

Good Shepherd Lutheran School

Newsletter for Families & Friends



Our mission is to provide a Christ-centered environment in which we guide our children socially, spiritually, intellectually, and physically.

ISSUE # 87

JANUARY 2015

JANUARY CALENDAR:

Jan 5: School Re-sumes—welcome back

Jan 12 & 13: Open House 9:15 - 2:45

Jan 19: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day observed
NO SCHOOL

Jan 29 - Feb 2: Book Fair by Scholastic

Jan 29: Parent/Teacher Conferences (no 2am Nursery)

Jan 30: Parent/Teacher Conferences
NO SCHOOL

January Bible Verse:

God says:

"Call to me and I will answer you." Jeremiah 33:3



From the Director..... Judy R. Hinsch

Welcome back to school! I hope all of our families had a joyful and blessed Christmas together with friends and loved ones.

The new year is often a time for making resolutions about things we would like to do differently or change about ourselves. How about one that can be worked on as a family, beginning in the home?

The following is taken from the January 2009 issue of The Lutheran.

BE IT RESOLVED.....

1. Be intentional about letting others know you value them.
2. Act respectfully. Respect is something done as opposed to possessed.
3. Be attentive. Respect begins with listening well, not planning what you'll say next.
4. Surprise people with your politeness. It might be contagious.
5. Breathe. Exercise patience and calm in tense situations.
6. Confront biases. Recognize and eliminate biases that inhibit your ability to give respect.
7. Model respect for the children in your life by how you treat others—the salesclerk, the person who cuts you off in traffic. Kids are watching (and listening to) you.
8. Introduce children (and yourself) to different people, experiences.
Watch for ways to broaden their worldview.
9. Practice respect and reverence for all creatures and creation.
10. Lead with grace. Forgive often, speak and show love abundantly.

Be sure to read the New Year's Prayer on the next page. It is a favorite of mine and a reminder that as we face things beyond our control, God is there to give us what we need, guiding, sustaining, and comforting us. Wishing you a year filled with peace, love, and joy!

Chapel Corner.....

During the month of January our tradition has been to support The New Life Center of Lutheran Social Services of New York by donating our chapel offerings and also collecting NEW warm hats, mittens, and gloves. Once again this will be our focus. We will have a box in the hallway for your donations.

It is a joy for me to see your children in chapel as they capture what it means to give of our blessings to those who struggle with the challenges of poverty, disease, and natural disasters. We hope this will create a life-long sensitivity to what it means to be a Christian in the world in which we live. Please engage your children at home; they will probably be able to tell you where the chapel offerings are going, or have gone in previous months. Invite your child to remember this during their bedtime prayers.



Good Shepherd Lutheran School Memberships:
Lutheran Schools Association (Metro New York)
Evangelical Lutheran Education Association
Licensed by the Office of Children & Family
Services of NY State & Registered Non-Public Pre
School New York State Department of Education.



A New Years Prayer

May God make your year
a happy one!

Not by shielding you from
all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you
to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path
easy,

But by making you sturdy
to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships
from you,

But by taking fear from
your heart;

Not by granting you
unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face
bright, even in the shadows;

Not by making your life
always pleasant,

But by showing you when
people and their causes need
you most,

and by making you anx-
ious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and
joy to you for the year
ahead.

Anonymous

Busy days at Good Shepherd Church & School!

December was a busy month with lots of activities! Many of our parents volunteered their time and talents to make all the extra-special events happen for the children. We are grateful!

Special thanks to our administrative assistant **Adrienne Aldorisio** for her office assistance.



Advent Wreath Making & Christmas Tree Lighting: December 2 was a big day: Many families gathered in the gym at 9am to make an Advent wreath for their home. Thanks to **Kevin Ocker** for providing the greens. At 5 pm, with perfect weather, over 300 people came together to sing and light the community Christmas Tree. Thanks to all the children who sang, the parents who contributed baked goods, the members and friends of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church who assisted in a myriad of ways.



