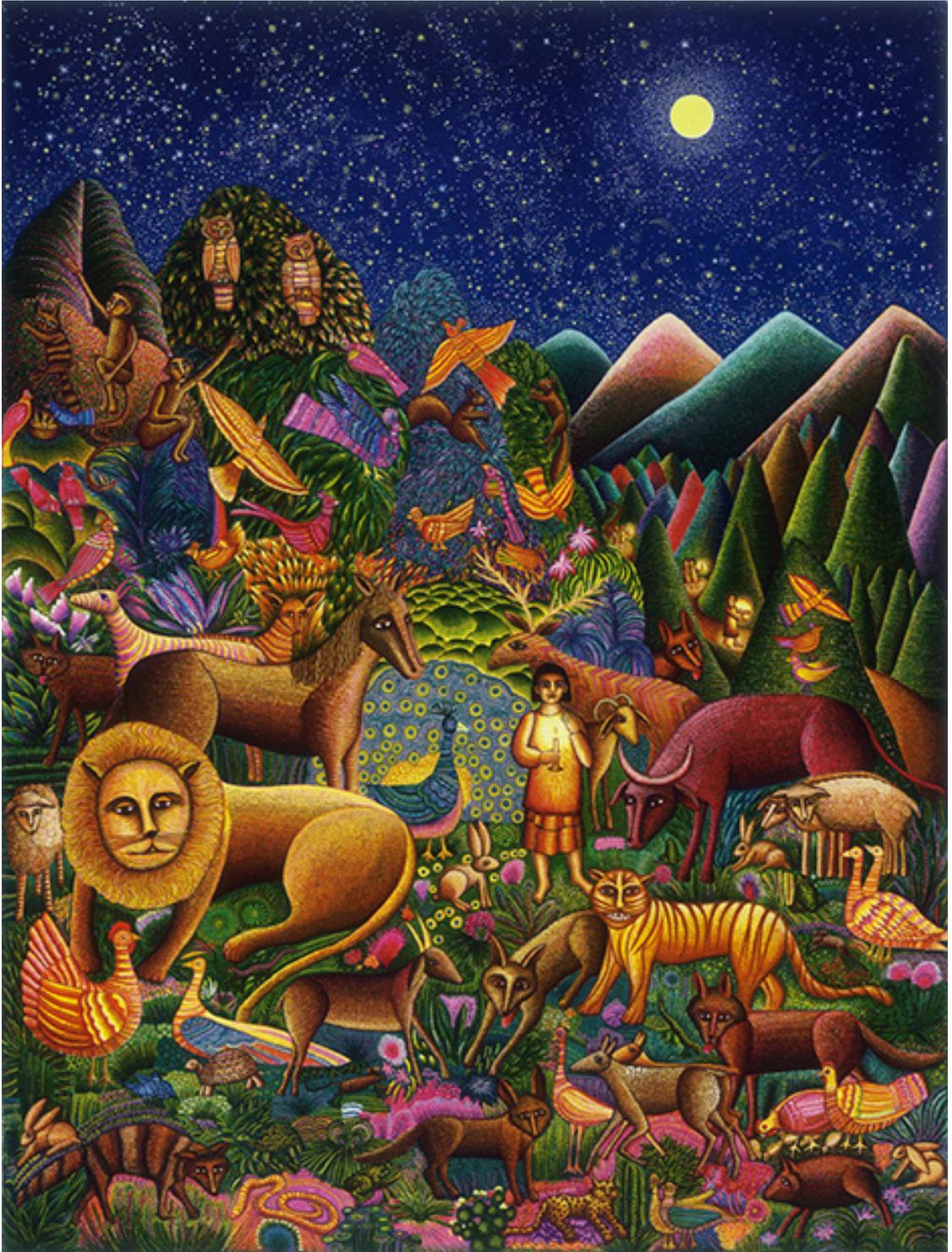


EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021 • 9:30 a.m.



Peaceable Kingdom
John August Swanson



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Soaring overhead in our sanctuary is a brilliantly hued representation of the prayers of the people.

Each flash of color is an origami crane. And inside each bird is written the name of a church member who was prayed for as the bird was folded. Yet the focus of this artwork is larger than any individual or congregation. The work – made up of over 3500 cranes – also marks International Day of Peace, September 21. On this date, people around the globe are encouraged to participate in acts of peace. And in addition, these peace cranes support our annual giving campaign, *Peace by Piece*.

Please sign our virtual Friendship Pad.

If you are worshipping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, either click below to let us know that you joined us for worship today or sign the pad on our website at <https://bit.ly/2Rlig2l>

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Vivace, Trio Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, BWV 527*

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Annual Giving Kickoff

Jim Peggs

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: You are invited to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you are called in Jesus the Christ:

All: We cannot do this alone, so we gather as God's people.

