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# GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING IN CHRIST ✝ SHARING HIS LOVE

**THE GLORION**

**June, 2021**

[www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)

**IN CASE OF PASTORAL EMERGENCY**

**Contact the office during regular office hours:**

**9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**After office hours contact:**

**Pastor Edward Barnett 516-610-6676**

**Bill Birdsall – 732-773-2680**

**ADDRESS: 130 S. Lone Oak Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748**

**OFFICE PHONE: (352)787-3223**

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**WEB SITE: [www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)**

**FAX (352)787-7597**

**OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday-9:00-4:00 PM**

**PASTOR: REV. EDWARD BARNETT**

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**

**OFFICE MANAGER: MARY BETH MORRIS**

**SEXTON: TINA JANOSA**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP – 9:30 A.M**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, my new flock at Gloria Dei,

I'm writing this to you from New York as I pack up. I've been saying goodbye for the past month or more to the good Christians of St. Peter's, Baldwin; while getting ready to spend a half year or more saying hello to you. I'm getting to know people slowly even from up North. I must however apologize. My suggested "friends" on Facebook has been exploding with many of you. Please forgive me as I have not done a whole lot of "friending" there due to my busy-ness.

I'm already working. I've been doing a few things, especially related to my inaugural liturgy with you on Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. I'm sure you're very excited about it, as am I. At the same time, it's scary. Anytime that a new pastor begins his/her ministry in a place, that key element of praying together around Word and Sacrament feels odd. Finding a "groove" with each other of course takes time. This is super complicated by the unheard-of experience coming back to corporate "in-person" worship for the first time in over a year! There will still be some COVID protocols to be observed, I'm sure. We're still discussing and planning them.

I covet your prayers. I'm praying for you already. You don't know me very well. I don't know you very well either. I look forward to the journey into each other's lives. What we will be, pastor and people together, is something that we have not yet discovered. What God has in the future for us together has not yet been revealed. I'm looking forward to it.

Let me leave you with a blessing of St. Paul's from Ephesians 3:

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.  
Amen.

The Rev. Edward G. Barnett, 15<sup>th</sup> Pastor

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Members or friends hospitalized or had surgery in May: Anne Rusk, Taeko Mincer,

***Please note: When being admitted to the hospital, please indicate “Lutheran” or “Gloria Dei” when asked about your religion. It helps our visitation team members know who is hospitalized so that visits can be arranged.***

### PRAYERS

We will pray for the joys, sorrows, and concerns of the following members  
**June:**

- 06/06** John & Janet Braun, Doug & Pat Bressler, Craig & Christine Carlson, Ritch & Debbie Cassem, Ed & Peg Chandler
- 06/13** Charlotte Christensen, Josephine Cichoracki, Michael & cj Clarke, John & JoAn Cleary, Lynn Crane
- 06/20** Richard & Marilyn Czuprynski, Joan Davis, Milton & Carolyn DeLong, Ruby Dettman, Judy Eads
- 06/27** Jerry & Julie Eld, Martha Ellis, Fred & Marlene Farris, Carol Figi, Jim & Jayne Gable

### GREAT NEWS!

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is going back to in-person worship services starting Sunday June 13 at 9:30 a.m. This will be Pastor Barnett’s first service with Gloria Dei.** People who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to attend without masks. Those who have not been vaccinated will be required to submit to a temperature screening, will be required to wear a mask, and observe social distancing. There will be a separate section set aside for those who have not been vaccinated. There will be no limit to the number of attendees.

### MEN’S BREAKFAST

To All the Men of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,  
This is just a reminder we have Men’s Breakfast every Friday morning at 8:30 a.m at the H.P. Grill in Leesburg. Please join us for fellowship.

