



LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John 1:29

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Message from Pastor Roebke 1
- LLC, Faith of the Flock, MOM, Upcoming events 2
- Scriptorium, Mary/Martha LWMS Trip, Budget 3
- Officer/Committee Directory Listing, Facebook Safety 101 4

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

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Pastor John Roebke

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Office Hours: 9 AM - 1 PM
Monday through Friday

Bible Study :

Sunday Morning 9:00 AM
Wednesday 6:30 PM

Choir Practice:

Wednesday Eve 7:30 PM

Worship :

Sunday: 10:30 AM

Little Lambs Learning Center

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Morning Out Ministry

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THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

The GOOD NEWS letter
Volume 3, Issue 5

October 2010

By Pastor
John Roebke

YOU'VE GOT TIME FOR EVERYTHING THAT MATTERS

What's something that flies without wings, crawls without arms and legs, that everybody has to spend, yet is more precious than gold or silver? The answer, of course, is time. Time for yourself, time for your family, time to finish your projects at work and around the house, time is always in short supply. And no matter how hard we try to squeeze more work out of the day, using our smartphones to send and receive emails, running for milk from the grocery store, talking to our spouse, listening to the kids and updating our Facebook page all at the same time, we lie down at night realizing how much we've still got to do.

Everyone in this world gets 24 hours a day, yet some of us are better at managing their schedule than others. Some of us drive like we're on the NASCAR tour, others coolly pull in a half hour ahead of schedule. The secret lies not in a private passageway to an alternate universe, but in realizing the cruel but unavoidable truth that there is never enough time. Instead of looking how we can cram more into our busy schedule, we ought to take an ax to our time budget. Instead of whining about how "busy" we always are, we ought to stop making excuses for our lack of self-discipline, our inability to say, "No" to ourselves and to others.



Although God himself transcends our temporal existence, his timing is atomically precise. At exactly the right moment in human history his Son entered our time stream. In his short 33 years Jesus never forwarded an email, never uploaded a video, never even watched an episode of "Undercover Boss" or "Jersey Shore," and yet he achieved every goal set before him and declared, "It is finished!"

As our Stewardship month begins we will be talking about how *love takes time* – but also that Christ's love also gives us time. Because of Jesus, you and I can lay down our burdens of every unfinished task, every work we've left undone, every one of God's goals from which we've fallen short. Jesus has given us and our families all of eternity to get it right. Doesn't that change our perspective on the yard work and the shopping and the exercising and the laundry and so on? Doesn't that put into focus the worship and Bible studies our church will offer during our Stewardship month? Doesn't that change our view of attending one of the cottage meetings we'll be offering in November? Won't that help us stop feeling like we never get anything done, and get at the job God's got for us right now? Doesn't Jesus' love give us time for everything that matters?



God... has appointed a time for every matter, and for every work.

Ecclesiastes 3:17



LLLC Corner

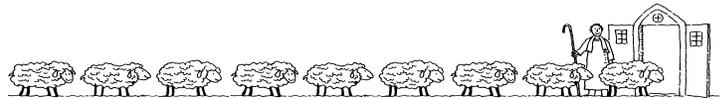
Elsa Cousins, Director

When Jeremy and I first visited Lamb of God Church, I noticed on the bulletin that Elsa Cousins (now Toepke) was the preschool director. What a wonderful surprise! Ms. Elsa and I go way back...we had worked together before. I couldn't wait to see her again. After a short while, Jeremy and I decided that we wanted to become members of Lamb of God so we attended Pastor's adult class. After a little while longer, Ms. Elsa and I were able to catch up on things that have happened in our lives. We discovered that we have had some enormous changes and some things were pretty much the same. During one visit, Ms. Elsa asked if I might be interested in becoming the three-year-old preschool aide. She also suggested that I complete some courses and become the teacher. I said a lot of prayers. Was this what God had designed for me? After all, it had been quite some time since I was in the preschool classroom. My nervousness was lessened when I met the staff members of the preschool, Ms. Becky M, Ms Robin and Ms. Doreen were so welcoming. Another surprise was that I also knew Ms. Deborah. After our staff meetings to prepare for the opening of Little Lambs Learning Center for the 2010 school year my nervousness turned to excitement! I saw our classrooms and could not wait for the children to start. The smell of play doh and the wonderful books were exhilarating! The brightly decorated rooms filled with God's message were so inviting! Once school opened and the children and parents arrived, I was filled with so much joy. I knew that I must praise God for His blessing of bringing my family to Lamb of God Church and the Little Lambs Learning Center. To God Be The Glory!

