

# The Visitor

A Publication of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Volume X, Issue 2

February 2010

## SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

**Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sundays  
8:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.

**Christian Education**  
Sundays  
9:00 a.m.

**Confirmation Class**  
Wednesdays  
6:30 p.m.



**February 17**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Service and Imposition of Ashes**

**Begin 40 Day Journey to support the ONE Campaign**

## FROM THE PASTOR

***“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
‘Whom shall I send and who will go for us’?  
And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’”***

—Isaiah 6:8

As I write these words for Immanuel's February newsletter, final preparations are being made for the calling of a pastor. The Bishop's office, your "Call Committee", and Immanuel's Council are all recommending a terrific candidate to be called as Immanuel's next pastor.

Some time ago, this pastor stepped into the shoes of Isaiah, heard "God's call", and said, "**Here am I; send me!**" It is important for pastors to hear within their hearts that sense of God's call to ministry. It is also important for **congregation members** to hear God's call to share in the ministry.

There are good things being done in Christ's name at *Immanuel*; and, there is more to do. For the ministry you and your new pastor will share together, God is calling **each of you** to be an active part of the body of Christ in this place. Listen! Listen with your ears! Listen with your heart! **God is calling you too!** Life at Immanuel will be enriched and grow, if **everyone** takes some part in helping to meet the needs of the mission and ministry here.

Use the gifts and time God has given you. Join hands with one another and with your pastor saying, "**Here am I; send me!**"

As I prepare to take leave of Immanuel and return to "retirement" I must extend a great thank you to all of you for your kind welcome, warm hearts, and prayerful support! It was a joy to share in your ministry here during these last eight months! I especially appreciated having the helping hands of Pastor Pat in music, worship and pastoral care; the help of Amanda Nelson in confirmation; and the network of dedicated and skilled Council members. You are blessed by their leadership!

Perhaps these words from St Paul best express what needs to be said: "**We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ!**" (1 Thessalonians 1:2 and 3)

May God continue to bless and keep you!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Ken Bean  
Transition Minister

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

647 North Main Street  
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 508-222-2898  
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 www.immanuelc.org



2010

**Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the lounge following Sunday worship services.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> Fourth Sunday after Epiphany <i>Dedication of Blankets</i> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>9:00 AM</b> Christian Ed. (All Ages) <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Choir Chimes Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Social Ministry <b>7:30 PM</b> Committee Meeting Night <b>7:30 PM</b> Williams Chorale	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Crafters Circle	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Food 'n Friends <b>6:00 PM</b> Cupid's Culinary Competition
<b>7</b> Fifth Sunday After Epiphany <i>Souper Bowl Sunday</i> First Sunday Singers <b>7:44 AM</b> FSS Rehearsal <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>9:00 AM</b> Christian Ed. (All Ages) <b>9:40 AM</b> FSS Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>3:00 PM</b> Pastor Sandi's Ordination at Concordia Lutheran, Manchester, CT	<b>8</b> Pastor Sandi's First Day	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Choir Chimes Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>7:30 PM</b> Executive Committee <b>7:30 PM</b> Williams Chorale	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Transfiguration of Our Lord <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>9:00 AM</b> Christian Ed. (All Ages) <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>15</b> Presidents Day  Newsletter Deadline	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Begin 40 Day ONE Journey <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>7:30 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Service and Imposition of Ashes	<b>18</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Crafters Circle	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> First Sunday in Lent <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>9:00 AM</b> Christian Ed. (All Ages) <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Choir Chimes Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>7:30 PM</b> Williams Chorale	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Second Sunday in Lent <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>9:00 AM</b> Christian Ed. (All Ages) <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Social Ministry Meeting <b>7:30 PM</b> Committee Meeting Night <b>7:30 PM</b> Williams Chorale	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Crafters Circle	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Food 'n Friends

## Lenten Family Activity

Fill a cookie jar or other container with pretzels to share. The first pretzel shape was created by a monk who used a simple prayer posture of crossing your arms over your chest and resting your hands on your shoulders while you pray.

## 40 Day ONE Lenten Journey

Our 40 Day Lenten Journey will focus on hunger issues by participating in Bread for the World's Offering of Letters. Bread for the World's 2010 Offering of Letters will push for changes in the U.S. tax code that will benefit low-income families and help them lift themselves and their children out of hunger and poverty. Be an advocate. Have Faith. End Hunger.

