



KLC 'Ōhāna News

To Share the love and word of God through worship and service to others.



AUGUST 2026

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Intentional Interim Lesley M. Radius



Save the Date! Welcome Pastor JP Sabbithi

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, August 16**, and plan to stay after worship for a special **potluck brunch** as we welcome Pastor JP Sabbithi, Pastor of Joy of Christ Lutheran Church in Pearl City, Hawai'i, and Regional Assistant to the Bishop for the Pacifica Synod (ELCA).

This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet Pastor JP, enjoy good food and fellowship, and ask questions in an informal setting as we gather to discuss the future of Kihei Lutheran Church.

Please help us extend a warm KLC welcome by bringing a dish to share. A sign-up sheet for the potluck brunch is available on the whiteboard at the back of the sanctuary.

We encourage everyone to make this a priority. This gathering is an **important** opportunity for our congregation as we look ahead and discuss the future of KLC. We hope you will join us for this special morning of worship, fellowship, and conversation.



ALOHA FROM PASTOR LESLEY RADIUS

Aloha from Pastor Lesley,

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17

When I lived in Tallahassee, three families would celebrate holidays together. Each of us would be responsible for the meal of one of the holidays. For many years, I watched my friend cut the end off of the ham before she placed it in her roaster. The first year when I saw her do that, I asked her why she did that. She said she was following her grandmother's recipe. She would remind me that she watched her grandmother do that every time she prepared the Easter ham. Every Easter, I would watch my friend cut the end off the ham, but I no longer asked why, because I knew she would tell me that was what her grandmother did.

One year, we had the privilege of having Grandma with us. As we were all gathered around the table enjoying the delicious Easter dinner, I asked Grandma why she cut the end off the ham. In a very matter of fact way she answered, "Because my roaster was never big enough for the ham my husband bought." We laughed at her reply. All these years, my friend thought removing the end of the ham was important to following her grandmother's recipe. That night she learned it had nothing to do with how the ham turned out; it had to do with the size of the roaster.

A conversation began around the table about all the things we do "just because" or "it's always been done that way before." My friend never thought to ask her grandmother why she cut the end off of the ham. It took my inquiry to bring the real reason to light.

Sometimes individually we all fall into doing the same things "just because" or "it's always been done that way before," not stopping to ask why we do that, do we still need to do this or is it the best practice now, etc. Even as faith community, we get into that same pattern.

Part of my time with you will be filled with why questions that ask us to stop and think why we do something and to ask do we need to do that practice, does it still work for us or is there something that would better fit us where we are today. Many of you have probably encountered my why questions already. These questions are not meant to be seen as me being critical of what you are doing. It is my way of better understanding your practices, your community and to be able to ask you questions that will help you decide if your present practices continue to serve you as you continue to be about God's work, with your hands.

In case you are curious, the method I use is called Appreciative Inquiry. In a book by Whitney, D. and Trosten-Bloom, A. (2010). *The power of Appreciative Inquiry*. 2nd Ed. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler, explains this process, "Appreciative Inquiry (sometimes referred to as AI) is the study and exploration of what gives life to human systems when they function at their best. This approach to personal change and organizational change is based on the assumption that questions and dialogue about strengths, successes, values, hopes, and dreams are themselves transformational. Appreciative Inquiry suggests that human organizing and change, at its best, is a relational process of inquiry, grounded in affirmation and appreciation."

I look forward to our time together to ask why and to explore where God is calling us. Luther tells us each night, we die to all sinful self and each morning we rise a new creation in Christ. May we rise to that the new creation in Christ.

God's peace and my prayers,

Pastor Lesley



Council Secretary's Report from the July 2026 Council Meeting



Council met on July 21 at 6 P.M. with a full roster of members. Vicki called us to some semblance of order and Pastor Lesley affirmed our electronic/hybrid meeting. Vicki offered a prayer and devotional. After adding several items to the agenda, we approved the minutes from June.

Pr. Lesley filled us in on the Intentional Interim Report and reminded Worship Team about the next evening's Lanai Learnings! This is the first of several. She filled us in on upcoming absences and who will be filling in for her. She is very much looking forward to our upcoming picnic. Vicki reported that she is happy to be back on island and we are very glad to have her home!