Beth Dressler

Faith of the Flock

Introducing ~ Jon & Marilyn Ehrman



Jon was born on January 1st in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Marilyn was born on January 23rd in Mason City, Iowa. They met as members of a young adult group at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. They have had homes in Minneapolis, Cleveland, Baltimore, and Florida's Space Coast before moving to Hampton Cove, Huntsville in 2000, and then building in Madison in November 2007. They have two daughters, Julie (married, and is a surgeon in New Rochelle, NY) and Kimberly (recently completed her MBA in accounting) and are extremely proud parents.

Since Jon & Marilyn's marriage, worship and service to our Lord and Savior as Lutherans has been a major part of their lives. Each of them have played active roles in their churches, including teaching Sunday school, serving on church councils and singing in choirs. "We have grown to appreciate the beautiful creation our Lord has given us and are grateful for his bountiful gifts!"

Jon has played an active role in local communities, including, civic organizations (Jaycees and United Way) and local government (city planning commission, city council, and a mayor). He has a strong belief in and appreciates Lamb of God Church's strict adherence to the "Word of God".

"One of my biggest spiritual struggles is patience", Jon says. "God is helping me with this issue via the aging process by increasing my tolerance level, slowing me down, decreasing my energy level and mellowing my spirit."

Marilyn is a cancer survivor. "That was my biggest and most recent struggle. However, I have never lost sight of who I am and Whose I am. The Lord was with me every moment and still is. I am grateful for all the changes and the people He has brought into my life. I see life in a whole new way," Marilyn declares with her winning smile. She believes Pastor Roebke has a "warmth for people," and particularly likes his Sunday morning Bible class.



CHECK OUT THE UPCOMING EVENTS NOV.

- 10/31 Martin Luther Movie Night @ 5 PM
- 11/2 L.O.G. closes all events for the day to accommodate the mid-term election in the Fellowship Room
- 11/4 "Bad Girls" Ladies Bible Study & Luncheon (noon)
- 11/4 Parenting Class (9:15 - 11:45 AM)
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/14 LWMS (Brazil) Mission Sunday, Mary/Martha provides **A Brazilian Lunch** after L.O.G.'s celebration of Veterans Day Service
- 11/18 Parenting Class (9:15 - 11:45 AM)
- 11/24 Thanksgiving Day Service 7 PM

Fall Stewardship Meetings

- Wednesday 11/3 (6-7:30 PM)
- Wednesday 11/10 (6-7:30 PM)
- Saturday 11/13 (10:30-Noon)
- Wednesday 11/17 (6-7:30 PM)
- Sunday 11/21 (6-7:30 PM)

Youth CALENDAR

- 10/31 Martin Luther Movie
- 11/7 Roller Skating
- 11/20 Nursing Home Visit
- 11/28 Ice Skating

M.O.M. opens... and all is well. That is, apart from the volunteers needed to make it run smoothly. Mary Schumpert is still in the hospital, and Gabi Presley who replaced Mary is now out on leave. Kim Bodeker is filling in for Gabi and has found she loves working with children. Becky McPherson kindly filled in for Nancy Kolodzne who had a wedding to go to in Wisconsin. Thankfully, we have a congregation ready to help out when they are needed!

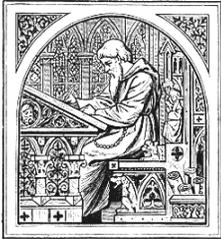


The children have handled the changes in their stride. They are happy in class and enjoy the new friends they have made. We had a new little boy start this week. He happily joined in the games with everyone else. Next month we have another new starter. Yes another boy—we have all boys as students, all women as teachers. Perhaps we should be renamed "MOMs and the Tuesday Boys Club"!

We have already begun to see improvements in joining in with the singing and action rhymes. The mothers have noticed that their children are singing songs that we have been learning in MOM.

We are all having so much fun, especially as we help children learn about Our Heavenly Father. Children, like little sponges, absorb everything even when it doesn't always seem as though they are listening. I have been pleasantly surprised with the information they've remembered. We are all learning from our boys.

Pearl Brooks, M.O.M. Director



Notes from the Scriptorium

Bart Leahy,
Council Secretary

Greetings once again! With school back in session and the holidays approaching, your Church Council's schedule is getting busier. To begin, we completed our ongoing devotion/discussion series on "What Is the Purpose of a Synod?" The final discussion was wide-ranging, covering the need for Law and Gospel in our messages as well as Gospel and activities in our ministry. We also covered the value of differing opinions in and among churches within a synod, and how the synod is a reflection of differing opinions and ideas, united in faith and doctrine. The important thing is to remember is that what we (our church and our synod) are all about is sharing the Gospel.

For those who have not heard, we must report the passing of Chris Overin. We can rejoice with her family that she is with our Lord, but should also share our sympathies with her family and loved ones.

