Following the God made known in the life and teachings of Jesus, we at Peace United Church of Christ gather as an Open and Affirming community to worship, learn, and serve.
The Reverend Wendy Bruner, Pastor and Teacher
The year 2018 has come and gone. As I look back over 2018, I am struck by the faithful work of this congregation.

Every morning I thank God that I have the opportunity to be a part of the Peace community. 2018 was a wonderful year. The energy I felt when I first walked through those red church doors 3 years ago has not waned. We became more engaged in the world around us with each day’s passing – the 2nd year of CDF Freedom School, Our Whole Lives, boarding a bus to Jefferson City for the third year in a row to advocate for children, becoming more intentional in worship and learning, inviting everyone into fuller participation in the life of the church, and actively thinking of other ways we can respond to God’s call on our lives in the wider community.

2018 was a challenging year for us too. We asked ourselves difficult questions.
• How do we respond to a government that diminishes the lives of people with brown and black skin?
• What are we to do with the privilege we carry when so many people struggle under the weight of broken systems?
• How and where do we show up to stand in solidarity?

Though these questions are overwhelming, we did not let that stop us. We learned together and began to tackle these and many more difficult questions. We knocked on doors in the hopes of educating our neighbors on important ballot initiatives and on the importance of their votes. We participated with Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU)—a grassroots organizing nonprofit—and hosted an event through MCU to encourage and challenge the community.

The work is far from complete, but as you read through the reports in the following pages I expect you will be as amazed as I am at the work being done. Each person at Peace UCC had a role in making this work possible through their generous contributions of time, financial resources and unwavering prayer.

I walk joyfully out of 2018 and into 2019—glad to be journeying with you—led by a Spirit that has a wonderful sense of humor, a loving way and a challenging nature.

Darcy Swanson, Music and Faith Formation Coordinator
The music department is alive and thriving at Peace United Church of Christ! The ensembles are busy learning, rehearsing, enjoying times of fellowship, and providing music for worship.

Wednesday afternoons our youngest musicians gather each week to sing, dance, play instruments, and learn to read music. We are using the Growing in Grace Curriculum and Fruit of the Spirit is our theme this year. Some favorite activities this year have been Fruity Freeze Dance, Fruity Vowels, and
Fruit Basket Rap. The children are full of enthusiasm and always willing to help with leading worship.

Saturday mornings our youth gather to work on part singing and vocal techniques as we rehearse our anthems. Our rehearsals are also a time for sharing, building community, spiritual growth, and instilling in our youth the understanding they have valuable gifts to share in worship. The Youth Choir rehearses weekly and sings in worship once a month.

Handchimes is an intergenerational ensemble that rehearses weekly and provides music in worship once a month. This year for the first time our ensemble has grown so we can now use all five octaves of chimes. There isn’t a chime that is left in the case during our rehearsals. This ensemble of dedicated members works on developing their technique, musicianship, and building relationships with one another as we rehearse each week.

Folk Choir enriches our worship with spirited music each month. This group is always ready to try something new to enliven our worship services. You can hear guitar, rhythm instruments, and even see a bit of dancing. This year we have added a mandolin and saxophone. There is always lots of laughter and fun as the folk choir is busy rehearsing!

The formed ensembles are only a portion of the gifts and talents this community has to offer! We welcomed several guest musicians this year including: No Strings Attached, Ripple Effect, Grenadilla Celestina Clarinet Quartet, Webster Groves High School Jazz Bands, and our very own Christopher Grundy. This summer was filled with a wide variety of special music and the summer intergenerational choir each month. Our congregational carolers of all ages gathered in December to sing carols and deliver care packages (created by our middle school youth) to our homebound members. There are so many wonderful happenings in the music department at Peace United Church of Christ!!

There are also many exciting things happening in Faith Formation at Peace UCC!

