



Come Journey Through Advent and Christmas With Us!

St. Peter's Family of Christmas Trees
Saturday, December 3, 10, 17, noon-6 PM
Sunday, December 4, 11, 18, noon-6 PM



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
20 East Fifth Street
Washington, MO 63090
636-239-6176
office@stpeters-ucc.org

Pastor Paul
Cell and Home: 636-221-7065
Marcia Koch Cell:
636-221-7034
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paul@stpeters-ucc.org

Pastor Leah
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636-667-7332
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pastorleah@stpeters-ucc.org

Website:
stpeters-washington.org

Worship: Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.

Find us at:
stpetersuccinwashington on:



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2011 Confirmation Class's
First Communion as New Members
Sunday, December 4, 10 AM

Women's Fellowship
Annual Bake Sale
Saturday, December 10, 8:30-12



Sunday School
Christmas Program
Sunday, December 11, 10 AM
(lessons and carols on Saturday)



CHRISTMAS EVE-NEW YEAR'S

Christmas Eve Services (with communion)
7:30 PM and 10:30 PM
Christmas Day Service (with communion)
10:00 AM (no Sunday School)
New Year's Eve, 5 PM;
New Year's Day, 10 AM (no Sunday School)





Pastor Paul's Points

Our wonderful stewardship campaign reminded us to "Count Our Blessings." Every week brings something incredibly special in the life of St. Peter's UCC. This has been and will be true especially at this time of year. Let us count! On Oct. 22, more than 60 people, predominantly young families, accepted the invitation by the Party Team to gather at St. Peter's Cemetery for a fun night of fellowship, learning about our heritage and enjoying the fall season. On Oct. 30, 35 people, including 7th grade confirmands, performed Service Worship at the Emmaus Bazaar dinner. The Plowsharing Crafts sale on Nov. 5-6 provided a livelihood for many struggling worldwide artisans, plus furthered our own outreach through the Social Concerns ministry team and once again brought people into our beautiful building and new auditorium. The Consecration Weekend and Stewardship breakfast on Nov. 13 was a reflection of our faithful celebrations of the blessings God has bestowed. We are grateful that our speaker, the Rev. Jason Jones, reminded us of our proud heritage since 1844 (when James Polk was elected President)!

Nov. 19 and 20 were our annual services of Totenfest, as part of our Thanksgiving and Reign of Christ commemorations. Confirmation was a part of this. Confirmation's adjusted calendar provides important additional weeks for preparation plus communicates a theological and practical importance that confirmation begins a new belonging in the life of the church as a new liturgical year begins. We celebrate the largest class in ten years - 14!!

Continuing, Advent began Nov. 27 with our 2nd annual Advent Faire Workshop where children participated in hands-on preparation for Advent and adults helped hang the greens. This day was also the Washington Historical Society's Organ Crawl, which highlights our grand organ and talents of our organist, Levere. The Family Festival of Trees also began which has grown to be a vitally important way to reach OUT through the canned-food drive, to reach IN through kindling our own Advent enthusiasm and to reach ACROSS the community, inviting people to tour our beautiful building that proclaims the Christ child's presence in a myriad of ways. These were all in addition to our weekly outpouring of Christian Education, worship, the Food Pantry, Harvest Table, Washington Emergency Relief services, pastoral care, fellowship groups etc.

Moving forward, there is more to enjoy...The Women's Fellowship will have their Christmas program on Dec. 1 and I personally look forward to showing my favorite Christmas movie, *The Homecoming*. On the day that 2011 Confirmands will have their first communion as covenant disciples of the church, we host the community again with the Civic Chorus Concert on Dec. 4. Children host us with their Christmas pageant on Dec. 11, while the Women's Fellowship might have a

few items left over from their bake sale on the 10th. We will also have a baptism on the 10th. Dec. 18 is the fourth Sunday of Advent, which culminates the season-long emphasis on our German Advent Traditions with the *Tannenbaum*. Worship 150 has hit the ground running to provide for fun each week and for liturgical reminders of our heritage. Christmas Eve Candlelight and Christmas Day Communion services will provide once again the important emotional experience of who we are and whose we are. Our church decorators also have a special surprise for Christmas Eve and Day.

This review of life in our church not only provides an accounting but also lifts up the involvement of countless individuals. It is my hope that the stewardship of pledges for next year along with the stewardship of time and talent through ministry teams and our new Key Groups will further all that we can do and can be.

How will ministry unfold in 2012? The bud is still blossoming. I pray for adequate resources to continue to grow and resurgent personal commitments. I believe our Key Groups, as they develop will provide for more personal connection and interaction. Leah and I are investigating how we can pull faithful and spiritual people together for enriching lay leadership in pastoral care and evangelism. We have begun to sit down and explore how we can best communicate our witness within the congregation and beyond. I wrote in a Facebook post that with all my preparations needed for ministry, I've been knee-deep in Advent and it is already Christmas for me. Perhaps this reflection is also a New Year's look back and look forward. May God bless us, everyone.

