

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. Peter's Messenger

October 2011

Editor: Laura Placht

**St. Peter's United Church
of Christ**

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Worship: Saturday 5 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m.

**Find us at [stpetersuccin-
washington](#) on:**



Pastor Paul's Points

A sentiment from an old song goes "Our backs are supported by the wall of our past and our arms reach out to embrace the future." I think that adequately describes our proud heritage and exciting promise at St. Peter's UCC. September was a great month for our church and reflects a snapshot of who we are and what we are meant to be. Just look at our "wall photos:"

* The proud legacy of our Christian service in caring for our neighbors, our facilities, and our departed saints was lived out in our September 10th & 11th *Service Worship*. More than 150 people of all ages and abilities, including many younger families, individuals and children, showed up ready to make a difference. In preparing youth hygiene kits for the Festival of Sharing and DFS, one senior joyfully remarked that she had no idea we regularly provide this outreach and that she had never assembled anything like that before and had a great time doing it.

* Our Church Riverfront Service (five blocks up) and Picnic was also a tremendous event that underscores how being church is incredible fun. I believe we all got a boost of the Spirit in seeing four families affirm that they wanted to be publicly united with our church family, (please get to know them by reading a welcome in this newsletter). We anticipate at least three other families affirming their faith in the near future too. The baptism of a baby boy, the handing out of dozens of bibles to third graders and confirmands, the participation of confirmands and mentors in reading scripture added to the joy. How wonderful seeing every square foot on the chancel steps area and the aisles around it full for the children's moment!

* Polymath Masters, which concluded this month, showed the breadth of talent and varied interests among a diversity of ages.

* Eagerness for the resumption of Weds. @ St. Pete's small groups have made us wish October was already here. (Please find a group to suit your spiritual growth beginning Oct. 5th.)

This affirming of joy and good news in our church provides a natural entree into our Season of Stewardship that begins on October 8 & 9th with the preaching by our new Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Marc Wessels. He'll affirm our leadership in feeding the hungry through the United Church of Christ's new emphasis, MISSION 1. : 11.1.11 - 11.11.11. We can certainly count our blessings! Please be counting yours as you recall how your faith has blossomed in community.

Ending Hunger, One Step at a Time: CROP Hunger Walk, October 2

Who are "they?" They are the 1.3 billion people who go to bed hungry every night. Because of poverty, they must walk to accomplish the most basic tasks: they walk to school, they walk for employment, they walk to farm their fields, they walk to seek shelter, they walk for water, they walk for food, they walk to escape violence. They walk. And we can too, in support of them. Every year, Church World Service sponsors a CROP walk to take place in some 2000 communities across the United States. Funds raised go to fight hunger and poverty locally and globally. As much as 25% stays in the local communities, assisting our local food banks. Due to horrible draught, rising food costs and other factors, hunger is a growing problem in our world. It's going to take all people of faith to make a difference, seeking Christ in our world: " 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?'... 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" *Matthew 25:37-40* Can you dedicate an hour on October 2nd to make a difference that day? Our local CROP walk will take place by the Jaycee Pavilion of Union Lake/Park on Sunday, October 2nd. A hotdog cookout will begin at noon, registration will open at 12:30 and the walk will begin at 1:00.

Service Worship Day - A Huge Success

From the Washington Missourian - September 2011

St. Peter's United Church of Christ of Washington observed the 9-11 anniversary by replacing the Sunday sanctuary worship service with "Service Worship." The congregation, including many additional young families, couples and individuals, gathered for a commemorative litany at a work site, then headed out to parks, our cemetery for grave marker restoration, a low-income home, and mission projects within the church building. On September 10, the congregation hosted the Harvest Table, a free-community meal at the church for any person who could use a free meal and the company of others. The church's senior pastor, the Rev. Paul Koch affirmed, "We are able to transform a day of destruction into a season of hope and unity!"

One project in particular had a team with chainsaws, pruners,

and weed-eaters headed to an abandoned rural cemetery. Upon clearing out a thicket, a grave was discovered of a woman whose birth date was listed as September 11, 1901 - exactly 100 years before the 9-11 events. One worker commented, "We could have intentionally searched countless cemeteries for such a milestone connection to no avail. Through our work, the reminder of this day was simply brought forth."

Thanks to all who made Service Worship a memorable marker at St. Peter's.



Wednesday Noon Bible Studies to Resume October 19.

Come during your Wednesday noon lunch hour for the return of our weekly Bible studies and great conversations that spring forth. Dr. Koch will be leading the next six-week session on Acts 16-26, to conclude the three part series on Acts. All persons are welcome. We are grateful that many people from the community have found their way to the noon studies (sometimes outnumbering our St. Peter's folks.)

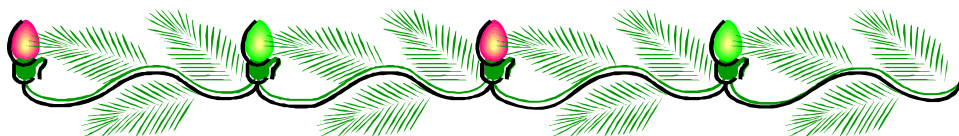
St. Peter's Eden Seminary Student

Christine (Christy) Smith is a second year Masters of Divinity student at Eden Theological Seminary. She grew up in O'Fallon, Illinois and attended the UCC there with her family. After high school, Christy went to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and graduated with a Bachelors in social work and a Minor in psychology. For two years, she worked at Hoyleton Youth and Family services, a UCC affiliate in Illinois South. During that time, she also worked to rebuild her home church's youth program, and it was her work with the youth that motivated her to finally go to seminary. For the first year of seminary, Christy was placed as a student chaplain at St. Louis Children's Hospital, where she worked along-

side three wonderful chaplains to help provide spiritual support to patients and their families, support grieving families with bereavement care, and held memorial services every other month. It was an amazing experience for her, and she is very excited to be back in the church setting, working with youth once again. She is not only excited to be in the church, but she is also celebrating her engagement to DJ Moore, and they are planning their wedding for September 2012 in O'Fallon, IL. If you ever need to get in contact with her, her email is Chrismi1985@gmail.com, and her cell phone number is 618-973-3040.

