



# THE BETHANY BEACON

*Building on the Past – Confident in God's Future – We make Christ known!*

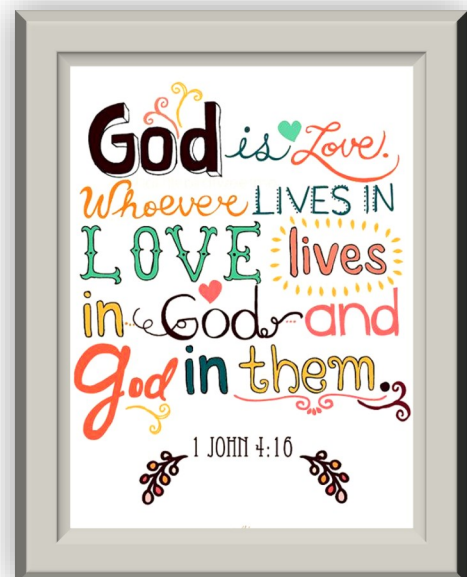


**SUMMER 2024**

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**And so much more. . .**



## ***A message from Herbert N. Johnson Jr.***

*(Taken from the Bethany Beacon, July 1987)*

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

There is a story told about a Vermonter who journeyed to the Maine coast. One day he took a walk along a high point of land and looked down at the crashing tide and breakers some 200 feet below. Unfortunately, he got too close to the edge and the ground under his feet gave way. Quickly he turned and grabbed hold of some scruffy shrubbery, hanging on for dear life because his whole body was now dangling in space over the edge of the precipice. He could feel the shrubbery begin to loosen and he could see out of the corner of his eye the ocean below, smashing against the rocks. With fear and trembling in big voice he cried out, "Is there any buddy else up there that can help?"

Suddenly, he heard a deep voice say, "This is the Lord speaking. You've got to have faith. Let go of the shrubbery with both of your hands, and you will be safe." The Vermonter thought a moment and then he shouted out, "Is there any buddy else up there that can help?"

How easy it is for us to say to another person, "You've got to have faith." Yet we don't tell them what faith is, or how it can be attained.

We live in a farming community. Each fall, we who are gardeners and those who are farmers, prepare the fields in the faith that there will be winter and summer next year. The fields are plowed and fertilized before the winter snows come. The farmers can't prove that spring will come but they have faith that it will.

Yet faith is more than this. It is a belief in the existence of God, using the classical arguments, such as the teleological, ontological or cosmological, has not made one single convert that I know of. Likewise, I have never met anyone who has been able to prove to me that God doesn't exist.

In defining faith, there is probably no better answer than the one given in the letter to the Hebrews. "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen,"

God has given us minds and reason and he expects us to use these attributes in the development of our faith. Faith deals with matters which have not been proved or perhaps cannot be proved. It is the assurance of things hoped for, It is the conviction of things not seen. If we can prove it, then it is not faith but knowledge and fact. We in essence say, "I know it." When it is faith we say, "I believe it."

Pastor Johnson

# August Meeting

## SALAD SUPPER

*Bring a salad, table service & a friend!*

**Thursday August 1, 6:30 p.m.**

**Leader** Genevieve Bishop

**Hostesses** WELCA Board

**Program**

**Guatemala**

Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich

**Special Offering** Ashby House, Shower of items.

Items needed: Lysol spray or wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, diaper rash ointment, baby lotion, and or baby shampoo.



**Piece Artists - 9 am**

**Aug. 8 & Sept. 12**

Save the Date: Saturday October 19, 2024.

W/ELCA Central Cluster Conference - Bethany Lutheran Church

# September Meeting

**Thursday September 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Leader** Elly Ostlind

**Hostesses** Rebecca Circle

**Program** LCH, Dietician - Lisa Qusted

**Special Offering** LCH Auxiliary

**Bring:** Towel

**Remember our W/ELCA friends.**

Bethany Home:

Carol Pearson and Mija Stockham

Sunflower Terrace:

Jeanette Peterson and Jane Grosland

Angel Arms:

Betty Finney

Maria Court, Assisted Living

Dorothy Bengtson, Mulvane, KS

Riverview Estates:

Darlene Handlin, Clarice Eckstrom, and Dolores Pelz.

Send them a card and wish them a happy summer!



Jennifer Hockenbery, Ph.D., a college dean, philosophy professor, and editor of the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics*, will serve as interim churchwide executive director of Women of the ELCA, beginning July 1.

# JUNE FINANCIALS FOR BETHANY CHURCH

## Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

Financial Review for the last Month Ending 06/30/2024

	<u>June</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Difference</u>
Contributions, general	\$ 28,425	\$ 166,536	\$ 191,151	\$ (24,615)
Other Inflows	\$ 1,967	\$ 6,415	\$ 5,002	\$ 1,413
<b>Gross Inflows</b>	<b>\$ 30,392</b>	<b>\$ 172,951</b>	<b>\$ 196,153</b>	<b>\$ (23,202)</b>
Human Resources	\$ 19,539	\$ 124,877	\$ 128,786	\$ 3,909
Property	\$ 5,539	\$ 36,532	\$ 39,586	\$ 3,054
Other Expenses	\$ 2,723	\$ 22,908	\$ 29,914	\$ 7,006
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 27,801</b>	<b>\$ 184,318</b>	<b>\$ 198,286</b>	<b>\$ 13,968</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 2,591</b>	<b>\$ (11,367)</b>	<b>\$ (2,133)</b>	<b>\$ (9,234)</b>

May comments: Member and visitor contributions fell behind budget in this month (\$8,975 for the month and \$19,864 YTD). This is about 1% less than this time last year. Spending is slightly favorable to budget. We've accessed 46% (\$13,678) of our favorable cash reserves so far this year.

At this rate, we could be out of reserves by the end of the summer.

### Operating Funds Report:

	<u>2024</u> <u>Mar</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Apr</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>May</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>June</u>
Checking Account at Peoples Bank & Trust	\$ 212,349.61	\$ 177,156.99	\$ 294,046.55	\$ 110,475.49
CD at Peoples Bank & Trust	\$ 150,380.17	\$ 150,380.17	\$ 152,611.07	\$ 154,676.13
Peoples Bank & Trust MM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,285.50
Peoples Bank & Trust NYG account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00
Mission Investment Fund, Money Market	\$ 264,586.76	\$ 265,124.34	\$ 265,680.97	\$ 266,220.78
Petty Cash - Laundry Love	\$ 128.50	\$ 244.75	\$ 379.00	\$ 288.25
Petty Cash	\$ 38.03	\$ 38.03	\$ 38.03	\$ 38.03
Prepaid Insurance	\$ 5,277.70	\$ 2,638.87	\$ 8,096.25	\$ 5,397.50
Liabilities - Current Credit Card	\$ (1,306.23)	\$ (1,977.38)	\$ (1,696.86)	\$ (1,348.85)
Liabilities - Payroll	\$ (2,957.64)	\$ (3,240.89)	\$ (3,776.76)	\$ (1,923.69)
Less Designated Funds	\$ (9,604.96)	\$ (4,112.97)	\$ (5,012.32)	\$ (7,745.36)
Less Memorials	\$ (1,885.00)	\$ (3,050.00)	\$ (13,050.00)	\$ (12,920.00)
Less Project Funds	\$ (582,408.07)	\$ (559,770.40)	\$ (681,858.55)	\$ (1,001,489.83)
<b>General Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 34,598.87</b>	<b>\$ 23,431.51</b>	<b>\$ 15,457.38</b>	<b>\$ 17,953.95</b>

\*Available Funds 12/31/23: \$29,135.07

### Noisy Offering for July

**Our noisy offering for July** goes to help support the National Youth Gathering expenses. Prayers for our Youth and Leaders traveling to New Orleans, Louisiana.



## CHURCH COUNCIL TID BITS FOR BETHANY CHURCH

**Property Committee:** Bids are now being accepted for the bell tower louvers. A bid has been received, but more are welcomed. The Parsonage deck has been replaced and it looks great. Cabinets have been ordered and should arrive soon. Pastor and his family seem pleased with the improvements. The A/C register to the main part of the church is not working. Due to its high cost, the discussion has been tabled.

