

# ***The Messenger***

*October 2018*



**The Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church  
Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey  
An ELCA Congregation**

**The Church: Proudly Proclaiming Christ since A.D. 33**

## ***Pastor's Message***

What's your favorite color?

When I was little, my mom was very specific about how she dressed her identical twin boys. She put me in red clothes; my brother in blue. My parents never needed help in knowing who was who. But when I look at old pictures, the color scheme is usually the only way I can tell who I am. This color, somehow, became imprinted on my soul. Red has been, and is still, my favorite color. I don't know why certain colors become our favorites or why our favorite colors sometimes change. But I do know we live in a vibrant and dynamic world full of color. And as we move into fall, the color around us is going to grow.

One of our blessings is our climate. Every spring and fall, the world around us changes. Trees will turn from green to red, gold and purple. Fields will pop with orange pumpkins, and trees will be heavy with pink, light green and bright red apples. The days will grow shorter which means we will be awake during the golden hours of the day: dawn and dusk. Through the glorious colors of this season, we'll celebrate holidays like Halloween and Reformation Sunday. I can't imagine a fall without color. And I can't imagine a fall without church.

We're restarting Sunday School on October 7 and continuing our new adult education programs on Sunday (*The Essential Jesus*) and Thursday (*Being Lutheran in a multi-faith world*). A new organization devoted to serving senior citizens in our area will meet for lunch and conversation on October 17, 11:30 am. Our joint program for high school youth connecting Lutherans from all over northern Bergen County will meet on October 19. We designated Sunday, October 21 as our God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, and we'll spend time after church serving our community and neighborhood. We'll end the month wearing red on Reformation Sunday, October 28. These are just some ways we're being church this month. If you haven't attended these programs yet or want more information, keep an eye on our weekly e-newsletter for details. You can also call the church office (201-391-4224) any time.

Our worship and service to our neighbors is how we color the world. When we are open and active in our faith, we show everyone how vibrant Jesus can be. None of us will live out our faith the same way. The diversity in how we love God and our neighbors is mirrored in how diverse our favorite colors are. Yet each of us is called to live a faith that is as passionate and vivid as the colors all around us. God didn't give us a monotone world, and God didn't give us a monotone faith. God gave us a brilliant world to match a spirited faith.

See you in church! Pastor Marc

## ***Children, Youth, and Education***

### ***Hello Sunday School Families!***

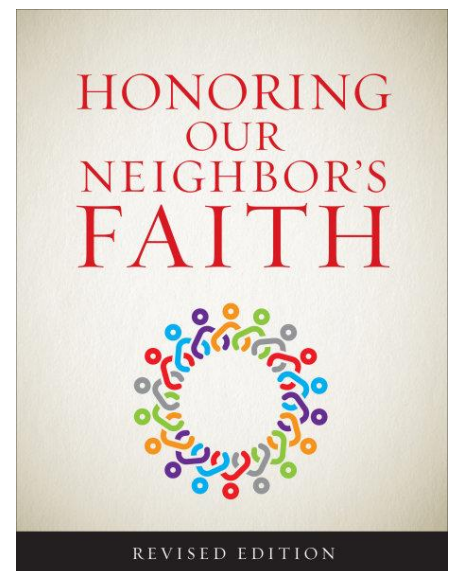
We hope that everyone had a relaxing summer and made happy back to school memories! October 7 will be the first day of Sunday school here at Christ Lutheran Church. Please register your children ahead of a time. Registration forms are available in the church lobby (narthex) or online at [clc4u.com](http://clc4u.com). We will be meeting immediately following the 9:00 am service in the Sanctuary. We are looking forward to sharing Jesus' story through lessons, crafts and service projects.

### ***The Essential Jesus: Sunday Adult Education at 9:45 am***

Where does Jesus' story start? And where does your story with Jesus begin? Our new Sunday Adult Education program starts on Sunday, September 30. These 30-minute sessions will meet between the two services on days when Sunday School is not in session. We'll take a part (or even a verse) of Jesus' story, apply it to our life, and develop skills to share Jesus with others. Even if you can't make every session, we pray that these bite-sized studies will deepen your faith.

