

# Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

October 19, 2014

## Look Closely, Repent and Live

**Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit...For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone...Repent and live! (Ezekiel 30:30-32)**

God's chosen people had been taken into captivity in a foreign country. They were complaining that God wasn't fair. Their fathers and mothers and grandpas and grandmas had sinned terribly, but they shouldn't be suffering for the wicked things their ancestors had done. That was the complaint of the Jewish exiles living in faraway Babylon.

They had a sight problem. They were far-sighted. They could see into the past and view the sins of those who had lived before them. But they seemed unwilling to look closely at themselves and see their own sinfulness which made them just as deserving of God's wrath.

It's a problem we all have when it comes to sin. Look at that terrible murderer; he deserves a death sentence. That woman having an affair deserves the scorn of the community. Notice that speeding teenager? He deserves to have his license taken away.

But when we look closely at ourselves, what we see isn't pretty either. We see envy and greed, hatred and vengeance, dirty thoughts and ugly complaining. We see our tendency to love the things of this world more than God. Upon closer inspection we see ourselves just as deserving of God's punishment. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

There's only one way to deal with this problem. "Repent! Turn away from your offenses...get a new heart and a new spirit." How does one get a new heart and spirit? After looking closely at ourselves and seeing how sinful and deserving of hell we are, look to Jesus. See him lovingly living a perfect life



in our place. See him mercifully dying on a cross to take the punishment of hell we deserved. See him rising gloriously from the dead to assure us that there is new life for us now and in heaven.

Look to the Lord and you will see a God who is not unfair, but a very loving God who encourages you, "I take no pleasure in the death of anyone," and then pleads with you, "Repent and live!"

*Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me recognize with deep sorrow my own sinfulness and the hell I deserve. Help me heed your invitation and look to you in faith for full and free forgiveness. Amen.*

Devotion from  
[www.WhatAboutJesus.com](http://www.WhatAboutJesus.com)

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

## Contact Information

- **Church Office—**  
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- **Online—**  
›LambofGodColumbus.org  
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- **Pastor Tim Wagner—**  
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## This Week at Lamb of God (October 20-26)

### Serving Our Lord

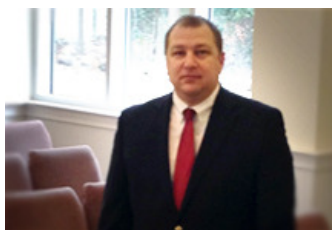
- Cleaning: Cox and Szczublewski Families
- Bulletins: Dorothy Walker
- Altar Care: Dorothy Walker
- Sunday School  
Refreshments: Chen Family
- Accompanist: Elisabeth Wagner
- Greeter: Dorothy Walker
- Ushers: Warren Cox and Chuck Sigrist

### Events

- **Wednesday, October 22**  
6:15 pm—Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 pm—Bible Study - God Grows His Church (Acts)
- **Saturday, October 25**  
10:00 am—2015 Ministry Planning Session
- **Sunday, October 26**  
9:15 am—Sunday School and Bible Study  
10:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion  
12:00 pm—45th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

## Mission Prayer: Congregational Counseling

Lord Jesus, you are the head of the Church. Bless WELS Commission for Congregational Counseling and its chairman, Rev. Jon Hein, as they provide short-term assessment



and advice to congregations seeking to identify ways to improve their ministry. May your Spirit guide the members of your body to serve you with all their heart and soul and strength. Amen.

## Fall Women's Retreat

The women of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Strongsville, OH, invite all women to join them for a retreat at Furnace Run Metro Park, on Saturday, November 8, from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The retreat theme is

"Building Healthy Relationships." The cost is only \$20. For more information, see the poster in the fellowship hall or contact Pastor Wagner or Jenn Grieser (330-687-3711, [jenngrieser@yahoo.com](mailto:jenngrieser@yahoo.com)).

## Fellowship Outing: Catch a ride on the train

St. Paul's member, Bill Ratz, is inviting the central Ohio WELS members and friends to come ride the Mt. Perry Scenic Train next Sunday, October 26, at 3pm and enjoy the fall foliage. You can get information about

the train online on the web and on Facebook at Zanesville and Western Scenic Railroad. We'll have hotdogs or pizza on the train. So that they know how many to expect, please call Pat Ratz at 614-595-9703.

## Hymnal Survey

The WELS Hymnal project is seeking your assistance. They are conducting a survey that is intended for any and all worshipers in our church body to complete. The survey consists of approximately twenty questions and

shouldn't take more than ten minutes to complete. The survey will remain open through November and can be found here: <http://weshymnal.com/research/member-survey>. Thank you for your assistance!

## WELS Columbus Reformation Service

Celebrate the Lutheran Reformation with brothers and sisters in Christ next Sunday, November 2, at 4:00 pm, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 322 E Stewart Ave, Columbus. A meal will follow the service.

## Pastoral Conference

Pastor Wagner will be in West Newton, PA, for the Ohio Pastoral Conference today through Tuesday. If you need pastoral assistance during that time, please call his cell phone (614-702-5609).

## Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Our shut-ins (Kitty, Dot, Julie, Betty, Monty, Dick)
- Dick and Jocelyn Ritter, as Dick faces continually declining health

*Request prayers of your pastor and/or your fellow Christians using a prayer request form by the mailboxes or online at [LambofGodColumbus.org/prayers](http://LambofGodColumbus.org/prayers)*

## Give Thanks to the Lord!

### Attendance (10/12):

Worship:	38
Sunday School (w/teachers):	11
Sunday Bible Study:	14

### Offerings:

General Fund:	\$2323.70
Year-to-Date Average:	\$1922.86
Weekly Budgeted Ministry:	\$2217.52
Sunday School:	\$10.25
Building Fund:	\$225.00
Beautification Project:	\$500.00
Bob Woehrle Memorial:	\$100.00



Lamb of God  
Lutheran Church

**Celebrating  
45 Years  
of God's Grace**

## 45th Anniversary Celebration

We invite you to join us, as we celebrate 45 years of God's unending grace next Sunday, October 26, with a 10:30 am worship service followed by a luncheon. Photos, memories, and Lamb of God trivia will be part of this special day of thanksgiving and praise to God. Sign up for the meal in the fellowship hall, or by calling 614-471-5164, visiting [tinyurl.com/LambofGod45](http://tinyurl.com/LambofGod45), or emailing [LambofGodColumbus@gmail.com](mailto:LambofGodColumbus@gmail.com).