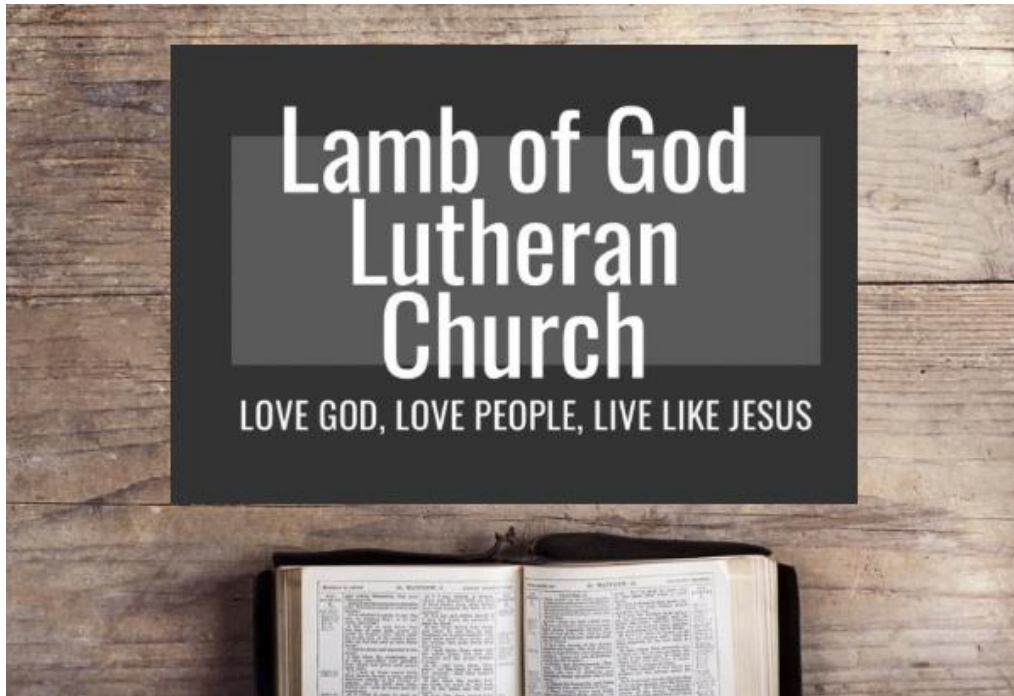


THE CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER

April 2025

| ISSUE NO. 296



FROM PASTOR MIKE:

Greetings Lamb of God,

If you were going to start your own religion, Christianity is a terrible model. The goal of a founding a religion is to gain money, power, and/or sex for its leader(s). It's not hard to see how the founders of many of the religions of the world benefited greatly. If that's what Jesus was after, He failed miserably. He never even married, much less acquired a harem. He had no savings, no discernable income. He didn't even own a home. When Satan offered him all the kingdoms of the world, He sent him

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away. When people tried to make Him king by force, He just slipped away.

Not only were His goals suspect, Jesus' methods made no sense. As any demagogue will tell you, the easiest way to gain a following is to pick out an unpopular group and start bashing them. There were plenty of potential targets: Romans, tax collectors and "sinners." If you wanted so low hanging fruit, there was always the Samaritans. But Jesus not only refrained from calling these people out, He actually engaged with them, healed them, befriended them.

"Come follow Me. Stop acquiring wealth and power, look to the well-being of people who don't like you and forgive people who treat you like garbage." How did that message gain a following? I could almost see how this might make sense if Jesus was just a pawn, manipulated by Peter, Paul and other followers, deified after His death. But they seem to have followed His lead, rejecting wealth, power and multiple romantic partners. Maybe they weren't as extreme as Jesus, but they certainly didn't leverage their position to their advantage. Even cult leaders know how to do that!

At face value, the whole proposition makes no sense. Trust in His promise for eternal life? Okay, that's a huge reward for very little cost. But the promise is given by someone who avoided everything most of us want in this world, who got humiliated and executed in the most brutal way available for His trouble. I can honestly only think of one reason this new religion stuck around for the first 300 years. It's true.

