

THE EVANGEL  
Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church  
11273 E. 40th Street  
Yuma,

April 2023  
Volume 31, Issue 4



## MISSION STATEMENT

Walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person

### **TO ALL, CALLED BY GOD TO BE HIS OWN AND SENT INTO MISSION!** **Communication is so important.**

Sometimes we believe that when something is announced, everyone will get the message in a very short time. Whether it is good news or bad news or just news, news really does travel fast.

At our annual meeting at the end of January, a question was asked for me to clarify my future. At that time, I mentioned that I had talked to the Bishop and we discussed a seamless transition in leadership for Gloria de Cristo, as it seemed best for the congregation.

I assumed that news would spread fairly fast...in some form or another...until we were contacted by someone in Southern Arizona who watches the services online who saw the installation of the Call Committee at the 9:30 am worship service!

### **So, I will try to communicate more clearly.**

During 2022, our Church Council wisely set in motion our contract with Auxano to lead our Vision Team through a process to understand who we are as a congregation, our strengths, our weaknesses, to clearly state our mission, and develop a vision for the future of Gloria de Cristo.

It was understood that one of the challenges of the near future is a pastoral transition. I love what I do, I just can't do it all as it needs to be done anymore, and GdC needs a new pastor to lead into the future mission. I will turn 70 in early October, and hopefully, GdC will have a new pastor in place by that time.

If not, I will continue to serve until the Call Committee and congregation agree on a candidate who accepts the call to be pastor of GdC. There may be a time of overlap of pastors, for the sake of a good transition.

My greatest hope and prayer is that GdC will continue growing and strong in mission as we are "walking with Jesus to bring new life and hope to every person!"

It is also my hope and prayer that you, all of you whom God called to be members in mission through Gloria de Cristo, would embrace and love your new pastor, as I have been blessed.

See you in worship!

Pastor Bill Timm

P.S. Who are you inviting to worship with you during Holy Week and Easter???

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



I know its tax season when I start going through boxes and folders of papers marked “save” for something. I find some things I am not looking for and spend time remembering the life old papers made real again. One thing I found was old copies of The Evangel, I found that while we are different, we are the same loving, serving, growing Christians we were in 2007. We had a much longer Mission Statement, different council officers, programs, and visions. Our outreach and ministry in the community were solid, Pastor’s letter shared that our buildings had a ministry of their own and our property met not only our needs but community needs. Interesting, members in 2007 saw the need for more space was a significant part of ministry even then.

During the vision process we learned that change would come whether we were prepared for it or not. One of the most challenging changes we gave thought and prayer about was the knowledge that Pastor would be retiring in 2023 . While we were not happy with that news, we were blessed with time and the cooperation of both Pastor and the Synod. As we started this journey a Call Committee was appointed by the church council they are: Michelle Cegon, chair. KayLee Grunst, sec. Char Schomisch, Ted Duffy, Earl Marlatt, Sharon Merz, Gary Raasch and John Gerfen. We were installed at the 9:30 service, March 19, 2023. We meet weekly to develop the foundation of the call process. We will be in direct contact with Patricia Reed, Synod Liaison as we work through this process. This is just a beginning, our “Congregations in Transition” is 82 pages long, and is here to help us! The journey is long and we accept this responsibility with each of you in our prayers, we ask that you keep us in your prayers as well.

-Sharon Merz

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**THE FUNCTION OF BIBLICAL FAITH IS TO TRUST  
GOD IN HIS LOVE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO GIVE  
US WHAT IS GOOD FOR US.**

**THIS IS GRACE IN ACTION!**

## **Lay Sacramentarians – Who / what are they?**

Gloria de Cristo is blessed with having the ministry of lay Sacramentarians. In other faith constructs, they would be known as lay-Eucharistic ministers. These people—both men and women—are members of Gloria de Cristo and have the opportunity to extend the Lord’s Table fellowship to brothers and sisters who are physically unable to join in the act of Holy Communion during worship services.

When our congregation gathers in worship, we hear of God’s mighty acts and the love showed to us in Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. We share in the holy meal of the Lord’s Supper; then we take that word of life, the bread and the cup of blessing, so that our home-bound brothers and sisters may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Being a lay Sacramentarian is an extension of our corporate worship (worship as a body) here at Gloria de Cristo. It is not an independent act we do whenever it pleases us. Congregants receive Communion weekly unless otherwise arranged. The ideal time to take communion to shut-ins is Sunday afternoon, if possible, to complete the corporate worship experience they may have participated in virtually via live stream.

