

NOVEMBER 2021

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
4102 N. BEN JORDAN, VICTORIA, TX 77901
PHONE (361) 575-4305 FAX (361) 575-8679

www.oslcvtoria.com

Sunday worship 8:00 & 10:30 am Children/Youth Sunday School 9:15 am
Pastor Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
Ministers: YOU!



OUR SAVIOUR'S MESSAGE



Sisters and Brothers of Our Saviour's,

As always, it is my prayer that God's peace, grace and blessings overflow upon you and in your household, leading you to be truly thankful unto Him this month.

November is a special month for me and hopefully for all y'all. It's the month of Thanksgiving, when our nation pauses and takes stock of the blessings that our gracious God has lavished upon us this past year. It is my continued prayer that we, as a nation, will never lose nor be forgetful in maintaining our spirit of thanksgiving. For I believe that any individual, or an entire nation of people, who take the time to express their thanks and gratitude toward God are a people of a nation that confesses that there's a God. So, this Thanksgiving let us continue to take the time to pause with family and friends, to reflect on our blessings, and acknowledge that there's a loving and merciful God, who gave his only begotten Son to die for us so that we may have life and have it to over-flowing. Thanks be to God, indeed.

Now, in addition to Thanksgiving, this month is a special one for me because it marks the two-year anniversary of having met y'all when I preached at OSL for the first time in Nov. 2019. As some of you may recall, Hanta and I flew down for a weekend, from Minneapolis, MN to check y'all out and for y'all to do the same to us. Truth be told, it was love at first sight for me, to which I am thankful ever since.

As I look back on my first 24 months among y'all, it is not lost to me that we've experienced all sorts of issues, situations, conditions and challenges together, which I know fully well happens in every congregation. To this day, we continue to struggle against the Covid19 virus; we suffered losses in the passing of several of our dear and beloved members who are now part of that great cloud of witnesses that the book of Hebrews refers to (Heb. 12:1-3). We certainly miss their presence and contributions in our midst and in the ministries of our congregation. But then, there were the good times and the fun times, such as having hosted the LCMC TX District Gathering, the Youth Summer Camp at Camp Eagle, the various Bible Study classes offered, and the list goes on. In all these situations, in the "good, the bad, and the ugly", I strongly encourage you to give thanks to God, just as the Apostle Paul encourages us to do in 1 Thess. 5:17-19.

Lastly, I'd like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Tabitha Quilters, the Women of the Word (WOW) and the Children, Youth and Family (CYF) ministry for their generous gifts and kindness toward me last month. I am blessed beyond words for you being a part of this household of faith. So, in the words of an old Irish blessings, May the roads always rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields. So, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Thankful.

Pastor La Andriamihaja



REMINDER:

Daylight Saving Time Ends
At 2:00 am Sunday, November 7th.

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.





Preview the 2021 Budget: The congregation will be asked to vote on the 2022 budget proposal at the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, November 14, 2021. Sally Hersey, OSL Financial Administrator, will offer budget informational presentations in the Conference Room located in the Youth & Children's wing, twice before the annual congregational meeting. The presentations will be held on **Sundays, October 31st & November 7th at 9:15 am**. The budget presentations are expected to last about 45 minutes, depending on questions.

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14th

(following 2nd service) in OSL Multi-Purpose Room

Join us for a catered lunch.

The purpose of the meeting is to submit the 2022 budget for approval, and elect new council members.

Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Watch your mailbox for the official agenda and all handouts needed for this meeting.



Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner November 20th

OSL will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving feast on Saturday, November 20th from 5pm – 7pm to-go plates only. We are in need of volunteers and monetary donations. Donations can be put in an envelope from the pew and earmarked for “Thanksgiving Feast” and put in the offering plate or wooden box on the Welcome Desk. For more information, please contact Pat 676-5087 or Dena 652-3237.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

We are in the process of planning a community thanksgiving service with some of our sister churches to gather together to give thanks for our many blessings and offer prayers for our community, nation and world. This service will be held on Sunday, November 21st at 6:30 pm followed by a time of fellowship and pie.



HOLIDAYS – A reminder, the church office will be closed November 24th & 25th in observance of Thanksgiving. We give thanks to God for his many blessings and the privilege of serving him through Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.



OSL FAMILY DECORATING EVENT - We will get together on Saturday, November 27th beginning at 10:00 am to decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex for Christmas. We need lots of folks to help and ones able to climb tall ladders. Please mark this date on your calendar and come out to help.



