

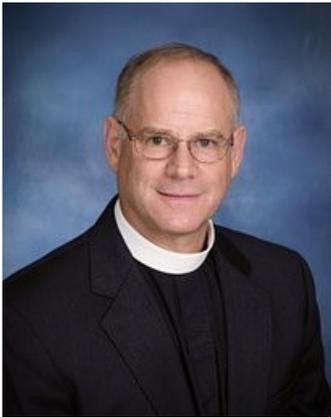


† ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMUNIQUE

September 2019

The Newsletter for St. Francis, Dunellen

A Letter from Fr. Jack Zamboni, Rector



Fr. Jack Zamboni

Dear Friends in the Resurrection,

Put your trust in the Lord and do good;

Dwell in the land and feed on its riches. 1

These words come from Psalm 37, a text that has been a rich and favorite resource of prayer and reflection for me over the years. As we move into September, it makes me think of the many ways of doing good we will embark on this fall at St. Francis that you can read more about elsewhere in this *Communique*:

- Sunday Worship at 8 & 10 with Choir and Sunday School start-up: September 8th
- ECW Lunch: Monday, September 16th
- Vestry and Stewardship Team Meeting: Sunday, September 22nd
- Evensong Honoring Ministry of Older Adults, Saturday, September 28th 2:00 PM at Trinity Cathedral
- Dunellen Street Fair & Craft Show: Sunday, Sept 29th 11-5pm.
- Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions, Tuesday, Wednesday, October 1st and 2nd
- Contemplative Preparation for Confirmation and Reception, starting September 22nd

As with so many parts of our lives, Church gets more active in the Fall. We give ourselves over to being busy doing good -- and that is (mostly!) a good thing!

Yet as we move into this season of busily doing good, I want to remind us of a needed balance that the psalm names. For most of us, the summer just past is the time when it is easier for us to "dwell in the land and feed on its riches" -- to relax and be nourished by the beauty of God's creation, to be settled into the place that God has given us to live, rather than running in 20 different directions at once as it seems we do during the rest of the year. Feeding on the riches that God gives us simply in dwelling, not being busy, is a great gift that summer offers.

But the Psalm doesn't say "dwell in the land and feed on its riches" *only in the summer*. Rather, it reminds us that we always need a balance between dwelling and moving, between activity and rest, between doing good and keeping sabbath. And it just may be that it is in the busiest seasons of our lives -- like September -- that we most need find time to dwell, to feed, to rest.

The Psalm gives us another essential reminder: "Put your trust in the Lord." I sometimes think that the level of activity in both church and culture betrays a lack of trust in God. We act as if we believe that if we do not do all the good the world needs, it isn't going to get done at all. Clearly, we have an essential role. God has invited us into a co-creative partnership in doing good in God's world. But often we act as if we are solo entrepreneurs, not junior partners with a God whom we can trust to do good beyond what we can imagine or accomplish.

So as we carry on our active lives, seeking to do good in God's name, let's not forget to put our trust in the Lord. For if we trust in God, we can do good without feeling like quite so much depends on us alone -- and the good we do and the joy we will know will both be richer and deeper. It all goes together:

Put your trust in the Lord and do good;

Dwell in the land and feed on its riches

Peace,

A Contemplative Exploration of Christian Faith and Life

In the Summer *Communique*, I wrote that Bishop Stokes will be coming to St. Francis on Sunday, May 17th, 2020. He will preside at the Eucharist, preach, and administer Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. Confirmation is intended for older teens who were baptized at a young age and adults never Confirmed in any Christian tradition; Reception for those Confirmed in another Christian tradition; and Reaffirmation for baptized and confirmed Episcopalians who desire to reaffirm their faith in the presence of and with prayer by the Bishop. (For more detail see the [Summer Communique](#)).

In September, we'll begin an intergenerational program of preparation for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation. I've reached out directly to all I'm aware of for whom Confirmation or Reception would be appropriate. Now, I want to invite all parishioners to consider participating – either as preparation for Reaffirmation or simply to deepen your life with and in God. This might be of particular interest as I'm seeking to come at this process in a different and, I hope, refreshing way.

