

Burlington Zion Express

September 2014



The Book of Exodus tells us the story of how God delivered the descendants of Israel from slavery in Egypt. Exodus tells the story of their dramatic escape: ready at a moment's notice, when Pharaoh tires of the plagues and tells them to leave, they run. Changing his mind, Pharaoh sets his army on their track; chariots thundering across the desert, archers and infantry running toward the unarmed fugitives, shouting a blood-curdling war cry. The Israelites run smack up against the border, marked by an impenetrable barrier of water.

God miraculously intervenes, and they are saved. Tracking along the desert, an entire nation wanders where there are no natural sources of food. How will they survive? Where will be found enough food to feed so many mouths? Has God brought them into the desert to starve? Some of them began to grumble: "at least in captivity we had food enough to eat." Remembering part of the past, conveniently forgetting the negatives.

Then God feeds them with manna.

God always provides. Not in the ways we expect, not always what we want, but always what we need.



(Continued on following page)

(Pastor's Page continued)

Jesus fed the 5,000; and then reminded them that the food came from God. He reminded them that feeding the soul is more important than feeding the body. Bread feeds our bodies for a day. The bread which Jesus offers feeds our spirits for eternity.

Work for the bread which feeds your spirit forever. Bread for the day will take care of itself.

Grace and peace,
Brice

Zion is Changing Lives

Zion changes lives when it welcomes into its community a homeless woman. The nurture and stability of being part of the Zion "family" helps her turn her life around. Zion changes lives by being a welcoming place where all are loved and accepted.

Whatever you
did for one of the
least of these
brothers of mine,
you did for me.



Matthew 25:40

Worship

Sunday, September 7 – 150th Anniversary Celebration Service and Communion

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church

Scripture: Philippians 1:3-11;

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 21-23

11:00 am: Catered Luncheon* and Program
(*Ticket required)

Sunday, September 14

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12;

Matthew 18:21-35

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Sunday, September 21

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church

Scripture: Philippians 1:21-30;

Matthew 20:1-16

11:00 am: Coffee Hour

Sunday, September 28

10:00 am: Worship and Children's Church

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-13;

Matthew 21:23-32

11:00 am: Coffee Hour



Worship Helpers

September audio/visual: Craig Neises

September church closers: Dennis and Dyan
Dietzman

Sunday, September 7

Communion preparers: Bill Daws and Jim
Ritters

Greeters: Tom and Connie Ralston, Dave and
Connie Schnicker

Readers: Our guests

Tower bell: Will Neises

Valet: Marvin Fraise

Sunday, September 14

Greeters: Jim Levins, Marlis Robberts and
Jakob, Deb Ruble, Sharon Thye

Reader: Sandy Levins

Tower bell: Jakob Welch and Marlis Robberts

Valet: Rich Goble

Sunday, September 21

Greeters: Charles Brissey, Rich and Deb
Goble, Pauline Kuster

Reader: Matt Patrick

Tower bell: Caleb Mehaffy

Valet: Tom Ralston

Sunday, September 28

Greeters: Jeanette Fisher, Matt Patrick, Paula
Renard, Judy Tomkins

Reader: Stacey Kerr

Tower bell: Milt Paule

Valet: Bill Daws





**Our Sponsors
for September**

Sept. 14: _____

Sept. 21: _____

Sept. 28: _____

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary if you would be willing to be a Coffee Hour host/sponsor. *As you can see, we have no volunteers for September yet!* It can be very simple, and you should feel free to ask others to help you. Thanks!

**Adult Sunday School
September 14 – 9am**

On Sunday, September 14, Adult Sunday School will begin a survey of the New Testament with four audio lectures by University of North Carolina Professor Bart Ehrman, lecturer, scholar, and author of more than twenty-five books on the Bible.

No advance reading is necessary. Each unit will start at 9:00 a.m. and run about thirty minutes.

Please join us on September 14 as we begin our New Testament journey with “The Early Christians and Their Literature.”

--Jerry Goddard

Church School News

by Janice Gibson

**Children's Church
Begins Again!**

Children's Church for children 5 years - 6th grade will begin again on Sunday, Sept. 7th. It will be a Zion Heritage Sunday, with a fun Zion scavenger hunt and special activities in conjunction with our 150th celebration that Sunday.

