



# The Diamond Lake Lutheran

5760 Portland Ave. S. ♦ Minneapolis, MN 55417-2462 ♦ Office: 612-866-2579 ♦ Fax: 612-395-5373 ♦ www.dllc.org

Volume 47 Number 4

*Inviting all people to a life in Christ*

April 2009



## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

### **Sunday, April 5—Palm Sunday**

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion

Palm Sunday is all about making an entrance. We wave palm branches and sing “Hosanna.” Children age 2-Grade 6 are invited to gather in the Narthex (just outside the sanctuary) prior to each worship service to receive their palms and line up to process into worship.

### **Thursday, April 9—Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Worship with First Communion

With nightfall, our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to observe the Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection. We hear Jesus’ faithful words, remember his acts of servanthood, and share the holy supper, including children ready to take their First Communion.

### **Friday, April 10—Good Friday**

10:30 a.m. Family Worship followed by annual Easter Egg Hunt

7:00 p.m. Worship

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ’s life-giving passion and to find strength and hope.

### **Sunday, April 12—Easter**

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m., Worship with Holy Communion

Easter! What a glorious and confident day in the life of a Christian! An Easter garden brightens Diamond Lake, bringing the promise of new life into our hearts. Jesus died, but he is raised alleluia!

## **APPETIZING APRIL**

### *Youth raising money for summer’s NYG*

You are invited to enjoy the following meals and special treats brought to you by Diamond Lake Youth.

### **Wednesday, April 1**

Lenten Dinner, 6:00 pm

Enjoy breakfast for dinner at our final Lenten meal. Thank you McGinness” for preparing this meal for our church family! Suggest donation: \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Kids.

### **Sunday, April 5**

Fresh from the oven! Cinnamon rolls and juice will be served during the Fellowship Hour on Palm Sunday. Cost: \$2.00 each.

### **Sunday, April 12**

A pancake breakfast will be served on Easter Sunday from 7:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in the Lakeview Room. Cost: \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Kids. A sign up sheet for helpers is in the foyer.

Diamond Lake Youth are raising money to attend the ELCA’s National Youth Gathering, *Jesus Justice Jazz*, in New Orleans July 22-26. 20 youth and four adults from Diamond Lake are attending. Thank you for your support! Please read on to learn more about what this year’s summer trip is all about.



*Jesus Justice Jazz*, the theme for the 2009 ELCA National Youth Gathering, draws from the rich faith history, diverse cultures and arts of New Orleans. It will stretch our youth's understanding of what it means to live in relationship and service with each other in the manner of Christ—for life wherever they are!

Gathering organizers are planning a program that will pay attention to what makes the city of New Orleans unique, as well as better understanding the changes it is going through as the entire Gulf Coast region continues to recover after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The focus will be on service and justice as we live our shared reality as Christians: Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed, gathered, and sent for the sake of the world.

Youth and adults will be immersed in worship, music, Bible study, service, learning, play, prayer, the witness of faithful leaders from around the world, reflection, caring for others and new friendships. The Gathering is a time of change and growth because we gather in the presence of God's Spirit with others who journey with Jesus.

## FROM YOUR PASTOR

### *A Culture of Youth, Children and Family Ministry*

What is 'children, youth, and family ministry'? First, what it is not. It's not a summer trip or a night out bowling. It's not a groovy youth room or a guitar-playing youth director or pastor. These things are part of the ministry. God undoubtedly works through them.

*Ministry* is the sharing of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and it's highly relational work. The mission at Diamond Lake is to invite all people to a life in Christ, which means hearing, telling, passing, catching, sharing, and receiving the good news of Jesus. *This is children, youth, and family ministry.* Nothing more and nothing less. How this happens concretely is the next question.

Programs for children and youth vary from congregation to congregation. Diamond Lake has fantastic programs established in its Christian Education and Youth Committees. They provide the foundational activities children and youth experience as they grow up and grow in faith in this congregation. But a *culture* of children and youth ministry extends beyond activities and beyond just two committees' work.

