

THE CRIER

A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord!" Isaiah 40:3



The Second Baptist Church

Adult Education & Kids for Christ 9 am

Worship & Sunday School 10 am

100 North Main St, Suffield, CT 06078



The Baptist
Peace Fellowship



Carr's

Comments

Three items for your reflection. The first is our upcoming 2018 financial stewardship campaign. Every year we focus on our financial giving. Every year we dream and we wrestle with our dreams and what is possible for ministry in our congregation. Individually, we pray seeking wisdom about how we can best respond with our tithes and our pledges of financial support to the grace of God in our lives. For me, this is always an anxious and exciting time. Anxious because even though I know God is in the mix in all of this and when God's in the mix, there is nothing to fear, I still get a bit anxious. I get nervous about whether our financial pledges and promises will be enough to help make the dreams of our particular ministries come true. At the same time, I mostly get excited because during this season, we hear the stories of faith that rise from the hearts of members of our congregation telling of what this church has meant and means to them. Sometimes that's individually; sometimes that's in small groups; sometimes it happens in worship. And so often, we hear of the wonderful variety of ways of what God has been doing in their lives – in difficult times and in moments that call for celebration, how they have seen God at work in the midst of destruction and violence, and in the beauty that surrounds us and engulfs the world God so loves. I find these stories inspiring; they are sermons in themselves, because they are gospel, Good News. I pray that during this time, you would reflect on what God has done and is doing in your life and throughout the world.

Secondly, a very brief word on what continues to be the rising number of acts of hate, bigotry and discrimination in our country. I started writing this in early August, just a few days after a bomb exploded in a mosque in Minnesota, an act of terrorism. Luckily, no one was injured or killed, and the response from the community there and most in the state of Minnesota has been one of concern, compassion and friendship. And just before I handed this over to Alison for printing, neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other hate groups incited violence in Charlottesville, Virginia. On so many levels, there continues to be a rising anger, a fear-based demeaning of "the other," those "not like us," even proposed federal policies that seem to me, discriminatory and burdensome for the weakest and most vulnerable. From the time Europeans landed on the shores of the North American continent, colonizing Native peoples and then enslaving peoples from Africa, the history of our country has been one of dealing with issues of race, differences and "the other." Today, the cultural air of our country seems so toxic moving us more and more

towards separation, not the unity needed to thrive as a culture and country. I come from this principally as one who tries to follow the Way of Jesus. To Jesus, a human being is a human being, a child of God. EVERY person is a child of God, period, to be treated with the dignity and glory every child of God deserves. I think Jesus would have agreed with the old Jewish story that says whenever a person walks down the street, an angel goes before him or her shouting "Make way! Make way! Make way for the child of God!" The anger and suspicion of many who are "not like us" in America and the subtle and not so-subtle comments of some political and religious leaders, is rooted in fear and is a slap in the face of the One who loved the world with everything he had; it is also a rejection of his commandment to "love one another." Tolerance begins with listening to those who hold different beliefs than we do, who look different than we do and who may live differently than we do; acceptance of the other comes when we hear what the other is saying with their lips, bodies and hearts; love comes when we give ourselves to each other to serve the world God so loves in our wonderfully unique ways. And in love, we can honestly say, "he is my brother; she is my sister."

Third, I am in the process of working on a little book I'm calling (at the moment), "Reflections for Prayer." The purpose of the book is to be a tool for one's prayer life, to be used in whatever way is helpful to you. They will be brief reflections, prayers, poems, short stories – some of mine and many from other sources. I intend to include several Advent/Christmas reflections (so I better get it finished by November!), but most of the book will not be "seasonal specific," and it is not intended as a "daily devotional," though it could be used that ways. One's soul knows what it needs so I'm not thinking that there will be any particular way to use this book. I believe that within each of us dwells the One who is constantly urging us to explore our True Selves, that deepest part of ourselves. I'm working on it now; I hope to have it finished late in the fall.

