

# The Shepherd's Call

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 1

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JANUARY 2015

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**OUR COMMISSIONERS**

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**Stewardship—**

Nan Falsetti

**Education—**

Juanita Bok

**Property—**

Brian Tompkins

**Mission—**

Elinor Leili

**Youth/Fellowship—**

**VACANT**

**Media Outreach—**

James Kloos

## Dear Members and Friends of the Good Shepherd,

As I look back over the past year there is much to be thankful for, both as an individual and as a congregation. Not every year of ministry here at Good Shepherd is given a specific theme or title, but this past year it was: **“Our Journey Together 2014.”** And all year long we have had a large blue banner announcing that theme as people enter our sanctuary for worship. 2014 was quite a journey! One of the biggest things to happen along this journey was certainly our **“Feeding Children Everywhere”** program that we held this past spring. What an incredible event! If you remember, our initial flyer about the program said: **EVERY MEMBER INVOLVED IN SOMEWAY!** We had all sorts of ways in which to participate – marketing, fundraising and all sorts of volunteer opportunities – and though we didn't reach 100% involvement from all of our members, I think we got very, very close! It was great to see what our Good Shepherd family could do when we really focused in together, got behind something and trusted the Lord. When God's people are ambitious and enthusiastic and step forward in faith, He can make amazing things happen! I hope this kind of passion and enthusiasm for mission and ministry can be harnessed and focused in in other directions and ways in the future. Though we are small in number – and our numbers have been declining in recent years—I believe that we have never been as vibrant as a church family or as well known throughout our community as we have been throughout this past year. We have a lot to be thankful for and a lot to look forward to as God continues bless our work in His name here in New Fairfield and beyond. God's richest blessings in the new year and thank you to everyone for their generous gifts given to me and my family this past Christmas season. Your ongoing love care and consideration has always been a great blessing and is greatly appreciated. I look forward to the year ahead as together we continue to **Grow in and Share the Love of Christ**—Pastor Wismar

*On December 14th the Sunday School presented their Christmas pageant during our worship service. The music was great and we thank everyone, children and teachers, for all their work and time given to this event. Tara Booth was the director and coordinator of the pageant.*



## ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2015 altar flower chart is up and ready for sign ups for each week of the year. Thank you to all those people who purchase the flowers for our altar for each Sunday.

*Christopher Smith was born on December 10, 2014 to Colleen and Christopher Smith. Baby and mother are both doing well.*



*Pastor Wismar was formally elected at the circuit forum in November to be the circuit visitor for our circuit. This involves regular contact with and assistance to the churches in this circuit.*

## YOUTH

On December 14 Jorge Wismar was the reader. Alex and Matt Miller played guitars for the offertory. December 21 Kai Wismar was the reader and Nicholas Thiel played violin for the offertory. On Christmas Eve Kai Wismar played clarinet for the offertory.

## STEWARDSHIP

### THE KEY TO HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

We all have special relationships with people; fathers, mothers, spouses, friends. In each of these relationships we may identify them as nurturing, conflicting, warm, cold, destructive. The best relationships are those that help make us become a person with genuine qualities of kindness, compassion, confidence, qualities which raise our insights for the welfare of our fellow man and help us to develop a meaningful bond with Jesus our Lord. No matter where we are on the path of life we will encounter and be influenced by those who walk in darkness and those who walk in the light, Jesus. One of the hardest lessons in life is to examine one's relationships. Asking ourselves, where will this person lead me, into darkness – a life without Jesus – or into the light – a life of awareness and blessing.

In 1 John 1:5–9 the subtitle is walking in the light. *“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all, If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

Jesus has shown love for each of us in a special way, *“Greater love has no one than this, ‘That someone lay down his life for his friends.’ You are my friends if you do what I command you... I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my father I have made known to you.”* John 15:12–15.

Strive to know Jesus as a trusted friend and a true friend – a friendship which will last forever and who will be the key to all healthy relationships.

From your stewardship chairperson, Nan Falsetti

## MISSIONS

Get your chili recipe ready — **CHILI COOK OFF** is coming **February 7, 2015**. Come and have some fun tasting all the delicious variety of chili as well as support our mission efforts. You will be delighted that you did !!





# JANUARY 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4- 9:00am Sunday School & Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion	5 6:30 pm- Knitting	6 7:30 pm- Stewardship Meeting	7 11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm- Choir	8 12:00pm-Weight Watchers	9	10
11- 9:00am Sunday School Conf. class 9:15am –Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion	12	13 7:45 pm- Board Meeting	14 11-12am-Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm—Choir	15 10:00 am—WSL 12:00pm-Weight Watchers	16	17
18- 9:00am-Sunday School & Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion	19 6:30 pm- Knitting	20 7:30 pm— Discipleship Meeting	21	22	23	24
25-9:00am-Sunday School & Conf. class 9:15am-Adult Bible Class 10:30am DIVINE SERVICE with Communion	26	27	28 11-12am—Bible Study 7-8pm-Bible Study 8:00 pm—Choir	29	30	31

# Serving Page for January

	<b>1/4</b>	<b>1/11</b>	<b>1/18</b>	<b>1/25</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	E. Davis E. Davis A. Golino C. Woodside	B. Dice C. Dice J. Kloos	T. Renz E. Davis E. Davis C. Woodside	D. Kish C. Kish F. Bok J. Bok
<b>Tellers:</b>	T. Booth P. Durr	B. Dice S. Kloos	G. Wismar P. Wismar	T. Renz R. Renz
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	B. Woodside	L. Smith	R. Renz	N. Falsetti
<b>Greeters:</b>	B. Bodnar E. Bodnar	S. Kloos	D. Breeger B. Breeger	C. Hamilton
<b>Comm. Asst.:</b>	R. Smith	L. Hmailton	T. Renz	R. Smith
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	L. Smith B. Breeger	J. McGowan H. Scully	L. Thomson P. Tompkins	E. Leili L. White
<b>Acolyte:</b>	A. Golino	A. Golino	E. Bodnar	C. Follen
<b>Crucifer:</b>	S. Zustovich	A. Renz	K. Wismar	R. Rojas

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

Donald and Beverly Breeger

*January 13*

Stephanie Zustovich    January 01    Cameron Tompkins    January 18

Alyssa Renz    January 09    Laura Berendsohn    January 19

Richard and Suzanne Haber

*January 14*

Matthew Miller    January 10    Paula Durr    January 19

Don Breeger    January 12    Nancy Crosby    January 25

Alexander Miller    January 15    Jimmy Kilgallon    January 26

Daniel Abrantes    January 15

Cole Scully    January 15

Judy Bachman    January 17

Edward Davis    January 18