In a culture of children and youth ministry, the whole congregation considers its work with the whole family (people of every age) for the purpose of passing, catching, sharing, and building the faith. This is why we say children and youth are not the future of the church. They are the church now.

When children and youth are active in the full life of a congregation, they take their part proclaiming the life-changing gospel of Jesus with the whole congregation. They also see and hear that good news through their relationships with parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, confirmation mentors, choir and bell directors, pastors, and lots of other caring adults who are not directly involved in children and youth activities. In the church, everyone is a child of God, learning and growing; everyone is also a 'parent,' sharing with someone else in both obvious and subtle ways the gospel of Jesus.

God is present and active in this place and in the lives of our members, young and old. In whatever capacity you are engaged in this congregation, please continue to invite and include children and youth, know their names, greet them in worship, pray for them, be interested in their lives, and share the gospel with them. ***They notice!***

*Pastor Amy Thoren*

## EARTH SUNDAY

***April 19, 2009***

Praising the beauty of God's creation is an essential part of our ongoing faith journey and worship experience. This year we will dedicate Sunday, April 19 as Earth Sunday—a day to lift up creation stewardship. In worship and during an intergenerational education hour we will highlight how we as individuals and as a congregation can celebrate and protect God's creation.

## INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY

On Sunday, April 19 during the education hour, we will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> of two intergenerational Sunday School events at DLLC this year. These special Sundays are very new to our congregation.

Following are a few tips:

- ✓ Enter the Lakeview Room knowing that you, no matter your age or situation, have a place;
- ✓ Sit at a table with your family unit if you have children 6<sup>th</sup> grade or younger. Please make sure your children are with you; Sunday School teachers will not have responsibility for their classes. If you do not have children at home, sit where you are most comfortable. We encourage mixing and mingling, and we believe the generations have much to offer one another;
- ✓ Know that we will have a guest presenter (a local Christian artist) who will speak for a very short time in order to guide us through an activity. Please be ready to give her your attention and to help model that respect to others;
- ✓ Be prepared for some controlled chaos. We will do some creating in this time (no artistic experience necessary!), and our hope is to do this in a space with energy and fun in which learning and growing in faith can also happen.

## CARING FOR CREATION 2009



Earth Day is April 22! It has been observed since 1970 as a day to increase our understanding of the environment and how to walk more softly on the earth. Watch for activities in your community and

participate in events at Diamond Lake Church. Get out those Chico Bags that you purchased last year. Byerly's and Lund's are donating \$.05 each time any bag is reused at their stores.

## COUNCIL CORNER

Greetings everyone! I am the new President of the Diamond Lake Church Council, but a long time Diamond Lake member. Alex Gonzalez established the Council Corner to keep you informed on Council activities. I intend to continue that tradition. Also, be aware that a copy of Council minutes is available in a notebook at the front desk.

The February Council is typically an organizational meeting, welcoming and equipping our new members: Jay Brooks, Allen Gehrke, Mark Miner and Nick Roder. Kathi Gallup provided training on the organization of church activities under the five ministry columns and the equipping model that we use. The five ministry columns are worship, discipleship, evangelism, ministry and fellowship. Council members serve as liaisons to the activity leaders in the individual ministry columns. They also are responsible for the monthly newsletter articles on ministry column activities.

The Council also received an update from Val Oulman on the plans for this year's Caring for Creation event (CFC2.0). Val and Cyndi Kresse are co-chairing CFC2.0 which will be August 15, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This year's theme is water – from baptism to conservation. So far 13 have signed up to serve on the organizing committee, but more will be needed for the planning and for the event itself. CFC is one of our community outreach activities for education and enjoyment. I hope you will consider helping with the planning and attending the CFC2.0. If you are interested, contact Val or Cyndi. I look forward to keeping you up to date on Council activities. I welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can improve Council communications.

