

## 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,

NBC is doing Quantum Leap again. I used to watch the old series where Scott Bakula would travel through time jumping into other people’s bodies in a kind of benign possession, fixing people’s lives. The new series lets the guy jump beyond his own lifetime, so they had a show last week where he was trying to save a town in the old west called “Salvation.” In a rousing speech he tells the people he knows how important it is to have a place where you can be what you were meant to be.

Let me repeat that: Salvation is being who you were meant to be. Our culture has put a high value on freedom for longer than I can remember, but lately it seems to have been elevated even more. KOMO 4 had a special called The Fight for the Soul of Seattle where the narrator stated, “Seattle no longer feels the need to stop anyone from doing anything for any reason at any time.” If you think I’m about to launch into a “get off my lawn speech” I’m not. Don’t worry.

I would, however, like to ask you to think about how we view freedom. Personally, I’m a fan. I can’t tell you how many times someone finds out I was in the military and wonders how I coped with such a restrictive environment. Not always very well, if I’m honest. Even if I don’t grow a beard and let my hair get long, I like that I can. I love freedom. I think we get into trouble when we assume that if freedom is good, complete freedom must be better. Iodine deficiency will cause health problems, but too much will kill you. Think of it this way:

Most sports fans like to complain about referees. Can you imagine a professional game where they played without referees? Call your own fouls, pass interference, holding, strikes and balls. Pick your sport. They would all descend rapidly into chaos. I don’t think life is very different.

What am I getting at here? I was hoping we could look at God’s commands, instructions and laws a little differently. What if they were never intended to keep us from being free? What if they were the way we could be the most free? There’s a sweet spot between the worlds depicted in 1984 and The Purge. Who better to find the place we can thrive than the One who made us?

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



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### Lamb of God Lutheran Church

3923 103rd AVE SE

Lake Stevens, WA 98258

[www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

**Office:** 425-377-2173

**Office Hours:**

Wednesday 8:30am-12:00 pm

**Sunday Morning Schedule**

**Worship: 10:15 am**

**Pastor: Mike May** (314) 775-6956

[pastormike@lambofgod-lakestevens.org](mailto:pastormike@lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

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

[worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org](mailto:worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

## Meetings This Month

### Council Meeting:

December 11th (following worship)

### Elders Meeting:

TBD

## Worship Services are In-Person and Online!

*\*Join us for in-person worship on Sundays at 10:15 am. Masks policy following state guidelines. We will continue to stream to Facebook LIVE.*

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

[www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

## Church Office Hours

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

Pastor Mike (314) 775-6956 or [sidace99@yahoo.com](mailto:sidace99@yahoo.com)

Jan (425) 418-6270 or [worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org](mailto:worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

Shara (425) 299-1518 or [secretary@lambofgod-lakestevens.org](mailto:secretary@lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

The church office is typically open Tuesdays 9:00-11:30 am & Wednesdays/Thursdays 9:00 am-3:00 pm

*\*\*\*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) 356-9283

*\*\*Next month's newsletter deadline is  
December 15th*

## December Birthdays, Baptismal and Wedding Anniversaries

Carl Mitchell	13
Jennette Stockton	18
Brian McDonald	22
Emilie Dawson	25
Christina Cameron	28
Chris Dalton	29
Dylan Knapp	31

### Baptismal Anniversaries

Carrie Brave	1
Jill Murray	3
Mike May	5
Connor McDonald	14
Kayla McDonald	14
Kelly McDonald	14
Danny Ziemann	16
Ben Pfister	17
Jill Williams	19
Christine Pfister	21
Elaine Repp	23
Evelyn Uchikawa	27

### Happy Anniversary

*Ralph & Jan Whitman 12/27*



**Youth/Family Events****December**

Sunday Morning Bible Study-  
@ 9 am (5, 12,)

18—Youth Christmas Wor-  
ship Service

24—Caroling at Lord's Little  
Cooker

24—Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service

25—Christmas Day Worship  
at 10:15 am

31—New Year's Eve

**January**

1—New Year's Day Worship  
at 10:15 am

*As Christmas approaches, it has been a custom at Lamb of God to recognize the staff with Christmas gifts from the congregation. Please consider making a donation between now and December 18th to help this tradition continue. Donations can be given to Ruben Alanis (Treasurer), Susie Rahn (Financial Secretary) or put in the collection plate, clearly marking your envelope or check as Staff Christmas Gifts. Thank you for prayerfully considering this request.*



