

August 1  
**10th Sunday after Pentecost**  
First Reading  
Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15  
Psalm  
Psalm 78:23-29  
Second Reading  
Ephesians 4:1-16  
Gospel  
John 6:24-35

August 8  
**11th Sunday after Pentecost**  
First Reading  
1 Kings 19:4-8  
Psalm  
Psalm 34:1-8  
Second Reading  
Ephesians 4:25--5:2  
Gospel  
John 6:35, 41-51

August 15  
**12th Sunday after Pentecost**  
First Reading  
Isaiah 21:7-12  
Psalm  
Psalm: 34 1-9  
Second Reading  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Gospel  
Luke 1:46-55

August 22  
**13th Sunday after Pentecost**  
First Reading  
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18  
Psalm  
Psalm 34:15-22  
Second Reading  
Ephesians 6:10-20  
Gospel  
John 6:56-69

August 29th  
**14th Sunday after Pentecost**  
First Reading  
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
Psalm  
Psalm 15  
Second Reading  
James 1:17-27  
Gospel  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

# JERUSALEM JOURNAL

*"As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors locally and globally."*

## PASTOR'S PONDERABLES - August 2021

### REFLECTIONS IN THE WELL

*The Touching Story of a Gypsy's Gift to a Child*

by Ben Wakes

The other morning, as my six year-old daughter was watching me shave, she suddenly asked, "Daddy, where does God *really* live?" "In the well," I answered absentmindedly.

"Oh, Daddy!" Debbie voiced her disgust as such a silly answer.

At breakfast my wife asked, "What's this you've been telling Debbie about God living in a well?"

"In a well!" I frowned. Now why had I told her that?

Then, all at once, a scene came to mind that had been hidden in my memory for 30 years. It had taken place in the small town of Kielce, in southeastern Poland, where I was born. A band of passing gypsies had stopped at the well in our courtyard. I must have been about five years old at the time.

One gypsy in particular, a giant of a man, fascinated me. He had pulled a bucketful of water from the well and was standing there, feet apart, drinking. Some of the water was running down his short-cropped, fiery beard, and his muscular hands held the large wooden pail to his lips as if it weighed no more than a teacup. When he had finished, he took off his multicolored silk scarf and mopped his face with it. Then he leaned over and looked deep into the well. Curious, I tried to pull myself up the well's stone rim to see what he was peering at. The giant noticed me. He smiled and scooped me up in his arms.

"Do you know who lives down there?" he asked. I shook my head. "God lives there," he said. "Look!" And he held me over the edge of the well.

There, in the still, mirror-like water, I saw my own reflection. "But that's *me!*"

"Ah," said the gypsy, gently setting me down. "Now you know where God lives."

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Bonnie M. Oplinger*

# FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

**Roger L. Kurtz**

As we anticipate the month of August, it seems appropriate to discuss the background of a hymn initially inspired by summer weather – “How Great Thou Art,” found on page 856 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. From a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Swedish poet to a 20<sup>th</sup>-century American singing cowboy, the story involves an improbable international cast of characters coming together like pieces of a puzzle to produce one of the most popular and beloved Christian hymns of all time.

Carl Boberg, a Swedish author and editor who later served as a member of the Swedish Parliament from 1912 to 1931, penned the original words 136 years ago. Boberg wrote the following concerning the circumstances surrounding his 9-stanza poem: *It was in 1885, and in the time of year when everything seemed to be in its richest coloring; the birds were singing in trees and wherever they could find a perch. On a particular afternoon, some friends and I had been to Kronobäck where we had participated in an afternoon service. As we were returning a thunderstorm began to appear on the horizon. We hurried to shelter. There were loud claps of thunder, and the lighting flashed across the sky. Strong winds swept over the meadows and billowing fields of grain. However, the storm was soon over and the clear sky appeared with a beautiful rainbow. After reaching my home, I opened my window toward the sea. The church bells were playing the tune of a hymn. That same evening, I wrote a poem which I titled “O Store Gud” (“O Mighty God”).*