Art Zerbel

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/02	Darby Walbon & Karen Schaefer	9 years
06/07	Brian & Karen Mundy	41 years
06/28	Mike & cj Clarke	41 years

*\*Special congratulations to these couples who have celebrated fifty or more years of marriage.*

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/01	June Rieb	06/06	Marilyn Wahl
06/07	Jean Heitz	06/08	Don Ames
06/08	Barb Lias	06/08	Julian Menchaca
06/09	Marva Tetting	06/14	Mary Greer
06/23	Janet Bauer	06/23	Michael Stewart
06/25	Nancy Vogel	06/28	Leone Goding
06/28	Martha Holleran	06/30	Diane Wasser

## MEDIA TEAM

**CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE AT: [www.gloriadeielca.com](http://www.gloriadeielca.com)**

The church website is where you will find the latest information about church events. The homepage contains the link for our online worship services, pictures of the latest Joining Hands food distribution, and other current information.

The Member Access page is a secure area just for our disciples. Here you can view the church directory, volunteer for Worship Ministries, or make a Worship Donation. The Giving page makes it easy for you to make donations using Tithe.ly, a funds collection application.

These are just a few of the many reasons to visit the website. If you have information or pictures to share, please contact Paityn Miller at [m.paityn@yahoo.com](mailto:m.paityn@yahoo.com)

## **SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

Social Ministries Committee met on May 20 and discussed out projects.

Joe met with the liaison from Leesburg Elementary and she advised they would need uniforms for the approximately 20 homeless children. He will be scouting the stores to get the best price and the committee has authorized him \$500. He said anything more he would cover, however, we did advise him that our committee would have the Church cover it.

Linda Steege requested we give our donations to Haven House, which is across the street from the Salvation Army. They are open now and would accept things in their thrift shop to use or sell.

Below is the information we received from Oasis @ Lowell Correctional Institute for women. Please give it some thought and maybe you could make a difference in someone's life.

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 17 at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Our new Pastor, Pastor Barnett, advised he will attend. We are looking forward to his input.

Leone Goding, Chair

The next social ministries meeting is on Thursday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.
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### **New Ministry Opportunity**

HOPE Letters is a correspondence mentoring ministry under the umbrella of The Oasis at LCI. While the majority of the ministries of the Oasis are done in-person, HOPE Letters offers a way for any woman – regardless of where she lives – to be able to make a significant impact on the life of an incarcerated woman.

After reading some training material and watching a short training video, a new mentor is ready to write! Mentors write letters of love, hope, and encouragement. They share scriptures. They pray for their mentee, and make sure she knows it! They share their lives (without disclosing their full name or location) in a way that is meaningful and life-giving to a woman living in a very barren and hopeless atmosphere.

(New Ministry cont'd)

The mentor writes to her new friend directly to the prison in Ocala using her name and prison number. The mentee writes back to her mentor through a PO Box that Pastor Kris monitors. Pastor Kris will pick up your letter, scan it in to a .pdf format, and email you your letter. Then you're ready to write again. Most mentors write about 2x a month.

If you would be willing to offer this gesture of love and hope to a woman desperately needing a kind voice in her life, please email PastorKrisLCI2comcast.net or call her at 302-363-5351. This ministry continues to grow, so continue to need more and more mentors. We are always in recruiting mode! So please share this with your Christian family and friends, your church, your home group, and anyone else who is willing to share her faith journey with a woman in prison. You will be so GLAD you did!

*Salvation Army Thank-You letter to Gloria Dei Lutheran:*

Dear Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,

We are so thankful for your support during 2020. Because of your faithfulness, the Salvation Army was able to provide for the needs of thousands of men, women and children who are living on the margin of life or have found themselves in a crisis. They are in need of food, lodging, Thanksgiving meal and Christmas assistance as well as other emergency help.

Children come to us throughout the year for afterschool and summer day camp programs. They are fed, tutored, and have a great time learning how to respect others, growing in knowledge and personal relationships and just have a great time together.

We want to recognize you with your 2020 plate to put on your perpetual plaque. The faithful efforts of your congregation have been a wonderful blessing to so many in our community.

On behalf of all those that benefitted from your church's generosity, please accept our heartfelt "Thanks"!

We look forward to working together in serving the most vulnerable in our community throughout 2021.

I would be happy to thank your congregation in person and let them know how our Christian love of giving is demonstrated in the lives of people throughout our community. Feel free to contact me at any time. My email is [marie.harris@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:marie.harris@uss.salvationarmy.org) and cell is 570-974-9192.

