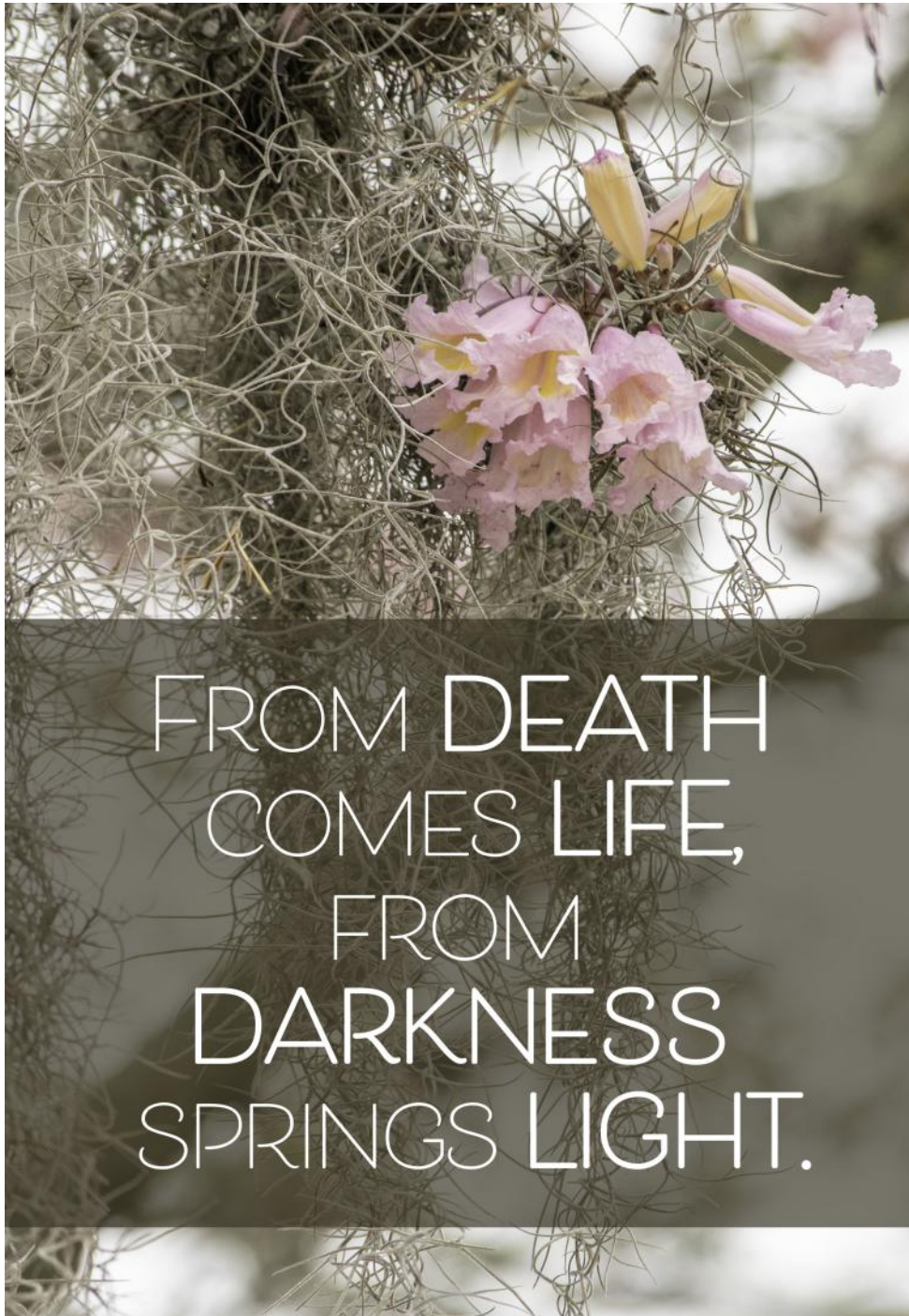


MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LUTHER LINES

JAMES ISLAND, SC 29412

MAY 2025



FROM DEATH
COMES LIFE,
FROM
DARKNESS
SPRINGS LIGHT.



