

THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

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The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor

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February 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the first month of this year, how blessed we are to be here to welcome it. The past year has been one of great difficulty for so many people, not only in Goshen, but across the country. From the economy, to the Iraq war and its conclusion, to political bipartisanship and blindness, to fearsome weather—we have all struggled to comprehend life's many changes and how our faith plays its role. Many of us look for signs of hope not only in the past but mostly in the future which is yet to come.

Hope is that spark which keeps us looking up, or, as Emily Dickenson wrote, hope "is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all." Her image of hope is one with lightness, persistence, and song. With it, she conjures springtime and the return of hope after the hard winter. It is an image as well, I would say, of Christ's light in the world.

As we celebrate the Christmas season through Epiphany and Three Kings Day, we are continually reminded of the light of Christ in the world and how that glimmer, even in the coldest, darkest days, is enough to light our way and give us hope. No matter where you are or what your life may contain at the moment, hope persists. It is in the light of Christ that we experience the never-ending song of hope which we know by faith. This is where Isaiah's words speak so clearly to us: "Arise, shine! For your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." (Isaiah 60:1)

The challenge we face as the followers of Christ in this year, and in all of our years, is how to live in that light. How do we let the light of Christ so shine in our lives that it guides our path and gives us hope, no matter what? We do it slowly, year by year, saying yes again and again until gradually, without our knowing it, that light flows out of all we do.

So may the light of Christ shine within you this year! May the hope of Christ sustain you and lead you amidst all of the successes and challenges which lie ahead in 2012. And may the glory of God be a grace unto you and even surprise you!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Kingsley

FEBRUARY USHERS IN THE LENTEN SEASON

The church year moves us forward during February to Ash Wednesday on February 22, which marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is always observed as a season of repenting, of examining our lives, and of making changes in how we live. Because we are human, we all have our shortcomings; but each year, we are granted anew the opportunity to take a fresh look at ourselves and take positive steps to sink more deeply into our relationship with God and our neighbors.

Lenten themes will be reflected in the chancel choir’s anthems and in the hymns we sing together. This is always a special season of Sundays, culminating in Holy Week and Easter.

Our choir is always open to new members. Just come to rehearsal on Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor; we’d love to welcome you.

Robert Clooney



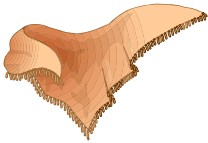


PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION (PW)

REMINDER: Our next meeting is on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor. All women of the church are invited to attend. Let’s get 2012 off to a great start! Come out, hear the news, and share the fellowship.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE WILL BE ON MARCH 2 AT ST. JOHN’S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ON MURRAY AVENUE IN GOSHEN.

(Time to be announced)



HUG HAPPENINGS

Prayer Shawl Ministry News

The ministry ladies wish everyone a wonderful and blessed Valentine's Day, a day of hugs. Since it is February, we are holding our **annual yarn drive**. In the narthex, there is a big tub for donations of yarn. Don't be surprised if the yarn doesn't last long after you put it in there. You may see some wonderful women picking and choosing colors for their next projects. We are so very grateful for your donations to our cause. If you have a special need for a shawl and would like a specific color, you may buy us the yarn and we will make your gift—just try to give us advanced notice.

I was recently asked what the shawl colors stand for. Although the below color chart is not necessarily followed all the time, and often a shawl is made in a certain color for a specific need (such as pink for breast cancer), we make shawls in many colors and designs so you can find the one that is perfect for the person for whom you need it.