OUR SAVIOUR'S FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE - Each year Our Saviour's decorates a "Family Christmas Tree" in the Narthex, with an ornament from each family. The ornament may be handmade or purchased, with your family name on it. The tree will be set up and decorated on Saturday, November 27th, but you may bring your ornament any time before Christmas and place it on the tree.



Join us as we Celebrate the Glory of Christmas
with the music ministry of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 12th at 6:00 pm



BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL LED BY PASTOR LA

Every Thursday at 12 noon in the Christian Education Building.

Bring your Bible & lunch and join us.

No Bible study on Thursday, November 25th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.



December 4th- We are participating in the Victoria Christmas Parade. This year's theme is Christmas Around the World. If the city decides to limit the number of participants on the float or do a "reverse parade" as they did last year, we will not be participating and instead using our float to go Christmas Caroling with the kids on Friday December 3rd.



Substitutes needed for the beginning weeks of 2022 for Wednesday Lighthouse teaching the elementary kids and Sunday mornings Sunday school for teaching the Jr High Kids. Curriculum provided. Doesn't have to commit to all Wednesdays and Sundays, just let me know which days you are available, and I will create a rotation.

Male instructors needed for Sr. High small group on Wednesdays and Sunday School. Again, it does not need to be a commitment of every week, as I am trying to form a TEAM of men who are willing to help with the Christian Education of the High School gentlemen we have at the church. Curriculum will be provided. Many Blessings, Ms. Susan

WEDNESDAY LIGHTHOUSE ACTIVITIES - November 3rd, 10th & 17th

No Wednesday night activities November 24th due to Thanksgiving

5:15 pm - Children/Youth Choir (Nov. 3rd & 17th)

5:15 pm - Tones Chimes (Nov. 10th)

5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Meal and Fellowship

6:15 pm - 6:30 pm Praise and Worship

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Lighthouse Small Groups

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Confirmation Class

The last Wednesday of each month, all the Children & Youth will meet together for games and activities



In case you haven't noticed, there has been a lot of activity in one particular room in the Kid Zone area of the Sunday School rooms. We now have a new church library! YES, that is correct.... a LIBRARY!

We are so happy to present this newly created area where adults and accompanied children can check out books for reading at home or in the comfy chairs in the library. We have over 500 selections in more than 20 categories.

Are you studying about the Minor Prophets? Or a book in the Old Testament? We have books on those topics. Are you weary, sad, distressed? We have books to help you with that. How about nonfiction reading about Christians who have led phenomenal lives? Yes, you guessed it; we have those too. And devotionals, bible studies, and in the Christian Fiction section you will find many popularly read novels.

When you visit the library, please sign out for the book (s) in the register on the library desk. Enjoy our new addition and please give us feedback of your library experience.

A Note from the Library - This book is a true story from our Nonfiction category. It is a very powerful story that took place in the 1940s. If you have seen the movie, you should know the 'book is better' as in most cases. The title is Tortured for Christ by Richard Wurmbrand.

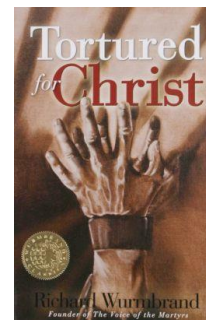
'Months of solitary confinement, years of periodic physical torture, constant suffering from hunger and cold, the anguish of brainwashing and mental cruelty – these are the experiences of a Romanian pastor during his fourteen years in Communist prisons.

His crime, like that of thousands of others, was his fervent belief in Jesus Christ and his public witness concerning that faith.

Meeting in homes, in basements, and in woods – sometimes daring to preach in public on street corners – these faithful souls persisted in their Christian witness knowing full well the ultimate cost of their actions.

This is their story – a classic account of courage, tenacious faith, and unbelievable endurance. This history of the Underground Church reflects the continuing struggle in many parts of the world today.

Tortured for Christ is still as important today as it was over 50 years ago in calling attention to the plight of persecuted Christians in the modern age. '





NOVEMBER 2021




SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div></div> <div>1 9:00 am - Staff Meeting</div>	<div>2 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 6:00 pm - Ministry Leaders/Team Meeting in Christian Ed Building</div>	<div>3 5:15 pm - Children/Youth Choir 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:15 pm - Praise & Worship 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Confirmation 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>4 12 noon - Pastor La's Bible Study in Christian Ed Bldg.</div>	<div>5 OFFICE CLOSED</div>	<div>6 Reminder: Fall Back 1 hour before you go to bed!</div>	
<div>7 All Saints Day/Day Light Savings Time Ends 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION HELPING HANDS 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 9:15 am - Budget Presentation</div>	<div>8 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep 5:00 pm - Executive Council Meeting</div>	<div>9 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry 6:00 pm - Men's Ministry Chapel Rented</div>	<div>10 5:15 pm - Tone Chimes 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:15 pm - Praise & Worship 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Confirmation 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>11 Veteran's Day 12 noon - Pastor La's Bible Study in Christian Ed Bldg.</div>	<div>12 OFFICE CLOSED</div>	<div>13 10:00 am - Life After Loss Support Group</div>
<div>14 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 11:45 am - Congregational Meeting with Meal</div>	<div>15 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 6:00 pm - Women of the Word – Eat out at Sky</div>	<div>16 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 6:30 pm - Council Meeting</div>	<div>17 5:15 pm - Children/Youth Choir 5:30 pm - Prayer in Chapel 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:15 pm - Praise & Worship 6:30 pm - Lighthouse Small Group 6:30 pm - Confirmation 6:30 pm - Sr. Choir Rehearsal</div>	<div>18 12 noon - Pastor La's Bible Study in Christian Ed Bldg.</div>	<div>19 OFFICE CLOSED MPR Unavailable</div>	<div>20 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving To-Go Meal Christian Ed Building Rented</div>
<div>21 Christ The King 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm - Community Thanksgiving Service</div>	<div>22 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep</div>	<div>23 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry</div>	<div>24 OFFICE CLOSED There will be no Wednesday night activities the week of Thanksgiving</div>	<div>25 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED </div>	<div>26 OFFICE CLOSED</div>	<div>27 10:00 am - Church Christmas Decorating</div>
<div>28 1st Sunday in Advent 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study</div>	<div>29 9:00 am - Staff Meeting</div>	<div>30 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry</div>	<div></div>	<div>CHURCH EVENTS, DATES AND DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE </div>		



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Due to COVID-19 there are new procedures, guidelines and "social distancing" that our Worship Assistants must follow. Below is the schedule of worship assistants for this month. We will provide training and instruction to those who have not already received this information.

	USHER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	LECTOR	GREETER	WELCOMER	WELCOME DESK	LEADER IN CHARGE
Nov. 7th 8:00 am	John Hersey Royce Krueger Dale Hoffmann Shirley Hoffmann	Glenn Gisler Libby Stirneman Lauren Jackson	Hunter Jacob	Glenn Gisler	Kathleen Reimann Terry Krueger	Jan Jacob	Sally Hersey	Nov. 7th Michael Buchhorn Nov. 14th Doris Dold
10:30 am	Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn Darryl Kern Doris Dold	EJ Raley Pam Raley Pat DeDear	Arun Pickens		Pam Raley Christine Willis	Sharon Kacir	EJ Raley	Nov. 21st Pam Raley Nov. 21st 6:30 pm Glenn Gisler Nov. 28th Katy Morris
Nov. 14th 8:00 am	Glenn Gisler Gerald Merks Mitchell Thurman Steve Fiedler		William Wright	Jean Gisler	Jean Gisler Janet Merks	Laura Wright	Linda Mueller	ALTAR GUILD Darlene Meyer Josephine Muhlstein Patty McGehee Jeanette Turek
10:30 am	Randy Clark Sharon Kacir Billy Blanchard Jason Eliot		Haley Morris		Marilyn Young Brett Ckudre	Doris Dold	Patty McGehee	ALTAR FLOWERS Nov. 7th Kathleen Reimann Nov. 14th Elaine Smith Nov. 21st Marilyn Young Nov. 28th
Nov. 21st 8:00 am	Terry Krueger Royce Krueger Dale Hoffmann Shirley Hoffmann	Steve Fiedler Joyce Cardinell Jean Huber	Konor Eliot	Steve Fiedler	Kathleen Reimann Jan Jacob	Joyce Cardinell	Jean Huber	
10:30 am	Tom Willis Christine Willis Hanta Andriamihaja Gary Mueller	Lisa Price Marilyn Young Doris Dold	Hannah Morris		Jason Price Lisa Price	Patty McGehee	Norma Lawrence	
Community Thanksgiving Service 6:30 pm	Randy Clark Marilyn Young Mitchell Thurman Royce Krueger		Konor Eliot		Sharon Kacir Pam Raley	Doris Dold	EJ Raley	
Nov. 28th 8:00 am	Glenn Gisler Gerald Merks Mitchell Thurman Laura Johnston		Alex Johnston	Diane Dabney	Jean Gisler Janet Merks	Joyce Cardinell	Linda Mueller	Happy Thanksgiving! 
10:30 am	Debbie Krueger Kurtis Krueger Patty McGehee Elaine Thurman		Arun Pickens		Pam Raley Christine Willis	Doris Dold	EJ Raley	

