

Newsletter of
**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
COVENANT CHURCH**
9230 S. Pulaski Road
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Phone 708-422-5111
E-mail: office@trinitycovoaklawn.org
Website: www.trinitycovoaklawn.org

May

Ushers

Mel Mueller - Captain
Bill & Ginny Almer
Tom Dori

Greeters

1 Pat Petersen, Linnea Wimpenny
8 The McShane Family
15 The Przybylowski Family
22 Matt & Melissa Panush, Dominic, Clara
29 Gloria Vitro, Carol Latimer

Nursery

1 Pat Klutcharch, Marcia Lellos
8 Matt Panush, Geoff Panush (Mother's Day)
15 Sandy Hutchinson, Nancy Mondry
22 Pam Romano, Danielle Khan
29 Rita Grijalva, Angie Panush

Counters

Greg Goetz
Mel Mueller
Matt Panush

Birthdays

1 Edie Fornell
1 Lisa Grijalva
3 Margie Morrissey
3 Doris Wallace
4 Pat Petersen
5 Gordon Engstrom
6 Megan McShane
8 Diana Eigenbauer
8 Dawn Ferrell
8 Robert Weszely
15 Desiree Hall
16 Lorraine Sorensen
24 Paul Kozak
24 Joyce Olson
25 Denise Sullivan
27 Natalie Hjelmberg
28 Tom Sullivan
30 Laura Richerme

***If we missed your birthday, please
let the office know so that it will be listed
in the future.***

The Messenger May 2016

Over the Pastor's Shoulder

"Our people are equipped and growing in their ability to see and address the hurts and causes of hurt in our community and beyond." (*One of the ten markers of a healthy missional church, from the Covenant's material on church vitality.*)

Trinity, to the best of my knowledge, has always been predisposed to ministries of compassion. So many of our ministries, both past and present, have been in response to the "real" needs of "real" people in the church, the surrounding community and beyond. And that is a good thing, a very good thing.

Yet any recitation of past, even recent history is not enough. The more pressing questions are these: What needs of the human family around us are we being called to address today? What are we equipped for and called toward in the next 5 months, or 5 years? Where is God leading us, prodding us, even provoking us?

Every healthy church faces this essential discipleship question: Are we listening? The call of Jesus is to listen and then to take risks on the side of compassion. As we listen, we learn of needs that we might otherwise have passed by: agonizing struggles by separating and divorcing parents, lonely and stressful vigils by adult children with elderly parents in the home, a growing dilemma regarding the care of Alzheimer's victims, all the challenges of single parent families, and the guilt felt by parents who are not home when their children arrive home from school each day.

Do we have our ears to the ground? Are we listening - not just in our church, but in our neighborhood, too?

A friend of mine discovered the growing need for support and encouragement of cancer patients in the church and community. A few years ago, he began a cancer support group in his church, a place where information could be shared and where stories could be told; a place where celebration of victories and tears of remission reversals could be told, and a place where the providential care of God could be proclaimed and affirmed. It was a ministry of compassion that brought laughter and tears, healing and hope, and that created powerful ties of friendship among persons struggling against the similar powers of disease and death.

Where will God's leading take you and me next? My hope is that God continues to grace us with listening ears, lest we miss the desperate pleas of our neighbors, along with the whispers of the Holy Spirit calling us to acts of compassion for Christ's sake.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jim

Adult Sunday School



Sunday Morning Adult Study

Come join us at 11:15 A.M. after the morning worship service.

During the month of May in the Overflow Room, Rich Hood will continue to teach from Paul's Epistles.

In the Fireside Room, Dr. Carol Noren, North Park Theological Seminary, will teach the subject of "Bible Study with the Mystics" using the Lectionary Texts of May.

Thank You

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, visits and cards, and especially Pastor Jim, thank you for the many visits. It is such a blessing to belong to Trinity Church.



With much appreciation,
Grace Viner

Dear Trinity Congregation,

I was so thrilled to be remembered with an Easter lily. It was so great to have Grace and Harry (Persson) deliver it. It is so good to see my old friends and to remember the wonderful years I had with my worship, choir and many activities. I love getting the Messenger and to read Pastor Jim's message. Thank you so much. My door is always open for a cup of coffee. The lily is still blooming nicely. Thank you.

