

## *From the Pastor's Desk...*

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

January is always a time of new beginnings. Some of us make resolutions we try and keep at least for a few weeks. I would like Good Shepherd to make a resolution this year, in fact, I want you to make several:

1. Pray daily, read scriptures often, worship frequently.
2. Living a life of Stewardship.

Oh, no! He is asking for money. That is what we always think about stewardship, it is so much more than money. In fact, money is actually only a tiny part of stewardship.

Stewardship could seem to be an optional discipline, like choosing to be a vegetarian. But stewardship really isn't optional for a follower of Jesus. He Himself, more than once, talked about being a good "steward". The letters of Paul and Peter talk about this too. It is a New Testament word.

We speak of ourselves as "children of God". Is that a metaphor? Are we simply saying that God treats us like daughters and sons?

But it is not a metaphor. God does not treat us as though we are God's sons and daughters. God Made us His sons and daughters.

If I truly am a daughter or son of God, then all the people on earth are my brothers and sisters. If I truly am a daughter or son of God then everything I have comes from God. If I truly am a daughter or son of God, then God and I are in this together. I am a partner in the continuing co-creation and redemption of the world.

That is why Stewardship is not optional for a follower of Christ. Stewardship is a whole way of life, based on the belief that we are daughters and sons of God, and our lives should prove it.

Find in our newsletter the mini Bible study. I am looking for people to serve on our Stewardship Committee.

In His Hands,

Pastor Gary

**PASTOR GARY'S FOOD BANK CHALLENGE**  
**2,000 ITEMS FOR 2015**

## President's Corner

The busy Advent Season has come and gone and we welcomed our Lord, Jesus Christ once again into our busy lives. As we begin a new year let us once again focus our attention on Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

There are many opportunities to serve your church. Committees will be reorganizing and it is the perfect time to get involved and join a committee, if you are not already a member of one. We will be starting an emphasis on this topic in the near future.

It is also a time to re-evaluate your giving. At our Advent Congregation Meeting, we voted to adopt our 2015 Budget of \$163,459.00, which is a 1.09% increase over 2014. As you evaluate your personal budgets, please consider increasing your contributions to the church.

I wish all of our members a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year!

Dave Hausman  
Congregation Council President

## News from the Finance Committee

TO: Officers, Staff, Committees and anyone ordering supplies or materials

When ordering supplies or materials, please fill out a Requisition Form in complete detail, describing what is being ordered or purchased. The Form must be signed or initialed by those authorized to do so.

When ordering materials or supplies, try to "bundle" orders to save shipping costs.

Please turn over all Packing Slips to Treasurer, after verification that contents of package is correct.

This will help the Finance Committee and the Treasurer to accurately track our costs and designate to which area of the Budget they are to be applied.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### MILESTONE!

In December, 2014, our Sexton, John Moschella, celebrated 25 years of employment with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Many of us never encounter John, due to the fact that he is here at times when worship is not taking place. However, we all benefit from the work John performs.

Church Council voted to honor John's achievement at an upcoming worship service.

**Congratulations John!!!**



### LONG-TIME VOLUNTEER HONORED!

On Sunday, December 14, 2014, a plaque was presented to Al Wiemann for his long-time service as Director of our CD Ministry.

Al has decided to "retire" from this important ministry. He has provided CD's of our Worship Services to our homebound members who have appreciated this much-needed outreach.

We are seeking a new Director/Coordinator as well as volunteers to perform this important ministry. Contact any Council Member or Pastor Walbert, if you are able and willing to assist with this ministry.