Your shawl colors represent:

- **Ivory:** goodness, purity, faith, safety
- **Blue / Aqua:** tranquility, healing, trust, balance
- **Green / Teal:** hope, peace, confidence, protection
- **Purple / Violet:** wisdom, creativity, dignity, grief
- **Red / Pink / Raspberry:** joy, friendship, love
- **Peach / Orange:** compassion, courage, goodness
- **Yellow / Gold:** wisdom, happiness, energy
- **White:** purity, innocence, strength, peace
- **Tan / Brown / Black:** dependableness, calmness, honesty
- **Gray / Silver:** determination, character, mindfulness

In the past month, many shawls have been delivered or mailed. One was sent to an older man in the Bronx who took a tumble and broke his teeth and both his arms. His sister requested a long shawl to wrap around him while he watches TV at night. He appreciated it so much that he even took it to his doctor's office to show the staff.

Another shawl was sent upstate to a young mother with two teenage children. She discovered just before Christmas that she has pancreatic cancer. She and her husband are coping, and the shawl is a comfort to them.

Another shawl will be sent to the lay minister of the Monticello Presbyterian Church. Her dear friend recently lost her husband quite suddenly, and she is not coping well. Being a widow herself, the lay minister believes the shawl might help her friend through this period, and their church, in turn, may also be interested in starting up a shawl ministry.

One red, white, and blue shawl was under a Christmas tree in Amity, New York. The nineteen-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, left for the Navy on December 14, and she wanted to leave a hug for her mother. We chose an anchor charm to sew into the corner of the shawl along with a cross, so that when Mom would see it, she would know it was a hug from not only us, but also from her daughter

...serving our country. I understand that when she opened it on Christmas morning, the entire family had tears in their eyes and just loved the thought and care that went into giving it to them.

Many of our shawls are given for illness, but they are also given for other events. I recently placed in the shawl room a large folder with many copies of the prayers, which can be taken as needed. Also in that room are three tubs of shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets (which we give for baptisms). Pat will direct you to the room if you have a need for one or more gifts. These are for all members of the church to take. We hope that we can help you bring some comfort or joy to someone who has touched your life.

Again, remember us when you shop. A few skeins of acrylic yarn go a long way toward making a hug for someone who needs it. Help us reach out and touch someone.

God bless all of you,

Wendy Paffenroth

PSM Secretary

Trinity Pocket Shawls

These small, soft, triangular crocheted items will be available in a basket in the narthex for anyone who wants one, wants to give one, or is interested in making some. Smaller than the pocket squares, they look like mini shawls and fit perfectly into a pocket. The three corners represent the Trinity.

A small, detachable prayer is tied to each pocket shawl. Some of the shawls will also have a small charm (either a cross, heart, or hope ribbon) attached, so look at them carefully to make sure you pick the one that is best for the receiver.

Thank you to Darlene Bartley, who designed the pocket shawls, and God bless our congregation for your support.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

DEACONS VALENTINE’S DAY COFFEE HOUR
FEBRUARY 12

The Deacons will be hosting their annual Valentine’s Day coffee hour on February 12 in Fellowship Hall. Come one, come all, for some of First Presbyterian’s finest goodies, hot coffee, tea, and lots of fellowship!

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS ARE NEEDED

Coffee Hour after Sunday church services is a great opportunity for fellowship and getting to know our members. But **WE NEED HOSTS!** Please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the lobby of Fellowship Hall so we can continue this well attended and favored fellowship opportunity. If you have any questions, you can contact Sue Varden at 649-7830.

LAY READERS NEEDED

The Lay Reader assists Reverend Kingsley in the worship service by reading some of the service segments and the First Testament reading or the Gospel reading. The readings are available in the church office on the Tuesday preceding the service or it can be e-mailed directly to you. Please sign up on the sheet provided in the narthex or speak with Karen Magee.

2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you haven't done so already, please pick up your 2012 offering envelopes on the table in the narthex. If you don't find a box with your name and you would like envelopes, contact Nancy Smith at 741-8026.

PLEASE PAY YOUR PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT FOR 2012

Every year, the Presbytery of the Hudson River charges every member church an assessment according to the current active membership. Our recorded active membership is currently **340** and *our assessment per member* (not per family) *for 2012 is \$29.25*, which is a total of **\$9,945.00** to be taken from our operating budget. Please assist with this expense and write a check for your family assessment, if you haven't already done so, and either mail it to the church or place it in the Sunday offering plate. Thanks for doing your share.

THERE WILL BE AN ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE ON FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:00 P.M.

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR
FEBRUARY 26, 2012 FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.**

WILL THE CHURCH SERVICE BE CANCELLED?

If you are not sure if church services will be cancelled due to inclement weather, listen to WHUD 100.7 for an announcement.

Emily (Conley) Enright writes about the simple need for a pair of socks among women and children in orphanages and shelters in Afghanistan.

**Please place your old or new socks in the box or boxes you see around the church. Emily's mother, Susan Pierce, will mail our donations to Emily in time for Valentine's Day —
"Socks from the Heart"**

Before I moved to Afghanistan to join my husband Tim on assignment there, I spent a lot of time thinking about the clothing that my new life would require. I stocked up on head scarves and long-sleeved shirts that would reach down nearly to my knees. I thought a great deal about the clothing that I would need to be as appropriate as possible when I ventured off of the base. After I was done going through and selecting what I did need from my closet, I got rid of a lot of what I did not need.

Now that I am in Afghanistan, I continue to spend a significant amount of time every morning thinking about clothing, but, unlike when I lived in the United States, I do not pay much attention to my colors matching or even to what is clean. Rather, I spend a significant amount of time each morning trying to decide how many pairs of socks I need to wear that day. I know, people usually only wear one pair of socks, but central heating is something that has yet to come to Afghanistan, and we live in the desert where houses are built so that they are nice and cool in the summer (with little thought given to how warm they are in the winter). As a result, I spend most of my days in ice-cold offices, bundled up in a down jacket and at least two, but sometimes three, pairs of socks on my feet. The tradition in Afghanistan is to take off your shoes before you enter a room with a carpet, and, as a result, I spend a lot of time walking around in just my socks on my feet.

Over the holiday season, I coordinated a distribution of toys to a number of local orphanages and women's shelters. After our visits to these locations, Tim and I and our other colleagues could not stop speaking about the women's and children's socks. Like me, my husband and colleagues usually put on several pairs of socks each day before they leave the house, and with all of the attention that we pay to our own feet, we could not help but notice that these women and children all had holes in their socks—if they had socks on at all. Socks are such simple things when you own a drawer full of them, but in a place like Afghanistan, they are a real luxury. To have a pair of socks that you do not have to share with anyone is a big deal, but to have a pair that is all your own without any holes is something of a miracle in much of this region.

When I think back to the preparations that I made in the days and weeks before I came to Afghanistan, if there is one thing that I could change, it would be to have cleaned out my sock drawer with a slightly different focus. Instead of dumping my old socks into a trash bag, I wish that I had dumped them into my suitcase to give them away to the women and children who really need them here. If you have a few minutes to look through your sock drawer to find socks that you just do not wear (preferably clean and without holes), please donate them to someone who could really use them. The socks that you donate do not need to be new or any particular color or size—they can just be something that you do not need or want anymore. Something that is old to you will be really special to a woman, man, boy, girl, or even a baby here in Herat, Afghanistan.



PRAYER CORNER

The following members or friends are going through a time in which they have asked for prayer by the church. Please keep the following people in your prayers:



Vince Ahrens	Dedra Altizer	Fran Backofen
Lori Baird	Emily Barry and Family	JoAnna Becerril
Mary Lee and Ted Berry	Gabriel Bittner	Brandy Bond
Haley Buckley	Sarah Burrows	Winnie Bynum
Mary Carr	Jessica Chasen	Grace Cook
Rev. Edwin Coon	Bruce and Jean Crandall	Shannon Decker
Mary Jane DeFreece	Bob Dennis	Amy Depew
Joe Destefano	Everyone serving in the Military	Evie and Family
Mary Lee Farris' sister	Mary Lee Farris' brother-in-law	Ben Fisher
Norm and Sharon Frelinger	Gabby	Fran Genovese
The George Family	Barbara and George Hankins	Kevin and Sara Hankins
The Hartzel Family	Tomas Healey	Carl Johnson
Martin Johnson and Joy Johnson	Alan Jorgensen	Carolyn Keller's parents
Laura and Tom Kennedy	Kay Kent	Kim
Ella Kimble	Roberta Kinnamon	Lyndsay Krutki
Captain Steven Legion	Marni Lewis	Grace, Frank and Fran Leva
Charles Li	Robert Lobb	Steven Longobardo
Margaretta Macica	The Family of Melissa Martucci	Andy Marussich
Evelyn Mercado	Jeff Monroe	Heather Mustavs
Eileen Myslinski	Richard Nash	Steven Neil
Nina and Jason	Amy (Thompson) Nguyen	Randy Oberg
Oretsky Family	Ann Ott	Leon Paffenroth
Amy Pemberton	The Family of Marina Petersen	Jack Richner
Trudi Roach	Ted Sandstrom	Tom Sawyer
Kevin Schuler	Fred Schwarz	Bryan Scott and Family
Dorothy Sevcik	Sara Simas	Megan Slasinski
Gloria Spradlin and Jimmy	Walter and Louise Spencer	Peggy Srirach
The Smith Family	Bill and Jean Strong	Shawn Thatcher
Judy Thompson	George Tietz	Brenda Travers
Kim Valentini and Family	Joe and Mark VanZandt	Kenya VanZandt
Ashley Wade	Wendy-Bynum Wade	Jean Wade
Molly Wanat	The Weinberger Family	Jo Wolfe
Anne Wood	Orra and Dale Wood	Paul and Phyla Wright

(If you or someone you know would like to be on this list or if you would like to take a name off the list, please call the church office and the name(s) will be included/omitted next month.)

Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden

FEBRUARY UPDATE

We hope to have a few light bulbs replaced if the mild winter holds.

Niches Available for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium

Each niche allows for double or single interment, and the following four purchase options are available:

Payment in Full = \$2,500

12-Month Payment Option = \$250 / month for 12 months (\$3,000)

24-Month Payment Option = \$130 / month for 24 months (\$3,120)

36-Month Payment Option = \$ 90 / month for 36 months (\$3,240)

Please see Pastor Kingsley or Pat in the church office for more information.

“Stewards of the Garden”

If you are interested in becoming a “Steward of the Garden,” please see Pat in the church office.

The February/early March schedule for our “Stewards”:

Loretta and Jack Richner:	February 1 – February 14
Barbara and George Hankins:	February 15 – February 29
Beryl Yungman and Sue Varden:	March 1 – March 15

This schedule will be posted outside the church office.

Memorial Pavers

If anyone is interested in purchasing a memorial paver to honor or remember a loved one, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is \$100. A new paver order will be placed in the spring.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO REMEMBER:

The Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden is a sacred space... please respect it.

Please call the church office (845-294-7991), Pastor Kingsley, or Wayne George (914-213-4093) for any information you need about the Maney-Hawkins Meditation Garden.

FUNDRAISING

Planning is underway for the 2012 Great American Weekend (GAW), which will take place from June 29 through July 1. We have contracted with a new vendor for the children's rides. Dave and Wendy Paffenroth have graciously taken on the responsibility of overseeing this part of our church's activities for GAW. Tyler Cox will once again chair the selling of French fries, while Geri Corey will oversee the antiques. I thank these people so much for assuming these responsibilities! They will be seeking many of our congregants to help, so please put the dates on your calendars and get ready to volunteer. The proceeds from GAW go into the general operating fund.

We are in the process of determining when another Tiffany Ball should be held. It is wonderful that Pat Green has volunteered to chair this event! The Tiffany Ball has been a terrific fundraiser for the work that needs to be done on our windows. So far, we have received bids from three companies who can preserve the Redfield Tiffany window. A committee of us are meeting to determine how to best use the nearly \$65,000 that we have raised thus far. The Redfield window is THE priority at this point, as it is the most at risk.