## Welcome, Pastor Sandi!

With last Sunday's vote to accept the Call Committee and Church Council's recommendation to extend a call to Sandra Demmler D'Amico and Sandi's decision to accept the call, the Call Committee's job as a Call Committee is complete. Pastor Sandi will be starting work with us on Monday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> with her first Sunday being Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to have such a capable and skilled leader to work with going forward.

I would like to thank all of the members of the Call Committee for the time and effort they have put in to make this happen. Amanda Nelson, Beth Wry, Jillian Amaral, Bob Beckmann, and Laurie Henderson all put in a great deal of time and effort first to make sure that the candidate matched what the congregation was looking for and then to make Sandi feel welcomed at the church. I would also like to thank the Church Council for their efforts and especially Mike Kane, Council President, without whose unflagging efforts this would not have happened. Finally, I would like to thank the congregation, whose patience frankly surprised me. It was a long process, but we are pleased with the result.

However, the Call Committee's work is not done. Synod recommends that the Call Committee continue on for at least a year as the Mutual Ministry Committee. A Mutual Ministry Committee, a committee that Immanuel has had sporadically in the past, is a committee that provides a sounding board for the churches paid staff, meeting with them periodically to bring any congregational concerns to them and to bring any of their concerns to the Council and congregation. Everyone on the Call Committee has agreed to continue on as part of the Mutual Ministry Committee for the next year.

I think we all can look forward to a great new year with fresh new leadership. God's hand was very apparent to me guiding us thru the entire process, from the miracle of Thanksgiving weekend (when we were all available to hear Pastor Sandi preach) to the fact that we were able to make this happen in spite of the holidays. I pray that He continues to guide us in the weeks and months to come.

Ron Porat, Call Committee Chairperson

(A short bio for Sandra Demmler D'Amico appears on page 4 of this newsletter.)

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Kane, President	508-339-9490	msntbk@comcast.net
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Mark Rander	508-285-7613	markrander@hotmail.com



## A New Competition Awaits in 2010!

**The Hospitality Team is sponsoring a competition between the Men and the Women of Immanuel! The objective of this competition is to help raise funds for a "to be selected" ministry of our congregation.**

On February 6, the **Men of Immanuel** who think they have a special recipe to show off will be cooking their competitive creations for **Cupid's Culinary Competition**. Men wishing to compete—please contact Tito Moore at 508-316-1931 or email her at goyanguwo@hotmail.com. If she doesn't hear from you, she will be calling you!

On April 10, the **Women of Immanuel** who think they have a special recipe to show off will be cooking their sizzling sensations for the **Spring's Sumptuous Soiree**. Women wishing to compete—please contact Lisa Nelson at 508-222-6232 or email her at lnelson54@comcast.net. If she doesn't hear from you, she will be calling you!

For anyone wishing to attend these events (and not create sumptuous delectable concoctions), there will be a sign-up sheet before each event. We are hoping for a large turnout, but will need to know a week in advance in order for the chefs to prepare the needed portions.

Here are some of the details:

1. Each event will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the lounge at Immanuel.
2. There will be two categories: "Supper Sensations" and "Dessert Delectables".
3. There will be a free will offering at each event.
4. There will be more than one way to earn the offerings.
5. The winners will be determined after the Spring's Sumptuous Soiree and it will be their choice as to which ministry will receive the total amount of offerings.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Sunday School News

On January 3 the children presented a live nativity (without the animals!) during the 9:00 a.m. worship service. What a wonderful reminder of what the season is all about. The children had a Christmas party and made beautiful Christmas ornaments for their own trees. Thank you so much to Pastor Pat for all of her help with the service and for providing such beautiful music for the Christmas tableau.

We have heard from Pamm MacEachern and she has offered to sponsor our first year of membership in a program called The Box Project. The information about the program will be submitted to council for their approval. To learn more check out [www.boxproject.org](http://www.boxproject.org) and let us know your thoughts. If anyone has other suggestions on a program that our Sunday school children can participate in to sponsor a child or family in need, please let us know ASAP.

On Valentine's Day, February 14, the children will be making Valentine's cards and cookies to send to our shut ins. They will also continue their lessons and hopefully we will begin our new sponsorship program with a fundraiser during Lent.

Thank you so much to all of Immanuel for their support of the Sunday School Program. We could not do what we do without you.