MLLC's Mission Statement

We are a caring family of God brought together by grace and nourished by the Word.

Led by the Spirit, we are sent out in service to share God's love.

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Martin Luther Lutheran Church

Church Council

May 2025 — May 2026

Brandt Armstrong

843-345-0833 ~ barmst2480@aol.com

Ada Arthur

843-276-4154 ~ adaa70@gmail.com

Jimmy Knight

843-214-4305 ~ jnjknight@comcast.net

Linda Leone

843-817-6488 ~ linda@salesfunnel.com

Joni Suggs

843-478-2500 ~ jandrsuggs@comcast.net

Kathy Swittenberg

843-822-0911 ~ kswitt1391@gmail.com

Pastor Kathleen Miko

540-793-6456 ~ katmiko@gmail.com



Spring Tea

At

Martin Luther Church

Sunday, May 4
2 PM to 4 PM.

You are cordially invited.
Please bring your sisters, mothers,
daughters, granddaughters, and
friends.

PLEASE RSVP TO 843 795-4855.

Contact Judy Simmons for details at 843 795-7974



After Sunday's beautiful Easter worship, my heart is full of gratitude!

To Pastor Kathleen - for your meaningful Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter services! I could see, hear and feel God working through your messages.

To our handbell ringers- for the entire last year of faithful service ringing liturgies and hymns, and offering special music! You inspire us all!

To our faithful choir members- for your continuing commitment, flexibility, and beautiful worship leadership and musical offerings. You have shown such faithful determination in the midst of some very serious trials! I know that God blesses you through your gifts and service!

To the altar guild and grounds keepers, sign keepers, council members, clean up teams and all the behind the scenes workers who do so much without recognition!

To Richard -drummer extraordinaire!

To Sherry -no words! So many thanks for so many things!

To our awesome congregation who gather around word and sacrament to share the joy of the Lord! You are a blessing!

My heartfelt thanks!!! May God bless you all throughout this Easter season!

Yours in Christ,

Gina

"Make a Joyful Noise"

Our music camp leadership team is really coming together nicely! The teaching roles and helper slots are filled, but we still need help in the kitchen for snack time.

Our greatest need is students! Please help get the word out to your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors! There is no cost for this camp. We are covering our expenses through the generosity of Thrivent action teams. It will be a week of learning about God's love through the gift of music: Scripture and song, bells, percussion, games and snacks!

Come one, come all! For questions or to Volunteer, please contact Gina @843 737 2113



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Music Camp 2025

Martin Luther Church
1605 Harbor View Road
Charleston, SC

August 4 – 8
9 – Noon
5K – 5th Grade
(2025 – 2026 school year)

Free of Charge
Register Online At:

<https://form.jotform.com/250793771589171>



The Dedication of the Blessing Box
On Palm Sunday, we dedicated the Blessing Box to Joe Sproles.
Below are some pictures of the event.





Thank you for all the beautiful cards and the memorial gift in memory of my dear sister; She was my best friend and I am going to miss her so very much! All of your condolences and support have highlighted, once again, the reasons I feel very happy to be a part of this congregation. Time and time again, through our hardships, joys, and pain we all exhibit the power of unity and love through our lives and worship.

I feel so blessed.

Thank you, thank you, thank you,

Maria Namie



To our church family, friends and all who have been following Autumn's progress.

After a few days more than three months since her transplants, I am so glad to share with you that she is doing great. She has been discharged from the surgery teams and now is enjoying as normal a life as possible for a young lady just leaving her teens. She will be celebrating her 20th birthday Memorial Day weekend. Leaving behind all the pain and stress of her teen years. God, in his mercy, has given her a new life. We are all so very grateful for his mercy and your prayers.

Through all of this uncertainty and turmoil, she never doubted she would be all right. She continued her studies and remains on the Dean's list. She will graduate next Spring.

Quiet an accomplishment for a girl who has been through so very much.

We had the great pleasure of spending time with her Palm Sunday weekend. The first since August last year. I really knew that she was doing well when I could actually hug her in person. The real telling point was the first genuine SMILE I have seen on her face in 10 years. Thanks be to God.

Andy and Barbara Young



Where are they now??

This message is from Pam (and Todd) Peterson about their daughter, Ashley.

I want to say how much Ashley has taken with her from Church to Newberry! She just became the youngest Vice President elected of Newberry Student Govt! She is also loving her religion class and is really proud of her faith! Martin Luther helped her become the young lady she is today and I wanted to thank you and MLLC for this wonderful gift that she is sharing at Newberry!



ASHLEY AND JOSH, WE ARE ALL SO PROUD OF YOU! MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU WITH HIS MERCIES AND MIRACLES. - Martin Luther Church



This message is from Marcia LaFrance about her son, Josh.

Josh called us last Thursday and told us..... he had to be in Houston in 20 days and then start working. He will be working at NASA Mission Control with the International Space Station.

□ I'm so proud of him and excited for his new adventure. However, he's going to be so far from home.

I knew he was smart, but wow!!!

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped me raise that boy. The congregation played a huge part in that.

On Sunday, April 6th, Nancy Haynsworth participated in a 10K Swim in Miami, FL. She said that she had no shoulder problems, and she came in second in the 50+ swimmers category. Nancy, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Below are some pictures that Nancy has shared.

But those who **hope**
in the **Lord** will
Renew their **strength**.
They will **soar**
on wings like eagles;
they will **run**
and not grow weary, they will
walk and not be faint.

ISAIAH 40:31



Bible Study

The Wednesday morning Bible Study will meet at 11 AM at Martin Luther Church each Wednesday. God's people join together for a one hour Bible Study using the Daily Discipleship as their guide. Maybe you hit the mid-week slump like so many of us do and we need a little boost to help us walk upright again. We have the perfect place for you! This Bible Study is all engaging and everyone learns something new each week! Come join us!



The Altar Flowers are now \$82.00 [for 2 arrangements] for each Sunday. This is an increase passed on from the Florist. Whenever we do not have flowers, we will use our lovely peace lilies on the altar.



In 1907, a lady in Philadelphia, Anna Jarvis, began lobbying for a day when our nation would honor mothers. She persuaded the leaders of the church her mother attended to designate the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day.

After Mrs. Jarvis had written countless letters to political authorities across the nation, by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day a national holiday. He chose the second Sunday in May for the annual celebration. The second Sunday in May was the anniversary of the death of Mrs. Jarvis' mother.

Postpartum
Support CHS
Presents

JOIN
NOW!



MOMS' RUN

»»» RUN - WALK - FUN

Join us for our 22nd annual Moms' Run 5K & 1-mile event. Runners & walkers are invited to run or walk & also enjoy our family fun activities and NEW Mother's Day Market!

May 10, 2025, 7-10:30am

5K Race @ 8:00am at Philip Simmons High

Register at postpartumsupportchs.org/event/momsrun/



Report on meeting with Harbor View Elementary School

On Tuesday, April 22 at 10:30 AM, Sherry Fowler and Brandt Armstrong walked to Harbor View Elementary School and met with Assistant Principal, Lindsay Ostrowski. We shared our contact information and told her that we appreciated the opportunity to say “Hello” as neighbors and partners in this James Island Community. Mentioned were the Postpartum Support Charleston and the Respite Care Charleston and our affiliation with both groups.

We asked if there was anything that we could do for HVES and she said, “not at this time but I have your information – so I will let you know.” We mentioned the pavilion area behind the church and the church itself, as a “quiet space” for any of the teachers and staff. She did say that the teachers enjoyed the goodies that were brought over to them [by Laura Jordan].

We talked a little about our concern for the safety of the children and adults in the parking area but that we agreed that the area was available for parking before and after school. We also let Lindsay know that if they had signage for a particular event, they could call, and we could provide an area for it.

Brandt and I asked if we could include the school (620 students and 60 staff) in our prayers at the church. She was very appreciative of this and said that they would accept any good vibes that come their way.