NOTE: If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please try to find a replacement or call the person in charge of your ministry, see below: After finding your replacement, please let the church office know of the change. **PLEASE** don't ignore your obligation! If you no longer want to be on this list, you must inform the church office. **We need you** and count on you to help us keep the worship services running smoothly each week. **Acolyte/Lector** - Church Office 575-4305 **Communion Assistant** - Genny Pruitt 575-2666 **Usher** - Steve Fiedler 575-1643 or email: fiedler.acutune@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF THE WORD



W.O.W. – Will eat out at Sky Restaurant this month for their meeting and devotional time on Monday, November 15th at 6:00 pm. All ladies of Our Saviour's are invited attend.

OSL MEN'S MINISTRY

OSL Men's Ministry will now meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. November's meeting will be on Tuesday, November 9th in the Prayer Garden. All men are invited.



OSL MINISTRY LEADERS/TEAM MEETINGS ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Tuesday, November 2nd at 6:00 pm in the Christian Ed Building.



HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 7TH

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time or another need a little help.

BAPTISM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S – Baptism is the first of the two sacraments. There is a list of guidelines to follow. If you desire more information about baptism here at Our Saviour's, please contact the church office at 575-4305.



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TABITHA QUILTING MINISTRY

Meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Christian Ed Building

For more information about Tabitha Quilting Ministry contact Dorothy at 576-1465 or Jean at 676-0484.



Life After Loss Support Group - Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Christian Education wing of Our Saviour's. This month they will meet on Saturday, November 13th at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor La.



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST WORKERS

Sabbatical Time - This article is going to be a little different than most. This month I share from my hurting—yet hopeful—heart as I look forward to what I think may be one of the most significant seasons of my life and ministry. In case you have not yet heard, I am extremely honored to be able to take a sabbatical for the first time in this my 20th year of ordained ministry and 7th year of ministry here in LCMC Texas. I will be taking two

months of sabbatical and two weeks of vacation time and will be totally unplugged from my job responsibilities from November 1 through January 15.

About nine months ago, I felt as though I came to the end of myself. My counselor had encouraged me to ask for help—something I admit that I am not very good at. Faced with feeling completely overwhelmed, stressed, and on the verge of burnout, I decided to take her advice. At the next District Council meeting, I asked for both a part-time support staff person and a sabbatical. What I received from the District Council was an abundance of support and compassion that overwhelmed me. I thank God for the grace given me by these brothers and sisters in Christ! Our new staff hires of Alyssa Moore and Tim Wagner this fall have been instrumental in lightening my workload. I thank God for these coworkers who will help fill the gap along with the District Council and others who have stepped up to help while I am on sabbatical. One lesson already learned is I need to be more willing to ask for help more often!

I have been incredibly blessed by the encouraging words people have offered me as I begin this sabbatical journey. Many pastors and other leaders have expressed how happy they are that I am taking this time. One question I've been asked frequently in recent months has been, "What are you going to be working on?" I do know pastors who have used sabbaticals to write a book or conduct research. My answer has been a simple, "Not working."

For me, not working is going to be hard. I have been neglectful of my physical and spiritual health. I have failed to establish healthy boundaries of regular time off and have neglected time with family and time with God more than I care to admit. I love what I do, but I have developed unhealthy patterns that are not sustainable. So, it is time to hit the reset button on life and ministry. I will be spending time with family, friends, and Jesus. I will be meeting with a Spiritual Director and my counselor. I will go to my doctor, resume moving my body on a daily basis, and seek to establish healthier patterns of sleep. But my biggest need, and the most challenging task, will simply be not working.

