

# BELLWETHER

The one that takes the lead or sets the example.  
April 2026



## Come, Hear the Risen Christ:

### Where the Risen Jesus Meets His People

As I begin this new season among you, I give thanks to God for the gift of walking together in His Word—listening, learning, and receiving the life Christ gives. April brings us into the heart of the Church’s greatest proclamation: Holy Week and the ***Resurrection of our Lord***. As the Apostle Paul writes:

“Christ was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification.” (Romans 4:25)



This is the message we receive together at Lamb of God—and the message we send into the world. Following Easter are the Sundays that show us what the risen Jesus does. What does a resurrected Lord say? Where does He go? The answer is as astonishing as the angels’ words at the tomb: “He is not here!” He is risen—and now He comes to His people.

On the Second Sunday of Easter, Jesus comes to His frightened disciples, hidden behind locked doors (John 20). He does not rebuke them. He speaks peace: “Shalom! Peace be with you.” And then He gives His Church a gift beyond measure—the Office of the Keys. This office carries two keys: one that binds to sin and hell forever, and one that opens the door to heaven: “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness, it is withheld.” (John 20:23) *(continued on next page)*

**LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN** 901 Scenic Drive, Haines City, FL phone: (863) 421-2811

<https://lambogodhainescity.com/>

Office hours are 9-5 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

My Sister’s Closet Boutique between services and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat each month, 9-1.

Lamb of God Community Food Pantry weekdays and Saturday when MSCB is open.

Service in English at 10am on Sunday, Service in Spanish at 11:45am on Sunday

Online service streamed at 10am via YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ps8yFfbmFCVw-PCkWATow>

As I come among you in this season, I look forward to proclaiming this gift—the forgiveness of sins that Christ Himself gives. There is no more powerful word, and no greater gift, for your life. On the Third Sunday of Easter, we hear of Jesus walking with two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24). He opens the Scriptures to them, and their hearts burn within them. Their eyes are opened, and they come to know Him as the risen Savior. On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, Jesus reveals Himself as the Good Shepherd (John 10), the One who lays down His life for the sheep and calls them by name.

Throughout this month, and with my arrival to preach to you, we will learn together what it means to receive and live in this gift of forgiveness. As Luther teaches in the Small Catechism:

“The Office of the Keys is the authority which Christ has given to His Church to forgive the sins of those who repent and to declare to those who do not repent that their sins are not forgiven.”

This is not abstract. This is for you. The resurrection of Jesus means that He comes even now—to forgive, to restore, and to give new life.

The risen Christ *still speaks*.

The risen Christ *still gives*.

The risen Christ *still raises you*, His people.

May Christ continue to gather us, feed us, and lead us as His beloved flock.

*Beatrice B. D'Angelo*

Called to Serve Lamb of God Lutheran Church



**Mark your calendar!** We are excited to invite you to participate in the service of *Ordination for Beatrice B. D'Angelo on Saturday April 11 at 2pm* and dinner reception to follow. Please take the opportunity to be here to participate, congratulate, and welcome her to our congregation.

## Announcement of Call, Ordination, and Installation – April 11 & 12, 2026

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Dear brothers and sisters at Lamb of God,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I look forward with great joy to being with you and beginning my call as your pastor on April 12. It is a true gift from God to be called to serve among this community, and I give thanks for each of you as I prepare with joy for this time that is now drawing near.

You are warmly invited to the Ordination and Installation Service on Saturday, April 11 at 2:00 p.m., as we gather to give thanks in celebration for what God is doing among us.

On April 12, that first Sunday, I will bring you a message from the Gospel of John 20, where the risen Christ comes to His disciples, speaks peace, breathes His Spirit, and gives the promise of the forgiveness of sins. Come and hear how the living breath of Christ still moves among us, bringing His peace, life, and forgiveness to His people.

I am deeply grateful for the Lord's guidance in bringing us together, and I look forward with great joy to sharing His promises and walking together as the people of God at Lamb of God Lutheran Church – Cordero de Dios, serving with love and hope in all that He calls us to live.