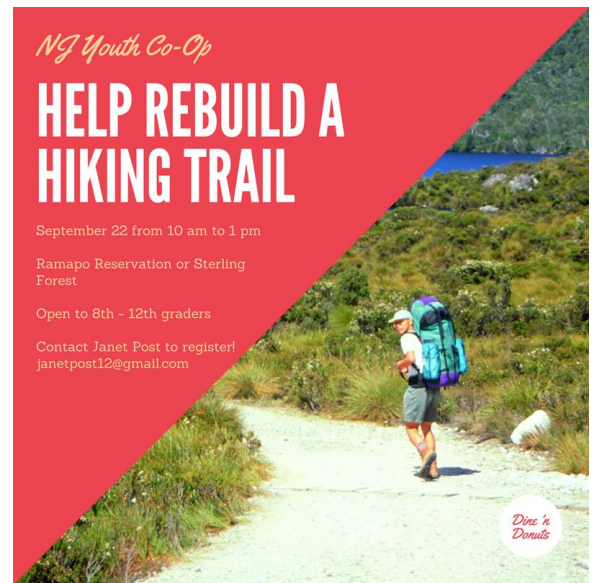
### ***Being Lutheran in a Multi-Faith World*** ***Twice a month on Thursdays***

In the last year, new faith communities have made the Upper Pascack Valley their home. So, as Lutherans, what are our relationships to other faiths and Christian groups? How do we share Jesus in a multi-faith world? Our mid-day study group started meeting in early September, but we have space for you! We'll be using the book "*Honor Our Neighbor's Faith*" to explore 32 faith traditions. Visit [www.clc4u.com](http://www.clc4u.com) and click on "Calendar" to find our next meeting date and time!



## *Youth Happenings This Fall*

The North Jersey Lutheran Youth Co-Op is kicking off its season with a service project! On September 22, youth from CLC, Calvary Lutheran in Allendale and Zion in Saddle Brook will help preserve the trails at either Ramapo Reservation or Sterling Forest. This event is still in the future at press time, but we're planning to share with you photos in next month's *Messenger*.



On Friday, October 19 Calvary Lutheran Church (165 W Crescent Avenue, Allendale) will host a fun mixer for the North Jersey Lutheran Youth Co-op. This event is open to all kids from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades. We'll get to know each other, eat and make plans for what we want to do next. If you need to carpool, please contact Pastor Marc at [pastormarc@clc4u.com](mailto:pastormarc@clc4u.com). If you are interested in learning more about the Northern New Jersey Youth Co-op, contact Janet Post at [janetpost12@gmail.com](mailto:janetpost12@gmail.com).

We know these gatherings make a difference because before our year even started, two youth in the same high school who belong to different churches, were already talking about what we can do next while at school. We'll see you in October!

## *Confirmation*

Our orientation meeting was on September 23 but that doesn't mean you (or a friend) missed out on starting Confirmation this year. Your faith is important and your time with Jesus matters. Let's work together to connect with the Savior who loves you unconditionally. Contact Pastor Marc ([pastormarc@clc4u.com](mailto:pastormarc@clc4u.com)) if you haven't registered but would like to be part of this amazing experience.

## *Growing in Generosity*

### *Genesis Garden*

In late August, we celebrated a record when we harvested over 222 lbs. of fresh produce from our garden. That's amazing! Since then, the heat and humidity took its toll. Our garden did its best to try and stay cool during the stifling heat waves. But the rain and high-low temperatures hurt many of our plants. However, our garden is still growing. At press time, over 1050 lbs. of vegetables were dropped off at the Center for Food Action in Englewood. And there's still a jungle-full amount of green beans needing to be harvested each Tuesday. Last year, we picked every Tuesday evening into November. Can we pick through November 6? Come out on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm to find out!



### *CLC at Family Promise Walk-In Dinner in Hackensack*



On Sunday, September 16, volunteers from CLC fed 80 people at the Family Promise Walk-In Dinner event in Hackensack. Thank you to Meredith Drobinske for organizing this amazing event. And thank you to everyone who prepped the tasty roast beef dinner, baked brownies for dessert and fed our neighbors in need.