**Pastor Chris reported** he will be attending the National Youth Gathering with Leader, Ericka Lysell in July. A replacement council member has been found, and Monte Couchman has graciously accepted to fill the position until January 2026.

**Adult Sunday School** leaders are needed. Persons interested in leading a S.S. Class should speak with Pastor Chris. Classes should start on or shortly after Rally Day, September 8, 2024 .

**Christian Education** is planning on *Celebrating Summer* with a pool party on July 12, from 6-8 p.m. The weekly packets have been getting picked up by the children. The packets will continue until August 18 at which time a birthday party will be thrown for BLC on August 18 during fellowship coffee hour. Everyone is encourage to attend this special coffee!

**Global Missions** is working on celebrating The Oaks Indian Mission on Sunday, August 11. Executive Director Dan Cooper will give temple talks at both services. An in-kind shower of items will be collected beforehand.

**Personnel Committee:** Noah Lackey resigned his position as Church Treasurer effective 6/15 and Sonja Taylor was hired to begin 7/1/24.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - SUMMER 2024

**Thanks for a great week of VBS.** The group enjoyed visiting the Dala Pantry, Facetiming with Maria Apel in Peru, Science Experiments with Pastor Chris, Bible Stories, recreation and more.

The students packed 12 birthday box kits for the Dala Panty; “birthday boxes” include a disposable cake pan, a cake mix, frosting, candles and sprinkles and one can of “Sprite”. ( The soda takes the place of the oil and eggs.) Monetary donations were also made to the Dala Pantry and ELCA Good Gifts for water filters. Thanks to my co directors Julie Janzen and Sally Hefner.



**Prayers** for safe travels to our youth and leaders as they attend the National ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana.



**A Swim Party** took place on Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 p.m. at the Lindsborg City Pool. A great time was had by all.

**Birthday Party:** Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:45 -10:15 Birthday Party for Bethany Church. Join us for birthday treats during coffee time.



**Rally Day:** *God's Work, Our Hands* will be Sunday, Sept. 8. Join us as we kick off another year of Sunday School. Come play and pack school kits. Church t-shirts will be ordered, if you'd like one, please check with Joyce Peterson.

**School Kit supplies** are needed for 150 school kits. Consider donating any of the following items: 70 sheet spiral (wide rule or college) notebooks, blunt tip child size scissors, blue or black ink pens, pink erasers (2.5 inch), 24 or 16 count Crayola Crayons, or medium size pencil sharpeners. A donation bucket is available in Trinity Hall.

Joyce Peterson, Christian Ed Director, 785.820.0034, [joycepeterson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycepeterson@sbcglobal.net)



## GREETINGS FROM BRADN BUERKLE

Dear Bethany Church friends,

Warm greetings to you from northern Germany! I hope that you and yours are doing well.

Here things are going pretty well. Everything is shifted a bit (compared to the U.S) because the summer school holidays are only 6 weeks long. My younger two boys will be in school until the 2nd week of July...but now our oldest (who just finished his sophomore year at Montana State) is visiting, and it is great to have him here.



I recently traveled to Berlin, where I was guest pastor at the American Church for Sunday...and had a chance to watch football (European football, that is) at a big park near the Brandenburg Gate.

Germany is hosting the European Championships, as you may know.

Back in Hermannsburg, we'll have the annual "Mission-Fest" very soon and during that time, our new director, Pastor Immanuel Kileo from the Lutheran Church in Tanzania - will be officially installed. He and I are two of only three non-Germans on the mission's staff; we can occasionally provide each other company as we exchange our experience of confusion at the way things work here!



I look forward to speaking with you; my friends of Bethany Church on September 29 for an exciting Zoom Forum.

Blessings to you and to everyone at Bethany!