Christmas Rummage Sale November 12.

Please start gathering your used Christmas items to donate. We will also be collecting coats, jackets, gloves, sweaters, and the like to sell. More information will be forthcoming regarding drop off dates.



Weds.@St.Pete's Returns



Oct. 5 - Nov. 9, 6:15 - 7:30,

With the Following Small Groups:

With the Following Small Groups:

“Great Decisions” Returns

Once again, there will be an opportunity to learn more about some of the international issues facing our country. Based on the PBS “Great Decisions” series, Rev. Dr. Bill Schwab, Pastor Emeritus of St. Peter’s UCC, will lead discussions. They will be held on consecutive Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 p.m. Beginning October 5. The public is invited. The six U.S. foreign relations issues that will be discussed are: Oct. 5 - Rebuilding Haiti, Oct. 12 - American National Security since 9/11, Oct. 19 - The Horn of Africa (Somalia), Oct. 26 - Banks, Governments and Debt Crises, Nov. 2 - The Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, etc.), Nov. 9 - Making Sense of Multilateralism (The G8, the G20, and international order)

Listening Circle - a Weds.@St.Pete's Adventure

The world is in such desperate need of something different than the current climate of division. What are Christians to do? And what do we do with our own differences of opinion? Do we pretend we don't have them? Do we shout them at one another and add to the culture of division? Or do we aim for a higher way of being, one with another, that is both honest and respectful? Questions posed with each session will aim to gently guide the group to places of better knowing and understanding one another, beginning with less vulnerable topics and gradually progressing each week, based on perceived group comfort. Pastor Leah completed a short training in leading listening circles this past winter and is excited to facilitate a small group of willing individuals in the process. Please RSVP to the church office if you wish to participate, as group size is important to facilitation!

Journeyman Become “Unbroken”

We have selected Laura Hillenbrand’s best-selling and incredibly moving, inspiring book, *Unbroken*, as our discussion resource. It is based on a true-story of a World War II POW and former Olympian who learns and demonstrates forgiveness despite a harrowing ordeal. This group is open to all men of the wider community. Discussions are slated to begin on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:30 October 5 – November 9. Pastor Paul will moderate most weeks but co-leader volunteers are needed especially for the first two weeks.

Activities for Grades K- 5

These will be coordinated by our student pastor, Christy Smith. Please RSVP to the church office if you’d like your child/children to participate.

Men's Fall Float Retreat

Men's Fall Float Retreat Scheduled for October 7-9

Mark your calendar on the most beautiful time of year for a fall kayak or canoe float down the gorgeous Current River in the Ozark National Scenic Riverway in Shannon Country, south of Salem. We will arrive Friday night, stay in an A-frame cabin with beds, bathroom, and kitchenette at Shannondale Retreat Center. Plan for a 20 mile float from Akers Ferry to Round Spring (or maybe begin a bit earlier) on Saturday, hike the park, maybe help Shannondale with a project, worship at Shannondale UCC, and return Sunday evening. It will be full of great food, fellowship, and fun plus accumulated stories that flow like a natural spring. Cost will be around \$50-\$70 plus food. Let Pastor Paul know if you are interested.



St. Peter's "Financial Freedom in July" Receipts

"The Stewardship Board extends its thanks to the congregation for your generous support of our "Financial Independence in July" project. The project consisted of "giving stars" on the "upside down" tree, each star representing a donation for a specific item, large or small. The receipts for this project totaled \$3876.12! Thank you for a very successful project. Following are lists of contributors and the items for which donations were received."

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Contributors</u> | Mike & Carol Perkins | Diane & Jim Gephardt | Bernice Stockglausner |
| Mary Jo Stoyer | Phil Butler | Evan Comely | Crystal Johns |
| Bill & Judy Verdine | Sibyl Kerr | Paul & Marcia Koch | Patty Wood |
| Thelma Lucy | Bernice Stockglausner | Dan Buschmeyer | Joline Logan |
| Laurie Freie | Dorothy Althage | Marge Jones | Anonymous |
| Judy & Ray Eickmeyer | Dottie Brinker | Jason & Amy Oesterly | Ron & Pam Kruse |
| Don & Phyllis Northington | Elmer & Eleanor Fleer | Steve & Susan Harms | St. Peter's UCC Quilters |
| Bill & Diane Schwab | Hank & Sue Anderson | Larry & Karen Dawson | |
| Clint & Keli Schneider | Carl Clover & Rhonda Stockglausner | Rusty & Angela Smith | |
| Ken & Briana Juergens | Wendy & Bob Zick | Russel & Marilyn Sherman | |
| Byron & Leola Stolte | Ruth Rinne | Marty & Molly Derner | |
| Dave Butler | Nancy Burke | Alex & Carrol Ocsody | |
| Cara Czeschin | | Donna Houchins | |