*"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."*

Dr. M. L. King

### ***God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, October 21***

Every fall, our denomination (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) supports a day of service. At press time we are still working on finalizing our projects, but the date has been set. Plan to stick around after the 10:30 am worship to serve our neighborhood. We'll be assembling school kits (attempting to beat our record of 33 set last year) and more. More details will be shared in worship and our weekly email newsletter!

**God's work.**  
**Our hands.**



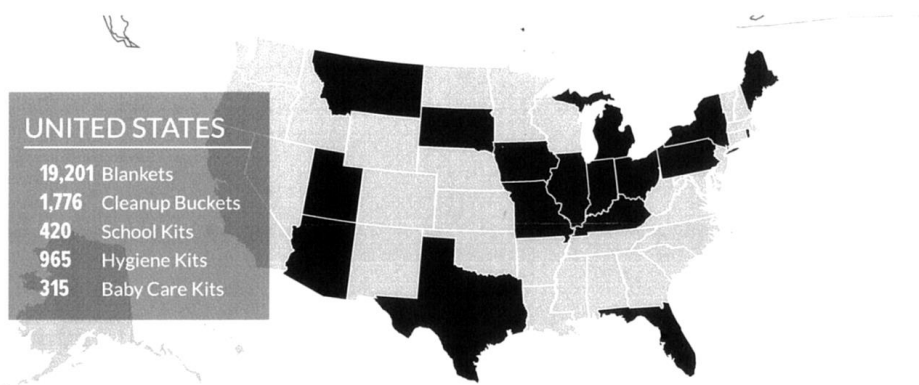
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

### ***Looking ahead – Christmas Gifts for Children and Families in Need***

Christ Lutheran Church Women (CLCW) will be working with the Tri-Boro Family Assistance Program again this year for our Christmas gift drive. We will be providing gifts to local families in Park Ridge, Montvale and Woodcliff Lake. The families were so grateful for your generosity last year, and we hope to be able to make their holiday a happy one again. The lists will be available in November. We will be making announcements as the time gets closer. Keep an eye on *The Messenger* and weekly bulletins for further information. Thank you in advance!

Christine Badame





TOTAL KITS AND BLANKETS DISTRIBUTED GLOBALLY: **75,157**



## ***We Made Kits***

For those who helped assemble 6 personal and 18 hygiene kits in the spring, I'd like to share with you and our congregation the following:

*Hello. I wanted to let you know we are the group who had the privilege of preparing your health kits for shipment recently in New Windsor, Maryland. We were delighted to find that you had done an excellent job preparing the kits. It is amazing how difficult it is for some groups to prepare the kits properly. It is our job to open each kit, check the contents for accuracy, and then repack them in the shipping boxes. Please relay to your members how grateful CWS is for your generous contribution."*

Kathy Barnes, Linthicum Heights UMC, Baltimore, MD

Our kits first go to River Edge, NJ then to the Maryland warehouse, and from there they can be sent anywhere there is a need, including the New York City Metropolitan area (Super Storm Sandy).

We also delivered 33 school kits this past spring, a number, I know, we will surpass this October when we assemble your generous donations this summer.

Thanks to all for your donations and time that makes these kits possible.

JoAnn Sallo



## Lunch & Presentation

### *“The Upper Pascack Valley” Village*

*Wednesday, October 17  
12:00 noon*

Are you 55+? Are you making plans to stay in your home as long as possible? Do you want to be part of a community where you can find the help you need at 60, 70, 80, and beyond? “The Village” is a community of volunteers and members who help each other as they age in their homes. This help can include transportation to doctors’ appointments, help with grocery shopping, attending social events or even getting someone to walk your dog after you have surgery. We’re partnering with Pascack Reformed Church, First Congregational Church, and North Jersey Villages to organize a supportive community in the Pascack Valley. This event is open to the public so bring your friends. We’ll showcase what the village concept is about and spend time designing an organization that can help you with your needs right now. The lunch will be catered, so please RSVP to the church office (201-391-4224) by Friday, October 12. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Marc at that phone number or [pastormarc@clc4u.com](mailto:pastormarc@clc4u.com).