One last note: starting in September, I will be taking Mondays rather than Fridays as my day off. Office hours will remain, Monday through Friday, 9:00am – 1:00pm.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful season filled with the abundance of life that only God gives.

Peace.

Tom

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 SEPTEMBER 2017
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September Flower Rep.: Peg Robards

September 3

Worship at First Baptist Church

September 10

Ushers: TEAM D: Bob Davis, Jim Grant,
 Derek Burnaford & Laurie Gokey

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Heather Piezchala

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available

September 17 Hot Cat Jazz

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal, Jonah Berrien,
 Richard Rinaldi & Kaden Rinaldi

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available

September 24

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Joshua Quinn,
 RC Hubbard & Greg Bassos

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available



Book Group

Sunday, September 17th, 6:30 pm

The Book Group will meet on Sunday evening, September 17th to begin a new book, "Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal and Delight in our Busy Lives" by Wayne Muller. Muller is an ordained UCC clergy, therapist, activist and author. The book is a tool to help us regain the necessary rhythm of life, the balance between work and rest. The tradition and practice of Sabbath is an important way to regain that balance and gain moments to truly be ourselves. All are invited.

About Our Community

- ♥ Ethel Evans, wife of former pastor, Wes Evans, passed away recently.

Volunteer to Share God's Love at Suffield on the Green

Suffield on the Green is fast approaching. What a wonderful way to kick off the Fall season and get together as a town. This event is such a great way to introduce our town to Second Baptist Church.

How can you help?

Offer 1-2 hours of your time to work at the booth.

Why is it important?

You will help share God's love and the good works of Second Baptist.

When?

Sept 9: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sept 10: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where?

South Green at Suffield on the Green

How do I sign up?

Call the church Office (860) 668-1661



Great Courses to Resume Wednesday, September 13th

The Wednesday morning gatherings around the Great Courses series, begins again on Wednesday, September 13th at 9:30 am in the Parlor. As the group decided in June, we will be considering another one of the great world religions, Buddhism. The series of 12 lectures are by Professor Malcolm David Eckel, Professor of Religion at Boston University, and an expert in Buddhism, comparative religion and Asian faiths. Each Wednesday morning, there will be a 30 -minute DVD lecture on a particular aspect of Buddhism followed by a discussion led by the Reverend Carr on implications for our living as followers of the Way of Jesus. We end each session at 11:00 am. Everyone is welcome.

Homecoming Sunday!

September 17

Events begin at 9:00 am

10:00 am Worship with the Hot Cat Jazz Band!

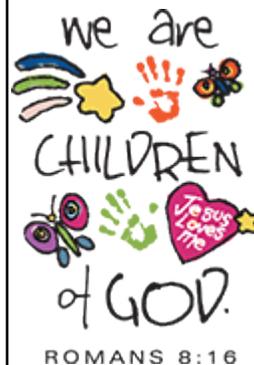


We will welcome back our good friends in the Hot Cat Jazz Band on **Sunday, September 17!** Come and enjoy a very special service with the band known as the hottest Dixie-land and swing jazz band on the East Coast. We guarantee that you will be walking home from the worship service singing and tapping your toes! Please plan to join us for worship at **9:45 am on September 17!**



Adult Education Begins Sunday, September 10th

Sunday morning Adult Education resumes on Sunday, September 10th at 9:00 am. We will begin the year by reflecting on some of the parables of Jesus as found in the Gospels and then move to subjects of interest raised by the group. The gatherings are led by the Reverend Carr. All are invited and encouraged to be part of these lively conversations .



Calling All Kids!

Join us for Christian Ed's
Kick-Off Sunday
"Learn it, Love it, Live it!"

September 17

at 10:00 am

Bring a friend!



Save it for the Holiday Fair!

