

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time • July 7, 2024 • 10:00am 178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for Worship, please sign the red welcome pad found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for Worship.

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.

THE GATHERING

Prelude: Muzète Jean François Dandrieu

*Call to Worship Stephanie Hare

Leader: We come from the day-to-day busyness of our lives. **People:** We come with cares and worries, joys and celebrations.

Leader: Let us set it all aside and enter this time of worship.

People: May our hearts and minds be open to what God might say to us this day.

Leader: Trusting always in the Spirit to meet us,

People: let us gather to worship God!



Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Stephanie Hare

Call to Confession Angela Johnson

Leader:

When we gather to worship God, we must first be honest with ourselves. We must be vulnerable, even if it looks like weakness. We must admit that we are not who God has called us to be as a people. We have not cared for others in every instance. We have made mistakes. Let us unburden ourselves and confess our sins, knowing that God awaits to forgive, restore and renew us... Let us pray:

Confession of Sin (unison)

Angela Johnson

Gracious God, we live in the tension of what we are called to be and our lived reality. We often fall short of the good we intend, and our growing in the likeness of Christ is painfully slow at best. Forgive us we pray. Help us to trust in the sufficiency of your grace. Offer us the peace that passes all understanding that we might be forgiven and begin anew...

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

People: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Angela Johnson

Leader: Hear the Good News! In Jesus Christ, the old life is gone, a new life has begun. You are not who

you were, may you live into who you can be. Hear and believe the good news:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen!

*Gloria Patri (No. 581) Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Angela Johnson

Leader: The first words of the risen Christ to his followers were, "Peace be with you." May the peace of

our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please share that peace with one another.

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ

THE WORD

Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: Today we light a candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace....

People – Sung response Hymn No. 757, verse 3: Today We All are Called to Be Disciples

Kingsfold

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,

with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.

For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,

a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

First Lesson - II Corinthians 12:2-10

Angela Johnson

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— ⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I

will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson – Mark 6:1-13

The Rev. Scott Herr

¹He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." 12So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Scandalous Grace" The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith - Hymn No. 475: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton



Call for the Offering Angela Johnson

Leader: All that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. With gratitude, let us give back a portion of

that goodness to invest in God's work in the world.

Offertory Solo: Mansions in the Skies (from *Three Mountain Hymns*) Alice Parker

When I can read my title clear to mansion in the skies, I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.

Should earth against my soul engage and hellish darts be hurled, Then I can smile at Satan's rage And face a frowning world.

Let cares like a wild deluge come, And storms of sorrow fall,

May I but safely reach my home, My God, my heav'n, my all.

Jan Lucie – alto

*Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Stacy Arevalo

Gracious God, we offer these gifts to you. May they be used to bring grace and healing to this hurting world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Stacy Arevalo

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Stacy Arevalo

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Rev. Scott Herr

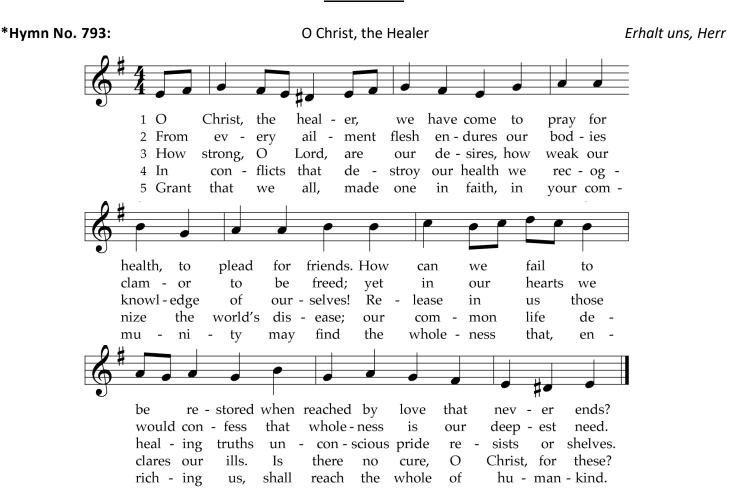
Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Prayer After Communion (unison)

Stephanie Hare

Almighty God, You have welcomed us to receive a reminder of the scandalous grace of Your love at Your table. Help us to be truly thankful, and to live in the power of Your weakness; to let go of the love of power and embrace the power of Your self-giving love. Send us filled with Your Spirit, equipped to share Your grace and love with those around us, so that with all the saints, we may live to Your glory; in Christ, with Christ, through Christ, and for Christ we pray. Amen.

