



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
- Open Letter to Relief Workers 2
- LLLC Page, MaryMartha Invita- 3
- Ffrom MMA Workers, Youth 4
- M/M, Youth Rally, Anniv. Cmte Report 5
- ALS Walk, Biblical Turkey Tour 6
- Scriptorium, Directory 7
- Outreach, Different Gifts Same Grace 8

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

256-693-0017 (Elsa Toepke)
ectoepke@gmail.com

Morning Out Ministry

256-859-6536 (Pearl Brooks)
pearlmary35810@yahoo.com

The GOOD NEWS Letter

The GOOD NEWS letter
Volume 4, Issue 5

August 2011

By Pastor
John
Roebke

DIFFERENT PARTS, SAME BODY

"In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us." (Romans 12:5-6)

Reunions are always amusing. The mental snapshot you took 25 years ago bears a fuzzy resemblance to the balding, pot-bellied guy standing in front of you. When the shock wears off and you get talking about the old times, it's like you haven't missed a day. I and half a dozen of my Seminary classmates were delegates at the 61st Convention of the Wisconsin Synod this summer. It's been almost two decades since we were (wisely) scattered across the United States. The regional differences among us were evident in our haircuts, sports fan apparel, and perspectives on ministry. But whether the congregations we serve are large and traditional, or small and cutting-edge, all of the delegates were united in faith and in purpose.

Not even a three-hour long debate over a new translation of the Bible could shatter our accord. We celebrated our unity with maturing Lutheran church bodies in Puerto Rico, Nigeria and Ukraine, as well as our brothers who are tilling tough soil in this country. We rejoiced at the increasing number of students who are joining the ranks at our church's worker training schools. We recommitted ourselves to fulfilling our church body's motto, "Christ's Love, Our Calling" as we approved a ministry budget plan of \$125 M over the next two years.

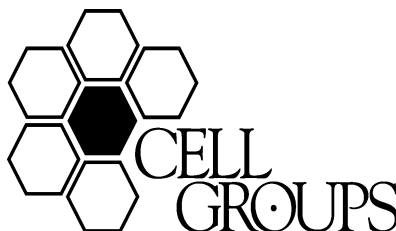
What we can't do as a congregation by ourselves, the 1,287 congregations of our Synod can accomplish united in God's grace. Likewise, what we can't do as individual Christians, we can accomplish as members of Lamb of God Lutheran Church united in the body of Christ. We thank God for our unity of beliefs, which we proclaim every time we distribute the Lord's Supper to our Confirmed members only. We thank God for our unity of purpose, as we have committed ourselves to fund our own ministry budget plan of \$169,749, and to send \$12,600 of that as an offering to our Synod.

And now we have the opportunity to strengthen our unity even further, as we develop and promote Small Group ministry in our congregation over the next twelve months. Is there any doubt that these small groups will foster closer relationships among our members? Is there any question that our mutual trust will grow as we carry each others' burdens in love? Would anyone deny that small groups are critical to helping newcomers fit in to our congregation? And has anyone failed to notice that participating in a small group requires some sacrifices?

There are approximately 100 trillion (10¹⁴) cells in the human body. Each cell is remarkably designed to function in harmony with other cells. Grouped together into tissues, organs and systems, the united cells of the human body can compose symphonies, send men and women into outer space, and pass on the collective wisdom of humanity. When we are united in small groups, congregations and a Synod, God will use us to pass on the treasures of His Word to our children, and to our world. Because of our old selfish nature, there are no magic wand solutions to our natural tendency towards discord and disharmony. But because Christ united himself with our humanity, and our punishment, we are all reconciled to God, and we can be reconciled to each other.