Star donations we've received for the following expenditure items to further specific ministries of our church:

| | |
|--|--|
| 1/10 annual music copyright license | pizza for youth group; 1/10 annual PO Box rent |
| 1 month's postage for newsletter and weekly sermons | 1 case styrofoam cups |
| computer keyboard | air filter for a/c; Confirmation binders |
| Confirmation certificates; graduation recognition gifts | cake for special receptions |
| entry fee for Downtown Parade | scuff remover, communion wafers |
| 1/10 snow removal parking lot – one time | 3/10 average monthly electric bill |
| 1/10 of monthly dumpster fee | 2 replacement bulbs for lectern; 4 gallons of fuel oil |
| pew envelopes | 1 gal. detergent for dishwasher |
| snacks and theme related food lessons for VBS | 1 bottle hand sanitizer |
| adding machine rolls, 1 pkg copy paper, light bulbs | 1/10 meat for Riverfront picnic (2010); gas for mower and weed eater |
| UCC desk calendar for staff, 1 subscription <i>These Days</i> | youth group games and Easter activity supplies |
| ½ <i>Missourian</i> annual subscription | sending 1 child to Camp Mo-Val |
| greeting cards for pastoral care | pew cards; ad for childcare worker; VBS materials (partial) |
| ½ case trash can liners | 1 weeks' stipend for student minister to supplement education |
| feather duster/bowl brush | bills |
| 1 year renewal domain name, baptism certificate | scrub brush; 1/10 case cost tube candles for altar |
| duplication cost for each week's bulletins, 20 <i>Your Child's</i> | 9 months Adult Sunday school curriculum |
| <i>Baptism</i> booklets | (continued) |

5 gallons bleach; ½ annual fee of safe deposit box rent
 1/10 honorarium for Weds. at St. Pete's speaker-one evening
 average for 1 month's phone and internet service
 circuit breaker for sanctuary
 1 year's curriculum for Confirmation and Middle School
 Classes
 2 carpet pro bags; dish detergent, foil; vinyl tips for table legs
 bounce house
 oil for lawnmower; mounting tape for signs; 1 lb. coffee
 1 month RA-Comm Security fire alarm monitoring
 1 year's supply of *Care Notes* for those hospitalized, in need
 and for the food pantry; Bibles for 3rd graders
 1 new choir anthem for ½ of the choir; crayons for activity
 worship packs
 2% of *Our Church's Wider Mission* annual giving

Grief Help book
 Candles for Christmas services; Washington Historical Society
 dues
 10 postage stamps; batteries for wireless mic; 1 fire
 extinguisher inspection
 10 miles car allowance, can opener for kitchen
 ½ case hand towels; Children's sermon activity supply
 1/10 annual Chamber of Commerce dues
 10 pack AAA batteries; 1 background check
 1 Friendship registration binder
 Weed killer; 3/10 average monthly electric bill
 One anthem for the choir
 1/10 of annual postage fees
 12 *You Are a Godparent* booklets; carpet spot remover

Our "Give of Yourself" Helping Hands Tree

Resulted in approximately 177 extra volunteer hours being donated to ministry activities at St. Peter's! Thank you to all who gave of themselves for Christ through our church!



St. Peter's Cemetery (one mile east of Mercy on Fifth)

October 22

6:00 p.m.

Featuring Disney's "Hocus Pocus" (rated PG)

Scavenger Hunt - Fun House - Food & Prizes

Sponsored by your St. Peter's Party Team

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

| Financials | Atrium Fund as of 8/31/11 |
|--|---------------------------|
| Heritage Community Bank Balance | \$824,799.93 |
| Monthly Payment | \$5,950.00 |
| Promissory Notes Balance | \$7,000.00 |
| Rott Foundation Loan Balance | \$21,221.99 |
| Quarterly Payment | \$4,204.69 |

| General & Benevolent Fund: | August | YTD | 2011 Budget | % Budget Reached |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Total Receipts | 27,040.14 | 242,754.75 | 387,966 | 62.57 |
| Total Disbursements | 32,950.12 | <u>268,757.28</u> (26,002.53) | 424,748 | 63.27 |

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

Keep Current On Your Giving the "Convenient Way."

St. Peter's provides a service that enables your monthly pledged amount or contribution to be automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account. In most cases there is no charge for this service plus you'll be saving on stamps, saving the church on providing the mailed envelopes and help you be free from worrying if you have kept up each week or not when away. In back of this newsletter is a confidential form that can be completed and given to the church office. The households that use this service have commented how it is a much easier way to keep up in their stewardship. The amounts can be changed periodically as well.

This is a condensed version of the budget to be presented at the October congregational meeting. The full budget is always available in the church office.

**2012 Proposed Budget
General & Atrium Fund**

| | 2011 Budget | 2012 Budget |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| General Fund Receipts | <u>387,966</u> | <u>433,117</u> |
| General Fund Disbursements: | | |
| For the Wider Mission | 31,328 | 31,127 |
| For the Local Mission | | |
| Pastoral Ministry | 170,385 | 170,385 |
| Christian Education | 8,700 | 8,700 |
| Ministry of Music | 19,628 | 19,628 |
| Cost of Operations | 119,697 | 122,767 |
| Building & Grounds Expenses | 61,500 | 67,000 |
| Cemetery Expenses | 13,510 | 13,510 |
| Total | <u>424,748</u> | <u>433,117</u> |
| | | |
| Atrium Fund Receipts | <u>143,545</u> | <u>115,115</u> |
| Atrium Fund Disbursements | <u>106,819</u> | <u>115,115</u> |

The Prayer Network

Ministry Team will meet on October 5 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. For more information, call Dorothy Althage at 239-3574 or Marge Jones at 239-7752.

A Thought: Faith brings strength and hope.

