

The logo consists of a stylized cross on the right and a scroll on the left. The scroll is depicted with several horizontal lines representing text and a curved top edge. The cross is a simple, bold shape with a vertical stem and a horizontal bar.

# Annual Report 2013

Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

# ANNUAL MEETING SHEPHERD OF THE BAY LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 26, 2014

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## **Shepherd of the Bay Annual Meeting January 27, 2013**

Present: Members of the congregation and council members

Meeting called to order by Council President, Lawrie Kull at 10:00am

Pastor Foster opened the meeting in prayer.

The minutes from 2012 were included in the Annual report, but inadvertently overlooked so there was no official approval of the minutes.

The Treasurer's report given by Ron Hupe reported that the giving for December 2012 was up from budget along with an increase in Debt Reduction income. There was a P & L excess of approximately \$43,867 for 2012 so the distribution went to the 2013 budget, Reformation, Laotian Ministry, Pay Mission receipts including local missions, Pastoral transition, and year-end bonuses due to no salary increase in the past four years. A motion to accept the 2012 Financial report was made by Greg Casperson, Second by Jim Nelson. Motion carried. A motion made by Dan Farwell to approve the Missions Payment with a second from Wally Brandt. Motion carried.

The nominating committee report was given by John Skogsbakken. A Thank you to Frank Weber was given for his years of service on the Council. Those staying on the Church Council are Ken Bergner, Judi Nelson, Bill Henning, Barb MacDonald, Ron Hupe and Cathy Mangan.

Those nominated for a second term were Alicia Kropuenske, Stan Whiteman and Lawrie Kull. Mary Kay Shumway was nominated for a first term. No other nominations from the floor for additions. Motion made by Clint Robison, second by Greg Casperson. Motion carried.

Committee Recommendations: John Skogsbakken for Scholarship committee, Werner Krause for Endowment Committee, Scott Schultz & Al Strack for Audit Committee and Marilyn Peterson for the Nominating Committee. Those nominated were unanimously elected with a motion by Diane Overby and second by Bunny Sheahen. Motion carried.

The Budget for 2013 was presented by Treasurer Ron Hupe. The total income budget is set at \$505,844 which is slightly lower than the actual income from 2012 of \$528,377. The budget is based on pledges and reasonable expectations for giving. The budget also includes a 2% pay raise for staff for 2013. A motion made by Stan Whiteman to accept the proposed 2013 budget with a second from Rita Brandt. Motion carried.

President Lawrie Kull thanked the congregation and the council for their work this past year.

Pastor Foster addressed the congregation regarding his upcoming retirement and he thanked the congregation for their support.

A motion to adjourn the 2013 Annual Meeting made by Clint Robinson, second by Ron Howard. Motion carried.

Pastor Foster closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and the congregation sang, "This my Church shall be."

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Kropuenske, Secretary

## **Shepherd of the Bay Annual Meeting January 29, 2012**

Present: Members of the congregation and council members

Meeting called to order by Council President, Frank Weber at 10:00a.m. thanking those present.

Pastor Foster opened the meeting in prayer.

Approval of the 2011 Minutes: Approved by Don Luker seconded by Wally Brandt. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report given by Ron Hupe stated that December 2011 giving was one of the best months on record. We are able to give a bonus to the staff due to lack of raises the past 3 years. Monies will also be paid out to several different non profits and missions. A motion made by Don Pardonner to approve treasurer's report, seconded by George Cobb. Motion carried

Budget for 2012 was presented by treasurer Ron Hupe. The total income budget is set at \$511,050 which is slightly lower than the actual 2011 income of \$536,732. The budget is based on pledges and reasonable expectations for giving. We will be using a surplus transfer from 2011 to help ease the underpayment of pledges. A motion to accept the 2012 budget came from Greg Casperson and seconded by Lawrie Kull. Motion carried.

The Nominating Committee report was given by George Cobb. Thanks to Rita Brandt and Sandy Synnes for finishing their terms on the Church Council.

Those staying on the Church Council are: Frank Weber, Lawrie Kull, Stan Whiteman, Ron Hupe, Ken Bergner, Alicia Kropuenske, Bill Henning and Cathy Mangan.

Those nominated for Council positions are Judith Nelson and Barbara MacDonald. No further nominations from the floor for additions. Motion made by Dick Burress, seconded by Sue Daubner. Motion Carried.

Committee Recommendations: Scott Schultz for Audit Committee, Sharon Cobb for Scholarship Committee, Bill Matson & Linda Zielke for Endowment Committee and John Skogsbakken for the Nominating Committee. Those nominated were unanimously elected with a motion by Tom MacDonald and seconded by Donna Henning. Motion Carried.

Pastor Foster thanked the Congregation for their support. He was also grateful for an easy transition with the Parish Nurse position and extra help with the music ministry this past year. Please prayerfully remember the church in the upcoming year with service and ministry.

We concluded the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned by President Frank Weber.

Respectively Submitted,  
Alicia Kropuenske  
Secretary

## Pastor's Letter -

### The Reports of My Death Have Been Greatly Exaggerated or Why I Am NOT Ready to Retire Yet

I have many pastor friends over the years who have spent time sharing with me how much they dislike or are frustrated with their congregations. If the complaints get too frequent, I tell the pastor that I think he should be looking either to get a new congregation or retire from ministry early. My reason is simple. To be a parish pastor you not only have to love God but also love the people whom you serve. Yes we are called by Jesus to love our enemies, but it is really hard to put in the time and effort that it takes to be a pastor if you actively dislike your members.