I am truly grateful for all of the support that I have gotten from our church members and the community as I have worked to raise money for programs and, especially, our glorious Tiffany windows. At this time, I say farewell to you all as Jack and I are headed to Tennessee in the very near future to begin a new life there. We welcome being close to family once again! THANK YOU for helping me out so much while I was Fundraising chair! I will miss many wonderful people and this church tremendously!

Loretta Richner

CHILI CHALLENGE

If you missed last year's Chili Challenge (over two hundred people came), **MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS IT THIS YEAR!**

Our annual Chili Challenge to benefit PresbyBuild and Habitat for Humanity will be held on Saturday, February 25 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

We need about fifty volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up. If you would like to help, please contact Bill Keller at 294-5508.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

1	<i>Danielle Puelzl</i>	14	<i>Andrea vonPentz</i>
	<i>Grover vonPentz</i>		<i>Doug Wade</i>
3	<i>Kathleen Kingsley</i>	15	<i>Patrick O'Hern</i>
4	<i>Todd Countryman</i>	16	<i>Cliff Bartley</i>
	<i>Arlete Shaeffer</i>		<i>Robyn Boardman</i>
5	<i>Morgan Case</i>	18	<i>Dave Bryson</i>
	<i>Sarah Gibbons</i>	20	<i>Anne Tuthill</i>
6	<i>Dan Esposito</i>	21	<i>Jack Calzaretta</i>
10	<i>Linda Clark</i>		<i>Kimberly Zis</i>
12	<i>Jude Monteleone</i>	24	<i>Mackenzie Sproul</i>
	<i>Jo Wolfe</i>		
13	<i>Alice Kwiecinski</i>		

HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES TO:

9	<i>Mike and Allison Csernai</i>
14	<i>Sean and Janet Linton</i>

If you are also celebrating a special day, we wish you much happiness. If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary included, please give your dates to Pat in the church office.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- *Marge Chasen who became a grandmother on January 20. Jessica Chasen gave birth to Jackson Daniel at 12:20 a.m. He weighed 9 pounds, one ounce and was 22 inches long.*

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Please join us for a potluck luncheon on Sunday, February 26 in Fellowship Hall following the 9:30 a.m. church service. The potluck luncheon will be held in conjunction with the annual congregational meeting. We ask that everyone please bring a dish to share, according to your last name:

A – G – Side Dishes/Vegetables/Salads

H – P – Main Dishes/Sandwiches

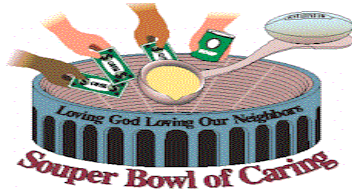
Q – Z – Desserts

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there!

The Souper Bowl



FEBRUARY 5, 2012



On Super Bowl Sunday tens of millions of people will enjoy the warmth of friendship and the satisfaction of food and drink while watching the Super Bowl football game on television. Unfortunately, at the same time, countless other people will feel cold air against their flesh and hunger within their stomachs.

An effort has been born that seeks to transform the Super Bowl into a “**Souper Bowl**” for the needy. The “**Souper Bowl**” is a unique interdenominational effort to glorify God and care for our brothers and sisters in need.

Here's how it works: please give one dollar & one canned good as you leave worship on the weekend of the Super Bowl.

Youth from your congregation will collect the money and canned goods and then send the contributions DIRECTLY to the Goshen Ecumenical Pantry. Congregations across the nation are then asked to call “**Souper Bowl**” headquarters with the results of their efforts so that totals can be promptly determined and released. (Congregations, please call John Strobl at 294-9004 with your totals; he will report the totals to the “**Souper Bowl**” headquarters for the Food Pantry).