Jesus didn't just show us a better way to live. Lots of religions do that. Nor did He promise that if we followed certain rules, one day we would be rewarded when we die. Nearly every religion does that. Jesus removed our sin. If there's another religion that claims that, I haven't heard of it. His promise doesn't just start one day when you die and go to heaven; it begins now. He enables us to know the One who made us, gives us meaning and purpose, loves us with reckless abandon. Not a myth, not a story invented by someone who would profit from it. Just truth.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike

**April**

7—Monday Makers Craft Night

13—Palm Sunday

17—Maundy Thursday (soup supper @ 6:00 pm/worship @ 7:00 pm)

18—Good Friday Worship @ 7:00 pm

20—Easter Celebration Service @ 10:15 pm

25—Adult Pickleball

26—ZLS Auction @Thomas Family Farm

May

23—Adult Pickleball

26—Memorial Day

FROM THE OFFICE



Join us for in-person worship on **Sundays at 10:15 am**. We will continue to stream to Facebook LIVE.
www.facebook.com/lambofgodlakestevens/

www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Church Office Hours

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

Please contact Pastor Mike, Jan, or Shara directly if you need assistance.

- 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

CONNECT WITH US!

Pastoral Assistance

Pastor:
Mike May (314) 775-6956

Worship/Youth Leader:
Jan Novak (425) 418-6270

Elders:
Larry Aalbu (425) 422-1016
Dale Rahn (425) 422-9789
Gary Beck (541) 740-5727
Debbie Laskey (425) 319-1381
Teri Larsen (425) 356-9283

Meetings This Month

Council Meeting:
March 9th (following worship)

Elders Meeting:
March 2nd (following worship)

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.

Directory Changes:

Moving? New Phone Number? Please contact the church office with address, phone number and email changes so we can update our records. Email secretary@lambofgod-lakestevens.org. Thank you!



MONDAY MAKERS—APRIL 7TH

Join us for MONDAY MAKERS! Come and craft with us on Monday, April 7th from 6:30-9:30 pm. Bring your own crafts or join a free make and take event with supplies provided for making bows and cards.

Zion Lutheran School Gym

Monday April 7, 2025 from 6:30-9:30 pm

FREE EVENT with Free will offering for Chitina Mission Trip

ZLS AUCTION BASKET—WINE BASKET

Lamb of God is putting together an Auction basket for the ZLS auction on April 26th. Wine basket donation ideas: wine, wine glasses, wine accessories, charcuterie items, etc. Please contact the church office with any questions. Donations can be placed on the back table on Sunday mornings.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 13—Palm Sunday Worship @10:15 am

Thursday, April 17—Maunday Thursday Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm/Worship @ 7:00 pm

Friday, April 18—Good Friday Worship @ 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 20th—Easter Celebration Worship @ 10:15 am/Children's Egg Hunt following worship

Candy donations for the egg hunt can be placed on the back table on Sunday mornings.

ADULT PICKLEBALL

Pickleball Night Join us on Friday, April 25th from 7:00-9:00 pm in the ZLS gym for a fun night of pickleball. All equipment will be provided. Adults only please! Please wear non marking sole shoes. Socks will work, too. Hope to see you there! One more upcoming pickleball night before summer—May 23rd @ 7:00 pm



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. **Location: Bethel Baptist Church 2625 Hoyt Avenue**

ZLS NEWS—FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Good Morning

After our school board meeting last night, I have a few items to pass along.

The school enrollment for next fall is strong with a high retention from this year.

ZLS annual auction, Saturday, April 26 at 4:30 Thomas Family Farms

Spring break is coming up April 8-12.

Thank you for your continued support of Zion Lutheran School

Sandy Bench
Zion Lutheran School Board VP

NEWS FROM NEHLM

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission

Greetings,

February 25, 2025

Rev. Paul reported that, "Politics in Port au Prince continue to be saddened by the death of one of the Kenyan policemen by a gang north of Port au Prince near Gonaives. We are praying for God to protect them all." The Kenyan police were sent as a "peace keeping" unit in the summer of 2024. There are many issues involved in trying to determine their effectiveness. It has historically been difficult for outside military forces to be effective.