A script, training, and accountability are provided to baptized believers who seek to please God in all that they do. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Pastor Timm. Dr. Shirley coordinates the assignments.



## FELLOWSHIP

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Since I am still under doctor's care for the shingles, I have missed all of March to date. Under the capable hands of Merilee Kaiser, Mary Marsh and Sandra Arceneaux, the Fellowship hours have continued, and many of you have stepped forward to help with potluck dinner, providing cookies and helping with clean up.

There were three funerals during the past few weeks, and I have heard nothing but good about how well each of them was handled. Thank you to all who helped with providing desserts, preparation, serving and clean up after.

Linda Kasin and Diane Lee, with the help of many of our members, put on the Ladies luncheon in a superb manner. Shelley Mellon was the guest speaker and entertained the attendees with a great talk about how her relationship with the Lord has been a great part of her ability to empower her as a woman in the business world. The luncheon was delicious and many attendees went away with beautiful door prizes.

I am hoping to be back soon, but I know I will need the continuing support and prayers of many of you to accomplish my duties.

It has been so rewarding for me to get back to church and to be able to attend the Ladies luncheon. It only reminds me daily of how much fellowship in our church means.

Cheryl Preul, Fellowship Chairman

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## GLORIOUS QUILTERS



Oh no, it's April which means some of our great Ladies are beginning to travel back to their summer homes. They will be truly missed. These Ladies are turning out on an average 25 quilts a Monday! I'm always amazed as to what they accomplish.

As usual we will keep the home lights burning by meeting during the summer, at least most of it.

We always welcome new Ladies to join us in all the fun and merriment we have each and every Monday. Come join us some Monday 9am– 12pm in the fellowship room. We stop for coffee and treats at 10

Any questions give me a text:

Carol Schock

# MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

## How to Mentally Cope with Chronic Conditions

Living with chronic conditions such as Arthritis, Parkinson's Disease, Terminal Cancer, debilitating pain, etc. can take a toll on your mental state. Chronic conditions are not only taxing on your body but can be extremely difficult to deal with emotionally. **It can feel as though it has taken over every aspect of your life, sapping away joy and making every action harder.**

Mentally adjusting to being in a long-term chronic condition and how that can change your life can feel overwhelming. Many patients have comorbid mental illnesses due to the difficult nature of living with their condition. *The great news is, there are lots of ways to help you mentally cope with chronic conditions such as:*

**Acceptance**

**Talking about what you are going through**

**Being kind to yourself**

**Learning about pain science**

**Replacing negative thoughts with positive ones**

**Things that bring you joy and humor**

**Practicing gratitude**

**Exercise**

**Practicing self-care**

**Eating and sleeping well**

**Practicing mindfulness/meditation**

**Thinking of yourself as a warrior**

**Resource: <https://www.pathways.health>**

### Bible verses to help with coping:

**1. God Will Never Leave You It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed (Deuteronomy 31:8).**

**2. God Will Strengthen You and Uphold You ...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand (Isaiah 41:10).**

**3. God Hears Your Cry** I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God (Psalms 40:1-3).

**4. The Lord Hears Your Cry** When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles (Psalms 34:17).

**5. Comforted By God** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).



Mens' Breakfast will meet on the first Saturday of the month at 8am at Daybreakers. Please join us for a time of food and fellowship!!

**This month– April 1st**

## OUTREACH

### JOHN 1-1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

John told us that Jesus was the word. Believe in him. I take from this that we should read the bible on a regular basis. I like to read the King James version. Many people prefer the NIV. I don't know which is better or worse, all I know is that it is good to read the bible. I am a believer that the bible is a living bible and that we should treat it with respect. It is said that if we believe in Christ that we will have ever lasting life.

What a great yard sale we had in February. I would like to thank all of the church family who helped. This is officially my last yard sale as we have passed the baton next year. Thanks to all who helped. Not much else going on except we had another highway cleanup by Daybreakers. Next fall will be the next highway cleanup.

Thanks!

Joe Johnson



## STEWARDSHIP

On the cover of last month's Evangel, Pastor Timm listed several potential changes that should be expected in the upcoming months. I doubt that I am alone, but I tend to get restless when I learn that something is about to change. In the case of change within Gloria de Cristo, mostly all of the change is good, and honestly most of it is truly needed. Of course we all know of one change that no one is agreeing with, but we won't go there. While much of these changes simply need a redirection in the various Ministry Teams there are some that are going to require additional funding. Top priority on that list is an upgraded sound system within the sanctuary and hopefully integrated within fellowship hall. The upgrades will be tied to the musical acoustics as well as the various positions of microphones: all of that will be incorporated with the present or revamped equipment necessary for on-line streaming.