After being published in a local newspaper, an unknown Swede set Boberg’s poem to a Swedish folk song. It remained unknown outside of Sweden until 1907, when Manfred von Glehn translated it into German. Five years later, Ivan Prokhanoff, a Russian pastor, authored a Russian translation of the German text. In the early 1930’s, Stuart Hine, an English missionary serving in the Ukraine, first heard the Russian version of “O Store Gud.” After many years, he finally sat down and made an English translation in 1949 – the “How Great Thou Art” version known to us today. Hine also added two stanzas of his own and adapted the Swedish folk tune to fit his text. The inspiration for his original stanzas involved two separate events: a discussion he and his wife overheard involving a group of Ukrainian Christians praising God for his love and mercy and describing how unbelievable it was that Christ would die for their own sins (see *ELW* #856, stanza 3); and a visit he had with a man being held in an English camp for displaced Russians following World War II. The refugee, who was one of only two Christians in the camp, shared how he and his wife had been separated during the war. Realizing the likelihood of his never seeing her again, he longed for the second coming of Christ and the joyful day both of them would be reunited in heaven (see *ELW* #856, stanza 4).

In 1954, J. Edwin Orr, a Baptist minister and professor at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, travelled to India to preach. While there, he heard an Indian choir sing “How Great Thou Art.” Orr was so impressed by the hymn that he secured a copy and requested it be sung at a conference for college students in California, where he was scheduled to speak. In attendance were the children of Tim Spencer, a singing cowboy and actor who had found fame singing in the Sons of Pioneers alongside Bob Nolan and Roy Rogers. At that time, Spencer owned Manna Music, Inc., a publisher of Christian music. He quickly arranged to buy the rights to the hymn and began a marketing campaign to introduce “How Great Thou Art” to the United States, since it was all but unknown in this country. A copy of the hymn was given to George Beverly Shea, famed soloist in Billy Graham’s travelling crusades. Shea stuck the copy in his pocket, forgetting about it for some time because people often gave him copies of music for his consideration. Later, he examined the hymn and was deeply moved by the powerful words. Shea sang it for the first time at the Toronto Crusade in 1954, however, the 1957 Madison Square Garden Crusade, which ran for 16 weeks and was viewed by an estimated 96 million people on national television, introduced “How Great Thou Art” to America. Shea sang the hymn 99 times during that particular crusade, after which it became his “signature song.”

# August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  9 am Holy Communion	2	3	4  11:30 am Pastors' Support Group	5	6	7
8  9 am Holy Communion	9	10  3 pm Finance Committee Meeting	11  11:30 am Pastors' Support Group	12	13	14
15  9 am Holy Communion  "Newsletter Deadline"	16  5-6 pm Community Meals to Go!	17  7 pm Congregational Council Meeting	18  11:30 am Pastors' Support Group	19	20	21
22  9 am Holy Communion	23	24	25  11:30 am Pastors' Support Group	26	27	28
29  9 am Holy Communion	30	31	1 Pastor Oplinger The Rev. Jeffrey The Rev. Thomas Care. His phone	2 Will be on Pretz will lead Darr will Number is	3 Vacation from Worship Aug 1st. Provide pastoral (717)320-3642	4 July 31-Aug 6th

# AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

## August Birthdays

3 - Jean Slaymaker

15 - Ruby Styer

5 - Lori Kemler

18 - Derek Zimmerman

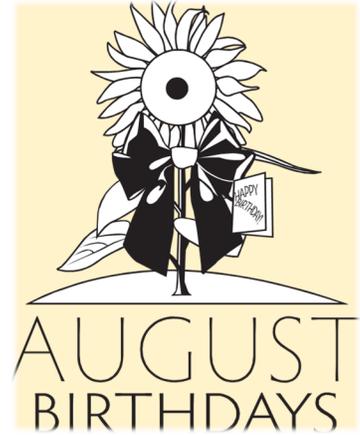
12 - Riley Newbert

19 - Stephen Rutter

14 - Barry Becker

31 - Lillian Logeman

14 - Grant Clubb



## August Wedding Anniversaries

Kala (Stripling) and Casey Wolfe celebrate 10 years on August 5th

Jesse & Robin Volker celebrate 44 years on August 20th

## August Anniversaries of Baptism

Ryan Carson - August 5, 2012

James Wolfe - August 25, 1957

Jeff Schreiber - August 25, 1957

Heather Moser - August 26, 1979

Barry Becker - August 27, 1955



*Best wishes to those celebrating in August. If your special day was missed, please contact Shelby in the church office - (717)626-8972*

Rothsville Community Day 9/18/21

“Now Hiring all Positions” volunteers welcome, inquire now!

Our children’s activities will be modified for the sake of precaution and help provide a safe environment even outdoors.

Please contact either Brad Clubb or Ken Craley for more information or volunteering your time. We will accept any length of time.

Thank you

## ***Stewardship of our leisure time***

*I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun. Ecclesiastes 8:15*

Busy-ness keeps us from living with joy and peace in today's 24/7 world, but Scripture reminds us that this is hardly new. Ecclesiastes was written some 2,500 years ago! Ecclesiastes does not give license for mindless pleasure-seeking, but rather affirms that our hard work should be balanced with time for relaxation and enjoyment with friends and family.

Saints and mystics have long touted the need for rest and renewal. In the monastic tradition it's referred to as *otium sanctum* – Holy Leisure. Not just wasting our free time, but using it for renewal. As steward/disciples, we aim to use our leisure time wisely. Here are some ideas:

**Keep the Sabbath:** God actually *commands* us to stop working one day per week, as Exodus 20:8-11 makes clear. But there is no prohibition against leisure. (Why else would God give us a day off?)

**Plan your vacation:** Even if you're taking a STAYcation, *plan* your time for maximum rest and enjoyment.

**Manage your schedule:** Are you a slave to your appointment book, driven by *other people's* priorities? Put yourself first – scheduling in time for leisure. Even if it's just 30 minutes here and there!

**Find an activity you like:** What do you do just for you? Discover – or REdiscover – what brings you joy, then make time to do it.

**Socialize:** Friends and family make life enjoyable. Spend time with them.

**Invest, don't waste, time:** Many activities pass the time but don't give back much in renewal or refreshment. Choose activities wisely. God expects us to work, but not work ourselves to death. Sabbath and leisure time provide means for us to find balance in our life, as well as friendship, love, renewal and purpose.

*--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2018, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, Maryland, and works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org). He blogs at [www.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com).*

# ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

*YOUTH OF SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH,*

*KISSEL HILL*

*AND*

*YOUTH OF JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH,*

*ROTHSVILLE*



Learn how to “pray with paint.” The ancient art of iconography will be explored and why religious icons have been an important part of Christian history and tradition. All supplies will be provided. **Wear old stainable clothes.**

**FIVE SATURDAYS FROM 9 AM to 12 NOON**

**at**

**JERUSALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*(Commitment to attend all sessions necessary).*

Sept 25      Oct 16

Oct 2        Oct 23 (if needed)

Oct 9

Please contact Pastor Hans Becklin or Pastor Bonnie Oplinger to sign up.

**CHURCH TREASURER** - Beginning 2022, there will be a need for a Treasurer at Jerusalem Ev. Lutheran Church. The church treasurer is responsible for working with a Finance Committee, the development of an annual budget, paying bills, and keeping the debits and credits to the monthly fiscal process. Bookkeeping skills would be important as well as computer literacy and willingness to learn the computer program for the church’s fiscal operations. The current treasurer would be willing to be available until the end of 2021 to help train the new treasurer. Please contact Pastor Oplinger if you are interested in learning more about the ministry of the Church Treasurer. Deadline to apply October 1, 2021.