Paul



Advent Bible Study : The Good the Bad and the Ugly

Our student pastor, Christy Smith, will be leading a four week study into four different areas of Christmas-- King Herod, the Wise Men, Joseph, and the Shepherds. We will be looking at the biblical and historical significance of each "character" in the nativity story and learning why they should be a more significant part of our Advent season. "The Good the Bad and the Ugly" will be held at 12:00pm on Wednesdays starting on Nov 30 and ending December 21. If you would like to participate, you may email Christy at Chrismi1985@gmail.com or call her at 618-973-3040. Any and all are welcome to attend, and we look forward to taking this wonderful Advent journey with you!



SEE
30+
UNIQUE
SPECIALLY-
THEMED CHRISTMAS
TREES AT ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FAMILY FESTIVAL OF TREES.
SATURDAYS, DEC. 3, 10, & 17, 12-6 P.M.
SUNS, NOV. 27, 3-6, DEC. 4, 11 & 18, 12-6 P.M.
20 E. 5TH STREET AT MARKET & JEFFERSON.
REFRESHMENTS, GAMES, & HOSPITALITY.
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE BY BRINGING & PLACING
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS UNDER THE TREE TO
SUPPORT THE ST. PETER'S, ST. FRANCIS BORGIA
AND LOVING HEARTS FOOD PANTRIES.
WWW.STPETERS-WASHINGTON.ORG, 636-239-6176
DR. PAUL KOCH & REV. LEAH BILINSKI, PASTORS
WORSHIP SUNDAYS 10:00 & SATURDAYS 5:00
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT 7:30 & 10:30 P.M.
CHRISTMAS DAY 10 A.M. - YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!



Jazz Nativity December 10 and 11



On December 10 and 11, the Missouri Mid-South Conference will present a special Christmas gift to the St. Louis community: a jazz retelling of the timeless Christmas story. We will invite the public to Pilgrim Congregational for a program called "Follow That Star: A Jazz Nativity," featuring vocalist Denise Thimes, national recording artist and iconic jazz figure in St. Louis, performing alongside the Oikos Ensemble, with Cliff Aerie and Chris Bakriges, and prominent local musicians. Gine Kurre, Emmy Award-winning TV newscaster and producer, will host this special event.

This re-imagining of the Christmas Story will blend 2,000 year-old narrative with contemporary poetic expression and the improvisational spirit of jazz. Performances will be at 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 10, and 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 11. Both will be at Pilgrim Congregational UCC at 826 Union Blvd. in St. Louis and FREE to the public.

A Jazz Nativity

The jazz nativity concept is not new - but this *will* be its introduction to the St. Louis community. In 1985, Rev. John Gensell at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in New York City initiated the first Jazz Nativity program. It has been an annual event in New York City ever since, with other cities establishing similar programs. The concept is simple: retell the story of Christmas in a contemporary context using the creative artistry of jazz to offer a new musical dimension to traditional carols and songs. Some jazz nativity programs offer pageantry, others incorporate drama, still others the artistry of painters, poets, and other artists. While we live in a secular society where all faiths are valued, there is still something important about retelling the story to the entire community - not as a way to proselytize, but as a cultural offering that lifts up the human values of hope, peace, joy, and love. The Christmas narrative is a timeless story that enriches the faith of some while offering an affirmative metaphor for others seeking depth to their holiday experience.



Pizza and Football! What a Combination!

St. Peter's UCC Stewardship Board is launching a Shakespeare's Pizza sale campaign, timed so that you can enjoy this great pizza on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, 2012. Sales will start after January 1, 2012, and all orders must be placed with Shakespeare's Pizza by January 20, 2012. The frozen pizzas will be delivered by Shakespeare's to the church on February 3 for pickup by customers. Prices have not been determined yet, but will be announced prior to the

beginning of the sale's campaign. Payment will be accepted at the time of ordering.

Don't fret about Super Bowl snacks. St. Pete's and Shakespeare's will handle it for you!

Submitted by,
Phil Butler
Stewardship Board Chairman



Harvest Table Celebrates One Year

Harvest Table just celebrated their one year anniversary this past October. The ecumenical effort to provide a hot meal and friendship to those in need served 12 people that first Saturday in 2010. Now, one year later, they are averaging 55-70 people each Saturday. Initially, the group served the free community meal twice monthly, but as of February, 2011, the Harvest Table began serving a hot meal to its appreciative guests every Saturday evening, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the dining room of St. Peter's United Church of Christ. Harvest Table is a result of much research and hard work by

all the volunteers involved. The volunteers come from all walks of life – from churches, from agencies, and from volunteer organizations. Harvest Table is truly a community effort. If you would like to be a part of this amazing ministry, you may contact Brigid Reid at: 314-882-3124 or e-mail her at: harvestwashmo@gmail.com.