That's why I have the really strange title for my thoughts in this annual report. The first line is, of course, from Mark Twain when his death was mistakenly reported (it was his less famous cousin who died). The second line comes from a problem I have been trying to deal with this year. Since it is impossible to hide my age (I'll be 65 in April), and since I want to be honest with the congregation, I have shared with the council and members who have asked that I am planning to retire in the summer of 2015 after I turn 66 and can receive full Social Security. However, Door County being what it is, I have had to explain to any number of people, "No, I am not retiring yet. Yes, I am going to be around for over a year and a half."

But the real reason I am not retiring yet is simply I enjoy my work too much and I love my members too much. Unlike my unhappy fellow pastors, I have always felt that it is a joy and privilege to serve you. As a matter of fact, I enjoy it so much that I realize that the transition to not being a pastor is going to be difficult. Yes there are frustrations as there are in any aspect of life. Stewardship should be easier in the kind of community in which we live. Getting volunteers can be a real pain.

Yet when I think back over the 24+ years and look forward to my last two years the over riding emotion is joy. I have been so blessed. I have been blessed with a wonderful collection of staff and support people. They are so responsible and so creative that most of the time I simply bask in the light of their success. I have been blessed with lay people who have taken ownership of so many aspects of the church life that I don't have to even think twice about whether or not something is going to get done. This has allowed me to concentrate on the elements of parish ministry that I both enjoy and have some talent in. That's what makes it so much fun to come to work each day.

There is, however, another group of people I wish to thank. I suppose most would call them "ordinary members." That's too bland however. They are in fact extra ordinary members. They the quiet people who show up week after week. They get their pledges in on time. They bring bars for a funeral. They help with a Bridges event. They invite their new next door neighbor to church. They pray and hope. They sin and ask for forgiveness. They are ignored by the world and cherished by God.

And they are the reason I am not yet ready to retire!

Your Pastor,  
Bruce Foster

## **Council President's Letter for 2013**

On behalf of the Church Council, this letter to members focuses on the ministry and financial condition of Shepherd of the Bay. The ministry is active and far-reaching serving members and the community, plus supporting numerous mission and out-reach projects. I urge you to read the reports of the various activities and accomplishments of your church. Your Church Council is pleased with the results.

From a financial perspective we are grateful that at year end members came forward to support their church enabling 2013 to close with a positive balance. Your Finance Committee has developed and the Council has approved a balanced and conservative budget for 2014.

From my perspective two Council agenda items stood out this year. Your Council had the opportunity in our mortgage agreement to re-negotiate the interest rate with Thrivent. Insurance quotes were sought from several financial institutions. Thrivent reduced our interest rate 1 ¼ percent which reduces mortgage costs to our church, shortens the duration of our loan and more closely matches member's pledges to debt retirement.

The other agenda item that stood out at a number of our Council meetings was Pastor Foster discussing his philosophy and approach as it pertains to various church functions such as membership, stewardship, budgeting and worship to mention a few. The purpose was to develop a greater understanding of his role as your Council prepares for seeking a new minister upon his retirement in 2015.

As you read the reports you will note the breadth of talents in our dedicated staff and volunteers is outstanding. As you visit with these individuals thank them for making Shepherd of the Bay a special place to worship!

Sincerely, Lawrie Kull

## **Youth and Family Ministry Annual Report for 2013**

1 John 3:18 (NIV), Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

As you can see from the following report, the youth and families have lived out their faith in service to the congregation, community, and beyond. It has been a blessing to walk along side of them serving our Lord. Thank you to everyone who has shared gifts of time, talent, and money to support this ministry. Your generosity is appreciated and vital to keep this ministry going. Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

### **Family and Youth Programs that meet on a regular basis:**

Little Lambs Story Hour for infants, toddlers and preschoolers (weekly)

Wonderful Wednesday after school program for 1-6 grades (monthly)

Wonderful Wednesday six-week summer program for ages 3-4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grades

Confirmation Classes and Fellowship for 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade (weekly)

Senior High Youth Dinner and Devotions 9-12 grade (twice a month)

Friends in Faith Mentor Program for high school youth (four group gatherings a year)

Family Activities (hayride, Operation Christmas, pancake breakfast, Tasha Schuh/open house)

### **Other Activities in 2013**

Junior High Synod Youth Gathering in Neenah

Summer Camp for Confirmation youth at Imago Dei

Senior High Synod Youth Gathering in Manitowoc

Wonderful Wednesday Activities: Sleep over, camp weekend at Imago Dei, swimming

Senior High Youth Activities: The Great Couch Event, ice-cream social

Confirmation Activities: mini golf, bowling

Little Lambs Outreach Events: Fall Festival Party and Birthday Party for Jesus

### **Fundraisers:**

Pancake breakfast: \$728

Easter breakfast: \$654.00

Camp Fund: \$720

Thrivent Funds: \$1000

### **Outreach and Service Projects in the church, community, and beyond:**

#### **Elementary age children:**

Continued sponsorship of a Compassion child in Rwanda

62 boxes to Operation Christmas Child, along with \$7.00 per box for shipping.

