

North Shore Church News

g r o w i n g G o d ' s c h u r c h



OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
IN A FAITH COMMUNITY GUIDED BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT.

November 2017

“A Few Thoughts On.....”

A Reformation of Gratitude...

OUR PURPOSE IS TO GROW AND DEEPEN
CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
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HOLY SPIRIT.



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Sunday Morning

8:00 Worship—Chapel

10:00 Worship—Sanctuary

10:15 Sunday School

11:00 Coffee & Fellowship

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Fox Point, WI

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Dear Friends,

As most of you likely know, by now, this October 31 is noted as the 500th anniversary of the publishing of Martin Luther’s 95 Theses – the beginning of what we now know as the Protestant Reformation. There is much to be said (and much has been said) about this anniversary and the story of the Christian Church that has taken place over the past 500 years, and I would encourage you (if you have not already) to take some time to read some of the reflections and articles that abound in the wake of this anniversary. That said, with Thanksgiving to follow in just a few more weeks, I want to encourage you to also take the time to consider a reformation of a different kind – a reformation of gratitude.

As much as we do (and should!) look towards the tremendous impact of Martin Luther’s critiques of the Church and the reformation that followed, things are just different today. The simple truth is that our 21st century culture of countless social media platforms, news media overload and seemingly limitless choices in nearly every arena of life, has led us to a culture in which critique and complaint isn’t the reformatory effort we saw in Martin Luther, but is the norm of our interaction in, and with, everyday life. Whether it is one of a thousand pundits lobbing socio-political grenades across a desk on CNN, some faceless critic debasing a business on the internet, or a neighbor telling us about the atrocious server she encountered at the local restaurant, our world is almost defined by criticism to an extent that complaining about one thing or the next isn’t only accepted, but often expected, as part of our daily dialogue.

So, with Thanksgiving just ahead, I want to use this Reformation anniversary to encourage you to take some time to reform the way you look at the world around you. I don’t mean to suggest some sort of Pollyannaish ignorance of the world’s difficulties – there is no question that there is strife that surrounds us, and that there are burdens and struggles that

A Reformation of Gratitude cont...

we know in everyday life. There is also no doubt, however, that our lives are constantly surrounded by the blessings of God that we all too often overlook in our proclivity towards critique and complaint.

Take the time to take a little stock in the blessings and gifts you know in God. The next time your mind starts to hone in on the negative you just encountered, look into your heart for the positive that shines through. Take a little time, in the coming weeks, to reform the impact of our cultural habit of constant negativity and set your mind on the blessings and glories you know in God. I'm not suggesting that we can, or should, ignore the challenges we face. But, I have a feeling that some time of reforming our mindset in the direction of gratitude might do wonders for the impact our world's negativity will have on us – and a Thanksgiving holiday on the heels of one of the great reformation moments of history, seems to be a perfect time to give it a try!

Your Pastor and Friend, **Marty**

Remembrance Sunday

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 12 – Remembrance Sunday. We will have *only one worship service that day (10am)*, and will take the time to remember those in our church family who have passed in the last year. Please join us as we remember those we have lost, pray for those who grieve, and give thanks for the promises of eternal life that we hold in faith!



Thanksgiving Worship

Make sure to join us at 9am on Thanksgiving morning for our annual Thanksgiving worship service. We will gather in the church parking lot and then process to the warming center up the street, where we will hold a brief service of worship and thanksgiving.

**Remember to move your clocks back on Sunday,
November 5.**



EDUCATION AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

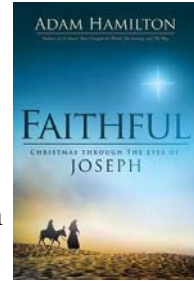
Thursday Morning Bible Study

Join us in Friendship Lounge on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 am for engaging conversation with the Bible and each other. We are enjoying some of the stories in Genesis. Through December we will look at the beginnings of each of the four gospels: stories of beginnings and Jesus' birth. If you have an interest or would like to simply come and see if this is for you, please feel free to join us in Friendship Lounge.