On the following Sunday, September 14th, we will have an official Kick-off Sunday for the Children's Church year. The first unit of study will be *The Great Escape* and will follow the life of Moses and the exodus of the Hebrew people out of Egypt.

**NOIZ NITES for
FAMILIES**

Looking ahead so you can mark your calendars -- the first Noiz Nites for Families event will be held on Wednesday, October 1st, from 5:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Make plans to be there!!

Reunion Choir for 150th Anniversary Celebration



We will be having a Reunion Choir singing on September 7th for the 150th celebration! Anyone who has ever sung with the choir or has even just thought about singing with the choir is invited to join us for this special event in the life of our church!

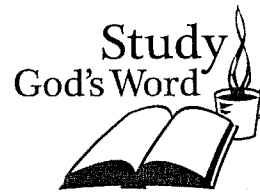
Our first rehearsal was August 27th, and we will have another one on Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7:00 pm. We'll also be rehearsing on the morning of the 7th at 9:00 am, so if you can only make it to a practice or two, that's just fine. If you are not able to attend the rehearsals and would like the music sent to you, please notify Janice Gibson or the church office.

Let's raise the rafters with a joyful noise in celebration of 150 years!



Choir Season Begins

Along with the planned Reunion Choir, rehearsals for our adult vocal choir will begin on Wednesday, August 27, at 7:00 pm. Our choir rehearses regularly on Wednesdays at this time for about an hour. Anyone and everyone who likes to sing is invited to join the choir! We have a great group that has fun as we work together to prepare music for our worship services. Give us a try!



Study
God's Word

Tuesdays - 7:30 am
Diggers Rest
Coffeehouse

The Coffee and Scripture Bible Study Group meets each Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at Diggers Rest Coffeehouse, located at 314 Jefferson Street. The group studies the lectionary scriptures with Pastor Brice. The scriptures are listed under the worship section of this newsletter. Please stop by on Tuesday mornings and join the group!



Sing With Us

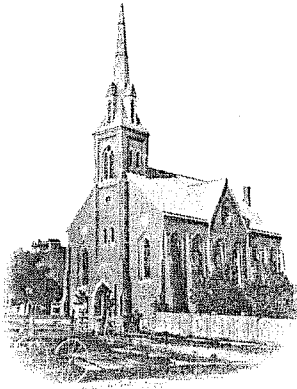
Monthly
Sing-along
Sept. 14 – 2pm

The sing-along for September is scheduled for **Sunday, September 14, at 2:00 pm** at the **Burlington Care Center**. Please join the group of volunteers who will be singing with the residents there.



Beginning on October 1st Zion will be conducting a Confirmation Class on Wednesday nights, led by Pastor Brice. From 7:00 – 8:30 pm, the Confirmation Class will explore and affirm the faith. We seek the prayers and support of the entire congregation.

This class is open to all young people currently in 6th – 9th grades.



— 1864 —

Zion's 150th Anniversary Celebration

1864 – 2014

Zion Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year! **Sunday, September 7**, is the finale. Former pastors David Michael, Dale Hempen, and Gary Chapman, plus John Helt, Phillip Hunger, Marlea Gilbert and Conference Minister Rich Pleva will be here to participate in the worship service, along with our own Pastor Brice Hughes. The Rev. Dr. John Helt and The Rev. David J. Michael have chosen the sermon title, "A Sesquicentennial Sermon in Two Voices." The Reunion Choir will also be singing. It will be a wonderful time of worship!

Following the service we will enjoy a **catered luncheon** downstairs in the fellowship hall. **Reservations and tickets are required from everyone for the luncheon!**

We have a table set up in the narthex where you can make your reservation and get your (free) ticket. We must report the number of reservations by **Sept. 2nd** so be sure to stop by and get your ticket and make your reservation on **Sunday, Aug. 31**. That will be your last chance!

Adults (ages 12 and over) will receive a gold ticket, and children (ages 5 – 11) will have a purple ticket. Children 4 and under will not need a ticket, but parents are still asked to stop by the table and make a reservation for them. You may also call or email the church office to make your reservation.