To help us develop our small group ministry at Lamb of God, please take a few minutes and complete our online survey at: www.LambofGodChurch.org/smallgroups

Join a Small Group



AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL TORNADO RELIEF WORKERS FROM THE LAMB OF GOD CONGREGATION

Dear Christian Aid & Relief Workers, Pastor Warnecke and Mark Vance,

What a difference you all have made here in Alabama! You've touched so many lives and made them us feel better again. God bless you all for taking precious time from your lives to come to the hot and dusty tornado ravaged counties of Alabama and help put things back together again. The progress to date is nothing short of a miracle, though there will be plenty of recovery work for a long time yet.

It has been determined that 61 tornadoes have officially affected Alabama during the outbreak of April 27th, 2011 causing a total of 241 fatalities. It is easy to see how these numbers can affect the people of our state. Even if a tornado didn't hit your own property, the damage was so widespread that a person inevitably knew someone who was affected, or someone not far from your residence died. But in spite of the pain (or perhaps because of it), we have prayed to God for help, and we all got out there and started working.

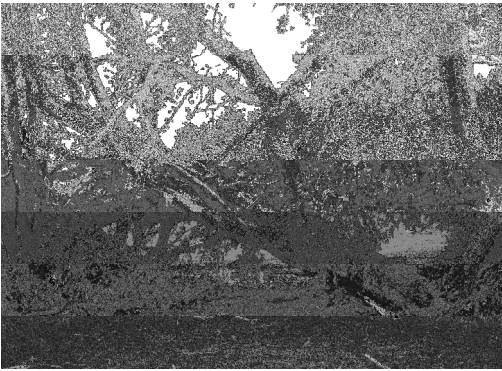


Photo of trees hit by the EF-5 Tornado at the property of Lamb of God church members Wade & Laura Schubring & children Nathan & Morgan, where much of the WELS Relief work was centered. The entire neighborhood where the Schubrings live on Capshaw Road in Limestone County Alabama was destroyed. The Schubrings' home should be in livable condition soon.

And then the calls started coming in, followed by mail with donations, and e-mails asking "How can we help you?"

Mark Vance Director of Operations of WELS Christian Aid and Relief called here soon after the fateful day and asked how things were at the Lamb of God congregation. Did we need any help? He offered prayers, people with chain saws, money from the relief account and a great big trailer full of tools. Soon after, folks started arriving, Steve Zambo, Bill Diersen, Dave Bunnow, Neil & Darlene Fittje, Nicole Bull, with Laurel, Ethan, and Bethany, and Debbie Maggio. Some came for a day, some for a week. I wish I had all the names from Columbia's Christ Our Savior, but on Saturday, there were nearly 40 people total with all the volunteers from our church and yours for lunch on Saturday afternoon that week. Here are the names from Columbia we know about - Ciaranja White, Kyla White, Bob Davis, Kim Davis, Wes Schappert, Michelle Schappert, Shelby Young, Abby Young, Samantha Young, also Mr. Young, as well as Dan Gensmer and Josh Gensmer. It was 95-98 degrees all week and no one complained. You all just kept on cutting trees, hauling debris to the curbside, and tearing apart those broken homes, making way for a new life to begin. The rest of us, cooked meals, made sandwiches, brought in water and juices, while others were sharpening tools, driving front loaders and bulldozers.

One man who was helped during that first week broke down and cried at all the generosity of spirit and labor. He had lost his wife the month before, and then the tornado took his house. He had nothing left. Many of the volunteers hugged him and helped him pick up the pieces of his life.

Pastor Richard Warnecke of Christ Lutheran in Pewaukee, WI called soon after the Mark Vance crew left, and said "We're coming to help." He knew the need was there, and just simply made the arrangements. Before we knew it, we had another crew. Bob Sandlass, Dave Bunnow, & Mike Luetke, came with Pastor Warnecke, and father-son pairs came from Maitland, FL, Kevin and Kyle Zastro, Rufus and Derek Hall, Michael and Daniel Golish, and Richard and Jason Leutzow. And along with them more wonderful folks came from Columbia's Christ Our Savior. By that time, we at Lamb of God were getting a bit more organized. We had signs to put up where we were working that showed Lamb of God Church was helping here. We passed out Lamb of God T-Shirts for some of the workers to wear. And the people were noticing. Many of those affected by the tornados came by with food and drinks. Many were thanking the workers for the help. Some were coming by and asking if they could also get some help. And we always prayed together.

