

# Cross Connection

Growing together

March 2020



## Cross Lutheran Church & School

200 Ruppert Street  
Pigeon, MI 48755  
989-453-3330

www.crosslutheranpigeon.org  
www.crosslutheralschool.org  
Secretary  
@crosslutheranpigeon.org

### Our mission:

Bring people to  
Christ.

Teach Christians  
to be disciples.

Send disciples to  
reach the world.



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## Message from Pastor Glenn

From the Pastor's desk,

Everyone has had or will have some sort of a "mountain top" experience at least once in their lifetime. I'm talking about an event that takes your breath away. An event that has you wondering what else could ever be better than this moment. An event that makes you want to stop time right here, right now, and you would never search or want for anything more but this moment.



For the disciples, Peter, James, and John, his brother, one could say that they had experienced a 'mountain top' event both physically and spiritually in our Scripture reading located in Matthew 17 for Transfiguration Sunday. Especially Peter who must have felt that this experience was so wonderful that he said to Jesus in verse 4, "**Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, and one for Moses and one for Elijah.**" Could it have been that Peter wanted to stop time right then and there and just live on the mountain with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah? Quite possibly so, but what may seem like a perfect plan to us, looks very foolish to God. (1 Cor. 1:25)

What happened next will drop the disciples to their knees! "**...a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."** Upon hearing the voice of God, they fell on their faces and were terrified. "**But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise and have no fear.'**"

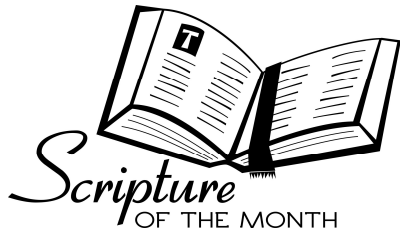
We as humans are always looking for that "mountain top" event. Once we believe we have found something that may seem to be the pinnacle of our life's work, we become squatters and want to claim our homestead, just like Peter. We may feel as though we've finally traveled up the rocky path to success and happiness, and now we can just forget about anything and everything around us. We no longer have the urge to move forward. We can plant the victory flag at the summit, set up our lawn chair, and live in that moment forever.

But time continues to move forward. Although we may have journeyed to the peak and wish to stay there, God has other plans. Yes, there will be a time when we must make the journey back down the mountain to reality; to the things that still need to be completed. Peter was happy on the mountain, but Jesus had many more miles to travel to complete His Father's Will. It would have been easier for Jesus to just stay on that mountain too, but in obedience to His Father, He was to journey on to Jerusalem. Not for Himself, but for us.

Maybe that is why this is a difficult time of the year for many to attend worship services during the Lenten Season. We have been on a high since

(Continued on page 2)

# Preparing for Worship at Cross



## Mar. 8 - Second Sunday of Lent

1R - Genesis 12:1-9  
P - 121  
2R - Romans 4:1-8,13-17  
G - John 3:1-17

## Mar. 22 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

1R - Isaiah 42:14-21  
P - Psalm 142  
2R - Ephesians 5:8-14  
G - John 9:1-41

## Mar. 1 - First Sunday of Lent

1R - Genesis 3:1-21  
P - Psalm 32:1-7  
2R - Romans 5:12-19  
G - Matthew 4:1-11

## Mar. 15 - Third Sunday in Lent

1R - Exodus 17:1-7  
P - Psalm 95:1-9  
2R - Romans 5:1-8  
G - John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)

## Mar. 29 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

1R - Ezekiel 37:1-14  
P - Psalm 130  
2R - Romans 8:1-11  
G - John 11:1-45(46-53)



Choirs will practice on **March 2nd, 9th, and 23rd.** Bells at 6:30 pm/Choir at 7:30 pm

**There will be NO practice on March 16th or 30th.**

**Music Palooza** will be Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m.



## **NEW MEMBER CLASSES**

will be offered again in March. Current members are also welcome to attend. Please contact the church office for dates and details.

*(Continued from page 1)*

Christmas and now we must begin the slow descent following Jesus only to watch Him die on the cross. We have to come down from the mountain top with the disciples and Jesus to continue to do the ministry that has been set before us. Christmas was the beginning of the journey. We must not see that as the highlight of the Church year.