9 quilts were made for the senior high 2013 graduates

Swing a Thon for Habitat for Humanity \$3,500 (including \$1000 from Thrivent)

Baked cookies for Habitat for Humanity workers, Loaves and Fishes, and coffee hour

Made truffles and boxed them for people who needed comforting

Made notecards to sell (along with Christmas cards from last year)

**Confirmation youth:**

CROP Walk for Hunger \$1,743.12  
Served and cleaned up for Lenten meals  
Helped with children's programs at church  
Spring clean up at Scand  
Made friendship bracelets and cards for a children's hospital

**Senior High Youth:**

30 Hour Famine for World Hunger \$4,213  
Help with children's programs at church  
Volunteered for VBS and worked on craft preparations for pre-school  
Volunteered for a week at Son Rise Bethesda Camp in Indiana  
Volunteered at Bargains Unlimited and cleaned the church nursery  
Volunteered in Manitowoc mulching a playground  
\$100 in gift cards given to Healthy Family Program  
Makenna Ash is a youth representative on the East Central Synod Youth Board

**Milestone Ministry:**

Baptismal Birthday cards  
Baptismal Birthday celebration for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year (gift of a book or CD)  
Prayer pillows for 3-4 year olds beginning Sunday school  
Blessing of the backpacks for the beginning of the school year  
Book on the Lord's Prayer for new readers in 1<sup>st</sup> grade  
Giving banks for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders to teach them about stewardship  
New Bibles for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders  
Instruction and celebration meal for 5<sup>th</sup> grade First Communion  
Confirmation Sunday  
Graduation Sunday  
Care packages to college freshman  
New this year: Celebration of new driver's license and folder of information for parents of those baptized.

The nursery is staffed with a childcare provider. Activity bags are provided for preschoolers during both services. Monthly visits to school with a treat and attendance at extra curricular events continue. Birthday and baptismal birthday cards are sent to all Sunday school age children. I attended a youth workers retreat. Eloise Lindem received the Pencil Award for her dedication to the children and youth of our congregation. A Faith Formation website geared towards newborns-18 years old and parents is updated monthly([www.shepherdofthebayfaithformation.weebly.com](http://www.shepherdofthebayfaithformation.weebly.com)).

Submitted with Praise and Thanksgiving,

Jane Burrese/Youth Minister



# Sunday School

In 2013, there was a change in leadership for the Education Coordinator's position. After faithful service, Carol Ash resigned and I, Sharon Gall took the helm. I came on board in late August and was excited to be asked to do this, to serve Shepherd of the Bay in this way.

Sunday school meets from 10:15-11:30 each Sunday (unless there is a school vacation). We are using Concordia Publishing House's material entitled *Cross Explorations* for second through sixth grades. Preschool –First grade is using *Grow in Christ*. I lead all the grades in an opening session, preparing the classes for the lessons for that Sunday. I am also teaching a variety of songs and the children sang for both services on November 3 and will also be singing February 2 and another Sunday in late April.

There are also computer related experiences that tie into each Sunday's lesson and that activity is currently led by Jennifer Dahl.

The highlight of the year was our Christmas service, "Silent Night, Holy Night" which was a new program by Concordia Publishing House. Each child shared in bringing the most wonderful message of Jesus' birth through readings, songs, and action rhymes.

Our focus for mission is to support the ELCA's Malaria campaign through our offering gathered each Sunday morning. Our giving for this mission since September has totaled \$152.80 and this amount was submitted to the campaign. Every four dollars submitted buys one mosquito bed net to keep the children in less fortunate countries safe while they sleep.

The staff of teachers is wonderful and work very hard to provide materials and activities to guide the children in their faith development. I express a big thank you to Angela Foster, Kristi Appel, Kendall Koehler, Fawn Fitzgerald, Jan Stromen, and Jennifer Dahl.

## Sunday School Statistical Report

Preschool I and II	5	taught by Angela Foster
Kindergarten and Grade 1	9	taught by Kristi Appel
Grades 2 and 3	15	taught by Kendall Koehler
Grades 4-6	17	taught by Fawn Fitzgerald and Jan Stromen

I also thank our youth helpers: Rachel, Krista, Kayla Follingstad, Gabby Lettie, Isabelle Austgen, and Mikayla and Sarah Kifer. Thanks also goes to Judy and Carl Jackson for their help with accompaniment and speaker set-up, Gladys Austgen in our Christmas service for rounding out our program with bell ringers, Elizabeth and Evan Henry, and for Gladys's accompaniment on piano. Thank you to Pastor Foster for his support. Also I express a huge thank you to the members of Shepherd of the Bay for support and prayers for this important part of being church.

In Christ's service, Sharon Gall, Education Coordinator

## Vacation Bible School Report

This year the theme of our community Vacation Bible School was Elijah, On Fire for God. This week is one of the busiest and most rewarding weeks of the entire year.

We had well over 120 kids from all over the community coming each day to First Baptist Church to learn about Elijah. Not only did this include kids from all the Christian churches in Northern Door County and many non-churched youth in our community, but many people arrange to have their grand kids visit during this week. It works out to be a very good fit. The grand parents can visit with their children and have some adult time in the morning while the kids have a great time and the grand parents can have the kids in the afternoons.

VBS works on so many different levels. Of course the kids come first. I have noticed over the years that the stories that the kids learn in VBS are the ones that they remember much later. That's the power of skits, games, crafts and lessons all reinforcing the same point.

VBS also works on the people who work to make it happen, leaders and helpers. The teens that work with me to put on the skits have many chances to really reflect on the story. We often get into deep discussions concerning the meaning of the stories. Elijah is a good example. We live in a world where any belief is OK. Elijah didn't believe that. Rather he stood for God's truth against unbelief. The teens learned that.

The adults also learn. They learn the stories too. But they also learn the promise and rewards of working with people from different common Christian traditions. Sometimes we have disagreements, but far more often we find great joy and support for each other.

VBS is worth all the effort!

## Bridges Annual Report

Shepherd of the Bay was one of 6 local churches participating in the Bridges program again this year. This is an outreach program to the international students who work in Door County. This year we gave away 74 new testaments or complete bibles in their own languages, 15 English new testaments, 28 individual gospels in English and 29 Jesus film DVDs in their languages.

Marilyn and Ed Stone led weekly English as a second language classes. Altogether 55 students came, with an average attendance of about 15. This was the Stones 5th - and, sadly, last, year of doing this. They will be sorely missed.

Clint Robison, Al Straak and Bob Tidball led the Lions Club in fixing bicycles, and loaning them to about 170 students. They picked most of them up at the end of the season too!

Shepherd of the Bay volunteers prepared, provided and served food (and cleaned up afterwards!) for 2 of the 10 major events, the one at Newport State Park, and the Segway riding/ kite flying/leaf printing event at Shepherd of the Bay. Others volunteered to pray for students, drive students, befriend students, guide them on hikes at Newport, help facilitate leaf printing and numerous other activities, aimed to show our foreign guests Christ's love.

## Music Ministry

"Alleluia! Praise the Lord, my soul! I want to praise the Lord all my life. I want to sing to my God as long as I live." Psalm 146: 1-2

Martin Luther said, "Nothing on earth is so well suited to make the sad merry, the merry sad, to give courage to the despairing, to make the proud humble, to lessen envy and hate, as music." Everyone enjoys good music, and we certainly are blest here at SOTB. Not only do the SOTB musicians have outstanding talent; they also have wonderful giving hearts.

It has been a fantastic year. The Sanctuary Choir continues to sing every Sunday throughout the year (Kleinen Chor on Bach Sunday) and the Handbell Choir plays once a month. The Worship Team also sings and plays every Sunday for the Praise Service. The music at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church expresses many styles: traditional hymns, contemporary gospel songs, sacred classics, and a wonderful Sunday of Bach (Many thanks to Judy Jackson). Thank you to Judy and Carl Jackson for those beautiful piano duets. Thank you also to Naomi Rowley for the excellent organ music every week.

It takes many people to make SOTB's music run smoothly for every single service. Please thank these people for their commitment to the Music Ministry in 2013:

Judy Jackson, Naomi Rowley, Carole Bergner, Ann Birnschein, Cheryl Becht, Challoner Brown, Sharon Cobb, Donna Henning, Carolyn Hitzeman, Myrma Howard, Donna Hupe, Roberta Kutlik, Helen Molzahn, Tom Vaaler, Cathy Mangan, Jan Mielke, Gloria Serkland, Jan Stromen, Sandy Synnes, Karen Wilkinson, Pat Skogsbakken, Sue Provo, Gail Prine, Jeanne Aurelius, Claire Baack, Jeanne Aurelius, Sue Daubner Mary Fales, Gen Follingstad, Vernamae Juel, Eloise Lindem, Barb MacDonald, Judi Nelson, Mary Perdue, Shirley Rosenquist, Sigrid Ostrem, Carol Weber, Robin Burchart, Juan Casanas, George Cobb, Dennis Fales, Ken Issel, Carl Jackson, Luanne Western, Carol Weymier, Ken Bergner, Bill Henning, Scott Henry, Bryan Follingstad, Erv Hitzeman, Jim Nelson, Gene Prine, Gordon Rowley, John Skogsbakken, Doug Peterson, Frank Weber, Keith Wickert, Christine Bridenhagen, Alicia Doudna, Cathy Henry, Barbara Gould, Cheryl Boock, Grace and Cinnamon Rossman, Valerie, Isabelle, Matthew, Sarah, and Logan Austgen, Evan and Elizabeth Henry, Ava Hitzeman, Rachel, Krista, Kayla Follinstad, Gabbie Lettie, Mike, Mikey and Nick Davis, Myron and Pat Marlett, Peter Buress, Terri and Lori Everson, Liz and Catherine Taylor, Olivia Potter, The Shepherd Boys, Desiree Hassler, Pamela Williams, John Concepcion, Dan Grantham with Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy Band, Eric Suter, Marilyn Kaiser, the Weymier Family Handbell Choir, Peter Wickert, Eric and Ellen Olson, Marilyn Macdonald, Cindy Ackerman, and all the visitors who are welcome to sing with us anytime. If I've forgotten anyone, please forgive me. I am truly grateful for all who use their talents to the glory of God at SOTB. Thank you to over 200 people. Praise the Lord. Thank you also to all who made the Christmas Eve Services so special.

Besides our regular weekly choir schedule, the Sanctuary Choir presented two concerts at the Meadows in Sister Bay. Thank you to the Kleinen Chor (Judy Jackson plus orchestra :>) on Bach Sunday, and all of you for the worshipful Good Friday Service. You touched many hearts that evening, AND all to the glory of God.

The following concerts were held at our church this year with excellent attendance. Three Lenten Musicales, Naomi Rowley with Lori on cello, Carl and Judy Jackson on two pianos, and the Handbell and Sanctuary Choirs with Anne Saint Henry as reader, Lyric Opera personnel, Desiree Hassle, Pamela Williams, John Concepcion, and Judy Jackson, Organist Eric Suter, and Organist Marilyn Kaiser, Two Pianos - a benefit concert for Scandia-Good Samaritan - with Judy and Carl Jackson,

and a "Pops" Concert with Naomi Rowley, Organist. Thank you to the Performing Arts Committee for all your work in planning these concerts and the wonderful receptions. This is a wonderful outreach to our community.

