



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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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
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Office Hours: 9 AM - 1 PM
Monday through Friday

Bible Study :

Sunday Morning 9:00 AM
Wednesday Bible Class 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 5, Issue 10

10th Anniversary Year
April 2012 Edition

By Pastor
John Roebke

WHAT I CAN'T DO

"But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" (Exodus 3:11)

You can convince yourself out of anything, if you try hard enough. You'll never make the basketball team, so why waste your time practicing free throws? If you take that motorcycle out of the garage, you'll end up as road kill. You'd better not waste your money on that Caribbean cruise, because you'll be flipping your cookies the entire time, the boat will spring a leak, you'll lose electrical power, the Bermuda Triangle will swallow you up and no one will ever hear from you again.

You can convince yourself out of anything, if you focus on yourself. Why would anyone want to come to church with someone like me? If I invite my colleagues, they'll think I'm a loser. If I knock on a stranger's door, they'll unload all their pent-up anger at God on me once they find out I'm from a church. I'm just an ordinary church member. Other people went to school for this - I'm not going to embarrass myself by showing others how little I know. Who am I to preach to others?

"Who am I, that I should preach to Pharaoh?" Moses convinced himself he couldn't do what God asked him to do. God's response? Not, "Who are you?" but "WHO AM I?" Not a pep-talk, but a promise. Focus on the Lord, not yourself. Listen to what God says, not what you tell yourself.

God didn't ask a boy to do a man's work, he asked Moses to do HIS work. Who was Moses? Who are you and I? Here's what we can't do: We can't make anyone go to heaven. We can't make anyone believe. We can't save anyone without preaching the Gospel. Just being a nice neighbor or friend doesn't cut it. And we can't save ourselves by knocking on doors.

Here's what Jesus did for us: EVERYTHING! Jesus never shrugged off his responsibilities to give witness to the truth. Through his life, death and resurrection he has paid for our self-talk, our excuses, our pathetic whining and complaining about what we can't do. Not everyone listened to Jesus - what makes us think everyone will love what we have to say? And yet because someone spoke to us, the Holy Spirit has filled our empty hearts with the peace that surpasses all understanding.

Here's what we can't do: We can't sit by and do nothing, as the world rushes to oblivion. Ignore the self-talk, and focus on God's promises: "I will help you speak and will teach you what to say." (Ex. 4:12) Beginning on May 5th, you can join our canvass teams on Saturday afternoons and get out the word about our church. You can invite the children in our community to attend our church's Tennis Clinic, which will be held June 4-6. After that, you can join us for canvassing on Wednesday evenings for the remainder of the summer. And you can pray for your friends, relatives, associates and neighbors. Pray that God will open your ears to listen for the opportunity to speak the right words at the right time. And remember, God can convince anyone - including you!

Annual Community



C a n v a s s



"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"

I s a i a h 5 2 : 7

GOD'S PLAN for LOGLC - Chapter 2 Moving On

Del Brooks, a member of both Lamb of God and Redeemer has written a series of articles about the history of our church from its 1966 beginning in South Huntsville to 2012 & celebrating our 10th anniversary at our current location on County Line Road. There will be a booklet published in July with all the articles and pictures that Del Brooks wrote and found. The following is only an excerpt.



God Builds His House
With Care

God's plan began to unfold. By 1999, it became clear to Pastor Turriff, the Church Council and the congregation that Redeemer could not continue along the present path. But, what path should be taken?

Over the years, representatives of the South Atlantic District Mission Board had recommended at least once that Redeemer consider relocating. But, being good Lutherans who find change difficult, this suggestion had been rejected with little study by the congregation. But, by 1999, times had changed and suggestions were looked at more in-depth. Something had to be done.

Pastor Turriff and the Church Council developed an approach to study the path ahead. They realized that any decision must have the support of the congregation in order to succeed. This study involved 1) evaluating of current church programs, location and facilities, 2) information-gathering from the congregation, 3) examining all alternatives, 4) using objective honesty without wanting to offend anyone, 5) developing data for the congregation and 6) identifying where help could be given from outside the congregation.

This approach seemed straight-forward, but it was a serious undertaking for Redeemer with its limited manpower resources. Thankfully the congregation was dedicated to the tasks and voluntarily undertook them.

The ladies of the church were responsible for doing demographic studies of the location of Redeemer. They studied programs and activities of other churches in the area, household frequency of moves in the Redeemer geographic area, movements due to personnel relocations, and other data.