*In Christ,  
Chuck Swanson*

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

***Join Pastor Reany for: "Where Grace Takes You"***

Wednesday mornings at 10:00 beginning April 22 we will begin a study out of Centered Life – an initiative of Luther Seminary. It is titled: **Down and Out – Where Grace Takes You.**

“Down and out: it’s the life God gives us, the life to which God calls us. This six-part series, filmed in high definition, reintroduces you to the life-changing reality of God’s promises, and points the way to a completely different view of life in the light of where grace takes you.”

Together we will talk about the ways grace takes us out into God’s world – confident in God’s promises. Join Pastor Reany beginning April 22.

## **APRIL ADULT FORUMS**

*Sunday, 9:50 a.m., North Room*

### **April 5**

*Dr. He Qi, Chinese Christian artist*

According to *Far Eastern Economic Review*, “He ranks as arguably China’s most internationally sought after contemporary Christian artist. His brilliant, colorful and highly contemporary paintings emerge unmistakably from ongoing Chinese contexts.” Some of Dr. He’s work will be on display at the church before his presentation.

### **April 12—Easter**

No Adult Forum

### **April 19—Intergenerational Sunday School**

No Adult Forum

### **April 26—Faith Statements**

No Adult Forum

## **FAITH STATEMENTS**

The Confirmation Class of 2009 will present their faith statements between worship services on Sunday, April 26 in the Lakeview Room. The faith statement is the culmination of three years of study. It is a chance for each Confirmand to put into words what he/she personally believes about his/her faith.

Please keep our Confirmands—Rachael Eidsmoe, Drake Kilber, Jared Noonan, and Sarah Jane Yockers—in your prayers as they make final preparations for their faith statements and for their Confirmation on Sunday, May 3.

## **JOB TRANSITION S.O.S.**

### **Strategies, Opportunities and Support**

*Wednesday, April 22, 6:45 pm, North Room*

This volatile economy is tough on all of us, both financially and emotionally, and the number of job losses has created an environment of uncertainty for all Americans.

The **Thrivent Community** of The Stonebridge Group of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans recognizes that these issues are heavy on the minds of our members and of our community. We are here to help the members of the community weather through these seemingly unprecedented times and provide the necessary tools and resources to get them and their loved ones back on their feet and back into the workplace.

Thrivent’s Stonebridge Group is hosting **Job Transition S.O.S.: Strategies, Opportunities & Support**, with guest speaker Catherine Breet-Byers, founder of Arbez, Inc. Arbez is a local organization committed to helping job hunters obtain honest and unbiased guidance and inspiration during their search for a new job. In our time together we’ll cover ways to:

- Differentiate yourself in a tight job market.
- Network for success and interview to win.
- Overcome the obstacles and knock your financial fears out of your way.

Immediately following, the **Stonebridge Group** is hosting optional informational sessions dealing with the financial issues many of us find ourselves facing during this transitional period. We will be addressing the underlying question, “How do I manage my expenses to survive this difficult financial time?” as well as answering common concerns surrounding health insurance options and 401(k) management.

**R.S.V.P.:** Alex Gonzalez, 952-358-3442

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### ***Date Night—Friday, April 17***

Date Night is a fundraising/service opportunity for children in 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Students are encouraged to sign up to “baby-sit” the children of Diamond Lake and the community. We hope parents of young children will take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy a night on the town, or to just spend some

time in the peace and quiet of the day. Please sign up on the foyer counter beginning April 5th. All youth are encouraged to sign up to help out, and money raised will go into your individual youth accounts.

### ***Baptism Class—Sunday, April 19***

The next baptism class is Sunday, April 19 at 10:00 a.m. Any parents or parents-to-be who are anticipating a baptism later this spring or summer are required to attend this class prior to their child's or children's' baptism. Grandparents and sponsors are also invited and encouraged to attend.

Baptisms may be scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Call the church office, 612-866-2579, to register for the class or if you have any questions.