Thank you to the PMF for the use of the Steinway Concert Grand piano throughout the year. Thank you also to Peter Nehlsen for the use of the Baldwin Concert Grand piano in the fall. A special thank you to Peter Nehlsen and Gary Doudna for keeping all the instruments we use in wonderful condition. We are very fortunate to have these instruments at our church.

I wish to thank Shepherd of the Bay for giving me the opportunity to serve the Lord with music. It has been a real joy to work and worship here since 1992 (21+ years). I ask for your prayers so I can, "Walk worthy of the vocation to which I am called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love." Eph. 4: 1-2

Respectfully submitted,  
Gladys Austgen, Minister of Music  
Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

## **WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE**

### **Annual Report 2013**

Working with Pastor Foster, Director of Music Gladys Austgen, music staff, individuals representing the Altar Guild, flower arrangements, and other aspects of our worship life, the Worship and Music Committee oversees and plans aspects of our worship services throughout the year. Building upon established traditions of this parish the WMC encourages ways for maintaining the vitality of our worship experience by staying informed about current trends and thinking about worship and by implementing refinements into our worship life throughout the seasons of the Church Year.

We benefit greatly from the dedication and talents of many individuals. This year we especially thank Jackie Hoekstra and Mary Lou St. Henry, who for years ensured that the chancel was appropriately adorned with floral arrangements throughout the year. In addition to coordinating the weekly floral arrangements donated by many of our parishioners, they also went the extra mile to highlight each of the three major festivals of the Church Year: poinsettias for Christmas, lilies and spring flowers for Easter including the floral cross decorated by the children, and red geraniums for Pentecost. We will miss their quiet, unassuming, yet unflaggingly loyal service. The WMC wishes them well as they now wish to pass the baton to others who can provide this service to our parish. Presently, volunteers are being sought to succeed Jackie and Mary Lou.

The WMC also thanks Carol Omernick, who, as she assumed full duties as church secretary, coped splendidly with transferring previous digital files for service bulletins to different software, making all the necessary and appropriate adjustments in layout, resulting in a smooth transition of this work into the church office. Thank you, Carol! Others contributed greatly to our worship experience through their musical leadership: Gladys Austgen, Naomi Rowley, Judy Jackson, the sanctuary choir, handbell ringers, and praise team. Carl Jackson at the audio controls monitored the system during services and formatted the sound recordings (CDs) for distribution to others. Sharon Pluff oversaw altar preparations and coordinated ushers. Don Howard hung banners. Keith Wickert scheduled readers.

The Performing Artists Subcommittee annually plans outreach to the community through special musical events. Highlights of 2013 included three Lenten Musicales presented by musicians of our parish; a concert on Memorial Day weekend by singers from the Lyric Opera Chorus, who also appeared as soloists in J. S. Bach's Cantata No. 184 ("Desired Light of Joy") as part of morning worship; concerts by guest organists Marilyn Keiser and Erik Wm. Suter, who also served as organist for a morning worship service; Judy and Carl Jackson's annual two-piano benefit concert; and Naomi Rowley's pipe organ "pops" concert. Kudos to the many individuals who prepared and served the receptions following many concerts.

The committee wishes to thank Judi Nelson for representing us to the Council. Members of the WMC include Pastor Foster, Gladys Austgen, Scott Henry, Jackie Hoekstra, Carl and Judy Jackson, Jim Nelson, Marilyn Peterson, Sharon Pluff, Naomi Rowley, Mary Lou St. Henry, and Karen Wilkinson (secretary). The Performing Artists Subcommittee includes the following individuals: Gladys Austgen, Alysanne & Dave Burkhardt, Gen Follingstad, Erv Hitzeman, Judy and Carl Jackson, and Gordon and Naomi Rowley.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon Rowley, chairperson

# Women of the ELCA 2013

## **Purpose and Commitment**

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit; the purpose of the women of the ELCA is to:

- a. Commit ourselves to grow in faith
- b. Affirm our gifts
- c. Support one another in callings
- d. Engage in ministry and action
- e. Promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world.

To accomplish the purpose of Women of the ELCA, women at SOTB commit themselves to:

- a. Come together for study, support, and action
- b. Participate in the ministry of Women of the ELCA beyond the congregation.
- c. Support financially the total program of the Women of the ELCA; and
- d. Designate leadership that shall be in communication with the synodical and church wide women's organization.

## **Our Commitments, Actions, and Support for 2013:**

### **OPTION AUCTION –Money for Missions**

Following the Annual Congregational Meeting in 2013, we had a little twist on the traditional cake auction. We had an **Option Auction** where not only cakes and goodies were provided by the men of the congregation, but also various talents/services or beautifully hand crafted items were offered for auction. Over 41 items were donated, raising \$3,370.00 plus \$500.00 from Thrivent for local and worldwide mission. Thank you to Ruth Kopitzke and Ronnie Robinson for organizing a very successful and fun event.

Four **GENERAL MEETINGS** were held:

With a focus on mission, our ***February*** meeting, coordinated by Carol Williams, was a potluck at noon and a program presented by Jessica Adams from **HELP of Door County**.

