

Volume 2022

Issue 11

November

Dear People of Bethany,

Have you ever noticed that gratitude and generosity go hand in hand with happiness? People who grateful for and generous with their time, abilities and material possessions (Time, talent and treasure-to use classic stewardship terms) tend to be happy, joyful people. I'm reminded of this each year as we approach Thanksgiving. For many congregations, this is the time when members are asked to pledge financial (and other) support of their congregation's ministry. While some stewardship programs emphasize duty, obligation and a need to balance the church budget, stewardship is also an important component of spiritual health.

All we have, ourselves, our time and our possessions, come to us as gifts from God. These gifts are entrusted to us in order that we can begin to enjoy with others the abundant life that God desires for all. When we understand how blessed we are, we freely share what we have out of a sense of gratitude and trust that God will continue to provide. As it turns out, we are blessed again with the joy that comes from being generous. Many of you have already experienced this in your support of our capital campaign. It feels good to know that we have helped make it possible to complete much needed improvements to our parking lot and roofs. Holding on too tightly to what we have is a spiritual issue. Jesus spoke of this on several occasions. He knew that we can easily become obsessed with acquiring more and more to the point of being almost consumed or possessed by our pursuit of possessions. Such was the case with the rich man who comes to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. (Mark 10:17-31) The sociologist and Baptist minister Tony Campolo calls this phenomenon "affluenza."

Thanksgiving can be a wonderful antidote to affluenza. The appointed readings from the Revised Common Lectionary for Thanksgiving Day help us in this regard. We are reminded to be grateful for abundant harvests (Joel 2:21-27), to pray for peace in our life together (1 Timothy 2:1-7) and to regard life with trust and thanksgiving rather than anxiety (Matthew 6:25-33). Just as the antibodies from a flu vaccination help prepare us to fight off influenza, so too our observance of a day of Thanksgiving can help us combat affluenza. Join us on Tuesday, November 22, 7:00 pm at St. John Church for our annual community Thanksgiving service. We will receive offerings of non-perishable food items as well as monetary gifts to help the our neighbors in need.

Finally, I trust that during the month of November you will prayerfully consider your pledge of support for the ministry we share. This year we will culminate our fall stewardship appeal on Christ the King Sunday, November 20 with a dedication of our pledges. With gratitude for your anticipated response to this year's stewardship effort and best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

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Assisting Minister	11/6	Liz Friedmann		
	11/13	Liz Friedmann		
	11/20			
	11/27	Mike Balinskas		
Altar Guild	Angel Carlin			
Greeters & Ushers	11/6			
	11/13			
	11/20			
	11/27			
	11/6	Liz & Scott Friedmann		
Altar	11/13	Elaine Jarvis		
Flowers	11/20	Cynthia Delaney		
	11/27	Allan Nelson		
Coffee Hour	11/6			
	11/13			
	11/20			
	11/27			

This year Doolittle Funeral Home will be collecting funds for "Wreaths Across America"

Wreaths can be purchased at \$15 each...buy 2 get the 3rd FREE. All wreath purchases will be laid out at the State Veterans Cemetery in Middletown, CT. Checks made out to Wreaths Across America, may be sent to Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church Street, Middletown, CT 06457 or can be purchased online at: https://wreathsacrossamerica.org/CT0018 by November 25th. Please contact Jay or Becky at 860-346-6464 if you have any questions.

Thank you for helping us make this holiday season a little brighter for our community.



Live Stream Slides	11/6	
	11/13	
	11/20	
	11/27	
	11/6	
	11/13	
	11/20	
	11/27	Nancy Balinskas
Counters		

WE NEED YOU !!

We need volunteers for our weekly services.



Please sign up online on Signup Genius (info on Page 5) or on the sheets in the kiosk in the narthex if you can help out with any of these dates or any of the open dates on the sign up sheets. Give Robin a call in the office if you have any questions 860-635-4618.

