



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 1, 2013

WELCOME TO  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOUNDED 1890

*First Lutheran is a community, a gathering of people of diverse ages, cultures and traditions.*

*Just as Jesus opened himself to all and, by implication, opened the reign of God to all, so we, the members of First Lutheran seek to do the same.*

*Therefore, all are welcome here regardless of their race, gender or sexual orientation; regardless of their social, economic, educational, linguistic or relationship status; regardless of their citizenship, religious or cultural background or makeup of their family; and regardless of their physical, mental, emotional or spiritual condition. There is a place for you in our community worship, service and life.*

**To our Visitors:** Welcome! You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex (lobby) and join us for coffee and conversation downstairs after worship, where our friendly congregants will meet and greet you.

A **special welcome** to worshippers who are unable to be physically present and are joining us online for today's service.

*First Lutheran is easily accessible* via major city routes - 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Kingsway - and Bus #41 runs west from the Joyce Street Skytrain station. Ample parking is available in a lot just west of the church and on the church side of the two streets--Wales Street and 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The wheelchair entrance is also the office entrance on 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

*For your convenience*, there is an elevator in the southwest corner of the building, fully accessible washrooms on the main floor in the northwest corner and two washrooms down the stairs at the east end of the lower level. A childcare play area is on the lower level.

*The present building*, erected in 1957, is the third in our history. Founded by Scandinavian fishermen, *First Lutheran* is tied closely to the history of Vancouver. Our logo reflects our ethnic and Christian roots, our West Coast location as well as the varied races and cultures which enrich our life and ministry together.

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2013

### *Those Serving the Servants Today*

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Presider/Homilist</i>  | Pr. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford                                   |
| <i>Assisting Minister</i> | Arvid Vimb  |
| <i>Lector</i>             | Janet Filippelli  |
| <i>Acolytes</i>           | Jean-Pierre Bizimana<br>Vedaste Niyonsaba                       |
| <i>Ministry of Music</i>  |   |
| <i>Organ/Piano</i>        | Jeanette Price  |
| <i>Flutist</i>            | Anne Johnson  |
| <i>Gift Bearers</i>       | Mikhail Lennikov<br>Betty Anderson                              |
| <i>Communion Servers</i>  | Betty Anderson<br>Mikhail Lennikov<br>Alex Wilson<br>Betty Wong |
| <i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>  | Ingrid Tymm<br>Melody Corson<br>Ruby Corson                     |
| <i>Altar Guild</i>        | Mikhail Lennikov<br>Betty Anderson                              |
| <i>Offering Counters</i>  | Mikhail Lennikov<br>Betty Wong                                  |

**If you'd like to serve God and our community by assisting in our Sunday worship, please contact Iris Kong, our office administrator, at 604.435.6020. If you'd like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Karen Kerfoot at 604.324.7424 or Christine Neumann at 604.596.1778.**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2013**  
*Holy Communion, Setting Eight*

*Worshippers may wish to light a votive candle in memory of a loved one or for meditation. This may be done at any time before or during the liturgy except during community prayers, readings or homily. Since the number of candles is limited and to avoid mishaps, parents and caregivers are asked to be attentive when allowing children to light one.*

**INTRODUCTION**

*Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.*

**PRELUDE**

*Andante Religioso*  
*Norwich*

Alex Rowley  
David Cherwien

**GATHERING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN**      *# 641 "All Are Welcome"*

**GREETING**

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God:  
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, you teach all of us who are proud and give us grace to become humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

**WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 2:4–13**

*God, who has been faithful in leading Israel through the wilderness into a good land, calls upon the heavens to witness the incredible foolishness of a people who, under the flawed leadership of priests, rulers, and prophets, willingly abandon God's life-giving water for leaky cisterns.*

<sup>4</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

<sup>6</sup>They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

<sup>7</sup>I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

<sup>8</sup>The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"

Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children.

<sup>10</sup>Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.

<sup>11</sup>Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

<sup>12</sup>Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD,

<sup>13</sup>for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

*Response: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 81:1, 10–16**(*read responsively; congregation reads the bold*)

*I feed you with the finest wheat and satisfy you with honey from the rock. (Ps. 81:16)*

<sup>1</sup>Sing with joy to God our strength and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

<sup>10</sup>**"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.**

<sup>11</sup>Yet my people did not hear my voice, and Israel would not obey me.