Sincerely, Marie Harris, Major, PR/Volunteer Coordinator

## JHIFM (JOINING HANDS IN FOOD MINISTRY)

On this beautiful May morning 28 volunteers from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg, and from around our local community joined hands to feed 390 individuals from 110 local families a total of 9,316 pounds of food. WOW! To put that in perspective that is nearly 24 pounds of food for each individual, or about 143 pounds of food for a family of six! Joining Hands in Food Ministry (JHIFM) thanks its volunteers and financial supporters (private, corporate and government) for their support without which we would be unable to operate our monthly free food distributions. JHIFM is a certified 501(c)(3) public charity, and we are an authorized partner agency of Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. JHIFM is an equal opportunity food provider that holds its monthly free food distributions from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM on the second Friday of each month at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 130 S. Lone Oak Drive, Leesburg, Florida. For regular reminders of our monthly free food distributions "LIKE" and "FOLLOW" us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/feedinghopenow/](https://www.facebook.com/feedinghopenow/).

Ritch Cassem

### JHIFM LIFTING COVID RESTRICTIONS

Effective with its June 11<sup>th</sup> food distribution Joining Hands in Food Ministry (JHIFM) is removing all COVID-19 protocols for those volunteers who are fully vaccinated. We also encourage "walk-in" volunteers to join us as we are a bit short-handed due to many of our snowbirds being absent. It would be helpful if you could contact one of the following team leaders to notify them that you will be in attendance. Team leaders will notify me if they are fully staffed, and I will find a position for you.

Parking/Traffic Control Team	Bob Glockler
Registration Team	Beth Malak
Mailroom Bagging Team	Crystal Kirkpatrick
Sunday School Room Bagging Team	Linda Steege
Car Loading Team	Pat Heimbach
Family Bag Distribution Team	Rollie Heimbach
Box Breakdown (Recycle) Team	Andy Mincer

Our June 11<sup>th</sup> food distribution is going to be one our biggest ever as we have a surplus of food to distribute. Please consider joining us!

Thank You, Ritch Cassem  
JHIFM COO



*Thank you letter to Joining Hands in Food Ministry*

Dear JHIFM:

I am writing this letter with a help from a friend. I have been asked to share with you the importance of the food I receive from your program each month. I am a single mother of 3 boys, ages 13 to 21. I currently receive \$300/month in food stamps. I am not employed at this time, due to medical issues.

I had some paperwork I didn't complete timely for the Florida state food stamp program several months back. The benefit was cut off temporarily. If I had not received the food from your pantry, there would have been nothing for my family to eat during this time. The benefits were restored and I am grateful for what I receive, both from the state and your organization.

I am a positive person. I have learned how to cook different foods that I would not have normally cooked. The program provided us with dried beans. I never really cooked with them. However, I have hence learned and they have been very tasty. I am grateful for the rice given in bulk. I have received snacks such as chips or cookies. These items are treats and I normally would not be able to purchase on my budget.

I am very thankful for the food. It is a gift. I have made new friends through the program as well.

## FINANCIAL CORNER GENERAL FUND

### GENERAL FUND

	<b>April, 2021</b>	<b>Year to date 2021</b>
Contributions	\$17,818.74	\$71,309.13
Expenditures	\$15,941.58	\$67,101.22

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

	4/01/2021	Donations	Expenditures	Ending 4/30/21
Elementary School	119.80	0	0	119.80
Oak Park Middle	82.22	0	0	82.22
Coffee Project	525.58	0	525.58	0
Thrivent Choice \$	2,263.04	1,675.00	0	3,938.04
Basket Social	282.51	0	0	282.51
Eternal Light	535.00	0	0	535.00
Fellowship	202.19	0	5.99	196.20
JHIF	0	50.00	50.00	0
World Hunger	0	137.00	137.00	0
ELCA	0	130.00	130.00	0
Flowers	( 80.00)	0	0	(80.00)
Altar wine/bread	132.79	0	0	132.79
Tree/Landscaping	(209.96)	0	0	(209.96)
Be Prepared	18,037.35	0	0	18,037.35
AV Equipment	12,191.04	0	3,842.85	8,348.19
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$34,081.56</b>	<b>1,992.00</b>	<b>4,691.42</b>	<b>\$31,382.14</b>

