



# The GOOD NEWS Letter

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Volume 4, Issue 2

February 2011

By Pastor John Roebke **AS HEARD ON THE PLAYGROUND**

## 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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**Office Hours:** 9 AM - 1 PM  
 Monday through Friday

**Bible Study :**  
 Sunday Morning 9:00 AM  
 Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 PM  
 Midweek Lent 7:00 PM

**Choir Practice:**  
 Wednesday Eve 7:30 PM  
 During Lent 8 PM

**Worship :**  
 Sunday: 10:30 AM

**Little Lambs Learning Center**  
 Office 256-464-3900  
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**Morning Out Ministry**  
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***"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!" (Psalms 133:1)***

*"If you won't play by my rules, I'm taking my ball and going home!" says the frustrated third grader, who can't understand why his friends won't let him be the all-time pitcher.*

*"If you won't play by our rules, we're leaving the state!" say fourteen frustrated State Senators, who try to block certain passage of the governor's legislation.*

*"If you won't play by the rules, we'll shut down the government!" threaten national leaders, who would rather see the country's institutions grind to a halt than give an inch to their opponents.*

*"If you don't give me what I want, I'm outta here!" shouts an enraged spouse who is sick and tired of bending over backwards for her, for sacrificing her career for him.*

*"They don't listen to my suggestions, so why should I listen to them?" asks a church member who doesn't agree with the direction the leadership is taking the church, and isn't afraid to let others know it.*

*"Since they don't play by my rules, they deserve what they've got coming," says a God whose sense of justice demands the eternal damnation of every sinful man, woman and child ever born on this planet.*

*"I played by the rules, I listened to your commands, I gave you everything you wanted – and you left me to rot on that cross," says Jesus, who laid down his life for childish, self-centered sinners.*

*"How can we play this game together better?" asks God's redeemed children, who close the door on past disagreements and enter the room of new possibilities, to bring Christ's love to our community through the ministries of their church and preschool, and to show their thanks to God for letting them be on HIS team.*



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

Director: Pearl Brooks



Our MOM group still manages to amaze us. Each child has their own personalities. The children are all unique. It is truly amazing how God has made each one of us.

The sniffles have all left us and we have had a full house for two weeks now. Craft time is always exciting. Little hands are always eager to make their treasures. They are always so excited when they show them to Mom at the end of the day.

We begin our mornings with a prayer followed by a bible story. This week when I said it's time for the bible story, Ethan ran to the book case and picked out our bible. He then sat down with the bible in his lap waiting. We all watched in amazement. What a lovely moment....

We are truly blessed to be able to help these little ones to learn about Jesus.



### Our Spring Schedule

Feb.27	Roller skating
Mar. 5	Confirmation, lunch and Madison Village
March 12	Rent-A-Kid Workday
March 19	Rent-A-Kid Workday
Mar. 26	Confirmation, hiking and picnic
April 2	Confirmation and kids choice; movie, petting zoo, paint ball, whatever!
April 30	Confirmation, lunch and prepare for car wash/brat fry
May 1	Car wash/Brat fry
May 20-22	Camping - Monte Sano

Blessings to all, Pam Hess

The Youth Group would like to thank everyone for their generous support with the Valentine dinner. We hope everyone enjoyed the decorations, the meal, the service, and of course the great talent. The kids worked very hard preparing for this and I am very proud of the responsibility they showed. We raised \$460.00! This will cover the youth group expenses for sending 3 kids to camp. That is incredible! And we would once again like to thank the Tauchens for all their hard work. They put a lot of effort into making this successful and we could not have done it without them.



## RENT-A-KID

By now you have probably all heard of our new program, "Rent-A-Kid". The kids are all anxious to start serving our church family with their helpful hands. We hope many of you will take advantage of putting them to work - doing any of those odd jobs that you just don't feel like doing. They are young, strong, ambitious and they really want to go to camp. They are also willing to do this for whatever donation you are willing to give.