Submitted by,
Crystal Johns

Food Pantry

"Thank you." Those two words are the focus of this month's Food Pantry News. First and foremost, we of the Food Pantry Task Force want to give a most heartfelt "thank you" to Judy Schneider for all the time and effort she has devoted to the maintenance of the Food Pantry. I think most of us did not really know the depth of her devotion until she recently resigned because of illness in the family. All the details that she took care of have come to light. It is taking five of us to do what she so unselfishly always did. Under the leadership of Jim Gephardt, we hope we can do half as good a job as Judy always did. We would also like to thank all the many people and organizations who have so generously donated their food and money. These include: Lester Borgman, Mel & Betty Edwards, Bondie Heidmann, Joline Logan, Jim &

Hazel Schaffner, United Way, Christopher & Tracey Jackson, Phyllis & Don Northington, American Legion, Rotary Club, Elmer & Eleanor Fleer, Warren Wiele, Corine Ebker, KC Journey for Charity, the Tractor Cruise, Zumbathon, Donna Giesler, Franklin County Public School Retirees, Re-Max Gold and Golden Valley Pumpkin Patch. And, of course, a special "thanks" to all of our anonymous donors. Without your generous support, we could not BE.

Submitted by,
Crystal Johns



Women's Fellowship

The next Women's Fellowship meeting will be on Dec. 1st at 9:00 a.m. instead of the usual 10:00 a.m. Pastor Paul will be showing the movie, *Homecoming*, at 9:00. This will be followed by our regular meeting. Hostesses for the month are Florence Kempf, Sibyl Kerr, and Marie Martin. Cheryl Keller will be giving the devotional. A pizza luncheon will follow the meeting.

10th. Please bring in your baked goods before 6:00 p.m. on Dec. 9th. The trays, bags, and labels will be located in the dining room if you want to package your items. Otherwise, if you bring in your baked goods we will be happy to package them for you. Any and all baked goods will be greatly appreciated to making this a successful bake sale.

The Women's Fellowship annual bake sale will be on Dec.

Submitted by,
Cheryl Keller

The Prayer Network Ministry Team

We will meet on December 7 at 10 a.m. All are welcome both to join us as a caller and also to call the church office at 636-239-6176, Dorothy, or Marge with any prayer concerns or requests for yourself or others.

239-3574 or Marge Jones at 239-7752.

A Thought: God is calling us to prepare to open our hearts for the birth of Jesus.

For more information, please call Dorothy Althage at

Submitted by,
Dorothy Althage

Quilting News

There are several Christmas items in the atrium that we have for sale. The money from these items will go to the Atrium Fund.

Christmas.

Just a thought: "Soap is to the body...what...Laughter is to the Soul."

We sold one baby quilt and have one left that is for sale.

Submitted by,
Judy Eickmeyer and the Quilters

Everyone have a nice holiday and a very Safe and Merry



Cemetery Board Minutes

The Cemetery Board met on November 1 with the following in attendance: Mike Carey, Dennis Borgman, Billy Howard, Chuck Patterson, Alvin Gerling, Byron Stolte-Sexton. Absent: Hank Anderson, Roger Fleer-Council Rep.

The previous month's reports were read and approved.

Old Business:

- We discussed several types of fencing to mark the edge of the cemetery along Terry Lane. The cost of fencing looks to be very expensive and the Board will look into additional options.

New Business:

- Members of the Board plan to trim and haul away dead wood from some trees at the cemetery on November 10.
- Byron suggested we purchase chains for the small tractor that we use to remove snow from all the walks around our church. The Board agreed that he should purchase the chains.

The next meeting is December 6.

Respectively submitted,
Billy Howard



Musical Notes

Thank you to the following people for providing Special Music in November: Maggie Noud, Cecil Blankenship, and Carolyn Slack.

The tentative schedule for December is:

12-4 Vince Sanfilippo
 12-11 Children's Christmas Program
 12-18 Maggie Noud
 12-24 10:30 p.m. Patti Fler and Vince Sanfilippo
 12-25 Carolyn Slack

Levere Barnett - Director of Music

**“Create a Living Legacy.
 Have you remembered St. Peter’s in your will?”**

Financials	Atrium Fund as of 10/31/11
Heritage Community Bank Balance	\$814,406.70
Monthly Payment	\$5,950.00
Promissory Notes Balance	\$7,000.00
Rott Foundation Loan Balance	\$16,133.96
Quarterly Payment	\$4,204.69

General & Benevolent Fund:	October	YTD	2011 Budget	% Budget Reached
Total Receipts	36,641.58	306,224.86	387,966	78.93
Total Disbursements	33,948.27	<u>343,615.86</u> (37,391.00)	424,748	80.90

Please note that receipts are not keeping up with budgeted disbursements. Your above and beyond giving to the general fund will be greatly appreciated.

Monthly Minders

1st Weekend of Each Month:

- Communion service
- Food pantry collection
- Aluminum can collection

Monthly signups:

- ⇒ Liturgy/Altar Flowers/Bulletins
(on our new worship bulletin board in the rear of the sanctuary)
- ⇒ Atrium Coffee Hour
(Sign up commitment is for baking, set-up/clean-up, or serving on whichever Sunday you choose - however you wish to help. Call Donna Mueller (239-2177) or check at the table in the Atrium each Sunday for more information and a sign-up list.)

