

Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

January 5, 2014

Gold, Incense, and Myrrh...and a Message to All

How much do babies appreciate the gifts they receive when they are born? Did Jesus, being the Son of God as well as the son of Mary, value the gifts the Magi brought? We would think those gifts impractical for a baby, but then this was not an ordinary baby. Probably that gold bought food and lodging and everything that was needed by this family as they fled to Egypt and then got established in a new home. The incense was likely burned as their prayers ascended to the Father in heaven. Perhaps even the myrrh was used some 30 years later to anoint the body of the baby grown to be our Savior.

The gifts the Magi brought were traditional gifts of the East. We can be sure that these gifts were appreciated by our Lord, for Paul writes, “If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has,

not according to what he does not have” (2 Corinthians 8:12).

Were the gifts of the shepherds that first Christmas night acceptable as well? The Bible does not record their bringing any gift at all—except, that is, the gift of their running to the stable with anticipation, the gift of their humble worship as their anticipation turned to realization, and the gift of their “spread[ing] the word concerning what had been told them” as they returned to their flocks, “glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen” (Luke 2:17, 20). It is obvious the willingness was there as the shepherds brought gifts according to what they had. Therefore, according to Scripture, their gifts were acceptable.

We, too, can be sure that our gifts are appreciated by



Illustration: Glenn Myers © 2002 NPH

our Lord: the gifts of our treasures—our gold and silver—and the gifts of our praise and adoration as we witness to what we have heard and seen. Like the Magi and the shepherds, we are drawn to the manger bed. Like them, we kneel in awe and adoration. Like them, we use the gifts God gives us, wherever we are, wherever God places us, to “spread the word concerning what [has] been told [us].”

Contact Information

- **Church Office—**
4925 Sunbury Rd
Columbus, OH 43230
Phone: 614-471-5164
Email: LambofGodColumbus@gmail.com
- **Online—**
›LambofGodColumbus.org
›Facebook.com/
LambofGodColumbus
- **Pastor Tim Wagner—**
wagner.timothy@gmail.com;
Cell/Text: 614-702-5609

This Week at Lamb of God (January 6-12)

Serving Our Lord

- Church Cleaning: Wintrich Family
- Bulletin Assembly: Elisabeth Wagner
- Ushers:
- Accompanist: Destinee Fiecko
- Refreshments: Cox Family

Events

- *Thursday, January 9*
6:15 pm—Choir Rehearsal
7:15 pm—Bible Study
- *Sunday, January 12*
9:15 am—Sunday School & Bible Study
10:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion

If you have news, upcoming events, or prayer requests that you would like published in the weekly newsletter, contact Katie Chen (katiesl@hotmail.com).

Mission Prayer: Malawi

Father, thank you for allowing us to be part of your ministry in Malawi for the past 50 years.

After the first year of ministry that our synod was involved in there,

our human understanding may have told us to move on. But you saw the harvest that we did not see and you moved us to trust in you and persevere. The ministry in Malawi is



not going well because of us—it is our response to the gracious and merciful things you have done for us in the perfect life your Son lived on our behalf and the death he took

upon himself that was ours to bear. You give us hope in an eternal paradise with you. Move us to continue to share your saving Word in Malawi and throughout the world. Amen.

Branches Band Concert

Beautiful Savior in Grove City invites you to join them for a special concert on Thursday, January 9, at 7:00 pm. Branches Band tours the country

singing hymns and original songs based on Scripture. Learn more about them at www.BranchesBand.com

New Bible Study

Join us for *Church Fellowship: Working Together for the Truth*, a new bible study Thursdays at 7:15 pm, beginning January 9. We will study and apply the biblical principles about how God wants us to express our unity of faith and show our love for his

truth in our interactions with other Christians. Join us for this interesting bible discussion. The companion book by John F. Brug will be available for \$14.



Youth Lock-In at St. Paul's, Columbus

St. Paul's Youth Group invites all high school age members to join them for a lock-in from 8:00 pm on Friday, January 17, through 8:00 am on Saturday, January 18. There will be

good food, fellowship with other WELS members, and fun activities. For details, contact Vicar Duve (aduve1@yahoo.com) or Sarah Larger (selarger.sgrplm@sbcglobal.net).

Christmas Food Drive

Bring non-perishable food items to help the needy through the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. A list of especially needed items is posted in the fellowship hall. If you wish to



donate funds instead of food (Mid-Ohio Foodbank turns \$1 into \$11 worth of food), put your donation in an envelope, payable to Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

Decorations

Join us, as we take down our Christmas decorations today after worship.

Poinsettias

Thank you to those who donated poinsettias for our Christmas season. Those who wish are encouraged to take their poinsettias home today.

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Our shut-ins (Ken, Kitty, Dot, Julie, Dick)
- Pastor & Elisabeth Wagner, who are expecting their fourth child this summer

Request prayers of your pastor and/or your fellow Christians using a prayer request form by the mailboxes or online at LambofGodColumbus.org/prayers

Give Thanks to the Lord!

Worship Attendance (12/29):	32
Sunday Bible Study:	13
Sunday School (w/teachers):	6
General Fund Offerings:	\$1893.69
Sunday School Offerings:	\$14.00