Margie gave us the financial rundown for the church. General giving from 7/15-7/21 was \$8520, YTD giving and rent is at \$197,608.60, YTD expenses comes in at \$176,795.22, and the balance in the general account is at \$138,065.59.

Shannon thanked everyone for the cards and words of encouragement and appreciation. She reminded us of our newsletter deadline which is the 25th. The office will be getting a new AC soon as the old one is no longer working. The repairs to keep it limping along have become very expensive and are environmentally unfriendly. Installation process is upcoming.

Nancy reported that the Fellowship picnic is this coming Sunday. Please stick around to participate and welcome guests! The new grill is currently on the premises and will be ready to go after a good cleaning. Thanks so much to Dave and Heather for the generous donation! Trevor and Phil will be your grill-masters for the event. Pr. Lesley donated Thrivent funds to cover the food for the picnic. Mahalo to everyone pitching in to make this event happen!

Nancy gave us the rundown from the Zoom synod assembly meeting. This is an annual meeting that is held in person only every other year. Synod has passed a resolution that the base salary for all pastors will be increased by 2.6% for 2027 to \$85,177 per year, which includes salary and housing allowance. There was also discussion of Land Acknowledgement. This is a recognition of the indigenous people who originally occupied the land on which our ELCA churches stand. KLC will be having further discussion on the topic in the coming months.

Those working with children in the congregation need to be sure to complete the Safe Gathering training. Please see Nancy or Vicki if you qualify. Council will be having a retreat on August 22 for several hours to help our new members become better acquainted and to help bring us all up to speed on plans for the congregation. We are also excited to have Cathy Meyer-Uyehara taking on the role of Financial Secretary. She is very well qualified for the position and we thank her for agreeing to serve the church in this way.

A stock gift was given to the congregation a few months ago and that has now been sold and will soon go toward paying off the mortgage. Once this is logged, it looks like we will only owe about \$60-70K on our mortgage! Please consider helping us pay off this entire amount in the coming months. We will have an extra \$2500+/- each month to apply toward other needed things once the mortgage is gone. This should help us prepare for the new pastor we hope to hire!

We discussed who will be attending Hukilau this year. Margie has offered to go and suggested another member as a potential second attendee. Shannon will be making travel plans for those representing our church.

The OKE Ministry Partner Agreement has a first draft and Vicki, Sue, Laura, and Pr. Lesley will be sitting down with Mel once she resettles after her father's passing. Please keep her and her ohana in your prayers as they go through this tough time of loss and grief.

The devotions schedule has been updated and planned through next summer. Thanks to Vicki and Pr. Lesley for stepping in the past few months as we had a few unscheduled voids in the roster. Pr. Lesley prayed us out of our meeting and we were all very much in favor of adjournment. Next meeting will be August 22 at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted by Rhonda Bode Stoltzfus, Secretary

To see a copy of the approved May Council Minutes please [Click Here](#).

ARE YOU PREPARED?

HURRICANE SEASON STARTS JUNE 1ST

HURRICANE SEASON—BE PREPARED! Hurricane season in Hawaii begins June 1st and goes through November 30th. Forecasters with NOAA's National Weather Service are predicting an above-normal hurricane season for the central Pacific basin this year. NOAA's outlook for the 2026 hurricane season, which runs June 1 to November 30, predicts a 70% chance of an above-normal season, a 20% chance of a near-normal season, and a 10% chance of a below-normal season. **NOW** is the time to get ready for ANY possible emergency. Start putting your supplies together, water, non-perishable food, propane, first aid supplies etc. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE**...take this warning seriously so you and your ohana will be safe if the big one hits. Remember...it is not if...but when...**PLEASE BE PREPARED!**



Click [here](#) for more information from NOAA on Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane Preparedness

weather.gov/hurricane 

Prepare Before Hurricane Season



Develop an evacuation plan



Assemble disaster supplies: food, water, batteries, charger, radio, cash



Get an insurance checkup and document your possessions



Create a communication plan with a hand-written list of contacts



Strengthen your home



A photograph showing various disaster supplies including a lantern, batteries, canned food, a radio, and a first aid kit.

