries and clothing to those in need.

Youth/Family Events

March

Everett Outreach-Lord’s Little Cooker (Every Saturday morning 7:45-9:30 am)

14—Daylight Savings Begins

28—Palm Sunday

April

1—Maundy Thursday

2—Good Friday

4—Easter Sunday

News From NEHLM—Haiti Updates (February 11 &26)

February 11, 2021

Happy Magnified Epiphany with the Transfiguration of our Lord this Sunday,

Rev. Daniel Paul shared that the activity at this time in the Church Year can be more active in some areas of Haiti with Mardi Gras and the ensuing Lenten Season beginning February 17th with Ash Wednesday. He commented, "There can be more aggressive action in Port au Prince, but up here it is calmer. People are just preparing for the forty days of Lent."

I had heard about some political unrest recently in Haiti and he again commented, "That is in Port au Prince. We can travel around here easily. There is not a problem here in Nord Est (north east) Haiti." I can empathize as I am in northeast Oregon, and Portland, Oregon, has had more actions of political unrest than we have here over the last few months.

Clynie, Rev. Paul's wife, burned her arm with hot coffee. He reported that she is recovering well.

There is a need to get medications for one of the young ladies. Thankfully another per-

son close by is able to help with a 30-day supply. Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission is trying to make connections to help in these situations.

There will be a youth gathering in Cap Haitien this next week that over fifty of the ministry's children plan to attend. Rev. Paul said, "The youth will be busy all day with Bible studies, music, worship, and more. This allows them to be with other young people of their confession of faith." We pray that good relationships are ignited and maintained for the youth.

Elanie, a young lady who has been at the university for three years, is beginning apprentice work in dentistry this Spring. We are delighted she is to this point in pursuing a career.

God's peace,
Rev. Sam Wiseman
NEHLM Pastoral Adviser

February 26, 2021

Greetings in the Name of the Lord. Amen.

We are blessed to be walking with Rev. Paul's ministry and with you as many people are impacted with God's Word and grace. The Word of God continues to be taught and proclaimed in its truth and purity in this ministry. Praise God!

Rev. Paul shared that they have been able to obtain medicine for the young lady of the ministry with epilepsy, at least a couple month's supply. Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission is investigating avenues that we can be of greater support with these types of needs. There is a possible mission agency that transports medicines and other crucial items are being pursued.

The ministry is struggling with good transportation. A vehicle is not operating due to a key that the vehicle's computer does not recognize. (Issues of our advanced technology in a foreign

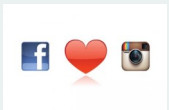
country with no dealerships.) We have heard of a "bare bones/rugged" Land Rover that is made for Africa. That would be better for durability and maintenance. This is something to check into also.

We also talked about the agriculture of the ministry. Rev. Paul reported, "The dry season has started. We are finishing the harvest of Congo beans, cassava, and plantains," all nutritious foods that they prepare to be very tasty.

Wilson, a young man at agriculture university in Haiti is taking part in an ecosystem exploration off campus where they will be learning to differentiate between habitats and observe species and their interactions.

God's peace,
Rev. Sam Wiseman
NEHLM Pastoral Adviser

Connect with us!



Like us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/
lambofgodlakestevens](https://www.facebook.com/lambofgodlakestevens)

Follow us on Instagram:
[@lambofgodlakestevens](https://www.instagram.com/lambofgodlakestevens)

SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE—MARCH 2021

DATE	7th	14th	21st	28th
Worship Set-Up	Gatterman/Beck	Rahn	Novak/May	Gatterman/Beck
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Jason Knapp	Joel Repp	Milt Grover	Jason Knapp
Elder on Duty Communion Elders	Ernie Frederickson	Gary Beck	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey
Scripture Reader	Debbie Laskey	Jennifer Wood	Calvin Joplin	Dale Rahn
Children's Message	Gary Beck	Jan Novak	Mike May	Sam St. John
Altar Guild	Jan Aalbu	Christine Pfister	Heather Stahl	Heidi Llerenas
Power Point	Mike Gatterman	Shara Knapp	Hayley McClellan	Calvin Joplin

Sunday Servants Wanted!

We are in need of additional people to help with set-up and soundboard. If you are interested in learning more about either of those positions, please contact the church office,

Stay Connected

Weekly Connection News Emails

If you would like to subscribe to our weekly Connection News emails, visit the homepage on our website at www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

Join Us for Worship at 10:15 am

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Family Education: 9:00 am

Worship Hour: 10:15 am

Holy Communion is celebrated during worship the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

Office: (425) 377-2173

www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Lamb of God Lutheran Church
3923 103rd Avenue SE
Lake Stevens, WA 98258

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE