

THE FRIENDLY VOICE

DECEMBER 2018



LANGHORNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

301 E. Maple Avenue

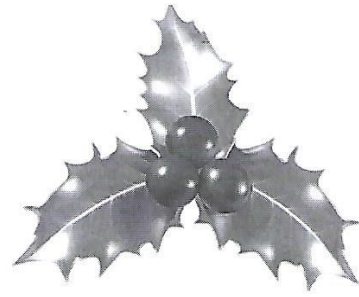
Langhorne, PA 19047

(215) 757-4984

Lumc-online.org

A Message from Your Pastor...

December, 2018



Dear Friends of Jesus,

December is here, and so is the time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ! He is not just the King of Kings, but the Ultimate Gift; for no gift before or since has ever been greater. His conception, birth, life, death and resurrection were all parts of the Gift God gave to us as the Messiah. Christ was given to us because God loves us all so very much.

In anticipation of his birth celebration and his second coming, we mark the four weeks before Christmas Day as the Advent Season, lighting one candle for each of the four Sundays in Advent. Each candle has been given special meaning, which are: hope, peace, joy and love. (Some faith communities have a little different theme order, but the themes remain the same. The pink candle is always "joy.")

Because God is with us – Emmanuel –

- ✪ we have **hope** for a brighter future.
- ✪ the **peace** of Christ can be in our hearts giving us a spark, a glimpse, of that amazing peace we will only find in God's kingdom and eternal life.
- ✪ true **joy** will be ours as we know Christ's justice will prevail in the wake of God's incredible flood of grace that washes over all of us.
- ✪ **love** will win in the end because God through Jesus Christ IS LOVE. Because of love, God's love, hope, peace and joy are all possible.

My friends, please, remember what Christmas is all about: **CHRIST!** Remember a child was born for us so that he could die for us and be resurrected giving us the chance for salvation, eternal life, with God in God's kingdom. It is not about the sales, and getting the most popular and up-to-date "thing." It's about remembering God's love through Jesus Christ ; loving God and loving each other as ourselves and as Jesus loved us; living in the hope, peace, joy and love that Jesus has to offer us and *for us to share ALL OF THIS with others ALL YEAR ROUND, because Christmas never ends.*

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder;
and his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end,
upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to
establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. -- Isaiah 9:6-7a KJV*



Merry and Blessed Christmas Everyone!

Laurie

Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler, your Pastor and Mr. Boots (the parsonage cat!)



Langhorne United Methodist Church

Dec 2018 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 9:30am - Children 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	26 6pm - Shared Meal 7pm - Bucks Mt.	27 6:30pm - Daisy 7pm - Bucks Mt.	28 6pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Choir	29 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	30	1 8:30am - Men Min.
2 9:30am - Children 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - "Gathering 6:30pm - Bell Choir	3 2pm - Finance 5pm - Brownies 7pm - Trustee's Mtg.	4 6:30pm - Daisy GS 7pm - Bucks Mt.	5 5pm - COMMUNITY 7pm - Choir	6 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	7 3pm - Steeple Kids Z	8
9 9:30am - Children 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	10 7:30pm - GS	11 7pm - Bucks Mt. 7pm - UMW	12 11:30am - LAMA 7pm - Choir	13 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	14	15 7:30am - Men's
16 9am - COOKIE WALK 9:30am - Children 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir	17 5pm - Brownies	18 6:30pm - Daisy GS 7pm - Bucks Mt. 7pm - SPR Mtg.	19 6pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Choir	20 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	21	22 8:30am - Men Min. 10am - Missions &
23 9:30am - Children 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	24 5pm - Contemporary 7pm - Child Serv. 9pm - Tradit. Serv.	25 7pm - Bucks Mt.	26 7pm - Choir	27 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	28	29
30 10am - ONE SERV. 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	31	1 6:30pm - Daisy GS 7pm - Bucks Mt.	2 7pm - Choir	3 7am - Men's Brk. 9am - Steeple Kids 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	4	5 8:30am - Men Min.



DECEMBER 2018 SANCTUARY SERVANTS

December 2

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Jerry Hill
 Greeters 9:30.....Babs Wiley & George Jenca
 Ushers 9:30Paul & Jackie Hansen
 Contemporary Assistants 11:00.....Bev Eick & Carol Annucci

December 9

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Erika Paton
 Greeters 9:30.....Ruth & Raul Torres
 Ushers 9:30Robyn Rowlands & Kim Stockburger
 Contemporary Assistants 11:00The Boyle Family

December 16

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Ron Cookson
 Greeter 9:30.....Marybeth States
 Ushers 9:30.....Joe & Helen McDonald
 Contemporary Assistants 11:00.....The Tyler Family

December 23

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Jeannette Hesser
 Greeters 9:30.....June & Bill Gill
 Ushers 9:30.....Paul & Jackie Hansen
 Contemporary Assistants 11:00Bev Eick & Carol Annucci

December 30 (ONE SERVICE)

Worship Assistant 10:00.....Linda Rutledge
 Greeters 10:00.....Babs Wiley & George Jenca
 Ushers 10:00.....Paul & Jackie Hansen

Stewardship Notes for December

Words to Live By: *LOVE*

1 Corinthians 13:4-5: “**Love** is patient, **love** is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.”

Hymn: Love Came Down at Christmas

- 1 Love came down at Christmas,
love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.
- 2 Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?
- 3 Love shall be our token,
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and others,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Pray about it.

Incorporate the meaning into your daily life.

Ask:

How can LUMC act on the Word and Scripture?

How can I act on the Word and Scripture?

How does this fit in with some of the vows we took when we were confirmed, joined the church, or took in new members “to faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by

our prayers,

our presence,
our gifts,

our service, and
our witness,

that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.”? (United Methodist Hymnal; ©1989; p. 38 with “our witness” added as of the 2004 UMC General Conference)



Harvest Home Food Collection Update

Dear LUMC Members,

WOW!

The Stewardship committee would like to thank you for your very generous food and cash donations for our Harvest Home Ministry. By sharing your bounty with others we were able to provide the Food Pantry at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Penn del with 23 turkeys, and bags and bags of food. The clients who received a turkey and all the fixings told us how blessed they felt to receive these.

PS. Special thanks to Amy Hansen, Paul Hansen, Chuck Boyle and Rev. Pfahler for loading up the food and delivering it to the pantry!





LUMC Christmas Cookie~ Walk Sunday December 16, 2018

For this Christmas, Stewardship will again offer Christmas Cookies to the members and friends of LUMC through our annual Cookie Walk. We are asking for volunteers to bake Christmas Cookies to be offered for sale on Sunday, December 16th, between 8:30 and 11:00am. If you bake cookies, can you please bring your cookies to the church on Saturday, December 15th, between 8:30am and 11am.?

Of course, we also need members and friends to help by purchasing the cookies. The cost would be \$7.00 per pound. We are also offering pre-ordered cookie packages for gift giving. The cost would be: small- 1lb. \$9.00, medium- 1½ lbs. \$13.00 and large-2 lbs. \$16.00.

Order sheets will be available starting 2nd.

Any questions or if you would like to help please contact one of the following people;
Jackie Hansen at jhansen597a@hotmail.com or
Holly Rogerson at hcrogerson@gmail.com

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Stop by the table in Fellowship Hall to pick up your offering envelopes.

If you do not see yours or do not have them assigned to you but would like them, please contact the office at 215 757-4984, or email request to church@langhornechurch.org.

Merry Christmas from the Sunday School Teachers, Helpers and Students



December Schedule:

12/2/18: Sunday School Lesson: Elizabeth and Zechariah - Luke 1:5-25

Communion during worship

12/9/18: Sunday School Lesson: Mary - Luke 1:26-28

12/16/18: Sunday School Lesson: Mary and Elizabeth - Luke 1:39-66

12/23/18: Children sing in 9:30 traditional worship service, then go to classroom for party and lesson: Joseph, Mary, and Jesus—Luke 2:1-20

12/30/18: No Sunday School

1/6/19: Sunday School resumes



Luke 2:7

⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CHILD'S PAGE



Help LUMC earn up to 15% this Holiday Season!

Purchase gift cards from Langhorne United Methodist Church at face value; the church purchases the gift card at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate to the church. It's really that simple!

When you spend the gift cards at your favorite retailers, you're fundraising while you shop. Over 300 of the country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations to pay for your normal weekly purchases or give as gifts this holiday season.

Gift cards will be sold primarily on a presold basis. Only a limited number of cards will be available for purchase without being preordered. You can start placing your orders November 4th!

Order forms are available at the gift card table, at the church office or on the LUMC website (<http://www.lumc-online.org/>). For the full list of retailers available go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>. Orders can be paid for using cash or by checks made out to LUMC.

THE LAST DAY TO ORDER GIFT CARDS TO BE RECEIVED IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS WOULD BE DECEMBER 16TH. THE CARDS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP ON DECEMBER 23TH.

For more information contact Jackie Hansen; jhansen597a@hotmail.com or call 215-932-1594.



Scholarship “Heads UP!”

Announcement!!