— Laurie Henderson  
Sunday School Superintendent

# Music in Ministry

## *Faith Expressed Through Music*

Calling all boys and men! **The Boys2Men Chimers** rehearse Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. We're preparing music for Lent and Easter. It's fun to play together and to make music! Come and join in the fun!

The **Adult Chimes Choir** has also begun learning music for Lent and Easter. There's room for more people. Both beginners and experienced players are welcome. If you can read and count, you can play the chimes. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Contact Pastor Pat or any of the current chimers for more information.

**The Immanuel Choir** would welcome more singers into each of its sections. This is a good time of the year to try out the choir. Can you make a commitment to the Choir for Lent and Easter? Participation in at least one rehearsal each week is desirable: rehearsals are held Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and most Tuesday evenings, 7:30 p.m. Flexibility, commitment, desire to learn, and the love of music are ingredients valued by both the director and the choir members. You are invited to participate in this vital ministry!

## Meet our New Pastor

Sandra D'Amico was raised in Rhode Island and confirmed in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in Providence, RI. She received her sense of call as a youth on a confirmation retreat, but at that time women were not ordained, and she did not recognize this call until many years later.

Sandra received her Bachelor's degree from Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Following college graduation, Sandra married, raised a family, and built a business in the building design industry. She and her family joined the ELCA at First Ev. Lutheran in Rhode Island. She has worked for 23 years as an Interior-Architectural Designer and Project Manager for private, commercial and federal facilities, as principal of Design Resources Co., and as Adjunct Professor in Interior Design and Architectural Building Technologies at the New England Institute of Technology in RI.

In 2005, while preparing to enter a Master's program, a time of discernment led her to realize that she was not being led deeper into her current vocation, but back to the call heard on confirmation retreat many years earlier. Previous years of lay ministry at her home church in women's bible studies, choir, youth leadership, healing services, and as an assistant minister prepared her to hear and recognize her persistent call to ministry.

Following a time of prayerful consideration, she entered seminary in 2006, studying in both Lutheran and Episcopal settings, as part of our Call to Common Mission. Sandra received a Master of Divinity degree from The Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA in 2008 with a Lutheran Year at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. She served in chaplaincy at The Miriam Hospital in Providence, RI and pastoral internship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Westborough, MA.

Sandra is married to Ron D'Amico and they are blessed with three daughters, who are now young adults: Mia, Vanessa, and Carleigh. She gives thanks on this day for the witness of her grandmother, and the communion of saints which attends us all on this journey.



## FEED THE FOOD BINS BRING A CAN SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 7 *Fighting Hunger for Over 21 Years*

The theme for February's food barrels is "Beverages".

### Donation Ideas:

Bottled Juices	Tea
Juice Packs	Powdered Drink Mixes
Coffee	Lemonade
Hot Cocoa	Sports Drinks

As always, all nonperishable food donations are accepted and needed. Food is delivered on a regular basis to Self Help in Attleboro to help supply their food pantry. There are many needy families and individuals in our community. Please buy a few additional items when you make your regular trip to the grocery store.

The food barrels are located in the Sunday School hallway Your donations may be placed inside the barrels. Many thanks for your generosity!

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Koehnke (508-222-4737).

## Confidential Financial Assistance

Immanuel has some confidential resources available to members who may be in need of help with groceries or energy bills. Please see one of the pastors or Mike Kane, Council President, if your family could use some help this winter season.



## AMONG US

**Andrew Bauer** was named a top 10 swimmer by New England Swim, an organization that oversees all swim meets in New England. Congrats!

*Congrats to all! If we missed your honor roll student or other newsworthy item, please let us know for the next issue. Hope to see you **AMONG US** soon!*



## Food 'n Friends Kitchen It's Super Bowl Saturday for the February 6 Kitchen!

Food 'n Friends for February is a celebration day! We're celebrating 25 years of Food 'n Friends Kitchens and having a Super Bowl Party, since the kitchen is February 6. If you haven't already been contacted to help with munchies or just want to lend a hand, please let one of the following people know what you're doing and when to expect you.

### Current Food 'n Friends Coordinators:

Sandy Mann                      Mary Thake  
Marlene Sparks    Judi Wiemerslage

### FOOD 'N FRIENDS DATES:

Saturdays : February 6, March 6, April 3

### WHERE:

Centenary Methodist Church  
Corner of North Main and Sanford Streets in Attleboro

### WHEN:

- 8:30 a.m.— 8-10 people to help with cooking
- 11:00 a.m.— a few more volunteers to help with serving AND volunteers are especially needed for clean up and take down!