### *Raise the Roof Update*



Our property team has done an amazing job repairing and updating our Sunday School classrooms. The damage caused by our leaky roofs has been repaired and Confirmation has their own classroom again! We’re grateful for their hard work. So far, we’ve raised close to \$36,000. Please continue to support the campaign and fulfill any pledge you’ve made.



## ***Help Wanted***

A position is available for any person interested in helping Christ Lutheran find some non-profit groups who need space to use during the week days. Computer and Internet experience is a plus! As your Councilperson-at-Large, I am looking into ways CLC can help bring in more donations/income. As you know, our donations/income are falling behind our expenses. We have many spaces in our church buildings that are unused during the week. We have rooms on the second floor and the Opsal room. These might make great spaces for a non-profit agency, children's programs, etc. If you are interested in helping us, please contact Carla Hoenigmann at [carlah716@cs.com](mailto:carlah716@cs.com) or at church any day! Thanks!



At the end of August, total expenses outpaced total income for the first three months, and we have a moderate \$20,877 loss. We prayerfully ask you keep up with your pledge and continue giving so that we can eliminate this shortfall and can keep up God's amazing work that we do here. Thank you very much.

The Finance Committee



## ***Restricted Funds Update***

In accordance with the Congregational approved motion on June 3, 2018, the 'Restricted' funds approved for use are the following:

Approved amount \$50,000.00

Previous amount of total funds used \$8,597.00

### Amount accessed from approved funds:

For August, 2018 \$1,466.00

Total amount of remaining available funds \$39,937.00

## *Care Committee News*

October 7 is Care Sunday, and the Committee is asking our congregation to bring loaves of sliced bread to church on this day for the Center for Food Action in Englewood, NJ.

We will also have our annual Blanket Fund display in the Narthex. A donation of \$5.00 will purchase a blanket for Church World Service. The Knit1CrochetToo group will have items available.

The next Gab Session is scheduled for Wednesday, October 24 at 11:30 am in the Sonshine Room. Just come and enjoy. If you would like to join us, please RSVP with Debbie Louis by calling 201-358-6435 or [gundheaven@aol.com](mailto:gundheaven@aol.com).



### *NJ 2-1-1*

Since 2015, NJ 2-1-1 connects people in New Jersey with the resources available in their community to address their personal needs. By dialing 2-1-1 from your phone or visiting [nj211.org](http://nj211.org), you'll connect with a call center filled with people looking to help you. You can also text your zip code to 898-211 to start the conversation. This state sponsored program partners with the United Way and other organizations to help families, parents, teens, agency professionals, clergy and more. If you, a loved one, or a friend needs help with affordable housing, food, financial and emergency assistance, rental assistance, domestic violence, support groups, grief counseling, clothing, utility assistance, transportation and more - contact 2-1-1. It's free, confidential, available 24 hours a day / 7 day a week and is multilingual.

## ***Worship Notes***

### ***We Want to See Red!***

The paraments on the altar are red on October 28, in honor of the Reformation. Let's all wear something red to church that day, be it a tie, socks or an entire outfit to proclaim our faith—we are Lutherans!

### ***Music and Choirs at CLC***

There's still time to join our amazing choirs even if you can't attend all the rehearsals or Sunday services.

Our 9:00 am Sunday worship service uses contemporary Christian music to share the gospel. Led by David Scance, rehearsals are at 8:30 am prior to worship. Contact David Scance at [david.scance@verizon.net](mailto:david.scance@verizon.net) for more information.

Our 10:30 am worship service is led by Argine Safari and our Chancel Choir. This choir is for singers who love choral music and are junior high and older. Rehearsals typically take place on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. Contact Argine at [arginesafari@gmail.com](mailto:arginesafari@gmail.com) for more information.