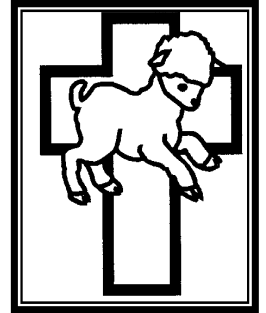
One lady, Melinda Lyles, had not received any assistance in the 6-7 weeks since the tornado, even her church was destroyed. She felt helpless and distraught. On the last day of Pastor Warnecke's trip, and with some of Lamb of God's congregation volunteers later, a lot of the trees were taken care of and the debris was set to the side of the road for the Army Corps of Engineers to remove to the giant burn pile developing in the outreaches of the county. This example of Christian love in action encouraged Melinda to believe that her life will be okay once again.

Previously strangers to Alabama, now best friends forever to us are Karen Brazie and Mitz Wagner. These two girlfriends filled over a 1/3 of a tractor trailer truck with items they purchased and received as a donation from their own church, St. Paul's, in North Fond Du Lac, WI where Pastor Thomas Behnke helped them organize. Nearby St. Peter's Church in El Dorado, WI donated money. Kaye McFarlen here in Athens, who is United Way's in-charge person for Limestone County's recovery, talked with Mark Vance when he visited with her to find out the best ways WELS Christian Aid and Relief could be of service. Kaye told Mark that Karen Brazie drove into the newly established relief warehouse with the best mixture of extremely helpful donations she had ever seen - she called it a "blessing undisguised." Karen drove a truck from Ecklund Logistics, with permission of her employers Lana and her son Kurt Ecklund, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

Little Lambs Learning Center School Board

By President Gary Anthony

Little Lambs Learning Center 2011-2012



A new school year is almost upon us at our Pre-school. We, the pre-school board have been hard at work in preparation of this coming year. Once again we find our anticipated enrollment to be hovering around the 20 student figure. With an enrollment of over 20, we will have a staff of 4. Our Director/teacher is still Elsa Toepke; Deborah Bray is our second teacher. Our aides will be Beth Dressler and Robin Lockwood with the possibility of Gabi Presley on some days. We have a Tuesday/Thursday class for three year olds and a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday class for four year olds. We foresee much more interaction between the classes this year.

We conducted a survey of parents of previous classes to gather input on what we did well and where we could improve. The strong points of that survey were our staff (well liked by students and parents), our ratio of staff to students and our curriculum. Most parents felt we offered a real learning experience for their kids in education basics, the Bible, and the opportunity for their kids to learn to interact with other kids in a structured environment.

At one of our Open Houses a mother brought her four year old to see the classroom and meet Elsa. He was so enthused about it he went home and told his three year old sister. The mother had to bring the sister to see the pre-school and has enrolled her as well. She had not planned on the three year old attending. Word of mouth does work!



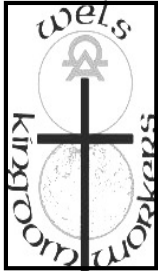
BECKY TAUCHEN, PRESIDENT OF MARY MARTHA INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE!

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) has assigned the African mission of Malawi and the Kansas City mission of the Hmong people to the WELS Southern Hills District, which includes us. Mary/Martha Guild of Lamb of God is hosting a **"Mission Festival" on September 25th** to help support these missions. There will be an African themed meal after the worship service and a free will offering basket. All funds received will go directly to the missions of Malawi and Kansas City Hmong people. (Recipes will be handed out by Gwen Smith in the coming Sundays after service, so you will be able to bring something African to our themed buffet dinner. Remember how great the Brazilian meal was last year?)