## **Council Corner for June 2021**

### **By William Birdsall, Council president**

It is now less than two weeks before we resume in person church services at Gloria Dei on Sunday, June 13 at 9:30 a.m. and that will feel good! I know how much we have all missed worshipping together, seeing each other and just being in church. Well, not only are we ready, but so is our church, but most importantly, so is Pastor Barnett! I talk regularly with the Pastor, and he is so anxious to move into his new home here in Florida and get to work. There are so many things we could not do in person at the church and for our missions during these last 15 months, therefore we have a lot of work ahead of us and I know Pastor Barnett is ready to lead us into the future.

The Church Council as well as the Executive Committee have been meeting monthly to conduct church business and starting this month the Council minutes will be included in the Glorion so we can keep the congregation informed. We are still short one Council member, so please consider serving as we would appreciate additional input when making decisions. Contact any Council member if you are interested.

This last month we added new lighting to the front of the church to light up the entrance at night. What a difference this has made, now you can really see the front entrance in the evening, and the lights also shine on the cross at the top of the steeple. We also will be replacing the front porch lights with new LED light fixtures to add to the lighting security and brighten the porch and door. We have discovered that our false alarms at the front door were due to a short in the alarm circuit and that has been corrected.

As I am sure you know, Paul Moto, our organist, has retired from Gloria Dei and we wish him all the best. With the help of Pastor Barnett, the Worship and Music committee is searching for a new organist/choir director. In the meantime, Pastor Barnett has secured an organist for the 13<sup>th</sup>, our 1<sup>st</sup> inhouse service in over a year.

Some time within the next three months we will be scheduling a retreat with the congregation. The purpose of this retreat is to develop healthy relationships in order to promote a healthy congregation. We will provide more information on this in the future. We will also be forming a transition team that will work closely with the pastor and the congregation to shape and support the development of this new ministry.

*Bill*

## JUNE CALENDAR

Sun.	6/6	Online Sunday Worship
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>6/8</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>6/11</b>	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill <b>9:30-11:30 a.m. Joining Hands in Food Ministry</b>
Sun.	6/13	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>6/17</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Social Ministries Meeting</b>
Fri.	6/18	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>6/20</b>	9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>
Fri.	6/25	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast @ H.P. Grill
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>6/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship-Hunger Offering</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>6/29</b>	<b>GLORION DEADLINE-<u>JULY &amp; AUGUST</u>**</b>

\*Bolded items occur once a month.

\*\*Typical summer months called for a combined July/August Glorion, since meetings are on hiatus.

## **Minutes of the Gloria Dei Congregation Council**

Wednesday, 26 May 2021, 10:00 am

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by President Bill Birdsall.

### **Roll Call:**

Present: - Bill Birdsall, Craig Carlson, Linda Hide, Arlene Kelly, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Jan Rudolph, Linda Steege, Diane Wasser, (Sue Johnson, Irv Johnson -disciple attendees)

#### **I. Promise**

The Covenant Promises were recited by the Council. Linda Steege suggested shortening the promises. Linda Steege will work with Craig to condense the promises.

#### **II. Adoption of Agenda** – Motion by Arlene to adopt the revised agenda, second by Jan. **Motion carried.**

#### **III. Minutes of Previous Meetings** – Minutes of the 7 April 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Linda Steege, second by Crystal. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of the 14 April 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Arlene, second by Jan. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of the 25 April 2021 congregational meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Jan, second by Craig. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of the 3 May 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Craig, second by Jan. **Motion carried.**

#### **IV. Correspondence and Communications** – Bill reported that he received a letter from Pastor Edward Barnett, accepting the call to serve Gloria Dei.