Sherry Fowler and Brandt Armstrong

We also sent information to the school about Scouting and the Upcoming Music Camp!

(If you have any ideas on how to make community connections, please let the church office know.)

The Month of May

Do you know how May got its name? It came from the Roman goddess Mala, associated with growth and springtime making May the name given to the month when spring is in full bloom. In the old Roman Calendar, May was called Maius, which was borrowed directly from the Latin Maius. May was originally the third month of the year beginning with March. The calendar year started in March, which was officially shifted to January, because of Military necessities of war.

May was designated for Mother's Day, which was proclaimed a holiday the second Sunday in May by Woodrow Wilson on May 8, 1914. Lord knows they deserved it. I mean, where would we be without mothers?

May is also a month of remembrance of loved ones. I know first hand as I know a lot of you know, too.

Do you like to run? May is for the Run of the Roses at The Kentucky Derby.

Did you know the birthstone for May is an Emerald, which represents success and love. May used to be considered an unlucky month for weddings.

Superstition came in a poem. *"Marry in May and You'll ruin the day."*

Many things happen May. May is skin awareness month. May is the month of World Laughter Day. The first Sunday of May is a celebration that raises awareness about all the benefits of laughter. What?? Not Laughing Yet? On a serious side, laughter can be contagious. It can ignite giggles. Well, enough about laughing.

Do you remember I talked about the word "May". Well, at the end of it all, when we reach those pearly gates, you may ask at the gates of heaven—"Can I come in to see how great it will be?" to hear "YES, YOU MAY".

- **Bill Mariorenzi**



**Martin Luther Church is gladly
accepting online contributions
through Tithe.ly.com.**

Anyone can access this new App through the MLLC website. Just go to the green Giving Option Button on the opening page! If you need some assistance, please give Sherry a call in the church office! Now you can give, even when you are out of town!!! Tell your friends and family that they can give to MLLC online!!!

RESPIRE CARE CHARLESTON

Upcoming Respite Care Charleston
Support Group Meetings at MLLC

**10 AM — Tuesday Morning Respite
Group**

**6:30 PM— Tuesday Caregiver Support
Group Online**

**10 AM—Wednesday Caregiver
Support Group 2nd and 4th
Wednesday**

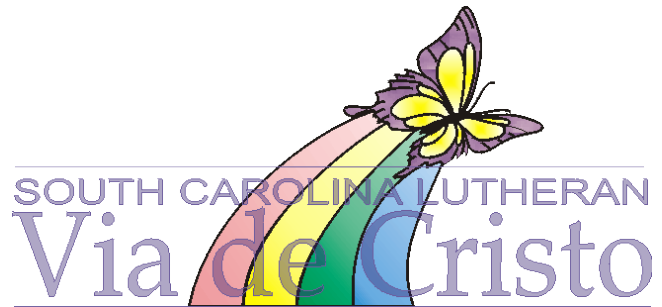
**10 AM—Wednesday Early Memory
Loss Group**

10 AM—Friday Morning Respite Group
If you know of anyone who might benefit from any of these groups, please invite them to join us!

Sara Perry

Executive Director RCC

843 647-7405



next Fall

Could your spiritual journey use a tune up? Have you sensed a calling into a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior?

Through a partnership between Pastors and Lay Leaders with full reliance on prayer and the Holy Spirit, the SC Lutheran Via de Cristo has been helping people to enrich their relations with Jesus for MANY years.

**The SC Via de Cristo Community
invites you to “Come and See”**

**Dates for next weekend event is
September 25—28**

For more information, visit

www.scviadecristo.org or any one of the following people. We would be thrilled to sponsor you to attend a weekend; Sherry and/or Richard Fowler, Gina Shuey, Laura Jordan, Peggy Oxendine, Wayne Rimer, Joni Suggs, and Julie Carter. Just ask!!!!

MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH IS THE CRACKERS AND PANCAKE MIX CHURCH



FOR JAMES ISLAND OUTREACH



A sign up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the Narthex for YOU to sign up and help us on a weekly basis to keep our facilities clean. The other groups that use the facilities have been apprised and will do their best in helping us keep things clean!!! Thank you so much!!