In Christ, Bradn



Global Mission



## SPECIAL THANKS



**Dear Bethany Church friends;**

Bravo! Bethany Church did a marvelous job of celebrating Midsummer's in a worship service. As a worship planner myself, I know what it takes to assemble such an event. The fika before the service was delicious and allowed for conversation and meeting people. In worship, hearing spoken Swedish was a rare treat and gave me a new insight into those hymns and liturgical selections.

The choice of hymns was very well-done, including old and new. The commentary was my favorite part, it really added depth to worship. Many thanks to all who participated and organized this delightful service.

Mary Stahlke, Forest Park, IL.



Greetings from Camp Tomah Shinga!

I wanted to write and express our gratitude for your financial donation of \$2,000! Thank you! This support will go along way in sponsoring a counselor at camp. Counselors, play such an important role in the ministry that God does at camp. Your support means a lot of lives will be touched by God's Grace.

Sincerely, Rev. Ethan Feistner, Executive Director.

**Dear Bethany Church congregation and friends,**

Thank you for being my sponsor again this year! I am so thankful for your support of my work as a Counselor at Camp Tomah Shinga and for your generous support of CTS!

Sincerely, Alyssa Lozano



Special thanks to the office subs and bulletin folders. I take great comfort in knowing that there are wonderful people of Bethany Church that can volunteer to cover the office and fold the necessary items while I am away from my desk. I am truly blessed to have such wonderful office help. Thank you!

Sincerely, Melanie Rishel



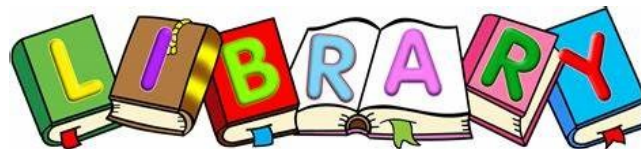
# EVENTS



**SHOWER**  
*Oaks Indian Mission*

- ✓ Bounce dryer sheets
- ✓ Dawn dish soap
- ✓ Kitchen scrub sponges
- ✓ 13 gallon white trash bags
- ✓ 30 gallon black trash bags

**Deadline to give - Friday August 9, 2024**



## LIBRARY NOTE

Thanks to all the visitors who came to our "Open House" at the upstairs library on June 2. Many remarked about how attractive and inviting the new location is. Our hope is that members of Bethany Church will be more aware of the books that are available to be checked out. The same goes for the children's library. Our library has a long history, and the library committee takes pride in building on the quality of books that has been achieved over the years.

If you didn't get to the open house, please feel free to come by and browse at any time. The committee is now catching up on cataloging books that have accumulated during the moving project, including several titles that are new publications.

Committee members are Sharon Palmquist, Marcia MacLennan, Gail Gustafson, Freda Woodard, and Nancy Lundblad.

# JULY / AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

## August Birthdays

## July Birthdays

Barry Finney	7/01		
Brian Kelling	7/01	Jack O'Steen	7/22
Brooks Larson	7/01	Elias Peterson	7/22
Cheryl Tatum	7/01	Cristina Armbruster	7/24
Milea Friesen	7/01	Sammy Train	7/24
Paula Patterson	7/02	David Garber	7/25
Nadine Kelling	7/03	Christian Reyes	7/25
Chad Nelson	7/05	Charles Malm	7/25
Joyce Pigge	7/05	Daryl Shields	7/26
Toni Haukom	7/07	Lauren Hudson	7/27
Mary Voigt	7/07	Diesel Dauer	7/28
David Anderson	7/08	Greg Heline	7/29
Mark Kozubowski	7/08	Laura Lungstrom	7/29
Helayna Peters	7/09	Emmi Brunsell	7/30
Becky Johnson	7/10	Dean Malm	7/31
Jessica Bengtson	7/11		
Danyel Patterson	7/11		
Dennis Shields	7/11		
Mike Wallen	7/11		
Leland A. Nelson	7/12		
Julie Nelson	7/13		
Kinley Peterson	7/13		
Genevieve Bishop	7/14		
Susan Bryan	7/14		
Eva Anderson	7/15		
Larry Dahlsten	7/15		
Rick Martin	7/15		
Carolyn Brock	7/16		
Holly Malm	7/18		
Diana Fanning	7/20		
Don Johnson	7/20		
Cameron Koerner-Smith	7/20		
Dolores Pelz	7/20		
Maxwell Howe	7/21		