God's Work, Our Hands – Blessing Bags

September 13th is the ELCA's annual **God's Work, Our Hands Sunday**, a day dedicated to serving our community and sharing God's love in action.

To prepare for this special day, the congregation is invited to help by donating items during July and August for our **Blessing Bags** ministry. These bags will be assembled following worship on September 13 and distributed through our ministry partners to those in need.

Requested Donations:

- Granola bars (Crunchy Nature Valley)
- Fruit cups (Mandarin oranges)
- Reusable water bottles
- Pairs of socks and Slippers
- Washcloths
- Travel-size hygiene products
- \$7.00 McDonald's Gift Card
- \$15.00 Monetary donations per bag - See Margie or Hilary for more information



Collection baskets will be available on the church lanai throughout July and August to collect donations.

We have created an Amazon wish list for the Blessing Bags to help make it easy to purchase and ship the items directly to KLC. Click [HERE](#) to visit the God's work, Our hands wish list.

On September 13, everyone who is able is invited to stay after worship to help assemble the Blessing Bags. Please wear your gold GWOH t-shirts. Snacks will be provided for volunteers.

On **Sunday, September 20**, we will dedicate the Blessing Bags prepared through the generosity and care of our congregation. Our Ministry Partners will be joining us for this special blessing before the bags are distributed to those in need. Thank you to everyone who helped make this outreach ministry possible.

Together we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Mahalo for your generosity and support
of this important outreach ministry.

Emergency Assistance Update

A heartfelt mahalo to our generous KLC congregation for your financial gifts and prayers in support of Nicholas Ogalla's son, **Pius Joseph Ogalla**. Pius, a boarding student at Nyabondo Boys Boarding Primary School in Nyakach, Kisumu County, Kenya, lost his dormitory and personal belongings in a devastating fire.

Your generosity helped replace essential items, and your prayers have been a tremendous source of encouragement for Pius and his family during this difficult time.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ through your compassion, kindness, and faithful support.

Please click [HERE](#) for a special message from Pius to KLC.



Recruiting Sunday School Teachers

We are looking for passionate, caring individuals to join our Sunday School teaching team!

If you want an opportunity to share God's Word with others, this is a wonderful opportunity to make a lasting impact. No prior teaching experience is required, just a willingness to serve, a joyful spirit, and an interest in helping our young learners grow in faith.

Training, lesson plans and all materials are provided for. Our KLC program serves children in grades K-5; keiki leave our Sunday worship service after the Children's Message and return to worship in time for Communion with their families. Our volunteer teachers rotate, generally teachers only teach once every 4-6 weeks. KLC Keiki Sunday School begins after Labor Day on September 20th and runs through May. Please contact Nancy Norman if you are interested or have questions, Norman.Nancy@gmail.com or text (612) 618-9999.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

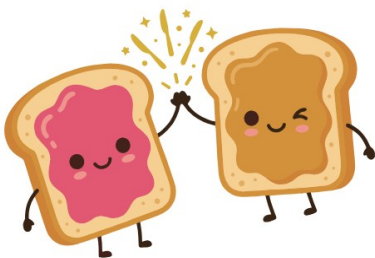
It's hard to believe over 1/2 the year has already gone by. Our July 10th PBJ Friday had some new volunteers that we were happy to welcome to the PB Jammers Ohana.

Pastor Lesley once again joined in, along with Sue Moorcroft and Don Sauer. Hilary's neighbors from Kīhei Villages Trish and Jill along with our ever Faithful Jammers: Kate, Laurie, Pat, Gail, Hilary, and Margie.

It is always a wonderful time for fellowship and funny stories all the while putting together the sandwich's so desperately needed for Maui's unhoused community which A-Cup of Cold Water picks up from KLC every 2nd Sunday.

We appreciate everyone who has in the past 2 1/2 years volunteered to make this ministry so meaningful to all involved. If you have a spare hour and a half on a Friday please check our calendar on the back of our bulletin for the dates and you would be most WELCOME to join in.