Our Middle School Youth (5th – 7th graders) are full of enthusiasm and passion for wanting to help do God’s Work in the World. This group gathered for the first time in April and has been meeting monthly (sometimes twice a month) after worship on Sundays. Kathy Adair also helps lead this group. We start each meeting with lunch and fellowship together then we get down to business with learning and action. Here are some of the things we have done this year: helping plant the raised garden beds in the parking lot, creating kindness rocks and placing them out in our community, participating in the CROP Walk, creating Glorious Gratitude Journals, helping with Hanging of the Greens, creating How Shall We Do God’s Work in the World magnets for the congregation, creating bulletin covers for Advent, using our Advent Kindness Jars to help us do acts of kindness, assembling care packages for our homebound members, and we ended our year by going caroling with the congregation and delivering our care packages to our homebound mem-
Sprouts of Peace—I’ve joined Al Schon and Jeanne Smith to help with Sprouts of Peace. We work with the Islamic Foundation of Greater St. Louis and United Hebrew Congregation to plan programming that brings children of faith communities together for learning, sharing, and community building. There are six events held each year for children Pre-K through 5th grade and Peace hosts two of these events each year.

CDF Freedom School: What an amazing summer! Plans started in March gathering needed classroom and recycled supplies. Then it was time to gather lots of helpers, snacks, and plan afternoon activities. Thanks to everyone at Peace. Many of you helped with breakfast, lunch, classroom activities, afternoon activities, volunteered to sing songs with our scholars, and brought in snacks. Finally it was time for the fun to begin. We had the opportunity to meet our fifty little scholars, learn their names, and build relationships with them. It was a busy and wonderful summer while doing important work.

The MMS-UCC Covenanted Youth Leaders and STL-AUCE (Assoc. of United Church Educators). Participating in these groups help connect us with the wider church. MMS-UCC Covenanted Youth Leaders are working on ways to gather youth and build community among the churches in our association. They also work together to plan many of the conference-wide events. STL-AUCE has been sharing best practices and resources at their meetings. A resource fair was held last April at Eden and a library has been started where we can share useful resources.

Sue Clauss, Music Associate

The Chancel Choir provided music for worship services generally for three Sundays a month, and for extra services, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve. The choir rehearsed regularly on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings prior to worship. Chief accomplishments for the Chancel Choir in 2018 were:

• Developing the choir’s ensemble and vocal tone
• Expanding the choir’s repertoire to include both contemporary works and choral classics
• Performing Victor Johnson’s African Psalm for Eden Seminary’s Psalm Festival on October 7 in Wehrli Chapel
• Offering inclusive fellowship, compassion, and caring for one another

The Chancel Choir looks forward to continuing to improve its musicianship and expand its repertoire in 2019.

The instrumental ensemble enhanced worship services at least one Sunday a month plus Christmas Eve, playing prelude, postlude, a special selection during the service, and accompanying hymns. Instrumentation varied from month to month, but generally included: violins, flute, clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, and this fall added alto saxophones and trombone. On Christmas Eve, the ensemble, numbering 10 musicians, premiered an original work...
written just for them by our own Zach Tesch, who also directed the performance.

The instrumental ensemble will continue to enrich worship and expand their repertoire through purchased music and occasional newly composed works.

**Jen Einspahr, Administrative Assistant**

2018 was my first full year as the Administrative Assistant. It has been an exciting and busy year. There is always something to do from producing the bulletins and News & Notes to managing the database and social media for the church. I also serve as the staff person on the Facilities Team and as the supervisor of our custodian. Summer was a busy time here in the office as I helped with CDF Freedom School. I enjoy the variety of work that each day brings.

This is my second year of being the student pastor here at Peace UCC. During this past year I have been able to participate in a number of ways. I have been working with the Fishers Circle, the Worship/Learning Circle, and the Worship Planning Circle. I had the opportunity to plan the Easter Sunrise and the Blue Christmas Services. For the last month I have been presiding over communion. Peace UCC is a great place for me to learn and grow.