The Calkins Scholarship Applications

Will be available by

JANUARY 20, 2019

Eligible applicants* may contact the Langhorne UMC office NOW to get their names on the mailing list to receive an application either as hard copy via USPS mail, or printable PDF via email.

The DEADLINE to apply for the scholarship is

MAY 15, 2019

*Qualifications -

Candidate must be a sophomore, junior or senior in good academic standing at an accredited, recognized two-year or four-year institution.

Candidate must be a member of Langhorne United Methodist Church by confirmation, transfer, or profession of faith.

Candidate must complete this entire application legibly, then sign and date it. If the applicant is under 18 years of age, the application must be co-signed by the applicant’s legal parent/guardian.

To receive a Calkins Scholarship Application January 20, 2019 or after, please contact the office via telephone or email.

Telephone: (215) 757-4984

Email: church@langhornechurch.org



**Please come join us Tuesday December 11th at 7pm
for our annual Christmas UMW get together -
bring a friend!**

We will be caroling and eating - sharing faith, fun and fellowship!

If you would like to bring a treat to share, we would love to sample all the goodies!

We will prepare cards for our persons of concern. Our mission giving donation will be financial help wrapped in a Christmas ornament for a church family - if you are able, please bring an ornament with a monetary donation attached, they will be given to Rev. Pfahler to help a church family in need... We will also discuss 2019 plans and elect officers.

Come join us during this most festive time when we celebrate that we have been given the greatest gift of all - the Prince of Peace - Jesus - born as a baby and growing always in our lives...

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2



Monday December 24, 2018

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:00 pm Contemporary Service
(with communion)

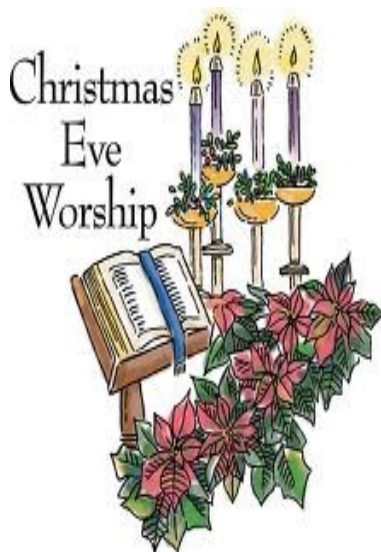
7:00 pm Children's Service

9:00 pm Traditional Service
(with communion)

Sunday December 30, 2018

ONE SERVICE

10:00 am



REMEMBER OUR MISSIONARIES THIS CHRISTMAS

Aileen Agoncillo
10304 Falcon Parc Blvd #101
Orlando, FL 32832

Steve & Gail Quigg
2045 Water Crest Ln.
Columbus, OHIO 43209

Luke and Alison Billman
5213 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Correen Russo
20 E. Clay Street
Lancaster, PA 17602-2016

Neal & Shirley Hicks
172 Hurricane Grove Rd
Shelbyville, TN 37160

Larry & Rita Sherbondy
125 Coventry Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015-4507

Dave & Sandel Livingstone
84 Golf Club Dr
Langhorne, PA 19047

Paul & Donna Tocco
P.O. Box 13593
Nakuru, Kenya
EAST AFRICA

Tony & Gwen Martin
Potatisvägen 12 B LGH 1001
961 48 Boden SWEDEN

Chaplain Jack & Anne Nigro
2754 Turner Ave
Roslyn, PA 19001-2912

Our Church Finances

Finance Committee, Chuck Boyle, Chairperson

As of the end of October our church's financial status continues to be stable. In fact we are doing better than originally estimated. Our year-to-date total income is running three percent above expectations, our expenses are approximately 6% below expectations, and this provides us with a small positive bottom line. Thanks to our loving church family and staff, we are in good shape financially.

Outlined for you below are the significant areas of our financial reporting that are coming in differently than what was budgeted for year-to-date through October 2018.

On the revenue side our total revenues equaled \$252,700, which is \$7,600 more than our budget. The major differences between our budget and actual revenue are noted below:

1. General offerings came in \$4,600 above the budget. The main reason for this is the receipt of an annual offering and so this overage is a bit overstated. This will correct itself over the balance of the year.
2. Facility usage income is \$1,000 more than the budget. The use of our church by others is rather hard to predict and will fluctuate through the year.
3. Initial envelope giving is \$200 over budget.
4. Donations for flowers came in \$200 above the budget.
5. Wedding income is \$800 above the budget.
6. Our Wednesday night dinners are \$2,000 below the budget. Lyn Wallace, the founder and leader of this outreach program had personal medical matters to deal with and, as such, there were fewer dinners. We thank Lyn for her hard work. She is currently feeling much better. The dinners have just started up again for us to enjoy.
7. Fellowship and refreshment giving is under budget by \$300.
8. Investment returns from the McKay Fund are \$3,300 more than budget.