### ***High School Senior Breakfast—April 25***

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., IHOP in Bloomington

As the school year winds down our seniors in high school are busy completing all the assignments, working on scholarships for college, and planning for their next year as adults. We are taking the time to honor them at a special “seniors” breakfast, a special time to reflect on their time as youth at Diamond Lake, a time to relive some of the memories and a time to celebrate their next step in the journey of life.

### ***Luther Park signup***

Have you signed up for Bible camp yet?

Diamond Lake weeks are:

**June 21-24**, Snooper for Grades 1-4

**June 21-26**, Grades 3-6

**July 5-10**, Grades 7-9

**July 1-5 or 3-5**, Family Camp

**July 24-26**, Grandparent/Grandchild Camp

Register online at [www.lutherpark.com](http://www.lutherpark.com)

### ***Support Luther Park***

Ole & Lena Spaghetti Dinner, Show & Silent Auction

13<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit for Camp Scholarships

Saturday, April 18, 5:00 p.m.

Richfield Lutheran Church

60<sup>th</sup> & Nicollet Ave. S., Mpls

Adults: \$18, Children under 12: \$5

See Pastor Mark for tickets!

### ***Lutheran Social Service Adoption***

Join Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Adoption to learn about the exciting opportunities and recent changes in adoption. Discover the tools and support for families who would like a flexible, proactive adoption process, and learn how LSS can partner with you to grow your family.

LSS can help families adopt children locally, and from countries around the world. Call Lynne Haggart at (612) 879-5230 or 1-888-205-3769 to register for the 10:00 am. – 12 noon meeting at the Center for Changing Lives, Room 182, on Saturday, April 4, located at 2400 Park Ave., in Minneapolis.

For more information, or to register online, visit [www.minnesotaadoption.org](http://www.minnesotaadoption.org).

### ***Watch Your Marriage Bloom***

All marriages need tending and care to nurture growth. If marriages don't grow, they will wither. So feed and fertilize your marriage at a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend.

It's time away with your spouse focusing only on each other. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions you discuss in the privacy of your hotel room. There is no counseling and no group sharing. No one tries to change who you are. You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 7:00 pm to Sunday at 5:00 pm.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are April 24-26 in Brooklyn Center; October 16-18 in Duluth; and November 20-22 in Brooklyn Center. Please register a month in advance. Contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit [www.godlovesmarriage.org](http://www.godlovesmarriage.org).



### ***Minneapolis ELCA***

The recent Mission Support offering of \$14,675 from Diamond Lake Lutheran Church is providing concrete, practical assistance to congregations

interested in becoming more skilled (and comfortable) in sharing their faith with their community.

Why is faith sharing so difficult for so many? Research suggests that most active church members grew up in the church. Many have understood themselves as Christian as far back as they can remember. They may not recall ever being “introduced” to Christ themselves, which can make it difficult to find a starting point for faith-sharing with neighbors who have not had that experience. Difficult or not, the work of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with neighbors belongs to all of us. Together as a synod of congregations we help each other develop the skills we need to grow as authentic witnesses.

*In the peace of Christ,  
Pastor Heather Hammond,  
Bishop's Associate, Minneapolis Area Synod-ELCA*

### ***Luther Park***

We couldn't accomplish our ministry without the faithful partnership of Luther Park member congregations like yours. Thank you for your recent 2009 Church Partner Support gift of \$5,700.

Church Partner Support benefits all of Luther Park's campers and programs throughout the year through the Annual Fund. Your investment in the ongoing ministry of Luther park provides the Christ-centered outdoor programming for people of all ages that truly changes lives.

*In Christ,  
Joel Legred,  
Executive Director, Luther Park*

### ***Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches***

Thank you for your congregation's gift of \$1,000 to the Greater Minneapolis Council of churches. This gift supports programs which enlist 25,000 volunteers, 700 congregations, and hundreds of corporate and civic groups to work together to build a more just and supportive community.

