



# The GOOD NEWS Letter

The GOOD NEWS letter  
Volume 4, Issue 3

April 2011

By Pastor  
John Roebke

## CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

### LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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If your face hasn't gotten sunburned by now, if you haven't trotted around your subdivision in flip flops and shorts yet, if you haven't been hacking and sneezing from flower perfume and yellow pine dust, if you haven't fired up the lawnmower to clip off the weeds in your yard, let me be the first to clue you in: Spring has arrived. Somewhere in America people are still hunkered down under ice and snow, hoping for a thaw, but not here.



This is the time to wipe off the patio furniture and set up the sun umbrella, to fire up the backyard barbecue and break out the special rib sauce. This is the time to clean the windows and leave them open, to let out all the stale, old air, before the dog days of summer begin.

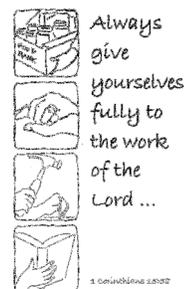
The calendar doesn't lie – there are less than six weeks left before summer vacation. It's time for the final push to finish papers and assignments, make arrangements for child care, finalize airline and hotel reservations. Summer always arrives sooner than you expect – and it goes even more quickly.

Life's like that, isn't it? The dark, gloomy clouds part for a moment or two at graduation from school, on our wedding day, or at the birth of a child, or the start of a new chapter in our life. But then the moment passes, the novelty wears off, and the dog days of hard work begin.



Maybe you've noticed some other signs of change in our community. Traffic delays because of roadwork. A new Target, a new WalMart, a new hospital and a new high school are all being built within a couple of miles of our church. This summer, thousands of people will be moving to a subdivision near you. Their children will be enrolling in your child's school. How long do you think it will take for them to establish their shopping habits? How long will it take for them to find a doctor and a dentist? How long will it take for them to find a church? How long before the novelty of living in a new community wears off?

Spring dovetails with Easter by reminding us of the promise of life after death. The greatest transition is ahead for all of us – and for our new neighbors as well. The window of opportunity is open right now, but it is closing and will shut permanently when our Lord returns. Recognizing this unique opportunity, WELS Kingdom Workers is sending our congregation six volunteer outreach workers this summer. Four of them will be with us the week of May 26-June 3. Two of them will remain here through the first week of August. All of them are coming to assist our congregation to get boots on the ground in the new neighborhoods popping up around us.



As you make your plans for the summer, consider the opportunities that God is putting before us. All of our outreach workers will need places to stay, and meals to eat. Perhaps you have a spare bedroom that's available for a week or two, or you could bring in a lunch. We will also be collecting a door offering in June to help defray travel expenses. You can go door to door with our canvassers mornings, evenings or on the weekends.



*Please pray for our outreach efforts at Lamb of God. Pray that God allows us to convey his love and hope to people who find themselves at a crossroads in life. Life can change in an instant, "but the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations." (Psalm 33:11)*

### Lamb of God Lutheran Church

11716 County Line Road  
Madison, AL 35756  
www.lambofgodchurch.org  
loglc@hiwaay.net

Pastor John Roebke  
Office 256-464-3900  
Cell 256-975-0056

Office Hours: 9 AM - 1 PM  
Monday through Friday

Bible Study :  
Sunday Morning 9:00 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 PM

Choir Practice:  
Wednesday Eve 7:30 PM

Worship :  
Sunday: 10:30 AM

Little Lambs Learning Center  
Office 256-464-3900  
ectoepke@gmail.com

Morning Out Ministry  
Office 256-464-3900  
pearlmary35810@yahoo.com





## M.O.M. (Morning Out Ministry)

Director: Pearl Brooks

March was another good month for MOM. We added another little girl to our program, bringing our numbers to 8 boys and 2 girls. Our new little one is settling in well after two weeks. We had to remind ourselves that our other little ones took a few weeks to settle in and feel comfortable.

Our children all welcomed her with the usual tea party! (We usually get lots of cups of tea during the morning.) Pastor came in on Tuesday during music. The children were all very excited to see him and they entertained him with some of our Jesus songs.