Mahalo for your support.



KEIKI PLAY & PRAISE STATION



Our Keiki Play and Praise Station on Saturday, July 11, was a joyful addition to the 'Ohana Strong (OKE) Exchange at KLC! Our thanks to OKE organizer Mel Eisenhart for helping KLC secure a prominent location for our booth. Keiki enjoyed a morning filled with faith, fun, and creativity as they made prayer cups, gathered to watch a puppet show, and sang along to fun praise songs. It was wonderful to see keiki and families connecting, smiling, and growing together in God's love while the community came together to support one another. A heartfelt mahalo to our incredible KLC volunteers who made the day possible: Trevor Sim, Nicholas Ogolla, John Norman, Max and Debbie Merrill, Phoebe and James Golding, Kim Landry, Lori Atrops, Pr. Lesley Radius, Laura McClellan, and Nancy Norman. Your generous hearts and willing hands helped make this event a true blessing for our community's keiki and their families!





Church Directory News

Did you know your KLC Church Directory can now tell more of your family's story? Thanks to the great work of our church administrative assistant, Shannon Kama, families can now add a short bio to their directory profile.

Take a peek at the Stafford and Atrops family entries to see how it works! We'd love to help Pastor Lesley and our church 'ohana get to know one another better, so please consider adding a bio for your household. Share a little about yourselves—how long you've been at KLC, your interests, your family, or anything else you'd like others to know. Ready to join in? Contact the church office at klc@kiheilutheran.org or reach out to Laura McClellan or Nancy Norman. Not sure what to write? No problem—we're happy to help you create something that feels just right.



Would you like to help out at KLC but aren't sure what you can do? Maybe you don't have a lot of time available or are not sure you have a talent to offer. We have a place for you.

- If you like to smile and say Hi to everyone, you are perfect to be a host. You would never have to be there alone since we work in groups of three.
- If you like to read scripture, you are just right for Reader. This is the person who reads the first reading. You will be sent the scripture a few days early so you can be prepared.
- If you would like to read scripture plus a little more, try Assisting Minister. You will have the honor of helping to serve communion as well as leading a few prayers. You will be provided with everything in the week before so you will be prepared.
- If you like to stay behind the scenes, Sacristan is the place for you. You will arrive early to set up the sanctuary for worship. Things like light the candles and set out the communion elements (bread already prepared). You will receive training.

We would love to have you join with other volunteers with one or more of these Sundays. The more people we have the less often any one will be called upon. If you have questions or are ready to volunteer, please contact Marilyn Hopkins or Lori Atrops. See us on Sundays, call, text or email. We're in the directory.

Christian Education News

KLC's Adult Ed Classes: Will be on vacation for the summer and will resume again following worship on Sunday, September 20th, after worship from 11a-12p, in the classroom in the lower level. Questions? Please contact Ollie Stafford: ostafford1@icloud.com

Keiki Sunday School: Resumes September 20th for any keiki in grades K-5. We encourage families to register their children if they would like to have their children participate. Keiki Sunday School is held during worship. Keiki leave the sanctuary following the Children's Message and go with the teacher to the classroom on the lower level. They return to the sanctuary in time to have Communion with their family. To register your child, please contact Nancy Norman: Norman.Nancy@gmail.com



Flower Chart Available for 2026

There are still open Sundays for 2026 flower Calendar. The sign-up calendar is on the whiteboard in the sanctuary.

Please remember no strong scented flowers as Pastor Lesley has severe allergies. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Harris.

Mahalo to the wonderful members who have provided flowers to add beauty to our services in 2026.

Living Lutheran

"Living Lutheran is your free source for news, reflections and stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its local and global companions. This online magazine covers religious news and social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, family matters, spiritual practices and resources, and more."