The necessity for that change has been recognized by probably everyone who has attended worship in person or on-line in the past 18 months. There is also a request from our parishioners to provide more Bible study opportunities. Bible study needs "teachers" (volunteers within the congregation) and those expensive study materials. As a congregation we are responsible for satisfying the appetite to study and the need to learn more about God's Word.

Stewardship == Generosity Here it comes!!!! I am appealing to all who are reading this. Time for Generosity Please consider EXTRA contributions to your church so that we may get the NEW SOUND SYSTEM completed sooner rather than later. Generosity Perhaps there may be some extra change in an old Mason jar or an unredeemed lottery ticket. Consider Generosity While teaching someone to process the weekly offering last week, I noticed that there were already quite a few contributions for the sound system. Thank You....Very simple to help with this "change": find an envelope for your donation; designate it SOUND SYSTEM or BIBLE STUDY, then place it in the offering plate or address to the church (11273 E 40th Street...zip code 85367) add the stamp and drop it in a mailbox. This plea may not tug at your "heartstrings" as strongly as aiding victims of natural disasters; however, it will make the person next to you in the pew much happier!!

Gary Raasch, Stewardship

## SOCIAL CONCERNS

*Promote understanding of the human needs and social problems within our congregation, the community, and beyond*

Social Concerns added another new member, Robin Marlatt, making a total of 6 members. Thank you to our members for their interest and support.

An UNDIE Sunday was planned for 3/25 and 3/26 so as of the writing of this report we do not have results to report. As you may know, the underwear and sock needs at Crossroads Mission is ongoing. This is not glamorous or dramatic but very much needed. So, thank you to those who contributed. I'll have more to report in our next Evangel.

The Convoy of Hope planning meeting was 3/30 and Barb Blank and Carol Schock represented Gloria De Cristo. This will be a community-wide event next fall to benefit those in need. We will have more to report in future Evangels. For more information on this organization, you can check online.

We continue the monthly food drive and collected 212 lbs. of food in March. Volunteers to help with delivery are still needed. We can arrange an orientation trip to acquaint you with the very easy process. Contact one of our members or call me at 928-210-8015.

The collection center continues to be available for your donations of label-free pill bottles, glasses, travel soaps and shampoo, printer cartridges.

Thank you for your support.

Blessings,

Evelyn Trone, Chairperson

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

As each received a gift, use it to serve one another, as stewards of God's varied gifts.



## PROPERTY REPORT



I have been a bit behind on my property report recently. I am sure that you are all aware that I recently had surgery on my carotid artery It took a while to recover from that.

There were a number of people who stepped up to help look after things around the church, Dave Lester and Jerry Taylor have been there for me if needed. Thank you so much. I have found a way Through Sandy Wiedling to utilize the tabs so you can begin saving them again and bring them to the collection area in the fellowship hall. If there are any able-bodied folks that would like to help me. I could use a few good folks to pull weeds out of the gardens around the property. You don't need my permission. I can't spray near the plants. They have to be pulled by hand.

Just so you know I had an absolute wonderful vacation recently visiting my children and grandkids I was able to attend my granddaughters wedding and Spend time with my son and daughter. Thanks to all who stepped in to take care of the property so i could take this much needed break.

Always open to any suggestions ,  
Dave Donaldson, Property Chair





## WELCA AT GLORIA DE CRISTO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gratitude for Gloria de Cristo and its ever-growing family is a daily presence for me. Although I missed a weekend of service in March, I attended what I call a mega-church near Phoenix. The message was Christ-centered and delivered so most all of the thousand attendees would understand. What struck me most, was how important the role of fellowship is for worshipers and how easy it is to access at Gloria de Cristo. Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (WELCA) continue to plan and offer events appealing to our congregation and community while focusing on our Savior, Jesus Christ.

For April, WELCA and Fellowship will partner to sponsor Easter Breakfast, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 am. While a delicious menu will be offered, volunteers will be asked to help on Saturday to set-up and on Sunday to prepare, serve and clean-up. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex.

The WELCA Triennial takes place this September 19-21 in Phoenix. Check the Grand Canyon Synod website for future registration details. In our congregation, we hope to register and travel together for a weekend of renewal, education and faith. As one woman who'd attended the Minneapolis Triennial shared, there's nothing like singing and taking communion with 3,000 other faithful, Lutheran women. I am looking forward to attending and I invite each woman at Gloria de Cristo to prayerfully consider attending, too.

