THE TOWER TIE

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Goshen

33 Park Place; Goshen, NY 10924 The Reverend David Calvin Kingsley, Pastor **Telephone: (845) 294-7991; fax: (845) 615-1239** email: <u>fpgoshen@frontiernet.net</u>

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December 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you find the following article of interest. It helps explain the Presbyterian Church's move toward celebrating our Lord's Supper each week. Our founding theologians believed that it should be weekly, and it was only the civil authorities that set it to be otherwise.

Peace, Pastor Kingsley

CALVIN'S OBJECTIVE: LORD'S SUPPER EACH LORD'S DAY

An excerpt from Harold M. Daniels, *To God Alone Be Glory: The Story and Sources of the Book of Common Worship* (Louisville, Kentucky: Geneva Press, 2003) 96-97.

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Within months after Calvin's arrival in Geneva, Calvin and Farel presented "Articles Concerning the Organization of the Church and Worship at Geneva." Edification of the community was proposed by two means: frequent celebration of the Lord's Supper and discipline. The proposal stated (emphasis added):

When the Church assembles together for the great consolation which the faithful receive and the profit which proceeds from it, in every respect according to the promises which proceeds from it, in every respect according to the promises which are the presented to our faith, then *we are really made participants of the body and the blood of Jesus, of his death, of his life, of his Spirit, and of all his benefits.*

On this basis, the proposal stated clearly that the Sacrament was

Not instituted by Jesus for making a commemoration two or three times a year, but for a frequent exercise of our faith and charity, of which the congregation of Christians should make use as often as they be assembled, as we find written in Acts ch. 2, that the disciples of our Lord continued in the breaking of bread, which is the ordinance of the Supper. Such also was always the practice of the ancient Church, until the abomination of the mass was introduced...

It is apparent in this document that Farel, whose reformation ideas initially had been shaped by Zwingli, had come finally to subscribe to this view of Calvin.

We need to recognize that restoration of communing by the people each Lord's Day (i.e., actual *reception* of the Eucharistic elements by the communicants) was an essential part of the changes the Reformers sought in sacramental practice. Even though weekly *celebration* of the Mass was part of the medieval church, *communing* at each celebration (except by the priest) had long been lost, the result of the particular doctrines upon which the medieval Mass was built. In the medieval church the people were required to commune only once a year. For the Reformers, communing each Lord's Day was no less important than those reforms they were able to achieve, namely, restoration of the cup, use of the vernacular, and setting aside particular doctrines associated with the medieval Mass.

Even though it was firmly rooted in the ancient church, the idea of a weekly Eucharist was something the magistrates of Geneva would not accept. The Zwinglian pattern of Communion once every three months was already established before Calvin arrived. To those who had never been expected to commune more than once each year, the idea of communing each week was simply more than they could accept. Communing quarterly was quite enough.

Calvin and Farel therefore acquiesced to the magistrates' wishes, conceding that because "the frailty of the people" was "still so great," there was "danger that this sacred and so excellent mystery be misunderstood" if weekly Communion was to be required. So, a compromise was reached. That the people may be strengthened, the Sacrament was celebrated in each parish church in Geneva once each month, with the schedule arranged so that on each Lord's Day the Sacrament was celebrated in at least one of the churches. Furthermore, on a given Sunday the celebration was not just for that particular part of the city, but for "all of the Church." It was to be at a convenient hour so that persons from every quarter of the city could attend. The location of the celebration was to be announced in each church on the Sunday prior. This meant that anyone desiring to commune weekly could do so, but would have to rotate attendance between the churches of the city.

Frequency continued to be a major issue. When ecclesiastical ordinances were drawn up in September 1541, the issue of frequency was a source of contention. In the section of the Lord's Supper, after declaring the importance of frequent celebration, the following compromise sentence was inserted (emphasis added), *"For the present,* let it be advised and ordained that it always be administered four times in the year." The proposal evidences the inability to set in place the proposals of 1537, since the articles state that frequency of celebrating the Sacrament would be once a quarter in a given parish, but so scheduled in the parishes so that it would be once each month in the city. Furthermore, it was to be celebrated at Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas (but not again in the month in which these festivities occurred).

Calvin was not at ease with this concession. He once noted, "I have taken care to record publicly that our custom is defective, so that those who come after me may be able to correct it the more freely and easily." To his death, Calvin insisted that the Lord's Supper was to be celebrated each Lord's Day and that the faithful were expected to commune.