One: Lead a life worthy of your calling, a life filled with conviction and service.

All: We come to build up Christ's Body, with courage and love.

One: Lead a life which reflects our calling, the life of peace grounded in the Spirit.

All: We rejoice in our oneness in Christ; and would dare to share the grace offered to us.

One: Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

All: We gather as God's family to sing, to pray, to worship, and to hear the Word of Life.

* **HYMN 667** *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

CALL TO CONFESSION

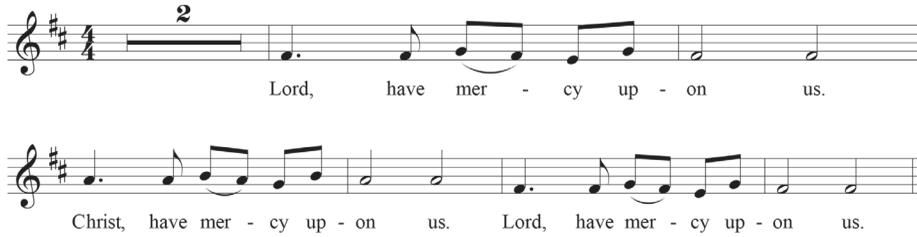
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, forgive us,
for we are broken people.
We go many directions at once.
We seek opposite goals,
we serve conflicting causes.
We mouth freedom, we live oppression.
We shout peace, we practice violence.
Without justice, we walk in prejudice.
We preach love, we practice hate.
Through your compassion
have mercy on us and make us whole.
Enable us to discern your voice
from among all the confusing noises of this age...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

Lee Afdahl



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

This is Hymn 475, Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (NETTLETON).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 4:4-7

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 11:1-10

The grass withers, the flower fades;
the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

This Could Be Our Future...

RESPONDING

* HYMN

Peace by Piece

CWM RHONNDA

The hymn is found on your bulletin insert.

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story is *The Most Important Thing to Remember.*

It can be found on page 168 of the *Children's Story Bible* found in your pew.

Worship LAB, a hands-on experience for our youngest disciples, is a place where children can ask questions and dig deeper into the various parts of Presbyterian Worship. Children will learn what they have to offer to worship as they discover and understand their place in the Body of Christ on Sunday mornings. "It's like someone hits the pause button on worship so they can ask all the questions and touch all the things, then press play again! This LAB is Living And Breathing!"

Embodying Scripture: Middle Schoolers, grades 6-8, are invited to join Rev. Mark Mares, for "Embodying Scripture" in the Lewis Room after the Conversation with Young Disciples.

COMMISSIONING OF CONFIRMATION CLASS MEMBERS

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Anonymous

Chancel Choir

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all.
The Lord is even at hand.
Be careful for nothing, but in all prayer and supplication
Let your petition be manifest unto God,
Unto God with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God which passeth all understanding
Keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

* Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING

* HYMN 383

Dream On, Dream On

DREAM ON

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

In the name of Jesus —
Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**
Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**
Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Tuba Tune in D Major

C. S. Lang

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the closing voluntary. The ushers will dismiss the congregation from the back of the Sanctuary forward.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service. As you consider making your offering, remember that the church's regular expenses continue in these difficult times. And the community around us needs your financial support: your faithful giving is like the breath of life to mission programs we love, neighbors in need, members who are hurting. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Ways to give: click <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home> ... via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use our Give+ app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



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Cover art:

Peaceable Kingdom, by John August Swanson, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Why origami cranes? Early in 1955, a twelve-year-old girl named Sadako Sasaki developed leukemia as a result of exposure to radiation from the nuclear bomb dropped on her hometown, Hiroshima, at the end of World War II. Visiting her in the hospital, Sadako's best friend reminded her of the Japanese legend that, if she could fold one thousand cranes, her wish to be made well might be granted. Stories differ as to whether Sadako was able to finish one thousand cranes before her death in October 1955, or whether her friends completed the task in her memory. Regardless, a statue of Sadako holding a golden crane now stands in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial and, every day, cranes arrive from people all over the world who hope and pray and work for peace. Like Sadako's cranes, the exact number of First Pres' cranes is unknown. We estimate it to be more than 3500. Many thanks to all who prayed these three-dimensional prayers and helped create our art installation that can now inspire us all to serve the Prince of Peace.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Mark Mares; Liturgists – Hannah Lundberg and Megan Berry; Scripture Reader – Mary Jane Chase; Children's Message – Melissa Anne Rogers; Worship Lab Leaders – Matthew Warfield and Beca Torres-Davenport; Preacher – Jay Sanderford; Musicians – Chancel Choir; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Greeters – Cyndy Colton and Al and Sheryl Powell; Ushers – Paul Smith (captain), Beth Gerwig, Nicole and Olivier Jolliet, Holly, Aidan, and Chloe Majorprice, Carol Smith, and Angela Yang

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Laurin and Delia Hunter by their daughter, Molly Dobson.