Some youth group activities we have planned for the coming weeks are; roller skating on Feb. 27th and a hiking trip on March 26th and everyone is always invited to join us. We have lots of fun, great exercise and enjoy the beautiful outdoors.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

We are excited about being able to expand our **Little Lambs** program to include a **Lunch Bunch** hour from Wednesday only to Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Families will now have the option of attending from 9 AM to Noon or 9:AM to 1:00 daily. We are holding an **LLC Open House** on March 5th beginning at 9AM in the morning. We hope you will help get the word out when and where ever you can. We hope to meet with some of your friends with preschoolers!

Three year old TTh program	3 hours /day \$105 /month	4 hours /day \$135/month
Four/Five year old MWF program	3 hours /day \$155/month	4 hours /day \$205/month
Four/Five year old M-F (5day) program	3 hours/day \$250/month	4 hours/day \$330/month

**From: The Preschool Board and the Director of Little Lambs Learning Center**



## LLLC Corner Elsa Cousins, Director

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On the lighter side this month – The Threes & Fours groups are naturally loving and affectionate children. They don't really need the excuse of Valentine's Day to enjoy the opportunities of giving special hugs and surprises for mom and dad and their LLLC friends. It is a pleasure to see the affection they hold for one another.

As well as receiving affection, it's always interesting and fun to watch as the children develop their sense of humor and how unexpectedly clever they can be. Our Four-year-olds have a regular "homework" assignment each week related to a new letter sound. On Monday's they make a paper-bag puppet that goes with the letter. They take it home, and during the week find things beginning with that letter to put in the bag. Then they return it on Friday to share with the class. By this time of the year, many can do this quite well on their own. One Friday a child's mom, preparing to bring her child to school, reminded him to get his bag on the way out the door, but he came to her with an empty bag. As she started to scold and remind him it was important, he interrupted to explain..."But mom, it's okay. 'N' is for 'nothing' in the bag!" (In the end, she did convince him to find a few things to share anyway.)

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

The coupon books selling for \$20.00 contain 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 you with many more savings options through the end of 2011– a good thing for all of us.

**We would like to ask families/individuals to commit to receiving and being responsible for 1 book to be used as a sample for family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to get prepaid orders for a minimum of five books. Little Lambs will make a 40% profit on all books sold.**

The company offers a free book for selling five or more books which we will pass on to you as an incentive to get orders. The prize coupon books are based on individual's sales, not combined totals.

I will need to have a commitment by Tuesday or Wednesday Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> in order to have the sample coupon books and order forms available for you by Monday Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Sample coupon books and order forms need to be turned into the office by the close of the school day on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup> the order will go in that afternoon and the books will be available for distribution when we return from Spring Break

Thank you for your willingness to help Little Lambs as it continues to provide an ever expanding, quality Christian preschool environment for our community.

**Commitment dates – Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>** See sign up sheets in the entrance area and at classroom sign in/out

**Prepaid order taking dates – Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – Mar. 9<sup>th</sup>** Books and order forms will be available on Monday 2/28

**Order turn in date – Thursday Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>** Money and all checks made out to LLLC must be turned in along with sample books and order forms to insure that the order will be placed prior to Spring Break.

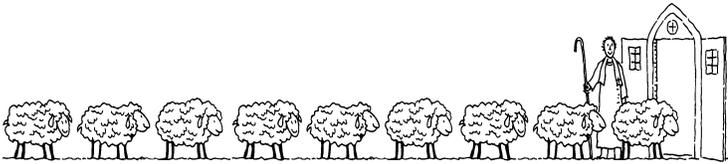
**Distribution of books will begin Wed. Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Expanded Dates to be announced !**



January 2011  
Treasurer's Report -  
Offerings

Budgeted monthly Offerings	\$ 14,519.23
Actual Offerings for December 2010	<u>15,068.47</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 549.24



## *Faith of the Flock Introducing...*

### *KaMi and Joe Reis*

KaMi was born in 1967 in Seoul, Korea. She grew up next door to a Presbyterian Church in Seoul and was very active in the youth group. Even though her mother has since moved away from the area, her mother still goes to that same church. Her mother was a hair dresser but soon had a full time job raising five girls while her father spent a lot of time traveling around the Pacific Rim as a drummer in various bands. KaMi is the second oldest in her family. All of her sisters and her mother still live in the area around Seoul.