If you've had a look at Pastor's calendar for the next couple of months, you'll note that it's on the action-packed side. In addition to preparing for the approaching holidays, he will be leading a series of evangelism "cottage" meetings to discuss the valuable gift of our time in supporting the church.

The Council thanks everyone who helped on our October 16 work day. The shrubbery and beds around them look great (though we did miss weeding around the church sign—whups!). Special shout-out to Jeff and Jan Van Orman, who took on the privet hedges! We will have an indoor work day soon.

We continue to keep our eyes on the budget, and will give you an update on our stewardship of the church's resources after service November 14. The short version for now is that we are blessed to be a bit above our budget for the year so far. Our ministry begins with you, so again, thank you.

On the education side of things, Elsa and the teachers and aides have been struggling mightily with a tough economy, increased competition, and a declining student body. While a couple more students might register soon, our preschool has decided for the time being to reduce staff and working hours. If you know preschoolers who need a caring, Christian learning environment, refer them to Little Lambs!

The Council's next meeting will be November 11 (one week earlier than usual) at 5:30 p.m.

In His Name,
Bart

SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT - OFFERINGS

\$11,843.14 Budgeted Monthly Offerings
12,490.73 Actual Offerings For Sept 2010
 \$ 647.59 Surplus/(Deficit)



Treasurer's Report

TRAVELING TO LWMS IN COLUMBIA, TN

by Gwen Smith



I attended my first Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Southern Hills Circuit (includes AL, FL, GA, LA, NC, SC, and TN) Fall Rally on Saturday, October 16, 2010. The rally was held at Christ Our Savior in Columbia, Tennessee. I attended with Beth Dressler and Nancy Roebke.

Pastor Chuck Westra at Christ Our Savior led the opening devotion, which was very inspiring. The theme was "the harvest is waiting." Pastor Westra grew up on a farm and he mentioned how right around this time of year all the farming families focus on getting the harvest in. Everything else takes second place to getting the harvest in because if you don't then you lose the crops and it will be too late. That's how we need to look at getting the Gospel out to the unchurched. Many times we put this off, but it really needs to be priority #1. We do not know how much longer until our Savior returns so we need to make the time to tell others that Jesus died for their sins and God has forgiven them. Just a personal aside, it took many people over a span of many years telling me about Jesus before I finally began coming to Lamb of God (my first church ever). Don't ever discount the impact you can have on someone's faith or lack thereof.

After the devotion, which got everyone into the right frame of mind, we tackled some business items for the LWMS and reviewed the budget, minutes from the previous rally, and bylaws changes. I'm going to be honest and say this part was a little dull, but obviously very necessary for any organization.

Then Pastor Westra gave us an update on the Board for Home Missions. He explained that the Board has a several step process for encouraging new congregations to develop and grow in the United States. Obviously their budget has shrunk in recent years and I believe they are now only able to fund about 3 new buildings a year, which is down from about 10 new buildings several years ago. I think many times we forget that mission work is going on right here in our area and that it is so important that we help in whatever we can. Here are a few things that one person can do to help support LWMS: pray for missions, send cards or letters to missionaries (we have names and addresses) and their families, and try to attend local and circuit events.

Finally, Craig and Judy Schwartz from Denver, Colorado, gave a very moving slideshow presentation of their three week stay in Zambia (southern Africa) and surrounding areas to view how WELS has touched the lives of so many in that area. I learned about the Lutheran Church in Central Africa (LCCA) and how they have been in the area since 1953. As of right now there are no WELS pastors actively serving this area, but there are 109 congregations in the area that are led by indigenous (native to the area) ministers. These men have received three years of seminary training and some of their members walk miles to attend services. We got to see pictures of their church facilities, where and how they cook, how they dress, and where they live. It was fascinating to learn about their culture and how little they appear to have, but the whole time I watched the presentation I never felt that they were sad or lacking for anything. They know the love of Jesus Christ and it was truly moving to hear them sing songs of praise and worship together. For more information on how you can help the LCCA missions, please contact myself, Beth, or Nancy.

I'm so glad I was able to attend the rally and learn more about how WELS is growing not only in the U.S., but also in Africa! I came away refreshed and excited about my faith and look forward to the next rally on Saturday, March 26, 2011, at Faith in Sharpsburg, Georgia. Mark your calendars for this event and for the LWMS 48th Annual Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 23-28, 2011. For more info, you can check out the Web site at www.lwms2011convention.com.