As you clean out your attic or basement this summer, please consider putting aside any unwanted jewelry you come across to donate to the church for this year's Holiday Fair. Also, start making a pile of those gently used "Attic Treasures" now— you'll soon have a clean attic/basement and plenty to donate to the church for the Fair on **November 4th!**



Announcing "Junior Church" an old concept in a new way. All the children Preschool-High School will attend Junior Church on the first

Sunday of each month; this time will include singing, scripture prayer and a message. A wonderful time to celebrate God together. Junior Church will begin at the regular time and children can be picked up in the chapel when service is over.



Helping Hands for **Grades 6-8** will meet each Thursday after school, a time of service and activities.

Helping Hands for **Grades 9-12** will meet each Wednesday afterschool, a time of service and activities.

Call Sue if you're interested. All children in these age groups are welcome; it's an interdenominational program.



Please Help If You Can...

On Saturday January 2nd we are going to the Dominican Republic. Each year we go to small villages, deliver school supplies and medicine and work with our partner in Christ.

If you would like to go, please let Sue know ASAP.



Christian Education's Upcoming Events

Sept. 17- Welcome Back

Oct. 1- Junior Church

Oct. 8-Noah – Teach kids that Noah chose to obey God even when it was hard. Genesis 6:9 & 7:5

Oct. 15-Abraham – Teach kids about faithfulness through the story of Abraham. Genesis 15

Oct. 22-Joseph – Teach kids that Joseph became a hero when he trusted God's plan and chose to forgive his brothers. Genesis 45:1-5

Oct. 29-Moses – Teach kids about the humility Moses had when he was willing to take advice. Exodus 18:9-27

Nov. 5- Junior Church

Nov. 12-Joshua – Teach kids about commitment through the story of Joshua. Joshua 5:13-6:21

Nov. 19- Thanksgiving Sunday Special Project

Nov. 26--Deborah – Teach kids about honor through the story of Deborah. Judges 4:4-16

Dec. 3- Junior Church

Dec. 10-Gideon – Teach kids how the cowardly Gideon became a hero when he started to place his confidence in the Lord. Judges 7

Dec. 24- Christmas Pageant rehearsal and Pageant

Dec. 31- Movie Day

Jan. 7 Junior Church

Jan.14-Ruth – Teach kids about loyalty through the story of Ruth. Ruth 1

Jan. 21-David – Teach kids about self-control through the story of David. 1 Samuel 24

Jan. 28-Solomon – Teach kids about gaining wisdom to make a wise choice through the story of Solomon. 1 Kings 3:16-28

Feb. 4- Junior Church

Feb.11-Peter – Teach kids about courage through the story of Peter, Acts 4:5-22

Feb. 18-Paul – Teach kids about joyfulness through the story of Paul, Acts 16:16-36



Save the Date!

Pizza &

Lego Night

Friday, September 22nd!



Calling All Kids: The Children's Choir needs you!

If you are interested in participating,
please see Evelyne Battle or Sue Schenler.



Come and join the fun!

We are ready to start a new season of worshipful music! The first rehearsal for the Sanctuary Choir will be at 7:15 pm and the Handbell Choir rehearsals will start at 6:15 pm on Thursday, September 14. The Folk group rehearsals will start on Sunday, September 17th at 8:30 am

We invite you to join one of our choirs! We especially need female singers and no audition is required. If you are interested, please contact Evelyne Battle, Director of Music .

If you play an instrument or would like to contribute your musical talent in a different way, please call me and we will find a way for you to share your talents in our music ministry.

~ Evelyne Battle, Director of Music Ministry



Backyard Barbeques at the Carrs!