Join us for in-person Coffee Hour on the Front Lawn immediately following the Closing Voluntary. Cookies bakers are Kim Byers-Granito, Diane Knibbs, and Julie Rupp.

Join Rev. Rogers today from wherever you are for virtual fellowship at approximately 10:35 a.m., after worship ends! (Virtual Coffee Hours are planned for the final Sunday of each month, beginning after the livestream worship service on YouTube.) **Today's spiritual prompt:** "What are the things you do that make for peace?" Join us via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/329423603>.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES TODAY @ 11:00

Bible Study at 11 o'clock (Curtis Room)

This year the class will read Isaiah. Isaiah has 66 chapters that cover nearly 300 years of history under three empires, not in historical order. There will be 30 classes that must be read in a different way with a different set of goals than previous years. This class is facilitated by Ed Koster.

Exploring the Faith (Chancel area of Sanctuary)

Annual Giving Committee Chair Deanne Woodruff will facilitate a discussion around the theme "Peace by Piece" as we kickoff our annual stewardship season.

First Friends (Lewis Room)

Today's discussion is based on a DVD presentation by Adam Hamilton: "Why?: Making Sense of God's Will. Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?"

T2A2 Small Group (Founders Room)

Everyone in their twenties and thirties is welcome to come and build community with us as we share meaningful conversations and reflect on the Word together. We'll begin a study of the book of Romans around 11:00 a.m. A light lunch (eaten outside) will be provided.

Adult/Parent Confirmation Class (Vance Room)

This class will follow the main themes the youth are learning in their confirmation class. Whether you have been here your whole life and remember everything from your confirmation class or you were confirmed in another church or you simply want a reminder of what you learned and what our youth are learning, please come to this class! This class meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. It will be led by Resident Minister Megan Berry and Rev. Jay Sanderford.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calling all singers for Children's Choir (K-5)! It's not too late to join the Children's Choir with Shayla Powell. All children are welcome at 10:30 a.m., in Monteith Hall. Meet Ms. Shayla at the pulpit door at 10:30 a.m. for choir and treats!

Social Justice Kickoff Meeting is today at 12:15 p.m. Are you interested in what our Social Justice Action Group has been up to lately? Do you have a special interest in any of the priority areas our congregation has identified? If yes, we hope you'll come to today's meeting under the Canopy on the Hill Street Lawn following the Faith Formation Hour.

All are invited to attend a Stephen Ministry-sponsored continuing education lecture entitled "Overcoming Clinical Depressions: The Future is Now, Your Help is Needed," presented by Dr. John Greden, on Monday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall.

All are invited to our monthly Taizé Prayer Service on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall.

Meals for the homeless are needed at Mercy House. Mercy House, located at 805 W. Huron Street in Ann Arbor, is an oasis of hope for people experiencing homelessness, providing meals, showers, clothing and personal care items. We are looking for individuals who could prepare and drop off a meal for 20 people on Mondays or Wednesdays, with a 5:45 p.m. drop-off at the house. Typically, one person provides the main dish, and another provides sides and dessert, but some do both. Aluminum pans work best, as they do not need to be returned and will be reused by the community. (They also accept grocery gift cards, in any amount, to buy the ingredients to prepare a meal.) If you have questions, contact Sonia at soniafrances55@gmail.com. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44FAE22A2F49-mercy>.

Our September Communion Food Collection supports Food Gatherers, the main supplier of food to local food banks in Washtenaw County. The Covid-19 pandemic continues to create a "perfect storm" of increased demand for food and declines in donated food. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and Fridays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Personal care items are of particular need since they cannot be purchased with Bridge Cards. The most needed personal care items are diapers, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, and disposable razors.

Acolytes, Assemble! All Children and Youth (grades K–12) are invited to join our Acolyte Team! Acolytes participate in the processional at the beginning of the 9:30 a.m. worship service by carrying either the Christ Light or the Cross. A coordinator will be available each week to help out. Acolytes will join their family in worship after acolyting. Join us in bringing the light and life back into the beginning of worship as we welcome more people to in-person worship! Find out more information on our website.

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. Contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) to grab a cup of coffee or for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

All-Church Bonfire October 24! ALL are welcome for S'mores! Meet at White Oaks Farm, 6641 Zeeb Rd Dexter, MI 48130, 6:00–7:00 p.m. Everything will be provided. Come enjoy a nice fall evening with fire, marshmallows, chocolate, and more. There is ample parking. RSVP to the Church Office or to Rev. Rogers so we know to plan for you!

Mature Ministries October 28 Trip — A Few Spots Remain! We'll travel by bus to the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum in Saginaw. Lunch will follow the museum visit at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. Depart at 8:00 a.m. from the church and return by 4:30 p.m. The price is \$50 and includes lunch and bus travel. Museum admission is free; on site donations are welcome.