To add to the contribution for these worthy missions we will also hold a **Silent Auction** of hand-made crafts and themed baskets during the last 2 Sundays of October (**October 23rd and 30th**.) Donations of your hand-made crafts or themed baskets can be brought to church anytime from October 16th to the final Sunday sale of October 30th. The last silent auction worked out so well, we are looking forward to seeing all your new ideas in crafts and themed baskets. Work together on your crafts or baskets, or do your own, but join in the fun. Craft day is every Thursday from 10 AM to noon in the Fellowship Room and you are always welcome to join the "regulars" with your crafts, or have gatherings at your home with friends and family.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pearl Brooks at 256-859-6536, and Becky Tauchen at 256-852-7505, after she has had some recovery time from her operation.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION FROM OUR INDUSTRIOUS KINGDOM WORKERS WHO PUT FORTH SO MUCH EFFORT ON OUR BEHALF THIS PAST MAY & JUNE WITH OUR TENNIS CAMP AND CANVASSING. MAY GOD BLESS THEM FOR THEIR GRACIOUSNESS AND BOLD EFFORTS IN HIS NAME.



Dear Members of Lamb of God Lutheran Church,

It is sad to say that we have already left your church and that we didn't even have the opportunity to say goodbye to many of you. It was truly a blessing to be able to serve at your congregation. The canvassing was a new experience for both of us and it truly gave us an opportunity to grow in our faith. It is not everyday that you can get the door slammed in your face and still continue to go searching for that one person who will talk to you.

We felt that our efforts were fruitful and the Lord allowed us almost 20 good prospects. Lord willing you will now be able to follow up with these prospects and you will soon see the fruits of our labor. The Lord's work is never in vain even when it seems like things are not working your way.

We would like to send a heartfelt thanks to our host families and those who were willing to host us later in the summer. We appreciate so much your time and money given up on our behalf. It is a little hard to welcome strangers into your home and give up your money to feed them, but your servant hearts came in play for us. For all that we are truly grateful.

You all welcomed us to your church and we wish we could have gotten to know you all better. Unfortunately that will not be possible for us this summer. Fortunately God always has a plan. He is certainly going to use us. For those of you who don't know, we will be traveling to other WELS congregations and helping serve them full-time. We will be aiding 2 Vacation Bible Schools, a Soccer Camp, possibly a Basketball Camp, and just general canvassing as well. There is much need for aid in all congregations. We were glad to serve at your congregation but also gladly move on to help others in need.

We pray that since we are leaving, you as a congregation will step up to continue in the canvassing effort. There is certainly much work to be done here. There are many new houses and many new people to tell about your faith. We sincerely pray that God will be with you and give you the desire to reach out to those people.

We thank you again so much for everything you have done for us. It has been a tremendous learning experience that we will both take with us into the ministry. God's blessing to you all! God be with you till we meet again.

In Christ, Sarah Rosenow and Rebecca Engelbrecht (WELS Kingdom Workers)



We hope everyone had a wonderful summer, enjoyed a deserving vacation and survived the Alabama heat. Summer seems to go by so fast, but sometimes not fast enough when you're looking forward to some cooler tempera-

tures and enjoying the beautiful outdoors without having to take a break every 20 minutes. I am confident that all of our youth had a wonderful and inspiring time at their summer bible camps.

Pastor took his group of Chrissy Roebke, Jennifer and Joaquin Reis, and Easton Hess in June. Pastor Enter is the new director of the camp and did a wonderful job with filling the kids with exciting team challenges, and with the help of many other Pastors and Teachers they pumped up the kids with inspiring devotions and breaking down word for word of The Lords Prayer.

In July, I had the wonderful privilege of taking Lily Roebke, Persephone Yarbrough and Shayna Hess to Orlando for the teen youth rally. This was my first time ever at any type of camp. This was absolutely the most inspiring 3 days of my life. They start at 9:00 every morning and don't stop until 11:30 every night. They are all so excited, the speakers and the stories and commitment, we cried and we laughed and we all left feeling revived and ready to take on the world with our love for Jesus. We couldn't do this without all of you, so once again Thank You! for this opportunity.