Volunteers for December 4, 2022

Assisting Minister: Liz Friedmann Altar Guild: Angel Carlin Greeter: Usher: Live Stream: Mike Balinskas Slides: Nancy Balinskas Altar Flowers: **Coffee Hour: Counters:**



Empty spaces need volunteers to sign up. Ways to sign up are: sign up on the sheets in the narthex, sign up on SignUp Genius or email / call Robin in the church office (bethanylutheranchurchcromwell@gmail.com / 860-635-4618).



Since our last report we have had two memorable events for the On September 30 we had our second boat ride of the SAINTS. season. This time we left from Wethersfield Cove, went under the highway Saints Alive and then up the river to downtown Hartford.

As usual, Bill, our knowledgeable and friendly captain regaled us with stories of the river, views of wild life and the beauty which surrounds us. We had seventeen people aboard, some new faces and, of course, old friends. THEN on October 20 Doug Brown hosted us at the Veterans Memorial in Middletown. We toured the museum, which was very impressive and interesting, and then on to the Memorial Walk. We were all so moved and all so proud of Doug and the wonderful work he is doing there. His words of inspiration as to how Bethany has shaped his work were so meaningful to us all. His closing poem/ prayer will never be forgotten. THANK YOU, DOUG!

In November, under the tutelage of our resident artist, Angel Carlin, we will be making Christmas decorations for the SAINTS ALIVE Christmas Tree, which will be the centerpiece as we decorate the lounge for the Christmas Season.

Our programs are open to all - senior or not member of Bethany or not. We welcome visitors and anyone interested to join us for any event.

DATE	EVENT		
November 17, 2022	Making Christmas Decorations		
December 15, 2022	Decorate Lounge for Christmas		

THE MORE THE MEERIER! BE A SAINT ALIVE!

look at the

Our weekly Table Talk (Bible Study) is being held at Luther Ridge. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the 1st floor community room for conversation and a lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday.

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All visitors must check in at the front desk upon entering the building. Luther Ridge residents have all received COVID vaccines and are not required to wear masks.

All staff have also been vaccinated, but are required to wear masks.

MASKS are also re-

quired for ALL VISITORS, wheather you have been vaccinated or not and not and social distancing will be maintained.

PRAYERS

If you would like for us to pray for you, a family member or friend, please let Pastor Paul know, either by phone or email



(revpaulkrampitz@gmail.com) An email will go out to our members and Pastor will also pray for them on Sunday morning. They will be kept on the list for two (2) weeks, unless we hear from you that you would like them on longer.

As of this date, we are praying for: Riley, Andrew, Kristen, Mary, Linda, Charlie, Bob & Boyd.





Did you know...

- Bethany Lutheran Church participates in AmazonSmile?
- AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com The difference is that when customers shop at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

<u>Copy this link to go directly to</u> <u>AmazonSmile</u>: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-0789711

Council Corner Notes:

Monthly news and ministry highlights from your church council.

Hello Members and Friends of Bethany!

The members of your Bethany Council extend our greetings and wish all a safe and healthy autumn.

As the season of Thanksgiving grows near, we would like to remind everyone of the traditional ecumenical *Community Thanksgiving Service* hosted this year by *St. John Church, 5 St. Johns Ct, Cromwell,* and presented by the Christian Clergy Council of Cromwell. The service will begin at 7pm on Tuesday, November 22nd, and a donation of non-perishable food items (especially protein) or financial contributions are always greatly appreciated. Any monetary donations can be written to the 'CCC of Cromwell.

As always, your Bethany Council continues to work hard to fulfill our mission of *Making Christ Known*. Please join us as we celebrate with others in our community, of the bounty God has provided.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Calvo

Bethany Lutheran Preschool

Hello from Bethany Lutheran Preschool!

October was a month filled with spooky books, songs, and projects. We celebrated all things Halloween this month. At the end of the month, we celebrated with a big Halloween party on the playground with all the families. It is always fun to celebrate Halloween with children!