Blessings to you all,

Donna Brown



## WORSHIP & MUSIC

Our Lenten season is nearing the end and I can say that the lessons each week have been very well received by those attending. I only wish more people would find it necessary to come and hear the word. Check out the recordings online, on Facebook or Youtube!

The 'Soup Suppers' were attended by nearly everyone that came for the services and the soup was wonderful. Thank You to the groups that volunteered to prepare and serve each week.

Holy Week is quickly approaching...those final days of suffering and pain for Jesus here on earth. Mark your calendars and attend Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to hear to account according to Luke leading to His crucifixion.

Thank You to those who purchased the lilies for the garden on Easter morning. You are welcome to take them home with you following the 9:30 worship.

This is a sad time for me as many of you depart from Yuma to other places for the next 5-6 months. Be safe in your travels, spread the 'Good News' and know that I greatly appreciate all the help you've given the Worship Committee while you were here. We look forward to your return in Fall.

Char Schomisch, Committee Co-Chair

## Worship Schedule for Holy Week

April 1	Palm Sunday Weekend	Sat., 4:00 p.m.
April 2		Sun., 7:45 & 9:30
April 6	Maundy Thursday Service	6:00 p.m.
April 7	Good Friday Service	6:00 p.m.
	There is no service on Saturday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> .	
April 9	Easter Sunday Service	7:00 & 9:30 a.m.
	Easter Breakfast	8:00 a.m.

**Service Changes:** Last 7:45 am worship Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Last 4pm worship Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>.

## YARD SALE REPORT

Our 2023 Yard Sale was once again a great success, even with the less than ideal wind and sand during setup! We have so many people to thank for this, including the entire team of volunteers (49!) who gave up many hours to set up, help with the sale, and clean up! Also, thank you to all our generous donors. We'd like to also thank the following for their several years of managing the sale: Curtis Roark, Joe Johnson, Marge Jones, and Sharon Noltemeyer. They gave their leadership talents and organizational skills to help us have successful sales. Our new team will be Michelle Cegon, Dave and Lynda Steinman, and Mike and Sandy Corless. For those of you who have never had a chance to participate in this great event, we can assure you that you'll make lots of new friends and have a great time, so think about joining us in 2024!

We also will be opening up the opportunity to bring any gently used, saleable items to the storage trailer at church starting in September on the second Saturday of the month, between 8-11am. This will give the Yard Sale team a chance to sort items in smaller quantities, and help folks who would like to donate by allowing more chances to get your garage or closets cleaned out. You'll no longer have to wait to bring items right before the sale, so mark your calendars and watch for reminders in the church bulletin.

Michelle



## Youth and Education

The Youth Book Sale was held March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 2023. I'd like to thank everyone who donated books for the sale and came to help and buy.

Left-over books were donated to Senor Lastra, a Christian educator from El Golfo, Mexico. He provides reading programs for youth and adults. He also supplies books for a High School Library in El Golfo. He came to Gloria de Cristo on Saturday and loaded two vehicles with this year's donations. This was the second year that we have made this donation and he was so very grateful.

Although I am a Yuma resident, I leave the desert heat in the summer. Jerry and I go to The Dalles, Oregon in mid-April. Therefore, youth activities are not active in the summer and there is no Sunday School offered.

**All Committees** can use additional members as we focus on the tasks to be done and the decisions to be made that benefit the entire Gloria de Cristo family and our community. In the fall, when we ramp up this committee, please consider volunteering your time and talents.

Diane Lee, Chairperson

## PERSONAL VISITATION BY PASTOR ..

To support people at the time of illness or injury, Pastor and Stephen Ministers do make personal visits in the hospital, homes, and Care Centers. Hospitals and Care Centers do not notify us that you are there. Please call if you want us to know. Do not hesitate to call the church office at 342-6002, if you have not seen Pastor and would like a visit. After hours, please leave a message on the church answering machine. We ask your permission before we include your name on our printed prayer list.

***(Fellow members are also encouraged to let the church office know if someone is in the hospital!)***

## A Poem/Prayer for Thought

### *Live For the Praise of His Glory*

There is so little time left, Lord,  
To praise Thy name today.  
There is so little time left, Lord,  
To help someone else to see Thy way.

I ask myself, Lord, each hour of the day,  
Has someone else seen you, Lord,  
Through what I do or say?

Give us the power of Thy Spirit, Lord,  
To show Thy love to all,  
To make our homes a Bethany,  
Where you dwell with great and small.

May I exalt Thy name, Lord,  
To Thee all honor and praise,  
May our families continue to live our lives, Lord,  
According to Thy way.

So live for the praise of His glory,  
All twenty-four hours of the day,  
Let's pray, speak and sing His praises,  
In Christ's way is the only way.

