

Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

July 27, 2014

Easy Yoke and Light Burden

**“My yoke is easy and my burden is light.”
(Matthew 11:30)**

When you think of Jesus’ words, they don’t seem to fit together. How can a yoke be easy and a burden be light? A yoke was part of the equipment used to harness two animals together to do back-breaking work. It was built strong and heavy because it would have to stand up under grueling hours of labor. Just to get a yoke on two animals was a major undertaking as well. A similar observation can be made about a burden. It is a heavy weight which could be physical or emotional.

While Jesus connects easy and light to the words yoke and burden to describe a life with him and his blessing, the devil also wants me to consider them. He wants me to be troubled by the concept of a yoke to describe my relationship with the Lord, and overwhelmed by the burden of following his will. He wants me to be repulsed by anything that could cause me inconvenience or

discomfort.

The devil’s logic makes perfect sense to my flesh. His appeal is enticing and convincing. It is also deadly. If I reject life with Jesus, because it may mean hardship, what will I gain? A better question might be what will I lose?

I need to take Jesus’ words to heart and understand what he offers. Jesus nowhere makes the promise that my life will be free from problems when I follow him. Quite the opposite is true. Still, he assures me he will always be there. He will restore my strength. He will renew my desire to persevere. He will refresh my joy.

It is because of his presence and his faithful work as my Savior that he can attach the words easy and light to yoke and burden. Through his strength and his abiding presence, the yoke of following him becomes easy and the burden of undertaking his will becomes light. This is true because he assures me when I am weak or on the brink



of being overwhelmed, he will lift me up and carry me in his arms. With Jesus carrying me, I can persevere regardless of the challenge I have to endure.

It is impossible for the world to comprehend an easy yoke and a light burden. I can only comprehend what Jesus means through faith. It is also only through faith that I know Jesus is my never-failing strength and my ever-present help. This assures me that his yoke will be easy and his burden will be light.

Prayer: O blessed Savior, I rejoice in your invitation to follow you, and I thank you for making it possible. Assure me daily of your presence, your power, and your preservation. Amen!

Devotion from
www.WhatAboutJesus.com

Contact Information

- **Church Office—**
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- **Online—**
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- **Pastor Tim Wagner—**
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This Week at Lamb of God (July 28-August 3)

Serving Our Lord

- Cleaning: Cameron Family
- Bulletins: Jocelyn Ritter
- Accompanist: Rhea Franks
- Ushers: Warren Cox & Einar Groething

Events

- **Wednesday, July 30**
7:00 pm—Bible Study:
Church Fellowship
- **Sunday, August 3**
9:30 am—Cross-Generational
Bible Study
10:30 am—Worship
12:00 pm—Congregational
Meeting

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: Lutheran Schools

Good Shepherd, we pray that you bless Mr. James Rademan as he has begun serving our synod this month as the director of the Commission on Lutheran Schools.



Bringing up the next generation to know you as their Savior is one of the most important jobs that

you have given to your Church on earth. Work through the message that is proclaimed at our schools. Through them may our children be

nurtured in the Word to live lives of faithful service to you. Amen.

Fall Women's Retreats

The Fort Wayne WELS churches invite all ladies to a retreat weekend on September 12-14, 2014, at Mahseh Retreat Center on tranquil Lake Bruce, Kewanna, IN. The theme is "Treasured," based on Deuteronomy 14:2. Information and registration materials are available in the fellowship hall or at www.holyscripturefw.org/retreat. Contact Shelley Crum at [260-705-8168](tel:260-705-8168) / shelley.crum@gmail.com

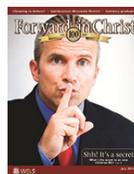
for more information.

Today's Christian Women's Retreat will be held October 24-25, 2014, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo, MI. The theme is "I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jer 31:3). Register before August 1 for early bird registration discounts. Information and registration materials are now available in the fellowship hall and at www.tcwr.org.

Forward in Christ

The August issue of Forward in Christ has been distributed in your mailbox. Please remember to return read issues

to share with clients of the Alpha Pregnancy Counseling Center.



Congregational Meeting

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." (1 Cor 12:27). The input and involvement of all of our members is important for our congregation to function the way God designed it. We encourage all members to attend a congregational meeting next Sunday, August 3, after worship. Please join us!

Agenda items include:

- Ministry Reports
- Building Renovation Updates
- Redesigned Lamb of God Logo
- Revised Congregational Mission Offering Commitment
- 45th Anniversary Project
- Financial Updates

Stay Connected on the Road: If you will be traveling this summer, be sure to visit www.wels.net/locator to find worship locations and times near your destination.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers for altar setup, greeting, lawn mowing, church cleaning, and refreshments. See the list in the fellowship hall or contact Pastor Wagner for details. Thanks!

Ink & Toner Cartridges

Bring in used ink and toner cartridges to support our ministry. Each cartridge is worth \$2 toward office and paper supplies. Place your cartridges in the bin below the drink stand in the fellowship hall.

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- Our shut-ins (Kitty, Dot, Julie, Betty, Monty, Dick, Jeri)
- Bryan and Destinee Fiecko, who are expecting a child in August
- Dick Ritter, who continues to battle health problems.
- Ross & Jess Cameron, who were blessed with the birth of a healthy son, Clay Michael, on July 14.

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 (7/20):

Worship:	59
Cross-Generational Bible Study:	23

Offerings:

General Fund:	\$1720.52
Year-to-Date Average:	\$1936.17
Weekly Budgeted Ministry:	\$2217.52
Sunday School:	\$11.00
Building Fund:	\$125.00