Welcome Pastor Katherine & the Mitchell Family!

Please join the Staff-Parish Relations Team in welcoming our new pastor, Reverend Katherine Mitchell, and her family to ELUMC! Pastor Katherine, or PK as she likes to be called, comes to us from the Shepherd of the Valley UMC where she served for seven years. Prior to her appointment to Shepherd of the Valley, PK served as pastor in Westport, MA, and Newport, RI. She graduated from the University of Rhode Island and seminary at Boston University where she earned her Masters of Divinity.

Born in Central Maine, she and her husband Bruce have lived in southern Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the past thirty-three years. Bruce is currently the Sexton at the historic Beneficent Congregational Church in Providence RI and works part time at Home Depot. He will be transferring to Home Depot in Springfield. He loves to play golf and he and the whole Mitchell family love to fish.

PK and Bruce have two children, Zac and Zoë. Zac is a 1st Class Petty Officer in the Navy and a gas turbine engineer. He is leaving the regular Navy at the end of June to join the Reserves and intends to pursue a career in the wind turbine industry. Zoë has just completed a graduate degree in International Relations and State Craft. She is a National Boren Scholar and studied Arabic in Morocco for a year. Now that she has finished graduate school she will be fulfilling her obligation to federal service.

Previous to ministry PK had a 15-year career as a mental health professional for children, youth and families. She has certifications in community mediation, spiritual direction and facilitating labyrinth practice. PK and her husband are avid ballroom dancers. Whenever they get a chance, the Mitchells spend time together at their family cottage in Northern Maine.

As a certified labyrinth facilitator, she spearheaded the effort to build a community labyrinth behind the parsonage at Shepherd of the Valley. Labyrinths, an ancient form of prayer practice, can be used for meditation or just as a way to stop, reflect, and keep life and work in perspective.

Welcome Katherine, Bruce, Zac and Zoë!

Welcome Pastor Katherine in person!
- Please turn to page 3 for a schedule of Meet & Greet Sessions.
- Turn to page 7 for a report from the Re-entry Team.

**Summer Mission Opportunities**

Dear Church Family,

Your Stewardship and Outreach team is ready for summer with two projects that will serve our local communities. First, for those of you that have a summer garden, any extra produce you may have can be donated to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen in Chicopee. Starting in July, let Andrew Samuelson or the church office know about what you have. He will pick up and deliver our collection to the soup kitchen on Monday mornings.

Another opportunity for mission is through school supplies. In the past we have collected school supplies throughout the summer to donate to our local schools. However last year we discovered a need for school supplies in our local Boys & Girls Clubs. Below is a list of supplies that our Boys & Girls Clubs are in need of. We ask that you hold your supplies until the end of the summer. We will collect them on a specific date to be named later.

- Pencils
- Pens
- Erasers
- Crayons
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Kid-size scissors
- Folders
- Notebooks
- Tissues
- Wipes

Thank you, thank you, thank you for keeping those in need in the front of your thoughts.
**Loaves & Fishes**

On the third Wednesday and the fourth Thursday of each month, the Loaves and Fishes team meets at 8:30 a.m. in the church kitchen to prepare a hearty lunch, which is then served at a local soup kitchen in neighboring Springfield.

**Volunteers are needed;** if you can assist with food prep and/or cleanup. Let Denise Forgue know of your interest and she’ll get you started. Contact Denise at (413-733-5644) or mems5luvs@gmail.com)

If you don’t have time on one Wednesday or Thursday morning a month, how about buying pasta for the meal? Name brand “tube” pasta is preferred rather than generic brands that don’t hold up to baking. Pasta donations can be placed in the labeled bin by the mailboxes or on the counter in the kitchen upstairs. You can also call Brian Kingsley at 860-794-0847 or Vance Gagnon at 267-884-6216 and they will arrange to pick-up of your pasta donation.

If you are able to donate toward the cost of the meal, please write a check to ELUMC with “Loaves & Fishes” on the memo line. Thank you!

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**Save the Date**

The annual worship retreat has been scheduled for **October 23rd through October 25th** at Prindle Pond Conference Center in Charlton, MA. This center is considered Nature’s Classroom and their motto is to *Think Outside the Books*. The cost is $125 per person and includes a two night stay and three meals.

Please contact Kelly Greene for additional details.

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**Meet the New Pastor**

Meet Pastor Katherine!