In ***May*** we celebrated **May Day**. We invited women from other churches in Door County for a potluck lunch and a fun program hearing about many traditions of May baskets and May Day festivities. Thank you to Kathy Luther, Cheri Boock, and Celeste Defenbaugh for an entertaining afternoon.

In ***September*** we met at 6 pm for a potluck dinner and mission program. After a delicious potluck, we had a mission program presented by Bob Landek. After working for over 30 years as a EMT, Bob retired and began volunteering on several medical missionary trips. He shared not only his experiences as a medical missionary, but provided us information on how we too can volunteer in mission.

**God's Creative Gifts** was our theme for the Christmas luncheon. Over 85 women gathered on a sunny cold ***December*** afternoon for a wonderful catered lunch of ham and meatballs with all the trimmings. After lunch we all went in the sanctuary to watch and learn as Kari Anderson demonstrated painting in watercolor and teaching us some of her tips on creating beautiful watercolor paintings. Thank you to Sue Daubner, Janet Stromen, and Cathy Mangan for a wonderful event.

**Study and Learn** – Two Bible Study groups meet. One group led by Angela Foster meets weekly and the second study group led by Vernamae Juel meets monthly. The Book Discussion group led by Gretchen Farwell meets monthly.

**SCAND February Birthday Party**. A big thank you Pat Smith and Virginia Henz who organized a great February Birthday celebration at SCAND.

**Mission Projects –Baskets of Promise Personal Care Kits** –During Lent we challenged the congregation to donate towels, soap, combs, nail clippers, and toothbrushes to make 40 Personal Care Kits. Exceeding our goal of 40 kits, over 100 kits were packaged. Thank you to June Nelson and our Wonderful Wednesday youth who wrapped up the kits and to Alicia Kropuenske for delivering them to Lutheran World Relief Warehouse in St Paul. The kits were then shipped to children all over the world.

**Mission Projects-QUILTS** –Every Thursday a team gathers to make quilts. In 2013 we delivered 120 quilts to Appleton for transport, via semi trucks, to LWR Warehouse. Once received in St. Paul, the quilts are shrink wrapped and shipped throughout the world. A number of quilts were also delivered to Social Services in Sturgeon Bay where they are given to children who are entering foster care. Thank you to all those who make quilts and to Bunny Sheahen for chairing the mission projects.

**Sweaters for World Vision** –Over 100 sweaters have been knitted and sent to **World Vision**. Thank you to Bunny Sheahen for coordinating this project and to all the people who knitted sweaters and donated yarn for the projects. The knitting goes on!

**Fall Sale – Proceeds to Mission** -In October the annual bake sale, luncheon, craft, and 3rd World Market sale was held, Our profits from the bake sale, luncheon, and craft sales was \$2,265.95. Thank you to Janet Johnson, Cheri Boock, Marilyn Stone, Judy Robison, Pat Skogsbakken, Cindy Schaulis & Suzi Hass for coordinating this annual event.

**Fall Retreat** –Our annual retreat was held at Bjorklunden. Yelone Clague led the study on ***Making A Difference***. Ms Clague lives in Door County and is an inspirational speaker. Throughout the day we learned, we shared, and we grew together. At the end of our day, we had communion served by Pastor Foster. We also took an offering to buy personal items for **HELP of Door County**. Over \$120 was collected. Gas cards, diapers, soaps, and baby wipes were purchased and delivered to HELP. Thank you to Sharon Donegan for again this year planning an inspirational retreat.

**Service Group** - Over 50 meals have been served to members of the congregation who have been either in the hospital or suffered a death in their family. Thank you to the coordinators who organize the meals and to our chairperson, Barb MacDonald .

**Rose Committee** –Roses were presented to 12 WELCA women who celebrated a 90 plus birthday. Thank you Ronnie Robinson for coordinating the list and to Pat Skogsbakken who presents the roses.

**Social 6** – This is the second year of Social 6. Social 6 is open to everyone at SOTB. Groups of 6 meet for fellowship and fun each month and every 3 months new groups are organized. Thank you to Carol Weber and Cheri Boock for coordinating the groups.

**Prayer Chain** –When prayer requests are made members are notified either by phone or email. Angela Foster sends emails and Cheri Boock or Bonnie Hanson sends out a robo call.

**Cookbooks, Dishcloths and Penny Jar** –Our sale of cookbooks and dishcloths continues. Proceeds from sales go into our general mission budget. ***The Penny Jar*** is on the serving table during coffee hour with all proceeds going to the **Koinonia Kupboard** (food pantry in Northern Door.)

**MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2013** – The following people and organizations received donations for the year of 2013. (Please see the Treasurers Report for exact dollar amounts.)

**DOOR COUNTY**

- Esdras & Karen Krebsky Latin America
- SCANDIA Capital Campaign
- HELP of Door County
- Ministry Fund Door County Memorial Hospital
- Shepherd of the Bay Parish Nurse Program
- Koinonia Kupboard
- Feed and Clothe My People

**WISCONSIN**

- Phetsamone Vannanong, Lao Ministry in Milwaukee
- Reformation Lutheran Church, Milwaukee

**INTERNATIONAL DONATIONS**

- Word Made Flesh
- Lutheran World Relief
- Lutheran World Relief Comfort Fund (shipping of quilts)
- Selian Lutheran Hospital, Tanzania
- Good Samaritan Society Project for women & children, Columbia

**Thank you** to all the ***WELCA Executive Board*** members and to committee chairs who planned and organized the many events and studies throughout the year.

