

**July 2020** 

A publication of Church of the Apostles, a United Church of Christ

Volume 44 Number 6

### In This Issue:

- ~ Pastor Kuhn's Message
- ~ A Message from Pastor Motz
- ~ President's Letter
- ~ Outreach Ministry
- ~ Worship & Prayer
- ~ Upcoming Events
- ~ Education News
- Birthdays and Anniversaries
  - ...and more!

Join us on:







Visit us at www.apostlesucc.org

hat is it about a name? In our worship services, we are currently studying the Hebrew testament scriptures which tell of God changing Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah in Chapter 17. Abram's name changed because he would be the father of many nations. With the new name came a new identity and a new covenant between God and all of Abraham's descendants. As a mark of the covenant, all the males were circumcised. Then God said Sarai will have a child and become the mother of all nations. This changed her identity from one who was barren and her name changed to Sarah.

From the Pastor...

I lift this up for you as Pastor Joe and I have been in conversation about our names and what we want to be called by the congregation. By using the title "Pastor" or "Reverend" when addressing us, it is a reminder to us of our identities. To the congregation, we are not just another member. We have a specific role. So we would like to be called Pastor Joe and Pastor Kathy. Pastor Motz (with a long ō) or Pastor Kuhn are also acceptable. Within the greater community and in more formal settings, we will go by Rev. Motz and Rev. Kuhn. As you are just getting to know Pastor Joe, this will come fairly easy. When referring to me, it will be more challenging as many of you knew me within the church prior to my ordination. I graciously request that you be mindful of my role and title as I will be gracious with your transition. This is how we are called to be as Christians.

What about the congregation's name? We are Church of the Apostles, which is no small task. By our name, God has given us a different identity than we were before becoming part of the congregation. Now we are apostles, who are charged by Jesus Christ to share the good news of God's faithful and everlasting love. We are called to look at our resources and share what we have with those in need. We are called to imitate Christ as we work and live in this world. So, how are you doing? The beauty is that Jesus Christ is gracious with us and will help and guide us when we look for his lead.

Blessings & peace,

Pastor Kuhn



# Letter from the President

was listening to the radio over the Father's Day weekend and the radio DJs were giving the best advice they had learned from their fathers. One of the co-hosts of the show, Medha Gandhi is the great-great granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi. Her advice from her father was that the Golden Rule should not be followed. Immediately my interest was peaked, because how could this be the best advice?? Do not treat others as you wish to be treated, but treat them as THEY wish to be treated. For what may be respectful to you, may not be to them. This year so far, has been tough to navigate. We are immersed in a "new normal" as we move from the red to yellow to the green phase. Tensions are high, emotions are higher. It's important now, more than ever, to be respectful of others.

As I listened to the radio, I realized how powerful that advice is. I understand all too well. I spend my days going into peoples homes. It is their castle and it deserves my utmost respect. Before entering, I ask if I should remove my shoes, I ask if I may sit and where I should place my bag and samples before setting them down. I approach every door with a mask on now, to be respectful of their health, as well as my own. Though the majority of people are appreciative of this gesture, there have been a few that have been offended by it. By wearing a mask in their house they perceived, what I intended as a respectful gesture, to imply that they had germs. I have treated them as I wished to be treated, but not as they wish to be treated. Now, of course, I let them know that I have been in multiple other homes that day and I am immunocompromised and do it for my own health as I move from house to house.

Treating others as they wish to be treated, what does that look like? It starts by recognizing that our ideas for others are not always "right". It starts by listening to others, really listening to how they need and want to be treated. It starts with putting our own notions aside and realizing that we are all just doing our best. There is nothing wrong with respectfully telling someone how you wish to be treated. It may not be the intent to offend, but something as simple as not knowing. It starts with conversations. In a world where we have the ability to connect in a multitude of ways, we need to take the connection beyond the superficial and converse in a real way with people. Speak what is in your heart, and be open to hearing what is in theirs. One thing I've noticed is that we are so busy thinking about what we are going to say next to hear what others are actually saying. What better way to communicate our love and respect for others then by truly hearing them.

The Bible has multiple occasions that give commands to listen, with one of the most famous from James 1:19 "This you know, my beloved brethren, but everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger." Listen and silent are spelled with the same letters. Maybe it's not a coincidence after all.

Blessings, Christa DiDomenico



Sunday Worship is currently being offered online and can be viewed by going to the church web site at: https://apostlesucc.org/sermons

You can also download and print bulletins on this web page.

# Giving Report • June 2020

The cash flow for month ending May 31, 2020 was negative (\$77,070.51) for the year 2020. Same time last year was negative (\$51,866.67). Operating Expenses year to May 2020 were \$260,065.98, Revenue \$182,995.47. Same time 2019 \$234,474.61 for Expenses, \$182,607.94 for Revenue.

#### **PUBLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

The August Crown: 7/17/20.

Requests for the creation of flyers or inserts: 2 weeks prior to the bulletin publishing date requested. . .one week in advance if flyer or insert is ready-to-go

Bulletin Announcements (Content only): 1 week in advance



# A Message From Pastor Motz

n the multitude of challenges, created by the global pandemic, a pointed question has been brought

▲ before the church, "What does it mean for us to be the church if we cannot gather for worship?" If you grew up like me, worship was the central act of being

Christian. But with stay-at-home orders and the continued recommendations to limit social gatherings, what does it mean, what does it look like, to live as active participants of God's reign now?

Chuck Carter writes in his online blog, "When people understand that they are the church and church isn't a place you go to, it opens up the possibility for a movement that no building could hold. I have always prayed for my neighbors and even invited them to church.

During this time of not going to church, I have been much more focused on being the church to my

neighbors. I am hearing stories of members who are going grocery shopping, mowing lawns, and running errands for neighbors. We have members who are organizing drive-by birthday and graduation celebrations in their neighborhood. This has led to some great gospel conversations and people turning to Christ. I think we have only scratched the surface of what can happen when the church moves away from being building centered to being the church in their communities." (Five Lessons I Am Learning During The Covid-19 Pandemic, June 11,

Certainly incarnational worship is a central and sacred part of our walk with Christ and our witness to the presence of Christ within this world. Yet this pandemic has reminded me that worship is just one part of our holistic service to God's reign. In this I have wondered, how is Jesus calling me to care for my next door neighbors (whom I have largely waved to as I have driven by)? How am I being invited to physically share love, compassion, and hope right now? What would it mean to approach my neighbors as Christ would in this time?

One of the best stories I heard this week is from one of our members who has been helping organize porch dance parties with her neighbors. In this playful act of community connection, her neighbors have begun to build relationships they have never had before. In doing so the door has been opened for real conversations with one another. And when those doors are open so do open the opportunities for prayer and sharing the depth of strength we receive from Christ and the church we love and miss.

What has this time been teaching you about what it means to be the church?

With Christ's Blessings,

Pastor Toe Motz

2020)

# Outreach

# Mission Accomplished. . . Almost by Andy Appel

On Monday, June 8th, four 40' shipping containers were filled with teachers' desk, assorted students chairs, file cabinets, shelving and about 800 student desk/chair units. With the challenges of volunteer safety during this COVID crisis and the distance involved in moving items to the loading dock, which included using a small elevator, the four containers were loaded and on their way around 3:30 PM. Loading started at 6 AM. Professional crews from Lancaster Leaf Tobacco and Treier Moving handled the loading.

The cost to ship the 4 containers won't be confirmed until the containers arrive at the Honduras terminal. We've budgeted \$40,000 for the four. We have a \$20,000 commitment from the Rotary Club of Lancaster. Church of the Apostles pledged \$13,000 toward the costs. As of this Crown, COA has donated \$1,925.00.

A big thank you to every one who has donated toward this cause. We have several weeks before the containers are due to arrive at their destination so we have several weeks to reach our goal. Let's keep the Church of the Apostles' tradition of supporting C.A.R.E.'s work in Honduras!





# Outdoor morning worship to begin on Sunday, July 5, 2020 at 10:00am at the Plow Circle.

Following the Center for Disease Control Guidelines, the Penn Central Conference guidelines, and the PA Dept. of Health Guidelines, the Task Force is planning for outdoor worship. We will be outdoors during the Green Phase of re-opening where the spread of the COVID virus is reduced.

Thank you to the 70 people who responded to the Survey Monkey. The Task Force prayerfully considered your preferences, and the pros and cons of multiple outdoor locations for group worship. We took into consideration the safety and health for the wide range of our congregation's members.

The Task Force has decided that the Plow Circle will be used to begin the Sunday morning outdoor worship services for COA. We will continue to offer the on-line worship option for those who are not yet ready for the outdoor worship option.

In addition, a Sunday evening vespers service will be offered in Rader Park at 7:00 pm This will be an informal service, taking advantage of pavilion seating (socially distanced), or you may bring your lawn chair.

Important things to remember as we resume gathering:

- We respectfully ask that you keep the health of all in mind as you attend worship by: wearing a cloth face covering, practice social distancing and wash or sanitize your hands as appropriate. PLEASE STAY HOME IF YOU ARE FEELING ILL.
- Please print your own Bulletin (and Children's Worship Handout) at home and bring along with you. Only you will be touching these papers.
- Bring your own lawn chairs and place them on the grass. Each family group should be no closer than 6 ft. from the next person or family. You may want to consider bringing or pre-applying sunscreen and bringing a sun hat as the Plow Circle is only 70% shaded. The driveway up to the portico and under the portico will have a few chairs for those for whom carrying a chair is a hazard. The parking area for the disabled will still be available up to the cones placed across the driveway in that area. Please be considerate and reserve the closest parking spaces in the regular parking lot for those who are older or physically challenged.

- Due to limited bathroom access, please consider attending to these needs before you leave for services. If you must use the bathroom facilities, we ask that you enter the church via the West Lobby entrance, use the Fellowship Hall bathrooms and use the hand sanitizer stations provided. (We do not want to use the main sanctuary doors as this will interrupt the service officiants and musicians.)
- Gathering in groups before or after the service is discouraged, UNLESS YOU PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANC-ING AND WEAR A MASK.

Changes you will find in the service itself:

- We will not be doing any group singing as this has been identified as a risk factor for spread of the virus.
- Passing the peace will be without touching and we will be shown alternate non-contact ways to express our Christian love.
- There will be a small altar table with water-filled vases...please feel free to bring a few flowers from your yard/garden.
- On the first Sunday of each month BEGINNING with 8/2, we will celebrate Communion. We ask that each person/family bring its own elements. (This eliminates the risk of touching.)
- Offerings may be placed into the church mailbox on the portico post.
- Children will need to remain with their family unit

We anticipate continuing with outdoor worship through at least 9/6 (Labor Day Weekend). Any changes will be announced well in advance. The on-line worship offering will continue to be available for you on the web site or our YouTube site.

Please feel free to contact Donna Carr or either of the Pastors with any questions or suggestions as we gather in this new way.

(Re-opening Task Force: Donna Carr, Bernie Fickes, Herb Forry, Linda Lewis, Barb Achtermann, Erika Neiderer, Eric Maclaren, Kathy Kuhn)

**Sunday Vesper Service at 7 PM** — See page 6 for details



# **Worship & Prayer Online**

### ONLINE WORSHIP

Being sensitive to the needs of all, we continue to create a recorded service which can be seen at:

https://apostlesucc.org/sermons

#### **WORSHIP AT THE PLOW CIRCLE • SUNDAY • 10 AM**

Bring your own lawn chair, if able. A limited number of chairs will be provided. Please bring a mask, plan to social distance the entire time you are here. We are encouraging limited restroom use but the restrooms by fellowship hall will be available, through the west narthex. In case of inclement weather, we will also be broadcasting the service over the radio so one can listen in the car. You will be receiving a letter in the mail shortly with additional details regarding outdoor worship. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 717-392-5718

## RADER PARK VESPER SERVICE • Sundays • 7 PM

All are invited to an informal vesper service Sunday evenings at 7 PM at the Schellenberger Pavilion of Rader Park. This will also require a mask, social distancing and seating to be brought from home.

#### **ZOOM PRAYER GATHERINGS**

Pastors Kuhn & Motz are offering the following sessions on the web site, Zoom which have unique meeting identification numbers and passwords to attend. This helps us to have an uninterrupted call. To participate, you may go to <a href="https://zoom.us">https://zoom.us</a> to participate. Here are some options:

<u>Evening Vespers</u> • Wednesday evenings at 7 PM Join Pastor Kuhn or Pastor Motz for conversation on a topic and prayer.

Zoom Meeting online at https://zoom.us

Meeting ID: 130 586 425 Password: 088047

Or join meeting by phone (tolls may apply depending on

your plan):

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 130 586 425

#### **ONLINE BIBLE STUDY**

Due to lack of participation, Bible study on Thursday mornings at 10 AM has ben discontinued, We will consider a different day and time to offer this again. If you are interested in a Bible study class, please email or call the church office.

# **July Preaching Schedule**

July 5 Rev. Kuhn

July 12 Jonathan Paredes

July 19 Rev. Kuhn July 26 Rev. Motz



# **Prayer Concerns**

PRAYER CONCERNS: The Ebersole's friend, Katie; Arlene Gaudioso's sister, Patti; Pat Cover; Carol Horn; Sandy & Bill Worley; the Fickes' friends, Greg & Kathy; Erika Neiderer's mother, Judy; Hannah Royer's friend, Patty; Carrie Adams; Marty Holmes' sister-in-law, Dottie Farmer; Carla Williams' granddaughter-in-law, Angela; for an effective COVID-19 vaccine; for all "front line" workers & for those suffering with the virus & their families

**COMFORT IN TIME OF LOSS**: For the family and friends of Ruth Wilson

**FOR SAFETY & PROTECTION:** Remi Gregory (the late Kit Gregory's grandson), and all military personnel serving at home and abroad; All of our health services personnel and frontline essential workers

If you have a prayer intention that you would like added to this prayer list, please contact the church office at 717-392-5718 or via e-mail: maryt@apostlesucc.org or write a note with your intention and put in the brown drop box outside the main front doors to the church.

# Parish Life

**GARAGE SALE** — The COA Garage Sale has been postponed until next Spring. Thank you to all who saved items for this year's sale. If you have space, please save it for our sale whenever it occurs next year. If you do not have the space to keep it, I understand.

Clara Kosmela, Chair of Garage Sale



# **Outdoor Worship**

# Sunday, July 5, 2020 10 AM

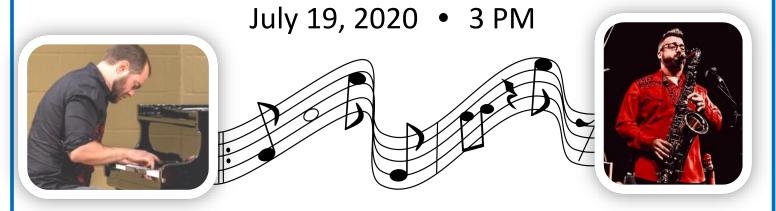
# At Church of the Apostles Plow Cir

- Please bring a lawn chair, if you are able.
- Remember to wear your mask.
- There will be no physical contact.
- We will follow social distancing guidelines.
- Although not required during worship, masks will be required for any 6-foot social distance greetings before & after worship
- Restrooms by fellowship hall will be available, through the west narthex.
- Pre-recorded worship services will continue to be posted online at: https://apostlesucc.org/sermons





# Live Streaming Virtual Concert



# **Apostles Academy of Arts and Sciences Concert Series**

# "Musical Meditations for the Heart and Soul"

Featuring music pieces that are inspirational and meditational in nature.



# Featuring:

Ron Bellamy - bells and chimes
Nathan Sheffer - flute and saxophone
Lars Potteiger - piano





# Education & Pour



Above - Karen Youtz is ready to deliver subs.

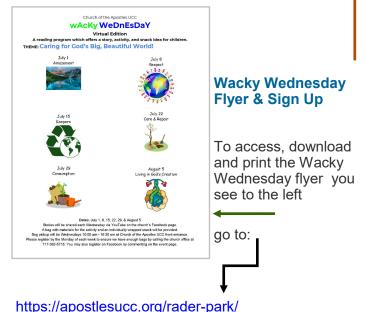
## Sunday School Lenten Mission Project

The Sunday School Lenten Mission Project raised \$370 for the Kingdom International Preschool in Kampong Cham, Cambodia. The school is a Christian Mission and is run by Jody and Brian Williams, natives of Millersville, PA. The money will be used to build a play ground area for the students Education in Cambodia is very low. Kingdom International prepares children to

enter first grade and enroll in a good school. The school also teaches English to the community.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a sub!





# Family Science in the Park

Family Science in the Park is virtual this year due to the current circumstances, however, we are aware of the virtual burnout and exhaustion going on, so our goal is to provide activity ideas and resources for families to use while going out to explore together, away from the screens. Plus, by sharing photos we can "see" one another and what other church members are up to!

We know it's not ideal, but we're trying to find ways to stay connected in these socially disconnected times. Families can find the themed weekly activities on the church's Facebook page, the church website under Rader Park and the Academy of Arts and Sciences.

June activities were themed around "Camping Adventures" and included bird watching, backyard camping, hiking games, and learning about trees. Don't worry if you missed any, there are more activities to come in July and there's still time to do the past activities.

Each family participating and sharing their photos of their adventures with us, will be entered in the end of summer drawing for some family fun prizes. July's theme is "Wet and Wild Pennsylvania"! Two activities will be featured for this month, Stream Studies and Tracks & Scat. You will be able to sign out and borrow a stream study kit and/or a tracks & scat identification kit. Kits are limited so be sure to check out the activity post for details. August's theme will be "The Music and Art of Nature".

### **Wacky Wednesday**

Wacky Wednesday is also going virtual this year. The theme is "Caring for God's Big, Beautiful World" which will start July 1st and will run for 6 weeks with the final activity on August 5th. Each Wednesday, a YouTube video will be shared on the church's and the Preschool's Facebook pages. The video will include 2 stories read by various church members, a craft or activity demonstration, and a fun snack idea. The church will supply the materials for the craft activity. There will also be a snack included, such as an individual bag of goldfish and a juice box. Families may drive through and pick up one bag per child on Wed. mornings from 10-10:30 am at the church portico. Registration is recommended to ensure we have enough bags for each interested child. Please register by the Monday of each week by calling the church office at 717-392-5718 or by commenting on the Facebook event page.



# Council & Commission Contact Information

#### **COUNCIL OFFICERS**

President: Christa Didomenico Conrad

Ph: 717-575-8210 • Email: christadi@live.com

VicePresident: Donna Carr

Ph: 717-475-5285 • Email: skeetcarr@comcast.net

Treasurer: Andy Smith

Ph: 717-615-1649 • Email:andy.smith@bbandt.com

Secretary: Jeanne Clausen

Ph: 717-201-9330 • Email: jeannie.joel@gmailcom

# **COMMISSION CHAIRS**

### **Education Commission**

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month/Rm 306)

Chair: Judy Waltman

Ph: 717-285-7395 • Email: jlwaltman@comcast.net

# **Outreach Commission**

(Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, every other month/Parlor)

Chair: Jane McCartney

Ph: 717-392-4844 • Email: spmccartney@comcast.net

## **Parish Life Commission**

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month/Rm 304)

Co-Chair: Clara Kosmela

Ph: 717-468-3492 • Email: joli6291@yahoo.com Co-Chair: Donna Carr (as listed under VP)

### **Property Commission**

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month/Rm 305)

Chair: Herb Forry

Ph: 717-201-7863 • Email: heforry@comcast.net

## **Stewardship Commission**

(Meets the second Thursday of the month/ Rm 304)

Chair: George Alspach

Ph: 717-201-2526 • Email: galspach@aol.com

## **Worship Commission**

(Meets the first Tuesday of the month/Rm 111)

Chair: Bernie Fickes

Ph: 717-925-9155 • E mail: penquindiva@verizon.net

# Prayer Chain

Link 1:

Steve & Monica Daniels (717) 299-6007 or monicadaniels54@gmail.com

Lynn Steedle (717) 390-4152 or ccsteedle@gmail.com

Link 2:

Mary Ellen Bachman (717) 393-8922 Susan Shaak (717) 872-2987 Doug Nutt (717) 283-2937

Link 3:

Annette Rohloff (717) 394-0424 or rexthomas@comcast.net
Bev Keller (717) 898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com
Cindy Williams (717) 572-3808 or clwjbwilliams@gmail.com

Nancy Steger (717) 617-2635 or nancyasteger@gmail.com

Link 4:

Jean Heidig (717) 394-8733 or geojean6@gmail.com Donna Carr (717) 475-5285 or skeetcarr@comcast.net



# JOIN THE PRAYER MINISTRY.



**Updates** 



# **Church Updates Relating to COVID-19**

Videos of worship services, along with bulletins, are available on the church web site at:

https://apostlesucc.org/sermons

The church office is still closed to the public but remains active behind-the-scenes. If you need to conduct <u>urgent</u> church business, kindly either e-mail us or call the office for an appointment and kindly wear a mask if you go to the office.