Dorothy Althage

Musical Notes

Thank you to the following people for providing Special Music in September: Cecil Blankenship, Carolyn Slack, The Rev. Mildred Slack, and Vince Sanfilippo.

The tentative schedule for October is:

- 10-2 June Wilson
- 10-9 Maggie Noud
- 10-16 Cecil Blankenship
- 10-23 Vince Sanfilippo
- 10-30 Patti Flear

Leverne Barnett - Director of Music



Quilting News

The Quilters are donating quilts to three fund raising events in October: the Emmaus Homes Bazaar and Auction, the Festival of Sharing Quilt Auction, and the Camp Mo-Val Dinner and Auction. We hope analyzing the cost of producing a quilt will encourage you to attend these events and bid on a bargain!

The following prices for a queen size are rounded off, approximate, and minimum.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Fabric 10 yards @\$8. to \$12. a yard | \$100. |
| Batting | \$12 |
| Backing | \$36 |
| Thread 3 spools @\$2.79 | \$8.40 |
| If made from embroidered blocks | \$8 |
| Embroidery Floss | \$4.50 |
| Time and labor to piece top | ? |
| Time and labor to mark top We Charge | \$35 |

Now to the actual hand quilting: Three ladies spend 2 1/2 hours pinning the quilt in the frame = 7 1/2 hours

It takes about two months to complete the quilting. Four quilters working 2 hours on Monday nights and 4 hours on Wednesday equal 192 hours of work. The quilters base price for a queen size quilt is \$140 with additions made for difficulty or extensive quilting. This averages to \$.70 an hour for our labor. Binding the quilt, we charge \$30. The grand total \$374.

This is the cost of the quilts we do for Emmaus, Festival of Sharing, and other queen size quilts. We still need quilters, so if any of you new members would like to try quilting, come by any Monday evening 6-9 p.m. or Wednesday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Judy Eickmeyer and the Quilters

Monthly Minders

Communion is served the first weekend of each month.

The first weekend of the month is the food pantry collection.

The first weekend of the month is the aluminum can collection.

The MPS (Merchandise Pickup Service) Box is in the parking lot.

Schnucks escarp cards - inquire at Schnucks for more information.

Sign up for being a liturgist /providing altar flowers and/or bulletins on our new worship bulletin board in the rear of the sanctuary.

If you are hospitalized and want the pastors to know, please call 239-6176
(please don't assume the pastors know about your health concerns or need for a visit).

If you bring your church bulletin to the Pasta House Co. in Union, they will donate 50¢ to the church and you will receive 10% off your check. See the bulletin board on the Market Street Hallway for more info.

Please sign up to help with the Atrium Coffee Hour which follows each Sunday service. Sign up commitment is for baking, set-up/clean-up, or serving on whichever Sunday you choose, however you wish to help. See Donna Mueller (239-2177) or check at the table in the Atrium each Sunday for more information and a sign-up list.

Hospitality Ministry Team

Friends of Emmaus

39th Annual

Fall Bazaar and Quilt Auction

Sunday, October 30 12:00 -5:00

All-You-Can-Eat Dinner served 11:30-2:00

Adults - \$9 Children (6-12) - \$4 Children: 5 & under Free

Ham & Roast Beef, German Potato Salad, Green Beans, Slaw, Pie, Beverage

For More Information Call: 636-561-7747

taste of home cooking school

Do you love to cook? Join Emmaus and the culinary experts from Taste of Home Magazine for their Cooking School on November 12 at First Christian Church in Washington. Doors open at 10 a.m. for vendor fair and healthy eating demos. The 2-hour Taste of Home class begins at 2 with recipe demonstrations, cooking tips, and lots of Q & A with the culinary expert. Tickets on sale now: \$20 general admission; \$50 VIP. All proceeds benefit the 250 men and women with developmental disabilities served by Emmaus Homes. Visit www.emmaushomes.org or call 636-537-5310 for ticket information.

Thank you to everyone who made donations to the food pantry in August. Thank you to: Christopher and Tracey Jackson, Dave Butler, Bondie Heidmann, Joline Logan, Mel and Betty Edwards, Annette Horn, Walter Hatcher, Warren Wiele, Don and Phyllis Northington, Marie Martin, and Jackie Stendel. With your donations and the dedicated work of our many volunteers, we were able to serve 83 families in August.

Judy Schneider, Food Pantry Coordinator

Thank you for the generous gift of \$484 to Neighbors in Need. Two-thirds of your gift goes to support Justice and Witness Ministries and one-third to support the Council of American Indian Ministry.

Neighbors in Need
Special Offering of the United Church of Christ

Thank you for the gift of \$761 received during the months of January through June, 2011 to support CUE Seminaries. Each school strives to create an environment where students are both challenged and supported as they strengthen their skills for ministry.

Kiely Todd Roska, Director
Cue Seminaries

Mo-Val Walk-a-thon Raised \$8000


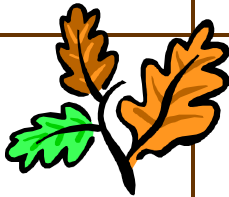
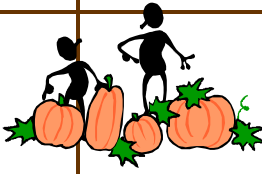

Dear Christian Friends,

On behalf of Camp Mo-Val and the Missouri Mid-South Conference, we wish to thank you so much for your participation in the Walk-a-thon for our Outdoor Ministries program. Approximately 90 walkers participated in the event and raised just over \$8000 for Mo-Val. The Washington walk was held in the rain and all the walkers finished their commitment. St. Louis was cool and dry. Because of the distance, Emmanuel Church in Jackson held their walk at the church and raised about \$1200. Wow. There were 33 churches represented in the walk, as well as hundreds of supporting sponsors. A special thanks to Rev. Leah Bilinski and Rev. Rick Oberle for their leadership assistance. We are grateful for all your great efforts and wonderful results. Thanks and God's blessing to you and yours.