Fred Briggs	8/1	LeAnna DeWitt	8/22
Jennifer Lindshield	8/1	Mija Stockman	8/22
Natalie Nelson	8/1	Richard Monson	8/23
Jolene Reese	8/2	Edith Dahlsten	8/24
Carolyn Gillberg	8/3	Shirley Morris	8/24
Jillian Hett	8/3	Terri Nelson	8/25
Maren Lundquist	8/4	Miriam Wallen	8/25
Inge Esping	8/6	Kashlei Emler	8/26
Greg Lundstrom	8/6	Ron Rolander	8/26
Shirley Malm	8/9	Brad Johnson	8/27
Dale Swanson	8/6	Marie Shields	8/27
Emily Patterson	8/7	Jennifer Krob	8/27
Brad Howe	8/8	Cindy Couchman	8/28
Marsha Nelson	8/8	Jason Archuleta	8/29
Nate Woodard	8/8	Wanda Esping	8/29
Ingrid Wilson	8/8	Kathey Bengtson	8/30
Soren Deines	8/9	Joyce Brunsell	8/31
Betty Finney	8/10	Jean Kozubowski	8/31
Glenn Lundquist	8/10	Marcia MacLennan	8/31
Leah Ann Anderson	8/11	Abigail Smith	8/31
Sharon Eckstrom	8/12		
Marteina McElroy	8/12		
Gaven Paul	8/12		
Connor Nelson	8/13		
Landry Nelson	8/13		
Hannah Smith	8/13		
Allison Brunsell	8/14		
Chelsea Deines	8/15		
Torsten Nelson	8/16		
Elaine Eller	8/18		
Maurine Johnson	8/19		
Daniel Norden	8/20		
Gunner McElroy	8/20		
Aaron Carlson	8/22		
Adam Carlson	8/22		



**Don't see your name on the list?**  
Contact the church office.

## SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

The Summer Food Service Program will return to Messiah Lutheran Church at 402 North 1<sup>st</sup> this summer (2024) **under the direction of Elena Northcutt**. This important program provides nutritious lunches for children in our community, no matter their church affiliation or non-affiliation.

**Volunteers** are needed Monday-Friday from Tuesday, May 28-Friday, August 9 (excluding only Thursday, July 4).

We need 1-3 volunteers each day, 11:30-1:30. No more than 3 volunteers are needed each day!

To facilitate the program, we are asking that different church congregations help with the serving for a week at a time:

**July 29-Aug. 2 Bethany Church is serving**

Please notify the Messiah Lutheran Church office if you can help, 785-227-3977 or [office@melclindsborg.org](mailto:office@melclindsborg.org).



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

**2nd Sat. 12-2 p.m.**

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 13

**4th Tues. 5-7 p.m.**

July 23

August 27

September 24

October 22

Laundry Love has been washing the clothes and bedding of low/no income families and people, across the US. Together we brighten the lives of thousands of people each month through Love, Dignity, and Detergent. Remember there are no income guidelines, and no questions asked just come to Lindsborg Laundry on the provided dates and times and we will wash your clothes. Bring your own detergent or use what is provided.



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry puts into practice the "Priesthood of all believers." Lay people are both called and gifted by God to exercise their distinctive and indispensable roles in building up one another in Christ.

The impulse to care for others comes naturally for Christians. The knowledge and skills needed to provide quality care require discipline and commitment. Stephen Ministry training topics are simple to understand, yet consistent with the best theory and practice of the helping disciplines to enable those trained to provide in-depth care to others.

On Sunday, June 30, Karna Peterson was commissioned as a new Stephen Leader of the Stephen Ministry Team at Bethany Church. She had just completed on-line training sessions over a period of approximately two and a half months to qualify herself for this important role. We are thrilled to have her join our group as we make plans to recruit a new class of Stephen Ministers this fall.

Most of our Stephen Ministry Team was present that day to welcome Karna and to stand with her during the commissioning.