September 2017

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

3 10:00 am Worship at 1st Baptist	4 Labor Day Office Closed 7:00 pm AA	5 2:00 pm Helping Hands 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	6 2:00 pm Helping Hands 6:00 pm KML Concert	7 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:20 pm Helping Hands	8 12:00 pm FFFolders	9 11:00 am Suffield on the Green 11:15 am Springfield Soup Kitchen
10 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Suffield on the Green 11:15 am Fellowship Time	11 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 5:00 pm Special Needs Set -Up 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm AA	12 2:00 pm Helping Hands 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board of Review 7:00 pm Diaconate	13 9:30 am Great Courses 2:00 pm Helping Hands	14 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:20 pm Helping Hands 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 266 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	15 12:00 pm FFFolders	16
17 Hot Cat Jazz & Christian Education Kick-off 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed. / KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Music Ministry Mtg. 6:30 pm Book Discussion Group	18 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm AA	19 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Missions	20 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Calling and Caring Ministry Meeting 2:00 pm Helping Hands	21 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:20 pm Helping Hands 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	22 12:00 pm FFFolders 5:30 pm Lego & Pizza Night	23
24 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed. / KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:15 am Bylaws Review	25 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm House Ministry 7:00 pm AA	26 9:30 am Great Courses 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	27 9:30 am Great Courses 2:00 pm Helping Hands	28 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:00 pm Helping Hands 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	29 12:00 pm FFFolders	30



- 4 Diana Parker
- 5 Kelly Pleva
Aleksi Newman Denisovich Petrov
- 7 Katherine T. Battle
- 10 Rick Carmon
- 12 Brenda Prajzner
Natalie Das
Doris Murray
- 13 Karl Saunders
- 16 Tatum LaRoche
- 17 Molly Baumann
- 18 Lamoya Franklin
Luther Killam
Krycia Harlow
- 19 Mardi Newman
- 20 Ryan Corrigan
- 22 Lisa Haynes
- 23 Ruth Beal
- 25 Bill Remington
Tucker Killam
Katie Killam
Tommy Killam
Melinda Fuller
- 26 Joel Parker
Samantha Marquis
- 27 Connor Beaulieu
- 30 Dorothy Knowlton



- 3 Caroline & Etienne d'Otreppe
- 5 Josh & Emily Bochman
- 6 George & JoEllen Allen
Marcy & Ron Rookey
- 11 Lin & Bill Remington
- 12 Catherine & Randy Wright
- 14 Ernie & Libby Murphy
- 17 Chris & Rick Carmon
- 23 Brenda & Gary Seger
- 25 Tina & Chris Berrien

If you know of a birthday or anniversary within the church that is not listed, please call the church office, (860) 668-1661, or send us an e-mail at office@secondbaptistsuffield.com so we can add it to our list!



September Communion Offering KIVA

The Mission Committee has designated the September Communion offering to the non-profit, micro-loan organization, KIVA. KIVA is an international non-profit organization whose mission is to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. The lending is through "micro-loans," as little as \$25 dollars, which helps a borrower start or grow a business, go to school, access clean energy or grow food. Most of these loans are for individuals and families in developing countries. The total loans, usually anywhere between \$300 and \$1,000, are re-paid by the borrower within 18 to 24 months and returned to the lender who usually turns around and makes another loan for another individual or family. For instance, the Reverend Carr loaned \$50 to a farm family in Nicaragua whose was seeking a total of \$300 to install a very small solar system at their home because the village had no electricity. Within nine months with the \$300, the solar installation was accomplished and the loan was refunded and Reverend Carr has loaned \$50 to another family.

In the late spring, the children of Second Baptist Church began raising money and are now in the process of choosing a person or family to receive the loan. Following worship on Sundays September 17th and 24th, the children will be in the Fellowship Hall with information about KIVA, their computers ready to show you how we might all engage in this mission that is beyond charity, helping to empower others. With the money raised through this September offering, our hope is to offer micro-loans to several individuals and families around the world. At the same time, the Mission Committee hopes this inspires you to individually consider ways that you can help empower others to fully be the people God intends for all of us.

To find out more about KIVA, go to their website at www.kiva.org. Please prayerfully consider your gift to the September Communion offering.

If you have articles or announcements that you would like to have published in the October edition of The CRIER, the deadline for submission is Wednesday, September 18th.