This is undoubtedly a peculiar time to welcome a new pastor, especially when we must practice physical distancing, but we’ve planned some “meet & greet” sessions where small groups of people can either meet Pastor Katherine in person in the church parking lot or via Zoom. These meet & greets will allow Pastor Katherine to tell you a little bit about herself, and give you a chance to introduce yourself as well. Groups will be limited to 10-12 people and sessions will be 90 minutes in length.

**PLEASE NOTE:** These meetings are by reservation only to keep them small.

The following are the dates from which you can choose:

**July 6 Monday**
- 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Zoom

**July 8 Wednesday**
- 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Zoom

**July 9 Thursday**
- 10:30 am to 12:00 pm in person
- 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm Zoom
- 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in person

**July 10 Friday**
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am in person
- 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in person

**July 11 Saturday**
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am in person
- 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in person

Please call or text Julie Dunlop at 413-563-4382 or email her at julie.k.dunlop@gmail.com to reserve your spot for an in-person meeting or Zoom meeting.

**For in-person meetings:**
- Chairs will be provided and physically distanced.
- Masks must be worn.
- There will be no entering the building including no use of the bathrooms.
EDUCATION RECOGNITION

June 7 was a joyous day at ELUMC. The Education Team awarded Carrington Scholarships to Bill Fisk and Rachel Woods.

Rachel Wood is completing her sophomore year at Mount Holyoke College where she is majoring in English. Rachel wants to use her knowledge to understand the power of language and how it has defined who we are as a society. Ultimately Rachel would like to reach people through a multitude of avenues including writing and story-telling to allow them to find their journey and self-discovery. Rachel enjoys participating in the UMASS Marching Band and being part of the theatre. Congratulations Rachel

Bill Fisk is attending Wentworth Institute of Technology, where he is majoring in Construction Management. Bill is looking forward to using the skills he learns with his passion to build, while also being a positive influence in the industry through the hand of God. I know this will make Bill an excellent Construction Manager. Bill is also an Army Veteran and enjoys playing guitar and running/working out. Congratulations Bill.

The Education Team thanked everyone who helped contribute to the Sunday School church education and announced that a donation to Loaves & Fishes was made in their names. We are extremely thankful for all that you do!

VOW RENEWAL

To celebrate their 10th anniversary, Vera & Stephanie Denyko renewed their wedding vows. Andrew Soucie walked Stephanie down the aisle and offered an Irish Blessing. Friends gathered on-line to support their marriage and Sammy and Kay celebrated proclaiming loudly “Amen”.

GOOD-BYE

REV. KELLY & STEVE

June 14, was Pastor Kelly’s last Sunday with us. We celebrated her 15-year ministry among us during the Facebook live worship service. Good luck to Rev. Kelly as she starts her new journey as Pastor of the Main St. UMC in Nashua NH.

June 14 also was a time to recognize & thank both the Chancel & Bell Choirs for lending their talents to our worship services each week.

As always, there is room for more in both groups. If you like making music in celebration of God’s great goodness, join the choir.

As you may know, June 21 was Evan McElreath’s last Sunday with us as our pastoral intern. Evan is an amazing preacher and this past December graduated from Candler School of Theology at Emory University with a Master of Divinity. He and Katie have also been helping us greatly with the technical aspects of live streaming our worship services each week. Evan recently announced his next appointment will be in East Hartford CT.

Please see Evan & Katie’s letter on Page 5.
Thanks to everyone who stopped by for lunch during Personal Picnic Time this Spring including Ruth Owen and the Lee family.

Thanks to Eileen Brogan who drove up from Connecticut. Beautiful day, lovely company & deviled eggs!

There is a footpath to your Family History, but it can be a difficult journey if you do not know how to read the signposts. I’ve been doing genealogy research off and on for over 20 years and while living in Ireland I began a small business creating family history books for friends and family. Let me research your family history and put together a book you can share with your family and generations to come. Fees vary based on record accessibility and depth of research requested. Initial assessment free!

Contact Eileen Brogan at ebrogan1953@gmail.com or 959-333-0483

From Evan & Katie

From our very first worship service with ELUMC you have helped us feel loved, welcomed, and seen. You made space for us. In fact, during that first service back in February 2019 you even sang “Consider yourself at home.” The passing of time feels a bit different during a global pandemic, but we are glad for the time we have been able to spend here with you.

In his book “Dangerous Wonder” the late Mike Yaconelli, invites readers to recapture their faith from the perspective of a child. He calls us to: “Jump first, fear later.” In retrospect, this is precisely what Katie and I did on January 1, 2020. We put everything we owned into a truck and drove across the country. We moved to East Longmeadow having only briefly met anyone. You have helped us answer and live into God’s call on our lives. We are so incredibly grateful for your help in securing housing and utilities. We have been blessed by your outpouring of love and support through food, drinks, cards, and gift baskets. We are thankful and humbled by your financial offering and support (especially during this turbulent season). From the bottom of our hearts we say Thank You!