We are ready to start off our new year with some fun and volunteer activities. We are planning a camping trip to Desoto State

Park which will include team challenges, fellowship and outdoor devotions. We hope many of you will try to join us, this is a really beautiful park and with some cooperation with the weather, it will be a great opportunity to enjoy part of Gods creation together. Here is our schedule up through December. More activities may be added as we learn of new events.

- Aug. 28** Bike riding in Athens (Road to Trails). Bring picnic lunch.
- Sept. 16-18** Camping at Desota State Park
- Oct. 2** Car wash/brat fry
- Oct. 23** Kids make lunch after church & County line road clean-up
- Nov. 5** Lunch after confirmation, bingo at Madison Village
- Dec. 3** Kids make homemade pizzas and watch movies in P.J.s

We can still provide our **RENT-A-KID** service at any time. Contact Pastor (shepherdroebke@bellsouth.net), or Pam Hess (pamh19@yahoo.com) to schedule a date.

Blessings, Pam Hess

Latest Budget Figures

July 2011	Budgeted monthly Offerings	\$ 16,114.62
Treas's Report	Actual Offerings/Jul 2011	<u>13,346.15</u>
Offerings	Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (2,768.47)

Mary-Martha Guild August Meeting and Brunch



We have begun having our quarterly business meetings in members' homes and I was privileged to host the first meeting. By having it in my home I truly felt more a part of "Mary-Martha". If you recall the story of Mary and Martha in the Bible, Jesus had come to visit in their home. It always becomes so much more personal when it's in "your home". When it's in "your home" it is not just a business or committee meeting, but a meeting of friends.

Our meeting of friends began with a breakfast, followed by a short Bible study/devotion (Jesus visited as well!) and then a planning session. You'll learn more about our plans in the upcoming weeks. As hostess I had a great time trying new recipes and getting on-site gardening tips from some of the ladies. It was also wonderful seeing my living room filled with Christian friends, knowing they were all there to help serve our church and our God. I am truly blessed.



Gabi Presley

WELS YOUTH RALLY 2012



Plans are underway for the WELS 2012 International Youth Rally, to be held June 27-30 at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The theme for the rally is "Fill Up!" based on John 10:10, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Rev. Richard Warnecke, a member of the Commission on Youth & Family Ministry, says, "I think sometimes high school students kind of feel that no one cares about them. There's so few high school students in the church. This is a reminder that they're part of the church."

He says the youth rally is an opportunity to encourage one another. "They [the students] get the reminder that they are part of the body of Christ. This is one of the largest organizational events in our church body," says Warnecke. This will be the first youth rally held in the new every-three-years rotation. Previously, the youth rallies were held every other year.

Registration will open early 2012. Congregations will be mailed information in November this year. Information will also be available at www.wels.net/events or check out "WELS International Youth Rally" on Facebook.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

THE LAST MEETING WAS HELD THURSDAY AFTERNOON ON THE 17TH OF AUGUST. MANY EXCITING THINGS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AND A FEW THINGS ARE NOW DEFINITE.

THE BIG CELEBRATION DATE IS JULY 15TH, 2012 WITH A SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE, A POT LUCK DINNER AND A PROGRAM. THE SPECIAL SERVICE WILL BE OFFICIATED BY PASTOR JAMES TURRIFF AND THE MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY JANINE TURRIFF.

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL OFFERING COLLECTED THROUGHOUT 2012.

WE WILL ALSO BEGIN PREPARING FOR THE NEW ANNIVERSARY DIRECTORY.

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS AS TIME GETS CLOSER TO 2012.

It is such a delight to serve God and our community by distributing food to those less fortunate than us. During the course of the last year I have been blessed with the opportunity of meeting many folks in their time of need. We have given groceries when requested and handed out Easter and Christmas baskets for special holiday dinners. We have received "thank you" calls from several of them expressing their deep appreciation for our generosity and help when they needed our help.