**Debbie Gregg, Governing Body President**

The Governing Body (GB) is a group of remarkable people and it is an honor and a pleasure to serve as leader. As we have found our footing since elections in July, energy has been building and facilitating our work on your behalf. We certainly do not always agree, but respect and lots of humor keeps us moving forward on some deep conversations. I am grateful for each person serving on the GB and for their active participation; they are making a significant contribution to us all despite employment and busy schedules.

A few GB accomplishments in 2018:

- Twice-yearly congregational conversations. Requested at a congregational meeting, GB offered two evening meetings (spring and fall) for open discussion. Half of the GB attended each meeting and gave an update on their areas, followed by open questions and concerns. Please look for the next opportunity.
- Approval by the congregation to add a vice president position to the GB.
- Several members and friends attended the St. Louis Association meeting in September! And the Deaconess Foundation open house, as well as other events in our wider community. Great to connect with our neighbors near and far.
- Beginning discussions on updates to our mission and vision. Though the monthly GB meetings are always full, we have been considering what to do with our building space after Waldorf School leaves. This ties in first and foremost with our mission and vision. GB’s Shared Space Circle will get underway soon to begin conversations. We will include the congregation in discussions. As part of these considerations, Debbie Gregg, Pat-
ty Pelikan (Facilities Team leader) and the Rev. Wendy Bruner attended a national conference by the UCC Building and Loan Fund. Presentations included many congregations who have succeeded in (and some who had to revise!) plans to refine/restructure/renew their space and/or their mission.

- Special thanks to Joe Kelly, who led us as GB president through our transition from interim pastor through Wendy’s leadership, as well as discussions regarding the impact of the sale of the YMCA building on our space. Joe has the gift of hearing each person and honoring their voice with respect, gentleness and maintaining focus. For this, I appreciate that he decided to continue on GB as secretary. And to Gary Boehnke, a source of historical information that I lack despite the fact that I have served on GB as long as he has. His vision for the vice president position and a team to help with church administration are moving us forward as a congregation doing more and more of God’s work in the world.

The key to the GB’s success is participation by everyone, and I think we as a congregation were good at that in 2018. There are so many ways: hosting coffee hour, joining a discussion group, participating in our twice-yearly (new in 2018) congregational conversations, activity on a circle, worshipping together. Please continue to participate; we would miss you otherwise.

**Finance Team, Ben Allen**

The mission of the Finance Team is to ensure the financial health of the congregation, both in terms of generating income, and anticipating and monitoring expenses. The Finance Team has several responsibilities including managing the pledge campaigns, presenting the proposed budgets to the Governing Body and congregation, and defining financial policies as needed. The scope and quality of the work of the Finance Team is enhanced by the devoted members of the affiliated circles to the Finance Team: Stewardship, Audit and Money Counters. The Finance Team works with all the teams and areas of the church to help Peace UCC abide by its fiduciary responsibility to ensure that the treasures provided by members and friends of Peace UCC are doing God’s work in the world.

At the end of 2018, the Finance Team was composed of Harry Wilson, Ken Ulmer, Bob Hill, Bob Brandewiede, Nancy McDonald, Ted Loucks, Paul Kachulis, Eric Johnson and Ben Allen (Team Leader). The Finance Team thanks Harry Wilson for his generous service as its recent leader, but we appreciate his decision to continue on the team providing his expertise, insights and perspective. Paul Kachulis continues to provide the professional and technical accounting service that supports the Finance Team and the Governing Body. Pastor Wendy Bruner and President of the Governing Body, Debbie Gregg attend meetings of the Finance Team and are fully engaged in its work.

As of January 1, 2018, the Peace UCC General Fund had a surplus of $35,651 while at the end of the year on December 31, 2018, a significantly smaller surplus. The General Fund budget for 2018 was enhanced by a successful
Stewardship Campaign at the end of 2017 and a carryover of a substantial surplus for 2018. The 2018 budget provided support of the work of three full-time staff members, enhanced resources to the various teams and more support of the CDF Freedom School.