We started the month with a visit from the Cromwell Fire Department. They brought two fire trucks to show the children. They showed us what a firefighter looks like in all the gear so the children would not be scared. Then the children had the chance to get in the truck! That was the highlight of the day.

The preschool staff participated in Trick R Trunk. Our theme was Toy Story. Thank you for donating candy for us to distribute. It was a fun night!

October was a busy fun month!

Terri Camilleri Director, Bethany Lutheran Preschool



Confirmation Class 2022-2023

The first meeting of confirmation class will be Sunday **November 6** following the worship service. Parents are asked to attend as we will discuss expectations for the year and agree on a class meeting schedule.

<u>Faith Through Stewardship:</u> Thankful for Our Daily Bread in 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Copy this Link for the online Pledge Form:

https://forms.gle/fDmBpa2hEepqZ834A

As we each consider how God provides for **Our Daily Bread** during this Stewardship season, your support for the ministry at Bethany in 2023 remains critical to fulfilling our mission in this place. This years Stewardship theme is taken from 1 Kings 17:7-16 – which recounts the story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath. We have tried to use the guests at the Temple Talks and the real bread at communion as opportunities to help us all recognize the gifts in our own lives and the gifts in the congregation's life. And then for us all to wonder together, **"How might we use what we have, trusting God for daily bread?"**

We are writing to ask you to prayerfully make a financial commitment for 2023 using this secure, online form. Please click this link and then fill out the simple form. Once completed, you will receive a confirmation email with your response. If you would prefer a hard copy pledge form, they are available in the Narthex (rear) of the church or contact Robin in the church office and she will provide you with one. We are hoping to have all pledges in place by the time we arrive at Commitment Sunday, on November 20th, so your attention to making this happen is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for the support of the ministry of Bethany Lutheran Church and we wish Gods' blessing on you.

Yours in Christ,

The Bethany Stewardship Team

Norma Zashut, Ann Naughton, Karol Brzozowski, Mike Balinskas

PLEASE NOTE:

Any delay and/or cancellations for Bethany events or church services will be shown on Channel 3's Weather Watch and/or Bethany's Facebook page.

So, if there is a question as to whether something at church has been cancelled – please tune in to Channel 3 or check out our Facebook page.

Church Council

Church Council

Are you look- 🔇 ing for a way to be

more involved in the life of o congregation? Our church council currently has 2 open seats.

BREAD

We meet in person once a month, following the Sunday worship service. If you are interested, please speak with Pastor Paul or Holly Linder.





Get Involved at Bethany

You should be seeing emails and links to an online application called *"SignUp Genius"*. You'll simply click on the link *(see below)*, select any of the opportunities to help with our weekly service and submit - it's that simple! You'll be able to select from:

Assisting Minister Usher / Greeter Altar Guild (Monthly) Altar Flowers Liturgy Slide Assistant Live-Stream Assistant Coffee Hour

For any that you select, you'll get an email confirmation and a reminder two days before the date that you've volunteered to serve. You'll be able to go in and edit or swap dates if something comes up – or select more dates if you're available. You will still be able to sign up the way we have been doing it—simply by putting your name on the signup sheets in the narthex. Robin will carry the names over to the online version weekly.

We'll also start using this for other typical sign-up activities like VBS volunteers, Funeral Reception Volunteers or Lenten Soup Supper. So, stay tuned and please use them as an opportunity to engage in the life of the congregation and share your gifts of time using this easy to use electronic tool. If you have questions, please reach out to *Mike Balinskas* or *Robin*.



Service Volunteers

BUILDING

COMMUNITY

INSPIRING

SERVICE



Altar Flowers

Right click picture and then click "Open Hyperlink" to go directly to SignUp Genius.



Coffee Hour

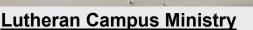
The <u>Little Free</u> Library located by the Preschool entrance belongs to everyone! It offers a way to



share good things to read with both children and adults.