# PRAYER CONCERNS



Willis Beam, Lynn Beard, Henry Bowman, Jacob Garman, Weston Hertzler, Alma Hollingsworth, Wendy Hoover, Hunter Leisey, Lillian Logeman, James Martin, Lucille Martin, Pastor Royal Olson, Judy Perry, Norma Rhoads, Lisa Riley, Darryl Slaymaker, Gerald Styer, Evelyn Wissler, Doris Witwer, Wyatt Wolfe, Be with Military Personnel, First Responders, Healthcare Workers and the helpers and the residents at Nursing Homes.

## LWR School Kits:

the following items will be collected during

August:

70 sheet spiral bound notebooks

26 or 24 count boxes of crayons

Pencil sharpeners

Blunt scissors

Erasers

## PROPERTY UPDATE:

- Elevator emergency response phone repaired
- Inspection of steeple, bell and slate roof completed... awaiting proposal
- Thanks to Mel Ravegum for installing a new church mailbox.
- Thanks to church neighbor, Bruce Hoover, for trimming bushes and assisting Mel Ravegum with the mailbox installation.
- Insurance Company mandated oil furnace inspection completed
- Annual oil furnace maintenance completed by Weaver Energy

## Next Community Meal: Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> • 5-6:00pm

We will provide a bagged take-out meal for our guests. We anticipate needing 6-8 people to assemble the bags and to distribute them.

Masks will be worn and social distancing will be observed.

Please call Jill (717.665.7987) or Joyce (717.733.9569) if you are willing to help!



## Lititz-Warwick Community Chest Food Bank



### August's Food Bank Suggestions:

- Canned fruit and applesauce
- Helpers (tuna, chicken or hamburger)
- Adult toothbrushes

*Items can be placed in the drop box on the first floor by the elevator - thank you!*

## August 2021 Worship Leaders

	Assisting Minister	Altar Guild	Lector	Ushers	Zoom Monitor
<b>August 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Dave Carson	Emma Miller	Dave Carson	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson	Kathy Schreiber & Jean Slaymaker
<b>August 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Zachary Fetter		Zachary Fetter	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson	Jean Slaymaker
<b>August 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Brenda Fetter	Jean Slaymaker	Brenda Fetter	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson	Zachary Fetter
<b>August 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	J.D. Wissler	Brenda Fetter	J.D. Wissler	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson	Michael Fetter
<b>August 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Dave Carson		Dave Carson	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson	Kathy Schreiber

### **Willis Beam**

Pleasant View Retirement  
Community/Terrace Gardens  
Room 231  
544 N. Penryn Rd.  
Manheim, Pa 17545  
Landline (717)664-6414  
*Birthday: October 7*

### **Lillian Logeman**

Keystone Villa, Room 321  
100 North State Street  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
Landline (717) 738-5821  
Cell (717) 888-0371  
*Birthday: August 31*

### **Norma Rhoads**

2646 Camp Road  
Manheim, Pa 17545  
*Birthday: September 24*

### **Jacob Garman**

United Zion Ret. Community  
722 Furnace Hills Pike,  
Health Center  
Lititz, PA 17543  
*Birthday: April 1*

### **Jim & Lucille Martin**

536 Brookshire Ave.  
Manheim, Pa 17545  
Landline (717)664-4319  
Jim's cell (717)598-8003  
Lucille's cell (717)615-2283  
*Jim's Birthday: Nov. 10*  
*Lucille's Birthday: April 18*

### **Evelyn Wissler**

321 Meadow Valley Road  
Lititz, PA 17543  
*Birthday: April 14*

### **Alma Hollingsworth**

Room 602, Muhlenberg Lodge  
300 St. Mark Drive  
Lititz, PA 17543  
*Birthday: September 21*

### **Lisa Riley**

WSM - 210 Prince St.  
Lancaster, Pa 17603  
*Birthday: Dec. 25*

# Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2021

“As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors locally and globally.”