SENDING



*Benediction The Rev. Scott Herr

*Ringing of the Church Bell

*Postlude: Dialogue Jean François Dandrieu

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NOTICE TO THE CONGREGATION

The Session approved a six-month contract with Stacy Arevalo to serve as the part-time (20 hours per week) Director of Pastoral Care, Adult Discipleship and Spiritual Formation. Stacy, who retired from GE Corporate Finance group in April, has recently completed her Master of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary. Under care of Noroton Presbyterian Church Session, she is in the process of completing her ordination exams and is now exploring the possibility for ordination of Word and Sacrament as a Teaching Elder (also known as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament) in the PC(USA). She has graciously served as an intern with us for the past academic year and looks forward to this time of service and discernment of her call while continuing to exercise her gifts for ministry with us. The contract period begins July 1 and ends December 31st. Stacy will be working with The Rev. Mary Thies with the Pastoral Care Team, taking the lead on the Alpha Course (details coming soon), nurturing the prayer ministry of our church, assisting in Worship on a regular basis, and sharing in home and hospital visitation. The Session welcomes your feedback and any questions or comments you may have. Please welcome Stacy and pray for her as she continues down the path toward ordination.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship on this 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the season of the Church calendar where we practice ordering our lives around the teachings of Jesus. On this Fourth of July "pont" weekend, we will reflect together on how Jesus brings liberation even to us unbelievers through "scandalous grace." As we reflect on the lectionary texts from the Gospel according to Mark and Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, we pray you'll be spiritually renewed and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

Note from Worship Committee:

During our year dedicated to exploring the search for peace, notice the over 600 cranes that grace the wall to the east of the Chancel and at the back of the Sanctuary. The crane is a Japanese symbol of peace, here in origami form. These cranes were first strung above the center aisle of our Sanctuary five years ago in conjunction with the Confirmation Class of that year although they were folded on commission.

Children are warmly welcome to stay in Worship! For children who stay during Worship, the *Pray-Ground* can be found in the area in front of the back pew. The Pray-Ground is a designated place in the Sanctuary where young children can experience Worship through age-appropriate worship materials and tools that will help keep them engaged in what is happening. We will continue to rotate books and coloring materials on an ongoing basis. Although it can seem counter-intuitive to adults, children are often able to process what they hear more effectively when they have something to do with their hands.

Any child worshipping in the Pray-Ground should bring their grown-up with them to the Pray-Ground. Including young children in Worship can sometimes feel a little daunting, especially on days when they're feeling a little extra fidgety, but we don't need to be discouraged from keeping children in the Sanctuary. There are many important things that children learn while in Worship, even when we're not sure if they're paying attention. Young children learn by observing the adults around them. Children acquire the "language" of worship by listening to and observing the words the adults around them say, much like how they learn their native tongue. Quite simply, children learn to worship by regularly being in Worship. So families with little ones should feel free to worship together in the Pray-Ground!

FPCNC also offers **babysitting during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

Cents-ability. We're now leaving the Cents-ability jar in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. If you have any spare change, please drop it into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're in Church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger.



<u>SIGN UP</u> to Read, Usher or Greet https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: DONATE:







SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is out for the summer; thank you to all our children who were involved during this past year for bringing all your amazing questions and energy each Sunday! Sunday School will resume in September. Meanwhile, any adults or older teens who want to come be part of the fun of Sunday School, we need you! Join us and bring your own sense of wonder and joy as we learn together what it means to be part of God's big family. Let us know of your interest by filling out this form: https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2024-25, or reach out the Steph Hare — steph-ace fpcnc.org.

