

# Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

March 16, 2014

## Discipleship

**“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Mark 8:34)**

Jesus’ last command before his ascension was, “Therefore go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19). A disciple is a follower of Christ. Just as Jesus called the Twelve, Jesus has called us through the working of the Holy Spirit in his Word and sacraments to follow him as his disciples.

In Mark 8:34, Jesus defines discipleship. “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” First he says “If anyone would come after me.” The Holy Spirit works faith in the Christian’s heart compelling him or her to follow Jesus. Some, however, reject the good news of a Savior.

“He must deny himself.” Faith in God’s grace changes reality in the lives of Christians. No longer are

we living for ourselves but for Christ (2 Co 5:15, Gal 2:20). This is our life of sanctification after being made holy through the sacrifice of Jesus.

A disciple of Jesus keeps his or her eyes on Christ, without thinking of self, and can “consider it pure joy” (James 1:2) to face the trials and testing of faith.

“And take up his cross.” Christ knew the road that lay ahead of him, and he chose it willingly, joyfully enduring the cross. If we look to ourselves, the crosses in our lives become unbearably heavy. Looking to Jesus, we find peace even as we struggle with the burdens of our crosses; we view our lives of discipleship as a joy.

This exhortation concludes with Jesus’ command “Follow me.” All of us are called to die to ourselves and to our attachment to



the things of the world. As disciples, we are called to become involved in sharing the gospel. Our Lord was our example. As he gave himself on our behalf, he moves us to give of ourselves on behalf of others. We may have to risk our health, wealth, status—even our lives—in our involvement, but that is when we find the real life and joy in being a child of God and servant of the living and everlasting God.

*Prayer: Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow you. Destitute, despised, forsaken, you on earth once suffered, too. Perish every fond ambition, all I've ever hoped or known; yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own. Amen. (CW 465)*

## Contact Information

- **Church Office—**  
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- **Pastor Tim Wagner—**  
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## This Week at Lamb of God (March 17-23)

### Serving Our Lord

- Bulletins: Fran Woodruff
- Accompanists: Destinee Fiecko
- Refreshments: Rader Family
- Church Cleaning: Diane Jensen Family

### Events

- *Wednesday, March 19*  
6:15 pm—Lenten Supper  
7:00 pm—Midweek Lenten Worship
- *Thursday, March 20*  
6:15pm—Choir Rehearsal
- *Saturday, March 22*  
10:00am—Ladies' Bible and Brunch
- *Sunday, March 23*  
9:15 am—Sunday School & Bible Study  
10:30 am—Worship w/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: Come Follow Me



Lord Jesus Christ, you called to Peter, “Come, follow me.” Your call of grace has continued to ring out

through the ages through your own mouth and through your Church. As we look at Peter and your other apostles, we see portraits of our own

sinfulness and weakness as well as assurances of your determined, forgiving grace. We thank you for the gifts and the means to produce the *Come, Follow Me* movie and accompanying Bible study. Bless their use among both the lost and the found to open our eyes anew to see how blessed it is to walk with you. Amen.

## Bible Basics 102: Faith Builders

Does your faith need a boost? Do you know someone who wants to know more about what we believe and teach? **Faith Builders** is a great introduction for those new to Christianity and a great review for all

Christians. In this Bible Basics class, we will discuss the Bible, the one true God, Jesus Christ, Baptism, and the Lord’s Supper. Our next **Faith Builders** class will be held Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, beginning April 1.

## Easter for Kids

Join us for lessons, music, crafts, lunch and an egg hunt at Easter for Kids on Saturday, April 12! Open to children ages 2-10, this event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Christ rising from the tomb. Easter for Kids will start at 9:15 am and end with lunch. Visit [tinyurl.com/Easter4Kids](http://tinyurl.com/Easter4Kids) to register. Members are encouraged to invite friends and families to register their children.

There is a handful of supplies and foods items still available for people to



donate. Please see the sign-up board in the church entryway. We are also seeking volunteers to assist with crafts, food and the egg hunt. Volunteers may be ages 13 and older. Contact Lori Burrows ([BurrowsL@denison.edu](mailto:BurrowsL@denison.edu)) or Pastor Wagner if you are interested.

## Midweek Lenten Suppers & Worship



Join us Wednesdays at 7:00 pm for our Midweek Lenten services. A light supper is served each Wednesday at

6:15 pm. Sign up in the fellowship hall to attend or provide a portion of the meal. This Wednesday, Pastor Westra (Beautiful Savior, Grove City) will share a message from Genesis 3:15 on the “Garden of Promise.”

## Congregational Meeting

Members, plan to join us after worship on March 30 for our quarterly congregational meeting. Ministry & renovation updates will be discussed, and your input is very important.

## Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Wagner will be on vacation March 21-28. If you need pastoral assistance during this time, please contact Pastor Kuehl (614-373-0025, [pastorkuehl@shepherdofpeace.org](mailto:pastorkuehl@shepherdofpeace.org)).

## Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Our shut-ins (Kitty, Dot, Julie, Betty, Monty)
- Our expectant mothers (Katie, Elisabeth, Destinee)

*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 (March 9 & 12):

Worship (3/9):	58
Worship (3/12):	35
Sunday Bible Study:	15
Sunday School (w/teachers):	14

### Offerings:

General Fund (3/9):	\$2174.20
General Fund (3/12):	\$306.74
Year-to-Date Average:	\$1994.65
Weekly Budgeted Ministry:	\$2217.52
Sunday School:	\$11.75