So, please pray for me during this time of sabbatical. Pray that God may use it in whatever ways it may be most helpful to Him and His kingdom's work. Pray that I may experience greater health in every aspect of my life so that when I return to work in the new year, I can be a healthier and more effective leader. Thank you for your loving support. And, consider how God may be calling you to embrace your own journey to greater physical, spiritual, and emotional health.

faith and finances

Honor the Lord with your wealth
and with the best part of everything you produce.
Then he will fill your barns with grain,
and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCE GENERAL FUND MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

BEGINNING BALANCE: September 1, 2021	\$205,961.73
TOTAL GF RECEIPTS:	\$53,157.78
OPERATING EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	
Benevolence	5,185.77
Outreach	3,346.78
Youth & Children Ministries	137.84
Ministry Support	259.06
Worship Support	47.95
Office Support	1,215.31
Utilities	4,698.71
Supplies, Equip., Maintenance	5,841.44
Insurance	3,042.27
Miscellaneous Support	2,144.97
Staffing	25,074.47
TOTAL GF EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	\$50,994.57
ENDING BALANCE: September 30, 2021	\$208,124.94

Attendance

Our average weekly attendance
for October is 150.



<i>October Attendance</i>	
October 3 rd	147
October 10 th	153
October 17 th	150

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD.
In Everything Give Thanks!

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS SEPTEMBER BALANCES

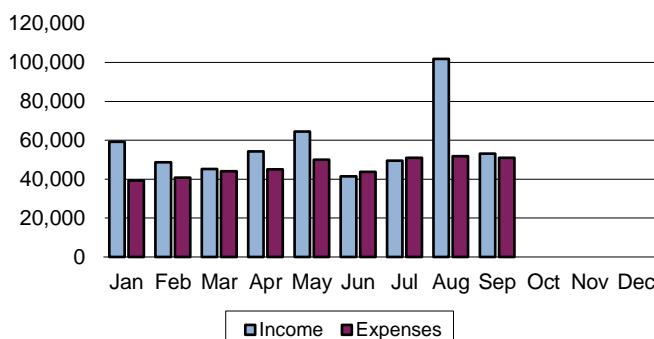
Building Maintenance Fund	7,272.55
Children's Ministry Fund	10,343.34
Helping Hands Fund	11,849.64
Youth Ministry Fund	10,690.26
Memorial Fund	3,890.55
OSLC Ministry Fund **	57,132.07
OSLC Mission Fund	1,439.57
Spiritual Formation Fund	2,573.86

Total Misc. Accts. \$105,191.84

** This fund consists of several small funds including:
Tabitha Quilting Ministry, Kitchen, ILT, Choir, Prayer
Garden, Grant activity & Food Pantry.



General Fund 2021 Income vs. Expenses



Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support helps our church continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

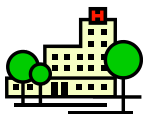
Thank you for your generous donation to VCAM. We appreciate your support of our ministry. We are truly grateful.

The Christian family would like to thank everyone for their prayers as our beloved Glenn joined the heavenly choir. He loved praising the Lord and sharing his voice and music. God bless you all.

I want to give a huge shout out to all the youth of OSLC that participated in the service on Youth Sunday. You were all awesome! Thank you to the parents....making sure they knew their parts and getting them to practice. I am so proud of you all. You are all an intricate part of OSLC. Pat DeDear

AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

If you have any information for AROUND THE CHURCH please call the church office.



With our prayers for a speedy recovery,
these folks were listed in the hospital:
Ada Stange



We extend our deepest sympathy to...
...EJ Raley & family on the loss of his
sister



Special Concerns:

All those we hold dear in our hearts that are
facing a battle for good health, mind and spirit.

Prayer is a strong wall
and fortress of the church;
it is a goodly Christian weapon.

~ Martin Luther

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4102 N. Ben Jordan
Victoria, TX 77901
361-575-4305 - Fax 361-575-8679
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 167
Victoria, TX 77901

FYI - CHURCH CONTACTS

Pastor – Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja
 Music Director – David Means
 Music Director – Amanda Christian
 CYF Director – Susan Woodson
 Financial Administrator – Sally Hersey
 Office Administrator – Gina Elliot
 Maintenance Custodian – Duane Hill
 Housekeeping Custodian – Holly Pogue

575-4305
 575-4305 ext. 7005
 575-4305 ext. 7002
 575-4305 ext. 7006
 575-4305 ext. 7001
 575-4305 ext. 7000

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President – Randy Clark
 Vice President – Darryl Kern
 Secretary – Marilyn Young
 Treasurer – Lynna Briggs

361-484-7285
 571-3614
 573-2829
 550-4477