Please join us for the

Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24 7:00 PM



We completed the church liturgical year on the last Sunday in November with Christ the King. Now we begin a new church year on Advent I, December 2, as we look forward to the coming of the Messiah to Earth as incarnated in Jesus the Christ. As we prepare our hearts inwardly, we place symbols of preparation in the sanctuary as visual reminders of the season. Each Sunday, we light a different candle on the Advent wreath and sing a hymn of preparation. The sanctuary is swathed in greenery, the tree goes up, and our music helps us to focus on the first coming of Jesus. It is a beautiful time of year.

On Advent II, December 9, the choir will be singing *God's Son Is Born*, a Christmas cantata with readings and song. I like this one especially because it is traditional yet classical in nature with music from Bach, Saint-Saens, and Jungst. The short readings from the scripture tie in with our Advent and Christmas musical themes.

On Advent III, December 16, we will hear from the spirited youth in our Christian education program, who always reflect the joys of innocence in their exuberant expressions of faith. When I see the shepherds, angels, and all the costumes, they always take me back to another time. "Ah, yes, I did that, too, once upon a time."

Advent IV, December 23, is the final Sunday before we celebrate together the Nativity of our Lord on Christmas Eve. That evening, we are returning to our traditional candlelight service of lessons and carols. The luminaries will be lit, lining the path to the church doors, and it will be a special time for all.



Come prepare your hearts with prayer and longing for the coming of the

Messiah. In the midst of the frantic season, take time to be quiet and reflect on the true nature of what is taking place—we are getting ready for the birth of a child. This is a season of hope, joy, peace, and love. Let us feel those themes in our hearts as each week passes and leads up to Christmas Eve's celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

Robert Clooney Director of Ministry of Music

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. We still owe \$4,143.75 for this year. 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.



<u>Hug Happenings</u> <u>News of the Prayer Shawl Ministry (PSM)</u>

As the year comes to an end and another begins, our shawl ministry continues to send hugs to those who need them. After the hurricane, I heard from several people who have received shawls in the past. While some have recovered from their illnesses or surgeries, they told me that they brought out their shawls once again and felt not only the love but also the warmth of the shawls while they waited for the electric to be turned on again.

One lady told me that the shawl is something she leaves out in her living room over her recliner. When she sees the shawl, it is a reminder that someone cared about her when she was at one of her lowest points. It is also a reminder to keep moving forward, like the stitches moved through the shawl. She, in turn, gave me a hug. So the blessings do come back.

One of our baby blankets was recently given to a family with a newborn who had some medical problems at birth. I was told that several weeks later, when the baby was released to go home, they brought the blanket to the hospital so they could wrap her in it for the ride home. They said they felt the love that was put into the stitches and knew that that yarn was filled with prayers for their child. They planned to place the blanket on the rocker in the baby's room.

We thank those in the congregation that continue to bring us beautiful yarn so that our ministry can continue. We feel so blessed by all of our members who tirelessly crochet these mantles of love and hope. We will plan another yarn drive for February, so if you see yarn on sale, please think of us.

May each of you have a wonderful and blessed holiday season, and may it be "knitted" with lots of love for one and all.

Consider yourselves hugged,

Wendy Paffenroth PSM Secretary

The Worship and Music Committee would like to hear from you:

How do you feel about adding a second family-oriented service that would help to accommodate sports schedules that conflict with our current worship time? Let us know what service time would be helpful to you.

Please feel free to contact Barbara Hankins, Chairperson (845-294-8410) with your thoughts.



Quilts of the Congregation and Friends

The fifth annual "Quilts of the Congregation and Friends" got rave reviews. I was not able to be in the sanctuary this year, but I heard the remarks while at the craft show. Everyone was impressed, and Barbara Hankins, Kathy Alevras, and their wonderful committee (thank you all) knew so much about the items that our guests were talking all about them. We thank our dedicated D

eacons for greening the church so beautifully. So many people said it felt like they stepped back into a Christmas card of years past.

Many people also came to view the Tiffany windows and loved the restored one as well. I hope many of these people will consider coming to the ball in May to help us save these American treasures.

The food pantry did quite well, as a nice supply of canned and non-perishable foods and close to \$200 was donated. At this time of year, when so many people are in need, this was a good boost to the local pantry. Thank you to all who sat and collected or carried the food upstairs at the end of the afternoon.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all of the people who displayed quilts or handmade items. You are what make this show so special. Sharing your items with us is wonderful, and we wouldn't have a show without your devotion to us. God bless each and every one of you who helped to make this show what it is. Whether you displayed, helped set up, sat for a few hours, greeted our guests, played music, talked with our visitors, or helped take down and clean up, it was a great day for all.

Wendy Paffenroth



FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE...