Many have said that they do not like the Lenten Season and especially Holy Week. Some do not attend Maundy Thursday or Good Friday services because they are so dark and depressing. They leave the church service overshadowed by sadness. And so we fail to see the bright clouds overshadowing us. We fail to hear God's voice. We fail to hear the voice that says to us, **"Rise and have no fear."**

Our journey from the mountain to the procession to the cross leads us to the most wonderful event in the history of humankind. God's promise is fulfilled for us. The ultimate event is eternal life, which could only happen through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is a promise that we can only see clearly when we come down from high places and walk in valley of the shadow of death, into the dust that we will once again return.

Thanks be to God that He has promised something so wonderful that we can only see it by walking with Jesus to the cross. It is a long and difficult forty-day journey and its worth to us is not easily realized or seen until we reach Easter morning...

In Christ, Pastor Glenn

# Celebrate



## Birthdays

- 1 Robin Buschlen
- 3 Al Licht
- 4 Mark Fritz  
Larry Smith
- 5 Bonnie Schulz
- 6 Joshua Barry  
Peggy Licht  
Kevin Ohlrogge
- 7 Leanne Schuette  
Aaron Smith
- 8 Ben Smith  
Chad Sturm
- 9 Eleanor Schadd
- 12 Henry Lange Jr.
- 13 Joshua Kunisch
- 14 Ray Licht
- 16 Kolton Smith  
Haidyn Krzeszewski
- 17 June Sturm
- 21 Raylene Henkelmann
- 22 Alissa Peterson
- 24 Gary Schulz  
Emily Sturm
- 25 Emalee Fritz  
Wesley Trowbridge

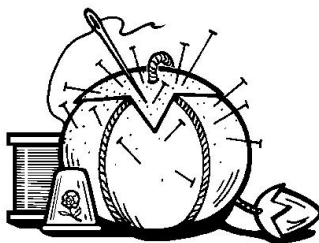
- 26 Terry Collison
- 27 Nicholas Trost
- 28 Lonnie Schulz
- 29 Martin Knost
- 29 Jim Licht
- 30 Jeff Buchholz

- Roberta Danks
- Olga Renn
- Kobain Smith

## Anniversaries

3/13 Blaine & Erin Buchholz, 9 years

## QUILTERS CORNER



Quilters will meet on Wednesday, March 11th @ 1 p.m.

Jean Quilts will meet on Thursday, March 5th and Thursday, March 19th from 1-4:30 p.m. in the church overflow.



On March 11th from 1:30 to 3:30 we will begin a new Bible Study titled *Walking Together* - a Bible study on the importance of fellowship in our lives as disciples of Christ. This is a nine session study. Contact Leanne Smith, 989-553-4241 if you would like a study guide. You are always welcome to "walk together" with us.

### Remember our Shut-ins:

Fred Edler, Elaine Licht, Ruth Schuette, Martin Knost, & Eunice Richmond.

### Please Remember in Prayer:

Bill Gray (father of Lisa Gray), Elsie Trowbridge, Tiffany Swartzendruber, Allen Koehler, Mary Champion, sister of Betty Licht, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm, Kim Edler (daughter-in-law of Gerry Edler, Clark Eidt, Deann Lewis, Hope Kittel (niece of Carol Diener), Marilyn Blunt (mother of Laura Trost), Margaret McBride, & Robert Krzeszewski.

### In the Service of Our Country:

Nathan Schulz stationed at Piqua, OH and Ryan Schulz who has been deployed Both are Marines and sons of Lonnie Schulz and grandsons of Ron and Bonnie Schulz. Nichiolas Swanson stationed at the Air Force base in Colorado Springs, CO. He is the son of Randy & Suzie Swanson and grandson of Nancy Schuette.



# School News

## MARCH CALENDAR



### 2-6 Lutheran School Week

- 3 Vision & Hearing screening
- 4 Chapel 8:15 am
- 5 CEA 4:45 pm
- 5 School Board 5:30 pm
- 6 Splash Village trip
- 11 Chapel 8:15 am
- 15 Students sing in church
- 18 Chapel 8:15 am
- 20 End of 3rd grading period (Full day of school)
- 21 Mother/Son Fun night
- 25 Chapel 8:15 am
- 26 Music Palooza 7 pm
- 30 Spring Break - NO school
- 31 Spring Break - NO school

## From the Desk of ... Gwynne Barry

There's always a lot going on at Cross Lutheran School!