Anytime:

- Clothing Donation Box in the parking lot
- Schnucks Escrip cards - % donation to St. Peter's (ask at Schnucks for more information)
- Pasta House Co. in Union: Present your church bulletin to receive 10% off your check and a 50¢ donation to St. Peter's (See the bulletin board in the Market Street Hallway for more information).
- Hospitalization notification - If you are hospitalized and want the pastors to know, please call 239-6176 (Please do not assume the pastors know about your health concerns or need for a visit).



Approved Council Minutes

St. Peter's United Church of Christ Church Council Minutes 18 October 2011

Members Present: Chad Briggs, Nancy Croson, Roger Feer, Susan Harms, Donna Houchins, Carol Osoody, Don Steibel, Rhonda Stockglauser, Wendy Zick

Staff Present: Pastor Paul, Pastor Leah

The regular meeting was called to order about 7:05 p.m. by Briggs, with an invocation by Pastor Paul.

- The minutes from the September 2011 meeting were previously distributed by email. Minutes were approved.
- The financial report was read. Motion to approve was made by Harms, seconded by Steibel, motion passed and report was approved. The following items were noted:
 - We had a deficit last month and need to pay attention to expenses.
 - We need to try to shift the focus of giving from the atrium fund to the general fund. The atrium is far ahead, and the general fund is at a deficit.
 - We paid a heating oil bill; this is part of the deficit.
 - The Rott Foundation forgave another \$1000. This will be paid off next June.
- **Pastoral Report**
 - Pastor Leah gave a report on recent activities and upcoming events. These will be discussed in more detail in later sections.
- **Correspondence**
 - A letter was received from Wendy Williams, containing a donation from the estate of Wilbur & Marian Lefmann for the music department in the amount of \$4200. This donation is for the Music Ministry. This will be placed in the Music Department fund and used to purchase music; when new pieces are purchased with it, the donation will be acknowledged that they were purchased in honor of Marian Lefmann. This will begin in the new year. A motion to do this was made by Zick, seconded by Stockglauser. Motion approved.
- **Old Business**
 - St. Peter's Keys Groups
 - Zick and Harms went through the current groups and rearranged them a little to get family members together in the same group. New members may still need to be added to groups, and some additional changes may need to be made to get the new Council members each into a separate group.
 - Leaders will be recruited at the Stewardship Breakfast, Nov 12th.
 - 2012 Ministry Teams
 - The consolidated list could be further narrowed down. Pastor Paul and Pastor Leah will review the list again. It will be ready for Stewardship Sunday.
 - The teams are set for 1 year increments.
 - Auditorium Repair Update
- **New Business**
 - New Council Members
 - The renovations are complete. There were very good comments from the Ladies' Luncheon.
 - New facility rental fee updates were discussed. These have not been updated since 2008. The new auditorium will have higher fees and a damage deposit. Other fees will be updated as well.
 - New Board Members
 - Building & Grounds
 - Lance Fleming
 - Still need one more
 - Cemetery
 - Marty Derner
 - Still need one more
 - Stewardship
 - Heather Sullentrup
 - Still need two more
 - Board of Christian Education
 - Pat Winfree
 - Need 3 more
 - Internal Review
 - June Wilson
 - Additional Council Items
 - Dec 20th there will be a potluck Christmas party at 6:00.
 - The book study finishes in November.
 - Donation to Conference Office
 - A donation to the Conference office was suggested in thanks for Marc Wessels' participation in our services.
 - In the past, we have provided a donation to the Conference office for this. We already paid for his hotel, since he did both Saturday and Sunday services. Fleer motioned that we provide a \$200 donation to the Conference office. Motion was seconded by Croson; motion passed.
- **Board Reports & Ministry Team Progress**
 - Building & Grounds
 - Previously discussed the auditorium repairs; no additional report.
 - Cemetery Board
 - The board is looking at fencing for the Terry Lane side of the cemetery.
 - There is a leak in the shed water line; Byron is taking care of it.
 - The tombstones that the cleaning solvent was used on are looking good.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ Church Council Minutes 18 October 2011

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**St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Church Council Minutes
18 October 2011**

- o Board of Christian Education
 - Confirmation is ongoing.
 - All Sunday School teacher positions are filled.
- o Internal Review Board
 - No report.
- o Stewardship Board
 - Currently planning for stewardship drive.
 - A pizza sale project with Shakespeare's Pizza will be coming up after the first of the year, around Super Bowl time.
- o Worshiping
 - Communion is taken care of through the end of the year.
 - From November, the Sunday service Communion trays will be cut back to 8 from 10. The other 2 will be used for Saturday. There are a lot of left-over wine cups with the current 10-tray setup for Sunday.
- o Growing
 - The Halloween party will occur at the cemetery on October 22nd. There will be a movie (Hocus Pocus), costume contest, bonfire, trunk or treat, maybe a scavenger hunt.
 - Christmas Parade planning will take place in November. They are considering a lamnchair brigade flash mob at the judges' station.
 - A game night is being considered for January.
 - They are considering a talent or variety show.
- o Caring
 - No report.
- o Serving & Sharing
 - Harvest Table served 70 last week.
 - The United Way application for the Food Pantry is in progress.
- o Teaching
 - Journeymen have started meeting again.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at about 8:45 p.m.