# Thank You



It has been over six months since we moved to Frisco, TX, but we have kept our membership at COA. What a treat it has been to worship with you

via the Internet these past months. It gives reality to an opening phrase in worship, that all are welcome here, and for us we add, no matter where you are.

Thank you pastors, musicians, and support people who have done such a wonderful service for us who cannot attend in person.

Blessings and Peace,
Jack & Cathie Oliphant

# **COA** Community Garden Updates

Garden Photos by Carol Nielsen Carol reports that the corn is growing with beautiful leaves as you can see from her photo below. Also, with all the rain lately, the green peppers have matured early! (Photo on right).







\*\* 50+ Anniversaries

# Happy Anniversary

Date	Name
7/5/1980	Ronald & Deborah Accomando
7/3/1971	Louis & Arlene Gaudioso
7/5/1980	Don & Julie Berkow
7/9/2005	Scott & Stephanie Moore
7/10/1999	Abe & Leigh Breslin
7/11/1970	Glenn & Helen Ebersole **
7/14/1984	Marsha & Charles Erisman
7/17/1971	James & Linda Eaton
7/17/1976	Robert & Gail Frankhouser
7/17/2004	Kristi & William Newport

I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend.

— Thomas Jefferson



Carol Nielsen & Milt Gockley, Apostle Seeds of Hope Master Gardeners

# Happy Birthday! \* 90+ Birthdays

D-4-	NI
Date	Name
1	Joan Turns *
2	Ellen Schellenberger
3	Tristin Neiderer
	Patrick Carr
4	Helen Ebersole
5	Jennifer VanBuskirk
6	Earl Cardellino
6	Cheryl Desmond
6	Cliff Rampaul
7	Sharon Martin
7	Lois Houck *
8	Dustin Koehler
8	Aaron Watkins
10	Julie Berkow
10	Eva Johnson
11	Mischelle Van Buskirk
13	Andrew (Andy) Appel
13	Jared Braun
14	Annette Rohloff
15	Dr. Paul Irion *
15	Nancy Payne
19	Dominic Williams
19	Mary Clement
20	Joan Hansel
21	Jean Heidig
21	Melissa Koehler
22	Judy Waltman
24	Donna Lockey
25	Doris Krammes
25	Grant Hansel
25	Karen Williams
26	Emily Sheffer
27	Jeannie Clausen
28	Bonnie Bechtold
31	Will Newport





## Church of the Apostles, UCC

1850 Marietta Avenue Lancaster, PA 17603-2398 Phone: 717-392-5718

Fax: 717-392-6470

Email: webmaster@apostlesucc.org

www.apostlesucc.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



### OR CURRENT RESIDENT



Scan to make a one-time gift.

# Church of the Apostles Staff

#### **Senior Pastor**

The Rev. Kathryn L. Kuhn ext. 8201 kathrynk@apostlesucc.org

#### **Associate Pastor**

The Rev. Joseph Motz ext. 8202

### Youth Leader

Jonathan Paredes ext. 8202

#### **Director of Music Ministries**

Lars Potteiger ext. 8203 larsp@apostlesucc.org

#### **Director of Adult Choirs & Instrumental Music**

Nathan Sheffer

#### **Bell Choir Director:**

Ron Bellamy

## **Children's Choir Director**

Breanne Zipko

# **Technology Specialist**

Non-Profit

Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 1065

Lancaster, PA

Jonathan Shaub

#### Sexton

Larry Rongione

#### **Communications & Administrative Coordinator**

Mary J. Tunison maryt@apostlesucc.org

#### Finance & Member Services Coordinator

Judy Ruppert ext. 8207 judithr@apostlesucc.org

#### **Property Manager**

Eric MacLaren ext. 8514 ericm@apostlesucc.org

## **Church Council President**

Christa DiDomenico Conrad