The Christian Education Committee is helping the Sunday school get ready for the annual Christmas pageant, which will be held on December 16 during the worship service. We look forward to the participation of all Sunday school classes. The props have been collected, and the classes are learning the music. Practices will be on December 2 during Sunday school, December 9 during the entire church service, and December 16 at 8:30 a.m before church. Linda Boardman will e-mail this schedule to the parents.

The Giving Tree is now in the back of the church. Presents should be put under the tree by Wednesday, December 12. Please consider setting a great example of sharing by including your family in this worthwhile project. On Christmas morning, it is a really nice feeling to know that the child you gifted is enjoying a wonderful surprise. Those of us whose kids are grown can revisit the fun of finding just the right thing(s) for a youngster again.

With hope, BA Long



The November 5 meeting was light in attendance, as I and many other people were still without power because of Hurricane Sandy. Still, a lot was accomplished to finish 2012.

Darlene Bartley requested food donations from PW to help with the Stenson memorial for the upcoming Saturday.

The bake sale was very successful. As it turns out, we had less to sell than we did last year, but we sold everything and even sold out early. Carolyn Keller and her soup and chili makers managed to produce and sell thirty quarts of homemade goodness. Glynnis Jorgensen also had a white elephant table with rummage sale leftovers of beautiful crystal, glass, and Christmas items, and the money from these sales was given to PW. Thank you to everyone who baked, set up, cleaned up, sold items, or contributed in any way to this day. Your efforts were great, and we appreciate all the help.

We will fill roughly a dozen Christmas boxes for our shut-ins. If you would like to donate to this wonderful yearly effort, we will gladly accept items such as candy, cookies, calendars, teas, treats, hand lotions, note cards, stamps, etc. We will put a basket in the narthex to collect your items. Each box will also contain a Christmas poinsettia to brighten the holiday for the receiver. If you can make some homemade cookies for the boxes, please let PW know. Myrna Tucker also has some beautiful new Christmas tins for us to fill. We are looking for people to help pack and deliver the boxes. We will be packing the boxes on December 15. (The time will be posted in an upcoming Sunday bulletin.) Our snow date for packing is December 22. Please see Betty Lobb or Fran Hoffmann if you can help.

PW wants each and every one of you to have a wonderful and blessed Christmas. Please consider joining us in 2013 for projects that will help our wonderful church.

Wendy Paffenroth

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 or Linda Clark at 294-7488.

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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

In honor of the birth of our Savior and in celebration of this glorious season, please consider helping us to decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful red, white, pink, and mixed poinsettias. They will be placed in the church for Christmas Eve, December 24 and may be taken following the 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service. Kindly consider ordering a plant in honor of or in memory of a special person(s) or loved ones, or simply to the Glory of God and in celebration of Christ's birth. **The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, Dec. 11.** Please complete the form below and submit with your payment of \$12.99 per plant made payable to the First Presbyterian Church (put PW in the memo) or call the Church Office (294-7991), Betty Lobb, 294-6344, Carolyn Keller 294-5508 or Carol Gabella (after 4PM) 342-4367.

Thank you for helping us honor Christmas with festive flowers!

Yes, I would like to order Christmas poinsettias for the Sanctuary as follows:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>	
	Red	
	White	
	Pink	
	Mixed	
	Total @ \$12.99 each = \$	due

Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church (put PW in the memo) and place in the offering plate or give to Betty, Carolyn, or Carol

Given by:___

(Kindly PRINT as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.)

To the Glory of God and:	
In memory of:	
In honor of:	
In celebration of:	
To honor the birth of Jesus Christ:	
Name:	Phone:

Tiffany Ball Newsletter #1

Greetings to All,

I apologize for the late start of this committee, which was due to several factors: personal issues of mine and many former members, the devastation of Hurricane Sandy, and the fact that my printer now refuses to talk with my computer. I also did not want to add to the personal burdens of members or potential members.

The Tiffany ball is scheduled for May 4, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Harness Racing Museum. So far, according to an updated list given to me by Loretta Richner, the needs of the Tiffany Ball committee and volunteers are as follows: centerpieces (Carolyn Keller, Carol Gabella, Betty Lobb, BA Long), invitations (Cecile Ayres), alcohol (the Meeks), and the silent auction (BA Long).

Previously, George and Barbara Hankins handled responses to invitations, seating, and the DJ contract; Bob Aglione handled publicity and the journal layout; Wendy Bynum-Wade handled journal ads (collecting money and getting information to Bob for the layout); and Bill Hodges handled programs, flyers, and the large sign for the church yard.