The hands-on practical experience working with ELUMC has been immeasurable. I have been thrilled to participate in worship through preaching, praying, liturgy writing, and technical support. Having this opportunity to polish these skills have not only benefited me but will benefit churches I serve in the future. I cherish that my sponsoring congregation has given me so many opportunities for personal and professional growth. I was approved to be licensed as a Local Pastor in our Annual Conference back in April of this year. At the time of writing this letter, I still do not know what church we will be serving, but the appointment will likely begin on July 1st. If you would like to stay in touch please find us on Facebook, Instagram, or connect with us via email. When my appointment is official, we will leave our new address with Carol in the office.

Again, Katie and I are filled with love and gratitude for you, our church. We hope to see you all again soon.

With God’s Love, Christ’s Peace, and the Holy Spirit’s Comfort,
Evan & Katie McElreath
**Celebrating Leadership**

On June 3 at our church conference, we elected a slate of new officers for the shared ministry ahead of us.

We are grateful for those who are stepping into new roles and on new teams:

- Arlene Greener & Barbara Martino are two new members-at-large
- Bailey Kinney has joined the media Team.
- Kaitlin Leveille has agreed to chair the Stewardship Team.
- The Outreach Team welcomes Beverly Barrett, Doree Allain, Scott & Jennifer Burns, Stephanie Denyko & Marcia Rintoul.

A new team has been formed: The Filer/Innovation bequest Team which includes Rick Hutchinson, Ashlee Deziel & Andrew Samuelson.

- Scott Grabowski & Barbara Ollson are joining the Staff Parish Relations Team.
- Bill Johnston joins as Security Coordinator.
- Endowment has three new members to assist with the Filer bequest: John Arnold, John Ketcham & Pam Minihan.
- Diane Hemingway will join Denise Evans as Auditor.

We are also grateful for those leaders who have served faithfully and are now rotating out of their leadership roles:

For a complete list of the Church Leadership Teams for 2020-2021 please see the Newsletter insert (for the on-line version of the Newsletter please go to the last page.)

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

The Lay Leadership prayerfully considers their work to find places of service where we match the gifts and graces of members with work that feeds their soul. If you’re feeling called to help talk with the lay leaders or pastor about how you can be in ministry & help us serve others.

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**A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER**

Submitted by Julie Dunlop

Thanks to all for your continued commitment to the church by keeping up with your church giving. I am happy to report that we have been paying all of our staff members, including Mallory and Natalya, throughout the time that the church building has been closed due to Covid.

Thank you also for your generosity supporting the utilities and other expenses at Gayle Lesure’s East Longmeadow home so that Evan and Katie had a place to stay while Evan interned with us.

Even though the doors of the church are temporarily closed, the work of the church continues. Looking ahead to this summer, and as we enjoy our “staycations”, financial support for our church’s Loaves and Fishes program (Our Place) is greatly appreciated. As many churches have stepped back from providing any meals to the homeless in Springfield, ELUMC has stepped forward to provide not 1, but 2 meals a month. So many people rely on this program but the cost to provide the two meals is approximately $300/month. Continuous support of this program is crucial.

Another way to support mission work locally, nationally and worldwide is through mission shares. At ELUMC, our mission shares apportionment this year is $31,000. So far, only $4300 has been paid. Generally we scramble at the end of the year trying to meet our church’s mission shares commitment. Let’s see if at the half way point in the year, we can meet our half way number.

If you are able to donate to Loaves and Fishes or Mission Shares:

- write a check to ELUMC and mail it to the church (215 Somers Rd) or:

- online by going to paypay.me/elumc

Please indicate on the memo line which mission you are donating to.

Thank you again for your generous support to ELUMC and beyond.

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**From the Music Director**

Hi everyone,

By the time you read this Pastor Kelly will be on her way to her new gig. I will miss working with her terribly, but I am sure Pastor Katherine and I will get along fine too.

I am not sure what the new normal is going to be for the choirs in the fall, but rest assured we will do our best to provide meaningful music to support worship.

Have a great summer and stay hydrated and safe!

Grace & Peace

Rick
The past few months have, for many of the us, been the most unusual time of our lives. We are missing friends, family members and the many activities we enjoyed so much. One of the things many of us are missing is worshipping in the church sanctuary. While we’ve been hearing from our government leaders that it’s okay to go back to church with some restrictions, this can’t be taken lightly. To do so will require a great effort by many to ensure that it’s as safe as possible for everyone in our congregation.

