

## 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,

There's a passage in Matthew 25 where Jesus says at His return, He will tell people who have been clothing, feeding and giving people something to drink to come join him. To those who did not do these things He will say depart from me. People often refer to these verses as "the sheep and the goats." Besides the fact that these words are chilling (which they are) they are also somewhat puzzling. Neither group seems to be aware of how they were serving Jesus.

He tells them that when you do any kindness for the least of His brothers, you do it for Him. This makes it sound like we will be "judged" by whether or not we serve other people, which contradicts the Gospel. Jesus took all our sins and failures on Himself and gave us His good works so that when God views us (if we trust His promise) He sees Jesus' perfection. Most LCMS pastors I know would be quick to point out that we are not saved by welcoming strangers or visiting those in prison, but by faith alone. This passage implies that when you believe in Jesus, you simply do all these things without even thinking about them. Unfortunately, I don't quite buy that.

If you stick to academic theology you can make that case, and probably believe it. But I've met too many people who I think really do believe Jesus is their savior, but don't live like any of the "sheep." Again, I don't doubt their sincerity, but as far as I can tell, they don't live any differently than people who don't believe at all. Maybe I'm missing something, or maybe intention matters more than this passage seems to suggest, but when I read it, it sounds to me like what we do really does matter.

I think the difference might be in believing in Jesus versus following Him. Sometimes our faith is limited to checking a box. If we filled out a census, we would check the box that says "Christian." If someone were to ask us if we believe in Jesus we would say "yes." But is that following? I think it's when we try to put God's agenda ahead of our own, when we pray, forgive others, read the Bible, worship God and try to become more like Jesus, that the things in this passage begin to happen automatically.

J. R. R. Tolkien, who wrote The Lord of the Rings, was a devout Catholic. He hated allegory, so his books were not like his friend C. S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia. In Lewis'

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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:

October 8th (following worship)

### Elders Meeting:

October 1st (following worship)

## Worship Services are In-Person and Online!

*\*Join us for in-person worship on Sundays at 10:15 am. 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:

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  
October 25th.**

## October Birthdays, Baptismal and Wedding Anniversaries

*Happy Birthday!*

Gary Beck	2
Cherie Gatterman	8
Jan Novak	9
Andrea Williams	12
Mike May	22
Paul Kranich	28

### Baptismal Anniversaries

Rebecca Geiger	1
Kylie Hayter	4
Chuck Stockton	6
Lindsey McClellan	9
Luke McClellan	9
Daisy Llerenas	14
Jan Whitman	15
Jan Novak	21
Alli Dalton	26

### Happy Anniversary

*Mike & Cherie Gatterman 10/01  
Alex & Annie Stogin 10/08*



*(continued from p. 1)*

books Aslan, the lion, is really Jesus. Lewis is repackaging the Gospel in an imaginative way. Tolkien doesn't do that. Yet forgiveness, the pervasiveness of sin, and overcoming evil through weakness rather than strength are some of the many Christian themes that fill his books.

Why? Because that's what he believed and how he lived. He was committed to following Jesus, so his faith found expression in everything he did. Matthew 25 doesn't need to make any of us nervous because we haven't given clothes to a naked person. All we need to focus on is following our Lord and our faith will leak out in everything we do.

Blessings,  
Pastor Mike

## Youth & Family Event

### Youth & Family Event—BOB'S CORN MAZE!

**When:** TBD

**Cost:** TBD

We will meet at BOB'S CORN MAZE and head on over to the maze. S'mores' and hot chocolate will be waiting for us at the half point.

**Address:** 10917 ELLIOTT ROAD, SNOHOMISH, WA 98296

All youth will need a current permission/release form. Download one off our website or pick one up from our church office. Contact Mr. Novak if you have any questions. Bring a friend. More info to come!

## 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 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**

## 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.

### Youth/Family Events

#### October

TBD—Bob's Corn Maze

27—ZLS Fall Festival

#### November

22-26—Thanksgiving Break

## News From NEHLM—Haiti Updates (September 7 & 22, 2023)

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)

*September 7, 2023*

Greetings,

There are transitions for many of us as we have entered the month of September. We shall trust in the Lord's guidance and peace as we navigate the new adventures in front of us.