Take books. If you see something you would like to read or share with someone you know, take it! There is no need to return it to the Little Free Library.

Give books. If you have new or gently used books that you would like to donate you can either put them directly into the Little Free Library or in the marked box that is located in the coat closet. During the school year we really go through a lot of preschool-age books.



If you are a young adult, or if you know of a young adult who is looking for a community of friends and a way to express faith, consider campus ministry. Young adults experience unique spiritual, intellectual and emotional challenges. Campus Ministry seeks to strengthen and support them as they learn and grow.

lutheran campus ministry, ELCA

DEEPENING

FAITH

EXPANDING

MINDS

Refer a student to any location across the country here:

www.luminelca.org/refer-a-student/

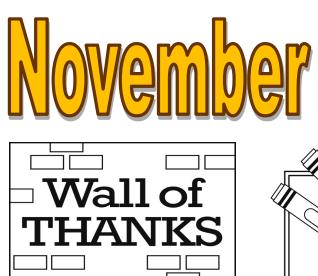


-Sharing-Our Gifts



Join us for a Holiday Concert to start the season on the right note! November 27, 2022

During the 9:30 service Come at 9:15 for a Carol Sing **Stay for Brunch after the concert!**



During this season of gratefulness, create a special wall of thanks in your home.

I'm Thank

for my Fami

Joey

Sticky notesPens or markers

What you need:

• Poster board (optional)

What you do:

- 1. Every day in November, have each family member write or draw on a sticky note someone or something they're thankful for. (Try not to repeat ideas.)
- 2. Display your notes on a wall or on poster board.
- 3. Read your list every day to remind you about God's many blessings.



Be thankful for every When we're faithful, we see that God provides all we need. Use the list of vowels below to complete the words of Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV. iaaeuiioueaoeoaaiiaooe a e o e e i i e a e o o u o e u i E e i a I "S___ng nd m k m_s_c n th h rt L rd, V lw__ys ng th nkst G d V **g**_ F__th__r ___v__ryth___ng, th fr th f n n___m___ Chr__st." L rd JSS _ph__s___ns 5:19-20, N__V

Answer: Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁽Fphesians 5:19-20, NIV)

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Beverly Cochran

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Zachary Krampitz

Zaidan Krampitz

Ashley Wiernasz

Matthew Melluzzo

Susan Dizenzo

John Trousdale

Caitlin Melluzzo

Jasmine Duteau

Eric Myskowski

Erica Meaney

Chase Saponare

Abigail Galletta

Theodore Roback

Matthew DeBlock

Boyd Clark

Taylor Friedmann

Christopher Naughton

Eric Calvo

Nov. 1

Nov. 3

Nov. 4

Nov. 6

Nov. 8

Nov. 9

Nov. 10

Nov. 11

Nov. 13

Nov. 16

Nov. 17

Nov. 19

thanks!



Susan & Michael Heath November 2, 1985

Amanda & Patrick Symecko November 171, 2006

Lynette & David Dube November 23, 196

Barbara & Steven Sunbury November 25, 1988

Lauren & Matthew DeBlock November 27, 2015

Sherry & Allan Swanson November 30, 1968

Nov. 20	-	Elaine Jarvis		
Nov. 21	-	Paul Krampitz		
	-	Heidi Winesburg		
Nov. 25	-	Brittany LaMarr		
Nov. 26	-	Max Ligas		
Nov. 29	-	Ava Zawadzki		
Nov. 30	-	Carl Saponare		
	-	Marissa Saponare		

2022 Card Ministry

have volunteered for the

Card Ministry Thank you all who card ministry thus far! Many

Here's the lineup for the end of the year:

November: Diane Rauss December: Diane Rauss

Thank you to everyone that volunteered to continue this ministry for 2023. We are covered for all 12 months.