**Present:** Pastor Oplinger, Rene Amey, Andy & Chrystine Anderson, Joyce Burkholder, Brenda Fetter, Zachary Fetter, Larrie Miller, Florence Morgan, J.D. Wissler

**Absent:** Jim Martin, Mel Ravegum, Jean Slaymaker

**Guests:** None

**Devotions were led by:** Pastor Oplinger – Belonging Before Believing

**Meeting led by:** Rene Amey, Council President

## Recognition:

1. Rene Amey for the flowers she provided on Pentecost and Church picnic and the mustard seed packets.
2. Brenda Fetter for organizing the picnic and the committee: Rene Amey, Andy & Chrystine Anderson, Mike Fetter, Zachary Fetter and Mel Ravegum.
3. Larrie Miller and Mel Ravegum for planting the geraniums.
4. Brian & Joyce Burkholder, Larrie Miller, Mel Ravegum and Jean Slaymaker for putting down the mulch.
5. Jill Clubb for mailing the 30 Health Care Kits.
6. Janet Craley, Jill Clubb, Brenda Fetter, Zachary Fetter and Jean Slaymaker for delivering the door hangers for the community meal.
7. Election volunteers: Andy Anderson, Joyce Burkholder, Jill Clubb, Brenda Fetter, Pastor Oplinger, Mel Ravegum and Jean Slaymaker.
8. Pastor Marissa Becklin for helping Pastor Oplinger set up the Zoom Worship Services.
9. Janet and Ken Craley for doing all the needed items in the church and for delivering altar flowers to the homebound.
10. Janet Craley for ordering the larger wheelchair.

## Reports

### Pastor's Report:

1. Pastor Oplinger shared the criteria for her new office computer.
2. Mr. & Mrs. Arista – next door neighbor's erecting a fence: Discussion took place. J.D. Wissler made a motion for Attorney, John R. Gibbel to prepare an agreement that would be entered into between the Church, the Cemetery Association, and the adjoining owners of the land on which the fence is to be constructed. Florence Morgan seconded and the motion was approved.
3. Pastor Oplinger reported she may be called for Jury duty on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

4. Pastor Oplinger requesting vacation: July 11 through July 16. Pastor Dennis Trout to cover for pastoral care emergencies. Pastor Oplinger will be here for Sunday worship services.
5. Pastor Oplinger wrote a letter to Pastor Lenahan at Zion, Akron regarding Outlook program. His reply was to contact Tracy Lagaza to delete the linkage.
6. Tim Hoffman talked to Shelby Hoover and will re-install all programs.

**Secretary's Report:** Zachary Fetter made a motion to accept the May 17, 2021 Secretary's report as written. J.D. Wissler seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The June 7, 2021 report was distributed to council members for review. Joyce Burkholder made a motion to accept the report subject to audit, and Brenda Fetter seconded. The motion was approved.

**Old Business:**

1. We are still looking for another Treasurer.
2. Pastor Cruz has not responded to our letter of denying him the use of Jerusalem Church.

**New Business:**

1. Pastor Oplinger will be purchasing three new telephones. One for her office, one for the administrator's office and one for the second floor.
2. Rothsville Days – If it takes place, will it be safe to face paint, do spin art, do any crafts with close contact of children? Will discuss at July meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**Sunday School:** Adult Forum will start in the near future.

**Worship and Music:** No Report.

**Memorial:** Chrystine Anderson reported everything is up to date.

**Cemetery:** Florence Morgan will report to Ray Bowman, Tom Smith & Denise Lahr the action to be taken regarding the neighbor's fence.

**Finance:** Larrie Miller reported at next meeting they will be discussing where money is to go.

**Property:** Both bell ropes to be repaired. Property committee will contact a Steeple Jack.

**Service:**

1. Bake Sale Auction netted \$1830.00
2. Community Meal of June 21, 2021 – Forty five prepared meals will be distributed along with 8 bags of groceries.

**Stewardship:** Pastor Oplinger using articles from The Rev. Rob Blezard’s stewardship kit and places them in the newsletter.