<sup>12</sup>**So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, to follow their own devices.**

<sup>13</sup>Oh, that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

<sup>14</sup>**I would quickly subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes.**

<sup>15</sup>Those who hate the LORD would cringe in fear, and their punishment would last forever.

<sup>16</sup>**But I would feed you with the finest wheat and satisfy you with honey from the rock."**


## SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

*The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.*

Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" <sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Response:* Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

*Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.*

*Response to announcement of the Gospel:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Response:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

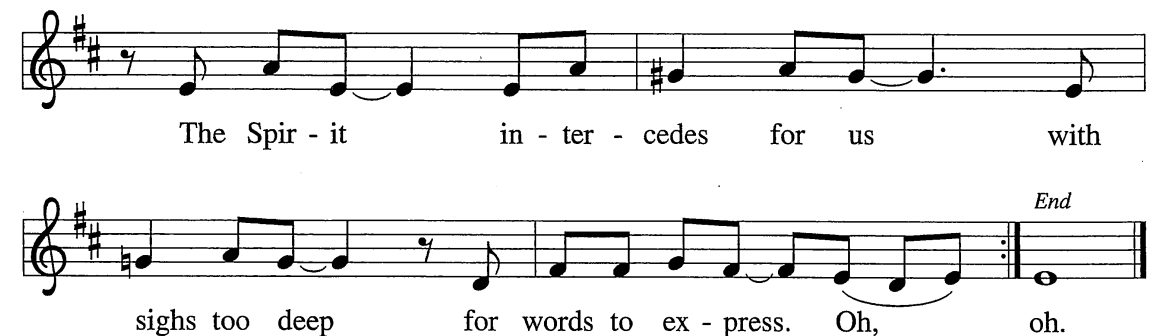
## HOMILY *(Silence for reflection follows)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY # 532 "Gather Us In"

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "Lord, we lift our prayers to you"*

*The congregation's sung response "The Spirit Intercedes for Us" is found below.*



The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with  
sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh. *End*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*Down to the River to Pray*

arr. Pepper Choplin

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** *(All rise)*

Let us pray. **Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

**MEAL**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”**

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**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (Prayer over the gifts)

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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**INVITATION**

Come, taste and see that our Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**

**SHARING OF THE BLESSED SUPPER**



*It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God’s family — and all our guests — to come to his table where he gives his body and blood, along with the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation under the forms of bread and wine. After receiving the bread into the open, upraised palm, all may drink from the first (common) cup or if desired, have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup. A gluten free option is available upon request.*

**“LAMB OF GOD”**

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**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION # 482 “I Come With Joy”**

*Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus*

Paul Manz

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(All rise)*

Let us pray. **We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

Go forth into the world to share the good news; be of good courage; hold fast to what is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit, and almighty God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you and go with you. Amen.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SENDING HYMN**

*# 551 “The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve”*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Toccata*

Gordon Young

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We are excited to announce September 8 to be the Name Tag Sunday! There will be blank tags available at the door and all are invited to put on their name tags upon arrival at church.

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**OFFICIAL NOTICE OF BC SYNOD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

As required by the Bylaws, the Synod Council calls the Annual General Meeting for 2013. It will be held Saturday 5 October 2013, 11:30 AM, at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 3787 Cedar Hill Road, Victoria BC; phone (250) 477-6222.

Anyone who holds membership in a congregation of the BC Synod may vote.

## This Week

### Thursday

Choir, 7:30 pm

### Saturday

Youth Group, 6:30 pm

### Next Sunday

Pentecost 16, 10:30 am

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Our sympathies are with Philip Schulze and his family on the death of his father, Werner Schulze, last Thursday at the age of 84. Werner was a long time member of Augustana Lutheran Church in Edmonton. *“Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.”*

### **Come Meet Our Neighbours!**

FLC will be hosting a community BBQ, Saturday, September 14 from 12 - 3 pm. There will be live music, free hotdogs and burger and drinks, and a chance to connect with our neighbours! All members and friends of FLC are invited to bring family and friends who may be interested to join in the fun! **Volunteers are needed.** Please contact John Morley (604.435.5674) or Karen Kerfoot (604.324.7424).