For the Children and Youth Choirs, our youngest group starts at 4 or 5 years old for kids who love to sing and shout in worship. Our Choristers Choir is our older singers, age 10 and up. If your kid wants to sing, let David Scance know at [david.scance@verizon.net](mailto:david.scance@verizon.net)

### ***Featuring Books on the Reformation***

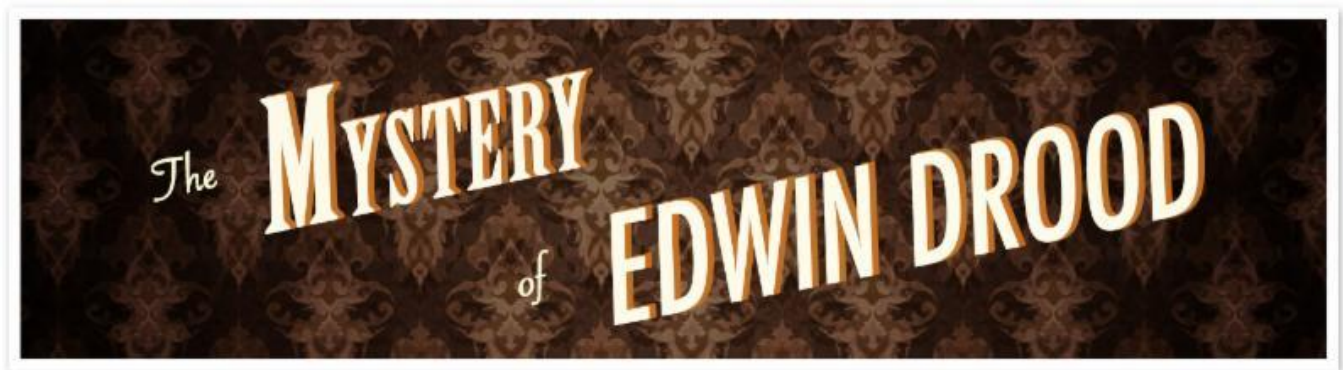
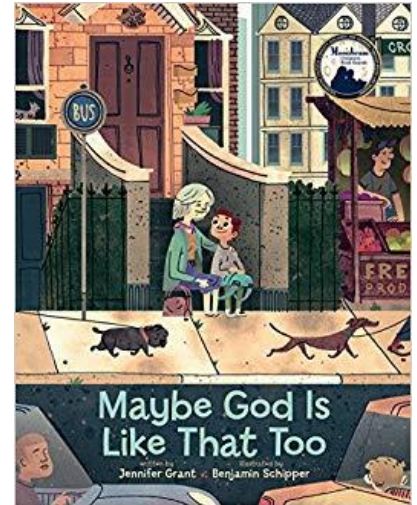
Last year our library featured books on the Reformation. I just want to add one more title to the list which came out late in the anniversary year.

Eric Metaxas—*Martin Luther, the man who rediscovered God and changed the world*. Complete, but different, the book starts out with 10 things we all know about Luther--that are wrong! The book is on display in the Sonshine Room.

Dot Dohrmann

***Sparkhouse Family Book Fair – continues for a few more weeks!***

Looking for new faith resources for your kids? Is there a child you know who could use a new book? Sparkhouse is a publisher of amazing family Bible studies, stories and more. Recent titles include *“Jonah and the Whale,”* *“Maybe God is Like That Too,”* *“Parables of Jesus,”* *“Devotions for Kids,”* and more. Just pick up an order form in the church lobby (the narthex) and hand to Pastor Marc!



***Support North Jersey Meals on Wheels by Attending the Theater!***

Meals on Wheels is partnering again with the Bergen County Players for a benefit performance of **"The Mystery of Edwin Drood" on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 7:00 pm** at the Little Firehouse Theater (298 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ).

Tickets are \$50 each and include entry to our Pre-Show Reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine as well as coffee and desserts at intermission.

All proceeds directly support Meals on Wheels' efforts to provide nutritious meals and other necessary social services to homebound seniors in need.

To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.mealsonwheelsnorthjersey.org> and scroll down to the annual theater night fundraiser.