Women: Stay Connected! PW Membership Chair Ginny Bell sends out timely information in email blasts. Contact Ginny (virginiabell2013@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.

Mature Singles meet on Friday nights. Please call Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

Mature Ministries presents Lunch and Learn with Ken Fischer, on October 14. We will begin at noon with a box lunch eaten outside (either on the Circle Terrace or under the Canopy on the Hill Street Lawn). At 1:00 p.m., all are then invited into the Sanctuary, where Ken will be interviewed by First Pres member and longtime member of the UMS Choral Union Marilyn Meeker. This will be followed by a Q&A session, and a book-signing. RSVP to the Church Office to order your lunch.

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning, 9:00–9:30 a.m., online. We have 15 people who come together online to start the week and pray for the needs shared in worship, on the virtual friendship pad, and using the prayer request form. Would you like prayer for yourself or others? Use this form by Sunday evening: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/prayer-request/>. If you would like to join this group, email Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) for information and the link. For those in worship today, to share a prayer today with the pastors or prayer team, please use a pew card or the friendship pad, or speak to a pastor after the service.

Making God's Love Visible, Peace by Piece. Have you received your 2022 Annual Giving packet in the mail? It's coming with a big surprise!! We have created a one-of-a-kind calendar celebrating the many ways we are making God's Love Visible here at First Pres. As you use the calendar, view the peace crane as a symbol of hope, faith and renewal for the next leg of our journey with Jesus Christ – and a symbol of how important your pledge is to the Church. Your pledges are the foundation that makes all this possible. Please fill out and return the pledge and opportunity to serve forms by mail or online. Thank you.

Chancel Choir invites all high school and college students as well as adults to sing. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts at dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org.

Join us for an Artist's Reception with Joel Schoon-Tanis Friday, October 8, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., in the Social Hall. The artist will talk about his art exhibit *40 Gospels*. A light reception will follow on the Monteith Terrace.

For information on opportunities to connect and resources for children and families, contact Beca Torres-Davenport (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org), Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry.

For information about the numerous opportunities to connect for youth and families, contact Rev. Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families.

Volunteers are needed for our Food Rescue program! Volunteers take food to the freezer at the end of UM football games (you can get in during the 4th quarter even if you aren't attending the game), and then return on Monday morning to load up the truck and drive to Detroit. You can sign up for any or all of three slots at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/FoodRescue2021>.

Help us prepare for Dedication/Reformation Sunday. Red fabric strips are needed to help create red paraments for Dedication/Reformation Sunday, October 31, to support our Annual Giving Campaign theme: "Peace by Piece." Drop fabric off at the Welcome Center by Sunday, October 10.

The Men's Study Group meets on the first and third Friday mornings, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room, for coffee, study, and conversation. This fall, we will read *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings* by Amy Jill Levine. Contact Rev. Sanderford (jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466, ext. 340) for more information.

Campus Ministries Update. Each Sunday, students will have a special small group during our new 11:00 a.m. Faith Formation hour before breaking for lunch. If you are interested in helping plan ministry events as part of our Campus Ministry Work Group, or would like to be directly involved in supporting a small group or service event, please contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org).

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is committed to being open and transparent in our search for a Lead Pastor. We meet weekly and can be reached at pnc2021@firstpresbyterian.org. Information about our search is available at: <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/about/staff-leadership/pastoral-transition-first-presbyterian>.

Please contact the Church Office to:

- order a First Pres name tag. Cost is \$9 for either clip or magnet style.
- request a baptism.
- inform us of any changes to your basic contact information.
- let us know if you are hospitalized.
- purchase a bag of Fair Trade coffee (\$12) for use at home to support the PC(USA) Coffee Project.
- sign up to sponsor Chancel Flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one. Cost is \$75.
- apply for a security device (fob). Cost is \$10.

Fast Track to First Pres Membership! Become a member in as little as twenty minutes on Sunday, October 10 or 17. Meet with Rev. Rogers and two Elders at 11:00 a.m., in the Lead Pastor's Office across from the Vance Room, down the hall from the Sanctuary. We look forward to you joining as a full or affiliate member. Contact Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) if you have questions, or see any pastor after a worship service.



Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist/Pianist
Megan Berry
Resident Minister
Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse
David Hufford
Organist
Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister
Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families
Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries
Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse
Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor
Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor
Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry
David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts
Rev. Matthew Warfield
Resident Minister

Administrative Staff

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant
J. P. DiMaggio
Interim Bridge Administrator
Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator
Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist
Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator
Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant
Anna Miller
Finance Manager
Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator
Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager
Linda Robinson
Office Manager
Alyssa Walker
Finance Assistant



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1826-2021
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