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

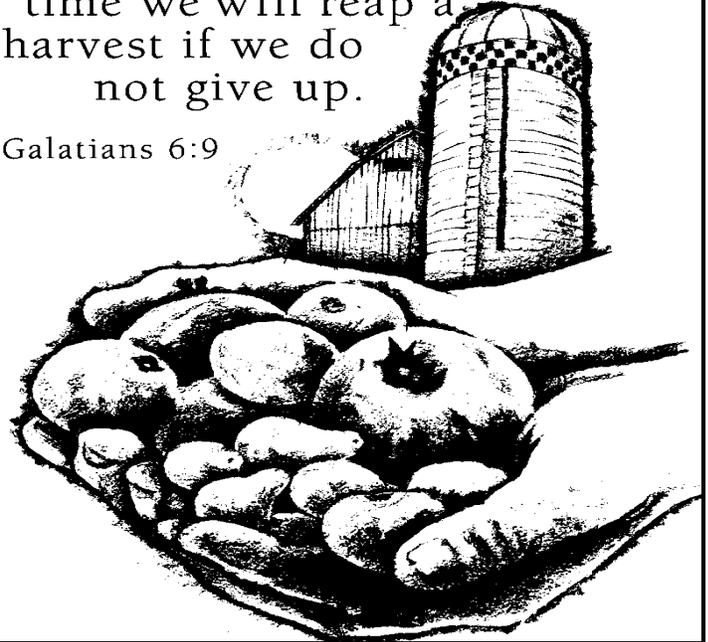
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Check us out on FACEBOOK, and tell your friends you "like" us
Pastor John Roebke (Cell phone: 256-975-0056)



Council/President:	Tom Poehlman
Council/Treasurer:	Bryan Tauchen
Council/Secretary:	Bart Leahy
Financial:	Phil Hahn
In-Reach:	OPEN
Out-Reach:	OPEN
Head Usher:	Jeff VanOrman
Elders:	Gary Anthony, Del Brooks, Dave Bray, Dan Peebles, Roy Schumpert
Long-Range Planning:	Gary Anthony
Website Task Force:	Pastor John Roebke
Maintenance:	Tom Poehlman
Sunday School:	Pearl Brooks
Choir Director:	Karla Poehlman
Mary Martha Guild President:	Pearl Brooks
Youth Leader:	Pam Hess
Little Lambs Preschool Director:	Elsa Toepke
Morning Out Ministry Director:	Pearl Brooks
School Board President:	Gary Anthony
School Board V.P.:	Gabi Presley
School Board Secretary:	Krista Hahn
School Board Treasurer:	Cynthia Curtis
Lawn Care Chairman:	David Bray
Bytes of Bread:	Jan VanOrman
Sunday Snack Scheduler:	Jan VanOrman
LOG Historian:	Becky Tauchen
Library:	Becky Tauchen, Gwen Smith
Food Pantry:	Laurie Aikens
Office Secretary:	Joni Gruber

Let us not become weary in
doing good, for at the proper
time we will reap a
harvest if we do
not give up.

Galatians 6:9



facebook

FACEBOOK SAFETY 101

Facebook is a fun way to reconnect with people who live far away while staying in touch with people who may live in the same house as you. Facebook is fun to use but it is important to use it wisely. The following are just a few things to remember:

Always update your browser. Just like anything else on the Internet there are people who want to use Facebook to get into your computer. No matter what browser you use, make sure it has all the patches and updates; this is the best defense against people who will put malicious content on your Facebook profile. **Don't use toolbars or "helper" programs.** With a few exceptions most helper programs are designed to track your behavior and are not written very well. These programs are often targets for hackers.

Set your privacy setting. Do not use Facebook's default privacy settings. If your privacy is not properly locked down then your Facebook profile is no different than a public web page. If you've never adjusted your privacy settings, these steps can help you get started:

1. Click on the  dropdown menu
2. Then select the  link
3. Click on  link
4. Each item should be set to 
5. Next click the  Link
6. Each item should be set to 

Don't "friend" strangers. At first this seems obvious but many users who play games like Farmville will friend others for the sake of the game. If you choose to do this it is a good idea to create a group for anyone you don't personally know and restrict your profile so it doesn't include these people. The process for doing this is very similar to what I described in #3

Careful what links you click on. Part of social networking is sharing content with your friends. For hackers it is common practice to setup web links that when clicked on will try to exploit your computer or at the very least your Facebook profile. Many people make the mistake of trusting everything on their Facebook page because they only "friend" people they know and like. The problem is your friends (and their friends and so on) may allow strangers to post on their profile, they click on it and it spreads to your facebook page.

Don't post anything you wouldn't want you mother to see. This cannot be stressed enough, posting embarrassing pictures can come back to haunt you, especially if your friends allowed their profiles to become "infected", it may lead to your picture getting stolen and posted somewhere else (like the wall at your school or work)

Be your kid's friend. Like anywhere else kids need supervision, it's as simple as that.

*What I just described are some simple steps that can make Facebook fun and safe. If you have any more questions **stop by the church on October 28th at 6:30.** I will be doing a presentation on home computer security.*

**By Chris Crosby, Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)
Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)**