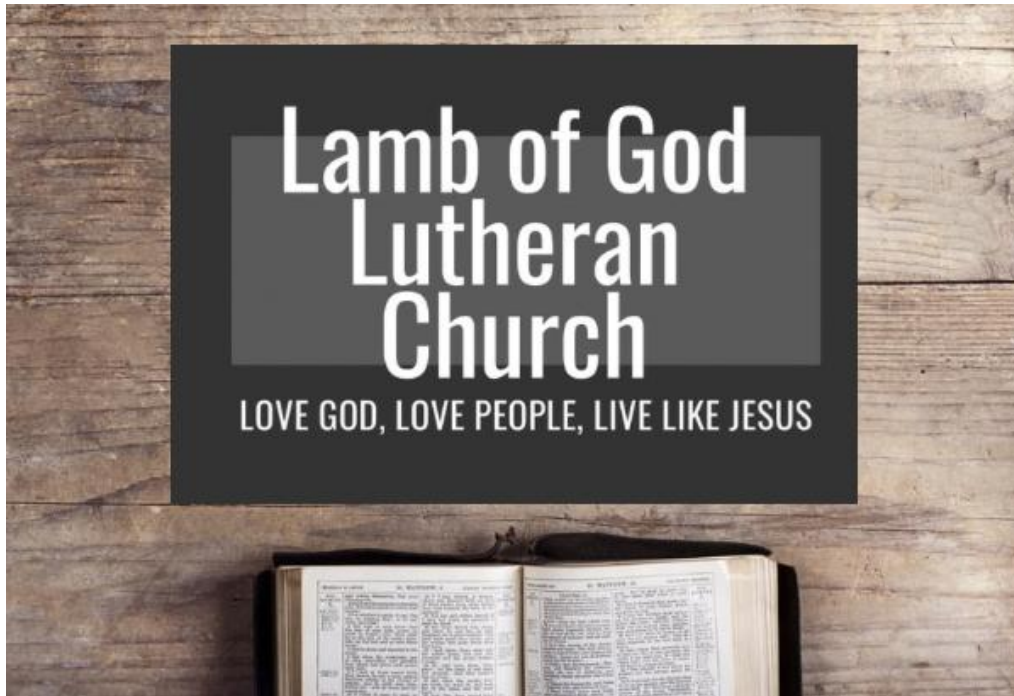


THE CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026 | ISSUE NO. 310



FROM PASTOR MIKE:

Greetings Lamb of God,

My latest conversations with the 8th graders has been about the motives we attribute to others. In Matthew 25, Jesus told a parable about a master entrusting portion of his wealth to his servants while he went on a journey. The first two do well but the third does not:

"Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered

(Continued on p. 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 **From Pastor Mike**
- 2 **Looking Ahead**
- 3 **From the Office**
- 4 **Upcoming Events**
- 5 **Outreach**
- 6 **News from NEHLM**
- 7 **Servants Calendar**
- 8 **Calendar**
- 9 **Reminders**

(continued from p. 1)

seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.” (Matthew 25:24-25)

Why does he bury his masters gold rather than invest it? Jesus tells us he was afraid. But why was he afraid? The man had an impression of the master that does not seem to be shared by the other servants. More significantly, since characters in Jesus’ parables are usually representatives of his followers, the Pharisees, God or Himself, it’s not too hard to see that the master is a representation of God. We seem to make very bad decisions when we think of God as a “hard man, harvesting where he has not sown.” And while I don’t think the assumption the servant makes about God could be more wrong, I think we can make the same kind of error in the assumptions we make about our fellow humans.

True, we won’t be as far off base as negative assumptions about God, but I find that attributing negative motivation to the actions of people around you never pays off, even when your assumptions are correct. It’s natural for us to look at bad things we do as honest mistakes or perhaps a momentary lapse in judgment, but too often, our tendency is to see the same actions performed by others as being done with malice and evil intent. It’s easy to see how a conversation will go when that’s our starting point isn’t it?

The importance of this hit home for me again recently as I read Jonathan Haidt’s *The Righteous Mind*. Haidt, an atheist and moral psychologist was struggling to see the value of religion in society. He took a trip to India where he was immersed in a culture that was completely alien to him. While his own cultural bias led him to dismiss his hosts as superstitious, primitive and oppressive to women, instead he found himself able to appreciate their point of view. His experience was a turning point in his understanding of his chosen field. What enabled him to see his hosts in this way? Simply put, he liked them.

Simply because they were friendly and generous, Haidt was able to consider positive motives for their actions and begin to appreciate the positive impact of faith on culture. People can look at the exact same situation and come away with vastly different experiences. Conversations take different turns depending on what we assume about other people. Relationships live and die on this. If you can stop and make yourself give other people the benefit of the doubt, you will not regret it.

Blessings,
Pastor Mike



June

12—ZLS Last Day of School

15-17—Basketball Camp

21—Father’s Day

22-26—Joint VBS with Peace

July

4—Independence Day

17-25—Alaska Mission Trip

FROM THE OFFICE



Join us for in-person worship on **Sundays at 10:15 am**. We will now stream to YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/@lambogodlakes>
tevens/streams

www.lambogod-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
- Jan (425) 418-6270 or worship@lambogod-lakestevens.org
- Shara (425) 299-1518 or secretary@lambogod-lakestevens.org

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

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:
June 14 (following worship)

Elders Meeting:
June 7 (following worship)

Directory Update:

Please update your directory:
Natalie Hansen
648 Utsalady RD
Camano Island, WA 98282
(425) 7602584

Weekly Connection News Emails:

If you would like to subscribe to our weekly Connection News emails, visit the homepage on our website at www.lambogod-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@lambogod-lakestevens.org. Thank you!