Traditionally, preparation for Confirmation and Reception has explored the Christian understandings of God (Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity), sin and forgiveness, death and resurrection, worship and sacraments, the Bible, the life of the Church (including Anglican/Episcopal history and practice), prayer and spirituality, and the call to share the good news of God's love, serve human need and work for justice and peace in the world. This is important stuff, and growing into it matters if we're going to live as active members of what our Presiding Bishop calls "the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement."

All too often, however, such preparation has come with a classroom mentality – focused on learning information *about* God and the Church and then, maybe, figuring out how it connects with life. I've taught versions of that for over 30 years, and I've always tried to emphasize the life connection part. If faith and life don't connect, after all, I'm not sure what the point is.

But now, I feel God calling forth a quite different approach – what I'd call a contemplative path. We'll unpack what "contemplative" means in the months ahead. For now I'll say this path is:

- More about life *with/in* God, in the church and beyond, than ideas *about* God and the Church.
- More about encountering the Holy Mystery revealed in Christ than acquiring knowledge.
- More about spiritual practice than theological concepts.
- More experiential and embodied than informational and rational.

We'll engage in a variety of contemplative practices, using movement and stillness, music and silence, art and literature (including the Bible), and encounters with God's creation. There will be conversation and group activities to build community (and to that end I'll be sharing leadership with others in the congregation). We will explore the classic Confirmation/Reception topics, so there will be (some) traditional teaching – but always, I hope, growing out of and leading back to the practices that open us to God's presence. There may be reading and on-line material between sessions, a retreat day, and other as yet unknown stuff.

We all have busy lives and scheduling will be a challenge. My guess is that Sunday evenings may be least problematic; a provisional start date would be September 22nd. We'll confirm (or change) as I hear back from those who are interested.

If you're thinking I don't have this all this figured out yet, you'd be right. This is a work in progress and we'll be creating it together as we go. I'm excited about that and would love for you to join in this stage of this journey on what is surely a lifelong path.

Please get back to me (izamboni@juno.com), 732-968-6781) and let me know if you're interested or have any questions. You're also welcome to come to the first few sessions to check out what we're doing as you discern if this is God's invitation to you.

Peace,



Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Once again, our congregation's Vestry and finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During the three weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday, you will hear from members of the congregation. They will tell you a little about themselves and their spiritual commitment to the question of what God is calling, me give?

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday, November 10th. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader, **Father Dave Snyder**, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and the Vestry. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Elaine Patania,
Stewardship Chairperson



OUTREACH

Outreach coordinator: Pam Maiolo

Fish Hospitality — FHP guests were in residence at St. Francis for two weeks this summer. Thanks to all who participated in any way to the welcome our guests received. Fr. Jack and Veronica were among those who volunteered for overnight supervision duty.

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United Thank Offering — Thanks to those who contributed to our special Lenten collection. Your donations were combined with an outreach budget allotment. We sent a check for \$1000 to ECW for their ingathering which was to take place in late May. That event was cancelled and the ingathering will now be held on September 11th at Trinity Cathedral.

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Reach Out and Read — gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together. Fr. Frank is a volunteer reader in Plainfield at the Neighborhood Health Center. Through generous donations from parishioners & use of our outreach budget funds, Fr. Frank was able to purchase new bilingual age appropriate books for use in the program. Our donation totaled \$200. thanks to all who donated \$\$ or books they had at home.

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Grace's Kitchen — Our next date to serve at this local soup kitchen is September 30th. We begin preparing the day's food offering at 10:30am, serve at lunch at 11:30 & conclude at 1pm. Grace's Kitchen is located in Grace Episcopal Church, 600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield, NJ.

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FISH, Inc. — September's suggested food donation is peanut butter and jelly—a sure favorite for back to school sandwiches. All non perishable food is always welcome. Please check expiration dates. Collection of seasonal clothing continued throughout the year.

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St. Mary's Mission — Located in Lancaster, PA, works with Episcopal & Catholic churches to find new homes for used religious items that are no longer needed. Fr. Jack, Barbara Dalto & Pam Maiolo looked in closets & drawers and were able to fill a few boxes with old, unused & out of date items that might be beneficial to another religious institution. A representative picked up the items and sent us a very appreciative Thank You note.

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Eyeglass Collection — This ongoing outreach program collects all types of eyeglasses (adult, children, prescription, sunglasses, & readers). Glasses are then given to the local Lions Club. There is a bucket on the back narthex table.