A free will offering/donation will be collected September 7th to help cover the cost of the meal, which will be a substantial expense. Please plan to contribute to that offering if you're able. A program will follow the luncheon.

* * * * *

Program

(Child/nursery care provided)

We will all enjoy the catered meal together first. Be sure to bring your ticket with you!

The following people will make a few brief remarks: Rev. David Michael, Rev. Dale Hempen, Rev. Dr. Gary Chapman, Rev. Dr. John Helt, Rev. Phillip Hunger, Rev. Marlea Gilbert, Rev. Brice Hughes, and Rev. Rich Pleva.

An Historical Variety Presentation **The Old-Time Zion Church Radio Hour: "Zion UCC 150 Years in the Making"** will be performed for your entertainment. (Thank you, Lyle and Janice Gibson, for all your hard work!)

There are **historic note cards for sale** in the narthex area before and after the worship service. *These will only be available in the narthex on August 31st and September 7th.* These cards celebrate Zion's 150th year anniversary and feature five different photos. The cost is \$5.00 for five cards, and Deb Ruble will have them.

If you are unable to be at church to purchase them, you may contact Laurie Paule at mlpaule@q.com or 319-752-1353.

See you all on Sunday, September 7th!



Paint-a-thon

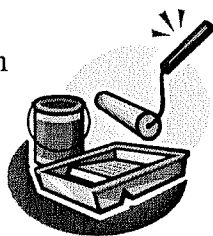
Sept. 3 - 6

It's prepping and painting time!! Before you begin working, please be sure you have signed a waiver. They are located on the bulletin board in the back of the church and also will be in a folder in the garage at the home.

Our home is located at **1926 South Main Street**. The homeowner's name is Rose, and she is a very sweet lady who is 87 years young. She is extremely grateful that we will be painting her home. All painting supplies will be located in the garage, which is off the alley behind the home. There are a few paint brushes available; however, please try to bring your own. There is some parking beside the garage in the alley. Otherwise, just park on Main Street.

Power washing will be done on Wednesday morning, the 3rd, and any scraping and caulking can begin after that. There will be a progress report form with the supplies. Please try to update it as you finish what section you have worked on. We are teaming with The Hawk Eye, and this report will help all of us know what has been done and what needs to be done.

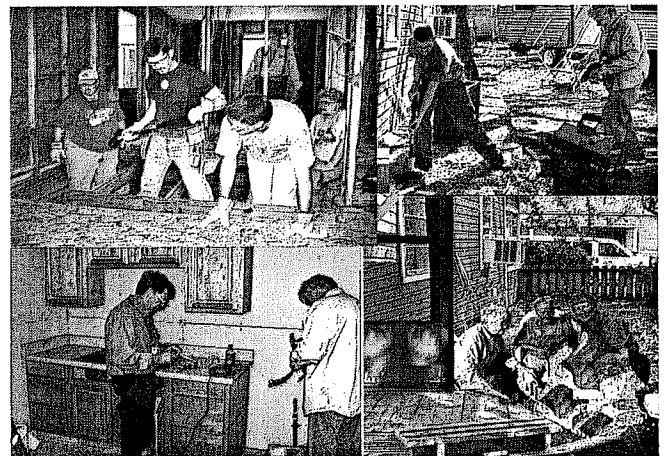
Thank you from your Paint-a-thon captains,
Paula Renard and Pam Daws



The Fellowship Committee has some fun events planned for this fall. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 5, at 4:00 p.m.** Zion will be celebrating our German heritage with an old fashioned **Oktoberfest!** Bratwurst, sauerkraut, and other yummy German foods will be served, music provided, polkas danced, and maybe a game or two. You don't want to miss this new event!

On **Sunday, November 16**, following the church service, this committee will be serving **brunch** during the fellowship time/coffee hour. Last year's brunch was a big hit. Only crumbs were left! Another event you don't want to miss.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these



brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Pastoral Search Committee Update

Your Search Committee has been very busy this summer. We have met weekly and reviewed many and interviewed several potential pastoral candidates. While it is still too early in the process to name a final choice, we are moving closer to that point. Please keep our work in your prayers.