UCC Global Ministries

The Gifts of Sharing Ideas

***As we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.
II Corinthians 1: 5***

I awaited the arrival of the group with excitement - it seemed a little like the anticipation of gifts at Christmas time! I always enjoy accompanying the groups that come to visit the Salvadoran Lutheran Church. When a group comes, there are many gifts, like the friendships that grow into *hermandad*, a Spanish word that means "partnership", but that doesn't catch the whole sense. Think of partnership, brotherhood, and sisterhood all mixed up in the same pupusa, a traditional Salvadoran food. In the same way that the pupusa contains beans, cheese, and ground pork all mashed together into a corn tortilla, *hermandad* contains different cultures, lifestyles, languages, and backgrounds all mashed together in a common faith and hope.

A few weeks ago I was awaiting the arrival of some of the friends I had made in the Iglesia Misión Cristiana of Nicaragua. They were coming to meet with church leaders involved in similar mission projects. In both countries, as economic struggles rise, access to basic needs becomes more and more difficult, and the ability for families to provide their own food becomes more and more necessary. Churches in both countries have programs which aim to feed families in several communities by helping them grow their own food. The more each group shared with the other, the greater their excitement grew, and the more they helped solve their own challenges. At the end of the visit both groups had learned so much from each other. They committed to getting together again next year to advance and deepen their work, and *hermandad*.

We pray that *hermandad* grows in our congregations as well as the inspiration of sharing in God's love.

Nicholas Green



Remembering with Purpose & Gratitude...

The congregation's Memorial Fund, Atrium Fund and various other funds receive gifts throughout the year from both members and nonmembers who are looking for a creative way to express their gratitude for the life of a friend or loved one, or for other times and occasions when they are moved to gratefully respond to a blessing of God.

In memory of **Carol Howard**: Billy Howard and Family

In honor of **Joyce Sanfilippo**: Marion Nelgner

Honoring the 50th Wedding Anniversary of **Cecil & Doris Blankenship**: Fred & Marion Hodgson, St. Peter's UCC Women's Fellowship, William & Clare Huber, The Huber Children and their families, Cecil & Doris Blankenship, Joline Logan, Dutch & Delores Borcharding

In memory of **Gustav & Alvina Meyer**: Mrs. K L Church

In memory of **Karoline Curtright**: Howard & Gloria Marquart

In memory of **Kenneth & Marcie Stolte**: Arthur & Janet Politte, Russel & Marilyn Sherman

In memory of **Marilyn Smith**: Ruth Buddemeyer, Cecil & Doris Blankenship

In honor of **Jim & Joan Heisel**'s 55th Wedding Anniversary: Jim Heisel

In memory of **Carrie Clover**: Warren Wiele, Brenda & Roy Morman, Corine Ebker, Lee Nolting, Kay Nolting, Jo Nolting Phinney, Marie Martin, Doris & Cecil Blankenship, Thelma Lucy, St. Peter's UCC Quilters, Harvey & Carol Riegel, Hilda Kohne, M.P. Hennecke, Richard & Dawn Deppe, Jim & Dorothy Weiskopf, Dorothy Althage, Norma Auck, David & Mary Ruth Schomberg, Evelyn Roethli Family, Al & Eileen Spreckelmeyer, Art & Norma Mueller, M/M Charles Gildehaus, Duane & Karen Beste, Charles & Barb Carman, Edna Hinnah, M/M Jerry Brunner, Ken & Rosella Alfermann, Harvey Boland, John & Joan Zimmermann, Leon Whitworth, Tom & Bernice Noelker, M/M Richard Hirschl, Judy Eickmeyer, Dennis & Carol Arnold, Leroy & Gloria Eggert, Laurie Freie, Bud & Leola Stolte, Dorothy & Glen Meyer, Essel & Elaine Kruse, Jim & Diane Gephardt, Russel & Marilyn Sherman, Don & Carolyn Slack, Ron & Donna Mueller, Elmer & Eleanor Fleer, Hilda Stockglausner, Don & Darlene Langkopf, Alvin & Marian Gerling, Ed & Pam Menefee, Lance & Elaine Fleming, Tom & Frankie Jo Hogan, Clarence Eggert, Betty & Bob Stuesse, Dennis Borgman, Ruth Buddemeyer, Cara Czeschin, Bill & Kathy Miller, Joline Logan, Hank & Sue Anderson, Julie & Eric Frankenberg, Alex & Carrol Ocsody, Billie Ruth Miller, Mary Mense, Eleanor Buschmeyer, Dottie & Robert Brinker