At present, we have one diabetic person who truly needs new sheets and size 60 pants to wear. He is a veteran and has been hospitalized recently a few times for his illness. Life is never easy for him. If you have any sheets you could donate, or a few dollars for his new pants, please let me know. Call Laurie Aikens at 256-631-8213

I would like to express my sincere thank you as well to all who have donated and support the Food Pantry.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

By Laurie Aikens

AN OPEN LETTER...CONTINUED

who were gracious enough to allow the use of their vehicle for the trip. Everyone involved donated and packed dozens of bathroom kits, boxes of flashlights, boxes of rags and cleaning supplies, diapers and other baby food and supplies, clothes and many other outstanding choices for the victims of our great tornado outbreak. Karen Brazie didn't stop at that though. She was on the go again, organizing her friends to go to yard sales, and inventory their homes for anything that could be donated in the way of furniture. Karen, who professes to be totally unorganized, has managed to organize a rather large operation of donations from friends, neighbors, associates and churches. With God's help, Karen has proven we can do anything!

Another wonderful and totally unexpected phone call came from Heidi Guse of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Las Vegas. Heidi and the Bible Study group has "collected a generous amount to serve our Lord by helping the people" of our community. The donation will be used to purchase items for the children of Limestone County in a one-day camp for emotional assistance. The children will be learning not to fear the disasters in life but instead to prepare for them. The purchase for the children include kits from the Red Cross with bandages and other first aid items for a backpack that the children will be able to grab as they run for a safe place should another disaster of any type occur. The Bible Study group members are Judy Beal, Lee Marquardt, Elle Zrnnewsky, Kris Knutson, Linda Jueth, Patsy McClure, Gwen Harvey, Sherry Mashack, Kathy McAnely, Ellen Schenk, Carolyn Crabb, and Heidi Guse.

So, to all our friends in Christ, that is what you have done for us. You have helped get us all back on our spiritual, emotional and literal feet-on-the-ground again. There isn't a handshake strong enough, nor hug big enough to say thank you. We offer you our thanks and prayers with hopes that you will continue to help all those in need, whether it be here again, or another part of the country suffering from natural disasters.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,

The members of Lamb of God Lutheran Church

How to make a contribution for the Tornado Relief Effort

Your contributions are needed, not only for the tornado relief in Alabama, but in many other areas of the U.S. Contributions can be made at www.wels.net/relief. You can also send a gift through the mail to WELS Christian Aid and Relief, 2929 N. Mayfair Road, Milwaukee, WI 53222. Or, if you prefer, write a check to L.O.G. and mark it for "Local Disaster Relief" and include it with your regular Sunday donation.

YOUNG AT HEARTS WILL MEET AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 5:30 PM AT SURIE IN MADISON, IN THE PUBLIX SHOPPING CENTER ON RT. 72.

Thrivent and Lutherans vs ALS

The annual **Walk to Defeat ALS** (Lou Gehrig's Disease) will be held at Joe Davis Stadium, **Saturday, August 27**. Registration will begin at 10 AM with the Walk beginning at 11. Join our team, Thrivent and Lutherans vs ALS by going to the website: alsa.org; **Find a Walk**; **Join a team**; type team name: **Thrivent and Lutherans vs ALS**.

Along with plenty of food, fun, and refreshments, **Smoked Offerings** will provide BBQ and hot-dogs for over 700 expected walkers.

If someone wishes to volunteer to help serve, please let Larry Woellhart know. lwoellhart@knology.net

If you are unable to attend, join the team as a virtual walker at the website. Please support us with your donation.



Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota
800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) • www.thrivent.com

May Lutherans join together in the Body of Christ for this important outreach. Blessings to all.