Bethany Youth Group (BYG)

Youth group for grades 6-12 has started up again! Please join us and bring a friend. On **Friday, November 18th, Make** your own pizza, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.. This event will be at the church in the fellowship hall. We are also looking for adults to help with the Youth Group. If you are interested please or have any questions about the events please contact Claire Pearson, Kitty Richheimer (kittyrich@icloud.com) or LouAnn Smith. (LASmith2228@gmail.com).

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LYRICS OF NEW SONG

I was so pleased people were inspired by the song I offered several weeks ago. A number of people asked for the words and so I am offering them here:

GIVE ME FAITH

GIVE ME A FAITH Allan R. Nelson September 28, 2022 Give me a faith O Lord I pray A faith that keeps me strong each day A faith that grows in every way My path to light and show the way

Give me a faith that others see Your love reflected here in me Forgiving others - freely, endlessly Just as you've forgiven me!

Your hand was on the mighty waters You stilled the storm and raging sea May that power of faith be in me Living beyond myself to be set free

Give me a thankful heart to share The gift of faith and power of prayer That when at last my journeys done The power of faith will lead me home.

CONCERT PLANNED FOR NOVEMBER 27th (First Sunday of Advent)

Plans are under way for our annual Holiday Concert on November 27.As noted previously this year's concert will be held during the worship service time, which allows for all our members to attend; those who don't drive after dark, those who get transportation from their retirement homes etc.

Children from the PRE-SCHOOL and the SUNDAY SCHOOL will be included in the program and we are excited about having them with us. Communion will also be provided during this time of Advent preparation.

CURRENT CHOIR SCHEDULE

Bethany Choir rehearsal is at 8:30 am each Sunday prior to the 9:30 am service. (From time to time we will have an extra rehearsal as needed)

Joyful Noise rehearses after the worship service and is announced in advance. We are, most understanding if singers can't be present each week and work around schedules and preparation to accommodate our members. **COME JOIN US IN SONG !**

MORE SINGERS NEEDED

WE NEED MORE SINGERS IN THE CHOIR – we have a good time making music as well as the fellowship it provides and most importantly for the opportunity to share our faith in song. **COME JOIN US IN SONG.**



HYMN OF THE MONTH: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty , ELW #858

Based on the first six versus of Psalm 103 and Psalm 150 – this is a classic Hymn of Praise. The text is ascribed to Joachim Neander who wrote it in the middle of the 1600 hundred and it was later translated by Catherine Winkworth who was born in1827 and died in1878.

The source of the tune is unclear-some scholarship indicates that is may even have been of secular origin. However, its source, the hymn is an outstanding blend of tune and textuplifting, fun to sing and fittingly robust in our praise to God. This has long been a favorite at Bethany.

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Please use your current Envelope Number as the Member ID

As part of our electronic giving program, we are now offering **Give+Text**, a smart tool designed for today's mobile phone users. In less time than it takes to write a check, you can make weekly offerings, respond to special appeals or set up a recurring donation by simply sending a text to our secure account at **860-969-2062**.

Just send a text message to **860-969**-**2062** with the amount you would like to contribute (your donation will automatically go into the *General Operating/Pledge Fund*). Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and debit or card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email.

For future giving, send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! You can even text "repeat" to make it a recurring donation. **Give+Text** is one of the fastest, easiest ways to give.

You also have the option to give to other funds thru the Give+Text system. The other Capital (Capital Imaccounts set up are: provement), Flowers (Altar Flowers), Memorials (Memorial Fund), Music (Music Fund), Sea-(Seasonal Contributions), sonal Jubilee (Jubilee 2020) To give to any of these funds, send a text to 860-969-2062, using the amount of your donation and the account you would like it to go to For example: if you text 20 Capital-\$20 will go into the Capital Improvement Fund. You will again receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email. Please make sure to double check the amount your are donating before sending your text.

We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity, and we thank you for supporting Bethany and our ministry. Reach out to Mike Balinskas with any questions at mbalinskas@gmail.com or 203-623-3804. SIMPLY GIVING Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? Bethany offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have your contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with your intended offerings. One simple, easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contribution amount.