On the expense side for the year we reported total expense of \$247,200, which is \$15,500 less than our budget. The continued controlling of our expenses can result in a good bottom line this year. The hard works of our staff, committees, and congregation have made this possible. The major differences between our budget and actual expenses are noted below:

1. Altar flower expense was \$1,400 more than the budget. Billing from our flower vendor is not always received in the right period. This contributes to this difference.
2. Youth transportation was \$500 less than the budget.
3. Sunday School Curriculum is \$600 more than budget. Based on our decision to focus on making LUMC a wonderful home for young families this overage is totally acceptable.
4. Youth funding from the LUMC general account is \$500 less than budget.
5. Music supplies are \$100 more than budget. This is due to the purchase of a new sound board that is used in our sanctuary.
6. Choir director's compensation was \$7,500 less than the budget because this position has been combined with the organist position.
7. Health Insurance is \$900 under the budget.

8. Church Secretary compensation was \$3,200 less than the budget. This position was reduced from two part-time professionals to one with extended hours for that person. The office also is now closed on Fridays.
9. Sexton compensation was \$1,000 less than the budget. This area will fluctuate over time based on the amount of hours worked.
10. Substitute Pastor expense is under budget by \$200.
11. Our Pastor's CPE allowance was \$1,500 less than the budget.
12. Social security tax expense was \$600 less than the budget because of a reduction in total staff compensation expenses.
13. Nursery worker compensation was \$400 more than the budget. This is a new expense that was not included in the 2018 budget. The cost of this position is fully funded by the savings account set up to support LUMC's young family focus.
14. Property & Liability Insurance expense is under budget by \$300.
15. Organ & Piano expense is over budget by \$700.
16. Utility expenses were \$800 less than the budget.
17. Telephone was \$800 more than budget.
18. Internet expense is \$300 less than budget.
19. Copier lease is \$600 less than budget.
20. Office operation expenses were \$2,100 less than the budget.

This leaves us with a year-to-date net operating gain of \$8,400. This will still put us \$23,100 over our budgeted bottom line for this period. We had expected a net loss. Financial stability is challenging to accomplish and maintain. Together, in 2018, we can achieve success.

We have \$64,500 in the L.U.M.C. general fund. This provides the financial cushion that we need.

The Reserve Giving Fund continues to grow nicely thanks to our congregation. As of the end of October the balance in this fund is \$19,200.

The Young Family Focus Fund has a current balance of \$9,700.

Faith promise offerings have improved over the last ten months. Year-to-date net income in this area is \$200. This is very good to see as we have in the past been running in a negative position.

The Trustees are reviewing the church's telephone service providers and the need for all of our existing telephone lines. Special thanks go out to Ron and the Trustees for the great work they do for us.

The finance committee is in the process of preparing the 2019 church budget. We have contacted all staff and committees for input. The budget should be ready for Administrative Board review and approval by the end of this year.

If any member of the church would like to receive a copy of the church's 2018 financial budget and/or detailed 2018 financial reports please place a note in the finance committee mail box outside of the secretary's office.

