

Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

February 1, 2015

What's Your Gift?

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

Perhaps you haven't spent much time, if any, pondering that question. God has given each of us at least one gift, though, and if even one of us does not use that gift, the Body of Christ suffers. Paul, in Ephesians 4:16, writes, "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and build itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Christian stewards may sometimes have a lower opinion of themselves than they ought, denigrating their abilities and talents and even their financial capabilities. When we keep in mind that it is God himself who has chosen our gifts and blessed us materially, we realize that to belittle these gifts is to question God's wisdom and generosity. Again we read Paul's words, now from Romans 12:5, "in Christ, we who are many form one

body, and each member belongs to all the others." He goes on to say that whatever our gifts are, we are to use them as effectively as we can.

Yes, it is the pastor's job to preach the Word and administer the sacraments, but we, as stewards who have received the Great Commission from Matthew 28:19-20, are to be obedient also to Jesus' command to tell the Good News to the whole world.

There are those believers who seem to have more abilities and talents or more money. Does that exclude us from the opportunities to serve or to give? By no means! "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). Each one is to give, and to give cheerfully—of his time, his talents, and his treasures. God looks at the size of the heart of the giver rather than at the size of his gift. "For 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).

If you are not using your gifts, if you are not giving your money, if you are not sharing your time, the Body of Christ suffers. We need each other and our individual gifts in order that we might carry out our responsibilities as stewards to the end so that the name of Christ might be made known.

Prayer: Gracious God, all that I have comes from you: my body and mind, my strength and intelligence, my time and abilities, my energy and possessions. Guard me from the temptation to use these gifts only for my personal benefit. Make me willing to use them joyfully in service to you and to your people. Amen.

Devotion adapted from WELS Ministry of Christian Giving

Contact Information

- **Church Office—**
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- **Online—**
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- **Pastor Tim Wagner—**
wagner.timothy@gmail.com;
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This Week at Lamb of God (February 2-8)

Serving Our Lord

- Cleaning: Nancy Gregory
- Bulletins: Elisabeth Wagner
- Accompanist: Rhea Franks
- Ushers: Chuck Sigrist and Mike Telander
- Refreshments: Franks Family

Events

- **Tuesday, February 3**
7:00 pm—Evangelism Committee Meeting
- **Wednesday, February 4**
6:15 pm—Choir Rehearsal
7:15 pm—Bible Study (Acts)
- **Thursday, February 5**
11:30 am—Elders Meeting
7:00 pm—Keys to Christianity
- **Saturday, February 7**
10:00 am—Ladies' Bible & Brunch
- **Sunday, February 8**
8:00 am—Youth Confirmation
9:15 am—Sunday School & Bible Study
10:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion

Mission Prayer: Youth Ministry

Heavenly Father, help us to pass along your Word from one generation to the next—as parents, as congregations, and as a synod. Bless our efforts to plan youth rallies for the fellowship and spiritual growth of young people.



Bless the production and sharing of *Kids Connection* to help children connect with each other and with Jesus. Keep these souls in your tender care as they grow in service to you, O Lord. Amen.

Valentine's Day Luncheon

The men of the congregation will be serving up lunch after worship on Sunday, February 15. Make plans to join us for some Christian food and

fellowship. Men are encouraged to contact Dave Szczublewski for details about how to get involved.



God's Answers to Life & Death Issues

We deal with difficult questions when it comes to matters of life and death. The world's answers don't always line

up with what God says. Join us for a Bible Study called, "*A Matter of Life and Death*," Sundays at 9:15 am.

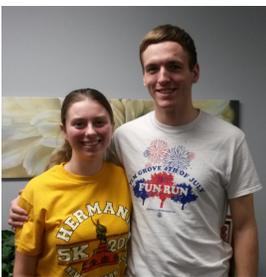
Lenten Worship Begins February 18

Join us Wednesdays, February 18-March 25, at 7:00 pm, for *I Tell You the Truth*, a midweek worship series for Lent. A Lenten supper will be served each week at 6:15. Sign up in the

fellowship hall to attend or provide a portion of a meal. Our worship on Ash Wednesday (February 18) will also include Holy Communion.

Meet Ashley Weihert

Ashley Weihert and Kris Kuschel will spend this summer at Lamb of God, helping us with our summer outreach.



"I'm very excited to be coming to Lamb of God this summer and using the gifts I have to help your church. Last year I had the opportunity to do a SMA (Summer Ministry Assistance) trip in Alaska and I really enjoyed

it! I'm very excited to be able to do another one this summer and meet new people in Columbus, Ohio.

I live in Soldiers Grove, WI. I have one younger sister, Amber, and two energetic yellow labradors. I am currently a Junior at Martin Luther College with a double major in Early Childhood and Elementary education. Some of my interests/hobbies are working with children, being outside, reading, and watching movies. I also enjoy animals, spending time with family and friends and I play the flute."

Offering Statements

Thank you for your financial support of our shared gospel ministry. Offering statements for 2014 have been distributed. If you have questions, please contact Warren Cox or Dave Szczublewski.

Food Drive

Our Sunday School is sponsoring a food drive "competition." Bring non-perishable food items, and place them in the box for the Sunday School class (es) you choose by February 15.

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

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Shut-ins: Kitty, Dot, Julie, Betty, Monty, Dick, Mike, Jeri
- College students: Jason, Ian, Janet
- Serving in the military (or reserves): Ross, Garrett, Dane

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!

Attendance (1/25)	
Worship:	41
Sunday School (w/teachers):	11
Sunday Bible Study:	13
Offerings:	
General Fund:	\$717.34
Year-to-Date Average:	\$1619.02
Weekly Budgeted Ministry:	\$2274.33
Sunday School Offering:	\$3.00