The men studied the Redeemer programs including activities for the current membership and those for potential new members. They conducted limited canvassing and surveys in the immediate area. They also investigated the availability of property in the general Southwest Huntsville area as well as the home- and commercial-building trends in that area. The same activities were accomplished for the Madison area. These tasks required a great deal of dedication and time

We will not discuss in minute detail all the activities that had to be done, but here is an abbreviated chronology:

April 1998: Discussions began on forming a Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

June 1998: District Mission Board member Schuppe (Memphis) visited to conduct a demographic study of the Madison area

August 1998: Pastor Larry Zahn (South Atlantic Mission Board Chairman) led the discussion concerning future of Redeemer

September 1998: Pastor Jim Radloff (District Mission Counselor) led discussions on current programs and possible changes

October 1998: The congregation began gathering demographic data

January 1999: LRPC presented information to the Church Council recommending the move to Madison and Church Council agreed

January 1999: Congregation participated in meetings and presentations

February 1999: School of Outreach held in Columbia, Tennessee

February 1999: Congregation voted unanimously to relocate to Northwest Madison County/East Limestone and to apply to District Mission Board for assistance

March 1999: Relocation plan provided to District Mission board

March 1999: Congregation unanimously approved sale of Redeemer building/parsonage and the purchase of a new parsonage

April 1999: Redeemer sold one of two rental houses (Beck Trust house) for \$49,000.

April 1999: Congregation voted to change name of Redeemer to Lamb of God Lutheran Church (LOGLC)

April 1999: Congregation closed on new parsonage at 120 Boston Harbour Way, Madison, AL for \$162,000

May 1999: Congregation accepted an offer on Redeemer from a Free Will Baptist Church for \$291,000

May 1999: Sold second Beck Trust house for \$38,000

August 15, 1999: Congregation conducted final service at Redeemer site

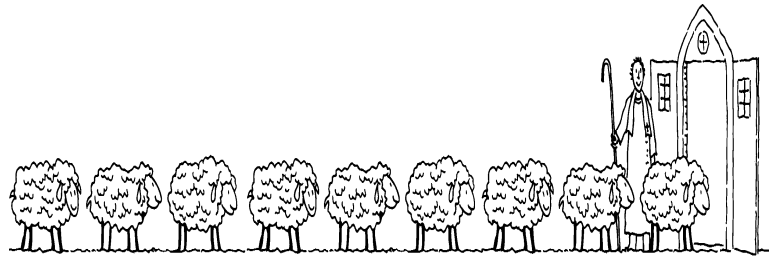
August 22, 1999: Congregation conducted first service at Radisson Hotel in Madison

It was time to move on. God had a plan. Chapter 3, **Serving God With No Church Building**, will follow.



Faith of the Flock

*Introducing...
Sara & Brian Wheat
And children Joseph & Charlie*



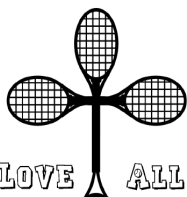
Brian Wheat was born March 10, 1976 and raised in Tuscaloosa, AL. You may not know that he was a big soccer star at his high school and still enjoys teaching the boys soccer and coaching them through the AYSO. Brian attended the University of Alabama (I don't hold that against him) for 1 year before realizing that college was not for him. He decided to move to Auburn (smart man!) to live with his best friends and began working as a carpenter. God had a hand in this path for Brian, because as it turns out, Brian is an exceptional carpenter and works on beautiful homes and custom remodels. Brian loves to hunt and fish and has already taught the boys how to live off the land. Brian thinks he is a city boy, but I have been trying to get through to him that he is, and always will be a country boy!

I was born July 14th, 1977 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where most of my family still lives. When I was young I developed a passion for the stars. One thing you may not know about me is that I attended space camp three times while growing up, and even worked there my sophomore year of college. I hate the cold and snow, so I always knew that I would move south to attend college. God had a hand in that, and lead me to Auburn University (which I had never heard of at the time) where I graduated with a degree in Aerospace Engineering and where I also met Brian! Brian and I were married on November 30th, 2001. We spent three years in Phoenix, AZ where I took my first job at Honeywell and Brian worked in the "dry" heat every day. Three years and one son later, we decided it was time to move back south. I have work at Lockheed Martin as a missile systems analyst for 7 years now. I love the stars, space shuttles, rockets, jets, music, the beach, fireworks, Harley Davidsons, family, and football.

My favorite thing about Lamb of God are the close friends of faith that we have made over the years. The Byrnes and Motts have become our in town parents/grandparents, and we are blessed with many other friendships! One of my biggest spiritual struggles is sharing the word of God with others. I am shy around strangers and never know how to bring up faith. God is currently helping me to be more patient with my children and guiding me daily to be the best parent I can be.