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Beginning **Saturday, October 5**, Pr. Lori-Anne will be leading a year-long **Bible Study on the Psalms** from her new home in Vancouver. More details are available on the next page.

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**Choir rehearsal resumes this Thursday at 7:30 pm.**

**Y**outh group will be meeting this **Saturday, September 7 at 6:30 pm** at FLC. All youth ages 12 and up are invited to an evening of fun, games and snacks with Suleiman and Pr. Lori-Anne. Please feel free to bring friends from outside the congregation to join us!

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### **New Young Adult group begins!**

Are you between the ages of 19 and 50? Join us for our first pub night of the year on September 14 at 7 pm. The group will be meeting at East Side Craft House located at 1445 East 41st Ave, Vancouver (northeast corner of Knight St and 41st Ave).

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**S**unday School will resume on **September 15**. Please note that there will now be Sunday School instruction **twice a month during the morning service, beginning at 10:45 am**. Sunday School will no longer be meeting at 9:45 am before the service.

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### **Sunday School Teachers!**

We will be meeting after the morning service on September 8. **New teachers needed!** Please join the meeting if you are interested in teaching this year.

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### **Confirmation Class Starts!**

All youth ages 12 and up who have never received Confirmation instruction are invited to attend class beginning Wednesday, September 11. We will have class twice a month on Wednesdays at FLC from 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm.

## **Psalms Bible Study, First Lutheran Church Saturdays, 11am-12:30pm**

**Looking for a chance to learn more about God and the Bible?**

**Looking for a Bible Study that you can join whenever you have the time?**

**Looking for a chance to connect with others in a community of faith?**

**Join us for our year of Bible Study on the Psalms!**

**“Life is always a kaleidoscope of conflicting experiences and emotions—and we find this variety reflected in the contents of the Old Testament psalms.”**

*J. W. Drane, *Introducing the Old Testament.**

**Within our scriptures is ancient yet relevant poetry that describes the complexity of human life, and the rich relationship that humans have with God.** Martin Luther described the Psalms as the ‘little Bible’ or ‘the Bible within the Bible,’ and believed that the Psalms articulate the whole gospel of God’s grace and steadfast love.

**The purpose of this course is to provide a safe space to explore the full gamut of human emotion and experience with God not only in the Psalms, but also in our lives.**

After a brief class introducing the Psalms, five different psalms will be studied and discussed each class. All members of this study will be given the opportunity to bring in personal insights and share unique perspectives and experiences.

**You do not have to be a biblical expert to join this study!** All that is required is that we all come just as we are, and also with a Bible, writing pad and pencil in hand, to explore the riches that are before us in our faith tradition. No previous knowledge necessary!

**Do not worry if you are too busy to commit to the entire year-long course!** You do not need to come to consecutive classes in order to join in the study—come whenever you can! All of the psalms will be posted for each specific class so you have the opportunity to read and pray through the poems if you have a chance prior to the study.

*If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet posted in the Narthex.*

## *Psalms Study Schedule*

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Oct 5</b>         | <b>Psalms Study Introduction</b>       |
| <b>Oct 12</b>        | <b>Psalms 1-5</b>                      |
| <b>Oct 19</b>        | <b>PR L-A ON STUDY LEAVE, NO CLASS</b> |
| <b>Oct 26</b>        | <b>Psalms 6-10</b>                     |
| <b>Nov 2</b>         | <b>Psalms 11-15</b>                    |
| <b>Nov 9</b>         | <b>Psalms 16-20</b>                    |
| <b>Nov 16</b>        | <b>Psalms 21-25</b>                    |
| <b>Nov 23</b>        | <b>Psalms 26-30</b>                    |
| <b>Nov 30</b>        | <b>Psalms 31-35</b>                    |
| <b>Dec 7</b>         | <b>Psalms 36-40</b>                    |
| <b>Dec 14</b>        | <b>Psalms 41-45</b>                    |
| <b>Dec 21/Dec 28</b> | <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK, NO CLASSES</b>     |