Several people have asked me what they can do to help, and these are the needs of the committee in order to make this a success. Please contact me with information of your special expertise.

Also, please let me know the best time for the committee to meet. (After the service would be best for me. Otherwise, I am off every Tuesday night. The rest of my availability varies due to the nature of working at a hospital.)

Two other thoughts:

- 1. Do we need alcohol? I believe we had an open bar previously, but to save on expenses, I thought perhaps only beer and wine might be acceptable, or that we could have people pay for their alcoholic drinks.
- 2. Wendy Paffenroth has given me information regarding Louis Comfort Tiffany, and since this ball is about the Tiffany windows, I thought we could incorporate this into a journal that we could sell to help raise funds. I have taken pictures of the Tiffany window before it was repaired, and I will take current pictures so there can be a nice article for the public and congregation to see what has been done so far. The article might also mention what goes into repairing these windows and the costs involved. The triple window at the front of the church will also need repair.

Linda's on West Main Street has agreed to do the invitations; Catherine's will do the catering; and I have already lined up the DJ who provided the music at the last ball.

I am very excited about this and think we can make this a grand event. Please contact me with any ideas and answers to the many questions I have asked. If you have an e-mail address, please provide it to me. Many of you have only an address or phone number listed in the directory. Other than meeting at church, my schedule is out of sync with the rest of the world, as I work nights and usually sleep until 4:00 p.m. E-mail works best for the everyday, back-and-forth communication. I also have texting capability on my BlackBerry cell phone and check it a few times at work.

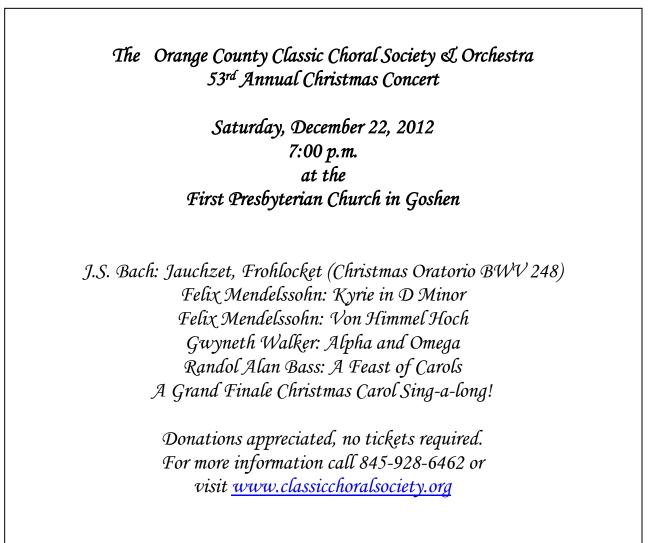
I know this is a lot of information and a lot of questions, but please let me know how we can work together to make Loretta proud and carry on her great work. And perhaps I can convince her to attend.

Sincerely,

Patricia (Pat) Green patgreen@frontiernet.net Home: 845-294-3330 Cell: 914-261-4923



The Giving Tree is back in the narthex for another Christmas season. Please consider taking a tag, buying a gift (or gifts), and making Christmas brighter for a child in need. All presents should be under the tree by Wednesday, December 12. Gifts will then be delivered to the Salvation Army in Middletown. Since the presents must be checked, there is no need to wrap them, but a gift bag always adds a festive touch. If you have questions, please call Beth Laskoski (845-651-3294). Thanks for participating. Every year, the Salvation Army is so grateful for the gifts!



PRAYER CORNER

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

Vince Ahrens The Barron Family Mary Lee and Ted Berry Haley Buckley Laura Colacci's father Shannon Decker Joe Destefano Mary Lee Farris' sister Norm and Sharon Frelinger The George Family The Hartzel Family Carolyn Keller's parents Ella Kimble Lyndsay Krutki Charles Li Margaretta Macica The Family of Melissa Martucci Jeff Monroe Heather Mustavs Steven Neil Oretsky Family Amy Pemberton Ilona Reichl Trudi Roach Kevin Schuler Dorothy Sevcik Gloria Spradlin and Jimmy Sue Stenson Shawn Thatcher Brenda Travers Kenya VanZandt Jean Wade Family & Friends of Mary Widmer Orra and Dale Wood

