



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

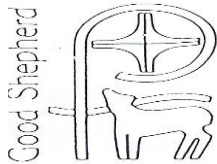
God's work. Our hands.

# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

Newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Volume 19, Issue 1

January 2016



## **Mission Statement of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is the family of God gathered under our Lord's care, equipped with the good news of Jesus to share God's love with the world.*

### **Good Shepherd Information**

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Interim Pastor – Steve Dahl

218 758-3430

Secretary – Nancy Oseien

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Custodian – Lori Klever

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### **2015 Officers**

President– Diane Thorson 583-2458

Vice Pres.– Pam Moran

548-5438

Secretary – Nancy Peterson

583-4661

Treasurer –

Joan Fosse

583-4164

W-ELCA President -2016

Nancy Peterson

583-4166

Heaven has a new little angel! Thank you so much for the kind words, cards, memorials, flowers and any kind of service you did that day. Bonnie loved you all.

*Sharon Witt and Family*

Thank you to all who purchased poinsettias for display in the Church during the Christmas season:

Eloise Jensen, in memory of Marlyn Jensen and Roxanne Swanberg

Yvonne Saetre in memory of loved ones.

Thor & Kay Anderson in memory of their parents.

Richard & Norma Haugdahl, in memory of Stanley & Wilma Haugdahl and Marlene Nyhus.

Deb & Scott Gaustad in memory of Marv & Ethel Gribbon

Sharon Witt and family in memory of Vernon and Bonnie Witt.

Ronald & Johnnie Olson in memory of their son, Bruce.

Dear Friends,

The seasons of the church year sometimes seem mysterious and hard to understand. Here is a little explanation of the Christmas and Epiphany seasons you may find interesting:

In traditional Christian churches [Christmas](#), as well as [Easter](#), is celebrated as a period of time - a season of the church year, rather than just a day. The Season of the Church Year associated with Christmas actually begins with the first Sunday of [Advent](#), four Sundays before Christmas Day. Advent is marked by expectation and anticipation in preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus. [Christmas](#) begins with Christmas Day December 25 and lasts for [twelve](#) days until [Epiphany](#), January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The one or two Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany are sometimes called **Christmastide**.

Epiphany is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season and the [Twelve Days of Christmas](#), which are usually counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, and the evening of January 6th is counted as the Twelfth Night.

For many Protestant church traditions (including our Lutheran tradition), the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until [Ash Wednesday](#), which begins the season of [Lent](#) leading to [Easter](#). Depending on the timing of Easter, this longer period of Epiphany includes from four to nine Sundays. The last Sunday of Epiphany is celebrated as Transfiguration Sunday.

The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." It remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. In some Central and South American countries influenced by Catholic tradition, Three Kings' Day, or the night before, is the time for opening Christmas presents.

As we observe the Epiphany season, we look in scripture for signs of revelation as Jesus' identity and mission are shown forth through various events and signs of service and through his teaching. Each of us would benefit too by looking for signs of Christ in our everyday world and lives. Perhaps we will be surprised and amazed at how that presence shines when we look for it.

May God's peace and power shine in and through you in this season!

*Pastor Steve*



Dear WELCA Members:

As I write this, Christmas is just a few days away. We're all busy shopping, wrapping gifts, and making preparations for the holiday. During all this though, make sure to remember the true meaning of the season – that God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him would not perish, but have eternal life.

Now on to 2016 – Happy New Year! Our WELCA General Meeting will be at 7:00 PM on January 13, the second Wednesday of the month, not January 6, as is stated in our service group books.

Our Bible Study for 2016 begins with a four session study titled "Christian Citizenship 101 – Paul's Letter to the Philippians." In session one we'll learn how the church in Philippi was founded, the context of some Philippians passages, and how they relate to our lives today.

Our Business Meeting will include presentation of our 2016 budget, and making plans for the Valentine Tea in February. The WELCA

Executive Board serves. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

As your new WELCA President I pray for guidance and support during the upcoming year.

Nancy Peterson  
WELCA President

## WELCA GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13<sup>TH</sup>

7:00 PM



The Exercise Class is still going strong! Meeting each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00 a.m. Several new members have joined so why not consider starting your New Year out on the way to good health and exercise.

If you have stiff achy joints this class is for you!

If you are a little unsteady on your feet this class is for you!

If you want to prevent the above things this class is for you!

If you want to have fellowship with a fun group of people this class is for you!

Just come to the church at 9:00 a.m., Monday, Weds. and Friday...and the best part...there is no membership fee!

## MEN'S BREAKFAST – JoJo's

Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Come and join us for food, fellowship and Bible study.

Open to men of all ages.



**Lutheran Youth  
Organization**

51". That's how many boxes of food the 45+ youth and adults of the OTC-LYO packaged on December 13<sup>th</sup>, totaling 11,016 meals to feed people in need. In addition to flying past our goal of packing 10,000 we learned that 20% of the food packaged on Sunday stays locally, while the other 80% is shipped to Haiti. As Holly Weller put it, "Watched our fellowship hall turn into a food packaging assembly line in roughly 25 minutes and over 40 kids and 15 adults fill the room with excitement and energy to package 11,016 meals... What a powerful way to spend an afternoon!" A great day indeed, awesome to see how we are better together! Thank You to everyone who helped out, and supported the project with their donations, we couldn't have done it without you! Up next we've got our annual Roller Skating and Zorbaz night in Perham, on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

## PENNY WAR

Speaking of which, the **Winners of our Penney War, are Pastor Jim and Intern Pastor Jon at Zion Amor!** At the various churches people put over \$400 in Jars for them to wear the wigs! So on January 10th, keep your eyes open for some awesome pictures of those two rocking out! Thanks to everyone for their enthusiasm and willingness to participate!



*In Our Prayers*

Lloyd & Barb Amundson  
Beverly Bjerketvedt, Lorraine Olson  
Betsy Peterson, Evelyn Mitchell  
Jim Morse, Ken Moenck,  
Dorothy Nordgren, Lou Ann Johnson

**Anyone interested in helping in the Church Office during the month of March** please contact me. Terry and I will be going to Florida and someone is needed to prepare bulletins, post weekly offering, prepare newsletter, and other various office tasks. Training will be provided and support available while I am gone. I will have many of the monthly projects completed prior to my leaving.

*Thank you! Nancy Oseien*

## Serving in January

Rick & Susanne Torgerson  
DeWayne & LaVaye Herness  
Dave & Nancy Brutlag  
Tammy Cichy & Family  
Gene & Pat Volden  
Wayne & Gerry Rogholt  
Roxanne Loser, Virginia Hanson  
Don Waskosky

Deacon: Don Seipkes

Offering Counters: Nancy Peterson  
& Nancy O.

Our Giving* in December	Attendance
12/6 \$ 3629.00	112
12/13 \$3,825.00	94
12/20 \$ 2733.00	102
12/24 Christmas Eve Service	144
12/25 \$4584.00	54
Offering combined with Christmas Eve	
12/27 \$1415.00	57

\*\$3900.00 is needed each week in order for us to stay on budget.

**Your Giving Statements** will be available and in your box by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Any envelopes not retrieved by January 31<sup>st</sup> will be mailed.