Although the stewardship campaign this fall (for 2019) was successful with the number of pledge units and the amount of total pledges larger than they were last year, that success was partially offset by the loss of income from generous members who moved away from St. Louis or passed away in 2018. In 2019 the Finance Team will continue to provide leadership with respect to financial matters of Peace UCC. As part of this effort, the Finance Team will:

- Review the current Stewardship Program to determine if improvements in the program can be realized to better support Peace UCC.
- Review the operations of the Finance Team to determine, based on best practices, if they can be more effective to better inform and serve the members and friends of Peace UCC.

The Finance Team gives thanks for the generosity of the members and friends of Peace UCC and are grateful for how responsibly and carefully the various teams and individuals are using those treasures to do God’s work in the World.

Facilities Team, Patty Pelikan

2018 has been a busy year for the team. Our focus is to provide the space to serve our church mission. I was very fortunate to join the team in July and, Gary Boehnke, the former team lead, generously took the time to familiarize me with the history and current activities of the team. Paul Kachulis continues to coordinate service contracts, work with contractors, and perform ongoing facilities-related logistics throughout the year. Scott Guerrero will be reinstating the Job Jar Circle and supports facilities projects. Wynn Miller also assists with facilities projects. Jen Einspahr, with her extensive facilities background, provides great support as the staff member on the team and helps oversee facility-related supplies. Will Oberkrom led the effort to troubleshoot, make interim repairs, and determine a comprehensive plan for repairing the sewer infrastructure issues; approved for funding during the special November 25th congregational meeting. In addition to providing extensive support to Will, Gary also oversaw tree maintenance and other projects throughout the year. All team members further provided excellent input during the monthly Facilities Team meetings.

Some of the projects in 2018 included parking lot rescaling to include catching up on long-deferred maintenance, replacing the kitchen electrical panel, upgrading a major air handling unit to automated thermostat control, continuing to convert lights to LED, and replacing the dishwasher in the Fireside room kitchen. Adding to this list would be many other repairs and maintenance tasks throughout the year. For 2019 the team is focusing on prioritizing the ongoing maintenance and repair project needs throughout the church facilities and to support all short-term and long-term facilities
planning by the congregation.

Additional thanks go to many throughout the congregation who volunteer their time to assist with the various Facilities circles. For example, Bob Hill, Gigi Hill, and Jane Herz took the initiative to perform a much-needed clean-up of the triangle garden at the Lockwood entrance in August. Those who have also worked in our other gardens include Sandy Bowe, Lynn Loudermilk, Gretchen Loudermilk, Norma Leuthauser, and Tina Robbins. Ken Ulmer has further provided facilities support. This list of circle members may not be all-inclusive and we have gratitude for all who have donated their time and financial resources to assist the Facilities Team in caring for the facilities in a manner to best support the church mission.

Servant Team, Bob Karr
The Servant Team works in three areas: 1) Christian charity (benevolence), 2) prophetic justice (social action through the Prophetic Justice Circle) and 3) Gospel witness (evangelism through the Fishers Circle). To indicate the commitment of Peace UCC to this work, the Servant Team budget is 10% of the total income of Peace UCC.

The Servant Team provides financial support to multiple organizations, including three founded by members of Peace: Dignity Period, Empowering Young Women—Uganda, and Home Sweet Home. Other organizations that receive support are Emmaus House, Every Child’s Hope, Unleashing Potential, Webster Rock Hill Ministries (WRHM), Habitat for Humanity UCC House, Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM) and Gateway ONA.

The Servant Team also worked with staff to organize five UCC offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, OCWM, Christmas Fund and Neighbors in Need. A Valentine’s bake sale was held to benefit Lydia’s House. During Advent, donations were gathered to support a family through WRHM and for the St Patrick’s Center homeless veterans program. A foreign student attending Webster University received support, the Yellow Bag ministry gathered food contributions, and the sandwich ministry made sandwiches monthly for Gateway 180.

The Prophetic Justice Circle gathered petition signatures to get Amendment 1 (Clean Missouri) and Proposition B (minimum wage increase) on the November state ballot and then participated in canvassing and phone banking to get out the vote in support of these initiatives.

The Fishers Circle leads the congregation’s effort to invite new people to join us in doing God’s work in the world. Peace Talk sessions were held to provide information to potential new members. The Fishers Circle started planning for a new Peace UCC website for 2019.

Learning Team, Jenn German
Intro: Every disciple of the Lord Jesus shares a mission: to follow the God made know to us in the life and teachings of Jesus. To do our part, we must
expand our faith maturity and prepare to be well equipped to share the Gospel and teachings of Jesus, promoting it in every family circle, every worship service, every public forum and every prophetic vision for justice.

The Church’s mission aims to nurture the faith formation of all ages—inspiring growth in both personal and spiritual maturity while enriching the whole of life with the leaven of the Gospel. Consequently, appropriate goals and content will embrace all the faith dimensions of our lives. For example, understanding and communicating the ways in which we are called to follow Jesus, skills needed for personal growth, the experience of community, building relationships, public service, and concern for the common good.....cultivating a more compassionate world by virtue of the work of faithful followers of Jesus.

The team members, circle leaders and members have offered a level of commitment and engagement to which I offer a heartfelt thanks! Because of their efforts, exciting things are happening at Peace for both adults and youth with continuation into 2019. Below are some of the highlights from 2018.

**Learning Team Circles – Year in Review**

- **Children’s Defense Fund Freedom Schools®—Rev. Wendy Bruner**
  Well, by the end of spring 2018, Peace UCC staff, members and friends along with the Servant Leader Interns were ready and ramped up for a group of 50 scholars to come through the red doors. All were extremely excited to host CDF Freedom School for the second year and many contributed to its success through the donation of supplies, time, talent and funding. The program set a tone and atmosphere that empowered and enabled the scholars and encouraged members and friends of Peace to get involved through donating and volunteering. Peace staff members Darcy Swanson and Jen Einspahr were instrumental in the success of the program. Their hard work is greatly appreciated. Volunteers did a great job reading to the scholars, helping with activities and providing meals, including breakfast, lunch and snacks as well as the family dinners on Thursday evenings. We recognize the efforts of the Community Team who organized the menus and purchased, prepared and served the food.

  Most importantly, CDF Freedom School Scholars reportedly increased their reading level by an average of 8 months by the end of the 2018 session. As a result, Peace will continue to partner closely with Webster School District in the coming years. We’re looking forward to CDF Freedom School 2019!

- **Learning / Worship Circle**
  Out of the mid-2018 prophetic justice sessions, an Adult Learning Circle “ALC” formed which carries the responsibility of outlining adult learning topics. (See the ALC bullet point below for specifics). Additionally, the group “Journey Dialogs” was established which meets bi-monthly during learning time.
Two notable worships services from 2018 are the service honoring the CDF Freedom School Servant Leader Interns and the service of reverence for Rabbi Roxanne of the Hebrew Congregation, who helped develop and nurture Sprouts of Peace.

Following the conversations in 2017 regarding participation of children in worship, it has been reported that many parents of the children are very happy with what’s happening during worship for the children. Attendance at the children’s table continues to grow as does the number of adults volunteering to shepherd during worship service.

- **Adult Learning Circle**—Rev. Wendy Bruner, Robert Karr, Kevin Prange and Jenn German
  As a circle, this crew is responsible for the overall direction, planning and operation of the church’s learning time strategy....encouraging personal and spiritual growth by providing tools for developing the knowledge and skills needed to fulfill the responsibilities of following the God made know to us in the life and teachings of Jesus.

Some of the 2018 learning time themes included: prophetic justice, advocating for Amendment 1—Clean Missouri, immigration reform, school-to-prison pipeline concern and the Advent study of Borg and Crossan's book, *The First Christmas*. The ALC also facilitated two evening programs in 2018, one of which examined the *White Privilege: Let's Talk—A Resource for Transformation Dialogue* curriculum from the United Church of Christ that’s designed to invite church members and friends to engage in safe, meaningful and bold conversations on race. The second was the study of Jim Wallis’ book entitled, *America’s Original Sin*.

The ALC invites you to join during the learning hour from 9:45-10:45am each Sunday for upcoming themes surrounding Rainbow Fish Tree season, Just Peace and Lent’s study of James Cone’s book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. We hope to see you there!

- **Sprouts of Peace**—Al Schon
  (Outlined by Darcy in her report)

- **Our Whole Lives (OWL) Circle**—Elizabeth Schlaeger and Brad Schnell
  The OWL program together with *Sexuality and Our Faith* is offered to older elementary students, middle and high schoolers and adults. The circle leaders are assessing and planning for future years, which may include expansion and inclusion of non-Peace people. Some other church communities have expressed interest, but collaboration has not come to fruition. We always welcome additional participants as well as people willing to become certified facilitators....feel free to let me, Brad Schnell or Elizabeth Schlaeger know if you have an interest!

- **Confirmation Circle**—Amy O'Brien
  Amy contacted families with potential Confirmands for a 2018-19 class. There are a limited number of youth in that middle school age group and
no traction for a program at Peace. After conversations with Dan Coughlin (St. Lucas' Biblical class for Confirmation), Rev. Eric Moeller (St. Lucas' Assoc. Pastor), Wendy Brunner, Kit Norton & Amy Bush (St. Lucas Confirmation Coordinators), Spencer O'Brien decided to commit to the St. Lucas Confirmation program. In the beginning of 2019, Wendy, Spencer, and Amy will talk with Spencer to see if he is moving toward confirming his own faith and if so, how will that look at Peace UCC.

Spencer's journey with Confirmation this fall has included: Sunday morning Bible classes which meet at St. Lucas 8:00-9:00a.m., Wednesday evening Faith Development classes which meet 6:30-8:00 p.m., and field trip/spiritual experiences which include worship at The Gathering, service at Afton Food Bank, worship at Emmaus Home, service at St. Lucas Trunk or Treat, and worship at the St. Louis Basilica.

As Darcy Swanson (Youth Group Circle Leader) continues to work with the younger youth, Peace might have their own Confirmation class in the future.

- **Youth Group Circle**—Darcy Swanson
  Peace UCC youth are committed to the three great loves of UCC; love of neighbor, love of creation and love of children. They are energetic and enjoying their time together while taking part in quite a few things in the life of the church. The circle will continue to keep the youth engaged with a variety of activities during the upcoming year including roller skating, movie nights and a lock-in scheduled in January.

- **Christmas Pageant Circle (seasonal)**—Jenn German
  What an enjoyable evening of community and family celebrating the anticipation of the birth of Baby Jesus. Pastor Wendy’s telling of the Christmas story, along with the parade of characters in creative costumes was a true delight to all in attendance. A big thanks to the parents, performers and volunteers for making it such a great event.

**In Closing:** Undoubtedly, I’ve missed mentioning some folks and programs from 2018. But, on behalf of the entire Learning Team and Learning Circles, I thank everyone who has participated or contributed in some way to help our community grow.

**Worship Team, Sarah Webster**
The Worship Team met quarterly this past year, adopting a workshop format. These open meetings are typically held on Saturday mornings. This year extensive time and energy went into researching and visiting other sanctuaries in the region to look at seating options aside from traditional pews. The congregants were invited to weigh in on the topic, and it was decided to forgo any action at this time, and save information for future reference.

Two new circles were formed this year. 100 Year Celebration of Peace is
slated to start in 2019, the planning coordinators met and created a timeline, and working groups will meet in January. This congregation-wide milestone celebration is also coordinated with an effort to raise funds for much needed organ repairs.

The second circle is a worship circle that formed organically out of a book study called *Think Like A Filmmaker*. This circle coordinates and implements ideas voiced from various sources into the weekly worship and has generated many popular worship series. They also have been revamping the order of worship to more closely follow our values and mission.