Love, Rev. Carl and Marilyn Norton

Note: Miss the walk but would still like to support a fundraising effort for Camp Mo-Val? A Camp Mo-Val Benefit Autumn Celebration Dinner and Auction will take place on Saturday, October 22, at St. John's UCC in Chesterfield. Wine tasting and a silent auction will kick things off at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner and a live auction. Tickets are \$30/adult, \$10/child or a table of eight for \$240. See Pastor Leah for reservation information.

October Birthdays

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| |  | | | | | 1 Byron Stolte Amber Boland |
| 2 Patsy Schoonover | 3 Jay Mittler Adam Kempen | 4 Linda Strode David Butler Norella Keller | 5 Carol Arnold Nancy Burke Nancy Wood Florence Scharringhausen Lacey Graverson | 6 Bill Miller Dane Buschling | 7 | 8 Seth Roewe Rhiannon Brune Logan King |
| 9 Neil Jaeger Connie Steibel | 10 Rebecca Coffman Norma Hausmann | 11 Karen Geisert Patrick Moore Alexis Smith Rachel Sharpe | 12 Joyce Brinkmann Monica Brinkmann Michael Carey Ronald Kruse Jason Mittler Wendy Zick Brienne Boland | 13 Bill Pinnell Janette Shocklee | 14 Ian Smith Jennifer Kroeter Jessie Huxol | 15 Max Phinney John Rinne Chuck Langford Dan Nurnberger |
| 16 Pamela Mutert Andrea Miller | 17 Marilyn Sherman | 18 Dorothy Althage Kathleen Blackburn Brian Friedel Madison Broughton | 19 Lacy Monzyk Colby Smith Tess Abrams Angela Schlegel | 20 Trisha Kuenzel Charlene Schatz | 21 Wilma Dowil Bernell Oberhaus Jonathan Noud | 22 Becky Heitmann Kathryn Brune |
| 23 Corine Ebker Angela Love Ruth Wilson Vincent Spurgeon | 24 Dorothy Brinker Cathy Jinkerson Tori Mebruer Jill Shoemaker | 25 Barbara Schwentker Tonya Dooley | 26 Brunhilde Wahl Matthew Mueller | 27 Spencer Oberg Rebecca Roehrs Elaine Fleming | 28 Betty Allemann Marolyn Pinnell Linda Rohlfing Grace Koch | 29 Erin Monzyk Laura Amlong Caleb Pope |
| 30 Elizebeth Derner | 31 Elvira Detmer D. John Geisert Brady Ritchey Cookie Matau Ann Hirschl |  |  | | |  |

Cemetery Board Minutes

The Cemetery Board met on September 6 with the following members present: Mike Carey, Hank Anderson, Dennis Borgman, Billy Howard, Alvin Gerling, Byron Stolte-Sexton. Absent were Chuck Patterson and Roger Fleeer-Council Rep.

Previous minutes and reports were approved.

Old Business: Byron sprayed the rock wall to avoid mold from forming on it.

Rev. Koch attended to review what the Board would do to help the 9/11 Anniversary committee clean head stones on Sept. 11.

Byron has completed plotting all graves in the new part of the cemetery; he will work on the old part this winter.

Byron purchased the 2000 Ford diesel tractor for \$4700, then sold the Bush Hog for \$550 and the old 9N Ford tractor for \$1229. Thus making a total cost for the new tractor of \$2921. Thanks for making such a great deal, Byron.

New Business: We discussed the CD's coming due Sept. 19 and Oct 14. It looks like 2% is the highest interest rate we can get at this time.

Billy Howard

St. Peter's Family of Christmas Trees

Make your reservation early to be part of the annual St. Peter's Family of Christmas Trees. We will open our beautiful atrium and other church spaces to the public the last Sunday in November and the first three weekends of December to display your uniquely themed Christmas tree.

Christmas visitors will discover rooms of fun, inspiration, hospitality, and how St. Peter's is a congregation that enjoys celebrations and mission to the community.

Trees will be a part of a display for individuals to view and determine which tree they think is the best. The "Best Tree" will be determined by people voting for their favorite tree. Individuals will vote by placing canned goods and other non-perishable food items under a tree of their choice. All donated items will be distributed to the three local food pantries - St. Peter's UCC, St. Francis Borgia, and Loving Hearts.

You create the theme of your tree. Reservation forms are available in the atrium or church office. Return the reservation form to the church office ASAP. This action will provide time for the commit-



tee to prepare the tree location to best display your tree.

St. Peter's members, families, friends, your company, or organization are invited to participate. Trees will be returned to the providers. Volunteer hosts and refreshment providers are needed for Sunday, November 27th (3 p.m. - 6 p.m.). These Saturdays, December 3, 10, and 17. Sundays, December 4, 11, and 18 (12 noon - 6 p.m.).

St. Peter's Family of Christmas Trees is on the Washington Preservation, Inc. house tour.

If you can donate an artificial tree for someone else to decorate that would be welcomed. Trees may be set up November 14 - December 2. Trees will be returned following the Christmas season.

Please contact Kelly Hall (636-390-0641), Pat Hartzell (636-390-8775), or Karen Dawson (636-239-7002) for additional information. The **Annual Family of Christmas Trees** is sponsored by the Stewardship Board.

Welcome to Our St. Peter's Family

Here is a listing of folks that joined our St. Peter's family on September 18 and a little bit about each of them. It is such a joy to fellowship and worship with each and every one.

- Tammy Larkins and Robert White live in Washington. Coming with them to St. Peter's are Jaden, fifth grade, and toddler, Landen. Tammy is studying with the University of Phoenix in the field of Criminal Justice, and Robert works at Temco. When searching for a church, Robert recalled the warm welcome he felt at St. Peter's through Temco banquets held here. He also knew of this as John Rinne's church and knew it must be a good place! Tammy's interests include reading and working with young adults in trouble.
- Craig and Michelle Matzes live in Washington. Michelle works at Integra Systems Queensborough as a freelance writer, and Craig works at Warco and East Central, where his employment includes transformer

component manufacturing and elementary education. They have two children, Austin and Madison Broughton. Craig's special interests include sports, football, history, reading and playing video games. Michelle likes to read, engage in creative writing, arts and crafts.

- Alan and June Siegerist live in Labadie. Alan is retired from engineering and June is self-employed as a travel consultant. They have three children.
- Louanne and Jerry Merrell live in Washington. Louanne is retired from St. John's Mercy Hospital, and Jerry is a retired attorney. Louanne has two children and Jerry has one son, Jon. Jerry's special interests include history, the Green Bay Packers and war gaming.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Church Council Minutes
15 August 2011

Members Present: Chad Briggs, Bill Crowley, Karen Dawson, Donna Houchins, Carrol Ocsody, Wendy Zick

Staff Present: Pastor Paul, Pastor Leah

The Devotional began at 6:30 p.m.

- What are our core values?
 - Tradition, Caring, Mission
 - Defined by our Ministry teams
- What are we looking for?
 - Diversity
 - Missions / Giving
 - Celebrating Results
 - "Hallelujah Stories" – Monthly good news stories to appear in the newsletter.

The regular meeting was called to order about 7:10 p.m. by Briggs, with an invocation by Pastor Paul.

- The minutes from the July 2011 meeting were previously distributed by email. Motion to approve by Zick, seconded by Ocsody, motion passed and minutes were approved.
- The financial report was read. The following items were noted:
 - Tuckpointing – we have transferred the money for this to the checking account, but they are not done. We will ask Don Steibel to contact them.
 - A copy of the budget was distributed. It must be approved in September.
 - A motion to approve was made by Dawson, 2nd by Zick. The report was approved.
- **Pastoral Report**
 - Pastor Paul gave the report to the Council. The following items were noted:
 - 9/11 Service planning is in progress. A list of projects is available. We will gather at 9:00 a.m. and then divide into projects.
- **Correspondence**
 - Correspondence was received from Holly and Ravi Kommina regarding St. Peter's House. Their current lease expires at the end of September, and they are asking to negotiate a new paid lease.
- **Old Business**
 - St. Peters Keys Groups
 - The Congregation has been divided into twelfths. Each group has a Council member and their family, and includes a mixture of other families.
 - Prospective Member Gathering on Sunday August 21st.
 - A progressive lunch will be held in the church.

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Church Council Minutes
15 August 2011**

- Special Worship Services
 - Riverfront Service – September 18th
 - Planning for the services is in progress.
 - The Confirmation class will get their new study Bibles, and the 3rd Graders will get their story Bibles.
 - 9/11 Service Worship Service previously discussed during the Pastor's Report.
- Party Team Updates
 - A fall picnic / festival will be held around Halloween at the cemetery. This will be on Saturday, Oct 22nd at 6:00 p.m. A movie will be shown on an outdoor screen on the unoccupied grass section of the cemetery, then a scavenger hunt.
- Confirmation Updates
 - We will soon be moving into the time of year when there are two classes occurring at once.
 - We have 7 RSVP's from 7th graders so far.
 - The 8th graders will be confirmed on Reign of Christ Sunday. There are currently 13 of them.
- Sunday School Updates
 - We are looking for a couple more teachers, but we currently have the classes covered for the start of Sunday School next month.
 - The "Live Big" curriculum will be used for all ages now.
 - The preschool group is very small and may do some things with the kindergarten class.
 - There is currently no high school class.
 - There has been discussion of a mission trip, which might be intergenerational.
- Evaluation of Ministry Service
 - No action taken – tabled.
- **New Business**
 - Weds @ St. Pete's
 - The Journeymen will be studying "Unbroken" with Bruce Barnett.
 - Bill Schwab will again lead "Great Decisions".
 - Pastor Leah will lead listening groups.
 - Meeting time will begin at 6:15. Weds @ St. Pete's will start at 6:30 p.m. The first date will be October 5th.
 - Student Minister Christy Smith
 - She is interested in working with youth and Christian Ed, in addition to general ministry and preaching.
 - She asked about starting a high school Sunday School class.
 - Also had a suggestion for youth Weds @ St. Pete's.
 - Capital Campaign for Debt Retirement
 - It has been 3 years since the last capital campaign, and it is time for another one.
 - We will ask for new commitments.