Thank you.
Pam Daws, Search Committee Chair

The Search Committee members are: **Rodney Botts, Paulette Cavanah, Pam Daws, Joe Deal, Deb Goble, Sandy Levins, Craig Neises, Lin Parks, Tom Ralston, and Scott Wood.**

OFFICE HOURS

Sometimes we are asked what the church office hours are, so here is a reminder:

Monday – Friday
8:30 am – 12:00 pm
1:00 – 4:00 pm

Our **Bridging the Gap** assistance program and **Food Pantry** with Deb Ruble is open the following times:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Pastor Brice's day off every week is Friday.

Bridging the Gap Update

During the month of August (as of the 27th), our Bridging the Gap program assisted a total of 18 families through our Love Fund resources. We expect to do more on Friday morning, August 29.

- We provided 2 gas vouchers.
- We helped with 6 Alliant Energy bills.
- We assisted 3 families with their rent.
- We helped with 2 water bills.
- We helped 1 person with a job search.
- We provided a Trailways bus ticket, sharing the expense with Salvation Army.
- We provided 1 local monthly bus pass.
- We helped 3 homeless people with nights in a motel
- We also gave food to 21 families from our food pantry.

Thank you so much for all you do to help the impoverished people in our community!

Deb Ruble, Director of Bridging the Gap



Remember the “**5th Sunday Food Pantry Collection**” this week on **August 31st**. If you cannot make it, we accept food anytime. A basket is always at the back of the sanctuary. Monetary donations are also accepted, and we'll do the shopping for you. Just mark it for the food pantry. Thanks!

--Deb



Ruth Hill

March 1, 1927 -
August 9, 2014

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family of **Marian and Jeff Fritz** in the loss of Marian's mother, Ruth Hill, 87, a Zion member who died on Saturday, August 9, at Blair House in Burlington. Her funeral service was on Tuesday, August 12, at Lunning Chapel with Rev. Brice Hughes officiating. Interment was in Aspen Grove Cemetery. Memorials have been established for Zion United Church of Christ and the Des Moines County Animal Shelter.



"I want to thank Zion UCC for all they did for Mother's faith in Christ. I thank Pastor Hughes for a beautiful funeral send-off. The family thought he did a great job. Thank you."

Just knowing that our family and friends are with us, makes the way easier.

The family of Florabelle "Flo" Fickel
Steve Fickel and Karon Swingle



Surrender has never been my favorite word. I always thought it had only one meaning, which was to lose and be defeated. There is also a spiritual meaning to the word. To surrender is to accept that there is a waxing and waning rhythm to events and to trust that good things can happen with or without our needing to control them.

Acceptance is to simply see what is real without having to color it, or fix it, or soften it. It takes a certain kind of faith in ourselves and others not to make control the centerpiece of our transaction with the world. We have come to believe that control is essential to our survival and safety, and even our success. Everything around us reinforces this belief, as this book has tried to document.

Stewardship is the choice to unravel this connection between control, safety, and success. The radical intent of stewardship is to be of service and to be accountable without having to be in charge. Unraveling control, safety, and success is essential to discovering what is possible for us and our workplace.

It is not easy for those of us who have chosen safety all our lives to be shoved into such an adventure. If there is no transformation inside each of us, all the structural change in the world will have no impact.

-Peter Block, "Stewardship"

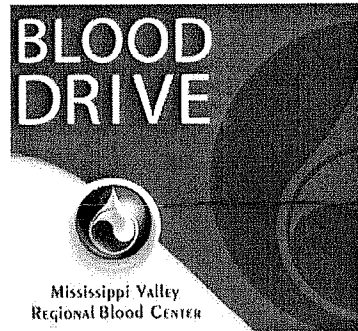
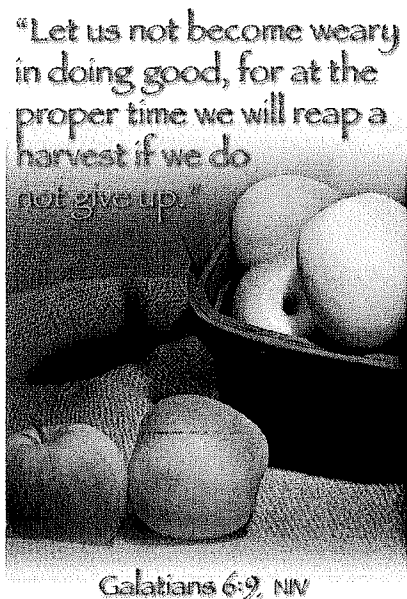


A special thanks goes to all who greeted and visited with attendees at the July Community Meal.

