

# SANCTUARY IN THE CITY

An Open and Affirming Ministry

# COMPTON HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



February 2013

Volume 61, Number 2

[www.comptonheights.com](http://www.comptonheights.com)

The Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Foster, Pastor

Ms. Joylynn Graham, Student Assoc. Pastor



## The Tree of Abundant Joy & Overflowing Generosity

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## Abundant Joy Overflowing Generosity ---- Abundant Generosity Overflowing Joy

As we celebrate the many gifts of ministry given through Compton Heights Christian Church in the past and dream about ways our congregation can continue ministry in the future, we realize that our own dedicated service and contributions of our time, talents and treasure are how we respond to all that God has given to us. Our joy that we are able to give transforms us into a people of overflowing generosity. And when we honor God with gifts of abundant generosity, we experience overflowing joy!

In 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. the Apostle Paul holds up for the Corinthians an example of abundant living and giving by the Macedonian Christians who were living on the edge and didn't have the material wealth that is usually associated with abundant offerings. But they gave anyway with gladness and generosity. Even if we think of our community being in somewhat of the same social and economic status as the Macedonians (afflicted socially and economically) *can we do less than say YES! to God's call to give of ourselves as readily as they did?*

**Sunday February 3 is Stewardship Commitment Sunday and we will gratefully receive your commitment at any time! If you have not received a Stewardship Card in the mail, you may pick one up at the church!**

### My Estimated Financial Giving to Compton Heights Christian Church 2013 (To the attention of the Financial Secretary)

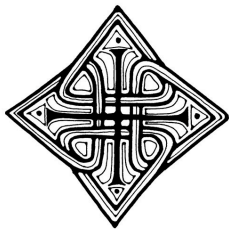
In celebration of God's abundant generosity to me, and out of the overflowing joy I feel from God's blessings in my life through this congregation, I commit to this estimated offering, with God's help:

I/We plan, with God's help, to give \$ \_\_\_ per week or \$ \_\_\_ per month in 2013.  
Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I/We would like a set of offering envelopes \_\_\_\_

I/We use a service that mails our contribution \_\_\_\_



## CROSSPATHS

One would think that we choose the things that are easiest for us; the ways of being that seem to come naturally. And I suppose that most often we do. Yet I've realized that it is increasingly important for me to go to places that are difficult for me. It is definitely not for the purpose making myself uncomfortable. It is rather that there really are some aspects of living in God's world that I believe are important, even though they are hard for me. For example, I want to spend time in public places, to push myself to be around and engage with people who are different from myself. (This from one who craves space and time alone!) But I believe that if we continue to withdraw from each other – into our houses, behind our gates, on our mountain-tops, or even in our churches -- our public life will continue to deteriorate as Jesus knew it would, and as Quaker theologian Parker Palmer said it would in his book, *The Company of Strangers*.

Palmer considers that a part of the role of the church (i.e. us!) is to renew public life. The public is where we are interdependent. We share the public space not because we agree with each other, or even know each other, but because we all belong. We all belong in the public park, on the public street, at the public library where what we have in common is our dignity as human beings.

Palmer says that our public life has broken down in this country because we have begun to regard strangers as enemies. Barbara Brown Taylor describes that "the strangers we meet must either be kept out of our lives or made like us, which wreaks havoc with our public life. The endless variety of humankind becomes a threat, not a blessing, and the whole body suffers." (*BBT, Home by Another Way*)

The one we call Lord and Savior is the Jesus who welcomes and cares for the stranger, who chooses to hang out among those who are the outcasts, who pushes the edges of the religious community until it meets with the public.

The Jesus that the disciples followed is the one who led them down from the mountain of transfiguration and back to live out ministry in the threatening public of Jerusalem.

This Lent, I feel called *not* to withdraw, but to go out in public to see where the Christ leads. (Okay, I'll have to pull back occasionally to buck up my courage, but if I stay with Jesus, we'll be right out there!)