# Christmas Schedule

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH--YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE @  
10:15 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH--CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE @ 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH--WORSHIP @ 10:15 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST--WORSHIP @ 10:15 AM

## Christmas Baskets

Once again this year if you know of someone who could use extra food for the Christmas holiday, please provide names and addresses to Shara Knapp by Sunday, December 18 (Please email or text [secretary@lambogod-lakestevens.org](mailto:secretary@lambogod-lakestevens.org) or 425-299-1518). If you would like to help pay for these baskets, please donate by December 18th as well. If you are donating by check please make sure you note 'Christmas Baskets' on the memo line. With the increasing cost of food, we pray for a donation goal of \$1500 this year. Please help with this cause that in past years has helped twelve families during the holiday season. Thank you.

### **Amazon Smile**

Ever wonder how much Lamb of God has received from Amazon Smile? Only seven households are enrolled, but Lamb of God has received \$165 since the first household signed up. Amazon gives one half of one percent of your order to your designated charity. Please consider signing up and designating Lamb of God as your charity at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

*Shara will be out of the office recovering from surgery November 10--sometime mid-December. She can be reached through email at [secretary@lambogod-lakestevens.org](mailto:secretary@lambogod-lakestevens.org) or by text 425-299-1518.*

## Ministry/Stewardship Opportunities at Lamb of God

Updated December 2022

### All Things Sunday Morning

<b>Worship Set-up</b>	Two or three people are needed either Saturday or early Sunday am to set up the chairs, piano, tables, altar (put in place only), pulpit, banners, sound board system. Time involved is 30-40 minutes. (Door key and Sonitrol code needed by one person per team).	Contact Shara Knapp
<b>Worship Take-Down</b>	Two or three people are needed to put away chairs, tables, piano, altar, pulpit, banners, and sound board system.	Contact Shara Knapp
<b>Worship Team: Vocalists and Musicians</b>	Assist in the music ministry for worship. Experience preferred but not necessary. Vocal training available. Instrumentalist needs to be skilled on their instrument.	Contact Jan Novak
<b>Fellowship/Greeters</b>	Arrive early; provide refreshments and make coffee for fellowship. Be at church by 10 am to greet those arriving for worship. After worship, re-engage with visitors. Introduce them to someone. Put away items from the refreshment table, empty trash cans and vacuum crumbs from carpet.	Contact Shara Knapp
<b>Sound Board</b>	Operate and control the sound board during worship team practice and during the service. Training will be provided.	Contact Jan Novak
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Run the PowerPoint presentation on the laptop during worship. Training will be provided.	Contact Shara Knapp
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Reading of the Old Testament and Epistle lessons during the service.	Contact Gary Beck or Jan Novak
<b>Children's Message</b>	Sharing a short biblical story for the children of the congregation during service (ideas provided).	Contact Pastor Mike or Jan Novak
<b>Nursery</b>	Take care of children during worship, put away toys and tidy up the room.	Willing to be part of a team that starts a Nursery? Contact Pastor Mike
<b>Kid's Zone/ Sunday School Teacher</b>	Provide a short lesson and craft for kids during the sermon.	Contact Pastor Mike or Jan Novak
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Set up altar and communion (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays; special services) as well as take down.	Contact Hayley McClellan

## Church Leadership/Care

<b>Church Council</b>	Provide leadership and vision for the church's future. Look after the financial needs of the church.	Contact Brock Wolitarsky (President), Jill Murray (VP) or Pastor Mike
<b>Church Board of Elders</b>	Look after the spiritual needs of the church. Call or visit people and pray for them.	Contact Pastor Mike or Gary Beck
<b>Building and Grounds Trustees/Volunteers</b>	Look after the physical needs of the church and school. Mowing, painting, repairs, etc.	Contact Gary Beck
<b>Vacation Bible Camps (Basketball Drama, Cooking, etc.)</b>	Volunteer to lead or help with Summer Day Camps.	Contact Pastor Mike or Jan Novak
<b>Zion Lutheran School (ZLS)</b>	Attend/support ZLS events (chapel, programs, work-days, etc.) coaching, classroom volunteers (work with students, assist teachers with bulletin boards, etc.)	Contact Sandy Bench or Sarah Joplin
<b>Sarah Small Group Leader/Member</b>	Lead or attend one of the small groups. Discuss scripture, enjoy fellowship, pray for one another and seek to do good.	Contact Pastor Mike
<b>Children's Christmas Program</b>	Direct/assist with children's Christmas program.	Contact Shara Knapp or Hayley
<b>Men's Bible Study</b>	Lead or attend a men's Bible study. Monday 6:30 pm	Contact John Laskey or Gary
<b>Women's Bible Study</b>	TBD.	Contact MJ Novak or Susie Rahn