Click [here](#) for the link to visit the Living Lutheran Magazine

2027

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

JUNE 28 - JULY 2

What: Natl. ELCA Youth Gathering, June 28-July 2, 2027. Every three years, thousands of high schoolers and their adult leaders from across the ELCA come together for the ELCA Youth Gathering. It's not just an event but a movement in which faith ignites and community comes alive. Through inspiring speakers, experiential learning and transformative connections, young people experience the church in bold, unforgettable ways. Each night, participants share a unique faith experience through high-energy worship and powerful storytelling. The Gathering is an opportunity to ask big questions, grow in faith and be part of something bigger than yourself.

Who: Youth participants in the ELCA Youth Gathering must be in 8th-12th grade at time of registration (fall 2026). Any KLC HS youth or grandchildren or other friends or 'ohana members may attend as a part of our KLC Youth Group.

Cost: KLC will cover all expenses, but we would like to apply for financial assistance from the ELCA before Oct. 16.

- Interested or have questions? Please contact Nancy Norman at Norman.Nancy@gmail.com. Deadline: Oct. 16
- Why so early? Financial assistance applications from ELCA must be submitted before Oct. 16, so we will need a list of youth who plan to attend. Plus we can save money on registration if we register our KLC youth prior to Nov. 11.
- Great 3 min. video clip that explains what the Gathering is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaFrlxAGN9Y>
- More info at: <https://www.elca.org/gathering>
- Key planning dates: <https://www.elca.org/gathering/gathering-2027/key-dates>
- FAQs: <https://www.elca.org/gathering/gathering-2027/faq>





HAU'OLI LA HANAU! (Happy Birthday!)

Anthony Scibelli	8/3
Donna Nelson	8/4
Joy Nelson	8/4
Reef Boren	8/5
Gina Casey	8/9
Jill Jennings	8/9
Sue Moorcroft	8/9
Craig Weber	8/11
Larry Manning	8/12
Dee Reader	8/13
Ede Stratton	8/14
John Norman	8/14
Joan Grotz	8/15

Laura McClellan	8/15
Jessica Nelson	8/15
Gloriann McDowell	8/17
Braxton Cuomo	8/20
Sharon Begalke	8/24
Kirsten Paulson	8/25
Andrea Harris	8/26
David Martinsen	8/27
Tayon Spencer	8/27
Carolyn Young	8/27
Sam Mather	8/30

HAU'OLI LA HO'OMANA'O! (Happy Anniversary!)



Dave & Melanie Spencer	August 3, 2007
Peter & Janet Harp	August 6
Keek & Mo Hottendorf	August 14, 1993
Don & Sharon Begalke	August 16, 1986
Oliver & Marcia Stafford	August 21, 1987
Brad & Diana Hill	August 26, 1960
Jim & Andrea Harris	August 27, 1983



COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2026 VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

A Cup of Cold Water (ACCW)

Feed My Sheep (FMS)

Maui Rescue Mission (MRM)

(note: starting time for all events is 11:00 am)

August

6 Snack Bags for ACCW

6 Hygiene Bags for ACCW

7 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

September

11 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

17 Hygiene Bags for MRM

October

9 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

15 Hygiene Bags for FMS

November

5 Snack Bags for ACCW

5 Hygiene Bags for ACCW

6 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

December

11 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

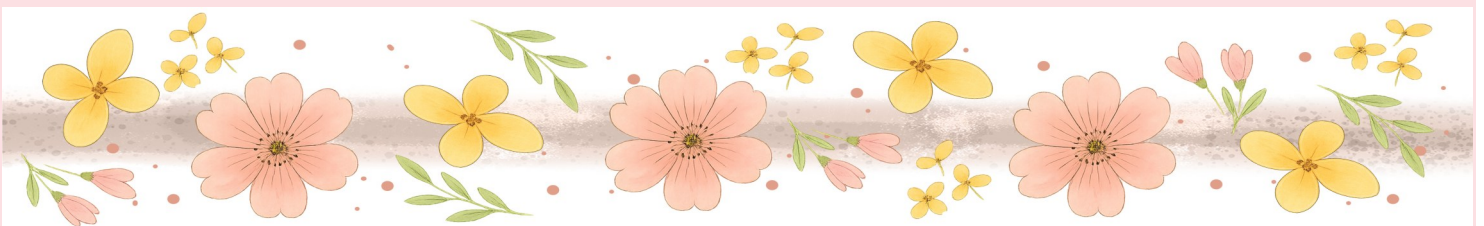
17 Hygiene Bags for MRM

If you have questions or you would like to let us know when
you're available to volunteer.