Is there someone graduating in your family? Please let the church office know so that we may include them in the June Issue of LutherLines!



**Memorial Day is
remembered on Monday,
May 26!**

A Quick View of our March 2025 Finances

Budget: \$15,794.17

(Expenses \$15,455.96)

Offerings: \$12,584.66

Difference (\$3,209.51)

Should hands be folded or clasped together when praying? What's the difference and does it matter?



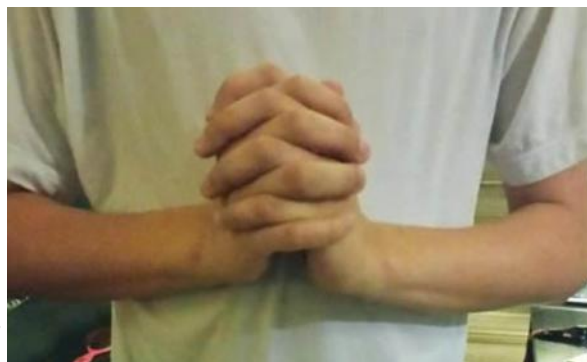
Nowadays, it is a personal preference. Many Christians will clasp their hands together; while others will put their hands together as such:

For Catholics, this image is more a “liturgical gesture” and is often seen amongst altar servers and priests at mass. Even this is not an absolute norm anymore.

During Catholic liturgical ceremonies, the praying hands position is the most commonly seen tradition in liturgical usage. However, in private prayer is a totally different matter.

Most commonly, we “fold” our hands during prayer. This term actually refers to two separate positions which are used fairly interchangeably. The position that interlaces the fingers suggests a more introspective posture,

and possibly a more fervent frame of mind. When the palms are together and the fingers are straight, it suggests purity and evokes an act of homage. Indeed, an examination of medieval art will show this same gesture being used in an act of homage from a vassal to his lord. These can be used whether one is kneeling, sitting or standing.



The orans pose, with arms outstretched and palms up, is a third gesture that really only works in the standing position.

The orans posture is an ancient “prayer” posture. It is somewhat described, in an incident where Moses, prayed with arms outstretched, for the Israelites to defeat their enemies. His hands got so tired that his attendants had to hold his arms up. Because every time his arms drooped, the Israelites would begin to lose the battle. They eventually won.

Jesus died in the “orans” position on the Cross.

The orans posture was practiced by both pagans and Jews before it was adopted by the earliest Christians. Christians saw the position as representing the posture of Christ on the Cross; therefore, it was the favorite of early Christians. Until the ninth century, the posture was sometimes adopted by entire congregations while celebrating the Eucharist. By the twelfth century, however, the joining of hands began to replace the orans posture as the preferred position for prayer. It continued to be used at certain points in the liturgies of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches. In the Catholic Mass, it occurs at the orations, the Canon, and the Lord's Prayer.

In the twentieth century, the orans posture experienced a revival as a result of its widespread use within Pentecostalism and Charismatic Christianity. Often associated with contemporary worship, the orans posture is once again becoming a common gesture of worship among many Christian groups.

These practices reflect the deep connection between prayer and the Christian faith. With prayer, what matters is the position of your heart rather than the position of your body, though historically many Christians have found that certain postures help them to enter into an attitude of humble submission before God.



KEEP YOUR FORK

“There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. She contacted her pastor to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. As the pastor was preparing to leave after their discussion, the young woman said: “There’s one more thing and this is very important. I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.”



The pastor stood looking at the young woman not knowing quite what to say. The young woman explained: “In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remembered that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over to say, ‘keep the fork’. It was my favourite part because I knew that something better was coming....like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!

“So I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder, ‘what’s with the fork?’. Then I want you to tell them: “Keep your fork, the best is yet to come.”

At the funeral, people were walking by the young woman’s casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question, ‘what’s with the fork?’, and over and over he smiled.