*Are you coming? Jacque*

## Lenten Worship and Service

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, February 12, 6:00 p.m. Isaiah 58 Ministries Board and Staff cook up great pancakes, sausage, and all the trimmings! Activities for the kids! Free will offering to benefit Isaiah 58 Ministries!

### ASH WEDNESDAY

**Ashes-to-Go** -acknowledging our brokenness in public, pastors of our ecumenical group of congregations pray with people on the street and share the imposition of ashes. The corner of S. Grand and Arsenal and around that area! 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come, receive ashes or just hang out with us! Our friends at Mokabe's provide the tent and coffee!

**Ash Wednesday Evening Worship** 7:00 PM (in our sanctuary) This year's ecumenical service will be a simple, reflective Taize - style service. Come for a time of reflection and communion as we begin Lent together. Sam Voth Schrag, of St. Louis Mennonite Fellowship preaching. Tyler Place Presbyterian and Compton Heights CC hosting.

## Celebrations and Concerns

### *In Our Prayers*

#### **Betty and Red Graham**

**Janice Tayoan** for healing and gaining of strength.

**Royce Sykes** pneumonia

**Ruth Kreuger**

**Lew Mead**

Please keep **Milton Simpson** in prayer. He is **Karen Pitt's father** and was pulled to safety by a passerby on Sunday morning January 27, when his home in Kentucky was destroyed by fire. Hold Karen and John in prayer as well.

#### **Thank you, Joe!**

Tyler Place Presbyterian Church's maintenance person, Joe Bradshaw, has been busy fixing things around the building. He has replaced light bulbs, added a new education building alley door light, repaired the floor buffer, replastered and repainted the damaged walls in the narthex basement, and re-hung the Isaiah 58 food pantry window gate. He's currently working on a bottom-half Dutch door for the Isaiah 58 food pantry.

Thank you, Joe, and thank you, Tyler Place!

### **GIFTS FROM HAMILTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Hamilton Christian Church is remaking and re-envisioning itself. As part of that process, it hosted a give-away of excess church materials on November 11 and 12, 2012. Rev. Karen Pitt, David French, and Dave Boger were able to go. We received 17 matching NRSV Bibles for the adult class, 8 large print Chalice Hymnals, candles, beautiful paraments for the pulpit and lectern, a banner, an art easel, communion cups, and an abundance of hand fans for the summer day when our air conditioner quits.

David French spent four hours going through their 36 file drawers of music. He came away with a huge box of choir music that includes both new pieces and extra copies of music we already have. We have already heard our choir singing some of this new music! Thank you, David!

Rev. Pitt was able to get 28 matching hymnals for her ministry at the State Psychiatric Hospital, plus other books from Hamilton's library. (CHCC and Memorial Blvd. Christian Church were also able to donate some old hymnals that match those from Hamilton so that Karen has plenty of matching hymnals for worship that the hospital!)

We thank Hamilton Christian and Rev. Katherine Kinnamon for this generous event. Our hearts and prayers are with them in their re-envisioning process.

### **Happy Birthday!**



#### **FEBRUARY**

18<sup>th</sup> Lynda Gamlin

21<sup>st</sup> Annabelle Martin

28<sup>th</sup> Nancy Obermiller

#### **MARCH**

4<sup>th</sup> Dennis Landon

15<sup>th</sup> Mary Schumacher

19<sup>th</sup> Bob Miner

20<sup>th</sup> Lillian Kaley

21<sup>st</sup> David French

If we do not have your Birthday in our information, please let us know so that we can celebrate with you!

## “ BECOMING THE COMMUNITY OF JESUS”

A Winter/Spring 2013 focus to help our congregation listen for God’s leading forward in ministry!



### PART 1 “SAVING JESUS Redux”

Sunday Morning Study experience (began Sunday, Jan. 27) and will extend through the spring. This is a DVD-based study exploring what Jesus looks like for the third millennium. Contributors include Brian McLaren, Diana Butler Bass, Robin Meyers, Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, and a host of other theologians, scholars, and pastors.