Hazel Carlson

Dear Trinity Members and Friends,

Thank you for the regal and stately Easter lily brought by Margie Morrissey. Not only did I appreciate your gesture of thoughtfulness but the personal visit with Margie was unexpected and most delightful! Thank you for thinking of me in such a kind-hearted way.

Denise Krueger

Dear Trinity Friends,

Thanks to all my lovely and caring friends for your prayers, cards, visits, flowers, and phone calls during my recent illness. Knowing that you were thinking about me made me more determined than ever to get well quickly.

As you may know, due to the fantastic rehab I received at Smith Village, I decided to move to the Independent Living area there. Now, if anyone is looking for a condo on 101st & Cicero in Oak Lawn, to buy or rent, let me know. Also, many thanks to Pastor Jim for his visits and for showing me how to use the dishwasher. Now that all my meals are included I don't really need one!

Thanks again for your concern and God Bless you!

Love, Linnea Wimpenny

Altar Flowers



If you would like to celebrate or honor someone on a given special date, please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Flowers are \$40 and you are invited to take them home following morning worship.

Brian Crotty

8333 Arrowhead Lane
Orland Park, IL 60462-1750

Linnea Wimpenny

2320 W. 113th Pl.
Apt. #3318
Chicago, IL 60643
773-474-7762



Confirmation Sunday May 1

Confirmands

Shannon Lee
Jeremy Schroeder

1st Year Students

Justin Lee
Matthew Starr
MaryFaith West





Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Tuesday mornings begin with a time of prayer, praises and petitions. This brief period addresses personal moments when thoughts are shared through happenings of the past week and in weeks to come.

We find that getting to hear about joys and concerns lead to common ground as we acknowledge blessings and express sympathy/empathy as felt – always two sides of every coin. An added plus is the closeness which has evolved during years together based on out-reach, interest and again, common ground.

Eleven of our group, from neighboring churches, also give witness during these moments which is praise worthy. We are blessed!

These moments differ in meaningful content – an article, a family/individual blessing or concern, the outside world, a Bible verse, an E-mail, an unexpected surprise, answered prayer.

Getting to know one another in this way sets the “mood” for our study. We not only know of each other but also know about each other – things lifting our hearts in song and/or requiring immediate prayer.

Examples:

- ✓ A delightful and informational article about blessings grandson Keith Mondry gives others in his workplace. Inspiration.
- ✓ A welcoming invitation given a new Hinsdale family to attend a church youth group and high school activities. Friendship.
- ✓ A Florida Bible group studying our recent winter study. Togetherness.
- ✓ The ever-present thrill of another Spring. Promise.
- ✓ Praises for stable and improved health. He still moves stones.
- ✓ A deeper understanding and application of Malachi 4:2. Growing.
- ✓ A 2014 Home Alter meditation for today, tomorrow, always. Peace.

Thursday, October 23 – ISAIAH 26:1-9

Perfect Peace

An art contest was held in which the first prize was to be given to the artist who could best portray peace. Most of the spectators thought they had spotted the winner. The scene was an unruffled lake nestled in a valley between mountains. Not a leaf rustled, not a cloud was in the sky, all was a majestic calm. It was a scenic masterpiece.

The spectators were wrong, however. They had equated peace with stillness, silence, passivity. The winning scene depicted a rushing stream breaking over jagged rocks, branches bending in the wind, ominous storm clouds on the horizon. And in an overhanging crook in a tree was a nest. Atop the nest, a mother bird was protecting her young, unruffled and composed. This is the perfect peace in the midst of reality, in the thick of life. God does not come in a vacuum, nor do we live in such. In the midst of turbulence there can be trust.

Lord, let me be still and know, and trust, and find peace today. Amen.

- ✓ Psalm 139. God is all seeing, all knowing, all powerful and everywhere present. God knows us. God is with us and His greatest gift is to allow us to know Him. Love.
- ✓ Where weakness has become strength. Gift.
- ✓ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below. Faithfulness.

Coupled with our set routine of study, bakery, strong Swedish coffee we move into our May agenda continuing the significance of the incarnation of why Christ came as Son of Man.