**Reminder Dates:** Community Meal 6/21/21

**Next Meeting:** July 20, 2021

**Announcements/Correspondences:**

1. A thank you note for the gift of \$500.00 was received from Love Inc.
2. A correspondence was received from the Grace Point Church of the Nazarene with a message that they are praying for churches. And this Sunday, they will be praying for Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Rothsville.

**Adjournment:** Brenda Fetter made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Florence Morgan seconded and the meeting was adjourned. The meeting closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Brenda Fetter, Council Secretary**

## ADULT FORUM IS BACK

Please join us beginning August 29th in the social hall after refreshments to continue our spiritual formation.

We will begin by exploring the New Testament Epistle of James which is featured in the lectionary beginning August 29th. Let's find out why it is given full attention in the lessons, while trying to figure out why Martin Luther called it "an Epistle of straw."

We will then spend 8 weeks Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith.

This book was published by the Lutheran church in 1999. There are 36 different faith traditions featured. We will explore 8 of them during the fall of 2021. The disciples who came to fellowship after worship had the opportunity to select which ones they were interested in learning more about. The selections were made based on the number of requests for each selection.

The following faiths received the most requests:

Buddhism	Jehovah Witnesses	Seventh Day Adventist
Eastern Orthodoxy	The Salvation Army	Hinduism
Islam	African American Methodist Episcopal	

We are inviting a speaker from each of these traditions to lead our Adult Forum from 10:30 am - 11:30 am.

Here is the schedule for your information and use:

August 29 - The Epistle of James  
September 5 - The Epistle of James  
September 12 - God's Work Our Hands Sunday  
September 19 - The Epistle of James  
September 26 - The Salvation Army - Major Robert Reel  
October 3 - TBA October 10 - Pastor Jason Morgan  
October 17 - TBA  
October 24 - TBA  
October 31 - Reformation Sunday  
November 7 - Home Coming  
November 14 - TBA  
November 21 - TBA

**ZOOM WORSHIP** - Here are the links for worship each Sunday moving forward. We will continue to print them in the bulletin and newsletter and they will also be available on the church's website @ [www.jerusaluth.org](http://www.jerusaluth.org).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7157358191>

**Call into worship by dialing this number (long-distance fees may apply):**

**+1 929 205 6099**

**Enter Meeting ID: 715 735 8191 (then press # twice)**

## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR



## WEAR A MASK & GET VACCINATED

Our congregation is most grateful for the ongoing involvement of the Covid Task Force. The information we share about keeping everyone safe at church is slowly changing, but many features will continue to remain in place. As the positivity rate continues to rise in Lancaster County, and with guidance from the state of PA, our Bishop, our Covid Task Force, Worship and Music Committee and Congregational Council, the following are current guidelines:

1. If you are vaccinated, it is optional for you to wear a mask.
2. If you are NOT vaccinated, please wear a mask indoors.
3. Masks continue to be available if you need one for worship, fellowship or learning.
4. Hand sanitizer continues to be available for your use.
5. The ribbons providing guides for spacing where people sit in worship will remain for now.
6. We will continue to have a spoken service without singing for now.
7. Holy Communion will remain in its current form for distribution of elements.
8. The 6 feet of separation is still in place, especially if one is not vaccinated.

To date, no one has gotten ill with this virus from attending worship at Jerusalem Ev. Lutheran Church. Our goal is to maintain that responsibility and care. We thank everyone for your goal of loving your neighbor.



## **Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church**

36 Church Street, Rothsville (Lititz), Pennsylvania 17543

717.626.8972 | [www.jerusaluth.org](http://www.jerusaluth.org) | [jerusaluth@windstream.net](mailto:jerusaluth@windstream.net)

Pastor's email: [jerusaluthpastor@windstream.net](mailto:jerusaluthpastor@windstream.net)

**Office hours:** Wednesday 11am-4pm, Thursday 9am-4pm & Friday 9am-12pm

**The Reverend Bonnie M. Oplinger, *Pastor***

**Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music***

**Tracy H. Lagaza, *Office Administrator***

**Joan C. Dull, *Sexton***

**Congregation, *Ministers***