In memory of **Melda West**: Corine Ebker

In memory of **Ralph Goebel**: Bill & Penny Rombach, Jerry & Roxann Jasper, Kevin & Terri Nobler, Esther Wallkenhorst, Ruth Heitman, M/M Roman Wunderlich, Dennis & Doris Schmidt, Ken & Mary Bierbaum, Ken & Theola Klemm, Betty Dobsch, Jessa Mealer, Irene Ming, M/M Duthiel Borcharding, M/M Mike Haberberger, Robert & Dena Fuhr

In memory of **Laura Gephardt**: Thomas & Sheila Gephardt

In memory of **Norma Hausmann**: Doris & Cecil Blankenship, Laurie Freie, St. Peter's UCC Women's Fellowship, Brunhilde Wahl, Hank & Sue Anderson, Thelma Lucy, St. Peter's UCC Food Pantry, Carl & Evelyn Mayer, Roy & Brenda Morman, Helen Jones, Warren Wiele, Dorothy Althage, Ruth Campbell, Carl Clover & Rhonda Stockglausner, Carol Muench, Mel & Betty Edwards, Judy Eickmeyer, M/M Richard Hirschl, Russel & Marilyn Sherman, Jim & Hazel Schaffner, Harriet Wilmesherr, Elmer & Eleanor Fleer, Mary Ann Boland, M/M Oman Yount, Frank & Ruth Wood, Al & Marion Gerling, Joline Logan, M/M Tom Hogan, Kurt & Nancy Maune, Julie Frankenberg, Dennis Borgman, Jim & Diane Gephardt, Kim Colter & Elaine Menke, M/M Gene Hunt & Terry, Mike & Mary Ann Carey, Marie Martin, M/M Robert Miller, Bruce & Sara Barnett, Darlene & Don Langkopf, Wendell & Judy Schneider, Keli & Clint Schneider, Jon & Kelly Genthe, Jennifer & Matt Kroeter, Patty Wood, Mary Mense, Sibyl Kerr, Dottie & Robert Brinker, Marion Nelgner, Bill & Judy Verdine

Honoring **Dorothy Althage** on her birthday: Doris & Cecil Blankenship, Laurie Freie, Marie Martin, Thelma Lucy, Dutch & Delores Borcharding

In memory of **loved ones**: Robert Holtgreiwe

In memory of **Jean Benz**: Warren Wiele, Doris & Cecil Blankenship, Denny & Carol Arnold, Clemco Industries, Mark & Sharon Meyer, Glenn & Dick Hoemann, Sandy & Gary Lucy, Ginny & Gus Garbo, Barbara Schroeppfer, Angie & Russ Bade, Eleanor & Elmer Fleer, Billie Ruth Miller, Marilyn & Russel Sherman, Dot Gumper, Gary, Pat Eichholz, Dorothy & Glen Meyer, Diane & Mike Jasper, Judy Eickmeyer, Jean Nappier, Laurie Riekhof, Norma Benz, Diane & Jim Gephardt, Evelyn Von Behren, Dawn & Rich Deppe, Mary & Orville Benz, Jacqueline Krafft, Pat Wood, Delores & Dutch Borcharding,



Memorials Continued

Joan Dierking, Cynthia & Kevin Doerr, Harriet & Arnold Sallaberry, Darlene Langkopf, Annette & Gavin Woolley, Rosemary & Richard Hirschl, Dolores & Joe Pautler, Mike, Kathy, Pat, Julie families, Kathy & Bill Miller, Dorothy Althage, Joyce Oberg, LaVerta Schulte, Mary Laune, Patricia Aichholz, Lorri Siedel, Elaine & Essel Kruse, Ruth & Hank Jones, Ruth & Andy Engemann, Pam & Charles Mutert, Laura Rector, Leola & Bud Stolte, Melva & Jim Wertz, Mary Hellmann, Husch Blackwell LLP, M/M J. Dunn, M/M Joe Sedlock, Donald & Margie Havener

Honoring their 55th Wedding Anniversary: **Russel & Marilyn Sherman**

The Cross in the Manger

If there is no cross in the manger,
there is no Christmas.

If the Babe doesn't become the Adult,
there is no Bethlehem star.

If there is no commitment in us,
there are no Wise Men searching.

If we offer no cup of cold water,
there is no gold, no frankincense, no
myrrh.

If there is no praising God's name,
there are no angels singing.

If there is no spirit of alleluia,
there are no shepherds watching.

If there is no standing up, no speaking
out, no risk,

there is no Herod, no flight into
Egypt.

If there is no room in our inn,
then "Merry Christmas" mocks the
Christ Child.

and the Holy Family is just a holiday
card, and God will loathe our feasts
and festivals.

For if there is no reconciliation,
we cannot call Christ "Prince of
Peace."

If there is no goodwill toward others,
it can all be packed away in boxes
for another year.

