



Administrative and Teaching Staff

Michael Collins, Principal and Parish Music Director

Mr. Collins, from Cincinnati, Ohio, graduated *magna cum laude* in 2003, from Xavier University with a bachelor of science degree in music education and music performance. He went on to earn a master's degree in pastoral ministry at the Athenaeum of Ohio in 2010. Mr. Collins has been active in parish ministry from a young age and has worked in various positions within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for 19 years. This includes serving as director of religious education, youth minister, and music director at St. Margaret Mary and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. He has taught music and religion in Catholic schools for 13 years. In addition, he has served on various committees for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Mr. Collins joined the staff of St. Peter in Chains in July 2014, as pastoral associate of music and liturgy. In June 2015, he received his administrative principal license and served as assistant principal before being named principal in 2016. He feels blessed to be a part of both the church and school communities and to have the opportunity to share the teachings of the Catholic faith. Mr. Collins and his wife, Wilma, are the proud parents of five children and grandparents of three.

Michelle Luebbe, School Secretary

Mrs. Luebbe began here as an office and classroom aide in 2014. She moved into the role of school secretary in the fall of 2017. She and her husband have been active members of St. Peter in Chains Parish for 12 years. They have two children, one who attends Badin High School and one who attends St. Peter's School. Mrs. Luebbe has volunteered in the church and the school for many years. Her service includes teaching CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word) on Sundays and working as a committee chair for EPIC (the school's parent-teacher organization), as a Girl Scout leader, as a CYO coach, and as a classroom volunteer. "St. Peter just feels like home to me," says Mrs. Luebbe. "The students and their families make up a wonderful community. We call them our St. Peter's family. This is such a special place and it makes me happy to come to work each day."

Karen Krabacher, Preschool Administrator and Teacher

Mrs. Krabacher, a longtime and well-loved member of St. Peter in Chains School, leads our preschool (a collaborative program with the Great Miami Valley YMCA) as teacher and site administrator. She holds a bachelor of science degree in business decision science from Miami University. For the past 10 years, she has worked at St.

Peter's in various capacities, including kindergarten aide, administrative assistant, and substitute teacher. She has also served as a long-term sub, assuming all teacher responsibilities and duties during that time. Mrs. Krabacher is a 4-H advisor and has served as PREP teacher for St. Julie Billiart Parish, where she and her family are parishioners. Mrs. Krabacher's children are St. Peter in Chains alumni, and so she knows—and loves—the school as both a teacher and a parent.

Heather Hart, Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Hart is in her 12th year of teaching kindergarten at St. Peter's and was one of 17 educators honored in 2017 by the Hamilton Community Foundation as an Educator of Excellence. She taught for several years as a long-term kindergarten substitute in the Hamilton City school district and also has experience teaching at the pre-K level. A graduate of Miami University, she has taken graduate studies in and received training as an intervention specialist, which permits her to be a more effective educator both for students with mild-to-moderate disabilities and for those who achieve beyond grade-level expectations.

Mrs. Hart has served as a fellow of the Dayton STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Center, developing and writing curriculum for publication. She continually looks for new and creative ways to engage students in learning, while maintaining a fun atmosphere for the school's youngest students. In her classroom, she utilizes a variety of hands-on experiences through centers, activities, technology, singing, and dancing. She and her husband are St. Peter in Chains parishioners and are blessed with four children, three of whom are enrolled at St. Peter's.

Jodi Jacobs, First Grade Teacher

Miss Jacobs graduated in 2017, from Western Governors University with a bachelor of arts degree in interdisciplinary studies. She holds an Ohio state license to teach grades PreK-5. She grew up in West Milton, Ohio, in a tightly knit family with three siblings. For the past two years, Miss Jacobs has enjoyed teaching first and third grades at a Catholic school in Kettering, Ohio. She is passionate about helping young people grow and is delighted when she sees them reach their potential, both academically and spiritually.

Outside of teaching, Miss Jacobs enjoys hiking, biking, swimming, reading, gardening, and most especially, attending Mass with her family at St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Germantown, Ohio.

Lindsey Fanning, Second Grade Teacher

Mrs. Fanning joined the St. Peter's teaching staff for the 2018-19 school year, though her connection to the school began much earlier—as a student of St. Peter in Chains. Mrs. Fanning brings ten years' teaching experience to the school, as well as excellent academic credentials: a graduate of Capital University, she holds a bachelor of arts and science degree in early childhood education and mild-to-moderate invention

specialist. Mrs. Fanning later earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and bilingual education from the American College of Education; she also holds a licensure in early childhood (preschool-3) and intervention specialist (K-12) and a reading endorsement (K-12). She and her husband, Jake, have four children.