Carole Bergner – President

Sharon Donegan - 1st VP

Cheri Boock - 2nd VP

Carol Weber - Secretary

Cathy Mangan - Treasurer.

*Carole Bergner, WELCA President*



**SHEPHERD OF THE BAY LUTHERAN WOMEN of the ELCA  
MISSIONARY SUPPORT AND MISSION DONATIONS**

January 1 through December 31, 2013

**MISSIONARIES**

Esdras & Karen Krebsky	Latin American Missions	<u>\$1,200.00</u>	
	Total Missionary Support		\$1,200.00

**MISSION DONATIONS**

**DOOR COUNTY DONATIONS**

Scandia Good Samaritan Capital Fund Drive	500.00	
Help of Door County	500.00	
Ministry Fund, Door County Memorial Hospital	250.00	
Shepherd of the Bay Parish Nurse Program	250.00	
Koinonia Kupboard	350.00	
Feed My People	<u>150.00</u>	
Total Door County Donations		\$2000.00

**WISCONSIN DONATIONS**

Phetsamone Vannanong, Lao Ministry in Milwaukee	300.00	
Reformation Lutheran Church, Milwaukee	<u>400.00</u>	
Total Wisconsin Donations		\$700.00

**INTERNATIONAL DONATIONS**

Lutheran World Relief	500.00	
Lutheran World Relief comfort Fund (shipping of quilts)	500.00	
Selian Lutheran Hospital, Tanzania	400.00	
Good Samaritan Society Pro. for Women & Children, Columbia	250.00	
Word Made Flesh	<u>500.00</u>	
Total International Donations		<u>2150.00</u>

**TOTAL SUPPORT & DONATIONS                    \$6050.00**

**Net Worth - Women of the ELCA As of 12/31/13**

Cash & Bank Accounts		
Checking	\$1340.35	
ELCA Mission Investment Fund	2867.08	
Savings	<u>412.81</u>	
Total		\$4620.24

## Church Library Annual Report

Our church library collection includes 1697 titles in the form of books, videos, audio tapes, CD's and DVD's. This includes materials for all ages and on many topics of interest.

Again the summer reading program was held in conjunction with Wonderful Wednesdays for children in preschool through grade six. About 28 children checked out books and read for information and enjoyment under the supervision of Cynthia Drey.

We invite church members and friends to browse the library shelves in the Fellowship Hall for materials to meet their needs. We continually add new items purchased from our budget or received as donations. We thank those who have donated materials during the year.

The library is maintained by the following committee members:

Sharon Cobb  
Phyllis Fitzgerald  
Angela Foster  
Donna Hupe  
Ronnie Robinson

## Building and Grounds Annual Report

We are all very grateful to Linda and Dwight Davis for their efforts and determination with the SOTB Garden Club. They and a number of volunteers made great progress on the church grounds during their work days this summer and fall. Thanks to Linda, Dwight and all the volunteers for their gifts of labor and materials. Thanks also to spring cleanup crew, Don Provo for our lawn care and to John Fitzgerald for plowing the parking lot and driveway.

We are still looking into the feasibility of switching outdoor lighting to more efficient LED lighting. This could reduce electric usage by 1/6th of what we use now. Quantum LED Solutions is also looking at our interior lighting setup, looking at options there too.

Storm windows have been installed on the north windows in the fellowship hall. We are looking at better pricing to do all of the windows in fellowship hall and some in the offices as well. They have helped considerably with the condensation on the north windows in the fellowship hall.

This year Building and Grounds with Worship Committee will be looking into making our worship area more comfortable climate wise, lessening air drafts, better use of fans and keeping temps constant. We want to make our place of worship a comfortable and pleasant place for everyone.

Respectfully submitted:  
Joel Thomas, Chair

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY

Our mission statement remains unchanged “To serve the whole person in Christ with God’s healing love and care”.

Serving as your Health and Wellness Coordinator for the past year has been a truly eye opening and learning process for me. Carole Bergner, Kristen Demarinis, Judy Reninger and Don Pardonner have been my lifeline. I want to acknowledge their professionalism and my gratitude for their help.

Activities and Programs in 2012:

- ☐ As you are aware, Northern Door H&W is now managing the Community Health Information Programs (CHIPs). Carole has been instrumental in developing topics of interest for the programs.
- ☐ The Ephraim Moravian Church sponsors Loaves and Fishes held at Stella Maris, Sister Bay on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Blood pressure screenings are offered of which I participated three times this year.
- ☐ Tai Chi for Health offered by Don and Judy, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Organize a monthly breakfast for participants in the program.
- ☐ Kristen monitors the First Aid Cabinet and the Defibrillator for cardiac emergencies on a weekly basis. Both are located in the Narthex and marked.
- ☐ Assist in planning and assisting at the YMCA Health Fair in Northern Door. Kristen took blood pressures at the Health Fair in Sturgeon Bay, this Fall.
- ☐ Blood pressure checks on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month as well as on Thursday mornings between 9 and noon.
- ☐ Maintain the library in the H&W office as well as bulletins of upcoming events related to health and wellness in the Narthex.
- ☐ The Moms and Babes program is managed by Kristen as well as planning celebrations of baptisms.
- ☐ Follow up with Northern Door Y regarding the Wisdom Wednesday programs as well bulletin regarding the CHIPs program.
- ☐ Continued support of Northern Door Adult Day Services (a.k.a. The Open Door) and attending meetings on a monthly basis.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Johnson, RN, BSN

## PARISH NURSE

The last two plus years have flown by in the blink of my eye. I wonder if you have that same feeling. Yes, this position does keep me busy and on my toes in an attempt in keeping up with the many changes in healthcare. However, it is a good challenge.