My classroom has just finished an interactive unit called "Discovery". It was a simulation of early American Colonization. The class was divided into four groups and the end goal was to accumulate the most wealth units. Each group had to decide why they were colonizing, pack their ship, decide where they would land, how they would interact with

Native Americans and other colonies, and how their population would be assigned various jobs so their colony would survive. There was trading, attacking, farming, fishing, and hunting. Cards were drawn for each round and detailed records were kept. The cards drawn presented situations the colonists may have encountered in real life, ie: wolves ate the day's catch, winter storms prevented hunting and men were lost, farming was good and each farmer produced 25 units of food. The students also kept a journal of their day's activities. Cooperation, patience, problem solving, and common sense were life skills practiced during the unit.

Coming up in March we will be celebrating Lutheran Schools Week and March is Reading Month. Cross Lutheran School will be represented at the state robotics tournament on March 1. The students will be presenting their gifts of art and music during Music Palooza on March 26.

There's always a lot going on at Cross Lutheran School!

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Colossians 3:17*

We truly do give thanks for all the opportunities to serve Him!

In His love,  
Gwynne Barry



# March Time & Talents—2020

Date & Time	Assisting Minister	Reader	Youth Message	Comm. Assist.	Ushers for the Month	Altar Guild	Acolyte
Mar. 1 9:30 a.m.	Gwynne Barry	Gwynne Barry	Pastor Glenn	Karen Schuette	George Gardy, Neil Herford, Al Licht, Denny Smith, Larry Smith, John Trowbridge	Jeanne Sting	Caden Carriveau
Mar. 8 7:00 p.m.	Phil Schadd	Connie Eden	Pastor Glenn	Paul Schuette		Jacque Finneren	Grant Buchholz
Mar. 15 9:30 a.m.	Paul Schuette	Barb Degg	Pastor Glenn	John Trowbridge		Carol Diener	Zac Trost
Mar. 22 9:30 a.m.	Gwynne Barry	Paul Schuette	Gwynne Barry	Carole Mead		LuAnne Sokolowski	Grace Shupe
Mar. 29 9:30 a.m.	Karen Schuette	Karen Schuette	Rachel Higgins	Phil Schadd		Jean Sturm	Grace Shupe

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE AS SCHEDULED, PLEASE CONTACT A SUBSTITUTE.** If unable to find anyone, please contact me at (989) 453-2744. Thanks and God's Blessings to you! Karen Schuette

**USHERS PLEASE NOTE:** Unlock doors, turn on lights, and sound system, then lock and turn off lights, etc. to close up the church. THANKS!

## WHAT IS SCRIP?

They are ordinary gift cards which can be used just like cash at restaurants or to purchase groceries, gas, gifts, etc. We buy them at a discount. That discount is how the school earns money for tuition. You can help by ordering Scrip cards for the things you will spend money on. Order forms are at the mailboxes in the overflow area.



## Women's & Men's Group Schedules

**Women's Bible Study** will meet Wednesday, Mar. 11 at 1:30 p.m.

**Men's Bible Study** will meet Tuesday, Mar. 3 and Mar. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

**Mission/Outreach** will meet on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.

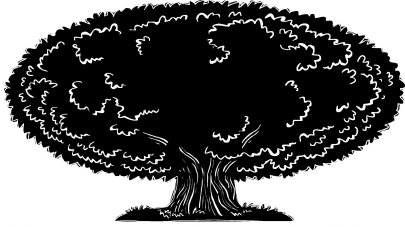
**Parish Life** will meet Tuesday, March 3 at 4 p.m.