**THANK YOU AL,  
FOR YOUR DEDICATION!**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT LIST**

*(If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, please find someone else to fill in for you)*

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>USHERS 9:00 am</b>  |  |
| 1/4/2015 and 1/11/2015 |  |
| Roseann Yelles         |  |
| Dean Yelles            |  |
| Jason Bogden           |  |
| Morry Pulley           |  |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>USHERS 9:00 am</b>   |  |
| 1/18/2015 and 1/25/2015 |  |
| Randy Claroni           |  |
| Karen Hahn              |  |
| Sandy Newhard           |  |
| Jim Loch                |  |

|           |                           |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b> |
| 1/4/2015  | Laurie Andrew             |
| 1/11/2015 | Paul Evans, III           |
| 1/18/2015 | Carole Holub              |
| 1/25/2015 | Dave Hausman              |

|           |                        |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>POURING CHALICE</b> |
| 1/4/2015  | Gail Loch              |
| 1/11/2015 | Linda Siekonic         |
| 1/18/2015 | Renaë Yelles           |
| 1/25/2015 | Mark Weaver            |

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>LECTORS</b>      |
| 1/4/2015  | Diane Hausman       |
| 1/11/2015 | Jessica Kirkpatrick |
| 1/18/2015 | Carole Holub        |
| 1/25/2015 | Dave Hausman        |

|           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>CHALICE BEARER</b> |
| 1/4/2015  | Judy Fehr             |
| 1/11/2015 | LeAnne Krill          |
| 1/18/2015 | Jean Bealer           |
| 1/25/2015 | Diane Hausman         |

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>CD MINISTRY</b> |
| 1/4/2015  | Lisa Mann          |
| 1/11/2015 | Mark Weaver        |
| 1/18/2015 | Daniel Tyler       |
| 1/25/2015 | Carla Green        |

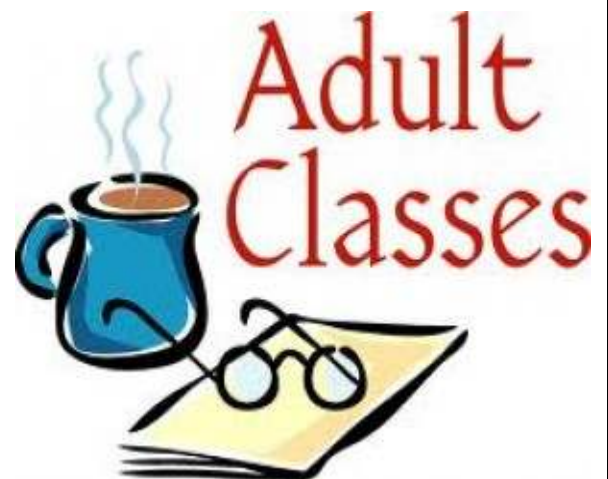
|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| 9:00 AM   | <b>ACOLYTE</b>   |
| 1/4/2015  | Emily Schweitzer |
| 1/11/2015 | Colin Schmall    |
| 1/18/2015 | Joseph Green     |
| 1/25/2015 | Kyle Koehler     |

Pastor will be teaching the Adult Class beginning January 4, 2015, with Looking at our Faith.

We will begin with a discussion on God entitle "Faith is a Quest".

Our next topic will be on religion—"Spirituality is Not Enough".

Come learn and enjoy the fellowship.



## From the Office of the Church Administrator...

### *Happy Birthday...*

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Kayla Dennis        | Jan. 2nd  |
| Jared Schmall       |           |
| Mason Bowlin        | Jan. 3rd  |
| Nancy Kochenash     |           |
| Bonnie Spengler     |           |
| Jeffrey Wiemann     |           |
| Phyllis Kleppinger  | Jan. 6th  |
| Mica Smith          | Jan. 8th  |
| Keith Bilheimer     | Jan. 13th |
| Nicholas Miller     | Jan. 14th |
| Gwen Wagner         | Jan. 17th |
| Beth Bilheimer      | Jan. 19th |
| Wayne Eichelberger  | Jan. 21st |
| William Sherman     |           |
| Dave Hausman        | Jan. 23rd |
| Diana Kratzer       |           |
| Jolene LaBarre      |           |
| Tina Miller         |           |
| Dean Yelles         |           |
| Dorothy Clauser     | Jan. 24th |
| Brittany Hahn       | Jan. 26th |
| Kelly Hower         | Jan. 27th |
| Helen Moyer         |           |
| Barbara Steigerwalt |           |
| Janet Bandics       | Jan. 29th |
| Steven Krill        |           |
| Matthew Snyder      | Jan. 30th |
| Michele Dally       | Jan. 31st |
| Teesa James         |           |