By: Beverly Gedde

## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR APRIL



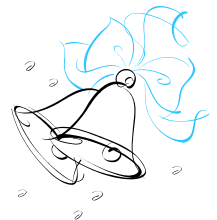
4/2 Carol Schock; & Lorie Rapp  
4/9 Lisa Crayne in memory of daughter, Christy  
4/16 Phyllis Nicholzen in memory of husband, Clarence  
4/23 Char Schomisch in memory of best friend Deb Werner  
4/30



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2	Jim Neely	14	Barb Blank	19	Sue Martin
3	Marica Herberg	14	Roger Friz	22	Morris Kisling
4	Ila Mattingly	14	Carolyn Lester	22	Sue Nasinec
6	Alyce Waverly	14	Emma Pacewic	29	Charleen Feulner
8	Joan Ausman	15	Darus White	30	Don Coffi
9	Esther Thurman	16	Marijan Petrovic	30	Richard Ludwig
10	Marge Graham	17	Elaine Hofslie	30	Wayne Schuette
11	Dennis Munson	18	Gary Raasch		

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



4/4	Morris & Nancy Kisling	4/17	Larry & Bonnie Doll
4/9	John & Louise MacPherson		

**APRIL 2023**

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
							1 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast at Daybreakers  <b>4pm Worship</b>
2 <b>Palm Sunday Worship</b> Last 7:45 am 9:30 worship <b>POTLUCK &amp; FOOD COL-LECTION</b> <b>New Members Received</b> 11:30 am GriefShare 1:00 pm Foothills Social	3 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 10:00 am GriefShare 12:30 pm Bible Study 1:30pm Social Concerns Meeting	4 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10:00 am Meditation Group 1:00 pm Foothills Social 4:00 pm Mental Health Ministry	5 8:00 am Staff Meeting 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	6 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 5:00pm-7:00 pm TOPS <b>Maudy Thursday Worship, 6:00 p.m.</b>	7 8:00am-10:00 am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA  <b>Good Friday Worship 6:00 p.m.</b>	8 9AM- 1PM DAYS FOR GIRLS  <b>No Worship</b>	
9 <b>Easter Worship 7:00 &amp; 9:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast</b> 1:00 pm Foothills Social	10 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:30 pm Bible Study 1:30 pm Fellowship Meeting	11 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social	12 8:00 am Staff Meeting 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	13 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 5:00pm-7:00 pm TOPS	14 8:00am-10:00 am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	15 <b>4pm Worship</b>	
16 <b>Worship 9:30</b>  1:00 pm Foothills Social	17 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:30 pm Bible Study	18 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 10:00 am CareGiver Support Group 1:00 pm Foothills Social 4:00 pm Executive Council 4:30 pm Council Meeting	19 8:00 am Staff Meeting 8:30 am -4:00 pm 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	20 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 12:00 pm Stephen Minister Potluck Lunch 5:00pm-7:00 pm TOPS	21 8:00am-10:00 am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	22 9AM- 1PM DAYS FOR GIRLS  <b>4pm Worship</b>	
23 <b>Worship 9:30</b>  1:00 pm Foothills Social	24 9:00 am Glorious Quilters 12:30 pm Bible Study	25 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 1:00 pm Foothills Social	26 8:00 am Staff Meeting 4:45 pm Bells of Glory 6:00 pm Choir	27 7:00am-9:00am TOPS 5:00pm-7:00 pm TOPS	28 8:00am-10:00 am TOPS 1:00 pm Foothills Social 6:00 pm Women's AA	29 <b>Last 4pm Worship</b>	
30 <b>Worship 9:30</b> 12:00 pm GriefShare 1:00 pm Foothills Social							

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APRIL 2023

PASTOR: Bill Timm  
ORGANIST: Dr. Shirley Ehler  
PIANISTS: Marie Ritten & Jean Abel  
BELLS OF GLORY: Kay Lee Grunst

Stephen Ministry Leaders:: Michelle Cegon, Pastor Timm,  
Jim & Sherrie Wehrer

Church Secretary: Kate Harwood  
A/V Technician: Brennen Harwood

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Sharon Merz  
VICE PRESIDENT: John Arnold  
SECRETARY: Jackie Tracey  
TREASURER: Terre Munk

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FELLOWSHIP: Cheryl Preul  
OUTREACH: Joe Johnson  
PROPERTY: Dave Donaldson  
SOCIAL CONCERNS: Evelyn Trone  
STEWARDSHIP: Gary Raasch  
WORSHIP & MUSIC: Char Schomisch