Tuesday Morning Book Group

Tuesday Morning Book Group meets in Friendship Lounge on Tuesdays from 10-11 am. Through mid-November, we will continue our discussion on Lauren F. Winner's *Wearing God*. At the end of November and through December we will read Adam Hamilton's *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph* (\$13.50). Please contact Rev. Julie to order a book or if you need more information.



If you have any questions or thoughts about Bible studies and book groups, please contact Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith at 414-588-8693 or juliesmith@northshorecongl.org.



We are excited to be looking towards the formation of a **Membership Inquiry class** beginning in **November**. This 3-session program is meant to allow new participants in the church to gather, get to know one-another, and learn more about the details of the Congregational Way and North Shore Congregational Church. Please note that participation in the program in no way assumes a decision to join the church. The purpose of the program is to allow participants to consider whether or not joining the church is the right decision for them at this time. If you would like to be a part of this next group, please contact Rev. Marty by calling the church or emailing him at martinhall@northshorecongl.org.

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Chair Yoga in Friendship Lounge



Chair Yoga is a gentle form of Yoga adapted to do while sitting on a chair or standing with a chair as support. Sessions offered on Thursdays from 11:15-12:15 in Friendship Lounge. \$10 per session to drop in or sign up for the next 6 week session that starts November 2 (\$54 for 6 week session). Instructor, Erica Boos. Please contact Rev. Julie to sign up, or if you have any questions.

Agape Table at College

I am grateful for the support of the church. Our first Agape Table gatherings with college students from our churches went well! We vshared pizza and conversation with Milwaukee based students on October 10 and Madison students on October 24. More to come. If you have any questions please check in with Rev. Julie



Repairers of the Breach Lunch Making

Come help “extend the table” November 5 around 11 am in the church kitchen downstairs. We provide 75 bag lunches for Repairers of the Breach daytime homeless shelter and need help both making lunches or providing some supplies.



We want to create a new team of people to lead the Repairers of the Breach lunch making. Would you like to do some, or all of the following: 1. Send out a reminder/ask a week ahead of time for those who donate items. 2. Check inventory and shop for remaining supplies. 3. The morning of, set up bags and preparation stations before church. 4. Facilitate lunch making with volunteers after worship. 5. Drive the prepared lunches to the Repairers site on Monday morning. Let us know how you would like to help! (contact one of our Ministers or Bo Dowsett/ Benevolence Board Chair).

Weed ‘n Feed

Do you have gloves, clippers, or even a chainsaw? Then this opportunity is for you! Come help prepare the front garden and sidelines for winter; clipping, trimming, pulling and even sawing down branches and brush. **Tuesday November 14**, starting at 4 pm in the gardens followed by a warm chili dinner in Friendship Lounge at 5:30. (Rain date November 16).

LOAVES AND FISHES

November 21, 2017

CASSEROLES

DESSERTS

Bartlett	Dowsett
Krosnosky	Grove
Moms n More	Hadcock
Moms n More	Lemorande
Moms n More	Schill
Petersen	Sweet
Tornetta	Wauck
Cook	Weber
Swenson	Wood
	Zimmer
	Zganjar
	Holmes



MAN DOES NOT LIVE ON
BREAD ALONE BUT ON
EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM
THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.
DEUTERONOMY 8:3

DRIVERS

Tollefsen	Osborne	<i>Need Driver</i>
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SERVERS

Tollefsen	Wininsky
Tollefsen	Neumann
Osborne	<i>Need Server</i>
Jonasen	<i>Need Server</i>

COFFEE, CHORDS AND KIDS!

November 3 (6:30 – 8:30) First Friday's Coffee, Chords and Kids—**WILL ULRICH** has played piano, guitar, ukulele, and harmonica in the metro Milwaukee area for over 25 years. His expressive, acoustic style encompasses a wide variety of music from the 60s, 70s, and 80s, as well as newer songs and even a few jazz standards. Will chooses to cover songs that no one else in the area performs, creating a unique and sometimes nostalgic trip down memory lane – a show suitable for all ages!



This is an event for all ages - Ms. Leslie will oversee a movie for the kids downstairs in the large group room.