Contact **Robin** in the church office Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., **635-4618**, for more details.

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING



DURING THESE TOUGH TIMES... Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? **Bethany Lutheran Church** offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account.

Electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Simply scan the QR Code below or visit:

bethanylutheranchurchcromwell.org at

any time to set up an automatic donation plan.

Give Online









Sun	Mon Tue		Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>J</i> 5:30 pm —Preschool Board (SCR) 6:15 pm — All About Change (SCR)	2 10:30 am — Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:15 pm — All About Change (SCR)	3	4	5
6 9:30 am—Worship Sunday School 10:30 am— Confirmation Meeting (2022-2023)	7	8 12 pm — Parish Life (Angel Carlin's)	9 10:30 am— Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:15 pm— All About Change (SCR) 7:00 pm— Stewardship	10]] Veteran's Day	12
13 9:30 am—Worship Sunday School	14 7 pm— Finance	15 6:30 pm—Capital Campaign (Liz Friedman's) Messenger	16 10:30 am— Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:15 pm— All About Change (SCR)	17 2:00 pm— Saint's Alive (Lounge)	18 10 am—Ladies of Bethany (K) 7—9 pm— BYG—Make Your Own Pizza (FH/K)	19
20 9:30 am—Worship w/Baptism Sunday School 10:30 am—Executive Committee 10:45 am—Council	21	22 6:30 pm—Book Club (L) 7:00 pm— Community Thanks- giving Service @ St. John Church	23 10:30 am — Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:15 pm — All About Change (SCR)	24 Thanksgiving Krampitz Family (FH/K)	25 Clark Family (FH/K)	26
27 9:30 am—Holiday Concert (Holy Communion will be offered)	28	29	30 10:30 am— Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:15 pm— All About Change (SCR)		C—Chapel FH—Fellowship Hall K—Kitchen L—Lounge O—Office RAO—Room Across SCR—Small Commun S—Sanctuary	

† Services are being offered online (<u>youtube</u>) as well as Indoor at 9:30 a.m. **†** YouTube Link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJLnfTZijY38BtXJr-6RvkQ</u> Facebook Link: <u>https://www.facebook.com/bethanycromwellct/</u>

The Bethany Messenger

Bethany Lutheran Church ELCA 50 Court Street Cromwell, CT 06416



What's New in New England New England Synod Assembly 2022 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: In Person & Virtual on YouTube at 9:30 a.m.

Inside This Issue...

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- ...Saints Alive
- ...Council Corner
- ...Preschool News
- ...Holiday Concert (Nov. 27th)
- ...Kid's Page
- ...Bethany Youth Group (BYG) Info
- ...From the Organ Loft

Fax:

...2022– 2023 Confirmation Meeting

Church Office:

(860) 635-4618 (860) 635-4618 (please call first]

Office Hours: Mon., Tue., Thur. — 8 a.m.—3 p.m. Wed., Fri.—8 a.m.—1 p.m. Preschool: (860) 632-0597

E-Mail Address:

bethanylutheranchurchcromwell@gmail.com

Website: bethanylutheranchurchcromwell.org









The December Messenger Deadline is: November 15th

Holly Linder

Amy Calvo

Diane Aresco

Carol Frago

Allan R. Nelson

Liz Friedmann

Rev. Dr. Paul D. Krampitz

Rev. Lawrence N. Wogman

Pastor:

Pastor Emeritus:

Council President:

- **Council Vice President:**
- Council Secretary:

Church Treasurer:

Financial Secretary:

Minister of Music:

Joyful Noise Director:

Sunday School

Coordinator:

Cherub Choir Directors:

Claire Pearson

David Dube

Church Council: Diane Aresco, Amy Calvo, Linda Carlson, Lynette Dube, Holly Linder, Kitty Richheimer, Christine Trousdale and Pastor Paul Krampitz

Office Manager / Preschool Registrar:

Robin Scotti