Joseph Harley Wheat was born on September 5th, 2003 and is currently in second grade. Joseph is the most spiritual and thoughtful child I have ever known. He amazes me every day and I constantly pray that Joseph never loses those qualities. Joseph loves sports (football, soccer, & swimming), math, family, hunting/fishing, and reading. He says that one day he wants to be a pastor AND a NFL kicker (for the Green Bay Packers, of course!)

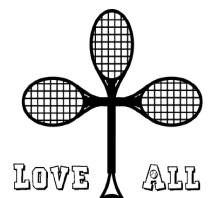
Charles Robert Wheat was born on May 4th, 2006 and is currently in kindergarten. Charlie is the comedian in the family! When Charlie is around, there is never a dull moment!! He lights up my life and my heart and I know that no matter what path God leads Charlie down, he will always be smiling and having fun. Charlie also loves sports (baseball, soccer, & swimming), hunting/fishing, and bugs and animals of all kinds. Charlie is named after my dad and has the personality to match!



TENNIS CLINIC 2012

June 4th, 5th, 6th

How can I support Lamb of God's summer outreach to the children in the neighborhood?



1. **By passing the word** out to your friends and family and urge them to sign up
2. **By contributing tennis equipment** for use in the camp
3. **By volunteering to help** be a coach or assistant
4. **By housing a team** of volunteers from MLC for two weeks

What a privilege to give kids a familiarity with God, Church, fair play, & friendship.

The kids have been busy for the last few weeks providing many different and interesting **RENT-A-KID** services. From washing windows, to pulling weeds and washing airplanes, they can do just about anything.

We have a few more days scheduled, so with your help, we should be very close to meeting our goal. If anyone would still like some work done, household, yard work, garage cleaning, window washing, attic help - feel free to contact me and I'm sure the kids would be glad to pull up their sleeves and get started on these wonderful character and muscle building opportunities. Call Pam Hess at 256-612-0580 or sign up at LambofGodChurch.org/rentakid for 5/19, 5/27 & 6/19.

Camp is approaching soon, and I know the kids are getting excited. We have 9 kids going to Camp South, which means we are going to have to rent a large vehicle, OR, if anyone is interested in going and driving a group separately please talk to Pastor Roebke or Pam Hess. Again, I can't thank you enough for all of the support we get, that helps to send all of these kids to camp.

Thank You, Pam Hess



**Maintenance & Grounds Chairman
- Jeff Alexy -**

The spring workday was a big success. We cleaned and mopped the sanctuary, washed the windows, cleaned throughout the church, and replaced some light bulbs. We ate a delicious chili lunch that Karla Poehlman made. A big thanks to everyone who helped.

If you see anything around the church that needs to be repaired, please let Jeff Alexy know.

Call 256-283-6947
Or e-mail brigjeff@gmail.com

*This year 2012
for Easter Service
the Lord must have been
smiling to see 137 people
come to worship him
and celebrate.*

*1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God
and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ! In his great mercy he has
given us new birth into a living
hope through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead,*



Latest Budget Figures
March 31, 2012

Budgeted monthly Offerings	\$ 12,891.29
Actual Offerings/March/2012	<u>10,588.86</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (2,303.43)





UPcoming EVENTS

- 4/23 Hoyles Foils Card Club 1 PM @ Gruber's
- 4/23 Growing in Hope 7PM
- 4/24 Primary Runoff
- 4/27 All Ladies farewell luncheon for Krista Hahn @ Surie, 12 Noon. e-mail RSVP to joni.gruber@att.net
- 4/28 Tornado Relief Date—Gary Byrnes 256-457-5629
- 4/28 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM
- 4/28 Ladies Breakfast Brunch 9AM at Tauchens and Bennett's Nurseries afterward—watch for details.
- 4/29 Open Forum
- 5/8 Tri-County Master Gardener Grad Gathering 5 PM
- 5/12 Mary/Martha Meeting at Brigitte Alexy's
- 5/20 Confirmation Sunday (Confirmand: Ethan Wigley)
- 6/2-3 Lamb of God Church Campout
- 6/4-5-6 Tennis Clinic - Register on-line - for Lamb of God neighborhood children ages 8 - 14

Check out our website for all information relating to Lamb of God activities
www.LambofGodChurch.org

OPEN FORUM
 Sunday April 29th
 With Tom Poehlman
 & Gary Anthony
 (Subject: Stewardship,
 Long-Range Plan)

Also Pot Luck Lunch
ATTN ALL COOKS, don't forget
to bring a dish for Pot Luck.
There isn't a sign up but any-
thing you bring will be delicious
and will go fast!