V. **Unfinished Business –**

- A. Resumption of In-person Sunday Services – Bill reported that resumption of regular services will begin on Sunday, 13 June 2021. This will be Pastor Barnett's first service with Gloria Dei. People who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to attend without masks. Those who have not been vaccinated will be required to submit to a temperature screening, will be required to wear a mask, and observe social distancing. There will be a separate section set aside for those who have not been vaccinated. There will be no limit to the number of attendees.

Bill will contact Pastor Barnett to confirm the time of the service. After the service, we will have fellowship outside to welcome Pastor Barnett. Crystal will ask members to donate individually wrapped cookies. Crystal will contact Ritch Cassem to request the use of the JHIFM canopies for this event.

No date has been set for Pastor Barnett's installation. Bill is waiting to hear from Connie Schmucker regarding this date.

- B. Update on Recording System, Installation of Screen and Control Booth – Sue and Irv Johnson reported that the screen originally purchased for this system is too large for the sanctuary and creates a problem for the video projector placement. The screen and projector will be returned and we will purchase TVs to replace the screen. A TV will also be installed in the fellowship hall. Bill is working on the control booth and expects it to be ready for the 13 June service. Bill will have Mary Beth put an article in the Glorion explaining the details of these changes to the members of Gloria Dei.
- C. Update on Roof Repairs – Bill reported that Eustis Roofing has completed the inspection of the roof and is waiting on their report. Bill will contact Eustis Roofing regarding the necessary repairs.
- D. Replacement Organist Update – Bill reported that Pastor Barnett has obtained an organist (Carolyn Gugliel) for the 13 June service. Crystal will work with Pastor Barnett to develop a job description for a new organist. Once this is complete, Paityn Miller (webmaster) will share it on social media. Jan suggested contacting the local colleges for a possible organist to temporarily fill in.

- E. Status of New Building for JHIFM – Bill met with Ritch Cassem and Rollie Heimbach regarding additional space needed to store food for JHIFM. Ritch and Rollie are working on a plan with Corbin Construction (Forrest Berg’s son-in-law) for a new building of approximately 1000 sq feet to be located in the rear parking lot. Bill suggested approaching Morgan & Morgan Law Firm and Amazon for funding for this building. Arlene reported that JHIFM also has funds to spend on this. Arlene reported that First Presbyterian will also be contacted regarding funding, since JHIFM is a joint venture between Gloria Dei and First Presbyterian. Bill will work on scheduling a joint meeting with JHIFM and Gloria Dei Council to discuss details.

**VI. New Business –**

- A. Alarm System Repairs – Bill reported that the alarm has been set off numerous times during the night and the police have been called out. The alarm company completed an inspection and determined there was a short in the system. This has now been repaired.
- B. JHIFM and Corvette Club Poker Run Fund Raiser – Bill reported that this was a success and has raised \$325 for JHIFM.
- C. Proposal to Organize Classic Car Show in Parking Lot as an Evangelism Committee Event – Bill suggested that we organize a car show in fall and invite the various committees at Gloria Dei to participate. He suggested selling hot dogs and hamburgers (Fellowship), an entry fee of a bag of food (JHIFM), quilt auction (Quilters), blessing of cars, short communion service. Discussion will continue at future meetings.
- D. Painting of Pastor’s Office – Bill reported that the Pastor’s office will be painted light gray before he begins serving Gloria Dei. Date to be determined. Arlene & John Kelly, and Linda Steege offered to help paint, and Craig Carlson offered to bring supplies.

**VII. Reports –**

- A. Pastor –
- B. President – Bill reported on numerous items throughout the meeting as noted in the minutes.
- C. Vice President – Nothing to report.
- D. Treasurer – Linda reported that contributions continue to be down, although we are still in the black. Major expenses are being paid from the capital expenses fund instead of the general fund.