**Women of Faith** will meet Saturday, March 7 from 10-11 am



# Memorials & Notes

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## Memorial Gifts

These gifts were received to the glory of God in memory or honor of the following people:

**In memory of Larry Chojnowski, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Bill & Muriel Hurdelbrink

**In memory of Jim Yackle, for Cross Building fund:**

Sheila Yackle

**In memory of Ivan McLaren, for Cross Building fund:**

Sheila Yackle

**In memory of Gloria Lewis, for Cross Building fund:**

Sheila Yackle

Shirley Deering

**In memory of Gloria Lewis, for Cross Lutheran School:**

Tom & Bernice Shupe

**In memory of Gloria Lewis, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Dorothy Thuemmel

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**Daylight Savings begins on March 8th!**



## MISSION OUTREACH MINISTRY MINUTES

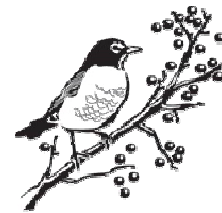
February 4, 2020

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Lorraine LePage, who led us in prayer. Those present were Lorraine LePage, Krisie Fritz, Tonja Nelson, Nancy Heck, LuAnne Sokolowski and Connie Eden. The minutes of the January 7, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved. There was no Treasurer's Report.

**BUSINESS:** Lorraine distributed copies of the Mission/Outreach annual report, which listed the various projects and activities of this ministry in 2019. During the month of February we are having a Food Pantry drive to help restock the Pigeon Food Pantry. Posters have been placed in the newsletter, will be in weekly bulletins and on Facebook. Interested members of Cross are invited to attend the annual meeting of the Pigeon Food Pantry on March 10 at the First United Methodist Church. Welcome Bags, consisting of a cloth tote bag, church cookbook, church pen, note pad, picture postcard of the church, scripture card and hard candy were distributed to 10 new members of Cross on February 2. LuAnne brought a sample information packet for visitors that is used in a local church. We will be working on putting a similar packet together for visitors at Cross. New church pens have been ordered, and samples of

other promotional items will be brought to the next meeting. Scrip Cards will be sold the first Sunday of each month. Krisie and LuAnne will sell them on March 1. Mission Outreach will serve at coffee hours on February 16 (Group 1), March 8 (Group 2), May 3 (Group 1), September 13 (Group 2), October 11 (Group 1), and November 8, 2020 (Group 2). Group 1 is Lorraine, Tonja, Lori and Krisie. Group 2 is Kay, Connie, Nancy, LuAnne and Rachel. **OTHER:** LuAnne reported that the Parish Life Ministry voted at their meeting today to pay \$10 each to the Youth Ministry for the church cookbooks that were part of the Welcome Bags for new members. She also reported that plans are underway for a new Photo Directory for the church which Parish Life is willing to oversee. **ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be held on March 3, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Eden, Secretary

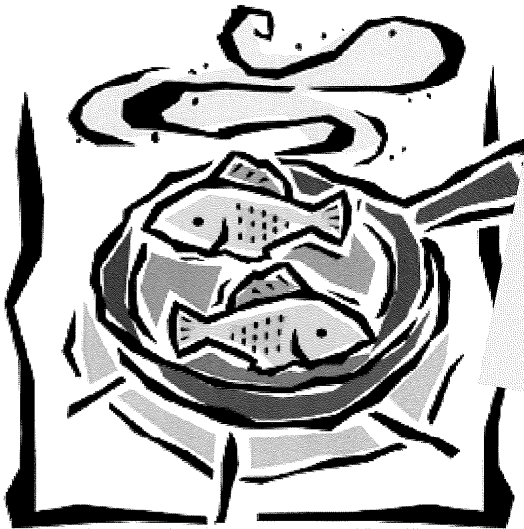


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**March 20th**  
**First day of Spring!**

## It's time for the Fish Fry!

Mark Your calendars!! The Fish Fry at Cross will be Friday, March 13th. We will need lots of Help! If you have not signed up, the sheets are on the welcome desk at church. Please consider working a shift, bringing a dessert, or helping in some way. Looking forward to working together on the Thrivent sponsored project. Joy in the Journey, Leanne Smith 989-553-4241

# Fish Fry



**Friday,  
March 13  
5 to 7:30 p.m.**

All You Can Eat Fish, Fries, Beans, Baked Potatoes, Roll, Cole Slaw, Desserts and Beverage.

Adults: \$**10** Kids 5-12: \$**6**

Under 5: **Free**

## **Cross Lutheran Church**

200 Ruppert Street, Pigeon  
This is a Thrivent Financial Sponsored Event.

Proceeds will support Cross Lutheran Church  
and School.