Djeferson is the boy who had the head injury while helping transport some wood. Rev. Paul said, "Djeferson is doing well. He has returned to school. He does continue to get new bandages on his wounds every two days." Another health concern is for a pastor, Rev. Paul Touloute, who is in the hospital with respiratory concerns. Rev. Touloute attended Concordia Theological Seminary with Rev. Paul and myself. He resides in Les Ceyes, southern Haiti.

I am planning a trip to visit Rev. Paul's ministry this May and have one other participant going with me. The travel concerns are minimal in north east Haiti. A member of NEHLM attempts to visit at least every other year.



March 13, 2025

A Blessed Lenten Season to You,

"Trust in the Lord...He will make straight your paths." In our Midweek Lenten services, we are using Proverbs 3:1-12; this quote is from verses 5-5. We think of straight paths to a justified and more sanctified life here in time as we trust God's keeping of us on His straight path to life everlasting with Him.

On our recent phone call, Rev. Paul reported, "We are doing very well. Mommy is coming home today!" "Mommy," is the name most people in his ministry call his wife Cliney. She had been in Santiago for Jaccina's graduation. I have attached a couple photos. Jaccina is already working in a job in Santiago in a hotel. She is pursuing getting a work visa to stay in the Dominican Republic to be able to help support the four other ladies who are continuing their studies. Lord willing, I will have two other graduations to share with you later this year.

I have scheduled a trip to visit La Maison des Agneaux de Dieu Orphelinat (The House of the Lambs of God Orphanage) in May 2025. I have one other person going with me at this time. Rev. Paul is excited for host guests and has several things planned for us. We will have some luggage space to take cards, letters, or an item about the size of a card. Please send them to NEHLM by May 1st if you have something.



APRIL 2025

APRIL SERVANTS CALENDAR

	6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th
Worship Set-Up	Beck	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp
Elder on Duty	Teri Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey
Greeter	Murray Hines	Pfiester McClellan	Geiger Larsen	Alanis Schoonover
Scripture Reader	Dale Rahn	Grant Bryan	Evey Larsen	Will Bryan
Children's Message	Delanie May	Jennifer Wood	Gary Beck	Vicki Beck
Altar Guild	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Heidi Llerenas	Christine Pfiester
Power Point	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis	Kjell Larsen	Carla Schoonover

MAY SERVANTS CALENDAR

	4 th	11 th	18 th	25 th
Worship Set-Up	Rahn	Novak/May	Beck	Rahn
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates
Elder on Duty	Phil Bates	Gary Beck	Teri Larsen	Larry Aalbu
Greeter	Frederickson Rahn	Murray Hines	Pfiester McClellan	Geiger Larsen
Scripture Reader	Mike Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Sara Bryan	Larry Aalbu
Children's Message	Evey Larsen Amanda Pfiester	Jan Novak	Brock Wolitarsky	Delanie May
Altar Guild	Heather Stahl	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Heidi Llerenas
Power Point	Kjell Larsen	Hayley McClellan	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

APRIL 2025

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

Website: www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
6 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship with communion Elders Meeting (following worship)	7 Office Closed	8	9	10	11	12 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
13 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship Council Meeting (following worship)	14 Office Closed	15	16	17 Maudy Thursday Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm Worship @ 7:00 pm	18 Good Friday Worship @ 7:00 pm	19 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
20 Easter Celebration 10:15 am Worship Egg hunt (following worship)	21 Office Closed	22	23	24	25 Adult Pickleball @ 7:00 pm	26 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am ZLS Auction @ 5:00 pm
27 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship	28 Office Closed	29	30			

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Join us for worship and soup supper!

Palm Sunday—April 13

Worship @ 10:15 am

Maundy Thursday—April 17

Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm
Evening Service @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday—April 18

Evening Service @ 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday—April 20

Worship @ 10:15 am



COME OUT AND SUPPORT!

Zion Lutheran
THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE.
LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT
(PSALM 118: 24)

SOCK HOP

36TH ANNUAL *Auction*

VISIT
WWW.ZIONLSAUTION.COM
TO RSVP, DONATE &
SPONSOR!

PLEASE JOIN US!
Saturday
APRIL 26TH 4:30 PM

THOMAS FAMILY FARMS - SNOHOMISH

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

3923 103rd AVE SE

Lake Stevens, WA 98258

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GET IN TOUCH



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