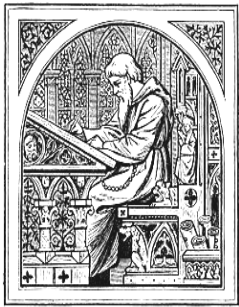
12-Day Tour ~ Biblical Turkey

Pastor James Humann invites you to join him and fellow WELS/ELS members on a twelve day tour to Biblical Turkey. The tour dates are April 4-15, 2012.

Space is limited. For a colorful brochure with the daily itinerary, price and tour conditions, e-mail Pastor Humann at JHumann383@aol.com or call 253-839-9055. If you'd like to have a brochure sent electronically please request it in your e-mail.

So far twenty five people have enrolled in the tour with Pastor James Humann. There are people on the tour from Minnesota, Washington, Michigan, Montana, California, Oregon and Kansas. People from many other states have inquired. There are seven more places available, with the possibility of a few more, depending on airline space.





Notes from the Scriptorium

Bart Leahy, Council Secretary

Summer is a quiet time for your Church Council, but the season is soon coming to an end. That means the busy season of school and holidays will be kicking in soon. So what has your Council been doing on their summer vacation?

Once the budget was passed at the Congregational Meeting June 26, we set to work ensuring that the budget—and the mission plan that guides it—is executed. Jon Ehrman led a tennis clinic for nearly 30 of our neighbors in the Madison area. That equipment is now in storage and can be used again!

Jon also has been busy working on our community surveys to learn what our neighbors' greatest needs are. These surveys, in combination with Gary Anthony's Long Range Planning Committee, will help Lamb of God take a good, clear-eyed look at the future and determine where we can best apply our collective gifts in the future.

In connection with the Long-Term Planning Committee, your fearless Council Secretary (and acting Inreach Chairman) worked with Gary and Del Brooks, and Cindy Curtis on some future planning for Little Lambs Learning Center. Much as we value Elsa's continued fine work as Director for Little Lambs, she won't be doing that forever. Given that, what happens next? Do we hire a new Director? Do we need a Director in the future, or should we try something else? I don't have all those answers, to be sure, but with inputs from Del and Cindy I was able to at least provide some insight into what the alternatives might be, and their likely consequences. Stay tuned—we can expect more reports from the Long-Range Planning team in the near future.

And what has Tom, our President and Buildings & Grounds Chairman, been up to? Well, aside from planning for this fall's church cleanup/work day, Tom's got a really long list of things that needs doing, like fixing the little issue with the wi-fi interference that causes the projector on the port side of the sanctuary to flicker during services and replacing a lot of light fixtures. Are you handy with wiring? Like working on ladders? Able to handle things that move electrons? If so, find Tom, and let him know—we've got plenty of projects to keep folks occupied.

Meanwhile, Pastor got some much-needed time with his family and attended his first Synod Convention in Watertown, Wisconsin. And when he wasn't doing that, he was leading some of our students to Camp South. The man knows how to stay busy!

Speaking of busy, you might have noticed that a couple of us on

the Council are performing double duty on some of our activities. If you're interested in picking up Buildings & Grounds or Inreach, you're welcome to speak with one of us. Also, after over 20 years of supporting several churches as Treasurer, Bryan Tauchen is ready to hang up his pencils and green eyeshade. Gentlemen, if one of you has a facility with numbers, speaks Spreadsheet, and can keep a check-book balanced, we'd love to have you join the team. There are many ways to serve, of course, and we welcome whatever assistance you can provide.

We are looking forward to another action-packed year, and that action cannot happen without the hard work of our members. We are grateful, as always, for your help. There are a few things that traditionally come up in the Fall that require much assistance from all of you and one that comes to mind is the Street Festival. Give Jon Ehrman a call to offer your assistance.

Both the Fall Clean-Up/Work Day and the Street Festival are worthwhile projects, both are time-consuming and both are extremely rewarding to all of us and all of us have much to offer these projects. More on those projects in the weeks to come.