Trinity Fireside Room
Every May Tuesday
Bakery/coffee 9 – 9:30
Study 9:30-10:45
Fellowship continuous

Barbara Johnson

Pacesetters Gathering

Welcome spring with Pacesetter friends on Saturday, May 21, 3:00 P.M., at the home of Grace and Harry PERSSON, 9253 S. Ridgeway Avenue, Evergreen Park.

Special guests will be Elsa and Chuck Wiberg. Chuck will share some stories and adventures as a world traveler and teacher here and abroad.

Fika served at 3:00 P.M. Supper after program. For reservations, please see Bill and Ginny Almer, Tom and Barb Dori, Britta Johnson, Rhea Maurer, and Pat Anderson.



Covenant Women Fall Fellowship

All ladies are invited to attend the Covenant Women Fall Fellowship at Covenant Harbor, Lake Geneva, one weekend only from September 16 – 18. Meagan Gillan, Director of Covenant Women's Ministries, will be our Guest Speaker. We plan to stay at the Geneva Bay Centre. The cost to stay is \$210 for the weekend. Reservation forms are available in the church office or see Carol Strickland. A \$50 deposit is required with registration. Deadline for registration is Friday, May 27.

Rummage Sale

Trinity's Annual Rummage Sale is Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25. Spring is a great time for decluttering the house and garage. Start cleaning out

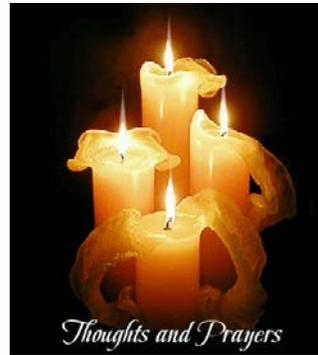


your closets, drawers, garage and decide what you can donate to this annual Trinity fundraiser. Items needed: Household and seasonal items, adult and children clothing, linens. Toys, games, books, small working electronics, sports equipment, and furniture. Items can be brought to church starting the week of June 19.

For more information, please contact John or Lorraine Weszely, and check upcoming Sunday bulletins and the June issue of the Messenger for volunteer sign up.

Golf for Kids

Plan now to join in the Antwan Williams Memorial Golf for Kids Classic on Monday, September 12, 2016. This year's event will be held at Hawk's View Golf Club, Lake Geneva, WI. Details and registration will be available in early June at www.covenantharbor.org.



Deadly Raid in Ethiopia Kills 41 South Sudanese Covenanters

Apr 20, 2016 By [Staff Author GAMBELLA, ETHIOPIA](#) (April 20, 2016) — Last Friday, gunmen from South Sudan killed as many as 207 people and kidnapped many

others in Gambella during a raid across the border. According to James Tang, a Covenant missionary to South Sudan, the attack was a massacre of the Nuer people by those from the Murle tribe and those slain were mostly women and children. More than 40 people from the Evangelical Covenant Church of South Sudan (ECCSS) and Ethiopia were among the victims.

The Murle, a tribe from South Sudan, are known for mounting attacks to steal cattle. The Nuer dwell in both South Sudan and across the border in Ethiopia.

"Our church members are really affected," said Mathew Jock Moses, director of projects and social development for the ECCSS. "We have lost more than 41 people, and about 36 children from our church were kidnapped."

In an email to Serve Globally leaders in the United States, Moses continued, "We lost several female deacons, children, youths, and elderly people who are all members of the Evangelical Covenant Church. Our superintendent Rev. Simon Chuot Nyak has lost his younger sister and her husband. We thank God that his family survived."

Gambella, which borders South Sudan to the west, is also home to some 272,000 South Sudanese refugees who have fled the civil war that erupted in their country in 2013. This latest tragedy comes two months after [five ECCSS members were killed](#) in South Sudan when attackers linked to government forces stormed a United Nations refugee camp with automatic weapons and machetes.

After the February attack, Covenant World Relief created a PowerPoint presentation to help Covenanters become more informed on how to pray for their brothers and sisters in South Sudan. You can view it [here](#).

"The violence our South Sudanese sisters and brothers experience regularly is utterly appalling," said Serve Globally executive minister Al Tizon. "I don't even know how to pray sometimes; I just offer up groans too deep for words. We are poised to help, to put hands and feet to our prayers, as we rely on our partners there and missionary James Tang to let us know if there is anything we can do."

VBS is Coming!

