

# The Shepherd's Call

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DECEMBER 2014

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**Youth/Fellowship—**

**VACANT**

**Media Outreach—**

James Kloos

**Dear Members and Friends of the Good Shepherd,**

***“And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus...”*** is the way Luke’s account of the Christmas story begins in chapter two (KJV). That decree caused Mary and Joseph to travel to Bethlehem, the city of David, where Jesus was born according to ancient prophecy. God’s timing is perfect as He carries out His will. Galatians 4:4-5 reads, ***“But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.”*** (NIV)

God’s promises are true and find their “amen” in Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament God inspired His prophets to write down many promises of a Savior. The faithful people of God believed His promises and were saved by that faith even though they had not seen the Savior with their own eyes. They lived before Christmas and we live after Christmas. We also have not seen Jesus with our own eyes and yet, by the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit, we believe that on that first Christmas Christ took on Himself our human form, kept the law perfectly for us, preached the good news of salvation, performed countless miracles and then offered Himself up as the precious Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, ours included!

Christmas is a very joyous occasion as we celebrate our Lord’s first coming into the world but we also know that the shadow of the cross already hovered over the manger where the baby Jesus was laid. He was born to die in our place so that the door to heaven will be open to us and all who believe in Him as our only true Lord and Savior.

As Christian stewards we live in the light of the Gospel and freely and joyfully manage all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes. God offered up His best for us and in response we strive to offer our best to Him. During this joyful Christmas season we have many opportunities to show our love for God by showing love to all the neighbors He has placed around us, especially those who have special needs of body, soul and spirit. May God help us to use our gifts of time, talents, skills and financial resources to His glory and the welfare of those around us. May He especially help us to be like the shepherds and spread the good news of salvation in Christ alone!

See you in worship, Pastor Wismar

**STEWARDSHIP: BELIEVE, DREAM BIG AND DO**—Within the unfolding of God's story, each of us has a unique story which yearns to come true. *"For I know the plans I have for you"*, declares the Lord, *"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"*, Jer. 12:11. Our story is meant to shine through us but not for us. In the same way, *"let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deed and glorify your father in heaven."* Matt 5:16. God sends each of us to do his work, which is couched within His wisdom. So ask yourself, **"What is my story? Who am I free to be?"**

But don't just dream – Dream Big! *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."* Eph. 3:20. Watch out for doubt and pride, they will stall you out of fulfilling your dreams. Rather be calm and still so you can recognize God's breadcrumbs – tests – both small and large, in which God teaches you to trust in Him.

Doing God's work is about helping, sharing, being kind, and drawing people to God. Accept who you are, allowing God to use you, giving Him glory, and lifting up a friend, a loved one, or a stranger in the process. We cannot all do great things, but we can do all things with love.

So Believe, Dream Big and Do! Make your story part of the greater story - the story of God's love through Jesus.

Stewardship Chairperson, Nannette Falsetti

**MISSIONS**—The Mission Commission wishes everyone a blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. In February we will again have our challenging chili cook-off, so get out your recipes and get ready to enter the contest. It is truly enjoyable to socialize with everyone while enjoying delicious chili.

Wow !



**FOOD PANTRY**—Another large delivery was made the end of last month to the food pantry. Let's fill it up again for the Christmas season. The current and past deliveries are deeply appreciated and they thank you for your continuing support.

**WOMEN'S SERVICE LEAGUE**—The giving tree for the Southbury Home will be in the narthex again this month. Choose a tag from the tree and purchase the item. Return the gift and put it under the tree . You will help make someone else's Christmas brighter.

**MEMORIALS**—For Alma Sohle, an Altar Frontal, from Pauline Schneider and Liz Thomson



## OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER 2014

*As we close out another calendar year of Growing in and Sharing the Love of Christ at Good Shepherd, we thank God for all the blessings He has given to our congregation during it's 45 years of service. We look forward to the future and the work we need to do to make sure we continue to be a presence and an instrument for spreading His good news. Each one of us needs to serve, give, and pray for our church. And bring a friend to join us !*

To those who want to sign up for automatic, periodic giving in 2015 from your checking account the form below is for that purpose. No more writing checks, no more figuring out how much to put in after missing a week or two of worship services, no more cash flow concerns. Every month, on the same day, your specific giving amount will be sent to the Good Shepherd account from your checking account. This also assures a steady flow into the church account to keep paying the bills.

**AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT DEBIT**

I (we) hereby authorize, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd to initiate debit entries and to initiate, if necessary, credit entries and adjustments for any debit entries made in error to my (our)

Checking Account

Savings Account

At the financial institution named below and authorize that institution to debit and/or credit the same to such account.

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

ROUTING NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

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

ACCOUNT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

		2400
		01 04/01/2011
PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____		\$ _____
		DOLLARS
FOR _____		
⑆ 22105278⑆	6724301066⑆	2400⑆
Routing Number	Account Number	Check Number

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until Society of Saint Pius X has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford you and my financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGN HERE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGN HERE

**PLACE VOIDED CHECK HERE**



# DECEMBER 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>14—Sunday School</b> Pageant during Worship Service</p>	<p>1 6:30 pm- Drop In Knitting</p>	<p>2 7:30 pm - Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p>3 -11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm-Choir</p>	<p>4 10:00 am—WSL 12:00 pm-Weight Watchers</p>	5	6
<p>7- 9:00am Sunday School &amp; Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion</p>	<p>8 7:45 pm— Board Meeting</p>	<p>9 11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm- Choir</p>	<p>10 11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm- Choir</p>	<p>11 12:00pm-Weight Watchers</p>	13	
<p>14- 9:00am Sunday School Conf. class 9:15am —Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion</p>	<p>15 6:30 pm - Drop In Knitting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm—Choir</p>	<p>18 10:00 am—WSL 12:00pm-Weight Watchers</p>	19	20
<p>21- 9:00am-Sunday School &amp; Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 7:30 pm— Discipleship Meeting</p>	<p>24-Christmas Eve 5:00 pm-Candlelight Service 11:00 pm - Midnight Divine Service</p>		26	27
<p>28-- 9:00am-Sunday School &amp; Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 11-12am—Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm—Choir</p>			

# Serving Page for December

	12/7	12/14	12/21	12/28	1/4
<b>Ushers:</b>	B. Dice C. Dice J. Kloos	T. Renz E. Davis E. Davis C. Woodside	D. Kish C. Kish F. Bok J. Bok	L. Hamilton C. Hamilton B. Tompkins C. Tompkins	E. Davis E. Davis A. Golino C. Woodside
<b>Tellers:</b>	B. Dice S. Kloos	G. Wismar P. Wismar	T. Renz R. Renz	C. Dice J. Bok	T. Booth P. Durr
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	N. Falsetti	Youth	D. Kelley	M. Wismar	R. Smith
<b>Greeters:</b>	S. Kloos	D. Breeger B. Breeger	C. Hamilton	S. Haber	B. Bodnar E. Bodnar
<b>Comm. Asst.:</b>	T. Renz	R. Smith	L. Hamilton	T. Renz	R. Smith
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	H. Abrantes L. Seder	L. Smith B. Breeger	J. McGowan H. Scully	H. Abrantes L. Seder	L. Smith B. Breeger
			24&25- Thomson&Tompkins & Leili & White		
<b>Acolyte:</b>	A. Renz	K. Wismar	R. Rojas	C. Follen	S. Zustovich
<b>Crucifer:</b>	A. Golino	E. Bodnar	E. Bodnar	A. Renz	A. Golino

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

Larry and Nancy Crosby  
*December 24*

Pedro Soto	Dec 04	Ed Davis	Dec 18
Madison Lehmacher	Dec 05	Christine Conklin	Dec 20
Mark Larson	Dec 07	Carol Hamilton	Dec 20
Nicholas Zustovich	Dec 10	Nichy Hudson-Thiel	Dec 24
Ingrid Wixted	Dec 10	Lisa Golino	Dec 21
Carol Kissmann	Dec 10	Renee Renz	Dec 24
Kai Wismar	Dec 13	Nicholas Zustovich	Dec 25
Bonnie Dice	Dec 13	Elizabeth Thomson	Dec 26
Madelyn Soto	Dec 13	Alexander Thomson	Dec 27
Brian Hamilton	Dec 14	Bob Woodside	Dec 28
John Alit	Dec 15	Jane McGowan	Dec 30
Abby Hamilton	Dec 15		
Amanda Scalzitti	Dec 15		
Seth Renz	Dec 16		



*What soever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me.*