The Suffield Local Prevention Council (SLPC) is an important awareness raising network helping our whole community come together to wrestle with the growing substance abuse problem. The following is the Mission Statement and summary of some of their work. If you would like to be part of this important work to represent Second Baptist Church, Please contact the Reverend Car.



Mission Statement:

Members of the Suffield Community who have the shared goal of increasing substance abuse awareness by providing information on prevention and available help resources while supporting a stigma free vision of addiction as an illness.

Youth Assessment Survey

As one of our many initiatives, the Suffield Local Prevention Council (SLPC) working with the Suffield Public Schools administration and staff, and with the support of the Board of Education and Board of Selectmen, conducted a confidential Youth Assessment Survey (YAS) for students in grades 7-12 on June 1, 2017.

The results of this survey will provide us with better information about our youth and their attitudes and behaviors regarding substance use and abuse. With this information, our community can plan strategies and programs that strive to increase protective factors, and decrease risk factors.

Keep in mind that substance abuse is not just a youth issue but affects individuals of all ages. In the past 2 years we have had 7 overdose deaths in Suffield and numerous other occasions when lives were saved by Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association or Suffield Police personnel administering Narcan.

On October 16th at 6:30pm in the Suffield High School auditorium the SLPC will sponsor a community forum where the results of the survey will be presented by Christine Miskell of the Southeastern Regional Action Council (SERAC) who analyzed the data and prepared the YAS report.

Other speakers will include representatives of the Suffield Police Department, Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association, Suffield Schools, Suffield Youth Services and the SLPC, as well as State Representative Tami Zawistowski. The emphasis of these presentations will be current initiatives to address substance abuse concerns in the Suffield community.

Some of ways that everyone can help include:

As the Suffield Local Prevention Council (SLPC) contin-

in the Suffield community and to provide information on prevention and available help resources, it has become very apparent that there are many ways that each of us can be a piece of the solution when it comes to preventing substance abuse.

By talking to your children about the risks of substance abuse and how to avoid becoming involved. Research has shown that individuals who have not abused drugs or alcohol by the time they are 18 have a 90 percent chance of never doing so. If they don't start by 21 they have a 95 percent chance of not becoming addicted.

By being a role model. Parent's actions speak louder than words - we should assess our own smoking and drinking as well as use of prescription medications or marijuana. All of these are proven "gateways" to further substance abuse, and are typically used before a person progresses to other, more harmful substances.

By asking doctors if there is an alternative to prescribing opioids when pain medication is required. Opioid use is a major contributor to the current heroin epidemic in the United States.

By getting rid of any unwanted and/or expired medications. Any community member can discard these at any time at the Prescription Collection Drop Box located in the lobby of the Suffield Police Department at 911 Mountain Road.

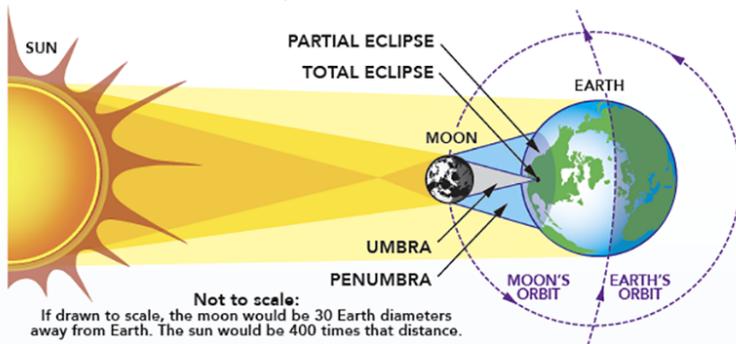
By calling the police if you know of someone dealing drugs or supplying alcohol to minors. Calls can go to the Suffield Police main number at 860-668-3870 and can be made anonymously.

By asking for help if you, a family member or a friend need it. The most direct way to find a resource is to dial 2-1-1, where you will reach a highly-trained contact specialist who will assess your needs and provide referrals to local resources. You can get help with not only substance abuse concerns but with utility assistance, food, housing, child care, after school programs, elder care, crisis intervention and much more.