Emma Ramminger, Third Grade Teacher

Mrs. Ramminger is in her fourth year at St. Peter in Chains School and has quickly become a student favorite. She has past experience as a student-teacher for the third grade at Cherokee Elementary and worked in after-school care for grades K-8 at St. Jude Elementary in Western Hills. Mrs. Ramminger graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 2015, with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She has also earned an early reading certificate, which ensures her expertise in teaching reading and writing to K-3 children.

Mrs. Ramminger herself is a product of local Catholic schools, having attended St. Jude Elementary and Mother of Mercy High School. She believes that St. Peter's is the perfect place for her to share her faith and knowledge with a new generation of schoolchildren. She and her husband welcomed their first child, Leo, this year.

Laura Warner, Fourth Grade Teacher

In 2016, Mrs. Warner was one of 13 local educators—chosen from a pool of hundreds of teachers—to be nominated for the Harry T. Wilks Educator of the Year Award. Her dedication to the craft of teaching and her warm and thoughtful approach to each student make her a tremendous asset to St. Peter in Chains.

A graduate of Miami University, Mrs. Warner taught second grade at St. Peter's for many years before moving to the fourth grade. She chairs the school's Individual Professional Development Committee for Teacher Certification and co-chairs its Accreditation Committee. She previously taught at Van Buren Elementary and has been teaching for 15 years. Mrs. Warner's favorite subject to teach is reading, and she particularly enjoys the religious dimension of teaching in a Catholic school. "I love that I can incorporate teaching about God into any lesson," she says. "I also love the growing independence and engaging conversations that I can have with fourth graders."

Katie Gibboney, Fifth Grade Homeroom Teacher

Miss Gibboney is the fifth grade homeroom teacher and teaches fifth- and sixth-grade math and language arts. A graduate of McAuley High School, she grew up on the west side of Cincinnati and is a parishioner of St. James White Oak. Miss Gibboney graduated from the University of Dayton in 2013, with a degree in middle childhood education, concentrating in math and language arts. This is her sixth year of teaching, and she feels blessed to have begun her career at St. Peter's. Since she grew up with a Catholic education, Miss Gibboney is extremely thankful that she has been given the opportunity to spread the faith and her passion for service, along with her love of learning, to the students she encounters every day.

Angie Wirtz, Sixth Grade Homeroom Teacher

Mrs. Wirtz graduated from Miami University. She is in her 17th year of teaching at St. Peter's, having taught fourth, fifth, and sixth grades throughout those years. Prior to coming here, she taught at Pleasant Run Elementary School. Mrs. Wirtz has been a lifelong member of St. Peter in Chains, even attending school here since first grade! She and her husband, who works for the City of Hamilton as a firefighter, have two daughters and two grandsons. Mrs. Wirtz leads our service- learning program.

Mrs. Wirtz takes an energetic and creative approach to teaching, incorporating many interactive, problem-based experiences and hands-on activities into her lessons. She enjoys helping those in need and passing on that experience to her students through service learning. "I love St. Peter in Chains because it has always been my home," she says. "The people here are an extended family. The students keep me young and energetic. They remind me to never go a day without laughing, and that learning is a lifelong adventure. We are so lucky to have St. Peter's in our community."

Cheryl Kordes, Seventh Grade Homeroom Teacher

Mrs. Kordes has taught at St. Peter in Chains since 2005. As the seventh-grade homeroom teacher, she teaches seventh- and eighth-grade language arts and math. Mrs. Kordes graduated from the University of Cincinnati and previously taught at Our Lady of Lourdes, C.O. Harrison, St. Jude, and Three Rivers. She has been a member of Our Lady of Visitation Parish since 1993.

Mrs. Kordes is the lead teacher and a mentor to beginning teachers. She co-chairs the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA) Self-Study, is a member of St. Peter's Strategic Planning Committee, and co-leads the Professional Learning Community. She also oversees the collection of can tabs to benefit The Ronald McDonald House.

One of Mrs. Kordes' responsibilities is to accompany the junior high students on the Washington, D.C., trip; she believes the fundraisers and service activities required to make this trip happen help to build strength and character in her students. "Our students are conscientious, creative, and enthusiastic about learning," says Mrs. Kordes. "Parents and staff are encouraging and supportive. Best of all are the smiles that greet me daily as we embark on fulfilling God's will for our lives."

Elizabeth Mattingly, Eighth Grade Homeroom Teacher

Mrs. Mattingly is the eighth grade homeroom teacher and teaches seventh- and eighth-grade science, social studies, and religion. She graduated from the University of Dayton in 2010, with a concentration in middle childhood education, emphasis on math, science, and social studies. This is her third year at St. Peter in Chains, where she is also one of the youth ministers. Before coming to St. Peter's, Mrs. Mattingly taught in Arizona and Florida and worked for a time with the U.S. Air Force in Turkey. She loves the commitment that her students show in their work and their ability to be creative and problem solve.