Again, I have made over 400 contacts whether being telephone calls, home visits, nursing home visits or assisted living visits. I have researched, in an effort to connect parishioners with available resources in Door County such as, Social Services, Aging and Disability Resource Center and Neighbor to Neighbor. The H&W/Parish Nurse office library has continued to grow with updated resources due to many of your contributions. Providing weekly Health Notes in the bulletin has been fun and I enjoy your comments. Attending Council Meetings has helped me understand what effort it takes to coordinate the working of this wonderful parish.

In addition, I continue to participate in the Parish Nurse Network of Door County by attending meetings held every three months, sending caring cards for those who are ill either at home or hospitalized or during times of sadness due to the death of a family member. In addition, I reach beyond the Shepherd of the Bay at times sending cards to community members. Again, I appreciate all of our volunteer drivers. It is nice to know that one or two of our 14 drivers will be able to provide transportation even if on short notice.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Johnson, RN, BS

## CARING SHEPHERDS



Be shepherds of God's flock...

1 Peter 5:2a

SHEPHERD OF THE BAY is fortunate to have so many caring members in our congregation. Fourteen of our members have dedicated some of their time to participating in the **CARING SHEPHERDS** Program. These Shepherds regularly offer to extend a connection to the members of our congregation who cannot attend church services on a regular basis. These Shepherds currently are serving over twenty of our members with phone calls and visits – taking church bulletins and DVD's to them and offering their caring fellowship.

This is the fourth year of the **CARING SHEPHERDS** Program that is overseen by a **CARING SHEPHERDS COMMITTEE**. The members of this committee are: David and Cheri Boock, Cathy Johnson, Cliff Darken, Keith Wickert. This committee meets once a month to update the current needs of church members who need this service. The **CARING SHEPHERDS COMMITTEE** would like to thank all of the members who have served over these four years as a **CARING SHEPHERD**.

The **CARING SHEPHERDS** Program continues with the project of making free DVD recordings of the first service available to members along with free DVD Players that can be checked out free for member use. The committee sends an average of three DVD's a week to members who are out of state for long periods of time. This project has been appreciated by those who have used this outreach of our church and we thank our committee members for the work they have done to make this project possible.

Cheri Boock – **CARING SHEPHERDS** COMMITTEE

## SOCIAL SIX ANNUAL REPORT

SOCIAL SIX began as an idea presented by Carol Weber to a WELCA Board Meeting. The WELCA Board liked the idea and it was presented to the Church Council for their approval. Carol Weber and Cheri Boock worked out the details and the first SOCIAL SIX began in June. Members signed up to participate and random drawings were made to compose groups of six who would meet once a month for three months with the main goal of getting know each other better. The only requirement is that the meeting center around any type of meal and activities could be included. The first SOCIAL SIX (June, July and August) included ten groups made up of 60 members. The second grouping (September, October and November) included four groups made up of 24 members.



The comments that followed were very positive. There were many requests for a Winter SOCIAL SIX which is being planned for the months of February, March, April and May in 2013. It was a great start to a fun congregational event.

## **Stephen Ministry Annual Report 2013**

Stephen Ministers donated countless hours in formal and informal relationships throughout the congregation and community this past year. We have 15 active ministers in this congregation and one outreach minister at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Juddville.

During the summer of 2012, the Stephen Team issued a call for dedicated men and women interested in becoming Stephen Ministers. 8 committed individuals answered that call and a new class of candidates was initiated in January of 2013. Those individuals completed the required 52 hours of training and on June 2, were commissioned as Stephen Ministers. They are currently serving the congregation.

Stephen Ministers are available after church services for prayer or just private words. If you know someone that would benefit from a visit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Barbara MacDonald, Referral Coordinator or Pastor Foster.

Your continued support and prayers for the journey of Stephen Ministers and care receivers are greatly appreciated!

Submitted for Stephen Ministry by

George S. Cobb  
Stephen Leader

1/3/14

## SHEPHERD OF THE BAY CHURCH REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP

	BAPTIZED	CONFIRMED	
A. MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2012	774	637	
B. Members received by:			
Baptism	4	0	
Affirmation of Faith	12	12	Transfer
2	2		
Confirmation	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	
	20	19	
Sub Total	794	656	
C. Members removed by:			
Death	13	13	Transfer
6	6		
Statistical Adjustment	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	
	44	44	
D. MEMBERSHIP: DECEMBER 31, 2013	750	612	

### WORSHIP LIFE OF SHEPHERD OF THE BAY LUTHERAN

Sunday Worship Services = 101

Holy Communion Services = 73 Sunday + 22 Saturday

Other Services = 12

Average Weekend Worship Attendance = 279

Saturday Worship Services = 22

Average Weekend Attendance:

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
306	296	302	319	289	301	304	326	295	285	279

### STATISTICAL REPORT FOR SHEPHERD OF THE BAY LUTHERAN

Baptized members:

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
726	743	760	780	807	815	819	832	798	774	750

Confirmed members:

587	599	615	631	658	664	667	673	657	637	612
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### PASTORAL ACTS FOR 2013

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Baptisms	4	1
Confirmation	9	1
Weddings	1	3
Funerals	12	1







## **Shepherd of the Bay - Benevolence & Outreach Payments**

# Audit Report