Little Elves Christmas Shop: **JEAN DELUCA** coordinated this shopping event for the children which included selecting and ordering the products, arranging for delivery and pick-up, completing spreadsheets of inventory, etc. Thanks to the many elves required to make it run efficiently, and assist the children with their shopping: **Dawn Block, Stephanie Brienza, Alison Carey, Cynthia Dolan, Lorraine O'Dea, Eileen Patlias, Stephanie Seminario, Christine Viscone.**



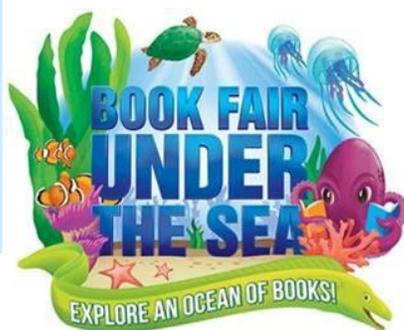
Santa Letters: **Stephanie Brienza, Christine Cardarelli, Joan Dais, Christine Denis, Sue DeVerna, Lauren Grams, Anna Miriello, Jenny Orfanos, Kristen Rossol, Jennifer Stoddart, Courtney Wedlock, Danielle Zimmermann** helped Santa write and deliver all the responses to the children's letters ~ thanks!

Santa Himself: Thanks to church member **BOB RICKMEYER** for once again being willing to provide this fun experience for the children. We hope your children treasure their Arch Book Christmas stories.

Classroom Assistants for Staff Christmas Gathering: Thanks to our parent "angels" who supervised the lunch hour for our full day classes so the staff could experience one of 4 times during the year ALL 24 of us can be together! Thank you parents: **Jennifer Berger, Kathi Driscoll, Lauren Grams, Ana Martinez, Maureen Park, Eileen Patlias, Stephanie Seminario.** In addition, **Jenn & Jessica Curran, Samantha & Emily Strack** (staff daughters) and **Rebecca Hinsch** (niece of Mrs. Hinsch) helped us out. We appreciate the gift of your time!

"Angel, Angel What Do You See?" Advent Liturgies: Attendance was nearly 100% with almost all of our children attending. Thank you children.....you shared the story in the stable so beautifully! They worked so hard on learning many songs and two poems in a few short weeks...ALSO: a huge round of applause to our teachers and their assistants for their patience and enthusiasm with so much else going on at this time of year. Thanks also to our church and school board members who ushered, to **Teresa Ratkowski** our pianist, and to **Pastor Olsen** for his participation in the service and shar-

The Scholastic Book Fair is Coming!



Shopping Dates:

January 29 - February 2

Shop when you come for class or your child's Parent/Teacher Conference.

Top participating class wins special treat!



OPEN HOUSE!

Spread the word to friends and family who may be looking for a preschool for their child.



Openings for the 2015-2016 school are filling up, with some classes already filled to capacity.

**Monday & Tuesday
January 12 & 13, 2015
9:15 am - 2:45 pm**

Reminder to all parents registered for next year: tuition rates will be set in February and you will then be asked to select a payment plan. Current year tuition must be completed by March 1 before payment for next year can begin on May 1.

On Wednesday, January 7, during the school day, our full day children will have a FREE 15 minute soccer clinic [10 children at a time] to introduce them to the sport. Following this clinic, we will see if there is enough interest for full day children to participate in an 8 week session on Wednesdays @ 3:00-3:45 pm, beginning January 21. Cost: \$165 [Extended Care would not be billed for this class time]

If your child attends a morning program or does not attend on Wednesdays, they are still welcome to participate should we decide to run the after-school program. Let us know!



REMINDER:

School is Closed

**MONDAY
JANUARY 19**

for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

and

**THURSDAY
JANUARY 29**

(Nursery 2am only)
&

**FRIDAY
JANUARY 30**

(all classes) for
**Parent
Teacher
Conferences**

COMING IN JANUARY ~ STAY TUNED!

1. Winter Enrichment Registration for half-day children
2. Winter Break Vacation Care Registration (February 17, 18, 19, 20)
3. Details on how you can help with the Book Fair and Valentine's Dance
4. Donation box in hallway for our Hat, Mitten, & Gloves collection
5. Did you register yet for the 2015/2016 school year? Our next Open House is in January and some classes are filled or getting close to capacity. Don't miss out!

Mark Your Calendar!

Valentine's Dance - Friday, February 6