Barbara Blasch, Accelerated Pre-Algebra and Algebra I / Music Teacher

At Georgetown College, Mrs. Blasch studied mathematics, music, and computer science, earning her B.A. in 1983. She went on to NKU's Chase College of Law, graduating in 1987. Mrs. Blasch practiced law in Kentucky and Ohio, mostly in the area of real estate. After returning to the work force when her three children reached school age, Mrs. Blasch felt called to become a teacher. She taught paralegal classes at the University of Cincinnati before accepting a position at Good Shepherd Catholic Montessori School, where she served for six years as music teacher. She has been a long-time mathematics tutor for middle- and high-school students. She is also an advocate for children with special needs, attending classes and workshops focused on autism, ADHD, and differentiated learning styles.

A lifelong piano player, a former percussionist in her high school marching/concert band, the organist at St. Jerome Church, and a guitarist and lead singer with the band Skirt and Boots, Mrs. Blasch shares her passion for music in many ways. She resides in Milford with her husband, Paul, and their three children.

Hannah Clements, Spanish Teacher

Ms. Clements joins St. Peter in Chains this year as our Spanish teacher from Viva Spanish Programs. She hails from Fairfield, Ohio, and holds a bachelor of science degree in biology and environmental studies. She also holds licensure in Spanish instruction and a certification in teaching English as a foreign language. Ms. Clements has worked with 4th through 12th graders in environmental education, as well as in elementary and adult English as a Second Language groups.

Ms. Clements has been studying and practicing Spanish for 10 years, both in the classroom and through her travel experiences. She worked on a research project in Mexico for three months and has volunteered with non-profit organizations focused on elementary education in Nicaragua and Peru. Ms. Clements is passionate about language education and looks forward to instilling in her students this same excitement for language learning.

Jane Nickels, Art Teacher

Mrs. Nickels joined the St. Peter's teaching staff this year, after 19 joyful years teaching art at St. John Neumann Catholic School in Knoxville, Tennessee. She holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. Mrs. Nickels is also a practicing artist—making, selling, and exhibiting her abstract paintings in Knoxville, Nashville, and around the country. She and her husband, David, recently relocated to Cincinnati to be closer to family; they have three children and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Nickels teaches the basic concepts of visual art in a sequenced, skill-based format. Units include observational drawing, drawing from memory, drawing from the imagination, drafting, color theory, painting, printmaking, collage, relief, and sculpture. These units are taught referencing the elements and principles of design,

vocabulary enrichment, and correct use of artist tools. Students are encouraged to bring personal expression and creativity to their assignments.

Michael Otte, Physical Education and Lifetime Fitness Teacher

Mr. Otte is in his fourth year at St. Peter in Chains School. He previously taught at St. Joseph School in Cold Springs, Kentucky. Mr. Otte grew up in Erlanger, Kentucky, and is a graduate of St. Henry District High School (2006), where he was a four-sport athlete. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical education with a minor in health education from Northern Kentucky University in 2010, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in teacher leadership at the University of the Cumberlands.

Mr. Otte's coaching experience includes grade-school basketball, club volleyball, and high school boys' varsity volleyball. "I have been a part of Catholic schools my entire life, as a student and now a teacher. So I feel right at home here at St. Peter's!" Mr. Otte and his wife, Amy, have two children.

Heather Adams, Intervention Specialist

A graduate of Badin High School, Mrs. Adams is thrilled to be a part of the St. Peter in Chains family. She holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and dual licensure as both an early childhood educator (Pre-K-3) and intervention specialist (K-12). Mrs. Adams also holds a reading endorsement for grades K-12. Mrs. Adams has previously taught kindergarten and third grade, as well as served as an intervention specialist for students in elementary school. At St. Peter in Chains, Mrs. Adams supports students and classrooms throughout the school, helping students to build confidence as they improve their mastery of foundational skills.

Lindsay Arminio, Speech-Language Pathologist

Mrs. Arminio is the speech-language pathologist (SLP) at St. Peter in Chains School. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in speech-language pathology from Miami University. She has 13 years of experience as an SLP in the schools and has been with the Hamilton City School District for five years. Mrs. Arminio has four children of her own and feels passionate about advocating for children who struggle to communicate.

Linda Reimer, Librarian and Media Coordinator

Mrs. Reimer began her employment with St. Peter as a classroom aide. In 2006, she became the full-time librarian and technology coordinator and is currently the media coordinator. She troubleshoots computer problems, keeps the computers up-to-date, and sets up software and websites for individual classes. She also administers the school management program, OptionC.

As librarian, she coordinates the Accelerated Reader program with the teachers and manages the annual fall and spring Scholastic Book Fairs. She enjoys passing her love of reading onto the students. "When I recommend a book and the student comes back to me and says, 'I loved this book!' that is the best reward of my job," she says. Mrs. Reimer and her husband, Bob, have three children, all of whom graduated from both St. Peter in Chains and Badin High School.