The goals of GMCC remain constant, even though we always look at new ways of increasing positive results for those whom we serve who live with less. Ending hunger in Minnesota, helping seniors live independently, helping kids achieve, nurturing healthy families, reducing crime, serving those in

prison and assisting ex-offenders to reconnect, assisting vulnerable American Indian families, and training a new kind of volunteer to serve those in need, helping congregations and faith-based organizations to build their capacities to serve ... these and other initiatives are all made possible because of those who care about our mission.

*Sincerely,  
Tracy Elftmann,  
Vice President for Advancement, GMCC*

### ***Division of Indian Work***

On behalf of the board, the staff and all the volunteers at the Division of Indian Work, thank you for your congregation's gift of \$1,100 received on December 31. This kind donation helps strengthen the circle by providing the financial resources to do our work.

Through the involvement of congregations such as Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, DIW is able to provide programs such as the Strengthening Family Circles Program: helping American Indian parents in Minneapolis; Family Violence Program: counseling men, women and children impacted by domestic abuse; Youth Leadership Development Program: helping American Indian youth reconnect with their roots and grow into strong members of their community through tutoring and cultural activities; Healing Spirit: providing foster care services for American Indian Youth; and Horizons Unlimited: providing emergency services and food.

*Sincerely,  
Noya Woodrich,  
Executive Director, Division of Indian Work*

### ***Augustana Care Corporation***

On behalf of Augustana Care Corporation, thank you for your congregation's generous contribution of \$1,500. Please know your gift will touch the lives of hundreds of residents to whom we provide healthcare and other basic services.

Founded more than a century ago as a home for young Swedish women who needed room and board, Augustana grew quickly to serve many others. Most notable among them were older adults. Now Augustana continues to enhance the quality of life for elders with programs in health, spiritual and therapeutic care on campuses throughout the metropolitan area. We are committed to ensuring

each of our residents and program participants celebrates the fullness of life with physical and emotional well-being.

*Sincerely,  
Tim Tucker,  
President and CEO, Augustana Care Corporation*

### **Meals on Wheels**

Thank you for your donation to this program. We are now 36 years old and going strong. Thanks also for the willing volunteers that have kept this going for all these years. It's a great accomplishment and could not be done without all the workers.

Thanks again.  
*South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels Board*

### **Africa Jam**

Thank you for your support of Africa Jam 2008. Your gift has helped us transform communities and reach 10,000 young people with Africa Jam's life-changing program. I share some of the incredible highlights from the past year:

Through the support of generous donors like you, Africa Jam was able to secure land rights to build a community center in Khayelitsha, one of Cape Town's most dangerous townships. With your continued partnership, this center will be developed in 2009 and will provide more than 150 young people a safe after-school place to participate in Bible study, drama, music and poetry.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Grady St. Dennis,  
Africa Jam-U.S. Board Chair*

### **Community Emergency Service**

We are deeply grateful for your gift of \$1,800 to Community Emergency Service. During this time of almost unprecedented economic upheaval in our country, your gift is truly, more deeply appreciated than ever. We know that many are sacrificing in order to support this ministry. That is clear to us because a number of persons who have been donors over the years have recently been forced to come here now as "customers," seeking food and other help to sustain very basic living.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
*In His Service,  
Rev. John Bohnsack,  
Director, Community Emergency Service*

## **MILESTONES**

### **Baptisms**

Feb. 1—Lucas Loger, son of Christian and Andi Loger

Feb. 8—Calvin & Addison Forbes, son and daughter of Steve and Christine Forbes

Feb. 22—Seth James Fream, son of Brandon and Katie Fream

### **Deaths**

March 16—Harry Swanson  
A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 4 at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church. Dinner will follow.



## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 David Anderson, Isabelle Brooks, Jeff Mathison, Aiden Petter, Andrew Petter, Leighton Prin
- 2 Elaine Carlson, Sarah Wheatcroft
- 3 Candace Anderson
- 4 Diane Cassady, Lisa Eckroth, Sarah Miner, Dane Scheffler, Judith Simons
- 5 Samuel Leino, Matthew Siesennop
- 6 Drew Kleven, Anne Viljaste
- 7 Lucy Ambrosier, Elaine Peik, Justin Trantham
- 8 Donald Cundy
- 9 Irene Folsom, Ralph Magnuson, Joseph McGinness, Wes Webber
- 12 Andrew Knutson, Lisa Marinac
- 13 Lindsey Reuer
- 14 Laura Hawkins, Cynthia Kresse, Annika Linde
- 15 Isabelle Bergman, Karen Gabrielson, Mackenzie Hoffman, Madalyn Johnson
- 16 Barbara Barron, Gladys Holtan
- 17 Rebecca Peterson
- 18 Kathryn Batz, Gustaf Magnusson, Steve Shaw
- 19 Carol Anderson, Loree Hinderaker
- 20 Darlene Fotia, Kirk Gallup
- 21 Antonia Bluemke
- 22 Mikayla D'Cunha, Kathryn Sorensen, Frederick Bengtson
- 23 Paige Christenson, Doris Greenlund, Sara McCabe
- 24 Lucas Davies, Claire Killian
- 25 Adam Hollyday, Nikolas Linde, Dorothy Martin, Edward Theilen
- 26 Andrea Barth, Keith Koenig, Amy Thoren
- 27 Stephanie McGinness
- 28 Owen Ambrosier, Christopher Minge, Joseph Nelson, Suzanne Nelson, Ruthanne Strohn
- 29 Katherine Burns-Christenson, Jill Dean
- 30 Brooke Christenson, Donna Kollander, Ardythe Lingle



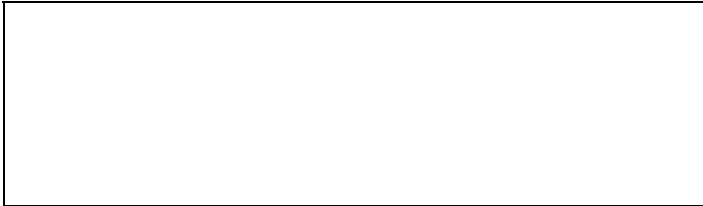
**Diamond Lake Lutheran Church**  
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Website: [www.dllc.org](http://www.dllc.org)  
 e-mail: [dllc.office@dllc.org](mailto:dllc.office@dllc.org)  
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

**Dated Material**



**April Worship Services**  
*Nursery available*  
*Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays*  
*Maundy Thursday & Easter Sunday*

**Wednesday, April 1**  
 Lenten Worship 7:00 pm

**Palm Sunday, April 5**  
 Worship 8:30 & 11am  
 Sunday School 9:45; Adult Forum 9:50

**Maundy Thursday, April 9**  
 Worship 7:00 pm with First Communion

**Good Friday, April 10**  
 Worship 10:30 am & 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday, April 12**  
 Worship 8:30 & 11am  
 No Sunday School or Adult Forum

**Sunday, April 19**  
 Worship 8:30 & 11am  
 Intergenerational Sunday School 9:45

**Sunday, April 26**  
 Worship 8:30 & 11 am  
 Sunday School-Faith Statements 9:45; No Adult Forum

**Diamond Lake Ministers**  
**Every member of the congregation**

*Assisted by:*

- Senior Pastor..... Mark N. Orvick
- Interim Associate Pastor.....Reany K. Lindberg
- Associate Pastor ..... Amy C. Thoren
- Director of Equipping Ministry .....Kathi Gallup
- Director of Communications .....Casey Quinn
- Facility Manager .....Keith Keith
- Custodians .....Nate Koenig, Clarence Rogers
- Organist .....Richard Neighbor
- Senior Choir Director .....Bruce Gleason
- Youth Choir Director..... Paul Batz
- Director of Children’s Choirs .....Hannah Sieling
- Director of Bell Choirs .....Chuck Linderkamp
- Wedding Coordinator .....Julie Sarff
- Nursery Coordinator ..... Mary Teurman
- Accountant.....Mark DenDooven