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Church Council Minutes
15 August 2011**

- We have someone from United Church Funds that we could bring in.
- Wendy Zick has ideas. Briggs, Ocsody, Zick, and Pastor Paul will meet.
- Conference Minister Preaching
 - Jeff Whitman will come preach on Palm Sunday weekend.
 - Marc Wessels will be here Oct 8/9.
- Fall Meeting and Nominating Group
 - October 16th is the suggested date for the Fall Meeting.
 - A nominating committee will be set up.
- **Board Reports & Ministry Team Progress**
 - Building & Grounds
 - No report.
 - Cemetery Board
 - No report.
 - Board of Christian Education
 - Previously reported on Sunday School during Old Business.
 - Internal Review Board
 - No report.
 - Stewardship Board
 - The "hand" tree with volunteer activities is going on now.
 - Debbie Door wants to step down from the board.
 - Worshipping
 - We need someone to prepare Communion each month.
 - Growing
 - No report.
 - Caring
 - No report.
 - Serving & Sharing
 - 48 Youth Kits will be made.
 - Emmaus: Bazaar is Oct 30th. The date change is due to United Way. We will need 100 pies.
 - 2 serving carts were bought for Emmaus
 - Plowsharing crafts sale will be Nov 5-6. They are still interested in having a store in Washington, but it won't happen before the sale.
 - Harvest Table served 70 patrons this week.
 - Habitat for Humanity has a bid in for the Sporlan property. They also have a membership drive coming up.
 - Teaching
 - VBS made 30 emergency kits.

Motion to adjourn by Zick, 2nd by Dawson.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at about 8:55 p.m.

An E-Courier Reflection and Invitation
Rev. Jeff Whitman, Missouri Mid-South Conference Minister,
United Church of Christ
*(If you would like to receive the weekly E-Courier, please
e-mail leslie@mmsucc.org
or ask a pastor about how the articles can be printed and made
available for pick-up)*

“...For 19 years of my life, school started the day after Labor Day and that meant new classes and new books and homework assignments and renewing friendships with classmates. As a local church pastor the rhythm of life in the church picked up after Labor Day as committees began meeting again, special worship services needed to be planned, the choir returned from their summer hiatus, Sunday schools began to fill up, people returned to the pews. Here in our conference office in the first weeks following Labor Day we will begin planning for our Conference Annual Gathering next June; we are finalizing our plans for the Persons in Ministry Retreat; and we are making plans for the first meeting of the Conference Council the end of September.

Before we leave the waning days of the summer of 2011, I invite you to linger for a moment with the memories of summer. What will you take with you, what will you remember the most from the summer of 2011? For some it may be the heat, for others the memories of the General Synod in Tampa, for others a special vacation or time with family and friends, for others the death of a loved one while for others the wedding of a child. For me the memory that continues to tug at my soul in the quiet of the night is not the two weeks I spent in Alaska, although that was a wonderful time, but an encounter that began quite by accident.

I was preparing for General Synod the last week in June and I just happened to log on to Facebook for a few moments to check some messages when a message popped up on my screen. A friend asked if I would be willing to join a delegation of religious leaders from the second congressional district to deliver a message to my congressman Todd Akin. I am a constituent of Mr. Akin's district and a few days before he made this public statement: “At the heart of liberalism is a hatred of God and a desire to replace God with government.” I was deeply troubled by a statement that I considered not only wrong but offensive, and the next day I joined a group of local UCC and other clergy and lay people from Mr. Akin's district to deliver a response, request an apology, and ask for a meeting with our congressman. He was not there and in the two months since that visit he has refused repeated requests to meet with us.

On one level I was angry at what I regard as another example of an elected official caricaturing and marginalizing a group of his constituents for his own political gain. His statement not only fails to acknowledge the deep religious commitment and the contributions of mainline liberal Protestants to their communities and our nation; it also strips away their humanity and gathers them into a nameless, faceless group that can be hated by

those who share his political point of view. As I said in my interview with the press, I believe that we have a right to expect that our elected officials will represent and respect the views of all of their constituents—not only those with whom they agree.

On a deeper level I am really troubled by that statement, “At the heart of liberalism is a hatred of God and a desire to replace God with government.” I hear that statement and I think of the abolitionists who worked to end slavery and the farmers who opened their homes to be used as part of the Underground Railroad – God haters? I remember those who worked for voting rights for women, those who worked to improve working conditions in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, the steel mills and garment factories across our nation, and the meat packing plants of the upper mid-west and the migrant farm workers of California – did they do this out of hatred for God? I think of those who walk in CROP walks, build houses for Habitat, volunteer in soup kitchens, and raise money for flood relief or those who built places like Evangelical Children's Home, or Emmaus Home, or Bethany Children's Home, – it is an offense not only to their contributions to society but to the level of their religious commitment and the depth of their faith to label them God haters.

Those of us in the United Church of Christ are part of a liberal religious tradition that stretches back hundreds of years to the work of the first protestant reformers. When Mr. Akins and others like him make the statement, “At the heart of liberalism is a hatred of God and a desire to replace God with government;” he is talking about us, you and me, our parents and grandparents, our pastors and Sunday School teachers and those who passed the faith along to us. I believe he has it all wrong. If Mr. Akin is wrong, then what is at the heart of your faith, of your discipleship?

I want to invite you to reflect on the core values of your faith and then answer this question:

At the heart of my faith is ...

Please send me your responses and in a few weeks I want to share what you have said in our eCourier. I look forward to hearing from you.”