*A deeply engaging study, to help us personally and as a community explore who Jesus is and therefore what it means for us to live as the Community of Jesus in the world.*

*We encourage as many in our congregation as possible to take part in this Sunday morning study. It begins on time at 10:05 and extends until 10:50. There will be room for all!!*

### PART 2

### “BELONGING”

Begins Tuesday Evening, February 19

7 Session Evening Group Experience plus 1 Day-Long Immersion

“A small-group process, a structured opportunity to practice  
**living deeply and loving broadly**

in which we look to **JESUS** as our model of integrity and  
pattern our lives around **prayer-full discipleship practices,**  
**in order to be set loose as agents of love and healing in this broken world!”**

**Tuesday Evenings 6:30 – 8:30, Feb. 19 and 26, March 5, 12 and 19**

**Saturday, March 23 – Day-long Immersion “Going to the Margins”**

**Tuesday Evenings April 2 and 9th**

*(Please Register by Sunday, Feb 3 so that we can order your book!*

*Childcare will be provided IF you request it ahead of time. Please indicate need for childcare when you register.)*

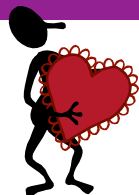
***Latter parts of our process will include Home Gatherings, Compassionate Listening, and a late Spring Retreat!***



**An Evening of Valentine-making! Tuesday, Feb 5, 6:30 PM**

**Come have a great time making Valentines - for dear ones in the congregation, for family and friends, for strangers who need to know God's loves them!**

**An evening to color, cut and paste with fun people!**



## reStore Our Steeple

On February 29, 2012, two windows of our steeple were damaged in a windstorm. We received an insurance settlement for \$10,270 to repair them, but the lowest and best bid we received to replace all four and the siding was \$22,600. In July, the Board of Ministry approved Frank Sager and Son, Inc. to replace all four existing steeple windows with white vinyl windows that will be similar in size and shape to the existing windows, and cover the remainder of the steeple with maintenance free white vinyl siding. Shortly after work began, we were informed by the City of St. Louis that we needed special architectural drawings and a special permit from the Cultural Planning Office. Two trustees met with a representative of the Cultural Review Board on Jan. 15, 2013 and we are waiting for a go-ahead to resume the work. We may be ordered to make changes that add to the cost. Meanwhile, we have started to raise the funds.

Financial Goal: **\$15,000** is the amount we currently need to raise to complete the original plan from Frank Sager and Son for the repair described above. We are hoping that new requirements from the Cultural Review Board will not increase our costs. The difference between the insurance check and the repair estimate was \$12,330. We added 15% contingency to this and also the additional cost of architectural drawings (\$300) and permit fee (\$250) so far, and rounded it up just for good measure.

You are invited to participate in the **reStore Our Steeple (SOS)** Campaign! We need your prayers, and we need resources. Please complete the following form, detach it from this sheet, and return it on Commitment Sunday Feb. 3, or with any offering, or directly to Jan Kreuger, treasurer.

I want to help to **reStore Our Steeple** by doing the following:

Making a financial gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly \$\_\_\_\_\_ quarterly \$\_\_\_\_\_ annually (I need envelopes\_\_\_\_\_)

Making a one-time financial gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (in tribute/memory of \_\_\_\_\_)

Contributing aluminum cans\_\_\_\_\_ Using eScrip at Schnucks \_\_\_\_\_ Using GoodSearch/GoodShop\_\_\_\_\_

Saving coins \_\_\_\_\_ (Special Steeple coin banks will be available on Feb. 3) Prayers \_\_\_\_\_

Helping with a bazaar or other fundraiser during the year by \_\_\_\_\_

Other ways \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW ELDERS, DEACONS, AND BOARD LEADERS AMONG US!**

Once again the Nominating Committee has done their hard and prayerful work and on Sunday, January 27, the congregation voted to accept the slate of new servants for the congregation.