Coffee, Chords and Kids will not be held during the winter months and we will re-evaluate upon feedback from the church if we will continue in the spring.

Lydia Circle will be meeting Monday, November 27,
@ 10am in Friendship Lounge.

Yes, that is the Monday after Thanksgiving, so we're having a food related gathering. Bring a favorite family recipe or food story (or a few if you want) to share with the group. If you're looking for ideas, you could discuss this over your Thanksgiving gathering. All are welcome, bring a friend.



Looking Ahead...

Please note the following important dates in December...

- ❖ Sunday, December 3 – Advent Fest immediately after 10am worship
- ❖ Sunday, December 10 – Music Sunday during 10am worship service
- ❖ Sunday, December 17 – Carol Sing at 9:30am and Pageant during 10am worship service
- ❖ Sunday, December 24 – Worship services at 10am, 4pm and 9pm



NACCC Year Round Delegate Report

As your Year Round Delegate to the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) my “job description” has two parts. The first is to provide periodic updates through this Newsletter and to the Council about events, services, and opportunities available through the Association. The second part of being a Year Round Delegate is to take feedback or questions from the congregation back to the NACCC. The Year Round Delegate is not necessarily the Church’s delegate to the Annual Meeting. In fact, in the three years I have served, I was Delegate to the AMC only once.

Be sure to read, or re-read, Norm Christensen’s summary of the NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC) in the August Church Newsletter, pp 2-4. More details from AMC, including summary of Bible Lecture, workshops, and updates from some of the missions that NACCC supports can be found in the September 2017 issue of the Congregationalist. One of the workshops, "What Millennials Want" seems to tie in nicely with the session held at the Wisconsin Congregational Association meeting held at our church in April. There is a short summary of the WCA meeting on page 7 of the September Congregationalist. Copies are in the library or office at church. Issues of the Congregationalist magazine are available in the Church Office or on line at <http://www.congregationalist.org/>

Did you all see the article by Rick Bauzenberger in the June 2017 Congregationalist?

A lot of the work of the NACCC is done through Task Teams - short term or project specific work groups. Task Teams are a great way to be part of the bigger NACCC picture and to bring your time, energy, and expertise to the work that's beginning. The Growth Ministry Council (GMC) has three task teams that are being populated right now. They describe them like this:

- The first is the Revitalization Task Team, looking at how our member churches can become stronger and more successful in taking our mission of God's love and Christ's call to action into the world.
- The Church Planting Task Team is a group working to support the planting of new NACCC churches. If you have experience or a passion for church planting, this task team could use your energy.
- One of the most interesting new projects is a way to connect remote and isolated churches and ministers. While this may be the most difficult group / project to define, it's clearly an enormous need. We have NACCC churches that are many miles (and in some instances whole states away) from their closest other NACCC church. How do we bring these groups together, digitally, so they can offer support to one another? And how does the NACCC support them? Additionally, we have ministers who feel isolated, even when other NACCC churches may be within easy driving distance.

Each of these groups is just beginning to form. Typical task team membership requires about 2 hours of time a month - part of that for a conference call, part for reading and responding to email. If you have a heart for any of these areas of interest, why not join a task team and bring your heart and mind to the table. If you would like to learn more or join one of these task teams, please contact past GMC Chair, Dawn Carlson at dawncarl@aol.com. Put "GMC Task Teams" in your subject line.

At the October Church Council meeting I asked that the Council appoint someone else to be the Year Round Delegate. I have served in this role for three years and will be glad to speak with anyone who has an interest in learning more about the position and serving the North Shore Church and the NACCC in this manner. Best way to initiate a conversation is to corner me (Mark Swartwout) after Worship service, or send an email to me at Mark.Swartwout@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP

Dear Members of North Shore Congregational Church,

Many thanks from the Stewardship Board for your Estimates of Giving!

We do recognize that in this past year great commitments have been given to North Shore Congregational. Thank you.

As we approach 2018, please continue your generous giving of time, talents and treasure. And watch us all grow in faith in the New Year!