We invested in a felt board and bible figures for our bible stories. The children have loved them. The bible story is an important part of our day. We have reached letter "W" of our alphabet, and we continue counting to 10. Our morning is filled with activities which our children love. They are even getting better at clean up time.



### Our Spring Schedule

Blessings to all, Pam Hess

April 30	Confirmation Class, lunch and prepare for car wash/brat fry, Work Day
May 1	Car wash/Brat fry
May 14	Confirmation Class, Youth Work Day
May 15	Confirmation Sunday
May 20-22	Camping - Monte Sano

**RENT-A-KID** has been a resounding success and is still continuing. The goal since January 2011 has been to raise \$1300 of \$3540 needed for 12 kids to go to camp. Valentines' Dinner brought \$413 and Rent-a-Kid so far has contributed \$380 bringing us to a total of \$793 toward the goal. With Rent-A-Kid continuing, and the Brat Fry coming up on 5/1 we hope to reach the next \$500 with your help and God's will. Thank you all!



Helping Parents Keep  
Their Promises to God  
*One Night at a Time, One  
Step at a Time.*

Take the *Next Step* with Us!

#### Faith Stepping Stones: Raising a Healthy Preschooler\*\*

is a fun, fast-paced, interactive workshop designed to help parents understand and foster the physical, emotional, and spiritual development of their preschooler (18 mths-4 yrs). **Saturday, May 7th, 2011\*\*8:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

#### Faith Stepping Stones: Entry into School\*\*

is a fun, fast-paced, interactive workshop designed to help parents understand and foster the physical, emotional, and spiritual development of their preschooler (18 mths-4 yrs). **Saturday, May 21st, 2011\*\*8:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

#### Lamb of God Lutheran Church

11716 County Line Rd.  
Madison, AL 35756

Child care during the workshop, will be provided at no cost.

### ~ NEW BIBLE CLASSES ~

#### May 1 - May 25 Decision Making

Sunday mornings at 9 AM - 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22

This class addresses some of the issues that surface in decision making with regard to family matters and how they relate to God's will. Topics include: "The Freedom to Decide," "Bold Moves, Bold Faith," and "Things to Keep in Mind when Making up Your Mind."

#### April 27 - May 25 Forgiveness

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM - 4/27, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25

Forgiveness is our greatest need. As we need forgiveness from God, we also need forgiveness within our family relationships. Topics include, "Forgiveness - Where Can I Find It?," "Forgiveness Means Freedom," and "Forgive as the Lord Forgive You."

#### May 29 - Sept 4 1 Peter - God's Chosen People

Sunday mornings at 9 AM - 5/29, 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26, 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter writes His first epistle to those concerned about living their Christian faith in a sometimes unreceptive and even hostile environment. Peter's words of hope are just as timely today as they were for the believers of the first century who first received them.



## LLLC Corner Elsa Cousins, Director

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### *City Coupon Book - A Fundraising Event for Little Lambs Learning Center*

*As you know the Little Lambs Learning Center promoted a fundraiser by selling coupon books for \$20.00. These books contained 65 pages of coupons for all types of area restaurants, entertainment and recreation such as dollars off on Braves and Huntsville Stars tickets, golf fees at several area courses and much more. Use of just four coupons can easily defray the initial cost of the book, leaving the buyer with many more savings options through the end of 2011 - a good thing for all of us.*

*I am pleased to announce that this fundraiser was a huge success! We sold 102 books with a profit of \$816 and added to that were several generous outright donations. This puts us close to where we will need to be by the end of this school year.*

*A great big THANKS! to all the student's parents and to the congregation members for your willingness to help the Little Lamb Learning Center as it continues to provide an ever expanding, quality Christian preschool environment for our community.*

*Elsa Toepke, Director*

## LENT 2011 - APRIL SERVICES PEOPLE OF THE PASSION

**Wed., 4/13:** "One of the Mob, the Follower"

**Pot Luck Supper 5:30, Service 7 PM**

*Think of the cheers of Palm Sunday: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" Then think of the jeers five days later: "Crucify him!" What had changed? What would you have done if you had been "one of the mob?"*