Here's some background: the effort began in a Columbia, SC church in 1990. That year \$5,700 was raised in Columbia. Last year 15,235 congregations across the nation raised \$9,583,338.00. **The Pantry raised \$1,965.05.**

Please join in partnership as we seek to *Love the Lord our God...and Love our neighbors...* in this simple yet significant way.

Goshen Ecumenical Pantry, Inc.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN GOSHEN
GOSHEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GOSHEN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ST. JOHN A.U.M.P. CHURCH
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM





Just Energy, the parent company of Hudson Energy, is **First Presbyterian Church of Goshen's** preferred gas & electric supplier.

Here is an easy way to not only save, but generate funds for our church as well. In fact, you will continue to be billed as usual by your utility. This is our way of helping you lower your gas & electric bills and at the same time make an ongoing donation to our church. **It is a WIN – WIN situation.**

Just Energy is currently offering a **variable rate program with an introductory 3 month locked-in rate of \$.59 per ccf for gas, and \$.06 per kWh under our "Rate Flex" program.**

In addition, Just Energy is also offering for Affinity Program participants the following fixed rates:

Electric fixed rates are: \$.074 per kWh for 1 year, \$.077 per kWh for 3 years, and \$.078 per kWh for 5 years. O&R's 12 month average is over \$.09 per kWh.

Gas fixed rates are: \$.66 for 1 year per ccf, \$.71 for 3 years per ccf, or \$.74 for 5 years per ccf.

To take advantage of this offer, please call us and mention code: **FPCG**

To date, the church has received over \$1,700 in donations from Just Energy due to your expanding member enrollments! Your participation makes a difference!

I urge you to take immediate advantage of this ongoing program. For further information regarding residential or commercial accounts, call @ **877-463-7669 x 1956** or Miriam @ **845-228-3401**.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GOSHEN
Partnered with JUST ENERGY

Residential

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Promotion Code: **FPCG**

Public Utility/Energy Provider _____

Public Utility Account Number _____

Energy Provided (please check one): Gas and Electric _____ Gas: _____ Electric: _____

Check here for Fixed Rate Option _____ 1 Yr. _____ 2 Yrs. _____ 3Yrs.

Check here for Variable "Rate Flex" Option _____ Gas _____ Electric

I authorize Just Energy to enroll the above listed account(s) with my utility so that Just Energy becomes my energy supplier. This agreement is subject to Just Energy's terms and conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

4 Executive Blvd. Suite 301 Suffern, NY 10901
Toll Free: 877-Hudson9 (877-483-7669) ext. 1956/Fax: 845-228-3422
Email: Affinity@justenergy.com

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we shall seek to use our gifts through worship, ministry, and mission, to gather the Church in from the world, to continue to nurture one another, to serve a world still broken, and to exemplify through common values and purposes Christian discipleship to the greater glory of God.

BOARD OF ELDERS

Class of 2012

Wendy Bynum-Wade
Craig Calzaretta
Tyler Cox
Bill Keller
Tom McDowell
Sue Varden

Class of 2013

Cliff Bartley
Barbara Hankins
John Redman
Loretta Richner
Scott Roper
Rob Warner

Class of 2014

Linda Clark
Dom Fontana
Pat Green
Bill Hodges
Karen Magee
Grover vonPentz

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2012

Linda Boardman
Jessica Bowe
Carol Gabella
Glynnis Jorgensen
Carolyn Keller
Marni Lewis
Rebecca Zis

Class of 2013

Lori Baird
Gina Gruber
John Gruber
Kari Taylor
Moses Ukejianya
Ashley Wade
Anne Wood

Class of 2014

Diana Bowe
Brendan Donohue
Lori Kilmer
Brian Meek
Jude Monteleone
Richard Paulus
Cheryl Zis

Moderator of Deacons: Lori Baird

STAFF

Robert Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music
Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary
Kim Hoernig, Church Treasurer
Nancy Smith, Financial Secretary