Your Stewardship Board



A PIECE OF HISTORY

Our Pilgrim ancestral roots: William Brewster; Scrooby Manor, England; Separatist, Leiden, Holland; John Robinson; Mayflower; Plymouth, Massachusetts; Thanksgiving.

Scrooby Manor, in north central England, was the rented home of William Brewster, bailiff and postmaster for Scrooby. It was an archbishop's residence on an estate visited frequently by Queen Elizabeth and Cardinal Woolsey. The name, "Scrooby," is used at North Shore Church to refer to the biannually formed groups of 8 to 10 members who meet regularly for dinner and social activity.

In early 1600, growing dissatisfaction with the structure of the church hierarchy and with some practices and beliefs of the Church of England and Catholic Church led to the formation of groups of dissenters known as "Protestant Separatists." William Brewster was a founding member of one such small group. Later, due to persecution for their beliefs, several Separatist groups emigrated to Leiden, Holland to practice their religion freely. There, they met John Robinson, pastor of a Separatist group. After several years in Holland, William Brewster and his group returned to England because of the free-living style of the Dutch culture and further, their children were becoming "Dutch".

In September 1620, Brewster with about 102 Separatists left England for North America aboard the Mayflower. Their journey was perilous: a leaking ship, illness and strong gales that blew the ship off course. Landing at Cape Cod, they found the area populated by indigenous people. Continuing northward along the coast, they landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts in December, 1620. About one-half of the group perished in the following harsh New England winter. Late in 1621, after a more successful year, a celebration of Thanksgiving for God's blessings was held.

The stained-glass east window behind the balcony in our church is a depiction of the Mayflower. This window was created by the late Charles Burroughs, member of North Shore Church. The stained-glass west window between the organ pipes and behind the choir loft was created by the same artist. The full glory of this window can be seen during the Christmas Season.



Celebrate Our Heritage

THINGS TO DO

Moms 'n More craft event ...all moms, grand-moms and women of the church...Paint and create a masterpiece wall hanging for your home while mingling with your friends from North Shore Congregational Church **November 13**, from 7- 10 pm, at **Board and Brush in Elm Grove.**

Create a wood sign that will last a lifetime for \$65.00. To participate – register via their website, www.boardsandbrush.com. When registering request our chosen date – November 13, and choose from their site which sign you would like to create. There are many seasonal options available and so many choices! For any questions, or if you are having difficulty registering, please contact Sharon Hall at 248-872-2449 or disneyfamily01@gmail.com. There are only 19 spots available (and they are not limited to just our group!) so make sure to register before it's too late!



By Popular Demand! Souper's Chili Sale

Let the Soupers make Chili for you on **Sunday, November 5**, after both services.

Forms are available for pre-order.
Prices are: Quart \$10.00 and Pint \$6.00.



Advent Devotionals

Thank you to all the authors who are writing a page for our North Shore Congregational Church Advent Devotional. Please note submissions should be into the office or emailed to Rev. Julie by November 7 to allow time for creating, proofing, printing, and collating. This is always such a wonderful way we share ourselves and God's love with each other. Devotionals will be ready at the end of November (just in time for the first Sunday of Advent on December 3).



Save the Date!

Advent Festival December 3. All church brunch (YUM!) right after the 10am worship service, followed by craft making workshops throughout the downstairs classrooms. Our theme this year will be crafts and gifts based on Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love following the theme of our Advent Devotionals and Advent Wreath candle readings by the Confirmation families. The Fellowship Committee is providing a delicious brunch. A good-will offering is appreciated to offset the cost of supplies and food.

BENEVOLENCE—THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING

A Very Special Place



There is a very special place now renting space located in the lower level of the Tripoli Shrine Center. This place changes the lives of the children as well as the adults who work in this space. This special place is called the Children's Dyslexia Center of Milwaukee.

We have three parts to our mission: we provide free after school tutoring in reading to children with dyslexia who are 6 – 18 years old, we provide free tutor training to adults who want to learn how to teach reading to struggling readers, and we share the test results from our national annual standardized testing to help with reading research.