**Board of Ministry Officers to Serve in 2013**

Moderator Leslie Latham  
 Vice Moderator Marsha McGuire  
 Treasurer Jan Kreuger  
 Financial Secretary Judi Linville  
 Kreuger  
 Clerk Audrey Tarde

**New Elders and Deacons serving one year terms**

Elders: Lisa Bast, Bob Lewis, DebE Martin,  
 Sarah Richardson  
 Diaconate: Kim Miner, Marty Hughes,  
 Darrell Hughes, Thelonius Lee, Larry  
 New Trustee – Susan Petri

**Scripture Readings for the Sundays Leading into Lent****Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

February 3, 2013 Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6  
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany (Transfiguration)**

February 10, 2013 Exodus 34: 39-35 Psalm 99  
 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 Luke 9:28-43

**First Sunday in Lent**

February 17, 2013 Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2,9-16  
 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13

**Second Sunday in Lent**

February 24, 2013 Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 Psalm 27  
 Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 Luke 13:31-35

**Third Sunday in Lent**

March 3, 2013 Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8  
 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9

**Compton Rising Reading Circle**

The Reading Circle meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon at a coffeehouse chosen by the group. Upcoming books are:

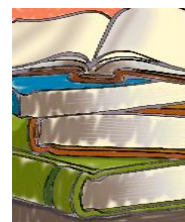
February 16 -- *Behind the Scenes, Or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House* by Elizabeth Keckley This book was a source for Jennifer Chiaverini's new novel everyone is talking about, "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" This on order at LeftBank Books for the group at our 20% discount, or you may be able to find a library copy, however at this writing they are all reserved.

March 16 – *Bossypants* a memoir by Tina Fey

We are registered as a book club with Left Bank Books and reading group purchases receive a discount there. Books should also be available through your public library, and often on Kindle or Nook. If you enjoy reading and discussing books—classics, fiction, non-fiction—come join us!

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This group creates knitted or crocheted prayer shawls and lap robes to comfort anyone facing a serious illness, bereavement or other stressful situations. Newcomers and novice knitters are welcome! The group meets the first Thursday of each month. The February 3 gathering will be at Judi Linville's home, 7:00 p.m.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(all events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

### Sunday, February 3— Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Choir Practice—9 a.m.

Christian Education — 10:05 -10:50 a.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.— Sanctuary

Coffee and refreshments— 12:00 p.m. –Library

Choir practice— 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 5 – Valentine-making Evening 6:30 PM

Wednesday, February 6 – Ministry Groups—7 p.m.—Library

Thursday, February 7 – Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting Group – Linville’s home.

Friday—February 8—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, February 10—Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Choir Practice—9 a.m.

Christian Education — 10:05-10:50 a.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.— Sanctuary - COMMISSIONING OF ELDERS/DEACONS

Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 p.m. **CW&W Storyteller and Greeter training session!**

Tuesday, February 12 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Oak Hill Pres. 6 p.m. for Isaiah 58!

Wednesday, February 13 – Ash Wednesday -- 11 a.m. Ashes to Go, 7 p.m. Worship at CHCC

Friday, February 15—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 6 – Reading Circle – 10:00 – Noon -- place TBA

### Sunday, February 17— First Sunday in Lent

Choir practice—9 a.m.

Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.

Coffee & refreshments— 12:00 p.m. *Elder’s Circle with Training following worship*

Choir Practice – 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 19 – “BELONGING” Engaging Spirituality Begins 6:00 supper, 6:30 Session

Friday, February 22 - Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, February 24 – Second Sunday in Lent

Choir practice—9 a.m.

Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.

Coffee & refreshments— 12:00 p.m.

Choir Practice – 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26 – “BELONGING” Engaging Spirituality Group 6:00 supper, 6:30 Session

Friday, March 1 – Happy Friday -- 6:45-8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, March 3 – Third Sunday in Lent

Choir practice—9 a.m.

Coffee & refreshments— 12:00 p.m.

Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m.

Choir Practice – 12:30 p.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 5 – “BELONGING” Engaging Spirituality Group 6:00 supper, 6:30 Session

Wednesday, March 6 – Board of Ministry 7:00 PM

Thursday, March 7 – Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting – 7:00 p.m. Place to be announced.