VII. Committees/Task Forces –

1. Evangelism/Technology and Communications/Webmaster – Bill Birdsall
2. Fellowship – Jan Rudolph
3. Finance – Linda Hide
4. Property – Bill Birdsall
5. Social Ministry – Diane Wasser
6. Stewardship – Arlene Kelly
7. Worship and Music – Crystal Kirkpatrick
8. Christian Education/Faith Formation – Linda Steege
9. Mission Endowment – Linda Hide
10. Liaison to JHIFM and GD Office Staff – Diane Wasser
11. Strategic Planning Task Force – Arlene Kelly

**Who Does What?**

- Linda Steege and Craig Carlson to rewrite the Covenant Promises.
- Crystal will contact Ritch regarding canopies for 13 June fellowship after church service.
- Bill will contact Pastor Barnett regarding the start time of church services.
- Bill will contact Eustis Roofing regarding roof repairs.
- Bill will contact Ritch regarding a committee for a new JHIFM building.
- Bill will set up a date to repaint Pastor Barnett's office.
- Crystal will work with Pastor Barnett regarding a job description for the organist position.

Next Council meeting in church fellowship hall is on Tuesday, 8 June 2021 at 2:00 pm. Diane will not be at this meeting. Arlene has volunteered to take minutes.

Assignment of Devotions for next meeting – Linda Steege

Arlene moved to adjourn, second by Jan. **Motion carried.** We closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wasser, Secretary



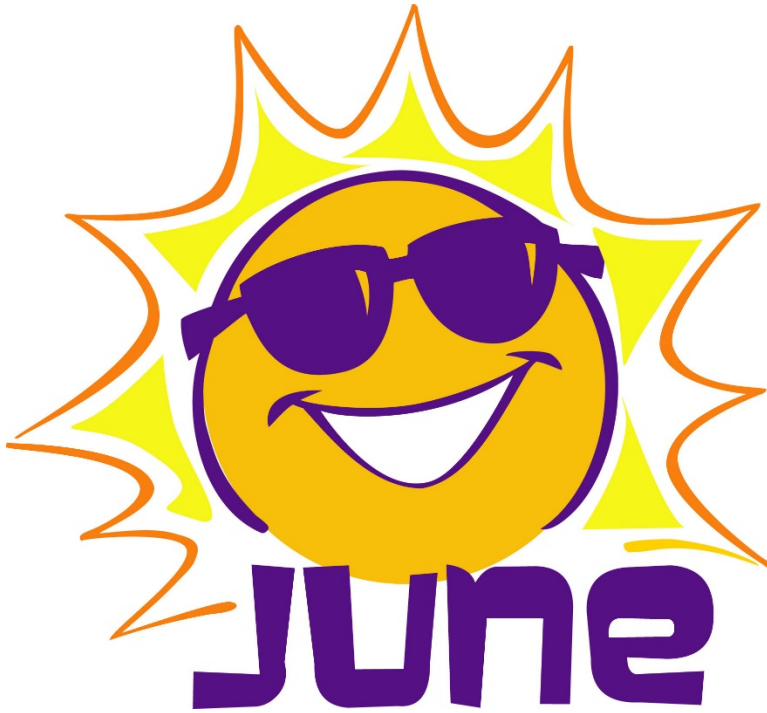


**WELCOME**

**OUR NEW**

**PASTOR**

**Rev. Edward Barnett**



**2021 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pastor	Edward Barnett	516-610-6676
President	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Vice President	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Secretary	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Treasurer/Financial Secy	Linda Hide	253-740-3063
Fellowship	Jan Rudolph	610-220-3746
Stewardship	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
	Craig Carlson	352-504-3138
Worship	Crystal Kirkpatrick	352-552-3983
Social Ministry		
Evangelism	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Christian Education	Linda Steege	815-222-6195
Finance	Linda Hide	253-740-3063
Strategic Planning	Arlene Kelly	605-999-4555
Task Force		

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Worship & Music	Crystal Kirkpatrick	352-552-3983
Evangelism		
Social Ministry	Leone Goding	352-223-1925
Property	Bill Birdsall	732-773-2680
Fellowship	Pat Heimbach	610-737-0333
Stewardship		
Church Staff Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
Joining Hands Liaison	Diane Wasser	610-762-8895
WELCA	Loraine Van Haecke	352-787-1407
Strategic Planning	Forrest Berg	352-267-2200
Task Force		