Dedra Altizer Emily Barry and Family Gabriel Bittner Sarah Burrows Grace Cook Mary Jane DeFreece *Everyone serving in the Military* Mary Lee Farris' brother-in-law Gabby Barbara and George Hankins Russell House Laura and Tom Kennedy Roberta Kinnamon Grace. Frank and Fran Leva Robert Lobb Kerry Maddlone Andy Marussich Lisa Montalbano's parents Eileen Myslinski Nina and Jason Ann Ott Velma Peters Tim Richardson Ted Sandstrom Fred Schwarz Sara Simas Peggy Srirach Tricia Stipak Judy Thompson Kim Valentini and Family Ashlev Wade Molly Wanat Jo Wolfe Paul and Phyla Wright



Millie Augere JoAnna Becerril Brandy Bond Mary Carr Bruce and Jean Crandall **Bob Dennis** *Evie and Family* Ben Fisher Fran Genovese Kevin and Sara Hankins Martin Johnson and Joy Johnson Kim Jeff Knox Patty Lewis Steven Longobardo James Magee Evelyn Mercado Jean Musgrave Richard Nash Amy (Thompson) Nguyen Leon Paffenroth The Family of Marina Peterson Loretta Richner Tom Sawyer Bryan Scott and Family Megan Slasinski The Smith Family Bill and Jean Strong George Tietz Joe and Mark VanZandt Wendy-Bynum Wade The Weinberger Family Anne Wood

(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

DECEMBER UPDATE

Niches are Available for Purchase in the Memorial Columbarium

Fifteen niches remain available in the memorial columbarium. Each niche allows for double or single interment with four purchase options:

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)

Memorial Pavers

We had ten new orders for engraved pavers, so an order has been placed. Pavers will be installed in the spring.

To order a memorial paver for next year to honor or remember a loved one, please see Pat in the church office. The cost of each paver is \$100.

"Stewards of Our Garden"

Please consider lending a hand in keeping the church's garden neat.

It takes only a couple minutes each month to pick up any litter, pull a weed, or sweep a few pavers clean, and you can help keep our garden beautiful. Contact Pat in the church office to sign up.

The DECEMBER / early JANUARY schedule:

Jen and Gregg Piller: Beryl Yungman and Sue Varden: Barbara and George Hankins: December 1 – December 15 December 16 – December 31 January 1 – January 15

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.

TIDBITS FROM THE TOWER

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO:

- 1 Roger Tuthill
- 2 Joy Kissane
- 3 Craig Benson
- 4 Greg Sitler
- 5 Erica Gati Kari Taylor
- 6 Lisa Montalbano
- 9 Beryl Yungman
- 12 Daphne Castellano Bruce Crandall
- 14 Rob Dickover Elise Frederick Jeanette McDowell Ken Skyer

- 15 Rachael Quick
- 16 Linda Boardman
- 17 Sergio Maturana
- 18 Barbara Thompson
- 19 Joe Pietropaolo
- 20 Nancy Leech
- 25 Jennifer Serkes Wesley Sproul Mal Stewart
- 27 Kayla Farley Paul Gruber Barbara Heiser
- 29 Geri Corey Ethan Cox

HAPPY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES TO:

- 14 Dave and Michele Castellano
- 17 Robert and Rebecca Boardman
- 18 Bruce and Jean Crandall
- 23 Bill and Gina Gruber
- 26 Bill and Carol Eustance
- 28 Jon and Deb Hourahan
- 29 Tom and Jeanette McDowell Greg and Deb Spencer

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.

NEW ADDRESS

Sue Stenson 14 Lantern Lane Amherst, New York 14228

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

<u>Class of 2013</u> Cecile Ayres Cliff Bartley Barbara Hankins John Redman Scott Roper Rob Warner <u>Class of 2014</u> Linda Clark Dom Fontana Pat Green Bill Hodges Karen Magee Grover vonPentz

Clerk of Session: Sue Varden

BOARD OF DEACONS

<u>Class of 2013</u> Lori Baird Gina Gruber John Gruber Kari Taylor Moses Ukejianya Ashley Wade Anne Wood <u>Class of 2014</u> Diana Bowe Brendan Donohue Lori Kilmer Brian Meek Jude Monteleone Richard Paulus Cheryl Zis <u>Class of 2015</u> Laura Colacci Carol Gabella Jonathan Laskoski Marni Lewis Tina McCloud Gregg Piller Jennifer Piller

Class of 2015

Kathleen Alevras

Elizabeth Long Louise Spencer

Sue Varden

Orra Wood

Wendy Bynum-Wade

Moderator of Deacons: Lori Baird

<u>STAFF</u>

Robert Clooney, Director of the Ministry of Music Pat Schwetje, Church Secretary Kim Hoernig, Church Treasurer Richard Paulus, Financial Secretary Anne Wood, CLP – Mission Pastor to Sullivan County