During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and how he could not stop thinking about it and that they should not either. ’

- Author Unknown (Thank you to MaryLou Hoover for this goodie!)

PRAYERS



Our Church Family

The family of Lisa
Shores, Maria
Namie's sister, at
Lisa's death.

Linda Leone
Connie Baker
Aaron Armstrong
Emily Schroeder
Carl and Judy
Simmons
Connie Gibson
Caitlin Donaldson
Polly Sutton
Maria Namie
Mary Baldwin
Brenda Burke
Margaret Balzano
Claire Diffenderfer
Myrl Kluge
Joe and Linda Sproles
Jimmy Bradley
Kathy Swittenberg

Our friends and family

Alyssa Baker
Kim Baker Hoxie
Judy Gilford
Autumn Young
Connie and Walter
Wurster
Annie Flanders
Chieko Jordan
Fran Lingenfelter
Boose Sims
Trey Crayton
Sara Perry
Johnny Hallman
Alice Vendrick
Dwight Hartsell
Paulwyn Boliek
Rusty Sims
Mark Hair
Robert Suarez
Eric Wohltman
Jean Chesno
Robert Follin
Boose Sims
Nancy Schwartz
Katie Carrole
Melina Watson

Carol Sims
Elizabeth Sweet
Pastor Russell Seabright
Janice Lussier
Linda Miller
Ann Smith
Rick Carroll
Betty Jones
Mary Lynne Follin
Ben Reep
Michelle Brooks
Mike Shuey
Linda Wells
Lora Ullery
Korky Dunn
Dale Peek
Linda Arthur
Martha and Jimmy
Stone
Wendy Thomas
Ned Vendrick
Carter Ketchum
David and Christine
Oxendine

**BIRTHDAYS**

Todd Peterson 5/2
 Bob Spain 5/8
 Laura Jordan 5/9
 Nancy Gillette 5/24
 Ashley Peterson 5/26

ANNIVERSARIES

Tricia & JB Bradley 5/29

**BIRTHDAYS**

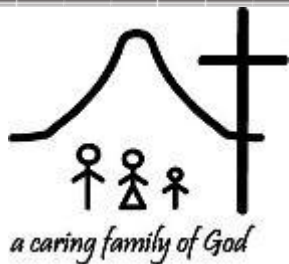
Connie Gibson 6/ 3
 Joe Cockrell 6/13
 Nancy Haynsworth 6/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Florence & Wayne Rimer 6/ 4
 Kristina & Steve Everman 6/ 5
 Pam & Todd Peterson 6/ 12
 Lori & Rich Hamill 6/ 16
 Mary Lou & Al Hoover 6/ 17
 Amanda & Richard Summers 6/24

**MAY**

DATE	Lesson and Prayer Leader	Communion Assistant	CPOD	Usher
May 4	Sherry Fowler	Maria Namie	Joni Suggs	Jimmy Knight
May 11	Jim Swittenberg	Sherry Fowler	Linda Leone	Richard Fowler
May 18	Ada Arthur	Lynn Shaddrix	TBD	Brandt Armstrong
May 25	Judy Simmons	Maria Namie	TBD	Ricky Suggs



MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1605 Harbor View Road
Charleston, SC 29412

843 795-4855
Email: mllc@knology.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.MARTINLUTHERCHURCH.ORG

**“A CARING FAMILY OF
GOD”**

STAFF AND CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

STAFF

Interim Pastor

Rev. Kathleen Miko

Director of

Congregational Ministries

Sherry Fowler

Director of Music

Gina Shuey

Office Hours are

Monday—Friday

9 AM to Noon

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers

President—

Nancy Haynsworth

Vice President—

Sherry Fowler

Secretary—

VACANT

Treasurer—

Linda Leone

Financial Secretary—

Vacant

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Worship Team Leader—

Brenda Burke

Service Team Leader—

Vacant

Evangelism Team Leader—

Laura Jordan

Learning Team Leader—

Vacant

Congregational Care Team

Leader—Joni Suggs

Property Team Leader—

Vacant

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