VBS is coming soon! We have set the dates for July 11 through 15. As always, we are looking for anyone interested to assist us. Please contact Karen McShane if you'd like to volunteer. Look for program details and registration information to come in upcoming Sunday bulletins and the June issue of the Messenger. Thank you.

Mitch's Musings

May Flowers have certainly come! I am so excited for some sunshine and warm weather! As most of you have heard by now, I am very excited to be spending another year here at Trinity!! You have all been a tremendous blessing to me and I'm excited to introduce you to my fiancée Jena, and her two girls, Nadia and Emmi! Nadia just turned 8 on April 19th and Emmi will turn 6 on June 16th! They were just here this last weekend and it was so wonderful to show them the city! We're getting married August 19th and it can't come soon enough! (Still looking for a vest, by the way. Any help/suggestions you could give would be much appreciated!)

Meanwhile, this spring semester has been a consistent challenge to find the time to get all of my reading done and stay on top of my assignments. Here at Trinity, we've hit the ground running with our new Sunday School curriculum and the kids seem to really be enjoying it! The hope here is to learn the same lesson from multiple angles each week, with a new lesson beginning each month. Similar to a typical VBS rotation model, the students have the chance to do crafts, story, drama, music, etc, all revolving around a particular story (i.e., April was Jonah and the Big Fish and May will be the Woman at the Well).

This summer we will be having some youth events, both high school and elementary and we'll get more details out as to the frequency of them. I'd really like to see the youth of Trinity invite their friends from school to these events so that we have some chances to build relationships with youth in the community. I'd like to see more and more students coming to the church in the fall and a lot of that comes down to creating a fun and exciting environment here at church, that speaks the truth of God's words to the hearts of today's youth. That's my objective for this summer and fall and I hope to create a place here that offers just that.

I will be starting my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) at Swedish Covenant Hospital on June 1st and I'm registered for a few credits this summer as well. Please be in prayer for me about that. It has the potential to be an emotionally exhausting experience, but that's part of ministry. Before I get into summer, however, I'll be heading home to Minnesota for a couple weeks. Hopefully I'll go fishing, get out into the woods before the mosquitos do, and spend some time with family before life moves into the next big and busy chapter. Thanks for all your prayers! I'm so excited to be serving Trinity through the year to come!

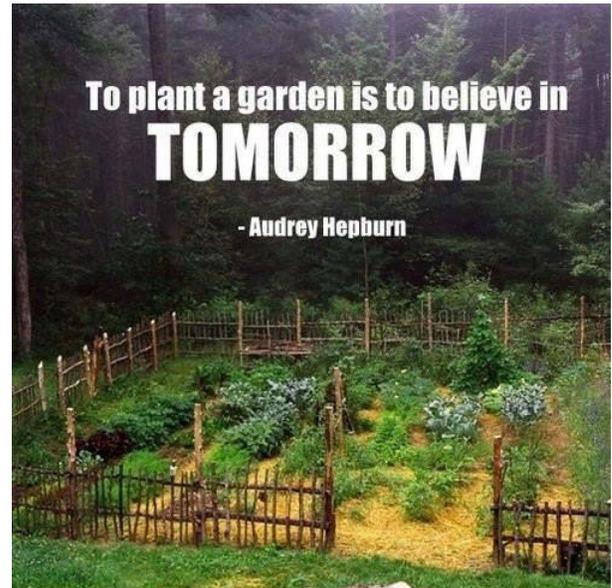
Upcoming Events:

- May 1 Worship @ 10am (CONFIRMATION SUNDAY!)
 Youth Music
 Sunday School @ 11:15am (9th-12th)
 Youth Group @ 1:00pm-2:30pm (7th - 12th)
- May 6 FAMILY NIGHT – Outdoor Game NIGHT & BBQ!!!
 - Eat @ 6pm and Games start at 7pm
 - Bring your own beverages and a side (chips/beans/salad/dessert)
 - We'll provide Burgers, Hotdogs, Buns and Fixin's!
- May 8 Worship @ 10am
 Sunday School @ 11:15am (7th -12th)
 YEAR-END YOUTH GROUP PARTY
 (Details to come)
- May 15 Worship @ 10am (Youth Music)
 Sunday School @ 11:15am (7th - 12th)
- May 22 Worship @ 10am
 Sunday School @ 11:15am (7th - 12th)
- May 29 Worship @ Trinity @ 10am
 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!