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

This Sunday, we hear organ music from the French school composed by **Jean-François Dandrieu**, also spelled D'Andrieu (c. 1682-1738). He was a French Baroque composer, harpsichordist and organist born in Paris into a family of artists and musicians. A gifted and precocious child, he gave his first public performances when he was 5 years old, playing the harpsichord for King Louis XIV of France, and his court. He was a student of Jean-Baptiste Moreau. In 1700, aged 18, he started playing the organ at the Saint-Merri church in Paris (a post previously occupied by Nicolas Lebègue) and became its Titular Organist in 1705. At some point in 1706 he was a member of the panel of judges who examined Jean-Philippe Rameau's skills to appoint him Organist of the Sainte-Madeleine en la Cité church (incidentally, a post Rameau declined). In 1721 he was appointed one of the four Organists of the Chapelle royale of France. In 1733, he succeeded his uncle, the Organist and Priest Pierre Dandrieu (1664–1733) to become the Organist of the (now destroyed) church of St Barthélémy in the Île de la Cité, a post he combined with duties at Saint-Merri (also known as Saint-Médéric). He died in Paris in 1738 and was succeeded at the organ of St Barthélemy by his sister, Jeanne-Françoise.

We welcome Jan Lucie, who will sing music composed by **Alice Stuart Parker Pyle** (1925-2023), known professionally as Alice Parker, an American composer, arranger, conductor and teacher. She grew up in Boston and Winchester, Massachusetts. After studying music theory with Mary Mason at the New England Conservatory in Boston, Parker attended Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, graduating in 1947 with a double major in organ and composition. She then spent a summer at Tanglewood, studying with the conductor Robert Shaw, with whom she went on to have a long and prolific association, and Julius Herford, before beginning a graduate program in choral conducting at the Juilliard School in New York City.

NEXT SUNDAY



CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE

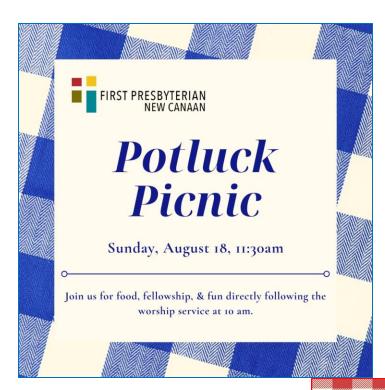
Saturday, July 13, 2:00pm Eric Musa Memorial Service & Reception

Sunday, July 14, 11:30am 2nd Annual Peaches on the Patio (during Coffee Hour)

Sunday, August 18, 11:30am Potluck Picnic (food, fellowship and fun after Worship)

Sunday, September 8, 11:30am Rally Day Picnic (food, fellowship and fun after Worship)

EVENTS THIS SUMMER





EDITOR'S NOTES



REMINDER: The Goodwill truck will be here *Saturday, July 13 from 9:00am-1:00pm* in the FPCNC parking lot. Bring donations of clothing, furniture, and household items in good condition. Receipts for tax purposes will be available. Goodwill Industries provides vocational services for people with disabilities and special needs. (The Goodwill truck is here every 2nd Saturday of each month until November 9.)

"Ordinary Time" holds significant importance in the Presbyterian Church as it represents a period of growth, reflection, and discipleship within the liturgical calendar. While not marked by major feasts or celebrations like Advent or Easter, this time allows congregants to delve deeper into the ordinary rhythms of life and faith, emphasizing the everyday moments where God's presence is found. It serves as a reminder that the Christian journey is not solely defined by dramatic events or high holy days but



is profoundly shaped by the consistent practice of worship, service, and community throughout the year. In this season, Presbyterian believers are encouraged to nurture their spiritual lives, cultivate relationships, and live out their faith in practical ways, fostering a deeper connection to God and one another amidst the ebb and flow of ordinary existence.

During this time, you will see our green paraments that were new last year. The design on the paraments were inspired by our stain glass windows and mid-century modern atmosphere. We hope that as you worship in our Sanctuary or online that you will find spiritual significance and differing interpretations of these designs over the coming months.

Serena Gillespie, Chair Worship, Music & Arts

MISSION & OUTREACH

AMERICARES

We are pleased to make a \$1500 donation to **AmeriCares Free Clinics**. They work globally but this effort is for their work in Connecticut. They provide, to their clinic partners, access to medicine, medical support and other supplies to reduce patient and organizational costs and improve the



delivery of quality care. Americares work with partners to respond with emergency programs when natural disasters strike, offering direct primary care through four free clinics in Connecticut. Donations complement their work with resources and targeted health initiatives that build capacity in local health organizations across the country, strengthening the delivery of health care in our communities.

MISSION AND OUTREACH SUPPORT THIS YEAR ALSO INCLUDE:

Tech4Girls, Ram Council, Save the Sound, Meals on Wheels, South Avenue Cottage, Women Empowering Women, New Covenant House, and Pacific House

COMMUNITY



Providing support and guidance to those impacted by Alzheimer's in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- » Personal Alzheimer's Navigation Specialists
- » 24/7 accessibility
- » Complimentary grant based program
- » Exclusive respite apartment
- » Access to adult day programming
- » Assistance with trusted affiliated resources outside of the Waveny Network
- » Wellness checks
- » Alzheimer's-specific caregiver support groups
- » Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- » Dedicated mobile app

Contact us for a consultation Phone: 203-594-5289 Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with





Finding the right behavioral health support for yourself, family member or a friend can feel overwhelming. The New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance (NCBHA) is excited to announce the launch of its website. New Canaan Human Services, NCCF and Silver Hill Hospital have partnered with over 30 local agencies and organizations to encourage, develop and support a greater community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources in our area. To talk directly to someone that can help navigate available resources, or just to see what behavioral health events are happening around the area, visit www.newcanaanbha.org.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.

NEW prayers and concerns: Mary Thies; Anna Mae Bondor

Continued prayers and concerns: Eric Musa Family, Evelyn Bergstrom, Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); David Altchek undergoing medical treatments (Charles Altchek's father); Katie Byrne (friend of Wendy Starr) and her family on the death of her mother Ann Byrne; Margaret Daley (friend of Maxine Gaddis) and her family on the recent death of her brother Jim; Maryann Donnan (Michele Bergeal's mother); Judy and Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's parents); Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law); Amy Granato (Julie Fowler's sister); Mark Harmon (Darlene's husband); Fell Herdeg and family on the deaths of his mother and aunt; David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Denise Lynch; Sister Eddie McLaughlin (Maxine Gaddis' friend) who's in hospice; Tom Mulligan (Kay Brix's friend); Sandy Nissley; Chris O'Conner (Barbara Wentzel's son-in-law and Jen Gulden's brother-in-law); Marlene Powers; Sue Speers; Joan Scherman (Mark Magnusen's friend); the Spangler Family on the passing of Bob's mother – Norma Spangler; Mark Spiroff on the death of his wife, Denise (friend of Maxine Gaddis); Wendy Starr, recovering from knee surgery; Kathy Ullerich (Wendy Starr's friend); the Abo Noktah family (the Syrian family FPCNC sponsored): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by all the mass shootings.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires and earthquakes and during war.

The faithful work of the PSNE Permanent Judicial Commission, and for its members: Carolyn Blick, Tim McCloskey, Ellen Taylor Sisson, Cass Shaw, Peter Benner, Tom McNeill, Christine Caton, and Chris Tate.

GROW IN FAITH

SILVER HILL HOSPITAL If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/

Pastoral Care Team: Do you know of someone who needs a visitor or a phone call? Our congregation is fortunate to have a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Stacy Arevalo, Peg Bull, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, July 7

9 am Music Rehearsals

10 am Sunday Worship Service

(in-person/LocalLive)

11:15 am Coffee Hour

MONDAY, July 8

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)

2-9 pm Wilton Studios-Music Lessons

TUESDAY, July 9

9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn) 8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, July 10

THURSDAY, July 11

FRIDAY, July 12

OFFICE CLOSED

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)

2-9 pm Wilton Studios-Music Lessons

SATURDAY, July 13

9am-1pm Goodwill Truck (FPC Parking Lot)

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed) 10:30 am A.A. Group (open)

2:00 pm Eric Musa Memorial Service & Reception

SUNDAY, July 14

9 am Music Rehearsals

10 am Sunday Worship (in-person/LocalLive)
11:15 am Coffee Hour & PEACHES ON THE PATIO

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Greeters: Sue Sherwood and Barbara Wentzel

Lay Readers: Angela Johnson, Stacy Arevalo and Stephanie Hare

Ushers: Jim Ely and Peggy Hooker
Cross Bearer: Armin Thies

Communion Preparers: Cathy and Rick Hollingsworth **Communion Servers:** Armin Thies and Barbara Wentzel

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Reverend Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Stephanie L. Hare, Director of Family Ministries
Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager
Stacy Arevalo, Director of Pastoral Care, Adult Discipleship and Spiritual Formation
Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

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