THE CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026 I ISSUE NO. 315



FROM PASTOR MIKE:

Greetings Lamb of God,

As many of you are aware, our dog Indigo died last year, leaving Jojo an only dog. Pyrenees are a working breed, bred to live with and guard sheep from predators and they tend to take up that role in families. Somewhere in Her Pyrenees brain Jojo recognized the need for a guardian, but she's never worked a day in her life. Indigo took care of all that since she came to us.

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Her job was to stare Lori down for milkbones at about 6 every night. She's a princess. She wasn't doing well, so we ended up getting a new dog, Brian.

I know Brian is a weird name for a dog, but he already knew it when he came to us and while he was a hard worker, he was not rocket scientist. Jojo improved. She knew the job that needed to be done was being done, so she could devote herself fully to princess things again. The only problem was that Brian was young and had a lot of energy. He was remarkably athletic for a Pyrenees.

He could destroy the inside of our house if left alone, but he could also jump over our 6 foot fence. He destroyed—destroyed—the dog crate I left him in. I had to resort to taking him to doggie day care. I never saw myself doing that for a dog, but Jojo could benefit from extra socialization and it was only while I was at the gym, so what the heck. I know this story is going on for a long time but I've finally come to the important part.

Jojo enjoyed the daycare part for a while, but she didn't like the ride over. Brian is a lot. He wanted to play all the time. So in the back of my truck he chomps on her constantly. Eventually Jojo started hanging back instead of loading up, so I let her skip daycare. Brian would go alone. At least he would burn off some energy that way and give Jojo a little peace. Then last weekend, Brian got a taste of his own medicine.

Some friends with young dogs were out of town for the weekend, so we said we would be happy to dog-sit for them. These guys were all over Brian and he loved it. For about half an hour. Then Mr. Never Gets Enough turned into Mr. Leave Me Alone. Classic. At least he would gain some empathy for Jojo. Sunday afternoon, we handed the pups back over and everyone relaxed and caught up on football and baseball. Then Monday morning, I loaded Brian and Jojo up in the truck for daycare…and he chomped her head.

So empathy isn't really a dog thing. How are we doing? Jesus called out the Pharisees for hypocrisy all the time. If we shake our heads and feel superior because we never condemn other for things we are guilty of doing, then we should take a few minutes to look up "irony" in the dictionary. Yes, take the time to look it up rather than google it. The investment in time will pay off.

I don't know how many times I've been guilty of doing what Brian is doing. Not many, I hope, but more than once, I'm sure. Still, I'm convinced compassion can be learned. We just have to put ourselves in the other dog's place.

Blessings,
Pastor Mike



November

11—Veteran's Day

15—Men's Logger Cup (details p. 9)

22—Voter's Meeting (following worship)

26—Thanksgiving

December

6—Baby Shower for Emily Knowlton

20—Youth Christmas Service

24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 7:00 pm

25—Christmas Day (no service)

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/@lambofgodlakestevens/streams

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
- Jan (425) 418-6270 or worship@lambofgod-lakestevens.org
- Shara (425) 299-1518 or 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:
October 11 (following worship)

Elders Meeting:
October 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 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.



FALL VOTER'S MEETING

The fall Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22nd following worship. We will be voting on the 2027 budget and election of officers.

BABY SHOWER FOR EMILY (CAMERON) KNOWLTON

Date: Sunday, December 6th @ 2:00 pm
Location: Vicki Beck's home (4514 67th AVE NE, Marysville)
RSVP: Susie Rahn (425-350-2184)
Please contact Susie if you'd like to help with refreshments. Thank you!

Emily and Alex are expecting their first baby in January. They are registered at Amazon. They are also looking to purchase a rocker and possibly a crib so if anyone would rather contribute to that, they would appreciate it. They would also utilize Costco gift cards for diapers and wipes.

MEN'S LOGGER CUP

Mark your calendars! Join us Sunday, November 15th at Pastor Mike's house for a "Best in Show" food/drink face off. More details on the flyer on page 9. Contact Matt Bench with any questions.

SMALL GROUPS

Ongoing Small groups:

- Rahns—1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month
- Mays—2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month
- Becks—1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month

If you would like to join, please contact the group host for more information.