TWO - BACK TO BACK - OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE LADIES
4/27 A FRIDAY FAREWELL & FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON
4/28 & A SATURDAY GARDEN BREAKFAST & SHOPPING



All Ladies are invited
 for fellowship and
 to celebrate Krista Hahn's
 upcoming move to Seattle.



The food is great: SURIE's
The location is right: 7840 Hwy 72 W
The date & time is: Friday April 27th at
NOON

RSVP if you can,
but come anyway even if you didn't rsvp
Joni.gruber@att.net

LADIES BREAKFAST AND PLANT SHOPPING APRIL 28TH

All ladies of the congregation are invited to the home of Becky Tauchen on Saturday April 28th for breakfast in the garden. And if you wish to continue your day out, a trip to Bennett Nursery will follow.

BREAKFAST: 9AM
 At Becky Tauchen's, 116 Mykey's Way,
 Huntsville. RSVP 256-852-7505 or
btauch@hiwaay.net

PLANT SHOPPING After the breakfast
 you'll be off to Bennett Nursery for flowers,
 plants and fun with friends.





God Builds His House
With Care

The 2012 Lamb of God 10th Anniversary Update

By Kim Bodeker

Much has been discussed regarding the Planning for our 10th Anniversary celebration. The following are the highlights at present.

As of 04/08/2012 the Monthly Anniversary Fund has reached \$ \$2,127.87. This is a blessing and will be put to good use for the church.

Pastor Turiff and Mrs. Turriff have agreed to fly down for the celebration. Dates are pending.

We're thinking that a Pot Luck meal would be the way to go for the Anniversary. More info on that to come.

A entertainment company has been booked for the Anniversary. This includes: Balloon Animals, Face Painting, Bounce and Jump, Cotton Candy, Popcorn, and more amusement for the young.

Of course we will have the new Church Directories for everyone with membership photos and contact information. There will also be a few surprise pages.

We are publishing excerpts from Del Brooks' History of Lamb of God in our newsletters and there will be a complete book of the entire history with pictures from the past as well.



Three teens from Lamb of God Church went to MLC WLC and WLS to check out the schools personally. James Bray, Shayna Hess and Ethan Wigley went together and two of them shared their experience with us.



Our trip to go visit MLC, WLC, and WLS was an awesome experience. The people were nice and the professors were too, and were the room hosts. The food to the classrooms were also nice. That trip actually has set my mind to follow the Pastor track and hope on going to MLC one day. Another great opportunity was viewing and sitting in the college classrooms. It had a good view on what's to come in the following years. I was able to visit the Latin class and then the Bible History class. I am really looking forward to going to MLC and fulfilling my life's calling as a Pastor. By Ethan Wigley

I had an amazing time visiting MLC and WLC. We made lots of friends, and had a lot of fun. Personally, I am seriously thinking about going to WLC. It's a beautiful campus and I really like the idea of going to a small college, where everyone knows each other, and everyone is Christian. Everyone seems to know their professors there, and everyone is friends. The trip was very beneficial, and I'm really glad I went. By Shayna Hess

MLC: Martin Luther College

WLC: Wisconsin Lutheran College

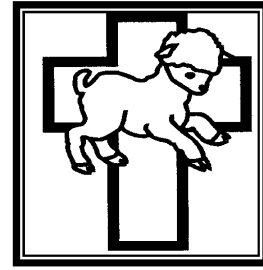
WLS: Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Go to WELS.net for more information



Little Lambs Learning Center

Elsa Toepke, Director



As I write this it dawns on me LLLC will be graduating its tenth class of four year olds just a couple of weeks from your receiving the newsletter. That's awesome and humbling.

I don't have an exact number – we started slowly and numbers have varied as community needs have dictated, so some years we had two four old classes and others only one – but I suspect we have probably graduated at least 150 four year olds in these ten years. What an opportunity that has been to share with them and their families Jesus, the risen Savior. Some of these children were from our own congregation, some from other Christian denominations who were eager for us to reinforce those basic Biblical truths and concepts we share and still others came because of our program, schedule, small intimate size, location, or because we were willing to work with those who understood little or no English. No matter, all were directed here so they might hear the Gospel and take it home.

It's the time of the school year when we see the evidence of all the hard work put in by children and staff; and one of us walks across the hall or to Joni's office to say, "Come see what they're doing, look how they're concentrating and how well they can follow direction and use crayons and scissors." This is, of course, followed by exclamations of, "Wow" or "Awesome." The children beam, and rightly so because they know it is praise earned for real effort.