For Rev. Paul and the ministry, there is a lot of action to get ready for school to begin. They are expecting to begin classes in September; however, there are government regulations that often make them begin in October. Either way, they are busy with getting uniforms, books, and supplies ready and keeping teachers engaged and informed.

The weather has been cooperative this year for agriculture. They are harvesting sweet potatoes, corn, sugar cane, plantain, and okra. It is also an appropriate time for the planting of the next round of crops, and some unique to this time of year. (This is an interesting concept for me as we live in an area with definite seasons, harvesting now and

getting ready for three months of snow covered, frozen ground.)

We are thankful for the relatively peaceful political atmosphere in Ouanaminthe. However, the challenge is that many people from other areas, mainly Port au Prince, are taking refuge in the Ouanaminthe area. Rev. Paul has some extended family moving to be with them. There are also many abandoned children. EBERs, a Haitian government agency, is trying to have these children receive care. Rev. Paul has been contacted. Lord have mercy as this ministry strives to serve but not be forced into a situation that would be hurtful.

God's peace,

Rev. Sam Wiseman

NEHLM Pastoral Adviser

*September 22, 2023*

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rev. Paul's wife Cliney's father passed away last Saturday, and they are having funeral services for him this Saturday in southern Haiti. We pray for safe travels and for those in mourning.

In Haiti there is a process of standardized testing at different points of their education. This ministry's school had two outstanding results in recent testing: (1) 100% of the ninth grade students passed the test. The normal passing rate in Haiti for the ninth grade test is 60%; and (2) The "Philo" students attained the best scores on the final tests of any school in Haiti. The attached picture is of these students and teachers in the "Philo" (Final) Class of undergraduate education. Congratulations to the students, teachers, Rev. and Cliney Paul, and Headmaster of the school, Rev. Yves Thelomarque.

The other two pictures show six new children brought to the ministry by the Haitian government, and then those students prepared for their first day of school. It is a blessing to be involved with a ministry that helps people in their time of great need, provides enrichment for life, and continually immerses those people with the Word of God. "O Holy Spirit, continue to work with that Word as You ignite and sustain faith in Jesus Christ. Amen."





# SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE—OCTOBER 2023

DATE	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
Worship Set-Up	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck	Rahn	Novak/May
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp
Elder on Duty Communion Elders	Debbie Laskey	Larry Aalbu	Gary Beck	Teri Larsen	Dale Rahn
Greeter	Murray Larsen	Aalbu Hines	Rahn	Pfiester McClellan	Geiger Larsen
Scripture Reader	Dale Rahn	Larry Aalbu	Calvin Joplin	Jennifer Wood	Elaine Repp
Children's Message	Delanie May	Brock Wolitarsky	Jan Novak	Gary Beck	Vicki Beck
Altar Guild	Heather Stahl	Heidi Llerenas	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Christine Pfiester
Power Point	Hayley McClellan	Jim Repp	Calvin Joplin	Kjell Larsen	Hayley McClellan



# SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE—NOVEMBER 2023

DATE	5th	12th	19th	26th
Worship Set-Up	Beck	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates
Elder on Duty Communion Elders	Gary Beck	Debbie Laskey	Larry Aalbu	Gary Beck
Greeter	Geiger Larsen	Frederickson	Murray Larsen	Aalbu Hines
Scripture Reader	Elaine Repp	Dale Rahn	Larry Aalbu	Calvin Joplin
Children's Message	Matt Bench	Jan Novak	Delanie May	Brock Wolitarsky
Altar Guild	Heather Stahl	Heidi Llerenas	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan
Power Point	Hayley McClellan	Jim Repp	Calvin Joplin	Kjell Larsen

# October 2023

Lamb of God Lutheran Church  
3923 103rd Ave. S.E.  
Lake Stevens, WA 98258  
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Website: [www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

<b>1</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship with communion	<b>2</b> Office Closed	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>8</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship	<b>9</b> Office Closed	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>15</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship with communion	<b>16</b> Office Closed	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>22</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship	<b>23</b> Office Closed	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> ZLS Fall Festival	<b>28</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
<b>29</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship	<b>30</b> Office Closed	<b>31</b>				

# 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.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE