



Pastor's Reflections

Dear, Sisters and Brothers of Love of Christ Lutheran Church,



[This Photo](#) by Unknown

I love dandelions! Truth be told, they may just be one of my favorite flowers. The bright sunshine they bring fills my heart.

The fist bouquet my daughter ever brought me was of dandelions. They smell wonderful, and are good for many things, truly! If not covered in pesticides, they are a fabulous source of food. Every part of the dandelion can be eaten except the milky stalk. When I was younger and went backpacking dandelions were a staple. They made my life so much easier. I didn't have to pack a lot of food. I even remember Mrs. Norris's dandelion wine. She only allowed us a little sip. It was so delicious that I asked for more. She said "no child. You are a young one. (I was almost 18 and though thought I was grown) You do not need any more than that." Another wonderful thing about Dande's is that they make dreams and wishes come true. When the dandelion goes to seed if you pick it and make a wish, and then blow the wishies.... Well, then your wishes come true. I believed that as a child. I still believe. Dandelions can make dreams come true.

A sermon several years ago by a synod bishop also spoke to the power and wonder of dandelions. She said, "let us be a dandelion church." What she meant by that was as the word of the gospel spread; As Jesus' word and his miracles spread the power of that word was something like the wishies of the dandelion. It makes me think of a commercial for a shampoo. I cannot remember the shampoo.

(perhaps, Breck) What I do remember is: "and she told 2 people, and she told 2 people and he told 2 people....and... People were so excited about this Holy man from Nazareth that they told. They told all that they had seen and heard to everyone who would listen. Like the wishies of the dandelion the word spread like a wildfire.

Dandelion seeds can travel up to 5 miles before settling down and becoming a new flower. Think of the possibilities for us as church here in Weslaco, in the Valley, in the Southwestern Texas Synod, and beyond if we are a dandelion church! Perhaps we can name the months of September, October, and December dandelion months. The goal would be to go and tell everyone about this Jesus who calls each of us by name and calls us beloved of God.

This past Saturday, August 21st, 15 of us from the conference gathered at Grace in Harlingen. We met to rekindle connections, get to know each other, share a meal, brainstorm possibilities for our work together as a conference, and share in the Eucharist. We came up with a number of possibilities. Including:
*A September 16th gathering. *Quarterly Conference Event. **Video of Church. **Video of history of Valley Churches (**more about this later) *Lenten pulpit exchange. *Shared confirmation and youth groups. *Collaborative website. *Joint Bible study for all. *Conference Newsletter. *Conference officers. *Adult Retreats. *Use of deanery funds.

Our next Conference event will be November 20. We are hoping to meet at First Lutheran in Edinburg.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

"I am delighted to be serving as part of the Love of Christ ministry team beside the Church leadership, Pastor Ann, and each of you. I look forward to getting to know each of you and I ask for your feedback and ideas for worship and serving our community more effectively. You may contact me in any of the following ways:

1. Before or after worship
2. Through the church office
3. By phone: 319-481-2970
4. By email: johnswilkinson1946@gmail.com
5. Any other way that works

Jesus told us that the two greatest commandments were to love GOD and to love our neighbors. Let's do that together. PJ



"God's Work, Our Hands"

On Sunday, September 12 congregations of the ELCA in America will come together for "God's work. Our hands."

We have designated the **Aurora House** in our neighborhood in need of our financial support. Therefore, on September 12 we will participate in "God's work. Our Hands" by donating monies to the **Aurora House**. If you choose to donate by check, please write the check to Love of Christ with **Aurora House** in the memo.

Thanks in advance for doing God's work!

Greetings, Members and Friends of Love of Christ

We are very blessed to be served by Pastor Ann Schlossnagle and Pastor John Wilkinson. Hopefully, our attendance will improve as the pandemic lessens. Count your blessings and LOVE your neighbor.

A sincere thank you to Pastor Gene Hasselquist, his parishioners, and friends from up north who supplied the Runn Elementary Sharing Place for some 20 years. These supplies included clothes, shoes, toys, linens, quilts, school supplies, bicycles, etc. The Runn parents enjoyed the free shopping for their family needs. Unfortunately the end has come--no more Sharing Place. We are so thankful and appreciative of all the giving and love the "Northerners" have shown. Thank you.

Principal Sarmiento envisioned the Sharing Place becoming a museum. Maybe that will come true in the near future.

A big thank you also to our congregation for the unloading of the semi, unpacking the boxes, sorting all the items and keeping them organized. You too are appreciated. Thanks.

Last season Marvin Hedlund did bring bicycles down which were distributed to students by need and achievements. Marvin is bringing bicycles down again this fall and the recipients will be delighted! Thanks to Marvin and Lynette! SKN

Runn School Supply Collection

July was the month to collect school supplies and money to purchase supplies.

LoC collected:

- 2 packages of construction paper
- 2 wide lined notebooks
- 4 boxes of pencils
- 2 calculators
- 1 box of markers
- \$1,125.00

The cost of the supplies we purchased totaled \$1,358.39. Thanks to all who contributed to this mission work.



SEPT ANNIVERSARIES

- 06 Patricia & Wayne Winter
- 08 Jan & Robert Slade
- 27 Leola & Paul Anderson
- 30 Donness & Marvin Dietz

OCT ANNIVERSARIES

- 13 Joyce & Rich Klindt
- 21 James & Kathy Whitney
- 26 Barb & Don Rilley

NOV ANNIVERSARIES

- 09 Jenna & Michael Gutierrez
- 18 Helen & Orville Schultz
- 22 Linda & Rex Kirchhoff
- 26 Margaret & Richard Twait
- 26 Jon & LuRae Schwartz

Drop a personal note to one of your brothers or sisters in Christ at LOC who celebrates a special occasion this month and let them know how much their presence in our family of faith at LOC means to you.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayers are offered while shawls are created. Then the shawls are given to the sick and those needing comfort. Shawls have been distributed to many within the community, and they have been mailed to numerous locations within the United States and Canada as requests for those needing prayers and comfort are filled. We are pleased to fill requests.

SEPT BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Amy Van Deest
- 02 Leola Anderson
- 05 Raye Chandler
- 05 Gloria Jensen
- 10 Anne Baker
- 11 Orville Schultz
- 13 Jim Magruder
- 14 Thelma Dutenhoeffer
- 15 Mildred Brautigam
- 15 Sam Learned
- 17 LuRae Schwartz
- 19 Dean Garnett
- 22 Carolyn Buswell
- 23 Beverly McKibben
- 25 Patricia Winter
- 26 Lyle Jaegler

OCT BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Renate Chamberlain
- 07 Shirley Nelson
- 09 Jerry Shields
- 12 Bob Degener

OCT BIRTHDAYS CONT.

- 16 Paul Anderson
- 19 Sylvia De La Garza
- 23 Barbara Krambeer
- 24 Darla Chaloupek
- 28 Jim Thalacker
- 28 Margaret Twait
- 28 Forrest Zemlicka
- 29 Elaine Magnuson
- 29 Betty Piper

NOV BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Rex Kirchhoff
- 05 Tom Dannelley
- 06 Michael Gutierrez
- 09 Bette Learned
- 12 Pastor John Wilkinson
- 18 Lynn Hedlund
- 19 Barb Rilley
- 22 Isabella Waldschmidt
- 27 Alice Lichman
- 29 Helen Schultz

Contact Julie Knutson in the office 956-447-1337 if you would like to add to the prayer list and/or would like a prayer shawl, prayer square sent to someone. We also have pocket squares as an option to send to a loved one.

PRAYER SQUARES

We have a "Prayer Squares" project. A square is quilted and tied with loving strings of embroidery thread. Then when one of our members of Love of Christ (or a friend) is having surgery, or is in a hospital, each of us say a prayer, tie a knot, and then give the patch to them. They are even allowed to take them into the surgery room. We want our prayers with them.

CAN HUGGING BE GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH?

Covid-19 has changed the way we give and receive affections, but it's important for our mental health to remain connected to those we love. And the health benefits of physical touch are quite impressive.

Hugs are not only a great way to show someone you care about them—research also has shown they can cause a decrease in the stress hormone cortisol, strengthen your immune system and even help lower blood pressure and heart rate in stressful situations.

Why does hugging seem to have a therapeutic effect? It may be because the brain has specific pathways created to detect human touch. We can detach ourselves from people and get locked up in our own world, but just the physical act of hugging can really connect us with people.

Good news: The CDC says hugs between two people are fine if they are fully vaccinated and feeling well. Hugging communicates that you are safe, loved and that you are not alone—a much-needed message as the world works to put an end to the pandemic.

Joe Rock, Psychologist



CHRIST CARE...

Reflecting Christ's love in our community of faith! His inspiration! Please, if you...or someone you know... could use some **Christ care, some concern, or some expression of the love of Christ in his/her life, LET US KNOW.** You may do so by calling Pastor Ann (503) 707-7406-c, Pastor John (319) 481-2970-c, or the church office (956) 447-1337. We at LOC want to care for you, for your friends, and for all who want to know the love of Christ in their life.

THE LIBRARY

Come and check out the Love of Christ Library! Folks have donated some great reading, videos, and audio tapes. Come and browse or come and bring your donation to the Library, and be an encouragement to the folks at Love of Christ church.

The Library is located at the church office, and Julie Knutson is always willing to help you.

READING MACHINES

If you, or a loved one, have a vision difficulty that could be helped by the use of our reading machines, please contact Julie Knutson at the Church office (956) 447-1337. Three reading machines are available to be used by anyone in need of help. The machines are "checked out", much as a library book and returned to the office when no longer needed, or if the user does not remain in the Valley during the summer months. There is no charge for this use. If you have a problem pick-

ing up the machine from the church office, please make it known to the secretary at the church office, and the machine will be delivered to you. This is another ministry of the Love of Christ Church!



Fall Word Unscramble

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. daehiyr | 1. _____ |
| 2. sruewnfol | 2. _____ |
| 3. rrqusile | 3. _____ |
| 4. seleva | 4. _____ |
| 5. kare | 5. _____ |
| 6. derci | 6. _____ |
| 7. nmutua | 7. _____ |
| 8. pape | 8. _____ |
| 9. rseebpmte | 9. _____ |
| 10. uipnkpm | 10. _____ |
| 11. nroca | 11. _____ |
| 12. ycilhl | 12. _____ |

The Fall

A man named Jack was walking along a steep cliff one day, when he accidentally got too close to the edge and fell. On the way down he grabbed a branch, which temporarily stopped his fall. He looked down and to his horror saw that the canyon fell straight down for more than a thousand feet.

He couldn't hang onto the branch forever, and there was no way for him to climb up the steep wall of the cliff. So Jack began yelling for help, hoping that someone passing by would hear him and lower a rope or something.

HELP! HELP! Is anyone up there?

"HELP!"

He yelled for a long time, but no one heard him. He was about to give up when he heard a voice. Jack, Jack. Can you hear me?"

"Yes, yes! I can hear you. I'm down here!"

"I can see you, Jack. Are you all right?"

"Yes, but who are you, and where are you?"

"I am the Lord, Jack. I'm everywhere."

"The Lord? You mean, GOD?"

"That's Me."

"God, please help me! I promise if, you'll get me down from here, I'll stop sinning. I'll be a really good person. I'll serve You for the rest of my life."

"Easy on the promises, Jack. Let's get you off from there; then we can talk."

"Now, here's what I want you to do. Listen carefully."


"I'll do anything, Lord. Just tell me what to do."

"Okay. Let go of the branch." "What?" "I said, let go of the branch. Just trust Me. Let go."

There was a long silence.

Finally Jack yelled, "HELP! HELP! IS ANYONE ELSE UP THERE?"





Being a Christian
is like being a Pumpkin

God picks you from the patch and brings you in. (John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. (Romans 6:6)

Then He carves you a new smiling face. (Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see. (Matthew 5:16)

CHARACTERISTICS OF A STAR

- *They vary in size, temperature, and brightness; in fact our sun is described as a typical star.
- *Even though the stars shining in the sky seem infinite, they are limited. One can see only about 6000 with the naked eye.
- *However collectively, there are about 100 billion stars and 100 million galaxies, which we now know about.
- *Stars twinkle rather than shine like a planet
- *Stars appear as point sources of light
- *They vary greatly in color
- *Some shine steadily, while others change periodically in brightness
- *Many are solitary, like the sun, but many are double stars, two stars that revolve around each other.
- *Even though the sun is an average star in brightness, many stars would be brighter if they were closer
- *There are fixed stars and wandering stars
- *They arrive at a given longitude on that parallel of latitude at a specified calculable time. This is a basis for time measurement
- *There are new stars being born every day

In reviewing the characteristics of a star, I would like you to think of the parallels you have with stars.

You vary in size and brightness and color and appear as a source of light.

You might think you are alone, but there are multitudes like you around the world.

Some shine steadily while others change in

brightness.

Many are solitary, but some revolve around each other.

You appear brighter when we are closer to you.

Some are fixed and some are wandering.

They are a basis for measurement.

New stars are being born every day.

We commonly think of a star with five points. I will suggest to you that you should also have five points. One to look up, two to reach out, and two to reach down to keep you firmly grounded.

Note that stars do not have points into themselves.



Pastor's Reflections

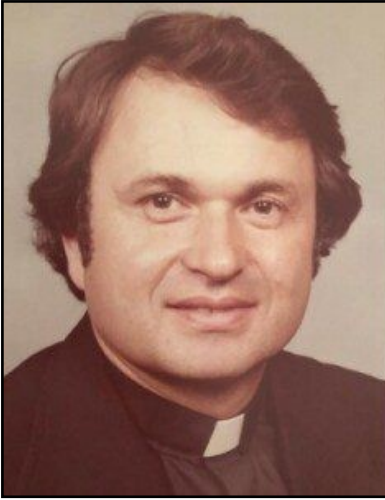
Continued from page 1

Staying with the metaphor and image of the dandelion. Let's send those wishies out there! There are so many possibilities for our church, our conference, our synod, extending out to the whole church. We have much to be excited about! Let's go and tell, spread those wishies and let the mystery of the risen Christ fill us with wonder. Like the wonder of a child with a dandelion. Let's be a dandelion church!
Pastor Ann++



Klaus Werner Wehrmeister

Dec 16, 1934 - Jul 24, 2021



Mission, Texas

Klaus Werner Wehrmeister, 86 of Mission, Texas, entered into rest on Saturday, July 24, 2021, surrounded by his loving family in Mission, Texas.

He was born on December 16, 1934, in

Munich, Germany son of Rudolph Reinhold and Meta (Lichtenstein) Wehrmeister who precede him in death, along with his brother, Harvey Wehrmeister.

Klaus was always proud to claim his Bavarian heritage. He had a Jewish mother and German father which led to complications as the Nazi political party came to power in 1933. Subsequently, all freedoms were slowly being abolished. As a result, the family experienced suffering and persecution along with many others. One day, Klaus came home to find everything gone, the family apartment had been bombed along with his school. After the bombing, Klaus was taken to an orphanage in Munich until his father was able to build an isolated cottage outside of Munich for his family's safety. Once he was reunited with his family, they were able to farm and take care of themselves.

Later, his mother was told to go to Munich and his father took her there. She was placed in a concentration camp and his brother Harvey, because his mother was Jewish, was placed in a different concentrate camp shortly thereafter. At this time, Klaus talked with God and told God that if he would bring his mother back safely, he would dedicate his life to serving Him as a pastor. His father took Klaus to a farm home of an acquaintance, at great risk to both families, and he remained there until his mother and brother were liberated. All of his mother's family perished in the concentration camps.

Later, the family was reunited and were able to immigrant to the United States. They arrived at Ellis Island in April 1948, where his father and brother were able to obtain jobs. With a language barrier, Klaus was able learn English and excelled in school and was ready for college at the age of 16. He graduated from Philadelphia theological seminary in 1958 and was ordained at Trinity Lutheran Church on Staten Island. His first call was to St. Paul Lutheran Church on Coney Island for 12 years, then to St. John Lutheran Church in Fort Worth for 2 years, Christ the King Lutheran Church in Haltom City, Texas for 12 years. Klaus and family moved to the Rio Grande Valley in December 1982 to fill a call at Bethel Lutheran Church in Lyford for 13 years, also serving as an interim pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Harlingen. He was also a part time pastor at Elsa Texas at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and at First Presbyterian and Church of the Epiphany Episcopal church both in Raymondville, Texas. He also served at Our Savior in McAllen Texas as a interim pastor. His last call was in response to a group of displaced Lutherans who desired to start a new Lutheran congregation in Mission, Texas. They became known as Spirit of Peace in Mission, Texas, from which he retired, after 15 years.

Klaus is blessed to be survived by his wife, Betty Turner Wehrmeister, for 39 years, daughters, Christine Meta Morgan, Machelle Annette Drake; son, Jonathan Paul Wehrmeister; grandchildren, Rachel, Lauren, Nicole, Caleb, Angela, and Nina.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, August 1, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. at Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church, 4000 N. Taylor Rd., McAllen, Texas 78504.

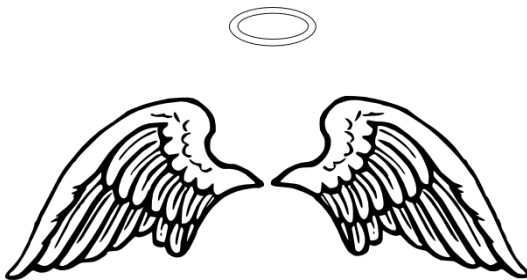
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Tunnel to Towers (T2T.org).

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Duddleston Funeral Home, 604 W. Hidalgo Ave., Raymondville, Texas.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray especially for:

Reb & Heather Baker (son and daughter-in-law of Will & Anne Baker),
The Family of John Bowen
Bill & Gail Brandt (Faith Lutheran Church),
Renate Chamberlain,
Derald Christensen,
Pastor Sylvia De La Garza,
Marilyn Garnett,
Geoffrey (grandson of Lee and Mary Nelson),
Linda Grider (sister of John Wilkinson),
Ed Haight (son-in-law of Pastor Bob & Jan Slade),
Carole & Dave Kangas,
Maria Mendoza,
Joe Moore,
Evelyn Nelson,
Ed Puder,
The Family of Don Rilley
Ryan Rounds (son of Marilyn Rounds),
Trevor Scheutz (grandson of Thelma Dutenhoeffer),
Sharon Shull,
Sandford Sill,
Daniel Slade (son of Pastor Bob and Jan Slade),
Staff and children of Runn School,
Don Van Deest,
The Family of Klaus Werner Wehrmeister
Elaine & David Wisely (daughter and son-in-law of Lou Vitek),
Tom Young,
the people of Afghan & Haiti and the rest of the world experiencing the violence of terrorism, all the men and women of the police, fire, EMS, and all the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families.



It was Friday Morning, September 7, 2001 as we awoke in our hotel in Newark, New Jersey. (We did not know that it was in the same hotel that the terrorists were). Sally and I wanted to go to New York City but Sally said that I couldn't drive there. We decided to take a tour bus and do the sight-seeing trip. At noon the bus stopped for lunch at the World Trade Center.

There was a snack bar on the roof where we could go for lunch. After having taken a lot of pictures, the battery in my camera was about dead. I asked people in the WTC if there was any place I could charge my camera battery and I was told "No" because it might blow a circuit breaker. No way were they going to let me do that.

To the top Sally and I went. After we got to the top, after taking only 2 or 3 pictures, the battery went dead. At the snack bar I asked if there was any place I could plug in my camera, if only for a few minutes, to give it some charge. A teen-age boy said, "Just a minute. I'll ask my boss". The boss asked "Is the big coffee maker done"? He said, "Yes, it's done". The boss said, "Unplug it and let him plug it in there".

Now I have thought a lot about those two since. If it was not for the act of kindness that those two showed me, I would have no pictures from up there. If they went to work on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, like they had always done, they more than likely perished that day.

submitted by Ron Moe

MAY GOD BLESS THEIR SOULS

AURORA HOUSE WISH LIST



Foods Grocery Store Gift Card *Fresh Fruits/Seasonal Fruits *Fresh Vegetables Frozen Juices Butter/ Margarine

Lawn Maintenance 30W motor oil (5)
2 Cycle Weed Eater Oil Weed Eater
String: 80 or 90 gauge Lawn Mower Gift Cards for gas for Lawn Mower Home Improvement Gift Cards

Office Supplies And Equipment: Colored Copier Paper 8½ X 11 *Copier Paper 8½ X 11
Pocket Folders Small sticky notes Plastic File Boxes *Manila Folders Dividers Highlighters Binders with plastic cover in front

Household Plastic Cups Foam Cups 8 oz. Antibacterial hand Soap Hand Sanitizer Laundry Detergent (HE Only) Foil Paper Parchment Paper Plastic Coffee filters *Garbage bags- 13-gal/ 30 gallons *Freezer bags gallon sizes *Ziplocs 1 gallon & 1 quart *Paper Towels *Toilet Tissue Air Freshener (sprays) – all aromas Light Bulbs Kleenex Windex Disinfectant wipes Adult size wipes Latex Free Nitrile gloves Medium *Clorox Floor Cleaners (Faboloso/Pine Sol) Powder Cleaner (Ajax)

*Milk *Eggs Instant Tea (sweet & unsweetened) Tea bags Coffee mate *Coffee: regular & decaf Soft Drinks: all flavors Lemonade Mix Bread Lunch meat Artificial Sweetener Sugar Substitutes Sugar *Oatmeal Potatoes *Rice *Pinto Beans *Lentils Olive Oil Vegetable Oil Cooking Spray Red Wine Vinegar Rice Vinegar Bread Crumbs Garlic Powder Garlic Salt Crackers Flour Cake Mix Frostings Mayonnaise Pancake Mix Pancake Syrup Honey Peanut Butter Jam/Jelly

Kitchen Napkins *Latex Free and Powder Free Gloves small Dish Soap

Meats Fish Beef Poultry Prepared Casseroles

Due to Health Regulations, we cannot accept the following: any opened items such as: packages of meat, medications, opened/expired bottles, boxes, canned food, cereal, rice, etc. ***We use a lot**

Aurora House Foundation is asking for donations.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a matching gift of up to \$150,000 will be donated to Aurora House to help us continue to provide compassionate care for those in our community who need it most. They will match up to \$150,000 donation from individual donors. We are challenging our friends, family, and supporters, to help us do something amazing and reach our goal! We cherish every donation* and work hard to ensure every dollar is put to work providing compassionate care to our residents. But we need your help!

It all begins TODAY! (Matching ends December 2021) Every dollar you donate will be matched dollar-for-dollar, doubling your donation and doing twice as much good! If you donate \$10 your donation instantly becomes \$20! If you donate \$500 your donation will become \$1,000!!

Become a Compassionate Care GEM today and sign up for monthly donations!

Website: www.aurorahouse.org/aurora-house-monthly-pledge-drive/

Mail to: Aurora House P.O. Box 976 Weslaco Texas, 78599

Call: 956-973-9690

Did you know? The CARES Act allows for up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 for a married couple) in an above-the-line deduction for charitable gifts made in 2020 and claimed on taxes in 2021 and each year thereafter (this is not limited to only 2020). This means that you can lower your income tax bill by giving to Aurora House even if you take the standard deduction on your taxes. Please talk with your accountant to learn more.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



**Council Meeting
2:00 PM
October 7, 2021**

Love of Christ Lutheran Church
914 W Third Street
Weslaco, TX 78596
Corner of Border & Third Street
We worship in the Facilities of Faith Lutheran Church
Phone: 956-447-1337-Office
Email: locmailbox@yahoo.com
WWW.LoveofChristelca.com
Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9:00am-1:00pm
Office Administrator: Julie Knutson 651 335-7655 - c

PASTOR ANN SCHLOSSNAGLE 503 707-7406-C
PASTOR JOHN WILKINSON 319 481-2970-C

2021 Church Council

President - Shirley Nelson	956 358-6690 - c
Vice President - Jon Schwartz	712 540-3555 - c
Secretary - Jo Coyle	651 470-8190 - c
Treasurer - Lauren Coyle	651 434-1694 - c
Associate Member at Large - Rex Kirchhoff 402 469-0176 - c	
Finance Secretary/Prop. & Fin./Stewardship - C.B. Shields 956 330-7426 - c	
Music/Worship & Discipleship/Prayer - Dean Garnett 956 463-5941 - c	
Social Ministries & Outreach – Open Position	