## Community Outreach and Missions

<b>Lord's Little Cooker</b>	Set-up and serve breakfast every Saturday morning for those in need. Everett	Contact Jan Novak or Pastor Mike
<b>Community Supper</b>	Partner to help serve a meal 4 times a year at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Lake Stevens.	Contact Shara Knapp
<b>Lake Stevens Area Events</b>	Zion Harvest Festival, Back to School back packs, Food Bank, Oktoberfest, Christmas baskets, and more.	More information can be found in bulletins and newsletters as events are scheduled
<b>Missions</b>	Haiti mission	Contact Pastor Mike
<b>LAMP</b>	Travel to northern British Columbia or Alaska to lead vacation bible school – Timing TBD	Contact Jan Novak
<b>Pregnancy Resource Center</b>	Support the Pregnancy Resource Center in Everett	Contact Jill Murray

## News From NEHLM—Haiti Updates (Oct. 28 & Nov. 23, 2022)

*October 28, 2022*

Greetings,

Attached is a picture of the office building inside of the boys' home with the doors and windows installed. This allows the building to be locked up and secure. There is still more work to be done with painting, tile work, plumbing, electrical, and furniture. This facility will house the records for the girls' and boys' homes and the school. When government officials visit, they are to have a place to stay. We are pleased they have been able to get to this phase of having a secure building that is part of the wall around the boys' home. You can see the wall to the right of the building.

I have received some information of conditions in some of the larger cities in Haiti, namely Port au Prince, the capital. There are gangs who have taken over parts of the town along with blockading the roads. Port au Prince is the major port, and roads to fuel have been blockaded causing issues with distribution of all sorts of supplies. The water treatment plant in Port au Prince is fuel-operated, therefore the access to potable water is pretty much nonexistent. Haiti has had cases of cholera recently, their first in three years. This disease further complicates their situation of no clean water. In some areas of the cities, it is not only that expenses are exceedingly high for food, but there is no food to purchase. The United Nations reports 4.7 million people in Haiti are facing "acute hunger" and thousands are starving without food. Citizens are getting trapped in the

crossfire (both literal firing of guns and symbolic tribulation) of gang warfare. A Haitian official announced that the Haitian government wanted to deal with these problems themselves, but then quickly came back requesting support from outside of Haiti. The United Nations is providing armed security to allow transport of water, fuel, and medical supplies.

As I talked with Rev. Paul about this situation, he commented that in the Nord Est (northeast) Haiti, supplies are very expensive, but the gangs and other issues are not as dangerous for them. He went on to share about several people and relatives in Port au Prince who are trying hard to leave that unstable area. He said it was advantageous to have some armed security to help with caring for the people, but he was concerned that this would take a very long time. He also had concerns that there are people who will be using these situations for personal gain. Oh, the sadness of mankind taking advantage of mankind!

On a positive note, two of Rev. and Cliney Paul's daughters (Whitney and Sarai) have been working hard on their English to be able to attend a university in the USA. I am personally working with them to investigate this possibility, Lord willing. This is both exciting for them and us, and a potential enrichment for the ministry.

God's peace,  
Rev. Sam Wiseman

*November 23, 2022*

Happy Thanksgiving!

Praise God for His blessings that we receive, most specifically the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. Amen.

I will address an opportunity for you to consider at the beginning of this update. The Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission (NEHLM) Board has identified that the funds received from now until the end of the year, above monthly sponsorship, will be placed into a new line item for increased food costs. Increased funds drawn from undesignated donations have been sent for food during this past year. Thank you for your generosity to allow us to send those funds. We would like to provide this opportunity as our society recognizes "Giving Tuesday" on November 29, and others of you may desire an end of the year opportunity to share with those in need. With this new line item of expenses, we will be able to honor and maintain other projects and opportunities that undesignated funds allow. Bless you for considering this opportunity. When I told Rev. Daniel Paul about this plan, he commented, "Oh, this will be very good! Everything is

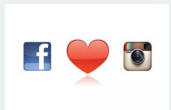
more expensive and food supplies are low. Thank you, thank you and all those with you!"