Friday, March 8 – Happy Friday – 6:45 – 8:00 a.m.

## Recycling Benefits God's Earth AND CHCC Ministries!

### PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Thank you all for contributing your used printer cartridges for recycling!  
Our box for these is across from the choir room on the shelf.

#### Last year you used cartridges turned into:

1. two color LaserJet printer cartridges for the color printer,
2. 5000 sheets of legal size paper for bulletins,
3. 5000 sheets of letter size paper for newsletters and general office use,
4. a lightweight 8' plastic top table with folding legs,
5. an abundance of hot chocolate packets for Happy Friday, and
6. boxes of 3 oz. cups and nice, heavy napkins for the Children Worship and Wonder program.



We get \$2 for each used inkjet or LaserJet printer cartridge you contribute, plus 10% of whatever we spend on paper and printer cartridges. *See Dave Boger if you'd like information on how to credit your Office Depot purchases toward the church or toward Isaiah 58 Ministries.*

**ALUMINUM and other METAL RECYCLING** - After 21 months of collecting, on January 25, we turned in your 142 pounds of crushed aluminum cans, 24 pounds of brass, 12 pounds of zinc, 8 pounds of miscellaneous aluminum (including aluminum foil), and 4 pounds of dead Christmas tree lights for \$138.80! We are also collecting copper (water pipes, wiring), but need to meet the 15 pound minimum before we can turn it in. Our crushed can recycling bin is inside the kitchenette door, up high. Please talk to Dave Boger if you have other metals to contribute.

Thank you all for participating in our recycling effort. Your metal recycling for this year is going toward the Steeple Fund. We last turned in aluminum cans in April 2011, and got \$196.50 for 262 pounds. Those cans benefited Compton Cares. Thank you!

### SOLES for SOULS

Thank you all for contributing good, used shoes for Soles for Souls OR for Isaiah 58. The box in the office hallway has been slowly filling with shoes since our last campaign. Thank you!

### MEDICINE BOTTLES FOR THE HUMANE SOCIETY

Arlene Arbogast, Jan Kreuger, and Madeline Haraway have been contributing clean, label-free prescription bottles with caps for donation to the Humane Society. We contribute several hundred bottles a year. Veterinarians at the Humane Society use our bottles for medicines they prescribe for their dog and cat patients. Your donations reduce their costs. Thank you!

### PAPER

If you do not wish to take home your worship bulletin on a Sunday, you may place it in the paper recycling in either the narthex or the hallway. (You are already doing a great job of this!) Also any other printed paper items, but not trash like tissues, or dirty napkins.

**CARDBOARD** goes in the Cardboard Recycling Bin in back of the church building.

**PLASTICS** go in the lower cloth bin on the kitchen wall (beneath the Aluminum bin)



## Serving Schedule – February 2013

Please get a substitute if you are unable to serve on your designated date, and inform Leslie Latham for the bulletin early in the week before. Thank you!

### Liturgist

Feb 3 Nancy Obermiller  
Feb 10 Bob Lewis  
Feb 17 Kathy Mead  
Feb 24 Darrell Hughes  
Mar 3 Dave Boger

### Communion Elders

Feb 3 Kathy Mead  
Feb 10 Madeline Haraway  
Feb 17 Charlsi Lee  
Feb 24 Lisa Bast  
Mar 3 Bob Lewis

### Stewardship Elders

Feb 3 Marsha McGuire  
Feb 10 Kathy Mead  
Feb 17 Dennis Landon  
Feb 24 Karen Pitt  
Mar 3 DebE Martin

### Deacons (All will serve; the first two will prepare/clean up unless they ask others.)

Feb 3 Stanley Williams, Larry Kreuger, Kim Miner, Marty Hughes  
Feb 10 Dave Martin, Darrell Hughes, Roberta Travis, Arlene Arbogast  
Feb 17 Bud Obermiller, Nancy Obermiller, Thelonius Lee, Darrell Hughes  
Feb 24 Thelonius Lee, Arlene Arbogast, Larry Kreuger, Kim Miner  
Mar 3 Bud Obermiller, Nancy Obermiller, Jan Kreuger, Larry Kreuger