FISH Donations



Serving Middlesex, Union, and Somerset

Donation suggestion for this month:

September: Peanut Butter & Jelly

All donations are welcome! Please check expiration dates.

Suggested Monthly Donation

2019/2020

<p><u>JULY</u></p> <p>Juice</p>	<p><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>Cereal Cold/Hot</p>	<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>Peanut Butter/ Jelly</p>
<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>(St. Hubert's) Canned/Dry Dog/Cat Food</p>	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>(Grace's Kitchen) Men's & Women's Socks Warm - Athletic</p>	<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p>Milk Powdered or Parmalat box</p>
<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>Rice & Beans</p>	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>Canned Vegetables</p>	<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>Pasta/Sauce</p>
<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>FISH Hospitality Donation (TBA)</p>	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <p>Canned Tuna/ Meats</p>	<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>Canned/Jarred Fruit</p>

- The suggestions for each month are just suggestions for donation. You may give any food or personal product at any time.
- Please remember to check expiration dates on the food that you donate. All products with expired dates will be discarded.
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

STEWARDSHIP GET INVOLVED!



Sharing our time, treasure, and talent with others.

*Stewardship is sharing the gifts
God has given us.*

GRACE'S KITCHEN

Sept. 30th @ 10:30am—1pm

Lunch preparation begins at 10:30am and serving to guests concludes at 1pm. Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield. For more info, contact Pam Maiolo.



HOST COFFEE HOUR Sundays after 10AM service 2nd Sunday after 8AM

Fellowship after Sunday services is a time-honored tradition, and a great way to connect with your fellow parishioners and new comers. Volunteers are needed to provide beverages and light refreshments. Sign up sheets are in the narthex. To learn more, see Cynthia Pelliccia



Join our closed group on Facebook for information pertaining to our parish "St. Francis Dunellen Members".

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 8, 2018

We look forward to another good year of Sunday School for children from ages 3 and up. We all gather at 10 a.m. in the Nellie Reid room downstairs for prayers, a bible lesson, singing, and a craft. We have special lessons focused on the age groups of our children. The class lasts until the passing of the peace, at which point we join our family and friends for the celebration of the Eucharist.



We hope your children will join us for another fun year of learning.
Church School Team: Kathy Balenson, Natalie Edwards, Monique Phua

St. Francis' Consecration Sunday Raffle is Coming This Fall

Please help make our Fall raffle a HUGE success and support our Parish Outreach Programs by buying tickets for yourselves and selling them to your circles of friends and family.

Each ticket gives you the chance to win one of 3 great prizes:

50" Flat Screen TV

\$250 Visa Gift Certificate

NY Giants Football Package

(Eli Manning Jersey/Giants NFL Hat/Giants Beverage Holder)



Dunellen Street fair & Craft Show, Sunday, Sept 29th 11-5pm. Lots of vendors & food. Your assistance is needed to cover our table. Flyer & Sign-Up sheet are in the Narthex. For info contact Heather at hnunes505@gmail.com or Carline at Ladyat43451@aol.com.

September Healthy Bits by Chris Colwell

It's hard to believe we're approaching the end of summer already – those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are coming to an end. With that brings preparation for the coming school year. Here are some tips from the National Safety Council on Back to School safety.

Walkers

- Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.
- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic
- Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections
- Stay alert and avoid distracted walking – walking while looking at a cell phone

Bus Riders

- Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.
- Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus
- Teach your children to stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb
- If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach them to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other

Driving Your Child to School

- Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.
- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure
- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus

Teen Drivers

- Car crashes are the No. 1 cause of death for teens. Fortunately, there is something we can do.
- Teens crash because they are inexperienced; practice with new drivers every week, before and after they get their license
- Set a good example; drive the way you want your teen to drive
- Define driving expectations such as when can car be used? Who pays for gas/insurance? Establish rules around major driving risks such as passengers and distractions

Backpacks

- Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.
- Ask your children to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders
- Don't overstuff a backpack; it should weigh no more than 5% to 10% of your child's body weight
- Rolling backpacks should be used cautiously since they can create a trip hazard in crowded school hallways

Playgrounds and Sports

To reduce strangulation hazards on playgrounds, have your child leave necklaces and jackets with drawstrings at home.

