

# Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

October 5, 2014

## Forgiveness from the Heart

**“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.” (Matthew 18:35)**

“I don’t know if I could ever forgive him.” It is an attitude which is easy to adopt. Maybe I have been wronged in some way, or maybe I have been hurt by someone. While the person may deserve some form of justice, is it my place to withhold forgiveness? Can I look into the person’s heart and judge motives and intentions? This was Jesus’ lesson with the Parable of the Unmerciful Servant.

Here was a person who pleaded for forgiveness of his debt, yet he refused to forgive a much lesser debt someone owed him. While I may think I would never do anything like this, what does experience reveal?

Certainly I rejoice to hear my sins have been forgiven. No matter how large, no matter how horrible or damaging, the Lord declares me not guilty through Jesus. What do I do with that

knowledge and with the peace that comes from it? What do I do, especially when it comes to offering forgiveness to someone else?

To be perfectly honest, it is easy to withhold forgiveness. It is just as easy to offer it begrudgingly, or make it dependent on an endless list of conditions. It is this kind of practice which reveals I do not appreciate the forgiveness the Lord has given me.

I need to recognize how the Lord has dealt with me first. Justly he could have withheld his forgiveness. Rightly he could have added limitless conditions. Begrudgingly he could have forgiven me only because he knew I was going to sin again anyway.

While the Lord had every right to deal with me this way, it is not how he chose to work. In his undeserved love he offered me full and free forgiveness. What this means is whenever I seek



forgiveness, humbly confessing my sins, he forgives me. His willingness to forgive is established at the cross of Jesus Christ. This is where I need to look to forgive from the heart.

It is also why I need to daily study the Scriptures, and why I need to pray: “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” I need the Lord’s forgiveness to make me forgiving. I also need the Lord’s forgiveness to change my heart. When that change does take place, and I cherish the peace of my own forgiveness, I will forgive from my heart.

*Prayer: Lord, as you have freely and mercifully forgiven me, make me forgiving. Amen.*

Devotion from

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

### Contact Information

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### This Week at Lamb of God (October 6-12)

#### Serving Our Lord

- Cleaning: Cox and Szczublewski Families
- Bulletins: Fran Woodruff
- Accompanist: Rhea Franks
- Altar Care: Dorothy Walker
- Greeter: Dorothy Walker
- Ushers: David Chen and Mike Telander

#### Events

- **Wednesday, October 8**  
6:15 pm—Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 pm—Bible Study - God Grows His Church (Acts)
- **Saturday, October 11**  
9:00 am—LWMS Fall Mission Day  
3:00 pm—Bob Woehrl Memorial Service
- **Sunday, October 12**  
8:00 am—Youth Confirmation Class  
9:15 am—Sunday School and Bible Study  
10:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion

## Mission Prayer: Ministry of Christian Giving

Dear Father, thank you for the plans you have for us. Even though we don't deserve anything but eternal punishment, you have given us the gift of eternal paradise with you through the perfect life and innocent death of your Son. Although you really don't need us to



do anything, you do ask us to share your Good News with others. To proclaim that Good News you have given us time, talents, and treasures. Help us to generously use these gifts—now and at life's end—to further your kingdom. Amen.

## LWMS Mission Day

All are invited to the annual Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Heartland Circuit Fall Mission Day on Saturday, October 11, at Abiding Word Lutheran Church in Maineville, Ohio. The Mission Day, from 9:00 am -3:00 pm, includes a presentation on mission work in China by Jennifer Boehm, spiritual growth workshops,

silent auction, and more. For more information and to register, visit [tinyurl.com/lwmsheartland](http://tinyurl.com/lwmsheartland). Contact Elisabeth Wagner or Diane Jensen with questions or to arrange carpooling.



## New Bible Study Beginning October 8

Commissioned by Christ himself, Jesus' disciples set out on a dangerous and difficult mission—making disciples of a world of sinners. We, who have received the same mission, can learn a lot from how those

disciples carried out their mission and be encouraged by how it was blessed by God. Join us for *God Grows His Church*, a study of the book of Acts, Wednesdays at 7:15 pm, beginning October 8.

## Anniversary Celebration

Lamb of God will be celebrating 45 years of God's unending grace on 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. We hope you will join us. RSVP for the meal at 614-471-5164, [tinyurl.com/LambofGod45](http://tinyurl.com/LambofGod45), or [LambofGodColumbus@gmail.com](mailto:LambofGodColumbus@gmail.com).

## 2015 Ministry Brainstorming

What direction should our ministry take in 2015? What are your ideas? What opportunities do we have? Join us on Saturday, October 18, from 9:00 am-noon, for an all-member

brainstorming session, in which we'll gather your ideas for every area of our ministry. Then, come on October 25, from 10:00 am-noon, to compile those ideas into ministry plans for 2015.

## Memorial Service

The service of celebration of the eternal life of Bob Woehrle will be held at Lamb of God this Saturday, October 11, at 3:00 p.m.

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

## Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Our shut-ins (Kitty, Dot, Julie, Betty, Monty, Dick)
- Charlie Genteline, who is battling health problems
- Dick and Jocelyn Ritter, as Dick faces continually declining health
- Our youth confirmation students, who begin classes this week
- Family and Friends of Bob Woehrle, who was called home to heaven on September 28

*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!

<b>Attendance (9/28):</b>	
Worship:	47
Sunday School (w/teachers):	10
Sunday Bible Study:	14
<b>Offerings:</b>	
General Fund:	\$2751.57
<i>Year-to-Date Average:</i>	\$1922.87
<i>Weekly Budgeted Ministry:</i>	\$2217.52
Sunday School:	\$8.75
Building Fund:	\$125.00
Beautification Project:	\$135.00