

# THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

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DECEMBER 2013

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## OUR COMMISSIONERS

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### Mission—

Elinor Leili

### Youth/Fellowship—

VACANT

### Media Outreach—

James Kloos

## Dear Members and Friends of the Good Shepherd,

"OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER 2014" - this was the theme for our Stewardship campaign this past Fall. However, I would like to carry it over and continue to use it throughout our year ahead together because I think 2014 is going to be a banner year for our church family ... and the theme "OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER 2014" is absolutely fitting. As a matter of fact, I am going let the crisp blue "OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER 2014" banner, that now hangs above the entrance way to our sanctuary, stay put for the entire year as a reminded of the years' importance.

So what, you might ask, is going to make it such an important—such a banner year—for our congregation? I think it's going to be quite a few things, actually. Right now, I would just like to list some of them—further explanations will be shared in the months ahead:

- Personal Spiritual Growth Plans
- Invitation & Visitation
- New Worship and Devotional Opportunities (weekly and perhaps even daily)
- Feeding Children Everywhere Event
- New Bible Studies Offered During the Week (at church or in homes)
- New Fellowship Opportunities (such as a 4x4 Ministry or small groups)
- New Website and Facebook Pages (engagement in all kinds of social media)
- New Prayer/Devotion Partners
- New Mentoring program for Confirmands (like a Faith Incubators)
- Undergoing a Transforming Churches Network Program (in the Fall)

This list is not exhaustive but gives you just a sense of the many neat things that we are going to be a part of in the year ahead. **The next couple of years are going to be extremely important for our church family as I believe they will set the tone and trajectory for who we are as a congregation and how we see ourselves in the future.**

Paul says in the second chapter of his letter to the Ephesians: "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." God guarantees that we will be given the grace (ie. all that we need: time, talent, treasure) to abound in the good works that He has prepared for us to do. He has us covered – we have nothing to lose! All we need do is trust Him and get to work!

2014 is going to be a banner year. I look forward to growing and serving together with you on our journey together ! **See you in worship!**

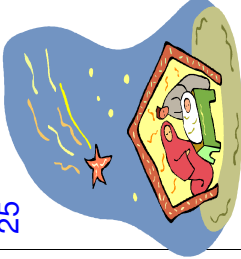
- Pastor Wismar

**OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER 2014**



# DECEMBER 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8/ 9:00am Sunday School & Conf. classes 9:15am-Adult Bible class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE	9	10 7:45 pm— Board of Directors Meeting	11 7:30pm-Choir 8:00pm-AA	12 10:00am—WSL 12:00pm- Weight Watchers	13	14
15/ 9:00am—Sunday School & Conf. class 9:15am –Adult Bible Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT	16	17	18 7:30pm-Choir 8:00pm - AA	19 10:00am— WSL 12:00pm-Weight Watchers	20	21
22/ 9:00am-Sunday School & Conf. class- 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE	23	24 5:00 pm— CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 11:00pm—CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT DIVINE SERVICE	25 	26 12:00pm-Weight Watchers	27	28
29/ 9:00am-Sunday School & Conf. class— 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am 5TH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE	30	31				