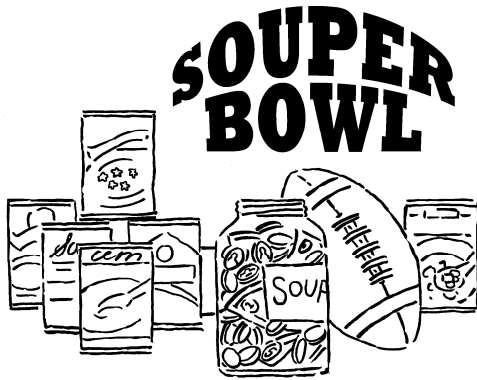
In March, we are planning on doing a meal with turkey as the protein, so if someone doesn't mind buying one and cooking it (without stuffing), please let us know. Depending on what we do with it, we'll need about 4 or 5.

We would like to continue the Birthday Month challenge. If you are born in February, we would love to see you at the kitchen on the February 6. Many hands make light work and we do have fun, too!

If your ministry would like to host a month, choose when you would like to host and we'll be glad to forward you the information you'll need to make it a success.

If anyone is interested in taking on the Coordinator position, please contact any of the people listed above or Pastor Pat. As you can see, it can be a TEAM effort, too.

Above all, we would like to thank everyone who has given or will give any time to the kitchen. This ministry is one that not only helps those in need, but makes you feel good about sharing your time and efforts with those less fortunate.



## MISSION OF THE MONTH: SOUPER BOWL OF CARING Sunday, February 7

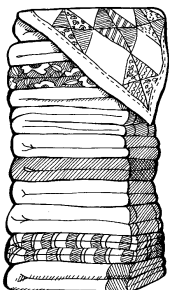
The 2010 Souper Bowl of Caring is coming! Last year, ELCA congregations and youth groups reported raising over \$725,000 for ELCA World Hunger Appeal and other hunger-related projects through the Souper Bowl of Caring. We know that millions in our country will gather around TVs to watch the big game on February 7. At the same time over 800 million people will be hungry around the world and right here in our local communities.

Bring one dollar and/or one can of food to church for Immanuel's Souper Bowl. This is a youth-led ecumenical and grassroots movement. At Immanuel, your contributions will benefit our Food 'n Friends program. The Confirmation Class will be ready to greet you with open arms and big soup pots!

## Camp Calumet

Great winter programs for youth and adults! See the hall bulletin board poster or contact Diane Piper for more information.

## Thanks for the Warmth!



Thank you for sharing your blankets with the Family Resource Center last month. A wonderfully large pile was dedicated during the worship services on January 31. Thanks to all who donated and to the willing hands who transported that huge pile to the Family Resource Center.



## First Sunday Singers Sunday, February 7

Our song this month will be a new one based on an old hymn text by John Wesley, which combines familiar phrases from "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and a gospel refrain perfect for a Sunday in Epiphany when we hear the call of Jesus to the fishermen on the Sea of Galilee. The tune is a traditional one, *JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD*, arranged by George Elderkin. "We'll walk in the light, beautiful light ... Jesus, the Light of the World." Email Pastor Pat (prpotter@aol.com) for the words, and then show up on February 7 at 7:44 a.m. or 9:40 a.m. for a short rehearsal. All are welcome!

## RELIEF FOR HAITI

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) asks for your donations to Haitian relief via their website, [www.lssne.org](http://www.lssne.org), or send checks directly to LSS Haitian Relief, 888 Worcester St, Suite 160, Wellesley, MA 02482. 100% of your donation goes directly to the Lutheran relief organizations that are on the ground in Haiti working to help the suffering people.

The ELCA, through the Lutheran World Federation, has also been actively responding to the crisis in Haiti through prayers and financial gifts. Contribute online at [www.elca.org/haitiearthquake](http://www.elca.org/haitiearthquake) or call 800-638-3522. 100% of your donation goes directly to relief efforts in Haiti.

## Friends in Liberia Fill the Drums for Liberia!

See the barrel on display in the ONE Center at church. Beat the Drum for the people and their neighbors at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Monrovia!

### What you can donate:

- New or gently used for work or play—for adults and children
- Jackets and sweaters are needed—think "San Francisco" weather
- Shoes—all sizes—for work and play in the city or in the country
- Sunday School materials
- Money for shipping costs—\$150 for one very heavy barrel! Our goal is to fill two containers!