## ***Make a Difference in the Neighborhood***

### ***Support a Child Separated from Their Parents***

Each year, nearly 500 abused and neglected children in Bergen County wake up in unfamiliar homes, separated from their parents and everything they have grown up with in their short lives. The trauma these children experience is exacerbated when they are placed in unfamiliar homes with different food, clothes, toys and even schools. They are ripped from their customary worlds and have to learn to accept a new sense of what is normal. These children need consistency. They need someone to look out for them. They need you!



Bergen County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is looking for compassionate, dedicated adults to represent foster children in Family Court. Bergen County CASA trains and supports community volunteers to advocate for the best interests of foster children. To learn more, please visit our website [www.bergencasa.org](http://www.bergencasa.org) and RSVP for one of our information sessions. Alternatively, call Lauren, (201) 336-7520 or email her, [lauren@bergencasa.org](mailto:lauren@bergencasa.org).

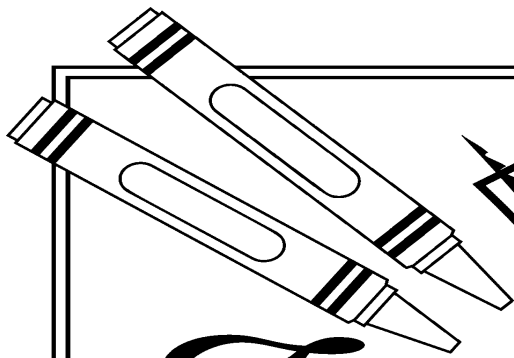
### ***Volunteer to Teach English at Your Local Library***

Literacy Volunteers of Pascack Valley is offering a Tutor Training Workshop at Westwood Public Library, Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 pm on October 30<sup>th</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Please sign up with Literacy Volunteers by calling (201)664-7597; emailing [literacyvolunteerspv@gmail.com](mailto:literacyvolunteerspv@gmail.com) or submitting the form on <http://www.literacyvolunteerspv.org/tutors.html> or stop by our office in Westwood Library and speak to Maureen Lostumbo or Marilyn Katz.







# PUZZLE

## From the heart

We all need people who share godly wisdom with us.

*Directions: First, unscramble the bold letters to spell another word for "pal." Write that word in the first empty row. Then move the words under each bold letter to that letter's new column. The result will be Proverbs 27:9, NIV.*

D	E	F	I	R	N
F					
to	bring	Perfume	incense	and	joy
Perfume					
of	the	the	and	heart,	pleasantness
the					
advice.	their	a friend	from	springs	heartfelt
A friend					

Answer: F R I E N D; Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NIV

2018	October					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Genesis Garden Night 6:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm	3  NO Chancel Choir Rehearsal	4	5	6
7 CARE SUN. Sunday School 9:45 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 9:00 am Contemporary 10:30 am Traditional with Holy Communion Confirmation 6:30 pm	8      Property Work Night 7:30 pm	9 Care Committee Meeting 9:30 am    Genesis Garden Night 6:00 pm	10	11     Finance Committee Meeting 8:00 pm	12     Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm ??	13     Ruth Eastlund Memorial Service 10:00 am
14 <u>Worship</u> Adult Ed 9:45 am  9:00 am Contemporary and 10:30 am Traditional with Holy Communion	15	16   Genesis Garden Night 6:00 pm	17  Villages Luncheon 12:00 Noon  Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm	18   Council Meeting 8:00 pm	19  NJ Lutheran Youth Coop Event	20
21 GWOH Sunday School 9:45 am <u>Worship</u> Schedule 9:00 am Contemporary 10:30 am Traditional with Holy Communion	22	23  Knit 1, Crochet Too 10:00 am Genesis Garden Night 6:00 pm  Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm	24  GAB Session 11:30 am	25	26	27
28 Adult Ed 9:45 am <u>Worship</u> 9:00 am Contemporary 10:30 am Traditional with Holy Communion Confirmation 6:30 pm	29	30  Genesis Garden Night 6:00 pm	31  Chancel Choir Rehearsal 8:00 pm			

***Published by***  
**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**32 Pascack Road**  
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**Pastor: The Rev. Marc A. Stutzel**  
**Director of Music: Argine Safari**  
**Director of Youth Choirs: David Scance**  
**Administrative Assistant: Doris Crouse**