Shared United Methodist Ministries (SUMM) organizes the monthly event, and churches throughout Burlington assist to assure a nutritious free meal for persons with few resources.

Zion greeters included Barbara and Rodney Botts, Gail Lawlor, Scott Wood, Pastor Brice, Bill Daws, John Riessen, and Donna Norris.

NOTE: Zion traded months and will help at the October 30th meal, rather than the August 28th meal, due to all the 150th Anniversary Celebration planning activities taking place.



Downtown Burlington Churches Blood Drive

Monday, Sept. 15

1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church
Lower Level
421 Washington St.**

This blood drive includes First Congregational First Presbyterian, Christ Episcopal, First United Methodist, First UCC and Zion UCC churches.

To schedule an appointment to donate you may call Fran Bohlken at 752-4876, Chriss Heyd at 758-1157 or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org.

We still need someone from Zion to volunteer to be the coordinator for this blood drive – someone to help schedule appointments for Zion people and coordinate with the Blood Center. Contact Chriss Heyd if you're interested or Marilyn at the church office. The materials have been sent to the church and you can pick them up if you want to help.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 lbs. Donors who last gave blood on or before July 21, 2014 are eligible to give blood at this drive.

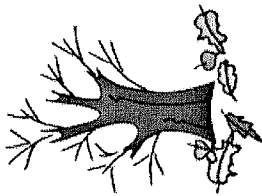
Please eat before donating and bring a photo ID or MVRBC Donor Card. Thank you!



September 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



150th Anniversary Celebration
10am: Worship & C.C.
11:00 am: Catered Luncheon & Program

8:45 am: Adult **14**
 Sunday School
10:00 am: Worship & Children's Church
11:00am: Coffee Hour
2:00pm: Sing-along

8:45 am: Adult **21**
 Sunday School
10:00 am: Worship & Children's Church
11:00am: Coffee Hour

8:45 am: Adult **28**
 Sunday School
10:00 am: Worship & Children's Church
11:00am: Coffee Hour

1

 Offices closed

2
7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest

3
7:00 pm: Reunion Choir

4

5
 Pastor Brice's day off

6

8
7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest

9
7:00 pm: Choir

10
6:00 pm: Elders
7:00 pm: Consistory

11

12
 Pastor Brice's day off

13

15
1:30 - 6:30 pm: Downtown Churches Blood Drive at First Methodist Church


16
7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest

17
7:00 pm: Choir


18

19
 Pastor Brice's day off

20

22


23
7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest
6:00 pm: Social Justice Committee

24
7:00 pm: Choir


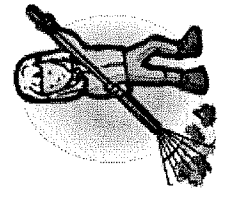
25

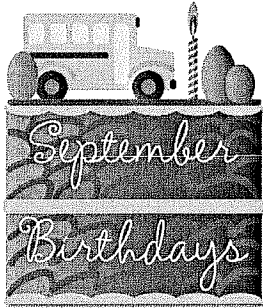
26
 Pastor Brice's day off

27

29

30
7:30 am: Bible Study at Diggers Rest





- 2 ---- **Louise Rolf**, 1731 Dehn St.
5 ---- **Nancy Oetken**, PO Box 231
West Burlington, IA 52655
6 ---- **Emily Roane**, 922 N. 3rd St.
7 ---- **Grace Eden (7)**, 200 S. Gunnison St.
9 ---- **Carol Goddard**, 124 Golf Lane
10 --- **Deb Goble**, 2000 Charles St.
18 --- **Lisa Neises**, 2033 Osborn St.
25 --- **Scott Wood**, 14603 Highway 99
30 --- **Martha Landstrom**, 1206 Madison
Trevor Ita, 1419 Cleveland Ave.
Kamryn Ell (15), 1919 S. Main St.