If there is no forgiveness in us,
there is no cause for celebration.

If we cannot go now even unto Gol-
gotha,

there is no Christmas in us.

If Christmas is not *now*,
if Christ is not born into the everyday
present, then what is all the *noise*
about?

Ann Weems, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*

Christmas Poinsettia Form

We want to remind you that the church will not be placing one large Christmas order for poinsettias. We are asking that you order them yourselves and have them delivered to the church December 22, before 3:30 p.m. If you know of an organization who is selling them as a fundraiser, we suggest you order yours from that group (i.e. Washington FFA Chapter, Washington High School Orchestra, etc.)

If you wish to donate a Christmas poinsettia or donate a memorial, please complete this form and return it to the church office no later than December 19, 2011.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to make a contribution to:

Memorial Fund \$ _____

Atrium Fund \$ _____






I would like to provide a poinsettia. _____ (Note: If you use a florist, call them no later than December 9 to place an order to have the plant delivered to the church on December 22)

In memory of: _____

Plants not picked up by noon of December 28 will be delivered to shut-ins.



Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in December

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
					1 Wilson Wood	2 David Homeyer Kelsey Rich	3 Barbara Ebker
4 Caleb McDaniel Kelly Schneider	5 Josh Buschling Mary Ann Boland	6 Judy Eickmeyer Marcy Ritchey Frank Hartzell	7 Elaine Menke	8 Robert Coleman Roger Dowil Marion Hodgson Laura Sentivany Hannah Pope Emma Pope	9 	10 Lucas Meyer	
11 Joshua Roehrs Ryan Walkenhorst Sue Winistoerfer	12 Pam Kruse Colin Pennington Mary Phillips Sharon Miller	13 Carlyn Deppe Shirley Klingsick Dale Trentmann	14 	15 Raymond Eickmeyer Evan Holdmeyer Terry Hunt	16 Steven Hackett Brenda Morman Brendan Smith Leann Bailey Al Harper	17 Molly Bauer Lester Borgman Dylan Shoemaker	
18 Mary Howard	19 Noelle Kellermann Audrey Nourse	20 Alvie Buchholz Alexa Jaeger	21 	22 Daniel Dixon	23 Lisa Tobben Susan Abrams Stephanie Schonaerts	24 Michael Brinkmann Ruth Engemann Matthew McDonald Leanne Schultz	
25 Marjorie Donner Lisa Moore	26 Natalie Shocklee	27 Kenneth Baker Samuel Love Perry Schatz	28 Grover Crismon Joanna Krafft Jennifer Kriete David Montgomery Kaela Marquart	29 Amy Roewe	30 Larry Dawson Roger Rohlfling Noreen Wayne	31 Arthur Buerk David Mutert Jim Scannell Will Amlong Maggie Noud Crystal Johns Louanne Merrell	

Boy Scouts Collect 6,459 Food Items for St. Peter's

A Great Big Thank You goes out to all the Boy Scouts for their effort of collecting for the Annual Food Drive in November. Thanks to the Boy Scouts, St. Peter's Food Pantry received 4,759 cans of food and 1,700 dry good items, which will go far in helping to feed the less fortunate. Also, thank you to all the volunteers from St. Peter's who counted, sorted, and transported the food to the food pantry. Without these volunteers, this project would not be possible.

Sincerely,
Crystal Johns

Thank you to everyone for all your prayers, cards, and concerns during my session with cancer. As of October 21st, I am "Cancer Free"!

Thank you all so much,
Cara Czeschin

Please submit your Board and Committee articles for the Annual Report to lplicht@fidnet.com or the church office by January 13, 2012.

And please submit January newsletter articles by December 19th instead of the 21st. This will greatly help us as we approach Christmas!