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Evey Larsen is graduating from Academy Northwest on June 6th. She will be attending Evergreen Beauty College starting in July.
Congrats Evey!



BASKETBALL CAMP—JUNE 15-17

Junior Cougar Basketball Camp (grades 2-4) 9:00-11:30 am. Cougar Basketball Camp (grades 5-9) 1:00-3:30 pm. Spaces are filling up. Sign up on our website at www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org/summercamps

VBS—WITH PEACE MONROE—JUNE 22-26

Lamb of God is partnering with Peace Monroe to help with their upcoming VBS. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Kim to sign up. Contact Kim: kimroeske82@gmail.com for questions.

Kids Bible Day Camp

Registration for children in Preschool-grade 5 is now open to attend Kids Bible Day Camp on June 22-26 at Peace Lutheran Church. Please share this information with your family and friends. For more information or to sign up visit www.peacemonroe.org.



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 of 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 Update 05/26/2026

Greetings from ZLS Board,

Baccalaureate for the 8th Grade class will be on Sunday, June 7th 1:00 pm at Messiah, Marysville

Graduation for the 8th Grade class will be on Monday, June 8th at 7 pm at the school gym

Last day of school will be June 12th

ZLS will be working on NLSA Re-accreditation documents from August to December 2026.

There were two curriculum committees this year, Social Studies and English Language Arts, which are working on their final recommendations.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for ZLS, teachers, and students.

Have a blessed day,

Sandy Bench

ZLS Board (VP)

NEWS FROM NEHLM

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission

May 8, 2026

Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rev. Paul had an eventful week of driving some people from the states to look at his facilities and especially his and some other agricultural plots. These people are looking to partner with Rev. Paul, the Haiti Lutheran Mission Society, Trees that Feed Foundation, Arbor Day Foundation, and some other sources to establish a bakery in Ouanaminthe that will use breadfruit. There appears to be some ambitious plans that will provide work for many Haitians as nutritious food is prepared. I will keep you informed of these developments when I can.

Please continue to pray for Haiti as there is increased stability in the country. Two groups from the USA have visited this ministry this year with safe travels. Plans continue to develop on elections taking place this year. There are likely challenges ahead; however, having their government operate according to their constitution will have further benefits.

Attached is a picture of Rev. Yves Thelemarque and his wife, Manise. Yves is the Pastor for the church in Baja and the Headmaster of the school in Ouanaminthe. Manise is the supportive pastor's wife and the Headmistress of the school in Baja.



May 20, 2026

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who with the Father sent the Blessed Holy Spirit. An enriching Pentecost Sunday and Season to you all,

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission (NEHLM) is blessed to be pursuing further service to the ministry and the Ouanaminthe, Haiti, community through partnering with others. The present pursuit is focused on growing breadfruit and establishing a bakery to process the harvest to both use and sell in the community. This would allow for gainful employment for many and healthy food at a reasonable cost to the people. I will try to keep you updated on details of this project.

The attached photos are of the teachers from Monday, May 19th. NEHLM helps honor the teachers of the schools with this yearly celebration in which they go to the beach and have a special meal and cake. Cliney (Rev. Daniel Paul's wife) and Marguerite (their eldest daughter) are in the front row on the right side. Marguerite is finishing her studies in Santiago, Dominican Republic, but came home to be part of this celebration.



JUNE SERVANTS CALENDAR

	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
Worship Set-Up	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Ruben Alanis	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Ruben Alanis
Elder on Duty	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey	Phil Bates	Gary Beck
Greeter	Pfiester McClellan	Geiger Larsen	Alanis Schoonover	Frederickson Rahn
Scripture Reader	Angela Moore	Kjell Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey
Children's Message	Delanie May	Jennifer Wood	Gary Beck	Matt Bench
Kid Zone	Rilee Henderson	Vicki Beck	Stacie Leaf	Matt Bench
Altar Guild	Christine Larsen	Heather Stahl	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan
Power Point	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis	Kjell Larsen	Marjorie O'Rourke

JULY SERVANTS CALENDAR

	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th
Worship Set-Up	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
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	Angela Moore	Kjell Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey
Children's Message	Marjorie O'Rourke	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen	Brock Wolitarsky	Vicki Beck
Kid Zone	Marjorie O'Rourke	Amanda Pfiester Evey Larsen	Rilee Henderson	Vicki Beck
Altar Guild	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Power Point	Kjell Larsen	Carla Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

JUNE 2026

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	6 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
7 10:15 am Worship with communion Elders Meeting (following worship)	8 Office Closed	9	10	11	12	13 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
14 10:15 am Worship Council Meeting (following worship)	15 Office Closed Basketball Camp Grades 2-4 @ 9:00 am Basketball Camp Grades 5-9 @ 1:00 pm	16	17	18	19	20 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
21 FATHER'S DAY 10:15 am Worship with communion	22 Office Closed VBS w/Peace Monroe @ 9:15 am	23	24	25	26	27 Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
28 10:15 am Worship	29 Office Closed	30				




LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS

BASKETBALL CAMP

JUNE 15-17 9:00-11:30 AM
(GRADES ENTERING 2ND-4TH)

JUNE 15-17 1:00-3:30 PM
(GRADES ENTERING 5TH-9TH)

Zion Lutheran School Gym
Cost: \$60
For More Information or to Register, visit
www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org/summercamps

TWO SESSIONS!!

June 22-26
9:15-11:30AM

MUSIC * CRAFTS * FUN * GAMES * FREE *

Kids Bible Day Camp

Register at
PeaceMonroe.org

AMAZING ADVENTURES W/ JESUS

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GET IN TOUCH



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