Children receive one-on-one tutoring twice a week with the same tutor for one hour each session. The average stay in our program is two years. The tutor training program is a one year time commitment. It consists of 45 hours of lecture and 100 hours of supervised practicum. Each trainee tutors two students for a total of 100 hours. It is during our practicum that the trainee learns how to teach reading.

When a child enters our program, the child is given four standardized tests. The test results let us know what the child knows before the tutoring process begins. Each consecutive year we give the child this same set of standardized tests. This allows us to see the progress each child is making. The results of these tests are used to help provide information for reading research.

We currently have 41 students, 12 tutors, 6 trainees and 33 students on our waitlist. I want to share with you a comment I heard from a mother of a child who is starting his second year in our tutoring program. This child is in 7th grade.

Child: "I think I am feeling success at school but I am not sure what success feels like."

Mom: "You know the feeling you have when you make a great play during a football game? How do you feel? That is what success feels like."

Child: "That is what I am feeling at school this year. I am feeling successful."

We are very proud of the life changing work we do at our Center and we want all of our students to feel successful. We would not be able to successfully help our students without dedicated people like Norm and Marcia Christensen and the financial support of our Center's Board of Governors, the Scottish Rite Masons and the Community. We are honored to have been chosen as one of the recipients for your Thanksgiving special offering.

With deep gratitude,
Sally G. Weber, Director / CDC-Milwaukee

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” Of all of the wonderful blessings we enjoy through our connection to North Shore Congregational Church, one of the greatest we know is the love and care we experience in one another. Lifting each other up in our times of struggle, embracing friends in times of grief, and rejoicing together in our triumphs are a significant part of what makes our church family so special to each of us. This relationship of shared faith and Christian love is the foundation of so much of who we are as a church, and the core mission of the Fellowship Committee is to foster those very relationships among all members of our church family.



The Fellowship Committee both sponsors, and supports, a variety of gatherings throughout the year – most of which revolve around the central purpose of fostering deeper relationships among the members of our congregation. From supporting BCE programs such as Advent Fest and Eggstravaganza, to hosting events such as Trunk or Treat, Movie Nights and Game Nights, to organizing special trips such as bowling, ice skating, tubing, baseball games and more...the Fellowship Committee strives to provide a variety of activities and gatherings that will help bring members of all ages together to deepen the relationships and love of Christ that we share with one another. All we need to make them complete, is you!

Do you have an idea for a program or event that you would like to share? Talk to one of our committee members or drop a note in the ‘suggestion box’ we have set up with this month’s display in Friendship Lounge. Would you like to be a part of the tremendous fellowship we share with one another as a team in hosting these events? Speak to our chair (Sharon Hall) to be a part of things! It is a true joy, for our team, to support and sponsor so many gatherings throughout the course of the year. If you have ideas, share them! If you want to be a part of the team, we’d welcome the help! And, if neither of these are the case, watch the calendars and various announcements and show up for the next event.

There is no question that we receive great blessings as a team in hosting these events for our church family. To make that blessing complete, however, we need you at the table with us the next time we gather!

In Christian Fellowship,

Sharon Hall – Fellowship Committee Chair

Poinsettias and Evergreens!

Our traditional November Poinsettia/Evergreen Fundraiser has begun! The Board of Christian Enrichment, will be taking orders for Poinsettias and Evergreens (wreaths, table items and garlands) to grace your home for the holiday season.

You may place your orders on Sundays between November 5 and 19 in Friendship Lounge from 8:45am and 11:30am. We will have your orders ready for pickup at church on Sunday, December 3. If you cannot pick up your order that day, we can make arrangements for you to pick it up during normal church business hours, the following week.

Order Forms with prices are included in this Newsletter and are also available in the Church Office and Narthex.

This annual fundraiser has enabled the Board of Christian Enrichment to purchase media carts for teaching opportunities for children, youth and adults. Proceeds from this year's sale will help to fund the updating of the youth room being used for our Middle and High school education and youth programs.





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School News!