**Provide Communion Bread:** Jan Kreuger

**In-Home Communion -- Elder:** (A) Leslie Latham **Deacon:** Arlene Arbogast

**Greeter:** Feb: Dave Boger **March:** Nancy Obermiller

### Nursery Care

Feb 3 Darrell Hughes  
Feb 10 Kathy Mead  
Feb 17 Marsha McGuire  
Feb 24 Madeline Haraway  
Mar 3 Cindy Diggs

### Coffee Hosts

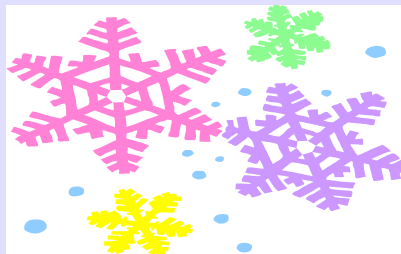
Feb 3 Cindy Diggs and Madeline Haraway  
Feb 10 Bud & Nancy Obermiller  
Feb 17 Judi and Norm Linville  
Feb 24 Sarah and Bryan Richardson  
Mar 3 Marsha McGuire and Leslie Latham

### Children Worship & Wonder

Feb 3 Storyteller	Leslie Latham	Feb 3 Greeter	Susan Petri
Feb 10 Storyteller	Leslie Latham	Feb 10 Greeter	Dave Boger
Feb 17 Storyteller	Susan Petri	Feb 17 Greeter	Darrell Hughes
Feb 24 Storyteller	Susan Petri	Feb 24 Greeter	Dave Boger
Mar 3 Storyteller	Susan Petri	Mar 3 Greeter	(need someone for March)

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**REPORT from Christmas Eve Caroling:** *The St. Louis Christmas Carols Association reports that while bringing joy to our neighbors our group collected and contributed \$177.59 which will join with others to help support over 40 area agencies serving children. THANK YOU!*



**Ministry Leaders**

**Pastor:** Jacquelyn L. Foster  
**Moderator:** Leslie Latham  
**Vice Moderator:** Marsha McGuire  
**Secretary:** Audrey Tarde  
**Treasurer:** Jan Kreuger  
**Financial Secretary:** Judi Linville  
**Co-Chair of Elders:** Kathy Mead  
 Madeline Haraway  
**Chair of Deacons:** Jan Kreuger

**Ministry Groups:**

*Communications Ministry*  
*Community Life*  
*Faith Sharing and Teaching Ministry*  
*Stewardship and Outreach Ministry*

**VISIT US ON-LINE:**

[www.comptonheights.com](http://www.comptonheights.com)

[www.i58ministries.org](http://www.i58ministries.org)

**Email to Pastor and Church:**

[comptonheightscc@gmail.com](mailto:comptonheightscc@gmail.com)   [jleigh55@att.net](mailto:jleigh55@att.net)

**Deacons, Elders, and Trustees - 2012**

**Diaconate:** Thelonius Lee, Marty Hughes,  
 Darrell Hughes, Kim Miner, Larry Kreuger  
 Arlene Arbogast, Jan Kreuger, Bud Obermiller,  
 Nancy Obermiller, Liz Vollmar, Dave Martin,  
 Talya Perry, Stanley Williams

**Elders:** Lisa Bast, Bob Lewis, DebE Martin, Sarah  
 Richardson, Marsha McGuire, Madeline Haraway,  
 Leslie Latham, Kathy Mead  
 Royce Sykes (serving at Woodland Manor)  
**Ordained Elders:** Rev. Brenda Booth, Rev. Dennis  
 Landon, Rev. Charlsi Lewis Lee, Rev. Norm  
 Linville, Rev. Karen Pitt, Rev. Millie Slack

**Trustees:** Liz Vollmar, Madeline Haraway, Susan Petri