### *Happy Anniversary...*

**Joe and Bonnie Macher**  
January 19th

## PASTORAL ACTS:

Baptism

Sarah Beth Plata  
December 14, 2014

Funeral

Elizabeth Reimer  
December 20, 2014

Good Shepherd is affiliated with **Lehigh Valley, St. Luke's and Sacred Heart Pastoral Care.**

If ever you are admitted to one of these Hospitals please give them code 232. This tells the hospital you are a member of our church. The Church Administrator calls daily to get an update to see if any members are hospitalized.

## Parochial Report

| Date       | Attendance |
|------------|------------|
| 11/2/2014  | 98         |
| 11/9/2014  | 83         |
| 11/16/2014 | 98         |
| 11/23/2014 | 94         |
| 11/30/2014 | 120        |
| TOTAL      | 493        |
| AVG.       | 98.6       |

Happy Belated Birthday to...  
Denise Schmall November 23rd

## Congregation Council

Dave Hausman, President  
Chris Holub, Vice President  
Roseann Koehler, Finance Secretary  
Laurie Andrew, Executive Secretary  
Alexis Saylor, Recording Secretary  
(Alexis not a member of Council)

Paul Evans III      LeAnne Krill  
Christine Stimmel      Lisa Mann  
Sandy Newhard      Karen Hahn  
Catherine Miller      Nicole Bogden

**All Committee Reports  
are due  
no later than January 5, 2014**



The Fun(d)raising Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped to make our penny party event a huge success.

To all the parishioners who donated the prizes, theme baskets, and pennies, to the comfort food, dessert, and beverage donators, to the penny party event day volunteers who donated their time and talent in all capacities, and lastly to all those who attended and/or helped to spread the word of the event, we especially thank you.

The event raised over \$2000 as a direct result of your support. Above all, everyone who attended had an enjoyable and fun evening.

The Fundraising Committee



The Women of the ELCA want to thank all who helped with our Cookie Sale. It was a huge success -- selling out by 11:00 am!

As usual, we had a tremendous assortment of cookies donated by so many congregational members. We sold approximately 225 pounds of cookies. We also want to thank everyone who purchased the nut rolls. Without everyone's help and support, none of this would be possible.

Our next WELCA meeting will be Monday, [January 19](#) at 1:00 pm at the home of Renae Yelles. We will have a business meeting and refreshments will follow. Join us if you are available.

Thank you again.

### **CD Ministry Sponsorship**

Beginning in January, we will start to offer sponsorships of \$5.00 for the CD Ministry.

This is a very important ministry to our shut-ins that cannot attend church regularly. The cost to mail an individual CD is approximately \$1.75. We currently have 5 members receiving the CD's.



The sponsorships will help offset the cost of this ministry. There is a chart on the bulletin board along with the other sponsorships for you to sign up for a Sunday of your choice.

If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Andrew.

## The Rich Young Man

"Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered..."Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven..." (Mark 10: 17-21).

The heart of the question in Mark's Gospel about the rich young man is this: What is God calling me to become? How does the word of God penetrate my life?

In facing these questions, we have to have a great deal of trust in God. Sometimes we feel if we did everything God wanted us to do, we wouldn't have any fun in life. All the good things we enjoy, all our "treasures" would be taken away. So we try basically to follow God's call, but we are afraid to abandon ourselves completely to God.

God wants our happiness. God wants our fulfillment. God wants what really is best for us. At times it can be demanding, but no different than a doctor who tries to help us by outlining a program that we find difficult. We trust the doctor. We should trust God even more.

God treats us where we are. God is not standing over us pointing to our shameful condition with one hand, and with the other hand pointing to the perfection that is so distant. He shows us how we can grow and change. He wants us to become more like Him.