**Take outs  
Available!**

## PARISH LIFE

**February 4, 2020**

The meeting opened with devotions by Betty and LuAnne had a prayer.

Members present: Alice Trost, Betty Grimaldi, LuAnne Sokolowski, Paul Schuette, Nancy Schuette and guest Zac Trost.

Betty showed us a Welcome packet from a Methodist church in Caseville. It contained some very helpful items and thought Cross could use something like that. LuAnne will take it to Mission/Outreach as it would be a project for them.

Nancy reported \$176.30 in the treasury after expenses of \$17.48.

Parish Life will host coffee hour February 9th after the Annual meeting, cookies and drinks will be served.

The next Women of Faith will meet March 7th in the overflow area.

LuAnne and Nancy took care of nametags for New Member Sunday. Parish Life will pay for the Cross Cookbooks given in the Welcome bags prepared by Mission/Outreach.

Parish Life will host potluck meals each Wednesday during Lent at 5:30 p.m. before Lenten services.

We discussed a new church directory will need a committee to look into it. We discussed the possibility of having our own photographers take pictures and having Steve Schulze make a photo book. Our church software could set up photos.

The meeting closed at 5:00 with The Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be March 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Schuette

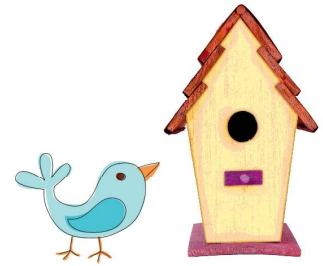


3/1	1st Sunday of Lent 9:30 am
3/4	Wednesday Potluck 5:30 pm Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
3/8	2nd Sunday of Lent 9:30 am
3/11	Wednesday Potluck 5:30 pm Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
3/15	3rd Sunday of Lent 9:30 am
3/18	Wednesday Potluck 5:30 pm Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
3/22	4th Sunday of Lent 9:30 am
3/25	Wednesday Potluck 5:30 pm Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
3/29	5th Sunday of Lent 9:30 am
4/1	Wednesday Potluck 5:30 pm Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
4/5	Palm Sunday 9:30 am
4/9	Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm
4/10	Good Friday 6:30 pm
4/12	Comm. Easter Sunrise 7 am Comm. Easter 10 am



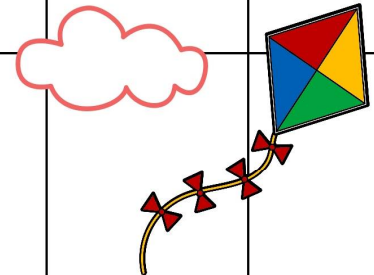


# March 2020



Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

<b>Comm.Serv. 1</b> 9:30 am SS 9 am AdultBbStudy/ Coffee hr 10:45	<b>Lutheran Schools Week 2</b> NO Choirs 	<b>Hearing/ Vision testing 3</b>  Parish Life 4 pm Men's Bible & Mission/Outreach 6:30 pm	<b>Chapel 8:15 am 4</b>  <b>Potluck 5:30 p Service 6:30 p</b>	<b>Jean Quilts 5</b> 1-4:30 pm  CEA 4:45 pm School Board 5:30 pm	<b>Splash Village Trip 6</b>	<b>Women of Faith 7</b> 10 - 11 am
<b>Comm. Serv. 8</b> 9:30 am SS 9 am Adult Bb Study/ Coffee hr 10:45  Daylight Savings Time begins	<b>Stewardship 9</b> 5:30 pm  Choirs: Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>10</b>  Executive 6 pm Council 7 pm	<b>Chapel 8:15 am 11</b> Quilters 1 pm Women's Bible 1:30 pm  <b>Potluck 5:30 p Service 6:30 p</b>	<b>Altar Guild 10:30 am 12</b>	<b>FISH FRY 13</b> 5 - 7:30 pm  	<b>14</b>
<b>Comm. Serv 15</b> 9:30 am SS 9 am Students Sing Adult Bb Study/ Coffee hr 10:45	<b>16</b>  NO Choirs	<b>17</b> Men's Bible 6:30 pm  Meet & Greet 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<b>Chapel 8:15 am 18</b>  <b>Potluck 5:30 p Service 6:30 p</b>	<b>19</b>  Jean Quilts 1-4:40 pm	<b>1st day of Spring! 20</b>  End of 3rd grading period <b>Full day of school</b>	<b>21</b>  Mother/Son Fun night
<b>Comm. Serv. 22</b> 9:30 am SS 9 am Adult Bb Study/ Coffee hr 10:45	<b>23</b> Newsletter deadline  Choirs: Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>Chapel 8:15 am 25</b>  <b>Potluck 5:30 p Service 6:30 p</b>	<b>26</b>  Music Palooza 7 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Comm. Serv 29</b> 9:30 am SS 9 am Adult Bb Study/ Coffee hr 10:45	<b>NO SCHOOL Spring Break 30</b>  NO Choirs	<b>NO SCHOOL Spring Break 31</b>	<b>Open Gym Every Sunday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b>			