The Lord's peace be with you,

***Beatrice B. D'Angelo***

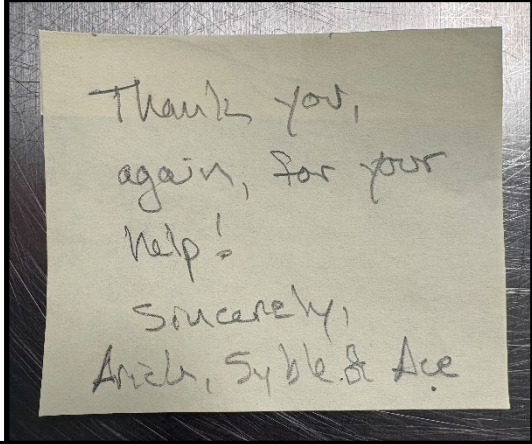
Mrs. Phyllis White wanted to draw the congregation's attention to the cleanliness of our facilities. We thank LuAnne for all of the hard work in the Kitchen and to Patricia and Warren Lane who clean & help maintain our building. They also provided the tall palms at the entrance on Palm Sunday.

# March at Lamb of God



We have focused on the LOGCFP in February and March. Jackson and crew worked hard, took a break and did even more. Then you helped to (re)stock the pantry. Thanks for your continued support.

Mr. Warren Law from *Lake Region Village* stops in with another weekly delivery to the LOGCFP



Food from LOGCFP was taken to a neighbor and they responded, too! Do you have a neighbor in need?

**Community Food Pantry**  
*Free food to supplement yours when most needed.*  
*Comida gratis para complementar la tuya cuando más lo necesitas.*



**Lamb of God**  
CORDERO DE DIOS LUTHERAN CHURCH

# More March at Lamb of God



Lissette helps Deputy Owens gather and load items for the Eloise Resource Center.



March also brought the distribution of many donated items. Thanks for your continued support.



Julia modeled her Easter dress from MSCB. Also I was asked to present an award to Ruben for his service to MBC and LOGCFP



Joyce loaded up and, along with Lissette, delivered needed supplies to the Haines City Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Thank you for donating these much-needed items which LOGCFP could share with the community.



# BELLWETHER APRIL 2026 (The newsletter of LOG Lutheran Church)



**Florida-Bahamas Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**BISHOP PEDRO M. SUÁREZ**

March 1, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Florida-Bahamas Synod:

The congregations of the Florida-Bahamas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will meet on Thursday, June 4, through noon on Saturday, June 6, at the Embassy Suites, 4955 Kyngs Heath Road in Kissimmee. The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the Synod. The Assembly shall convene at 1:00 PM on June 4 for the purpose of:

- a) Conducting the election of synod council members and other offices as described in detail in a letter from the chair of the Nominations Committee, a copy of which can be found on our website ([www.fbsynod.com](http://www.fbsynod.com)),
- b) Adopting the synod's ministry spending plans,
- c) Receiving and acting upon reports from ministry areas and agencies of the synod, and
- d) Conducting other business which the synod council or assembly may deem necessary.

The theme for the assembly is "Do You Understand?" based on Acts 8:30-31. All congregations of our synod are expected to be represented by lay voting members and their ordained minister(s). Congregations may elect one Youth Voting Member between the ages of 15 and 22 in addition to the number of lay voting members as authorized by the constitution. In support of greater participation by youth, registration fees for youth voting members are always at a reduced rate.

The following pertinent assembly information will be online at [www.fbsynod.com](http://www.fbsynod.com) under the "Synod Assembly" tab:

1. Online Assembly and hotel registration links
2. Proposed agenda
3. Travel Equalization Guidelines
4. Nomination form
5. Service project
6. Workshop options

**Early online registration:** March 2 – May 6, 2026

**Late online registration dates:** May 7-12, 2026

**Deadline for submitting online nominations:** May 1, 2026

**Deadline for submitting online resolutions/memorials:** May 1, 2026

Please join me in prayer for all those who are at work preparing for this important Synod Assembly. We look forward to sharing this opportunity to provide oversight of our mission and ministries, for learning, and for worshipping together.

In Christ's service,

*Ken Blyth*

The Rev. Dr. Ken Blyth, secretary



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## You helped and LWR say's thank you!

We raised \$200 through a quilt purchase and donations so we provided the funding to ship the quilts.



**LUTHERAN  
WORLD RELIEF**

*Thank You!*

March 5, 2026

Lamb of God Lutheran Church  
901 Scenic Hwy  
Haines City, FL 33844-8597

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your congregation's gift of \$200.00. I am so grateful for your generous support of Lutheran World Relief! It is because of caring congregations like yours that Lutheran World Relief has been able to serve our hurting world for 80 years, and it is because of your compassion that our ministry together will continue helping children and families who need it most.

I pray that one day, our work together will no longer be needed. I pray that one day, all our neighbors near and far will live in a world free of poverty, injustice and suffering. Until that day, I am grateful to count on your church to answer the call to help people in their time of need. It is no exaggeration to say your generosity truly saves lives and makes a brighter future possible.