Joe was born in 1958 in the San Francisco Bay Area. Raised as a Roman Catholic, he has an older sister and a large extended family with three stepsisters, two stepbrothers, and a half sister. Joe graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1980 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army. While in the Army, he trained as a Blackhawk pilot but claims more time working behind a desk than flying in the aircraft. While in the Army he earned his Master's Degree in Systems Management by going to night school. He served in Fort Rucker, Alabama; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania; and two tours in Korea. His last military assignment was as a Professor of Military Science in California University of Pennsylvania near Pittsburgh. After retiring from the Army, Joe returned to Korea and became a defense contractor where he married KaMi and they were blessed with Jennifer, Joaquin, and Julia.

KaMi and Joe moved to the Portland, Oregon, area in 2006 while Joe took a break from working and took some time enjoying his family. Joe accepted a job on Redstone Arsenal in March 2009 and the family has been living in Madison ever since. KaMi found the Lamb of God by attending the Madison Festival in October 2009. Joe and KaMi became members of the congregation last year.

What Joe and KaMi like best about the Lamb of God is how everyone is so friendly and work together. Joe feels his conversion to WELS was a natural fit to the conclusions he reached during his personal examination of the Bible. "I questioned many things people and different religions stated was in the Bible so I decided to read it myself from beginning to end. While I was in Korea going to church services in Korean, I could sing the songs and read the Bible readings of the day. Then when the sermon commenced, I read the Bible. It took about four years to finish it, but I remember how amazed I was about how many misperceptions there are about what the Bible says. Now I can challenge people who claim to quote the Bible."

One of the biggest challenges for Joe and KaMi is raising their children. While they are blessed with smart and healthy children, it is always a challenge to make sure they learn the right lessons of life.

Faith in God, His mercy, His Forgiveness, and salvation through Jesus are the key lessons that they want their children to learn. The congregation at the Lamb of God helps provide that education and support.

**RENT-A-KID** Sign up in the Narthex, or go to [lambogodchurch.org/rentakid](http://lambogodchurch.org/rentakid) for direct access sign-up  
March Youth Workdays are 3/12 and 3/19

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**



Recently you received the new Church Directory with the Member Care Tree on the back. If you lost yours, or for some reason did not get one, please contact Joni Gruber at [loglc@hiwaay.net](mailto:loglc@hiwaay.net) and she will forward one to you. Also, we will be taking pictures for a new photo directory that will be set up in the Narthex. The dates for the photos are March 13 and March 27. If you would like a new picture to replace the current photo we have, or if you are new to the church, please make yourself available for one of those dates. It is surprising how often new friendships can evolve by matching a name to a face in the church crowd and placing a phone call to say hello and extend an invitation of friendship.

# The Light will Speak for Itself

A WELS Devotion

*When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most persuasive men of his time. Through a combination of carefully chosen words, good humor and common sense, Franklin enjoyed great success when it came to winning people over to his point of view. In fact, it was Franklin's art of persuasion that helped convince the nation of France to become an ally of the United States during the American Revolution. Had it not been for Benjamin Franklin, the Revolutionary War very likely would have ended in defeat.

There was an episode, however, when Benjamin Franklin set his eloquence aside. His home city of Philadelphia did not have street lamps. Its residents were satisfied with dark streets at night. Franklin could have unleashed the power of his pen and worked to convince his fellow residents of the many benefits of street lamps. Instead, he took a different approach. He simply set up his own street lamp outside of his own house. After sunset, the lamp's light attracted the curiosity of his neighbors. Gradually, the word spread about how wonderful it was to walk near Mr Franklin's house at night without fear of stumbling in the dark. Soon the people of Philadelphia were persuaded. Street lamps for the entire city quickly followed.