The newest challenge for Haitians is that the borders have been closed. Rev. Paul's ministry is in Ouanaminthe, Haiti, which is a border city with Dajabon, Dominican Republic. There had been open border markets two days a week which allowed many goods to be traded. Those in Ouanaminthe were also able to get fuel in Dajabon. Rev. Paul reported, "Too many Haitians were trying to leave the country; many of them were being treated badly. Now it will be very hard to get fuel, if not impossible, and everything else will be more expensive or not available."

Rev. Paul and those in his ministry remain steadfast in providing worship services and education through this all. The children and staff of the ministry are being fed, thanks in large part to the active agricultural projects of this ministry. As I receive other news reports about conditions in Haiti, I find relief in hearing from him, hearing joyful children in the background, and recognizing that they are striving, and sometimes thriving, as they navigate Haiti's intense problems at this time.



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

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

# SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE—DECEMBER 2022

DATE	4th	11th	18th	24th Christmas Eve	25th
Worship Set-Up	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck	Rahn	Set Up Done
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Leave up	Everyone
Soundboard	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates
Elder on Duty Communion Elders	Larry Aalbu	Ernie Frederickson	Dale Rahn	TBD	Debbie Laskey
Greeters	Aalbu Hines	Rahn Frederickson	Pfiester McClellan	No Greeters	Geiger Larsen
Scripture Reader	Debbie Laskey	Larry Aalbu	Calvin Joplin	TBD	Jennifer Wood
Children's Message	Debbie Laskey	Rilee Henderson	Jennifer Wood	No Children's Message	Delaine May
Altar Guild	Hayley McClellan	Christine Pfiester	Heather Stahl	Hayley McClellan	Hayley McClellan
Power Point	Jill Murray	Kjell Larsen	Hayley McClellan	Shara Knapp	Jim Repp

## Community Outreach

**Lord's Little Cooker: Men's and Women's clothing needed! 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. **New Location: Bethel Baptist Church 2625 Hoyt Avenue**

Christmas Eve Caroling at the LLC on Saturday, December 24th

# SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE—JANUARY 2023

DATE	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
Worship Set-Up	Novak/May	Beck	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp
Elder on Duty Communion Elders	Dale Rahn	Gary Beck	Debbie Laskey	Larry Aalbu	Ernie Frederickson
Greeters	Aalbu Hines	Rahn Frederickson	Pfiester McClellan	Geiger Larsen	Aalbu Hines
Scripture Reader	Elaine Repp	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey	Larry Aalbu	Calvin Joplin
Children's Message	Jan Novak	Gary Beck	Vicki Beck	Debbie Laskey	Rilee Henderson
Altar Guild	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Power Point	Calvin Joplin	Jill Murray	Kjell Larsen	Hayley McClellan	Jim Repp

## 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](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org) and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.



# December 2022

Lamb of God Lutheran Church  
3923 103rd Ave. S.E.  
Lake Stevens, WA 98258  
Phone: 425-377-2173

Website: [www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>4</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15am Worship with communion	<b>5</b> Office Closed	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>11</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship Council Meeting (following worship)	<b>12</b> Office Closed	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>18</b> 10:15 am Youth Worship with communion	<b>19</b> Office Closed	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm
<b>25</b> Merry Christmas 10:15 am Worship	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am

# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

Join Us for Worship at 10:15 am

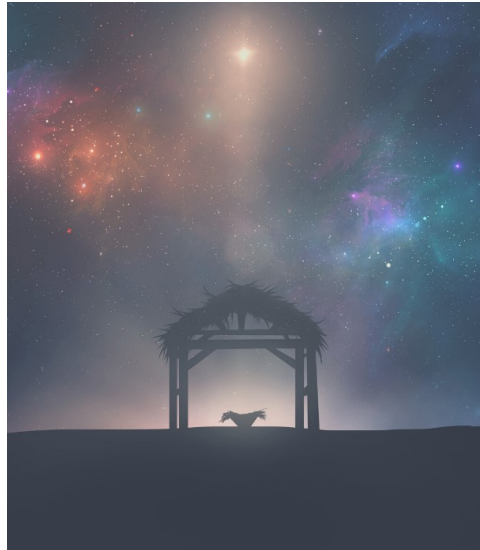
## Lamb of God Lutheran Church

### 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.



*Merry  
Christmas!*

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE  
SEASON

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE