

## THE CONNECTION

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026 | ISSUE NO. 306



## FROM PASTOR MIKE:

Greetings Lamb of God,

Two of the most powerful words in any language are “us” and “them.” Every language has its version. Every culture has a way to differentiate between insiders and outsiders, those who belong and those who do not, our side and the opposition. We do it based on race, nationality, income, religion, culture, age, gender and far, far too many other things to list here. Behavioral scientists occasionally conduct experiments which produce predictably extreme results.

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Pass out red and blue t-shirts to a group of strangers and soon they are behaving with genuine animosity to shirts of the wrong color.

This is nothing new. What Jesus did to upset Jewish leaders more than anything else was fail to respect the us and them boundaries. He ate with known sinners, even tax collectors. He even brought one into His inner circle. He told stories where Samaritans were the good guys. He even spoke to a Samaritan woman in public. He traveled to the Decapolis, ten pagan cities, and performed miracles there despite saying that it wasn't right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs. It seems like Jesus considered Israel not so much the chosen people as the people chosen to give the good news to all the people.

Jesus had no use for the barriers people put up in his day and I don't see any reason He would respect the ones we put up either, even when we do it in the name of Christianity. Jesus treated people of other faiths with respect. He associated with people on opposite ends of the political spectrum. He included the marginalized. He recognized the ignored. I can't prove it, but I bet he was even super patient with the highly annoying. He taught and lived this way because He knew what He wanted us to know: there is no us and them. There's only us.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



### February

16—Presidents' Day

18—Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 pm/Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm

### March

6-8—Puget Sound Youth Gathering

21—Spring Bazaar !0:00 am-3:00 pm to benefit Chitna Mission Trip

# 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/](http://www.facebook.com/lambofgodlakestevens/)  
[www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org](http://www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org)

## Church Office Hours

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

- 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)

**You can now find recordings of sermons on our YouTube channel @lambofgodlakestevens**

## 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  
Phil Bates (253) 381-2008

## Meetings This Month

Council Meeting:  
January 11 (following worship)

Elders Meeting:  
January 4 (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](http://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](mailto:secretary@lambofgod-lakestevens.org). Thank you!



## SPRING BAZAAR SUPPORTING CHITNA

A colorful poster for a Spring Bazaar. It features icons for a clothes hanger, a birdhouse, a necklace, and an embroidery hoop. The text reads: "Spring Bazaar", "Crafts ~ Pottery ~ Jewelry ~ Direct Sales ~ Avery's Chicken & Waffles Food Truck ~ and so much more!", "March 21, 2026", "10AM - 3PM", "Zion Lutheran School Gym", "3923 103rd Ave SE", "Lake Stevens, WA 98258". It also includes a lollipop icon and text: "Fundraising for our Mission Trip to Chitna, Alaska! Lamb of God & Peace Lutheran churches". At the bottom are icons for a paint palette, yarn, and a basket.

**Spring Bazaar**  
Crafts ~ Pottery ~ Jewelry ~ Direct Sales ~  
Avery's Chicken & Waffles Food Truck ~  
and so much more!  
March 21, 2026  
10AM - 3PM  
Zion Lutheran School Gym  
3923 103rd Ave SE  
Lake Stevens, WA 98258  
Fundraising for our  
Mission Trip to Chitna, Alaska!  
Lamb of God & Peace Lutheran churches

For more information on being a vender for the bazaar, please see Christine Larsen.

## ASH WEDNESDAY—FEBRUARY 18TH

Join us for Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm and Service @ 7:00 pm.

## WEEKLY CONNECTION EMAILS

If you stop receiving our Weekly Connection News emails and you did not unsubscribe, please contact the church office. We have had a couple of glitches with mailchimp removing subscribers from our list.



## 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 School Board Updates 01/27/2026

Greetings,

The school board met tonight and I'll try to sum up some of the key points.

Peter and the Executive Board toured the classrooms at Zion Lutheran in Snohomish. They have classrooms available with the Academy of Snohomish not renewing their lease.

There are lots of things to be considered and the board had lots of good questions in our process to look at all available resources for ZLS.

There is an Open House at the school on Friday, January 30th, by invitation only for new families interested in ZLS. More than 30 families have registered.

Teachers have an in-service day so no kids will be at school during the open house.

The new gate interface has been installed and is working properly. There are four primary uses of the new system and all the final details are being carefully planned to ensure a seamless start to using the new system.

Work continues on the campus to get the property ready to talk with the County about transition from portables to new permanent structures with some modifications to our existing Conditional Use Permit.

Please keep Zion Lutheran School, the kids, the teachers, the administrators and the school board members in your prayers.

We are a team, working together for God's Kingdom.

Have a blessed day,

Sandy Bench

ZLS Board Vice President

# NEWS FROM NEHLM

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission

January 7, 2026

Greetings,

A blessed Epiphany Season to you as God continues to reveal Himself in His Word and Sacraments to nurture people of faith.