## WORSHIP HELPERS

DATE	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS		
Feb. 7	Mark Koehnke	Diane Piper/Heather Johnson
Feb. 14	Richard Johnson	Ellen Hedlund/Lisa Nelson
Feb. 17	Colleen Pearson/Amanda Nelson	
Feb. 21	Colleen Pearson	Judy and Rob Anderson
Feb. 28	Irene DeBlois	Tony Bolyn/Debby Hanson
READERS		
Feb. 7	Erik Anundson	Carol Bramwell
Feb. 14	Lynn Anundson	Laurie Henderson
Feb. 21	Mark Koehnke	Tony Bolyn
Feb. 28	Irene DeBlois	John Gregson
USHERS		
Feb. 7	Stephanie O'Neill/Paul Anundson	Valerie Lechtanski/Phil Henderson
Feb. 14	Stephanie O'Neill/Paul Anundson	Valerie Lechtanski/Phil Henderson
Feb. 17		
Feb. 21	Marlene Sparks/Mike Euen	Skip Mann/Joe Wagner
Feb. 28	Marlene Sparks/Mike Euen	Skip Mann/Heather Johnson
CRUCIFER=C/ACOLYTE=A / BOOK BEARER=B / TORCH BEARER=T		
Feb. 7	Molly Bartnikowski=C Dominic Bartnikowski=A	Adam Shelton=C
Feb. 14	Catherine Johnson=C Molly Bartnikowski=A	Jack Bauer=C Anna MacPherson=A
Feb. 17	Brad Wry=C	
Feb. 21	Kyle MacEachern=C	Bethany MacPherson=C
Feb. 28	Brad Wry=C	Jason Ross=C/Christian Narold=A
COFFEE		
Feb. 7	Marlene Sparks/Sandy Richmond	Jim Bauer and Judy Chrusciel Debby and Gregg Hanson
Feb. 14	Beth Wry Debbie and Gary Andrade	Nancy and Tony Bolyn Judy and Rob Anderson
Feb. 21	Irene DeBlois/Mike Euen	Ellen Hedlund/Laurie and Phil Henderson
Feb. 28	Linda and Mark Koehnke Sandy and Skip Mann	Anne and Jerry Maslin Lisa and Larre Nelson
ALTAR GUILD: Debbie and Gary Andrade		
COUNTERS:		
BREAD BRIGADE DELIVERIES		
Feb. 6	George Rock	
Feb. 13	Claudia Hanson	
Feb. 20	Kevin Morrissey	
Feb. 27	Skip and Sandy Mann	



## FEBRUARY

Feb. 2	Robert Mascaro Sarah Tangney
Feb. 3	Emily Campbell
Feb. 4	Kendall Rander
Feb. 6	Diane Piper
Feb. 7	Jane Robinson
Feb. 9	Sarah Campbell Ryan Carey Richie Desilets
Feb. 11	Christopher Rock
Feb. 12	Michael Koehnke Gary Smith Sarah Wallace
Feb. 14	Alexandra Neville
Feb. 15	Dorothy Marx
Feb. 16	Irene VanZabner
Feb. 17	Ellen Hedlund Valerie Lechtanski
Feb. 18	Seth Calandrelli
Feb. 19	Zachary Shelton
Feb. 20	Lou Ann Bambara David Piper
Feb. 22	Jean Jepson
Feb. 23	Bryan Rabczak
Feb. 25	Greg Maslin Jeff Neville
Feb. 26	Amber Cowley Susan Keough Kelsey Wagner Regina Wagner
Feb. 28	Cyndi Johnson

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**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

A member of the  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)  
NEW ENGLAND SYNOD  
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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

8:30AM—12:30PM

Pastor-Elect: Sandra Demmler D'Amico  
Phone: 401-486-2423  
Email: sandra.demmler.damico@gmail.com

<b>Immanuel Staff and Leadership</b>	
<i>Ministers: The People of Immanuel in Our Daily Lives</i>	
Minister	Rev. Sandra Demmler D'Amico
Minister of Music & Associate Minister	Rev. Pat Potter
Office Manager	Stephany Tracey
President	Michael Kane
Vice President	Patty McGeary
Treasurer	Amie Goodspeed
Council Secretary	John Pietrella
Financial Secretary	Lynn Anundson
Prayer Chain	Laurie Henderson
Newsletter Editor	Debby Hanson
Sunday School Superintendent	Laurie Henderson

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