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**

Looking Ahead to Christmas

Youth Christmas Service-December 20, 2026

Our youth, young and old will lead our worship service on December 20, 2026. They will help lead our entire worship service from beginning to end with the songs, scripture readings, Children's Message, prayers, special music and the blessing. If you or your child would like to be involved in any way, please contact Jan Novak before Sunday, November 30. There will be no Kid's Zone that Sunday, December because our entire service will be the Kid's Zone :) .

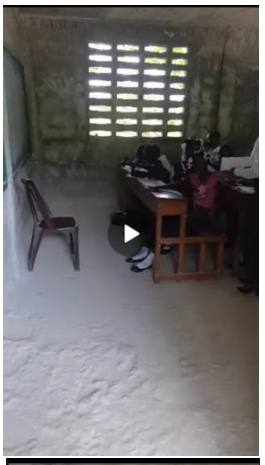


NEWS FROM NEHLM

Nord Est Haiti Lutheran Mission

September 29, 2026

Greetings,



I shared with Rev. Paul that we are glad to be able to vote this fall--electing people to serve our communities, our counties, our states, and the nation along with voting for some ballot measures. We have a community ballot measure to add a gas tax. We do need upkeep of roads, but I find it hard to ask voters to volunteer to pay more taxes; however, the walkers, bicyclists, and electric vehicle drivers do not have the personal expenditure. We will see. I asked Rev. Paul about elections in Haiti. There was a pause, a slight moan and then he responded, "They talk about elections. But I don't think it is possible." He shared concerns about the gangs in Port au Prince and other issues that are not settled. "O Lord, guide these people to be proactive in formalizing a government to serve them."

I inquired about Pepe and his wife Archline who have been with the ministry since 2005. Pepe was a hardworking handyman for a decade or so, went through studies to be a pastor, and in the process married Archline who was an orphan. Presently Pepe works as a "tap-tap" or taxi driver with a three-wheeled motorcycle and as an assistant pastor to Rev. Paul. Recently, he has also become a tailor. Pepe continues to be a hard worker. Archeline has been consistently teaching elementary classes. Rev. Paul shared, "They are expecting a child in about three months." I told him to give them my congratulations.



The attached photos (they are screenshots and not videos) are of a wing of the school that still needs to be finished. Some NEHLM funds were forwarded to allow this to take place. Thank you for your support. Rev. Paul explained, "The walls, floor, and ceiling will get two layers of cement to make a smooth surface, and then the walls will be painted."

We are privileged to walk with this ministry that is steadfast in "making disciples of all nations and teaching them to obey" the Word of God.

October 14, 2026

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Praise God for Rev. Daniel Paul's ministry to continue to preach the Word of God, educate youth, care for children without homes, etc. October 18th, Adeline is graduating from her university in Cap Haitian. Adeline lived in the girls' home since she was a young child. Her sister is Archline who teaches at the ministry's school and is the wife of Assistant Pastor Pepe. Two other young ladies (Lusy Love and Wiseland) will be graduating from their universities in Haiti in December.

Rev. Paul explained that taxes for property, school, hired workers (a type of disability tax), vehicles, etc. have increased. I inquired how this was possible with a government that has yet to have an election and seems unstable. He assured me that they have many avenues to get the tax money that is being assessed. As we talked, we agreed that getting the government stabilized would allow the people of Haiti to be represented and to have benefits that a government could provide. "Lord, grant wisdom and direction to all the governments in the world as they serve with the authority You have provided them."

Rev. Paul and Cliney's oldest daughter Margarit graduated from her university in the Dominican Republic. She came and spent time in Haiti, but job opportunities are more plentiful in the Dominican Republic. She is waiting on an official paper from the Dominican Republic to be able to work.