Rev. Daniel Paul reported on their New Year's/Independence Day Celebration. (It was January 1, 1804, that Haiti became a nation, making Haiti the second oldest country in the Western Hemisphere.) He reported that they had a "long Service" on December 31st in which they served the Haitian traditional Pumpkin Soup. He said, "We all ate a lot of soup!" I have eaten Haitian Pumpkin Soup several times. It is rather tasty with pumpkin, some other vegetables, spices, and a spattering of meat (except when I have eaten it in the USA where more meat is added). They then had a January 1st Service that he said lasted from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Since he gave the time of a three hour Service for New Year's Day, I wondered how long the "long Service" on New Year's Eve really was! I never did get hours and minutes of that Service, but if he said it was a "long Service," I would venture to say it was more than three hours.

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission appreciates that some supporters have sent funds towards development of a worship center. We have pulled out some plans and look forward to starting work on the first phase once things are in line, Lord willing. Our main concern will be for the ongoing daily life of worship, education, food, and care for the people of this ministry. Bless you for your support. It will be advantageous for communication, correspondences, etc. when and if the governmental instability is corrected in Haiti.

January 23, 2026

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

In my recent conversation with Rev. Paul, the phone was passed around to Cliney (Rev. Paul's wife), and two young men who are considering the Call into the ministry who were visiting. I struggled to communicate with these three in Haitian Creole, and they giggled and struggled to speak with me in English (Cliney the most proficient). We had a congenial conversation and were able to swap "Thank you's," which is *merci* in Creole.

In mid-January, a group of six representing Hope for Haiti visited La Maison des Agneaux de Dieu Orphelinat (MADO-The House of the Lambs of God Orphanage) and tended to 182 people for eye health, distributing 150 pairs of glasses. This group also brought 1500 lbs. of rice, 1000 lbs. of beans, 200 lbs. of flour, 40 lbs. of spaghetti, 50 gallons of cooking oil, and 250 lbs. of brown sugar. Praise God, the pantry is well blessed. The pictures below show a picture of Cliney appreciating the food in the pantry and another picture of children who gathered to do activities with the group. I have taken notes on their travel arrangements and NEHLM is considering a trip in 2027 as they had no issues of travel problems to Haiti or while they were there. This group purposely avoided the Port au Prince area that is very unstable.

We praise God as the Word of the Lord grows through this ministry in Haiti as people are cared for.



## FEBRUARY SERVANTS CALENDAR

	1 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Worship Set-Up</b>	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
<b>Worship Take-Down</b>	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
<b>Soundboard</b>	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis
<b>Elder on Duty</b>	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey	Phil Bates	Gary Beck
<b>Greeter</b>	Alanis Schoonover	Frederickson Rahn	Murray Hines	Pfiester McClellan
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey	Jennifer Wood	Dale Rahn
<b>Children's Message</b>	Vicki Beck	Jan Novak	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen	Brock Wolitarsky
<b>Kid Zone</b>	Vicki Beck	Rilee Henderson	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen	Marjorie O'Rourke
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Heidi Llerenas	Christine Larsen
<b>Power Point</b>	Kjell Larsen	Carla Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Marjorie O'Rourke

## MARCH SERVANTS CALENDAR

	1 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Worship Set-Up</b>	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
<b>Worship Take-Down</b>	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
<b>Soundboard</b>	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates
<b>Elder on Duty</b>	Teri Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey	Phil Bates
<b>Greeter</b>	Geiger Larsen	Alanis Schoonover	Frederickson Rahn	Murray Hines	Pfiester McClellan
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Evey Larsen	Mike Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey
<b>Children's Message</b>	Delanie May	Jennifer Wood	Gary Beck	Vicki Beck	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen
<b>Kid Zone</b>	Stacie Leaf	Rilee Henderson	Marjorie O'Rourke	Vicki Beck	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Heather Stahl	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Heidi Llerenas	Christine Pfiester
<b>Power Point</b>	Kjell Larsen	Hayley McClellan	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis	Kjell Larsen

# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

## FEBRUARY 2026

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)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 am Family Ed 10:15 am Worship with communion Elders Meeting (following worship)	<b>2</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<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 Council Meeting (following worship)	<b>9</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<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> <b>Presidents Day Office Closed</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Ash <b>Wednesday</b> Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm Worship @ 7:00 pm	<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> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am



# Ash Wednesday Service



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 @ 7:00 PM  
SOUP SUPPER @ 6:00 PM

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**Lamb of God Lutheran Church**

**3923 103<sup>rd</sup> AVE SE**

**Lake Stevens, WA 98258**

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

## GET IN TOUCH



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



+(425) 377-2173



@LAMBOFGODLAKESTEVENS



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