Together we can be so much more effective working to reduce the damage of alcohol and drug abuse to our families, our friends, and our community. Always remember that "You Are a Piece of the Solution".

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE: Monday • August 21, 2017

This will be the first total solar eclipse visible in the continental United States in 38 years.



American Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is holding a Blood Drive on **Tuesday, October 10th** from **1:30-6:30 pm** in **Fellowship Hall**.

**Please call 1-800 givelife to
make your appointment!**



**American
Red Cross**

**Do you know a teen looking for
community service hours or is
just interested in volunteering?**

The American Red Cross is always looking for help cleaning up after blood drives in Suffield. It is a great opportunity to help others while earning community service credit.

**Please contact Christine Auletta
for more information.**

860-491-5132 or christine.auletta@redcross.org



VELLAMO
Finnish Folk Music Concert
Wednesday, September 6th
6:30pm
2nd Baptist Church
100 North Main St. Suffield

Gorgeous Vocals and Memorable Melodic Hooks

Kent Memorial Library

Register online at www.suffield-library.org

#SuffieldCT

Sponsored by Friends of Kent Memorial Library



Yoga Class Continues

We encourage you to join us as we build strength and flexibility in an inspirational environment.

**Call Nancy Drenzek for more information
at 860-668-6191.**



Fabulous Friday Folders Come Join Our Team!

Please consider joining us at 12:00 pm on Fridays to fold the Sunday Bulletins and Bulletin CRIER's. There is plenty of laughter, comradery and interesting conversation!

Please call Alison in the church office if you would like more information or if you would like to join in the fun! (860) 668-1661.

**Start gathering those memories,
quotes, thoughts and prayers
for the 2017
edition of our Advent Book**



**Featuring more scriptures
and devotionals.**



Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Now you can donate to our church at the same time---without spending any extra money!

Go to www.smile.amazon.com and log into your account. Then specify Second Baptist Church (location Suffield, CT) as your chosen charity.

When you place your orders, our church will automatically receive 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases, not including shipping (purchases include Amazon purchases only, not other vendors).

Ask your family and friends if they will sign up, too. Once you sign up, create a bookmark to use each time you shop. Nothing will change about your Amazon shopping experience. Amazon Prime accounts will not be affected. If you have any questions or need help setting up the account, please ask Laurie Gokey, 860-402-9292 or okgokey@gmail.com.



Cupcakes or Brownies for the Soup Kitchen

The **Mission Committee** is always looking for people to bake 2 dozen cupcakes or brownies and volunteers to join the team. **The next visit will be on Saturday, September 9th.**

Please contact the church office if you would like more information.



Fellowship Time, We've Made it Easy!

Please consider hosting a Fellowship Time.

The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.



We Are Affiliated With
The American Baptist Churches USA
The Baptist Peace Fellowship

About Second Baptist Church

Web Site <http://www.secondbaptistsuffield.org>

Subscription If you would like to subscribe to *The Crier*, please contact Alison Hardy-Dusto at (860)668-1661 or e-mail her at office@secondbaptistsuffield.org

Sunday Worship Service 10 am September – July. Childcare and Sunday School available.

We are accessible for people with disabilities from the back entrance, and hearing assistance devices are available upon request.

Sunday School for all ages. Adult Education at 9 am;
Sunday School for Children Grades K-12 during the 10 am Worship Service

Office (860) 668-1661 office@secondbaptistsuffield.org **Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Pastor (860) 668-1661 pastor@secondbaptistsuffield.org

Staff The Rev. Thomas G. Carr, Pastor

Alison Hardy-Dusto, Congregation Liaison Manager

Sue Schneller, Christian Education & Youth Coordinator

Evelyne Battle, Director of Music Ministry

Jean Aldrich-Jones, Organist & Handbell Choir Director

Jennifer Sikes, Custodian