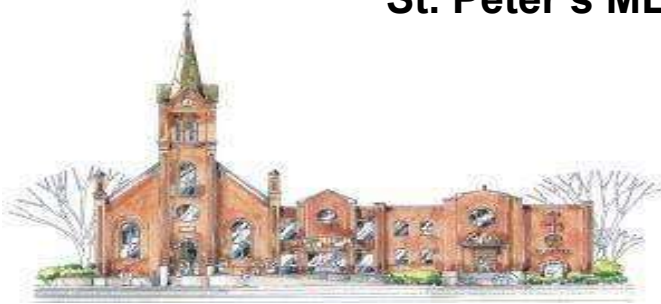


## St. Peter's MESSENGER



St. Peter's United Church of Christ  
20 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street P.O. Box 510  
Washington MO 63090  
636-239-6176

**Website** [www.stpeters-washington.org](http://www.stpeters-washington.org)

May 2025

### May is Cemetery Appreciation Month!

This month encourages reflection on the history and significance of cemeteries, often viewed as outdoor museums. Cemeteries can be seen as living historical records with inscriptions and architecture offering insights into past lives and communities.

#### **COME ONE, COME ALL to our Cemetery Anniversary Picnic--**

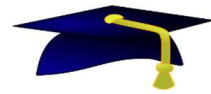
On May 18 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. we will celebrate with Barbeque and sides provided by the American Legion. Fun games and activities are scheduled for all ages with a Bounce House and lessons on how to use Dowsing Rods--magic, myth, or the mind????

Katie Dieckhaus (Washington Historical Society) will entertain us with stories and history of some of the "occupants" who helped shape St. Peter's and Washington.

Additionally, the sculptures donated by Larry Pogue will be dedicated.



### Celebrating St. Peter's Graduates!!



2025 Graduates: Please let us know about your graduation and post-graduation plans for inclusion in the June 2025 MESSENGER. Please email Patty at [newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org](mailto:newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org). Thank you!



Wings Drive thru Picnic is **Fri., May 9, 4-7** at the American Legion, 1007 East Third Street (new date and new location). Outdoor seating will also be available under the pavilion

#### DINNER MENU:

PULLED PORK, PORK STEAK, PULLED PORK NACHOS

Visit [washington.k12.mo.us/community/wings](http://washington.k12.mo.us/community/wings) for details

Dear Friends,

The General Synod of the United Church of Christ will be meeting in Kansas City this coming summer. The dates are July 11-15. The General Synod is the national meeting of the United Church of Christ. It is often referred to as the family reunion of the UCC, drawing on members from each conference, national staff, our many health and human service agencies, designated interest groups of the UCC, and representatives from many of our partner churches around the world. The delegates to Synod also meet to conduct the business of the UCC including adopting budgets, elections of church leaders, and voting on various timely issues dealing with church and society. Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and the Kansas/Oklahoma Conference are cohosting this year's General Synod.

There are many ways to participate in the General Synod meeting this summer. Anyone can register to attend this event. As we are co-hosting this Synod, we are also looking for volunteers to help in many ways from ushering for worship to childcare and so much more. If you are interested, please contact me and I can give you further information on registering. You are also welcome to attend Synod Sunday, July 13 for free. A highlight of Synod Sunday is a worship service which pulls everyone together. The singing is amazing.

Also note that St. Peter's UCC was blessed with our *Holy Week and Easter* services. Remembering the events of Christ's passion and resurrection feeds us with so much spiritual nourishment. Strengthened by Christ's love and new life, we are invited to go out and be the church to one another, our neighbors, and all whom Christ loves.

Blessings,

Pastor Kurt

**Blessed are those who mourn... for they shall be comforted. Please pray for the family and friends of Blake Georgie who passed away March 29.**

### **Women's Fellowship**

Please join us for discussion and fellowship on Thurs., May 8, at 10 a.m.

Thank you to all who contributed to the  
Easter Breakfast.



### **Aluminum Drive**

A pick-up truck will be parked in the South parking lot the weekend of May 3 & 4, to collect your saved aluminum cans. ONLY aluminum cans, in bags please, should be placed in the truck. Please do not include tin foil and/or pie pans. Thanks for all your help. There will not be a collection in June.

### **Harvest Table**

The Harvest Table served 760 meals in March. Besides providing meals, necessities given to individuals in need included: tents, sleeping mats, take-home food, and lots of friendship and community.



### **WERF**

Although it was a slower month, the Washington Emergency Relief still answered 205 calls for assistance in March. We were able to give out 22 grants totaling \$5,662.73. Of those, sixteen were for electricity and the other six were for rent.

We would like to thank our donors this month: Ron & Brenda Brinker, Marilyn Sherman, William & Diane Schwab and Delores Borcharding. Thank you all for helping fund our organization so we can give more of our neighbors a helping hand. As prices rise on our basic household items and bills, we are receiving an increase in new callers. Our donors allow our agency to show those in need that they are not alone. We truly appreciate the help!