**Officers, Ministries & Committees**

**Pastor** – Glenn Sokolowski  
**Music Director** - Beth Elston

**Church Council**

Mike LePage, President  
Gretchen Roestel, V P  
Krisie Fritz, Secretary  
Nancy Heck, Treasurer  
Gretchen Roestel, School Bd.  
Kent McKenzie, Trustee  
Norm Nelson, Trustee  
Nancy Schuette, Trustee  
Cory Messing, Trustee  
Steve Schulze, Trustee

**Advisors**

Paul Schuette, Constitution Rep.

**Ministry of Properties**

Corey Messing, Chair  
Mike Eden  
Paul Schuette

**Ministry of Worship & Music**

Barb Degg, Chair  
Peg McCrimmon  
Beth Elston  
Karen Schuette  
Mike Sting

**Ministry of Mission /**

**Outreach**

Lorraine LePage, Chair  
Krisie Fritz, Council Rep.  
Connie Eden  
Rachel Messing  
Kay Schuette  
Tonja Nelson  
Lori Smith  
Nancy Heck  
LuAnne Sokolowski

**Ministry of Stewardship**

Norm Nelson, Chair

Carol Diener  
Raylene Henkelmann  
Paul Schuette  
June Sturm  
Cindy Buchholz

**Ministry of Education**

Jean Sturm, Chair  
Gretchen Roestel  
June Sturm  
Kim Delpiere

**Ministry of Youth**

Tim & Michelle Fritz, Chair

**Ministry of Parish Life**

Nancy Schuette, Chair  
Betty Grimaldi  
Pam Sturm  
Alice Trost  
Paul Schuette  
LuAnne Sokolowski

**Audit Committee**

Donna Schuette  
Denny Smith  
Raylene Henkelmann  
Dorothy Thuemmel  
Mike LePage  
Connie Herford

**Nominating Committee**

Rachel Higgins  
Lori McKenzie  
Trevor Carriveau  
Eileen Johnson  
Betty Grimaldi  
Barbara Degg

**Synod Assembly Rep –**

Norm & Tonja Nelson

**School Board**

Gretchen Roestel, President  
Vicki Yackle, Vice-President  
Robbi Shaffer, Secretary  
Nicole Shupe, Treasurer  
April Rujan, CEA President

**C.E.A**

April Rujan-President  
Lori Trost-Vice President  
Marcine Moore -Secretary  
Nicole Shupe -Treasurer

**Handy Helper Ministry**

Karen Anklam	551-8265
Marilyn Baur	550-8875
Patty Cucinello	453-3589
Barbara Degg	856-2678
Delores Elftman	453-2679
Pat Elston	453-2409
Carol Forster	375-2754
Vickie Forster	553-3875
Rachel Higgins	975-0668
Peggy Licht	975-1963
Lori McKenzie	553-3582
Marcine Moore	550-9405
Carol Schadd	550-5150
Donna Schuette	375-4328
Karen Schuette	453-2744
Nancy Schuette	453-3969
Bonnie Schulz	453-3116
Alice Trost	453-2279
Laura Trost	453-3209
Brigid Trowbridge	453-3990
Donna Wheeler	453-3712
Sheila Yackle	453-2589

**Please let the office know of any changes to these Ministries and Committees.**

*Updated 2/10/2020*

*(Officers, Ministries & Committees)*