December 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 9 Women's Fellowship 6 AA	2 8:30 Mental Health 101 Last day to decorate trees for <i>Festival of Trees</i> 6 AA 8 p.m. Grades 6-8 Lock-in	3 8 a.m. Lock-in ends 12-6 Festival of Trees 5 Harvest Table 5 Worship
4 9-9:45 Adult SS 10 Worship/Confirmants First Communion Family Sunday 11 Coffee Hour Food Pantry and Aluminum Drives 11:15-1 Confirmation -2012 class 12-6 Festival of Trees 3 Civic Chorus Concert	5 8:30 Historical Team 6 AA 6 Zumba 6:30 Quilting	6 9 AA 10:30 Staff 6:30 Stewardship Board 7 Cemetery Board 7 Social Concerns 7 Board of Christian Education	7 7:15 HS Bible Study @ Bread Co. Quilting 9 Men's Breakfast 10 Prayer Network 12 Bible Study 6 Zumba 6 Chapel Bells 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	8 6 AA 7 Scout Pack Mtg.	9 Place poinsettia order with florist no later than today Set-up for bake sale 6 AA	10 8:30-12 Women's Fellowship Bake Sale 12-6 Festival of Trees 5 Harvest Table 5 Worship 7 Jazz Nativity Pilgrim Congregational UCC
11 9-9:45 Adult SS 10 Worship/Children's Christmas Program 11 Coffee Hour 3 Jazz Nativity Pilgrim Congregational UCC 12-6 Festival of Trees 5-8 Gr. 8-12 Progressive Dinner	12 6 AA 6 Zumba 6:30 Quilting 7 Bible Discovery	13 9 AA 10:30 Staff 6:30 Scout Comm.	14 7:15 HS Bible Study @ Bread Co. Quilting 12 Bible Study 6 Zumba 6 Chapel Bells 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	15 6 AA 9 Women's Breakfast @ Cowan's 10:30 Grandview	16 5:30 Temco Banquet 6 AA	17 12-6 Festival of Trees 5 Harvest Table 5 Worship
18 9-9:45 Adult SS 10 Worship/Christmas Fund Offering 11 Coffee Hour 12-6 Festival of Trees 3 Recital	19 Poinsettia/Memorial forms due to office 9 Newsletter Articles due 6 AA 6 Zumba 6-8 MS Support Gr. 6:30 Quilting	20 9 AA 10:30 Staff 2:30 Cedar Crest 6 Church Council	21 Quilting 12 Bible Study 6 Zumba 6 Chapel Bells 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	22 6 AA	23 Office Closed 6 AA	24 Christmas Eve 5 Harvest Table 7:30 & 10:30 Worship with communion
25 Christmas Day 10 Worship with communion 11 Coffee Hour	26 Office Closed 6 AA 6 Zumba 6:30 Quilting	27 9 AA 10:30 Staff	28 Quilting 6 Zumba 6 Chapel Bells 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	29 6 AA	30 12 Office Closes at Noon 6 AA	31 New Year's Eve 5 Harvest Table 5 Worship

St. Peter's Youth News

Hello St. Peter's youth and parents! Welcome to the youth-specific news of the newsletter. Each month, this page will provide info on upcoming events & general need-to-know stuff.



High School Sunday School
will begin meeting again
January 8

**Youth Group Gatherings
This Month
Grades 8-12 Welcome!**

Sunday, December 11, 10:00 AM
Come join the Christmas pageant!

Sunday, December 11, 5-8 PM
Youth Group Progressive Dinner
with white elephant gift exchange

Sunday, January 8, 6:30-8 PM
Youth Group at church

Annual Progressive Dinner for grades 8-12



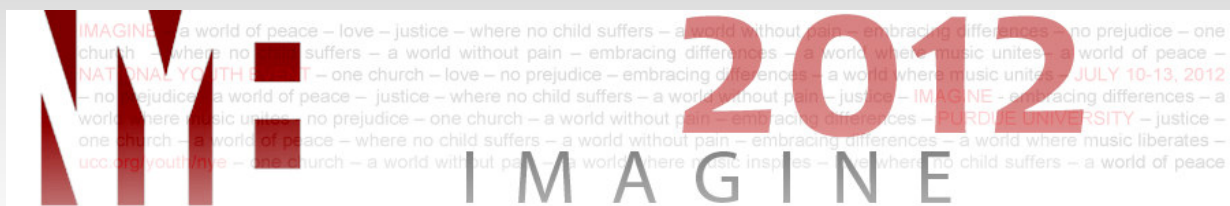
Sunday, December 11
5:00-8:00 PM
(starting & ending from church
parking lot)

We hope you can join us for this always fun evening! The Briggs' family will be hosting us for appetizers, the Sincox's for a main course and the Sehart's for a yummy dessert. Along the way, we'll laugh, hear a Christmas story, play a Christmas game and have a white elephant gift exchange (start looking for that weird item you don't want anymore)!

Sign up on the youth bulletin board or
contact Pastor Leah:
pastorleah@stpeters-ucc.org

High School Conference Youth Event

President's Day Weekend: February 18-20 (Sat.-Mon.)
Mt. Camp Mo-Va. Estimated cost: \$60 to you.
More info coming soon from our conference.
E-mail Pastor Leah to be kept in the loop.



Announcing: The U.C.C.'s National Youth Event Tuesday, July 10—Friday, July 13 at Purdue University in Indiana

It only happens once every four years, and this is the year! Thousands of U.C.C. youth from across the U.S., Puerto Rico and Hawaii will descend on Purdue University for the event of a lifetime. NYE will be filled with inspiring youth just like you, eager to be in community where they can engage social and human justice and a sacred and safe space to encounter God. Imagine that! National Youth Event is a place for youth to come and learn and experience spiritual and leadership formation. Come and imagine the new thing God is doing through and with the Stillspeaking Youth of the United Church of Christ, right now. Go ahead.

Dare to Imagine!

Open to high school youth (graduated 8th grade through graduated 12th grade). St. Peter's will be utilizing bus transportation reserved through the conference. Fund-raising opportunities will be available. Mark your calendars now and check out more info, including a video from the 2008 NYE at www.ucc.org/youth.

Contact Pastor Leah if you know you want to attend NYE 2012!