In His Name,

Bart

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)

Council/President:	Tom Poehlman
Council/Treasurer:	Bryan Tauchen
Council/Secretary:	Bart Leahy
Financial:	Richard Kolodzne
In-Reach:	OPEN
Out-Reach:	Jon Ehrman
Head Usher:	Jeff VanOrman
Elders:	Gary Anthony, Del Brooks, Dan Peebles, Larry Harbaugh
Long-Range Planning:	Gary Anthony
Maintenance:	OPEN
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:	Becky Tauchen
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



OUTREACH PLANS - MADISON STREET FESTIVAL

By Jon Ehrman

Madison Street Festival
October 1, 2011
8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Rain or Shine

Lamb of God Lutheran Church has once again signed up this year for a booth at the Madison Street Festival to be held on Saturday, October 1, 2011 in historic downtown Madison. The hours for this Festival will be from 9 AM until 4:00 PM. The booth and festival provides our Church with a wonderful opportunity to meet many new and sometimes un-churched people in our community.

Our initial meeting of the Festival Committee met after our weekly church service on Sunday, August 14, 2011 in the Narthex. The meeting was primarily a brainstorming session to explore different themes and methods of interesting visitors to our booth at the annual festival. Attending the meeting was Karla Poehlman (briefly), Nancy Roebke, Joe Reis, Gabi Presley, and myself. We had a wonderful exchange of ideas and all agreed that we needed to do something new and different from previous years.

Based on our discussions, we came up with a dozen possible themes and now need to narrow down the list and find corresponding crafts to engage visiting children for five minutes or less; while we talk to their parents and distribute literature on our Church's programs and activities. We plan to meet again after our weekly church service on Sunday, August 21, 2011.

To support the Church's booth, we will need help and support of at least 24 members! Please be on the lookout for a signup sheet on the table in the Narthex in the next few weeks to volunteer to help. Help will be required to haul tables and chairs from the Church and setup the booth starting at 8:00 AM, staff the booth at two hour intervals and tear down the booth after 4:00 PM. Someone willing to provide a truck for hauling tables and chairs the day of the festival would be most appreciated.

Those volunteering to help are encouraged to wear their "Lamb of God" T-shirts for the occasion. For those not having a T-shirt, we have a few leftover (but in limited sizes) from our earlier disaster relief team effort. If necessary, we can order additional T-shirts. There will be provisions in our Volunteer Signup Sheet, mentioned above, to identify whether you need a T-shirt and size.

May God bless our work on his behalf.



"Different Gifts, Same Grace" Comes to Lamb of God



The new WELS theme, "Christ's Love, Our Calling," is also being used in congregations across our synod as part of a four-year stewardship emphasis. This, the second year's focus, is titled *Different Gifts, Same Grace*. Your church's leaders are convinced you will appreciate this series!

The word "stewardship" usually brings to mind encouragement to be more intentional with how we use our worldly wealth. However, there are other important aspects of stewardship as well. This year our primary focus will be on talents. We all have different gifts, but share in the same grace of Jesus Christ!

Consider the following:

- 1) If God's people aren't regularly using their talents at worship, should it really be called worship?
- 2) If we don't invest our talents in raising our children and serving our neighbor, what will soon happen with our society?
- 3) If we aren't interested in using our talents to promote the preaching and teaching of Christ in our midst—and around the world—what will soon happen to mission work?

The point? God has blessed each member of his body, the church, with certain talents. When each member uses those talents to serve God and each other, the body thrives. If members leave their talents untapped, the body suffers.

Different Gifts, Same Grace will use Romans 12:6-8 as the biblical framework for the series, which includes discussions about the gifts of SERVING, ENCOURAGING, GENEROSITY, and LEADERSHIP. Here at Lamb of God we will dedicate 4 weeks this fall to the emphasis beginning on September 4. Members who regularly attend Sunday School will be happy to know that a companion Bible study will be presented during these weeks as well.

We'll see you in church on September 4. Until then, know for certain that the Lord of the church has richly blessed every member of our congregation with gifts and abilities to be used to God's glory and our neighbor's good: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully" (Romans 12:6-8).