As you might expect, there has been a lot of discussion on this topic at many levels, including the bishop and his cabinet, as well as our own Church Council and the newly formed Re-Entry Team here at ELUMC.

The following principles regarding re-entry have been adopted by the Church Council:

- Our primary goal is to serve Christ.
- Be prepared, but do not be driven by dates.
- We will foster a "sanctuary culture" creating a safe environment where all can feel safe and welcomed.
  - Safety means: Follow guidelines from CDC, State of MA and NEAC, including physical/ environmental considerations (e.g. hygiene, cleaning, distancing, masks, singing, etc.).
  - Inclusion means: No one gets left out, even if we need multiple “channels” for worship.
- Do not stop online worship for those that cannot participate physically and for those who have joined because we are now online.
- We must communicate our plans and set proper expectations.
- It may not be possible to meet everyone’s expectations.

Any plan for re-entry or in-person worship must adhere to these principles.

The Council is planning to contact members of the congregation to understand their needs, suggestions, concerns, etc. We care about what you think and how you are coping.

Please keep in mind that current guidelines will mean that in-person worship will be very different from what we are used to. For example, building capacity will be restricted, singing would not be permitted, our heating and AC system cannot be running, we must maintain physical distancing and masks (i.e. no hugging or shaking hands, etc.), no Sunday School or child care, no social gatherings before or after worship, rest rooms will not be available, etc. This makes being welcoming and inclusive very challenging.

There are some other practical challenges with re-entry including:

- We will need masks for staff, cleaning crews, and people who show up without them.
- In addition to masks, we will need disinfectants and portable touch-less hand sanitizer dispensers. Our supplier has indicated that there is a backlog and we will not receive all we need until August at the earliest.
- We may need to consider hiring additional custodial staff if we need frequent deep cleaning.

Having said that, we are discussing options for outdoor summer worship as well as other options for worship and need your opinions and ideas. For example:

- How are online services working for you and your family?
- Do you have preferences for Zoom vs. Facebook Live or other online services?
- What do you think about different worship experiences for smaller groups, including replaying and projecting services in the sanctuary or those who have been most disconnected?

Of course any solution needs to be sustainable with current staff and volunteer resources.

So you see, there is a lot to consider. But keep in mind, we are moving in a positive direction.

If you would like to be part of the re-entry team, please contact Julie Dunlop at 413-563-4382 or by email at julie.k.dunlop@gmail.com.

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**Don’t Let Your Pledge Take A Vacation**

As we head into the summer months, please try to keep your church giving current. (pay ahead please if possible). If you’ve fallen behind this year, please try and catch up. Thanks
SAFE SANCTUARIES

This church is committed to providing a safe place for our children.

THE SUNDAY EXPERIENCE in JULY

10:00 a.m. – Livestream Worship

11:00 a.m. – Children’s Sunday School on ZOOM

For the on-line church calendar follow this link:
http://57650311.view-events.com/

The Methodist Messenger is a journal of the ministry of The East Longmeadow United Methodist Church. Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

THE GOSPEL GOES TO THE MOVIES

join us Sundays @ 10am

7.19 Inside Out
7.26 The Sea and In Between
8.16 Finding Nemo
8.23 The Pursuit of Happiness
9.6 Moneyball

GET READY FOR SUMMER AT THE MOVIES WITH PASTOR KATHERINE

NEW SUMMER SERIES
STARTING JULY 19
AT 10:00 AM
# East Longmeadow United Methodist Church Leadership Teams 2020-2021

## Church Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Council Team Leader</td>
<td>Julie Dunlop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lay Member/Annual Conference</td>
<td>Andrew Samuelson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alt. Lay Member/Equalization Member AC Lay Leader</td>
<td>Lois Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Council Recording Secretary</td>
<td>John &amp; Kim Ketcham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Secretary</td>
<td>Diane Chandler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Diane Hemingway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Julie Dunlop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Chris Hutchinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Laurie Conz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>Ruth Owen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Kaitlin Leveille</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff/Parish Relations</td>
<td>John M Dunlop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>Paul Kinney &amp; Joan Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Kelly Greene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>Ross Overlock</td>
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<td>Youth</td>
<td>Carol Johnston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Secretary</td>
<td>Pastor &amp; Lay Leader</td>
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</tbody>
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## Ministry Teams

