



# The Tidings

January 2014

## Ministerial Moments

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Wow! Another new year! At the time I am writing this, Ron, Hope and I just got back from seeing Nathan's first Christmas program at Marissa elementary. The teachers and children did a really good job. Four of our families took part in the Advent readings this year and the children sang for us on Dec. 22. It's nice to see a group of children taking part in Sunday School and the Children's messages again.

Now we are in a time of newness. By the time you get this, the days will already be starting to get longer. The annual meeting is coming and we will have to make choices. We may have to do some things differently. Last year when I was on Sabbatical a number of you took part in the services as Lay Readers. I am going to have a list out starting January 5 for you to sign up, if you would like to lead the church in the Call to Worship and Invocation. When the attendance sheet goes around at Annual Meeting I am also going to ask that you put a 'k' by your name if you have keys. I am usually surprised when I find out someone does NOT have keys, so I think it is time we find out who does have them in-case locks would ever need to be changed.

Starting Dec. 22, I had Lori put slips of paper in your bulletins to write your prayers for the church or community, or your promises or pledges for the church in the New Year.

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## 2014 Annual Meeting Sunday, January 19th

### Annual Meeting is Sunday January 19th.

We will enjoy a potluck dinner after church service and then begin our meeting.

**All organizations should have all reports to Lori by January 5.** No reports will be accepted after this date. You can email them to [loriselman@gmail.com](mailto:loriselman@gmail.com).

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

## Poinsettias - In Memory and Honor List

In Memory of In Honor of	CLYDE FAUTH FAUTH FAMILY	from John & Janet Fauth
In Memory of	ART & JULIETTA BOTTIAUX	from Julie Imes
In Memory of	GORDON & MARY WALKER ART & MILDRED CROMER EUGENE BARBEE	from Dave & Nancy Barbee
In Memory of	MR. & MRS. ALBERT PFLASTERER KEVIN TOD CAMPBELL	from Mike & Peggy Dierks
In Memory of	HULDA KARSTEN ARLOU FRISCH	from Leroy & Marlene Vogel Karsten
In Memory of	NORMAN & ELAINE KINZEL	from Kevin McDonald
In Memory of	TOD CAMPBELL-Brother BEANIE & EDNA PFLASTERER-Grandparents LORINE ORTH-Great Aunt	from Tim Campbell
In Memory of In Honor of	SHANNON CATHCART RYAN, CRYSTAL CATHCART NOLAN AND ASHLYN CATHCART	from Gary & Susie Stewart
In Memory of	NICHOLAS NOVAKOU STEPHEN NOVAKOU	from Dale & Sharon Reese
In Memory of	KEN LEHMAN	from Lorrie Lehman
In Memory of In Honor of	HARRY SR. & SELMA HOLCOMB HARRY HOLCOMB JR. TODD, ERIK JACOB & LAUREN COWELL TROY, CINDY & ETHAN COWELL	from Dave & Pete Dressel
In Memory of In Honor of	DONALD L & ELEANER C EICHENBERGER JOHN G & BERNICE A GEISEL NATHAN & SKYLER GOODMAN	from Ronald & Gail Geisel
In Memory of	WILLARD & ELSIE MATZENBACHER ALVIN & HELEN PATTON	from Larry & Kathy Matzenbacher

In Memory of	JOHN MERCER ROBERT MERCER	from Carol Mercer
In Memory of	ALL OF OUR LOVED ONES	from Charles & Janice Schmidt
In Memory of	ALBERT & EDYTHE WAELTZ	from Duane Waeltz
In Memory of	WEILMUNSTER'S HEIL'S COX'S	from Paul Weilmunster
In Memory of	LOU CAMDEN JOE GISCHER	From Bernice Camden
In Memory of	FRED & WANDA GISCHER BILL & SANDRA GISCHER	From Brenda Holcomb

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## Greeters and Ushers for January and February

### JANUARY

Jan. 5 & 12: Leroy & Marlene Karsten, Sandy Smith

Jan. 19 & 26: Eloise Fauth, John & Janet Fauth

### FEBRUARY

Feb. 2 & 9: Bob & Imogene Lehman, Gary & Susie Stewart

Feb. 16: David Keim, Mandi Schmierbach & Family

Feb. 23: Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Mayfield

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## Birthdays

Gary Stewart	3
Robert Schmidt	5
Terry Jenkins	10
Lindsay Lehman	10
David B. Schneidewind	11
Marilyn Wine	12
Judy Heil	14
Evelyn Schneidewind	15
Eloise Fauth	19
Dale Sinn	21
Dennis Sinn	28
Matthew Lewis	30
Charles Schmidt	30

## January Birthdays and Anniversaries



## Anniversaries

Gary & Susie Stewart	1
Ken & Joyce Fitch	14

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## Ministerial Moments Continued from Page 4

I will include those either in my annual report or in next month's Tidings. I usually do not write out resolutions because the length of time I keep them does not last very long. Instead, I write goals with the idea that when I look at the goals the following year I can see how far I came.

If we have a goal, we may not reach that goal, but with no goal, we tend to go nowhere. Or as Rodgers and Hammerstein once wrote, "You got to have a dream. If you don't have a dream; then how you gonna have a dream come true?" (Happy Talk from South Pacific) It is time to begin dreaming again and trying new things.

I am also going to have someone who has been participating in the church renewal program of the conference come and talk to us; whether it will be to council, spiritual council, or during a worship service I don't know yet, but be looking for it. If we can decide on a specific mission and apply, we may be able to receive a grant.

Along that line, I have just heard of a new "light" in Marissa. Katie Schmierbach, Blanche and Milton's granddaughter, has started an organization she calls Katie Cares. From what she and Jeanne have told me, they are primarily working with the homeless, but they have helped others as well. I am going to invite them to speak at the next meeting of the Ministerial Alliance and see how we might work together. I understand Katie has been working on this for some years, but that it is growing and she will soon apply for non-profit status. She currently works several part-time jobs in addition to taking classes at SWIC to continue this ministry. Blanche and Milton, as well as Jeanne and Merle must be very proud.

I tell you this to show you that sometimes it does not take very much to get a new ministry or mission started. Sometimes we just have to take an idea and run with it.

Many thanks to Larry Matzenbacher and Duane Waeltz for taking Dale to and from St. Louis U Hospital. Thanks to all of you who came and ate at Dale's fund-raiser or played Trivia. Thanks to anyone who has volunteered to spend time with Dale after his transfusion. By the time you get this we should know when his stem cell transplant will start and when we will need people to be with him at Hope Lodge.

Thanks to all those who stayed after Church and put up the Christmas decorations. Most decorations will come down, I think, after the January 5 church service. Thanks to Ron for shoveling snow off the side-walks and Duane for clearing the parking lot. Thanks to all those who helped with the Nominating committee and the Budget committee. If you have not received a copy of the two budget options to be voted on January 19 and would like them, please call the church office and we will get them to you.

Finally, thank you to all who sent Christmas cards or presents.

Blessings,  
Pastor Gail

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# January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 Reports due for Annual Mtg. Epiphany	6 Evangelical Daughters Mtg. 6:00 pm	7	8 Choir 7:30 pm	9	10	11
12 Annual Reports Handed out	13	14 Council Mtg 7:00 pm	15 New Athens Home Worship 2pm Choir 7:30 pm	16	17	18
19 Annual Meeting After Worship, potluck	20	21 Region 8 Mtg @ Trenton 7pm	22 Choir 7:30 pm	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Choir 7:30 pm	30	31	



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