SIMPLY FRIENDS

BY LARRY HARBOUGH

The Simply Friends group recently provided assistance to one of our church members. Ironically it was one of the planning members of the group, Joni Gruber, who became ill over the Christmas Holidays and required several weeks of assistance. Several friends and members of the congregation stepped forward to provide this assistance which included; two weeks of daily assistance, help with rehab exercises, driving Joni to several doctor appointments, and preparing food for Joni and her daughter. There is no doubt in Joni's mind that the assistance provided by these individuals, gave her the will and courage to overcome her health problems. Joni has expressed her thanks to me several times for the wonderful support of those who prayed and volunteered to assist her in overcoming her illness.

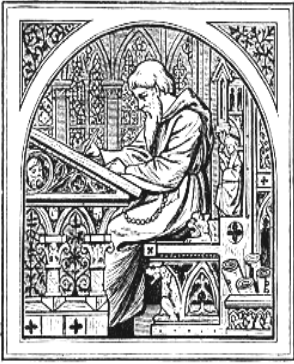
The friends group has also visited another of our congregational members, the Woodfins, several times during this period. Jim who is now deceased, had some very serious health issues and was going through a very difficult period. We had wonderful discussions with Jim's wife Eileen and their son Mark during our visits. We also delivered some items from the food pantry and some candy donated by a church member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who volunteered and members of the congregation who have prayed and provided assistance to Joni and the Woodfins during their illnesses.

Thank you for your friendship. Larry

Colossians 3:12-14 ¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.





Notes from the Scriptorium

Bart Leahy,
Council Secretary

Spring is a great time for cleaning house. The weather is warm enough to go outside, open up the windows, beautify the essential, throw out the unnecessary, and get things done. It's a time to get one's house in order and make it presentable to the outside world. For the church, spring cleaning can include our outreach—how we display our hospitality to the outside world. Are we welcoming? Are we doing the right things to get our message out and reach the community? Are we cluttering up the message of the gospel to be more secularly “useful?” Your Council continues to investigate these sorts of questions in our start-of-meeting discussions Pastor leads us in regarding “things a congregation calling itself Evangelical Lutheran should do.”

Speaking of cleaning, members of Lamb of God have been out in the community helping those affected by last month's tornadoes. We're also making a proposal to WELS Christian Aid & Relief to develop “tornado tubs,” relief kits which we can distribute immediately after a storm to help people with basic necessities. Also, we've been looking to our own house, having our spring cleaning of the church building March 24. Thank you to all who participated!

To help us with outreach, we have been getting pictures taken professionally of our congregation to develop a directory that will help new and current members identify who's who (I'm terrible with names, and I'm sure I can't be alone on that score)

Tom Poehlman, our Council President, has been working with the Long Range Planning Committee to finalize the Committee's proposals for the future of our congregation, which will include blacktopping and striping our parking lot and acquiring a new computer and software for the office. The computer was donated by a member—thank you!

Going back to the outreach theme, the number of visitors to our church has increased since Christmas. Speaking from my own personal experience, I know a lot of the appeal of this church is the warmth and Christian hospitality of its members. Thank you for that, and keep that tradition going, inviting friends, and welcoming strangers. Our Easter for Kids activity continues to grow—we had 63 children attending this year, and that event can't happen without volunteers to help Pearl Brooks. Coming up soon will be our tennis clinic. If you want to help with that, please contact our Outreach Chair, Jon Ehrman.

In addition to leading our spring work day, our Buildings & Grounds Chairman Jeff Alexy is working with Tom to stay on top of pending maintenance issues. If you find anything that needs fixing on the grounds or inside the building, please let him know. If you're willing and able to fix it, even better!

Our other new team member Larry Povinelli our Treasurer, has been keeping an eye on our finances. While we are still lower on offerings than we had planned, our expenses, too, have been lower thanks to a mild winter, which eased our utility bills quite a bit. As always, we are thankful for everyone's contributions. Without them, the mission of Lamb of God could not go forward.

On the In Reach front, I'm pleased to report that both Little Lambs Learning Center and our Morning Out Ministry (MOM) have been able to sustain themselves while continuing to minister to children ages 2-4.

The next big excitement on our horizon will be establishing the church's budget for the coming fiscal year, which begins July 1. We will keep you posted on our activities as we approach our June congregational meeting. As always, our ministry plan guides our budget, which comes from all of you.

NEXT MARY MARTHA MEETING *May 12th* *At Brigitte Alexy's home*

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Office: (256) 464-3900

Email: loglc@hiwaay.net

Web Page: <http://lambofgodchurch.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:	Larry Povinelli
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, Mike Presley
Long-Range Planning:	Gary Anthony
Building & Ground Chair:	Jeff Alexy
Sunday School:	Pearl Brooks
Choir Director:	Karla Poehlman
Mary Martha Guild President:	Becky Tauchen
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