## Serving Page for DECEMBER

	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29	1/5
<b>Ushers:</b>	D. Kish	L. Hamilton	E. Davis	B. Dice	T. Renz	D. Kish
	C. Kish	C. Hamilton	E. Davis	C. Dice	T. Durr	C. Kish
	F. Bok	C. Hamilton	A. Davis	R. Cancel	B. Durr	F. Bok
	J. Bok	B. Tompkins	A. Golino	J. Kloos	D. Abrantes	J. Bok
		P. Tompkins				
<b>Tellers:</b>	T. Renz	C. Dice	T. Durr	B. Dice	G. Wismar	T. Renz
	R. Renz	J. Dice	P. Durr	S. Kloos	P. Wismar	R. Renz
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	D. Kelly		C. Brillon	B. Dice	B. Woodside	L. Smith
<b>Greeters:</b>	D. Breeger	C. Hamilton	S. Haber	B. Bodnar	I. Cancel	S. Kloos
	B. Breeger			E. Bodnar	R. Cancel	
<b>Comm. Asst.:</b>	T. Renz	R. Smith	L. Hamilton	B. Durr	T. Renz	R. Smith
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	L. Smith	J. McGowan	L. Thomson	E. Leili	H. Abrantes	T. Gillio
	B. Breeger	H. Scully	P. Tompkins	L. White	L. Seder	I. Wixted
<b>Acolyte:</b>	M. Miller	J. Berendsohn	A. Renz	Chris Brillon	E. Bodnar	J. Hamilton
<b>Crucifer:</b>	Cam Brillon	J. Hamilton	A. Golino	Z. Booth	A. Renz	M. Miller

## Anniversaries & Birthdays

	Delia Sniffin	Dec 02		
Larry and Nancy Crosby	Pedro Soto	Dec 04	Amanda Scalzitti	Dec 15
<i>December 24</i>	Madison Lehmacher	Dec 05	Seth Renz	Dec 16
	Mark Larson	Dec 07	Carol Hamilton	Dec 20
	Giancarlo Dellangelo	Dec 08	Nichy Hudson-Thiel	Dec 20
	Gianna Dellangelo	Dec 08	Lisa Golino	Dec 21
	Nicholas Zustovich	Dec 10	Renee Renz	Dec 24
	Ingrid Wixted	Dec 10	Nicholas Zustovich	Dec 25
	Carol Kissmann	Dec 10	Elizabeth Thomson	Dec 26
	Kai Wismar	Dec 13	Alexander Thomson	Dec 27
	Bonnie Dice	Dec 13	Bob Woodside	Dec 28
	Madelyn Soto	Dec 13	Jane McGowan	Dec 30
	Brian Hamilton	Dec 14		
	Abby Hamilton	Dec 15		



## MISSIONS

This coming February we will again have a CHILI COOK OFF — date to be announced — find your best chili recipes and get ready to enter the contest.

Since a few of our LCMS congregations in Illinois were hit by tornadoes last month with a great deal of destruction, we will send the proceeds as a donation to the Tornado Relief Fund started by our synod.

So join in the tasting of all the delicious chili entrees and just having an enjoyable evening with others, as well as helping a good cause.

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## WSL / LWML

*On November 2 Nan Falsetti and Liz Thomson attended the LWML/NED retreat in Enfield, CT. 114 women were in attendance and enjoyed an excellent speaker who talked about recruiting younger women into LWML. 28 attendees were first timers—some of them young women.*

*Our Heifer collection raised \$440 in donations over the last few months. Thank you to the donors. We will purchase that water buffalo, a llama, and one flock of chickens with those donations. This provides families with food, income and enables the passing on of livestock to other families.*



*I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*

Gauge Robert Dice was baptized during the service on November 3.

His parents are Jessice Dice and Keith Holick. We welcome Gauge to the Lord's family.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Lutheran Malaria Initiative, which we participated in, reached beyond its goal in donations. The New England District attained the highest percentage of participation by district in the entire LCMS. That is quite an accomplishment since we have fewer congregations in our district than a lot of other districts.

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## FOOD PANTRY

**Our box is pretty empty. Remember others this time of year and put some items in that box this Sunday.**

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## STEWARDSHIP

Greetings. The Stewardship effort just completed was great. Thank you to all who returned pledge cards and time and talent sheets. There is still time to send in your pledge cards. Don't feel embarrassed if you haven't gotten them in yet.

Please remember that it is not necessary to limit your gifts to every week on Sunday. Gifts can be given at any time or period that suits you. This is another reason we have offered the automatic giving from your checking account. We encourage more members to utilize this option.

Once I get the time and talents organized, the board will go over the results and know who to contact for helping with time and talents at church. Thank you.