Our team loves hearing from you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 800 597 5972 or at [congregations@lwr.org](mailto:congregations@lwr.org). You'll also find inspiring stories and videos to share with your church at [lwr.org/congregations](http://lwr.org/congregations). And of course, please connect with us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates on your impact.

Yours always in Christ,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard  
President and CEO



The Sew 'N Sews will meet **only once** during the month of April! So here is YOUR BIG CHANCE to come and see what we are all about! We Know you are curious! Did you see the beautiful quilt hanging in the hallway? You too could have a hand in making another beautiful quilt! Come join us on Thursday 4/2/2026 from 9-12 in the Fellowship Hall. If you can tie a knot you can help.

*Gods work, Our hands.* Blessings, Diane Hockett

## BELLWETHER APRIL 2026 (The newsletter of LOG Lutheran Church)

Recently the church council has reorganized, below are liaison responsibility

<b>Committee of the church and council liaison responsibility</b>		
<b><u>Worship and Music</u></b> Completes everything needed to ensure both services run smoothly	Pastor, LaMar, JJ	Plan worship service, Seasonal liturgical planning, Special worship & music, Select lessons & hymns, Supply pastor coordination, Choirs, Altar guild, Ushers, Greeters, Hospitality desk, Readers, Worship assistants, Sound room team
<b><u>Church Office</u></b> Supports the Pastor & Office functions for the Church	Pastor, LaMar, Lissette	Churchwide communications, Member directory, Participates on finance committee, Financial input to systems, Interfaces with all areas, Haines City chamber of commerce members, Website, Facebook page, Bellwether (w/David), Sunday bulletins, Weekly PowerPoints (w/David & Nancy), Council secretary interface to Jane Messmer
<b><u>Congregational/Christian Life</u></b> Interactions impacting daily lives of the Congregation	Letty Villalon	Prayer chain, Love meals, Memorial Garden (w/Bill Q.), Shut-in visitation, Prayer Coverings (w/Kathleen P.), Cards (Birthday, Anniversary, Other)
<b><u>Education</u></b> Ensures that Education is performed	Jose Correa, Pastor	Sunday school, Special seasonal education, Spanish classes (w/Oscar), ESL (w/Philippa), Vacation bible school, Library, Book club, Daily bread & other periodicals.
<b><u>Fellowship</u></b> Management of Special Events using the Kitchen or Fellowship Hall	LuAnne Smith, Letty	Special events, Kitchen, Decorations closet, Memorial celebrations
<b><u>Finance</u></b> Facilitates Bookkeeping, Planning, & controls all Financial areas	Lynne Martin & Paul Bockelman	Bookkeeping, Banking relationship, Interface with external auditor, Budgeting, Financial reporting, Money counters, Coordinate Insurance & Mortgage, Bill payment, Financial Systems (QuickBooks, ICON, etc.)
<b><u>Outreach</u></b> Opportunities to grow congregation & interact with the public	Lori Stark	LambFest (Spring Sale/Bazaar), Quilters, My Sister's Closet (w/Marisol), My Brother's Closet (w/Ruben), Food Pantry, Interface with Public, House Blest & Unity in the community(w/Kathy D.), Angel Tree, Visitor follow-up, Help publicize (ESL/Spanish classes)
<b><u>Property</u></b> Maintains the property owned by the church	Mark Bockelman	Custodians/cleaning, Church building maintenance, Mechanic systems, Technology systems, Grounds, Security, Compliance with local regulations
<b><u>Stewardship</u></b> Encourages congregational participation to support both financial & volunteer requirements	Jim Mason	Interfaces with all areas, Annual offering pledge coordination, Volunteer talent enlistments, Engagement of part time members (snowbirds), recognition Church envelope program (w/Pam)

March 22 Stock the Pantry  
and March 29 Palm Sunday



*LOG 2025 Cookbook*



**Did you get your LOG Cookbook? The recipes were gathered by members of the congregation and donated. Very limited supply remains. Now just \$10, all proceeds support the Fellowship Committee activities and supplies for the kitchen. See LuAnne or David**



See the display in the Narthex. Stop in and look around. Bring in any books you'd like to donate. See Gladys Hunt for more info.

## April Celebrations

Jacquie Koerber	4/3
David Cassens	4/4
Gary Chastain	4/4
Georgene Endy	4/14
Ena Ramlingum	4/15
Jackie Tibbets	4/18
David Hunt	4/19
Joni McLaughlin	4/19
Tom Tibbets	4/20
Ruben Arocho	4/22
Darlene Barker	4/22
Daysi Diaz Gonzalez	4/29
Dianne Hurst	4/29
Ruth Horst	4/30



Joe & Phyllis White 4/8



### Planning April

#### Plan for Holy Week Services (3/29-4/4)

Maundy Thursday at 6pm; Good Friday at 6pm;

Easter Sunday at 10am in English & 11:45 in Spanish

Easter Sunday is Pastor Greg's final service as our interim pastor.