A few bumps and bruises can be expected when your child plays sports, but head injuries should never be ignored. If your child gets hit on the head, do not assume he just had his bell rung, or she was just dinged. Concussions are very serious and always require medical attention. Signs and symptoms of concussion include:

- Confusion
- Forgetfulness
- Glassy eyes
- Disorientation
- Clumsiness or poor balance
- Slowed speech
- Changes in mood, behavior or personality

Here's hoping everyone has a happy and safe school year. –Chris Colwell

ST. FRANCIS SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6, 2016 - 12 Noon on the lawn at St. Francis

St. Francis of Assisi loved all God's creatures and followed God's example of kindness, mercy, compassion and love for all creation.

Join us for a procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even hermit crabs!

(inclement weather—no problem—we'll Bless the animals in Milbank Hall. Pet food donations accepted—Preferred dry foods.



**The St. Francis Welcome Back Brunch is scheduled for
Sunday October 6, 2019**

**Our NEW Church Directory
Won't Be Complete Without
*You!***

**FREE 8x10
PORTRAIT**
for participating
families.

- FREE Directory for participating families
- Specially priced portraits and frames
- Portraits available in Full Color, Black & White, and Sepia
- Immediate viewing of digital proofs

Credit Cards Accepted

Re:MEMBER Church Directories

Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions

St Francis is publishing the Parish Directory to include family photos this year. A photographer is scheduled to be at St Francis Tuesday October 1 and Wednesday October 2nd from 2:30 to 8:45PM.

There is a sign-up/scheduling sheet in the Narthex. Please sign up as soon as possible to ensure you get a time slot that works for you.

Please contact Monique Phua (phuafam@aol.com) if you have any questions.



CELEBRATIONS

September 2019

September Birthdays

Joyce Tereman	09/01
Branden Villa-Chauvin	09/06
Carline Sinckler	09/08
Kia Phua	09/09
Liliana Kolarick	09/10
Norma Tucker	09/13
Heather Nunes	09/13
Tyler Klastava	09/13
Cecil Baker	09/14
Cheryle Wilson	09/18
Virginia Meeker	09/18
Karen Williams	09/18
Nicholas Neal	09/20
Anthony Klastava	09/20
Matthew Klastava	09/20
Tiffany McConney	09/21
Grace McDougall	09/22
Paul Sinckler	09/25

September Baptisms

Joanne Mathew	09/02
Connor Dunham	09/04
Joyce Tereman	09/13
Everette Pfeiffer	09/21
Susan Angelicola	09/23
Jonathan Parmelee	09/23
Jayden Phua	09/24
Monique Phua	09/25
Tracie Toke	09/28

September Anniversaries

Pam and Gail Slater-Warntz	09/03
Jay and Tito Villa-Chauvin	09/03
Francis and Princess Thomas	09/09
Michelle and Gary Neal	09/18
Pamela and Vincent Maiolo	09/27

Evensong Honoring Ministry of Older Adults

Trinity Cathedral

Saturday, September 28th, 2:00 PM.

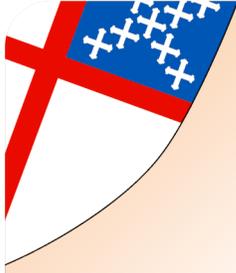
2019 Honorees from St. Francis:

David Magee
Kathy Balenson

Please attend to celebrate our parishioners!

Registration for attendance is requested for planning the reception following the service.

Please can register online at <https://tinyurl.com/OAAtt09282019> or contact Mary Anne Clisham at Diocesan House: mclisham@dioceseofnj.org or 609 394-5281 Ext. 10.



EVENT CALENDAR and LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost 9AM Holy Eucharist	2 7:30PM AA	3	4 11:30AM Mid-week Worship 7:30PM AA	5	6	7
8 Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8AM Holy Eucharist 10AM Holy Eucharist	9 7:30PM AA	10	11 11:30AM Mid-week Worship 5:30 Fish Hospitality 7:30PM AA	12	13	14
15 Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8AM Holy Eucharist 10AM Holy Eucharist	16 12:00PM ECW Luncheon 7:30PM AA	17	18 11:30AM Mid-week Worship 7:30PM AA	19	20	21
22 Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8AM Holy Eucharist 10AM Holy Eucharist Vestry/Stewardship Team Meeting (Coffee Hour)	23 7:30PM AA	24	25 11:30AM Mid-week Worship 7:30PM AA	26	27	28 2PM Trinity Cathedral—Evensong Honoring of Older Adults
29 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8AM Holy Eucharist 10AM Holy Eucharist Dunellen Street Fair	30 10:30-1:00 Grace's Kitchen 7:30PM AA					

Worship Schedule:

Holy Eucharist—Sundays, 8:00AM and 10:00AM

Mid-week Service – Wednesdays, 11:30am

Visit www.stfrancisdunellen.org, call 732-968-6781, or email contactus@stfrancisdunellen.org for more information.