The importance of growing our Stephen Ministry team from time to time cannot be overstated. We are at a point of needing to add more Stephen Ministers to continue the important work that has been going on at Bethany Church for over 25 years, and Karna will help us to bring that about. You will be hearing more about that in the weeks ahead.







**American  
Red Cross**

***Choose a blood drive. You Can Save a life!***

Lindsborg Covenant Church      12-6 p.m.    Monday, July 29

Assaria Lutheran Church      12– 6 p.m.    Tuesday, July 30

Bethany College Campus      9-3 p.m.      Monday, September 9






 **Bethany Church**

# ***RIDES 4 - HEALTH***

*Do you need a ride to a Dr. Appointment?*  
**Contact Jan Michael or the Church Office.**







## **HAPPY Birthday**

**Bethany Church**

Join us for a special treat, t-shirt  
and fellowship to celebrate  
Bethany's 155th Birthday!



*Sunday*  
August 18, 9:30 a.m.

**LIVE**   
**GENEROUSLY**

## Dala Pantry

### DALA PANTRY

Messiah Lutheran Church

402 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street

Lindsborg, KS 67456

785-256-0251

[dalapantrymessiah@gmail.com](mailto:dalapantrymessiah@gmail.com)



***“Take Bread; Give Thanks!”***

***(Luke 24:30)***

***Why are we here?*** Dala Pantry has been formed to ensure that everyone gets to eat regularly.

***Who can come?*** Any person living in the Unified School District #400 who identify themselves as needing food are welcome. We believe people have integrity and hope they know they are welcome to receive the support of the community through this food when they have a need.

***How often can people come?*** We are expecting people will come no more than once a month to receive food from Dala Pantry.

### ***When are we open?***

Monday from 3 p.m. -- 5 p.m.

Tuesday from 2:30 p.m. -- 4:30 p.m.

Thursday from 4 p.m. -- 6 p.m.

Saturday from 12 p.m.-- 2 p.m.

**The following items** are always needed at the Dala Pantry: pancake syrup, peanut butter, applesauce cups, canned fruit or vegetables, instant oatmeal, breakfast bars, canned meats, pickles, or dry pastas and sauces. **Drop off your donations** at the Dala Pantry, directly, during the open hours.

**Dala Pantry is a joint ministry of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church and Bethany College Student Campus Ministry. We are funded by grants and generous donors. With an affiliation to the Ks. Food Bank Warehouse, located in Wichita, KS.**

# SUMMER GAME NIGHT

Children + Families + Youth + Adults + Seniors

Wednesday

July 31

JOIN US

6-8 p.m. BETHANY CHURCH - FELLOWSHIP HALL

Free  
Admission

THE ORIGINAL  
**Rummikub**  
The Fast Moving Strategy Game

SCRABBLE



Admit Ages  
Pre -K thru 105

SNACKS & DRINKS PROVIDED



**Bring a friend and join us!**



# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

320 N MAIN

LINDSBORG KS 67456

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Summer 2024

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LINDSBORG, KS 67456  
PERMIT NO. 04



## THE BETHANY BEACON

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Church: (785) 227-2167 [office@blclindsborg.org](mailto:office@blclindsborg.org)

VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE: <http://blclindsborg.org>

### 2024 Bethany Church Staff

**Pastor Christopher Deines**

**Organist, Genevieve Bishop**

**Office Manager, Melanie Rishel**

**Property Manager, Butch Gibson**

**Christian Education, Joyce Peterson**

**Youth Group, Ericka Lysell**

**Men's Choir, Leah Ann Anderson**

**Chancel Choir, Britney English**

### 2024 Bethany Church Council

**Trampas Miller Pres. Karen Carlson**

**LeAnna Dewitt, VP Elly Ostlind**

**Natalie Nelson, recording secretary**

**Doug Malm Jayne Norlin**

**Monte Couchman Gail Gustafson**

**Arlone Grimes Mark Lindley**

**Pastor Chris Deines**

**Sonja Taylor, Susan Lundstrom,  
Treasurer Financial Secretary**