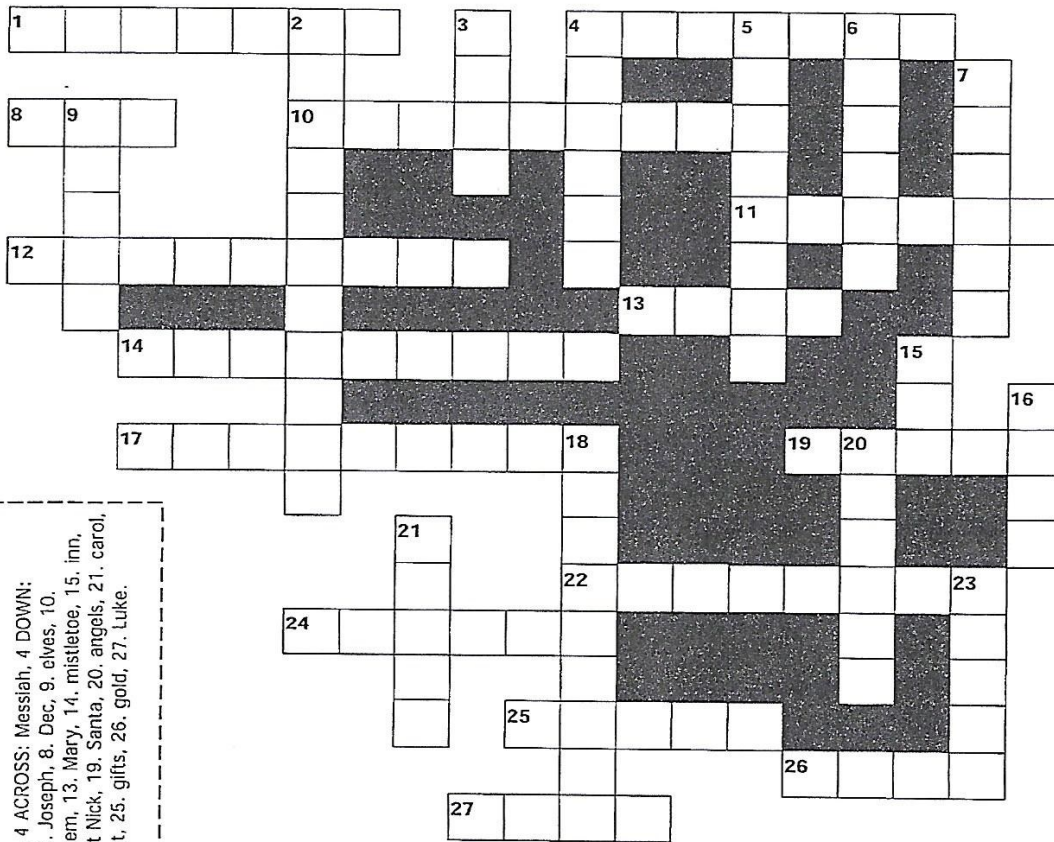
**LET'S REMEMBER OUR SENIORS BY
SENDING THEM BIRTHDAY CARDS!**



- 12/1 George Schmidt,
26 Tupelo Lane
Langhorne, PA 19047
- 12/3 Donna Goodwin
247 Thrush Circle
New Hope, Pa. 18938
- 12/7 Harold Hacker
290 E. Winchester Ave.
#314Y
Langhorne, PA 19047
- 12/20 Lyn Wallace,
1975 Quarry Road
Yardley, PA 19067
- 12/22 Dotty Gannon,
7 E. Holland Road
Holland, PA 18966
- 12/31 Janis Goldman,
5 James Court
Langhorne PA 19047

December

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



Answers:
 1. Rudolph, 2. poinsettias, 3. star, 4 ACROSS: Messiah, 4 DOWN: manger, 5. shepherd, 6. advent, 7. Joseph, 8. Dec, 9. elves, 10. incarnate, 11. Handel, 12. Bethlehem, 13. Mary, 14. mistletoe, 15. inn, 16. magi, 17. ornaments, 18. Saint Nick, 19. Santa, 20. angels, 21. carol, 22. Nazareth, 23. Herod, 24. Christ, 25. gifts, 26. gold, 27. Luke.

CLUES

1. Has a red nose
2. Red plants
3. A nova
4. A savior
- 4 DOWN: Crib
5. Keeper of sheep
6. Coming
7. He was a carpenter
8. 12th month (Abbr.)
9. Northern little helpers
10. Enfleshed
11. Messiah composer
12. Of Ephrathah
13. Gabriel came to her
14. A form of holly
15. B & B
16. Wise men
17. Tree decorations
18. Patron saint of children
19. Red-suited man
20. Heavenly singers
21. Song
22. Home for Mary
23. He ordered the Slaughter of the Innocents
24. Messiah
25. Presents
26. A gift of the wise men
27. Author of the most famous account of the birth of Jesus

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Langhorne United Methodist Church
301 East Maple Ave., Langhorne PA , (215) 757-4984
lumc-online.org
Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP!

Sunday Worship Hours:

9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10 -11:00 a.m. - Adult Sunday School *
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Adult Sunday School *
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
***2 Adult Sunday School Classes being held**
pick which time is best for you.

Laurie J. Pfahler, Pastor, laurie@langhornechurch.org

Bill Bryan, Director of Congregational Care, bill@langhornechurch.org

Erika Paton Lay Leader, jerp1968@verizon.net

Donna Goodwin, Church Secretary, church@langhornechurch.org

Kerry Fenton, Organist, Kerry@langhornechurch.org

Amy Hansen, Treasurer, amy@langhornechurch.org

Hugh Green, Youth Director, Hugh@langhornechurch.org

Barbara Jordan, Choir Accompanist, acompanist@aol.com

Kim Stockberger, Bell Choir Director, Gs5th@comcast.net

Kurt Tommuscheit, Sexton

Amy Rodda, Steeple Kids Director, steeplekids@comcast.net