There are times when you and I, as Christians, have a habit of worrying ourselves into silence when it comes to witnessing to someone else about Jesus. We think we have to have just the perfect line of thought, the perfect choice of words, the perfect timing. Such thinking is nonsense, and we know it. After all, it's not within our power of persuasion to bring another soul to faith.

Instead, we have something far better. Jesus is the light. In him the darkness of our lives is gone. In him we are forgiven. In him we have peace. In him we never have to be afraid again.

When you and I openly bask in the light that is Jesus, we then don't have to fret so much about persuading others how wonderful that light is. The light will speak for itself.

**Dearest Jesus, in this world of darkness, you are the light. Move us to bask openly in you. Get us out of the way so that your light may speak for itself. Amen.**



- 3/9 Ash Wednesday**  
Lent Begins with this date. A full schedule of exciting worship and fellowship is printed and available - check with the ushers for your copy of the "Lenten Schedule."
- 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
- 5/23 Tennis Bible Clinic**  
This date starts a three day evening camp will be held from 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)

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|---|---|
| <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,<br>Dave Bray, Dan Peebles,<br>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   |

**Ash Wednesday - A Beautiful Service with a Concert, Potluck Supper and Fellowship Afterward**

*by Jon Ehrman*



Mark on your calendar March 9th, for attendance at Ash Wednesday's evening potluck supper and worship service. The potluck supper sponsored by the MaryMartha Guild and will start at 5:30 pm and will be for the Congregation and Branches Band. The supper will be followed by a special worship service at 7:00 pm kicking off our Lenten season.

The Worship service is open to the public and will include hymns and Christian songs by the **Branches Band** to edify your worship experience. All members of Branches Band are members of WELS churches and graduates of Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee, WI. Their visit to Lamb of God Church is part of a three week spring tour from Wisconsin to Florida. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend!

A sheet will be provided in the Narthex for you to sign up to provide your favorite dish to share. A free will donation will be gathered after the service to help defray Branches Band's tour expenses. Light refreshments will be served after the service along with an opportunity to purchase Band CDs if you wish.

This Lent, the theme is People of the Passion. The Lenten Schedule has been printed - pick up a copy for yourselves and to share with your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Perhaps they are simply waiting to be asked to join you at Lamb of God worship services.



**TO DENY JESUS**

*by Shayna Hess*

It says in the Bible that we are not supposed to deny Jesus in front of our friends, or else he will deny us in front of his Father. But what does that mean exactly, "to deny Jesus?" Of course there's the example of Peter denying Jesus three times to save his own skin, but I don't think that's all that was meant. I think you deny Jesus every time you laugh at a dirty joke, or say nothing when you hear your friends curse, or make fun of someone because they're not "normal" according to high school standards. And just because we aren't the one saying the joke, or the bad words, or occasionally be nice to someone when your friends aren't around, doesn't cancel out all the other times that we do sin. Because it also says in the Bible that all the good deeds in the world can't pay for even one small sin. The only way to Heaven is through Jesus. Because he went through the most shameful and most agonizing death possible. The word "excruciating" was originally a word thought of to describe the pain felt on a cross, because no other words described enough pain. And after he did all that for us, we still have the nerve to deny him, to say, "No, I don't know that man," just like Peter did so long ago. Every time we sin, in even the smallest, most insignificant way, it's like spitting on him and what he went through for us.

But the great thing is, it's ok. He still loves us. He will love us no matter what we do, or no matter how many times we spit at him. He will never deny us, he forgives us, and he will welcome us into his home to meet our Father when it's time. That's just how great, merciful, and loving our God is. That's why we need to be proud to be Christians, and not to deny Jesus. It's not easy, in fact it's impossible to do that every day, every time an opportunity shows itself, but we can try. Every time we let our light shine, let Jesus work through us, it's a victory. That's one more time where God wins against the devil. And maybe someone will see you, and notice how happy you are, and want to know why. Then you get another amazing chance to let someone else in on his love, then that person tells someone else, and that person tells someone else, and pretty soon, a hundred souls have been saved, all because you didn't deny him. So let's all try, just a little bit harder, not to deny our savior and our Lord.