Peace, Jeff

Responses can be sent to Jeff via e-mail: jeff@mmsucc.org or by mail: Rev. Jeff Whitman, MMS-UCC, 483 E. Lockwood Ave., Ste. 15, Webster Groves, MO 63119





October at St. Peter's



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | <u>1</u> 5 Worship 3-7:30 Harvest Table Pastor Paul's vacation starts |
| <u>2</u> 8-10:30 Pancake Breakfast 9-9:45 Adult SS 10 Worship Family Sunday 11 Coffee Hour Food Pantry and Aluminum Drives 1 Crop Walk in Union | <u>3</u> 6 AA 6:30 Quilting 7-8:30 Civic Chorus | <u>4</u> 9 AA 10:30 Staff 7 Social Concerns 7 Cemetery Bd. 7 BCE | <u>5</u> Quilting 10 Prayer Network 6 Chapel Bells 6:15-7:30 Weds@StPete's small groups 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir | <u>6</u> 6 AA | <u>7</u> 6 AA Leave for Men's Float Trip | <u>8</u> 12 Ladies Luncheon 5 Worship 5-6 Harvest Table Men's Float Trip |
| <u>9</u> 9-9:45 Adult and High School SS 10 Worship 10:15 Pre-K/Gr. 8 Sunday School 11 Coffee Hour 11:15-1:15 8th gr. Confirmation Return from Float Trip 6-8 Gr. 8-12 youth group | <u>10</u> 6 AA 6:30 Quilting 7 Bible Discovery 7-8:30 Civic Chorus | <u>11</u> 9 AA 10:30 Staff 8:30-4 EA Boundary Training 6:30 Stewardship 6:30 Scouts | <u>12</u> Quilting 6 Chapel Bells 6:15-7:30 Weds@StPete's small groups 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir | <u>13</u> 8:30 Historical Team 10 Women's Fellowship 6 AA | <u>14</u> 5 Rehearsal 6 AA Festival of Sharing begins in Sedalia Pastor Paul's vacation ends | <u>15</u> 1:30 Wedding 5 Worship 5-6 Harvest Table Festival of Sharing ends |
| <u>16</u> 9-9:45 Adult and High School SS 10 Worship 10:15 Pre-K/Gr. 8 Sunday School Congregational Mtg. 11 Coffee Hour 11:15-1:15 8th Grade Confirm. | <u>17</u> 6 AA 6-8 MS Support Group 6:30 Quilting 7-8:30 Civic Chorus | <u>18</u> 9 AA 10:30 Staff 2:30 Cedar Crest 5:30 Mutual Ministry Team 6:30 Council Devotional 7 Church Council | <u>19</u> Quilting 12 Acts Bible Study 6 Chapel Bells 6:15-7:30 Weds@StPete's small groups 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir | <u>20</u> 9 Women's Breakfast-Cowan's 10:30 Grandview 5:30 Rehearsal 6 AA | <u>21</u> 9 Newsletter articles due 6 AA 7-9 Zumba benefit Grades 8-HS youth Halloween party set-up | <u>22</u> 1:30 Wedding 5 Worship 5-6 Harvest Table 6 Movie at Cemetery and Fall Party |
| <u>23</u> 9-9:45 Adult and High School SS 10 Worship 10:15 Pre-K/Gr. 8 Sunday School 11 Coffee Hour 11:15-1:15 8th Gr confirmation with mentors 6:30-8 Gr. 8-12 youth group | <u>24</u> 6 AA 6:30 Quilting 7-8:30 Civic Chorus | <u>25</u> 9 AA 10:30 Staff | <u>26</u> Quilting 12 Acts Bible Study 6 Chapel Bells 6:15-7:30 Weds@StPete's small groups 6:45 Vesper Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir | <u>27</u> Women's Fellowship to Holstein 6 AA | <u>28</u> 6 AA 8:30 Mental Health 101 Plowsharing craft inventory | <u>29</u> 5 Worship 5-6 Harvest Table |
| <u>30</u> 9-9:45 Adult and High School SS 10 Worship 10:15 Pre-K/Gr. 8 Sunday School 11 Coffee Hour 11:15-1:15 8th Grade Confirm. Emmaus Bazaar | <u>31</u> Halloween 6 AA 6:30 Quilting 7-8:30 Civic Chorus | | | | | |



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.

Halloween Party
@ St. Peter's Cemetery
Saturday, Oct. 22
6:00 PM



Cemeteries aren't meant to be scary places, but places of blessed memories and even...celebration! Join other St. Peter's children, youth and adults for this fun evening of games, goodies, a headstone scavenger hunt, trunk-or-treating, a fun house led by our older youth and a movie, "Hocus Pocus," under the stars (bring your lawn chairs and blankets!)

Sponsored by the Party Team.

If you'd be willing to bring a small, decorated "trunk" (clothes trunk, suitcase, cooler, box, etc.) of candy for this event, please write "trunk" on a worship pew pad. Thanks!

All ages welcome!



High School Sunday School has begun!
Sundays, 9:00 AM
Student Pastor, Christy Smith leading

Youth Group Gatherings This Month Grades 8-12 Welcome!

Sunday, October 9,
6-8 PM at church

Friday, October 21,
6-9 PM at St. Peter's Cemetery
for fun house set-up
(see article on Youth News bk pg)

Sunday, October 23
6:30-8 PM at church

What is "youth group?" The main focus of youth group is on building relationships with other teens in the church while we 1) have lots fun! and 2) support one another in our growing lives of faith.

Grades 6-12 are invited!

Fun House Set-Up

Halloween

Friday, October 21st

6-9 PM

St. Peter's Cemetery



Bring large cardboard boxes, decorations, strings of lights, cobwebs, bubble wrap, etc!

Grades 6-12: Join us at the Emmaus Homes Fall Bazaar!

Sunday, October 30th

11:00-2:00 volunteer shift

Depart church together at 10:15, return in late afternoon



We hope you can join us for this mission opportunity and fundraiser for a ministry with which St. Peter's has been involved since its start: the Emmaus Homes in Marthasville, serving adults with developmentally-different abilities. See Emmaus, learn more about this mission, help toward its future and have fun with friends — all with just a few hours of volunteer service! Please sign up in the Market Street Hallway or by e-mailing Pastor Leah: pastor-leah@stpeters-ucc.org