**Maundy Thurs., 4/21:** "The Apostles, the Servant Leaders"

**Service 7 PM**

*Who were those men who ate the Passover meal with Jesus on the evening before he was arrested? Can you name them all? What lesson did Jesus teach them that night, and how well did they carry it out? What did Jesus do for them?*

**Good Friday, 4/22:** "The Centurion, the Astonished"

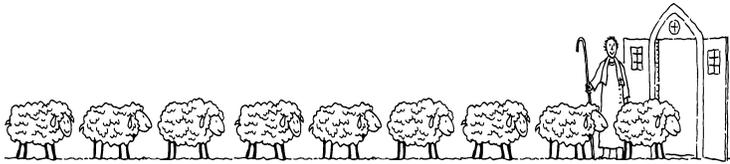
**Service 7 PM**

*The Jewish religious elite orchestrated Jesus' death. An unnamed Roman officer presided over his crucifixion. Which of them had a change of heart? The officer was a pagan. Do you think you would have seen what he did there on Calvary?*

**Easter Sunday, 4/24:** "The Women, the Witnesses"

**Easter Breakfast 9 AM, Service 10:30 AM**

*Do you remember who were the first persons to see Jesus alive after his resurrection? Do you know what they did? What did others think who heard from them? How did they then react? How will you react to the message that brightens our hearts this day?*



*Faith of the Flock  
Introducing...  
Dan & Amy Roets*

Dan was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, lived two years in Baltimore, Maryland, and then moved to Warner Robins, Georgia where he spent the majority of his childhood. Throughout his youth, Dan was actively involved in competitive swimming, often training for over 4 hours per day. Amy was born in Macon, Georgia, but spent several of her early years in Buford, Winder-Barrow and Cartersville, Georgia, as well as Jacksonville, Florida. The rest of her childhood was spent in Warner Robins, Georgia where she was active in church, cheerleading and ensemble.

Amy and Dan met at an evangelical church and were married 10 months later. Their faith has always been at the center of their relationship. Dan was raised Catholic and Amy Southern Baptist. After meeting at the evangelical church, they visited nearly every other denomination before discovering the Lutheran Church after seeing a small sign advertising a Lutheran service at a local elementary school. Dan and Amy moved to Huntsville in 2008. They have two children, Matthew (8) and Hannah (6), and are extremely proud parents.

Dan and Amy 'discovered' Lamb of God Church last summer and appreciate the church's strong belief in adherence to the "Word of God." Both Dan and Amy struggle with patience and still need occasional reminders to let God's plan reveal itself rather than to try and force things according to their plan. God is helping them right now through His reassuring Word that God is always in control.

February 2011  
Treasurer's Report -  
Offerings

Budgeted monthly Offerings  
Actual Offerings for February 2011  
Surplus/(Deficit)

\$ 11,615.38  
13,433.34  
\$ 1,817.96



**Who are we?** Lutheran Women's Missionary Society is made up of mission-minded women of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) as well as women belonging to congregations that share fellowship with the WELS. As modern Christian women we follow the biblical examples of women who shared the same privilege and responsibilities to carry out God's work.

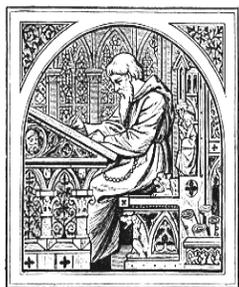
Women began meeting together as early as 1958 in the Mississippi River Valley area to share information on missions and other activities of the WELS. The inaugural convention was to have happened in the summer of 1963, but the officers of the synod wanted to further examine all aspects of the founding group, so the first Convention did not happen until June 27, 1964 at St. Matthew's Church in Winona, MN. The people in attendance numbered 256, and the attendees adopted the mission statement and constitution. Erna Speckin was elected the first LWMS President. The theme of that first convention was "Oriental Harvest." These forward-thinking women saw the opportunity to participate in work being done halfway around the world from their own homes and congregations.