Please contact:

Margie Terluin: margiet3511@gmail.com or 808-874-5049, Hilary Glassel

hilary.glassel@gmail.com 808-359-7713





Kihei Lutheran Church

August 2026

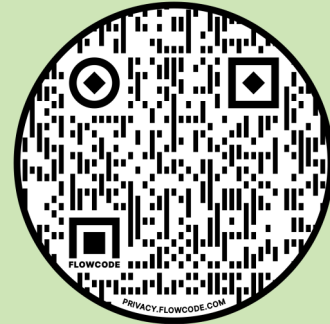
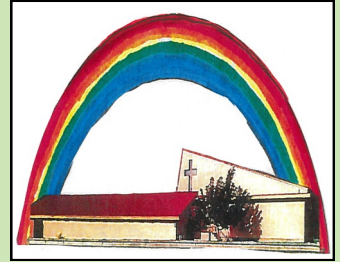


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 9:30am Worship 1:30pm Maui Mission 3pm Tongan Church	27 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	28 12pm AI-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	29	30	31 12pm AI-Anon	1 12:30pm Maui Greek Orthodox Mission
2 9:30 am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	3 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	4 12pm AI-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	5	6 11am Snack & Hygiene Bags	7 10am Spiritual Growth 11am PB& J's 12pm AI-Anon	8
9 9:30 am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	10 10am Faith Journey-Zoom 7pm Worship Team – Zoom	11 12pm AI-Anon 5pm Finance Team 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	12	13	14 12pm AI-Anon	15 12:30pm Maui Greek Orthodox Mission
16 9:30am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	17 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	18 12pm AI-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	19 5pm Fellowship Team	20 9am Prayer Shawl	21 12pm AI-Anon	22 9am Council Retreat
23 9:30am Worship 3pm Tongan Church 31 9:30am Worship 1:30 Greek Orthodox 3pm Tongan Church	24 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	25—Newsletter Deadline 12pm AI-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	26	27	28 12pm AI-Anon	29 12:30 Maui Greek Orthodox Mission

Important Statistics

June	2025	2026
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	55—In Person 113—Streaming Views	47—In Person 110—Streaming Views
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach (Facebook had gotten better at counting views)	220—In Person 452—Streaming	188—In Person 440—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$32,644.50	\$17,984.58
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$151,350.00	\$152,055.60

KLC is a qualified section 501(c)(3) organization. All offerings or donations are tax deductible under section 170 (c)(2) of the IRS regulations. Making an offering/donation constitutes your agreement to relinquish control in accordance with those regulations and KLC policies.



Scan this QR Code to get to our Givelify page.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl hui is on the summer schedule of meeting on the third Thursday of the month 9:00-11:00 am. If you need a prayer shawl or have any questions please contact the office and Shannon will be able to assist you. If this is a ministry you care about, please consider a donation. We rely on donations to purchase more yarn and are in need of some more funds. Mahalo for your help.

The Prayer Shawl Ladies



Next Meeting will be:
Council Retreat—Hybrid
KLC
Saturday, August 22nd
9:00am -12:00pm

Administrative Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM—5:00 PM



LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK

If you haven't already "liked" our page:
www.facebook.com/KiheiLutheran
go ahead and do so to be the most up-to-date on upcoming church events. A link is already on the church website!

Staff	
Pastor	Interim Pastor Lesley Radius
Music Coordinator	Julia Golding
Church Administrative Asst.	Shannon Kama
Bookkeeper	Sue Whitney
Worship Area Coordinators	
Chimes & Choir Director	Julia Golding
Flowers	Andrea Harris
Hosts Coordinator	Marilyn Hopkins
Worship Assistants/Readers	
Other Contacts	
Treasurer	Margie Terluin
Financial Secretary	
Hula Group	Sally Handley
E-mail Prayer Chain	Shannon Kama