We are all that rich young man in gospel. We all have certain "riches" or "treasures" that we cling to even though they stand in the way of becoming what we really could be.

What is God calling me to let go of? What is God asking me to become?

Just as God called the rich young man to grow. God is calling you right now to become more of what we are created to be. God is not asking anything that is impossible. This is the first step in living a life of Stewardship.

### *Social ministry keeping you in the loop...*

- Food Bank Sunday is the second Sunday of each month. Please bring your food items on that day and place them in the bins in the narthex. Good Shepherd is especially responsible for canned fruit, jelly, and applesauce. Of course, any food staples will be accepted on any Sunday. On the Second Sunday of the month (**January 11**) our prayers will include the food gifts, the recipients, and the donors. **Items especially needed at this time are: Canned meats, tuna, peanut butter, fruit, small size diapers, wipes.**
- "IN TOUCH" Sunday is always the third Sunday of the month (**January 18**). Take a name of a member and send a card so they know we are thinking of them, remember them and wish them well and keeping them in our prayers.

# Mark your calendar!

## Family Movie Night

### January 17, 2015

More information in January newsletter



### *New Member's Class*

On March 8th and March 15th at 10:15am, there will be a new member's class at Good Shepherd. This class is for those interested in joining Good Shepherd.

We will receive the new members during the worship service on March 22nd. Please fill out the form below and hand it to the pastor or place it in the offering plate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# JANUARY 2015

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday | Saturday   |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------|--|
|  |  |  |   | 1<br>OFFICE CLOSED  | 2      | 3  |
| 4<br>9:00 WORSHIP<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL<br>10:15AM<br>BELL CHOIR<br>11:00AM                                       | 5<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM<br>WORSHIP<br>AND MUSIC<br>7PM<br>ANNUAL REPORT<br>DEADLINE | 6<br>CUB SCOUTS<br>6:30-7:45PM<br>CHRISTIAN<br>EDUCATION<br>7:30PM | 7<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM<br>PERSONNEL<br>MEETING<br>7PM | 8<br>CHILDREN CHOIR<br>7-7:25PM<br>ADULT CHOIR<br>7:30PM  | 9      | 10<br><br>FAB 50'S   |
| 11<br>9:00 WORSHIP<br>FOOD BANK SUNDAY<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL<br>10:15AM<br>BELL CHOIR<br>11:00AM                  | 12<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM<br>CUB PACK LEADER<br>MEETING 6:30PM<br>COUNCIL 7PM        | 13<br>CUB SCOUTS<br>6:30-7:45PM                                    | 14<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM                               | 15<br>CHILDREN CHOIR<br>7-7:25PM<br>ADULT CHOIR<br>7:30PM | 16     | 17<br>CHRISTIAN<br>EDUCATION<br>MOVIE NIGHT<br><br>FELLOWSHIP<br>HALL OCCUPIED |
| 18<br>9:00 WORSHIP<br>IN TOUCH SUNDAY<br>SUNDAY SCHOOL<br>10:15AM<br>BELL CHOIR<br>11:00AM                   | 19<br>OFFICE CLOSED  | 20<br>CUB SCOUTS<br>6:30-7:45PM                                    | 21<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM                               | 22<br>CHILDREN CHOIR<br>7-7:25PM<br>ADULT CHOIR<br>7:30PM | 23     | 24   |
| 25<br>9:00 WORSHIP<br>CONGREGATIONAL<br>MEETING<br><br>SUNDAY SCHOOL<br>10:15AM<br><br>BELL CHOIR<br>11:00AM | 26<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM<br>PROPERTY 7PM  | 27<br>CUB SCOUTS<br>6:30-7:45PM                                    | 28<br>GIRL SCOUTS<br>6:30-8PM                               | 29<br>CHILDREN CHOIR<br>7-7:25PM<br>ADULT CHOIR<br>7:30PM | 30     | 31   |

## SNOW CANCELLATION

In the event of bad weather, please check Channel 69, WFMZ, or WLEV, 100.7 FM. You can also check the WFMZ or the WLEV websites.