Today, LWMS counts approximately 900 member congregations that are organized into 60 circuits across the U.S., Canada, and the West Indies. Every woman in a member congregation is by virtue of her church membership a member of LWMS.

Nine officers make up our Board of Directors, and they serve many hours on a volunteer basis. In addition, two part time employees operate our Central Office in West Allis, WI. At Lamb of God Church, contact Becky Tauchen if you wish to contribute time, effort and/or ideas to the Lutheran Women's Mission Society local chapter. Volunteers are always welcome to assist on a variety of non-elected and elected levels. God has put many gifted and talented women in our midst, and it is great fun to work together locally for the good of the missions. **At the LWMS Fall Rally 2011, Nancy Roebke will be a speaker about her personal experiences in mission work. In 2013, Lamb of God will host the LWMS Fall rally.**

At Lamb of God, the LWMS is incorporated into the Mary/Martha Guild. Our meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Join in friendship, volunteer for the missions! Our next meeting at L.O.G. is today, April 10th after our worship service.





## Notes from the Scriptorium

Bart Leahy, Council Secretary

Springtime is a time for growth. When plants grow, they require essential nutrients. Churches are much the same way: to grow, they require a number of essential conditions and functions. Your Church Council and Long Range Planning Committee are both reviewing a booklet, *Organic Quality Management*, which describes those conditions and functions, determining how well those conditions for growth apply to our congregation, and what is needed to ensure future growth. Among these attributes are things like empowering leadership (leaders who emphasize freedom and accountability); gift-oriented assignment (giving members of the congregation tasks that suit their unique gifts); passionate spirituality (lives lived in the Lord at home and among others); and internalized values (people practicing what they preach). As we learn more, we and the Long Range Planning Committee will be applying those principles to our church's future growth and determining where we go from here.

We're trying to track all of the things that need doing within the church, from lawn maintenance, to light fixture repairs, to general cleaning, and budget planning. Tom has a big spreadsheet going now that will keep us focused on what lies ahead. If you've got an interest in helping, let us know! For instance, Dave Bray is looking for help with mowing the lawn. If we get enough people, volunteers would only have to mow once a month.

Speaking of committees, we also have a committee planning ways to commemorate and celebrate Lamb of God's 10<sup>th</sup> year in the County Line Road building, which will be in 2012. Be on the lookout for more news from this group in the months ahead!

Your Council will be starting the budget process in April to present to the congregation in June. We'll share information about this process soon.

While some things are now in their growing season, Little Lambs Learning Center has been facing a bit more competition (and a tough economy) over the past few months, which is why the Council has authorized LLLC to work on fundraising to meet its expenses. Your prayers, assistance, and parental referrals to this program would all be appreciated, as Little Lambs is one of Lamb of God's signature services to the community.

Outreach Chairman Jon Ehrman is busy putting together a tennis clinic for the Travel Canvass Witness event in late May/early June. With some help from Roy Schumpert, Jon has assembled some tennis net stands that can be set up in the parking lot. He and Pastor also have been combing thrift stores to obtain the tennis rackets needed. We also obtained some rackets from a tennis enthusiast coworker of your Council Secretary. We should be ready to go by late May!

We would like to thank you for your generous offerings toward our church's mission. We are about \$7,000 ahead for the year, of which some of that will go toward insurance, utilities, and other bills. Our expenses for the year have been blessedly within our plan for the year, for which we may be truly grateful.

As we near the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection, we remind you that we will be sharing that blessing with our community through our Easter for Kids program. Last year we had 60 children visit Lamb of God, and we could see as many this year. If you have the time, we would appreciate any time you can volunteer to help Pearl Brooks bring this celebration to the children of our neighborhood.

Thanks again for your continued support. Your Council relies on the gifts of each of you.