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### *THANK-YOUS FROM CONFIRMATION CAMP ATTENDEES*

“I’d like to thank all the people who help send me to camp this year. I got to see one of my closest friends here, not only that but I made some new friends and laughed a lot. So thank you for your anonymous kindness.” *Benie*

“In the six days I have been at Confirmation Camp, every moment was wonderful. I was able to meet new people and make new friends. The classes were great. I was able to learn many things about remembering my baptism and what it really meant. Many of the activities were really fun. We went to the beach and we had days where we did many activities and sports and this was every day. Thank you for helping me go to camp and making a new memory to remind myself in the future.” *Bilali*

“Thank you guys for letting me join confirmation camp of 2013! I had a wild yet pleasant experience. I have met plenty of new friends. Lots of laughter and most importantly learning more about the teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. It had helped me be a better person and also renewed me as well. Thanks again!” *Emmanuel*

“Thank you so much for sending me to camp. I have had a great time here. I am making friends and enjoy learning and being taught at a great camp, so thank you.” *Jean-Pierre*

“I’ve learned a lot about God and his passions and gifts for us. But, I’m still at that stage where I need to figure out if my passions and dreams are what I want or what God wants, and if I’ll be happy. I thank everyone for the wonderful things they’ve done for me.” *Nelly*

“Thank you for sending me to this camp. I’ve had so much fun making friends and learning more about God. The activities are fun and to play games with new friends is fun.” *Vedaste*

Friends,

On Sept 8, 1963, definitely in the time of my first naïveté (!), I was ordained in St Mary’s Church in Kerrisdale, the church in which I was also baptized, by Bishop William Coleman, then bishop of Kootenay, for service in the Anglican Church. Fifty years has passed in the twinkling of an eye; and now I am preparing to mark the fiftieth anniversary of a day which remains very important to me.

So this is your invitation to join me at St Mary’s Church in Kerrisdale, at 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Larch Street, on Sept 6, a Friday. At 7:00 pm I will preside at a mass of thanksgiving (and repentance!)—*no obligation to attend if you are among those of my friends who believe that institutional religion is the opium of the people* [ : ) ]. Then at 8:00 pm, there will be a reception for all in the parish hall. (I will also be celebrating the 8:00 am Eucharist on Sunday, Sept 8, the actual anniversary.)

No charge, of course, but a basket will be available for anyone who wishes to contribute to the support of **Mikhail Lennikov**, now in his fourth year of sanctuary at First Lutheran Church. If you wish to contribute, make your cheque payable to First Lutheran Church (the Love Fund), and you will receive a tax receipt.

I need to know numbers for catering purposes. So if you are coming, please reply, with the number in your party, to [dganniv@gmail.com](mailto:dganniv@gmail.com) by August 29.

Best as always,

Don Grayston

## DIRECTORY

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Ministers</b>               | God’s Baptized People  |
| <b>Pastor</b>                  | Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford<br>604.720.7255  |
| <b>Minister of Music</b>       | Jeanette Price<br>604.251.2656   |
| <b>Office Administrator</b>    | Iris Kong<br>604.456.0476  |
| <b>Caretaker</b>               | Peter dela Torre   |
| <b>Altar Guild Coordinator</b> | Janet Schreiber  |
| <b>Liturgical Artist</b>       | June Schramm   |
| <b>Church Council</b>          | Lanny Harris - Chairperson<br>Cheryl Conant - Vice Chairperson<br>& Adult Outreach<br>Ernie Neumann - Treasurer<br>Karen Kerfoot - Secretary and<br>Fellowship and Hospitality<br>Sylvia Harris - Envelope Secretary<br>Russell Collins - Human Resources<br>Alex Wilson - Property<br>Wayne Wong - Property and<br>Fellowship and Hospitality<br>Kim Hoath - Property<br>Christine Neumann - Fellowship and Hospitality<br>John Morley - Adult Outreach<br>Mikhail Lennikov - Outreach Technology<br>Suleiman Munyaneza - Outreach Youth<br>& Young Adult<br>June Heywood - Education |