### **Food Pantry News**

Thank you to ALL the volunteers who help the food pantry continue its vital ministry in our community. In March, 110 individuals representing 47 families were served. Thanks to our March Food Pantry Donors: Joline Logan, Susan & Steven Givens, Mercy Hospital Washington Community Health, Carole & Charles Sincox, United Way, John Strasen, Rotary Club of Washington, Kaye Nurnberger, Wendell & Mary Lou Tyree.

## **Friends of the Library 2025 Author/Speaker Events**

Held at the Washington Public Library 410 Lafayette Street Washington Missouri



Thurs., May 8, 6:30 p.m. Bob Muenz "St Albans: And it's History, Folklore, Golf and History"

Thurs., May 29, 6:30 p.m. Cynthia Masterson, "Lafayette: The Guest of the Nation"

Thurs., June 19, 6:30 p.m. Les Kemp, Patty and Elmer Kellermann "Our Trip to India"

Thurs., July 24, 6:30 p.m. Ed Wheatley "From St. Louis to Cooperstown"

## **Explore Camp MoVal 2025 Summer Camps**

6/22 – 6/27/25 All Ages Camp #1 (grades 3-9)

6/22 – 6/27/25 High School Camp (grades 9-12)

6/29 – 7/3/25 Family Camp (all ages)

7/6 – 7/11/25 All Ages Camp #2 (grades 3-9)

7/13 – 7/18/25 All Ages Camp #3 (grades 3-9)

7/20 – 7/22/25 S.T.E.A.M. – Summer Camp (grades 3-9)

7/20 – 7/21/25 'And Me' – Summer Camp (all ages, adult guardian 21+)

8/3 – 8/8/25 Adventures in Community (ages 18+)

Register online by going to <https://missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval>. You may also obtain more information by calling 636-583-2730 or email: [moval@msucc.org](mailto:moval@msucc.org)

Camp MoVal is located at 2659 Camp MoVal Road Union MO 63084

**St. Paul's UCC Defiance Chicken Dinner** (Drive-thru) May 4, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.



**Trivia Night Save the date:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual trivia night to support St. Peter's will be held on Sat., Oct. 18. Watch for more information on how you can support this important and fun fundraiser.

**St. Peter's UCC Church  
Council Meeting Summary  
Tuesday, April 15, 2025**

**Guest presentation:**

Lindsey Jasper, a Social Worker for the School District of Washington, presented information on the district's first Back-to-School Fair. It will be held on July 30 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at Washington Middle School and is open to all district families. Families are asked to register, with a cap of 250 families. The district seeks community organizations and churches for donations or sponsorships. The Mission Group and Council will discuss our church's participation.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- March concluded with a balance of \$12,508.
- Mary Jo motioned, seconded by Jennifer, to transfer the final Heisel Estate payout (\$304.94) and parsonage sale funds (\$732.50) to CD accounts upon maturity. Motion passed unanimously.

**Finance Board:** (Diane)

- The Heat Up St. Peter's campaign has raised \$9,955.65 as of Mon., April 14. The Finance Board will update this weekend and announce plans for a celebration after church on May 3 & 4. Ice cream and hot fudge with toppings will be served. The Finance Board will cover the cost of the event to show their appreciation.
- Trivia Night is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 18, 2025
- Rhonda moved, and Chuck seconded, to initiate an external accounting review by a CPA (now overdue—to be performed every 5 years as specified by Constitution IX 12). Motion passed.

**Pastor's Report:**

- A written report of activities for the month was presented by Pastor Kurt.
- Holy Week services are planned.
  - We welcomed 6 new members on April 5 & 6.
  - Attended the Eastern Association Spring meeting on Sat., April 12.

**Board and Committee Reports**

**Building & Grounds:** (Chuck)

- Church roof repairs are completed.
- The auditorium roof drain issue was caused by a gutter backup.
- Sanctuary doors will be refinished in the next 2-3 weeks.
- A contractor is adjusting the automatic south doors to stay open longer for those needing assistance.
- The architect has received the plans for the dining room bathroom remodel to estimate the cost.
- The Building & Grounds Board is scheduled to complete the cleanup of the front of the church by Easter Sunday.
- The Council has asked the Building & Grounds Board to inspect the West door near the kitchen and the North door in the 2nd floor kitchen hallway. These doors have been found open on different occasions. An alarm may need to be added to these doors.

- The Council plans to implement key cards and a button in the office for door access when locked.

**Cemetery Board:** (Dottie)

- The Cemetery's 150th celebration is on May 18, with a rain date of June 1. The event details are currently being finalized. There will be food provided. It is suggested that we publish an article in the newspaper.

**Board of Christian Education:** (Jennifer)

- Completing the preparations for the Easter Sunday Egg Hunt.
- BOCE is following up with the Presbyterian Church concerning VBS this summer. More to come!

**Mission Group:** (Rhonda)

- April Mission: Advertising Earth Day-Camp clean up at Camp MoVal on Sat., April 26. Volunteers are needed to assist.
- May Mission: Joyce Bathke will speak to the congregation about Back Bay Mission.