God's peace, Rev. Samuel Wiseman

NOVEMBER SERVANTS CALENDAR

	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
Worship Set-Up	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	Kjell Larsen	Jason Knapp	Jason Knapp	Phil Bates	Jason Knapp
Elder on Duty	Gary Beck	Teri Larsen	Larry Aalbu	Dale Rahn	Debbie Laskey
Greeter	Larsen	Alanis Schoonover	Frederickson Rahn	Murray Hines	Larsen McClellan
Scripture Reader	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey	Paul Kranich	Jen Wood	Angela Moore
Children's Message	Gary Beck	Vicki Beck	Jen Wood	Marjorie O'Rourke	Matt Bench
Kid Zone	Stacie Leaf	Vicki Beck	Evey Larsen Amanda Pfiester	Marjorie O'Rourke	Rilee Henderson
Altar Guild	Heather Stahl	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	Heidi Llerenas	Christine Larsen
Power Point	Carla Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Marjorie O'Rourke	Kjell Larsen	Deb Alanis

DECEMBER SERVANTS CALENDAR

	6th	13th	20th	24th Christmas Eve	27th
Worship Set-Up	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen	Braidyn Larsen
Worship Take-Down	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone	Everyone
Soundboard	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Elder on Duty	Phil Bates	Gary Beck	Teri Larsen	TBD	Larry Aalbu
Greeter	Larsen	Alanis Schoonover	Frederickson Rahn	No Greeters	Murray Hines
Scripture Reader	Larry Aalbu	Debbie Laskey	Paul Kranich	TBD	Jen Wood
Children's Message	Brock Wolitarsky	Gary Beck	Youth Christmas Service	N/A	Jen Wood
Kid Zone	Stacie Leaf	Vicki Beck	Youth Christmas Service	N/A	Marjorie O'Rourke
Altar Guild	Heather Stahl	Joelle Cameron	Hayley McClellan	TBD	Heidi Llerenas
Power Point	Kjell Larsen	Carla Schoonover	Kjell Larsen	Marjorie O'Rourke	Kjell Larsen

Lamb of God Lutheran Church
LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, LIVE LIKE JESUS

NOVEMBER 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 10:15 am Worship with communion Elders Meeting (following worship)	***2*** **Office Closed**	***3***	***4*** Small Group Beck's Home	***5*** Small Group Rahn's home	***6***	***7*** Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
8 10:15 am Worship Council Meeting (following worship)	***9*** **Office Closed**	***10***	***11*** **Veteran's Day** **Office Closed**	***12*** Small Group May's home	***13***	***14*** Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
15 10:15 am Worship 12:00 pm Men's Logger Cup	***16*** **Office Closed**	***17***	***18*** Small Group Beck's Home	***19*** Small Group Rahn's home	***20***	***21*** Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
22 10:15 am Worship Voter's Meeting (following worship)	***23*** **Office Closed**	***24***	***25***	***26*** **Thanksgiving** **Office Closed**	***27*** **Office Closed**	***28*** Lord's Little Cooker 7:45 am
29 10:15 am Worship	***30*** **Office Closed**					

LATE FALL LOGGERS CUP

BEST IN SHOW FOOD/DRINK FACE-OFF
DURING SEAHAWKS – RAIDERS GAME



BEST CHILI



WOW! DRINK



FAVORITE DESSERT



WINNER & SCORE

- **What** – A time for men (High School age and above) to fellowship, have fun, share great food and drinks of all kinds, and watch some NFL football on TV
- **Contest**– attendees will vote for best chili, most delicious drink (of any kind), favorite desert, and "best in show". Best in show will win the loggers cup. Side contests related to the NFL game just for fun
- **What YOU need to do!** – Select what you want to bring (chili, drink, desert, or yourself) and put your name and selection on the **sign-up sheet October 18th and subsequent Sundays,** at the back of church, or email it to Matt. If unable or not interested in the contest, but want to come, please come (√ the "WILL ATTEND" box). Contestants can bring self-made, other-person made, or store bought. All are acceptable options. Tie breaker goes to home made
- **Where** – Pastor Mike and Lori's house – 6811 110th Ave. NE, Lake Stevens WA
- **When** – Sunday, Novembrer 15th. Noonish until the Seahawks game ends (game starts at 1:05 PM)
- **Questions** – Matt Bench 425-501-2163 (call or text), Email: mgbench@msn.com
- **Feel free to invite a friend(s)**



You're invited to a

BABY SHOWER

12/06 @ 2:00 PM AT VICKI BECK'S HOME
CELEBRATING EMILY (CAMERON) KNOWLTON



Lamb of God Lutheran Church

3923 103rd AVE SE

Lake Stevens, WA 98258

www.lambofgod-lakestevens.org

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