Mother's Day is May 8



Memorial Day is May 30



Pryme Tymers

Join us for our May

programs:

May 12, 11 A.M.:

Entrée: Spaghetti & Meatballs

Program: *Vocalist Maureen Christine*. Introducing a new

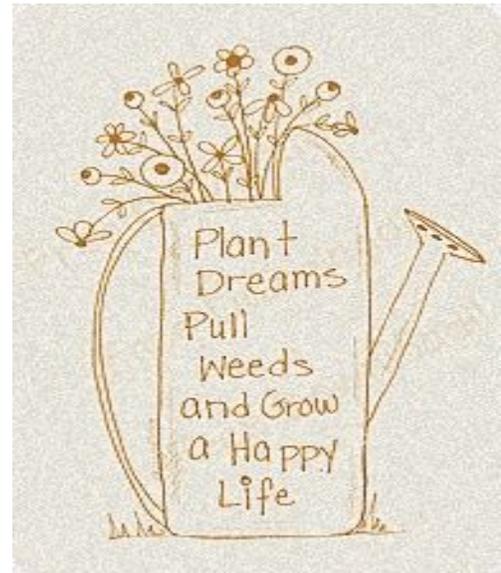
entertainer to Pryme Tymers, Maureen Christine, an award winning vocalist will sing some of your most uplifting favorites such as "Wind Beneath My Wings" and "Over the Rainbow".

May 26, 11 A.M.:

Entrée: Beef Stew

Program: *The Irving Sisters*. Another new group to Pryme Tymers, the Irving Sisters will present music from the 30's and 40's and of course, something Patriotic as we honor all of our veteran members. God Bless America --- **Wear Red, White and Blue.**

Make your reservation by the Friday **BEFORE** the event. The cost per meeting is \$7. Be sure to bring two canned goods for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. There is always a great need and it is truly appreciated.





Noah's Ark Preschool



May 2016 Newsletter

For the month of May the children will focus on...

Colors- Review

Shapes- Review

Science-Flowers and Insects

Dates to Remember

Mother's Day Tea

Friday, May 6

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday, May 9

No School

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25

No school



Great Expectations

It's time to say, "Good-bye."

Our year has come to an end.

I've made more cherished memories
and many more new friends.

I've watched your children learn and grow
and change from day to day.

I hope that all the things we've done

Have helped in some small way.

So it's with happy memories

We send them out the door,

With great hope and expectations

For what next year holds in store.

~By Maria Cuellar-Munson



**Last Day of Preschool &
Graduation Celebration**

*All students enrolled at Noah's Ark
participate in graduation-*

Wednesday, June 1

11:15- 1:00

More Info to Come



Mrs. Palazzolo & Mrs. Wojcik's class will
review letters Tt - Zz, number
recognition 0-20 and counting 1-100.

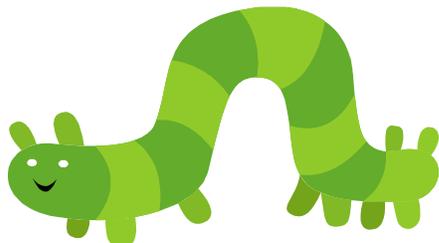
Ms. Amanda & Mrs. Dryier's class will
focus on letters Ww - Zz and
review past letters and numbers 0-20

A note of Thanks!

Thank you....

~to our wonderful readers who have shared their time,
reading to our preschoolers.

~to all of our families who have helped sell and purchase
the World's Chocolate candy bars! We truly appreciate
your generosity and support!



NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL

A NOTE FROM...

Mrs. Palazzolo, Ms. Amanda,
Mrs. Dryier & Mrs. Wojcik

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We cannot believe the end of the year is here! We are so proud of each one of the children. It has been a pleasure working with you and your children.

For the month of May, the children will have fun learning about flowers and the many different kinds of insects.

During the month of May, the children in Mrs. Palazzolo and Mrs. Wojcik's room will focus on letters Tt - Zz, review of the entire alphabet and number recognition 0-20 and counting 1-100.

At home, please continue daily with printing practice, letter recognition and sounds and counting.