Please be sure to attend and wish him well. **Reception on 4/25.**

**Ordination and Installation of Beatrice D'Angelo 2pm on 4/11**



### LambFest Spring Sale

#### Plan for LambFest – What the heck is that???

It's an all-church sale of donated items, freshly baked goods, and plantings. All of these will be available on Friday 4/17 and Saturday 4/18 from 9am-1pm. New this year, is the opportunity to make your financial donations through credit/debit cards. We're also happy to announce that My Sister's Closet Boutique will also be open!

Attention Baking Volunteers... Pam Callas is heading this up this season and asks that you drop off your baked goods on Wednesday 4/15 or Thursday 4/16 from 9-noon. Please package them and she will take care of pricing. If you haven't signed up, you can do that through 4/12.

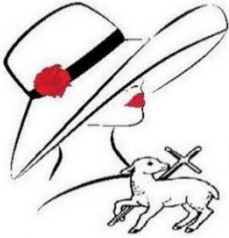
On Sunday April 19, there will be one single bi-lingual service held at 10am followed by the extended Bake Sale, and the \$10 brown bag sale of items (Whatever you can fit in it).



# LambFest Spring Sale

9am-1pm on April 17 and 18 and Sunday April 19 after the 10 am bilingual Service. Now accepting credit and debit or your Vanco account. MSCB/MBC will also be open!





*My Sister's  
Closet Boutique*  
at Lamb of God Lutheran



Ladies' and Men's Shoes are in the closets

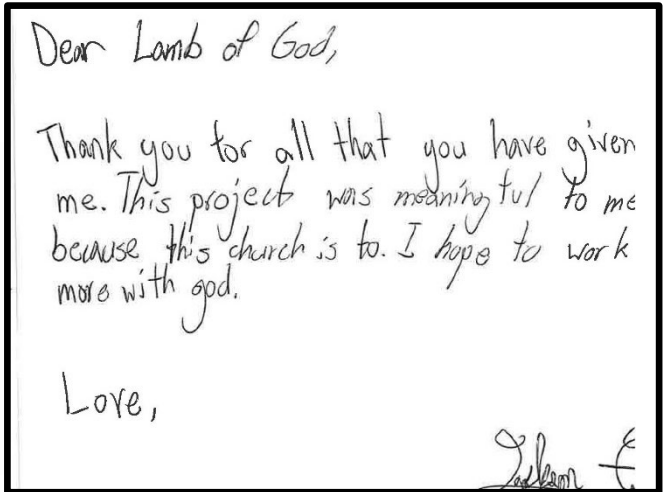
LOG Community Food Panty has benefitted from Thrivent and the Eagle Scout Project of LOG member, Jackson Eastridge. They each sent thank you notes to you!

# Thank You for Being Awesome

## Thank You for Your Generosity

By sharing your time and talents on a Thrivent Action Team, you've impacted countless lives, including your own. You've also taken a step toward making the most of what you've been given. To help you on your journey, we offer a range of financial products, services and advice, as well as opportunities to demonstrate generosity in more ways.

Learn more about making a greater impact at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).



Did you know? LOG attendee Dr. Amy Bernard created a Community Quick Help Guide? Copies are in the Fellowship Hall for you to take and share. [Click here to view it.](#) Also available in Spanish so please spread the word. Thank you Amy

### Language Classes Continue to Grow

The Lamb of God Languages Program continues offering Spanish and English classes each week. Everyone is welcome, and classes are free of charge. Our only requirement from volunteer teachers and students is patience and a willingness to learn. A **Thrivent Action Card** in the amount of \$250 was received to help offset the balance of our new White Board. Your support, both monetary and in prayer, are greatly appreciated. God's work, our hands! *Philippa White*



The March average attendance was 139 each week with a total income of just over \$28,845, plus the online giving (VANCO \$3,604 this month) continues to grow however *please use your designated envelope* for cash or checks to be placed in the offering plates.

The LOG Bellwether is published monthly. Please send information to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for possible inclusion in the subsequent issue. The editor uses [davidreedy146@outlook.com](mailto:davidreedy146@outlook.com) for communication. Thanks go to Diane Hockett, Teresa Liberta, and Lissette Solano for their regular submission of information and pictures.