Our music program continues to be top notch, with many new participants.

Worship takes many volunteers behind the scene and the Team wishes to thank the following circle leaders!

**Music Circle**
Darcy Swanson

**Sound Circle**
Kevin Prange

**Usher Circle**
Sandy Bowe

**Banners and Communion Table Flowers and Decorations**
Vickie Miller

**Installations**
Sarah Webster

**Liturgists**
Jen Einspahr

Thanks to the staff and wonderful volunteers for all you do to enhance the worship experience at Peace United Church of Christ.

**Community Team, Cindi Myers**
The Community Team is a group of Circles that provide many opportunities for fellowship at Peace UCC. We have had a very successful, busy year.

Members from Community Team participated in many Peace endeavors this past year. One of the first initiatives was a new refrigerator in the kitchen (Thank you, Roger Bridgewater). We were also able to join with other teams to initiate a much-needed cleanup, repair, and paint job of the Fellowship Hall (Thank you, Sandy Bowe). The new refrigerator and the fresh Fellowship Hall made it possible for us to enhance the CDF Freedom School experience. With the help of many we were able to feed 40-50 youngsters every day of the program (Thank you all!). Prayer quilts and meals have been created and delivered to many and opportunities to just enjoy friends at Peace (picnics, coffee time, etc.) have all been a result of the many hard-working Circle Members that make up the Community Team.

If you would like to be a part, we would love to have you.

- **Circle of Care**: Contact Dee Ban or Jenny Davis. The Circle of Care pre-
pares and delivers meals for our community to those who could use a helping hand after the addition of a family member, surgery, illness or any other life changing event.

- **Coffee Fellowship**: Contact Cindi Myers or sign up in the Narthex. The Coffee Fellowship provides treats/snacks between services. Those who sign up are asked to bring in a few treats to share during the coffee time starting around 9:30 am. We like our sweet and our savory. Groups are encouraged to sign up together; more hands make for less work.

- **Mom’s Group**: Contact Dee Ban. The Mom’s Group is a multi-generational group which gathers to lend an open ear, discusses lively relevant topics, likes to read and shares information on family dynamics and enjoys each other’s company. Mom’s Group meets one morning a month.

- **Men’s Fellowship**: Contact Wynn Miller. Men’s Fellowship gathers once a month to enjoy breakfast and conversation.

- **Peace Quilters and Artists**: Contact Gail Saxton. The Quilters and Artists create beautiful quilts that we are able to share with friends. They also enjoy field trips and guests at their monthly meetings. This group is also responsible for the beautiful Valentine Card fund raiser.

- **Hospitality**: Contact Cindi Myers. Hospitality Circle is responsible for any in-house meal, for example, Spring Picnic, Harvest “thank you” Brunch and other special events.

- **Kitchen Circle**: Kitchen Circle is responsible for cleaning, organization, purchasing and inventory of kitchen supplies. This group meets as needed.

- **Mary Martha**: Mary Martha is a women’s group that meets monthly, with guest speakers and activities.

If you have any questions or ideas for the Community Team please contact Cindi Myers (314-852-7768) or myerscindi@yahoo.com.

**People Team, Jeff Davis**

With a generous, confident, joyous budget upgrade in 2018, Peace was able to strengthen our core staffing to support the work of the church. We now have three full-time staff who, day in and day out, do a marvelous job (as in, I marvel at how they do it all!). This dedicated trio—Wendy, Jen, Darcy—inspire us with their words, music, planning and administration that are the heart of our boisterous, mission-focused congregation. We are blessed, also, with support from a caring team that watches the nursery, keeps our building clean, and makes sure the coffee pot is full between services. And then, of course, we have all of you, the members who give your time to make sandwiches and quilts, gather signatures, instruct and read to the children, maintain the building, sing in the choirs and play instruments, prepare and serve meals, demonstrate a radical welcome to visitors, and work in our teams and circles.

In total, it is inspiring and greatly appreciated! Here’s to an even more active and joyful 2019!