During the month of May, Ms. Amanda and Mrs. Dryier's room will focus on letters, Ww- Zz and counting 0-20. Please continue working on letter and number recognition at home as well.

A very important and special day is coming up for your child. Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 1 from 11:15 - 1:00. Lunch will be catered by 115 Bourbon Street. **Each child at Noah's Ark Preschool participates in graduation.** During this month, the children will be preparing for graduation, making crafts and practicing the songs for graduation. More information to come.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Monday, May 9. There is no school. These conferences are optional. The sign-up sheet will be located in your child's classroom near the sign-in/out sheets.



Thank you,
Mrs. Palazzolo, Ms. Amanda,
Mrs. Dryier and Mrs. Wojcik

A Note from the Director~

Dear Parents/Guardians,

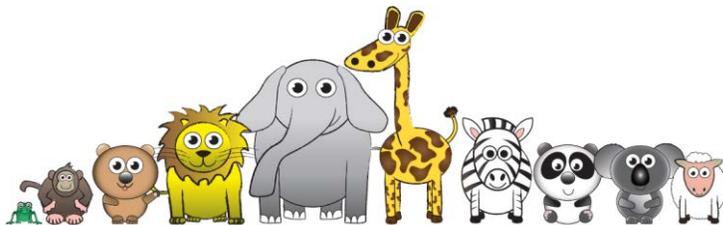
It has been a pleasure working with all the children and meeting their wonderful and supportive families. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your child's learning and their journey at Noah's Ark Preschool. Each child has made many accomplishments in his or her own way. I am proud of each and every one of them! I will miss every one of their energetic smiles.

I would also like to thank Pastor Jim Sandberg, Pastor Mitch Habby, Mrs. Karen, the members of Trinity Covenant Church, my teachers; Ms. Amanda, Mrs. Dryier, Mrs. Wojcik, our substitute teachers, Mrs. Theodossopoulos and Ms. Brittany and our volunteer readers for all of their support and kindness.

Thank you to all of the parents and families who have supported the preschool and also who have shared their time and talents in our classroom. You have helped make this school year very successful for all of us! God Bless.

Have a Wonderful Summer!

~Mrs. Palazzolo



May 2016

Notes:

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Confirmation Sunday</i> 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
 <i>Mothers Day</i> 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	 30 <i>Honoring All Who Served</i>	31	June 1			

- 1: Confirmation Sunday**
Youth Group (1-2:30 PM)
- 3: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
Ronald McDonald House supper (4:30 PM)
- 6: Noah's Ark Preschool Mother's Day Tea, Peterson Hall (11 AM)
Family Night – Outdoor Game Night and BBQ
- 7: Men's Prayer Breakfast, Jedi Garden (8 AM)
- 8: Happy Mother's Day**
Year-end Youth Group Party
- 10: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
Deacons meeting (6:30 PM)
Trustees & CE Board meetings (7 PM)
- 12: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)
- 14: Mondry Wedding Shower, Peterson Hall (11 AM)
- 15: **Articles for June Messenger due**
- 17: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
- 19: Church Board meeting (7 PM)
- 21: Pacesetters spring gathering, Grace and Harry Persson's house (3 PM)
- 24: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
- 26: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)
- 29: No Sunday School
- 30: **Memorial Day**
- 31: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
- June 1: Noah's Ark Preschool Graduation, Peterson Hall (11:15 AM – 1 PM) (last day of school)

On-going Ministry

Sunday Mornings

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 3rd Grade

11:15 AM Sunday School Grades 4-6, Confirmation, Sr. High, Adult Class
(childcare will be provided for parents who want to attend Sunday School)

Noah's Ark Preschool – Mon – Fri, 9 AM – 12 PM

Women's Bible Study – Tuesday, 9:30 AM, Fireside Room

Pryme Tymers – 2nd and 4th Thursday, 11 AM

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Reverend Dr. James R. Sandberg

Senior Pastor

Mitch Haaby

Pastoral Intern

Nate VanDerMale

Interim Director of Music and Worship

Betty Aardema

Organist

Stuart Seale

Pianist

Christina Palazzolo

Director – Noah's Ark Preschool

Karen Christakos

Secretary

Joe Michalowicz

Custodian

Articles for the
June Messenger
are due May 15