St. Francis Liturgical Schedule

September 2019

DATE	ALTAR GUILD	LECTORS	CHALICERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETER	COUNTERS
<i>9:00 AM Service (Last 9AM Service)</i>							
9/1	Pam M. Barbara D.	Sam M. Rillette H.	Hillary C. Elaine P.	Jaeden P. Gabrielle P-H.	Sharon B. Carroll W.	Audrey J.	Cynthia P. Karen B.

DATE	ALTAR GUILD	LECTORS	CHALICERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETER	COUNTERS
<i>8:00 AM Service</i>							
9/8	*	Ilia S.	*	David Doll	Paul S.	COFFEE BREAK	*
9/15	*	Paul S.	*	Amy M.	Carroll W.	*	*
9/22	*	Alan B. Sharon B.	*	Paul S.	Ilia S.	*	*
9/29	*	Suzannah K.	*	David Doll	Paul S.	*	*
<i>10:00 AM Service</i>							
9/8	Pam W. Gail S.	Larry Q. Sam M.	Tiffany O. Princess T.	Maddie P. Catherine P. AJ K.	Cynthia P. Yuennadi M.	Barbara D.	Grace Mc. Carline S. Elaine P.
9/15	Audrey J. Nathalie E. Sharon B.	Pam M. Elaine P.	Kia P. Hillary C.	James P. Jayden Phua Julia P.	Arthur Mc. Pam M.	Ava P.	Ava P. David Dunham Xiomara M.
9/22	Princess T. Karen W.	Rillette H. Nancy D.	Elaine P. Princess T.	Connor D. Avery D. Jaeden P.	Larry Q. Jabari H.	Heather N.	Larry Q. Anna T.
9/29	Pam M. Barbara D.	Sam M. Grace Mc.	Kia P. Tiffany O.	Jayden P. Gabrielle P-H Robert P-H	Karen W. Tom P.	Audrey J.	Pam M. Monique P.



INTERESTED IN SINGING IN THE CHOIR???

Choir resumes September 8 at the 10:00 AM service. This season we expect to rehearse once a week during the evening, but the time and date has not been set. We are happy to have more people join the choir and to facilitate this, our season will begin with accessible music. There is no need to try out, and it is not required that you read sheet music! There is no obligation to continue if you decide choir is not right for you. If you are interested in joining the choir, please send Albert an email at atbelle820@gmail.com and he will include you on the choir poll to find a mutually-agreeable rehearsal date and time.

St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.stfrancisdunellen.org 732-968-6781

September 2019

Rector

The Rev. Jack Zamboni

Vestry

Cynthia Pelliccia—Sr. Warden, Fellowship, Finance, Buildings & Grounds

Paul Sinckler—Jr. Warden, Finance, Buildings & Grounds

Kathy Balenson—Sunday School, Clerk, COME, ECW

David Doll—Buildings & Grounds Assistance

Xiomara Mitchell—Fellowship, Fish Hospitality Dinners (Outreach)

Pam Maiolo—Outreach, Finance, ECW, Buildings & Grounds, Rectory liaison w/ current tenant

Vestry (continued)

Elaine Patania—Finance, Stewardship and ECW Liaison.

Monique Phua—Facebook page, COME

Larry Quirk—Fundraising, Finance

Carline Sinckler—COME

Grace McDougall

Non-Vestry

Ilia Scriven—Treasurer, Finance

Amy Myzie—Donation recording; electronic banking

Christy McGuire—Communication (Press releases)

Tom Patania, Yuennadi Moya—Buildings & Grounds

Nancy Dunham—Acolyte Scheduling

Laura Breck—Communique, Website Calendar, Liturgical Scheduling