

Weekly News & Notes

Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

August 3, 2014

Seed, Ground and Harvest

Then Jesus told them many things in parables saying, “A farmer went out to sow his seed.” (Matthew 13:3)

Jesus regularly used common, everyday pictures to teach precious lessons. One day he used the picture of a farmer who was sowing seed in his field. It was a familiar picture, but not everyone who heard it appreciated the lesson.

There are three points to which I need to give my attention. The first is the seed. It is the Word of God. It is sent through sowers to be planted in my life and in the lives of others. It is a good seed, and as the Lord promises, “it will always achieve the purpose for which he sent it” (Isaiah 55:11).

Looking ahead to a second lesson, there will always be a harvest. It may be a good, rich harvest. It may be something less. Sometimes there will be no harvest, but it is not because of bad seed.

This leads to the third lesson, or the main point of

the parable, which is the ground. The lesson is direct. As the ground, Jesus wants me to understand how I hear and what I do with his Word is critical. The picture he adds of the weeds, rocky soil and the road should make me aware of the obstacles I will have to face. Not only does the devil want to deceive me with his lies, he also wants to choke the Word out of my life. His purpose is to harden my heart and close my ears to Jesus life-giving Word.

Because I daily face these challenges I need to stop, look and listen. This was Jesus’ exhortation, “He who has ears, let him hear” (Matthew 13:9). I need to give my full attention to his Word, and gladly hear and learn it. In this way I will be good ground and the message of the seed will take root in me. The end result will be a rich harvest. I will be certain of Jesus’ full and free forgiveness. I



will rejoice in a life of service he sets before me. I will also find peace in his presence and in his never-failing love.

Jesus used the relationship between seed, ground and harvest to make me cherish the precious nature of his Word. My sincerest desire is that he opens my ears and prepares my heart to receive the life-giving seed of his Word. I also pray that he makes me into fertile, rich soil which produces a rich harvest to his glory.

Prayer: Blessed Lord, sow the seed of your Word in my life. Cause it take root and grow. Then, make it produce a rich harvest of good works offered to your glory and in return for your precious love. Amen.

Devotion from
www.WhatAboutJesus.com

Contact Information

- **Church Office—**
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- **Online—**
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This Week at Lamb of God (August 4-10)

Serving Our Lord

- Cleaning: Flunker & Wagner Families
- Bulletins: Bev Oldham
- Accompanist: Elisabeth Wagner
- Ushers: Warren Cox & Einar Groething
- Altar Flowers: Sigrist Family

Events

- **Wednesday, August 6**
7:00 pm—Bible Study:
Church Fellowship
- **Sunday, August 10**
9:30 am—Cross-Generational
Bible Study
10:30 am—Worship with 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: Christian Aid and Relief

Holy Spirit, thank you for your constant encouragement to read and meditate on God's Word in order for us to be prepared to give an answer for the hope



that we have in Christ Jesus. Although we have many opportunities to speak with people about the hope that we

have, there are just as many opportunities to share by doing something for someone else—by providing things like food, shelter, clothing, and water.

Please help us to keep our eyes open to the needs of those around us and to be of help in time of need. 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 / 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). Information and registration materials are now available in the fellowship hall and at www.tcwr.org.

Lamb of God Golf Scramble

Dust off the clubs and join us for a golf scramble on Sunday, August 24, at 1:00 pm. All ages and abilities are

welcome. Watch for more information to come.



Missed Birthday

A birthday was inadvertently left off the August calendar. Jeri Pedersen will celebrate her 90th birthday on August 10. Happy Birthday, Jeri!

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from the monthly calendar and you would like in included, please contact Pastor Wagner.

We Need Your Help

Lamb of God depends on volunteers like you to carry on our ministry. Consider volunteering for altar setup, greeting, lawn mowing, church

cleaning, and/or refreshments. See the list in the fellowship hall or contact Pastor Wagner for details. Thank you!

College Addresses

If you or your child will be heading off to college this fall, please share your updated contact information with the church office, so that we can keep in touch. Thank you!

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, Jeri Pedersen, & Bev Oldham, who continue to battle health problems.

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 (7/27):

Worship:	49
Cross-Generational Bible Study:	25

Offerings:

General Fund:	\$1821.51
Year-to-Date Average:	\$1932.72
Weekly Budgeted Ministry:	\$2217.52
Sunday School:	\$11.00
Building Fund:	\$125.00

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.