November at a glance:

- ☺ Nov. 5 - Jesus Blesses the Children (Matthew 19: 13-15; Mark 10: 13-16; Luke 18: 15-17)
- ☺ Nov. 12 - Jesus Heals Blind Men (Matthew 20: 29-34; Mark 10: 46-52; Luke 18: 35-43)
- ☺ Nov. 19 - The Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving.
- ☺ Nov. 26 - Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary with worship bags and binders prepared for their use during worship.

Our Sunday school children have made a commitment to build God's team and support two children from Happy Life Children's Home in Kenya. Check out the information board located downstairs in the Sunday school hallway.

We continue to search for additional teachers to join a teaching team. Please pray about this opportunity and let Leslie Krueger know if you are interested.

Please sign up to be a classroom helper in one of the classrooms this month. A great way to show children your commitment to their church school education is to volunteer as a helper in a classroom! Responsibilities include sitting back and enjoying the creative conversations, the wonderful ideas that kids come up with and lots of laughter that will carry you through the next week. It's an experience you won't want to miss. Sign up today at <http://signup.com/go/eKorrV> or contact Leslie Krueger to sign up or to find out more.



KidsConnect Group (grades 3-5) will meet on **November 12** from 4:00-5:30. Ever wanted to play CLUE in real life? What about having help setting the table this Thanksgiving? Your child will be a mastermind at "Spoons!" As always, please bring a friend to join the fun!

Save the Date! Sunday, **December 3**, from 11:45 – 2:00 is our **Annual Advent Fest**. This year we will begin with an all church lunch following the 10:00 worship service. After lunch there will be Advent themed crafts focusing on Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love for all ages to complete the afternoon. It's a wonderful, well organized time for those who like to craft and a great opportunity to slow down and socialize with church friends. Family and friends are welcome!!



"HERE WE COME A-CAROLING!"

Please join us for a **MORNING OF CAROLS** on **December 17** from 9:30-10:00. Following singing and during the 10:00am worship service, the Children will present a short play, "On Our Way to Bethlehem." This is NOT one you will want to miss. See you there!

Acolytes/Greeters

We are grateful for the children that light the sanctuary candles at the beginning of worship each Sunday. We are growing this team. So, if your child would like to be an acolyte but needs a brief "training" session, please contact Leslie Krueger.



Children's Choir will sing **November 5!**

Our children collected over 100 food items for Harvest Haul. Congratulations! Come to church in your **PJ's November 19!**



HAPPENINGS WITH YOUTH!

Confirmation Class Update

November 5, the Confirmation class and mentors kick off the month hosting coffee hour with their freshly baked coffee cakes. Come to Friendship Lounge after worship and enjoy their baking skills and get to know them.

As a culmination to our series on Early Church History through the Reformation watch for the door to be on display with some reformation ideas from the Confirmation youth nailed to it (a bit like Luther did way back when).

YouthConnect

Mark November 10 for another Pizza and Game Night at church. Friends just make it more fun, so bring some!

Youth Fall Retreat, a Wisconsin Congregational Association Event: North Shore is hosting the fall overnight retreat for youth in grades 6 through 12 on Friday, November 17, starting at 6:00 PM and ending Saturday at noon. \$15 if RSVP by Nov. 13 \$20 anytime after Nov. 13 (fees collected at the door). RSVP TO WCA.YOUTH@GMAIL.COM.

*Parents: We would like to keep a bulletin board and newsletter notes of special events, plays/musicals that the school age people of the church are part of so we join in as able!
Please contact Rev. Julie with dates and events!*



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*A member church of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
and the Wisconsin Congregational Association.*

MINISTERS

All members of North Shore Congregational Church

ASSISTED BY

Rev. Dr. Martin Hall, Senior Minister

Leslie Krueger, Director of Children's Ministries

Dr. Rodney Loren, Organist

Leslie Krueger, Children's Choir Director

Mike Fugarino, Custodian

Brian Hanrahan, Katie Lennie, Nicole Lennie and Abby Schill, Sunday Custodians

Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, Associate Minister

Rick Kieffer, Music Director

Meike Pampalone, Organist

Kerrin White, Office Manager

Connie Mullins, Volunteer Office Assistant