**Advisory Committee:** (Diane/Cindy)

- Reviewing the Computer Policy and will update the Council.

**Evangelism Group:** (Mary Jo)

- Welcome cards will be done soon and will be placed in the church pews.
- The Home Helpers project is progressing. After contacting the church's insurance, there are no issues. Members can assist congregants with small home tasks.

**Old Business**

**Constitution**—Article VII, Section 9—revise wording for perpetual care funding @ cemetery.

- Susan will check if Bob Zick is free on Tues., May 20 at 6:00 p.m. for a meeting with the Council and Cemetery Board.

**Website Update:**

- Website updates are done. The group is proofreading and making a few minor changes. Dennis Borgman is adding the weekly bulletins to the site.
- Dottie will contact Molly Bauer to see if she is interested in being the Social Media Coordinator.

**Easter Breakfast** will be held 8:30-9:30. Judy Verdine & Barb Bauer are still seeking helpers for the late (clean up) shift.

**New Business**

**Church Intruders:**

- We will confirm with Nathaniel about the doors with alarms.

**Staff Annual Reviews:**

- The Council will perform the annual review of Pastor Kurt. Due by end of May.
- Pastor Kurt will carry out reviews for all staff members.

**Church Directory:**

- The Council wants to create a new Pictorial Church Directory. Pastor Kurt has an info packet and will share details for reviewing and choosing a company.

Molly Derner requested more AED & CPR training for the Council and Ushers. We will schedule a date soon.

Dottie conveyed a thank you from the Zither Group for the use of the auditorium for their recent gathering.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer.

**Financial Report (Corrected report for February)**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>YTD 2025</b>
General Fund	\$ 37,520.19	\$ 63,731.47
Building Fund	\$ 4,822.50	\$ 45,748.98
Youth Fund	\$	\$
Memorial Fund	\$	\$ 80.00
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$	\$
Pass Thru In	\$ 2,994.00	\$
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 45,336.69</b>	<b>\$109,560.45</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>YTD 2025</b>
General Fund	\$ (34,813.21)	\$ (76,341.72)
Building Fund	\$	\$(40,213.35)
Youth Fund	\$	\$
Memorial Fund	\$	\$ (2,520.00)
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$ (12.49)	\$ (12.49)
Pass Thru Out	\$ (2,994.00)	\$
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (37,819.70)</b>	<b>\$(119,087.56)</b>

**Bank Balance Report 2/28/2025**

Heritage Bank Balance	\$ 89,225.87
Less Building Fund	\$ 17,525.09
Less Youth Fund	\$ 7,914.84
Less Memorial Fund	\$ 64,377.36
Less Music Fund	\$ 4,108.35
<u>Less Perpetual Member</u>	<u>\$</u>
General Fund Balance	\$ ( 4,699.77)

**Financial Report**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>YTD 2025</b>
General Fund	\$ 49,701.42	\$113,432.89
Building Fund	\$ 3,201.01	\$ 48,949.99
Youth Fund	\$	\$
Memorial Fund	\$ 3,175.00	\$ 3,255.00
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$ 713.00	\$ 713.00
<u>Pass Thru In</u>	<u>\$ 11,808.00</u>	<u>\$</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 68,598.43	\$166,350.88

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>YTD 2025</b>
General Fund	\$ (32,493.63)	\$ (108,835.35)
Building Fund	\$ (2,262.50)	\$ (42,475.85)
Youth Fund	\$	\$
Memorial Fund	\$	\$ (2,520.00)
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$	\$ (12.49)
<u>Pass Thru Out</u>	<u>\$ (11,808.00)</u>	<u>\$</u>
Total Expenses	\$ (46,564.13)	\$(153,843.69)

**Bank Balance Report 3/31/2025**

Heritage Bank Balance	\$111,260.17
Less Building Fund	\$ 18,463.60
Less Youth Fund	\$ 7,914.84
Less Memorial Fund	\$ 67,552.36
Less Music Fund	\$ 4,821.35
<u>Less Perpetual Member</u>	<u>\$</u>
General Fund Balance	\$12,508.02





### May Birthdays

Matthew Bauer	05/01	Tabatha Wacker	05/15
Jack Harty	05/01	Zane Moore	05/16
Scott Hellmann	05/01	Austin Jasper	05/17
Diane Jasper	05/01	Paulette Fitzpatrick	05/19
Jo Phinney	05/05	Dina Vitoux	05/20
Jeremy Sherman	05/08	Cindy Kriete	05/21
Emmaline Bailey	05/09	David Czeschin	05/22
Debbie Door	05/09	Essel Kruse	05/22
Diane Schwab	05/11	Benjamin Meyer	05/23
Renlee Coppotelli	05/12	McAndrew	
Whitley Merryman	05/12	Robert Moore	05/24
Kevin Roehrs	05/12	Odelia Gildehaus	05/25
Tom Howard	05/13	Zander Wisdom	05/28
Olivia Zastrow	05/13	Shane Clines	05/29
Kim Colter	05/15	Amanda Scheer	05/30