- 4/16 Easter for Kids**  
A morning of Easter Bible School for children ages 3 - 12 chock-full of Christ-centered entertainment. The time has been increased to accommodate an expanded program. 9 AM - 1 PM
- 4/17 Plant Trading Day**  
It's Spring, bring in your divided plants, seeds, tools, yard knick knacks for trade.
- 4/24 Easter Breakfast 9 AM, Easter Service 10:30 AM**
- 5/1 Youth Group sponsored "Car Wash & Brat Fry"**
- 5/17 Parenting Seminar - "Raising a Healthy Preschooler"**  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- 5/21 Parenting Seminar - "Entry into School"**  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- 5/31 Tennis Clinic**  
This date starts a three day (5/31-6/2) evening camp will be held 6-8 PM. Each day to teach basic tennis skills with law/gospel tie-in. Watch for more details.

## Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Office: (256) 464-3900

Email: loglc@hiwaay.net

Web Page: <http://lambogodchurch.org>

Check us out on FACEBOOK, and tell your friends you "like" us

Pastor John Roebke (Cell phone: 256-975-0056)

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

## OUTREACH PLANS - APRIL THROUGH AUGUST

Jon Ehrman

Your Church Outreach Committee is busy planning for the next several months. This includes Easter for Kids, Tennis Clinic and Summer Neighbor Canvassing.

**Easter for Kids:** This month we are planning advertising for the Easter for Kids Program scheduled for 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Church. The Easter for Kids program is an annual event under the able direction of Pearl Brooks. We plan to have upwards of fifty children, ages 3 to 11 for this event. What a wonderful program with so many loving members involved! An information sheet and registration form, providing detailed information and registration is on the sign up table in the Narthex. In addition, registration forms are also available on-line at our Church Website.

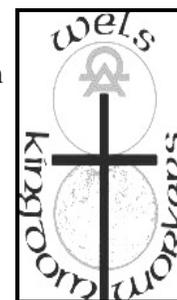


**Tennis Clinic:** Also this month, we are busy planning for a Tennis Clinic scheduled for Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> through Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 6:00 PM and lasting until 8:00 PM each day. Assisting us in this event, we will have four adult Travel Canvass Witness (TCW) volunteers from Wisconsin, also known as WELS Kingdom Workers. When not directly involved in the Tennis Clinic, the volunteers will be assisting the Congregation in surveying new neighborhoods and handing out Church literature.

In addition to the TCW volunteers, Congregation members Jeff & Brigitte Alexy and Brandon Schwiesow along with Pastor Roebke and Jon Ehrman are involved setting up and organizing the Tennis Clinic. Tennis net stands have already been assembled, nets purchased and many tennis racquets have been obtained. More tennis racquets are needed. If you are willing to loan yours, please put your name on them and bring them to Church. Other interested members of the Congregation as well as parents are needed during the clinic for non-tennis related activities, including: registration, bathroom breaks, snack duty, etc. All assistance will be greatly appreciated!

To support the TCW volunteers, the Congregation will need to provide housing and transportation from May 26<sup>th</sup> through June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Those interested in providing housing and transportation, please contact the Church office.

In addition to housing and transportation, the Church will be collecting a door offering Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> to help defray travel expenses to Alabama for the TCW volunteers. The travel costs are expected to be approximately \$800, so please be generous and help us with these costs.



For few days before and after the Tennis Clinic, we are preparing maps, survey questionnaires and literature for TCW volunteers and interested Congregation member to use in canvassing new neighborhoods and providing follow up. We welcome member volunteers to help us with this effort. This is all about getting Christ's message out to new and unchurched people in our community!

**Summer Neighborhood Canvassing:** Beyond the Tennis Clinic, we will have two Member Ministry Assistance (MMA) workers also WELS Kingdom Workers with us for 10 weeks this summer starting May 26<sup>th</sup>. Their task will be to reaching out to people in additional new subdivisions. They will be canvassing door to door four hours per day and also working at part-time jobs to raise money for their upcoming school year. Our church will be spending \$1700 from the Church Budget to cover their travel costs and student stipends. This funding will be matched by WELS. We are encouraging Congregation members to get involved and volunteer to assist these MMA workers in as many ways as possible by:



- Providing housing for 10 weeks.
- Assisting workers in obtaining part time employment.
- Going along with the workers to help them locate the various subdivisions designated for canvassing.

**What a wonderful summer ahead to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and reach out to those new to our community and in need of a church home!**