Early October birthdays

- 1 ---- **Pastor Brice Hughes**, 161 Windsor Circle
Cathy Key, 714 S. 10th St.
4 ---- **Milt Paule**, 2601 S. 3rd St.

- 3 ---- **Dick & Patty Kerr (42)**
9828 Glenmark Drive
5 ---- **Dan & Lisa Graham (27)**
321 Summer St. West Burlington 52655
8 ---- **Curtis & April Kenney (7)**
2020 S. 14th St.
Luke & Karen Sneller (2)
1903 River St.
14 ---- **Kenneth & Rita Haley (52)**
RR31, Box 122, Gladstone, IL 61437
16 ---- **Ben & Tamra Eden (8)**
200 S. Gunnison St.
17 ---- **Earnest & Shirley Turner (31)**
316 N. Gertrude St.

Early October anniversaries

- 2 ---- **Gus & Anita Renteria (22)**
907 High St.
3 ---- **Chuck & Martha Landstrom (61)**
1206 Madison Ave.

September 2014: Reading Changes Lives

 globalministries.org/bulletin/en/september-2014.html

Written by Ashley Holst
September 1, 2014

Then he took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that God has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." Exodus 24:7

"Once upon a time" is the beginning to every classic story; the lovely way it lays on the page seems to set the story off on a beautiful path. But imagine if those letters said nothing to you or their meaning was lost in the struggle to sound out each word - a reality for millions of people around the world.

Illiteracy is a global problem. 16% of the world's population cannot read—that's 773 million people, and the number of youth worldwide is more than 123 million [UNESCO]. The Dominican Republic, where I serve as a Global Mission Intern, came in last place in a 2008 study of academic achievement in 16 Latin American countries.

Global Ministries, in its work with 270 partners in 70 countries, has a longstanding focus on education and the promotion of literacy. One partner in the Dominican Republic, Caminante Proyecto Educativo (Caminante Educational Project), has been working to improve the lives of racially and economically marginalized children, and those with learning and behavioral disabilities. The school strives to educate and empower the most vulnerable youth—child laborers and those who are at risk or victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

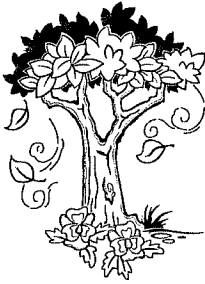
Caminante addresses literacy and education by preparing youth for enrollment in public school and supporting after-school learning. To date, the organization has changed the lives of over 12,900 youth affected by sex tourism.

Benisia, 15 years old, is a success story of Caminante. When I met her a year and a half ago, she had just begun a girl's empowerment program at Caminante. She rarely spoke, knew very little Spanish, and was very shy. Today, in her second year, she is reading, writing, and learning math. Benisia knows first-hand the difference literacy makes, and says when teenagers know how to read, they can find a better life for the future.

Ashley Holst, a member of Zion United Church of Christ, Marion, Ill., serves as a Global Mission Intern in the Dominican Republic with Proyecto Caminante, and works with street children in Caminante's outreach ministry. Her appointment is supported by Week of Compassion, Our Church's Wider Mission, Disciples Mission Fund and your special gifts.



Global Ministries



The BZ Express

September 2014

Zion United Church of Christ

412 N. 5th Street, Burlington, Iowa 52601

319-752-2305 - Office phone

319-754-1467 - Office fax

515-450-1321 – Pastor's cell

Church email: ucczionbur@aol.com

Pastor's email: bricehughes@hotmail.com

Website: www.zionuccburlington.org

Staff

Reverend Brice Hughes, Interim Pastor

Janice Gibson, Organist, Choir Director,
and Christian Education Director

Marilyn Stein, Office Administrator

Kay Jacobs, Treasurer's Assistant

Renita Jarrett, Choir Accompanist and
Wedding Coordinator

Megan Agnew, Nursery Supervisor

Earnest Turner, Custodian and
Buildings & Grounds Coordinator

Volunteer

Deb Ruble, Director of Bridging the Gap