### WORSHIP

- Team Leader: Chris Hutchinson
  - Tom McGowan (21)
  - Joan McGowan (21)
  - Kelly Greene (21) — Usher Coordinator
  - Denise Evans — AV Ex officio
  - Vera Denyko (22)
  - Chris Hutchinson (22)
  - Bailey Kinney
  - Music Director and Pastor

### EDUCATION

- Team Leaders: Laurie Conz
  - Laurie Conz (22)
  - Pam Minahan (22)
  - Laura Kinney (22)
  - Liz Gelinas (22)
  - ________________ (23)

### MEDIA TEAM

- Denise Evans
- Kelly Greene
- John M. Dunlop
- John Deziel

### STEWARDSHIP

- Team Leader: Kaitlin Leveille
  - Andrew Samuelson (20)
  - Bev Kalloch (21)
  - Ashlee Deziel (23)
  - Diane Hemingway — Financial Secretary

### OUTREACH

- Team Leader: Ruth Owen
  - Ruth Owen (21)
  - Bev Kalloch (21)
  - Pat Jerome (21)
  - Chris Jones (22)
  - Beverly Barrett (22)
  - Doree Allain (23)
  - Scott & Jennifer Burns (23)
  - Stephanie Denyko (23)
  - Marcia Rintoul (23)
  - Lay Leader and Pastor

### Safe Sanctuary Coordinator

- Jessica Stone
- Diane Hemingway

### Nursery Coordinator

- Kaitlin Conz Leveille

### Adult Education Coordinator

- Tom McGowan / New- Hope Regional Representative
- Vera Denyko

### Confirmation Coordinator

- Rick Hutchinson - Filer/Innovation bequest team
- Ashlee Deziel
- Andrew Samuelson

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**Bold indicates new assignment**
SUPPORT TEAMS

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS Team Leader: John M. Dunlop
John Dunlop (21) chair
Mike Minahan (21)<35
Gary Conz (22)
Barbara Martino (22)
Scott Grabowski (23)
Babara Ollson (23)
Lay Leader: Kim/John Ketcham
Lay Member: Andrew Samuelson
Pastor

FINANCE Team Leader: Kelly Greene
John W. Dunlop, Emeritus
Bill Johnston (22)
Lay Member/AC: Andrew Samuelson
Lay Leader: John & Kim Ketcham
Financial Secretary: Diane Hemingway
Treasurer: Julie Dunlop
Church Council TL: Julie Dunlop
SPR Representative
Stewardship TL: Andrew Samuelson & Ruth Owen
Auditors: Diane Hemingway & Denise Evans

LEADERS OF CREWS

Fellowship
Vance Gagnon
Bev Kalloch
Lois Harris
Carol Johnston

Reconciling Team
Vera Denyk – co-chair
Kim Ketcham – co-chair

Family Ministries
Liz Gelinas
Laura Kinney

Singles & More
Kelly Greene

Recreation Coordinator
Gary & Laurie Conz

Visitation Coordinator
Scott Grabowski

Prayer Chain Coordinator
Lois Harris

Bell Choir
Joan McGowan

Funeral Collation
Laurie Conz
Bev Kalloch
Joan Clark
Carol Johnston (linens)
Diane Hemingway
Patty Ryan

Tellers
Paul Kinney
Bill Johnston
Steve Chandler
Patty Richards
Mike Dodson

Capital Project Team
Paul Kinney & Kelly Greene – co-chairs
John M. Dunlop
Bob Ferguson
Rick Hutchinson
KC Leveille
Fred Gagnon
Pastor

TRUSTEES Team Leaders:
Fred Gagnon (20)
Carol Johnston (21)
Brian Kingsley (21)
Paul Kinney (22)
John Ketcham (22)
Joan Clark (22)
Bev Kalloch (22)
Matt Leveille (23)
Bill Gelinhas (23)

Ex-officio mbs:
Security Coordinators: Bill Johnston (21)
1st Response: Paul Kinney (21)
Lawn – Dave Ritchie (21) Steve Wood (22)

ENDOWMENT Team Leader: Ross Overlock
Endowment Treasurer: Mike Lemanski (22)
Ross Overlock (21)
John Arnold (23)
John Ketcham (23)
Pam Minahan (23)
Pastor

LAY LEADERSHIP Team Leader: Pastor & Lay Leader
John & Kim Ketcham
Kaitlin Leveille (21)
Bev Kalloch (21)
Julie Dunlop (21)
Barbara Ollson (22)
Ashlee Deziel (22)
Brian Kingsley (22)
Kelly Greene (23)
Carol Johnston (23)
Paul Kinney (23)

Revised 6/22/2020