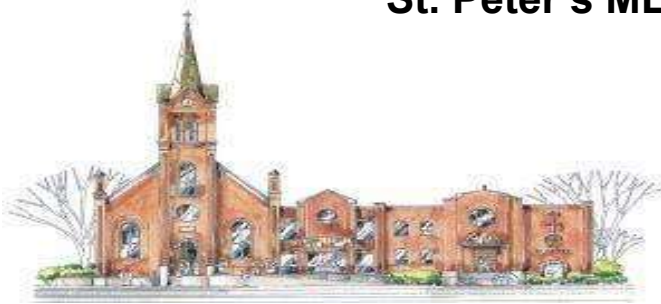


## St. Peter's MESSENGER



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 2024

### Congratulations Keli!!!



Congratulations to Clearview Elementary School first-grade teacher **Keli Schneider** who was recognized as "Teacher of the Year" by the Washington's Investment In Great Schools (WINGS) Foundation.

Keli is the wife of Clint Schneider and mother of Lyla and Weslee.

### Happy Birthday, Church!

Yes ... Sunday, May 19 is Pentecost Sunday! You can read about the birth of the first century church in Acts 2. The story begins with the disciples hiding behind closed doors. They are fearful because the powers who crucified Jesus might seek to do the same to his followers. But those disciples are emboldened when the Holy Spirit descends upon them and propels them into a new world of ministry and mission. They have a story to tell and a message of love for all people. In other words, they are to continue the ministry of Jesus.

We at St. Peter's UCC, as part of the global church, are also celebrating an anniversary this year. While not as old as the church which was born on Pentecost, we as a congregation will celebrate our 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As it was with those first disciples who kept the Jesus movement alive, we are indebted to those who had a vision of ministry and mission in a place called Washington, Missouri in the year 1844. And for these 180 years, we have been richly blessed with a membership who "Enter to Worship" and "Depart to Serve." The story of our church is a story of blessings received and blessings shared.

It's also a story of invitation. "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." That is what we state at the beginning of every service of worship. That is the vision of Acts 2 when the many languages of the world are uttered in the alleyways of ancient Jerusalem. It is the vision of St. Paul who wrote: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female. But we are all one in Christ." The church is an ever-expanding fellowship of diverse people who often have little in common other than their connection in Christ.

So Happy Birthday, Church! I hope you can join us the weekend of May 18 and 19 as we celebrate this special day in the life of Christ's church.

Pastor Kurt

**Blessed are those who mourn . . . for they shall be comforted:**

Love and prayers to the family and friends of Ludell F. Rettke who passed away April 2.  
Love and prayers to the family and friends of Larry Ronsick who passed away April 9.  
Love and prayers to the family and friends of David Schwab, especially our member,  
The Rev. Dr. William Schwab, Pastor Emeritus of SPUCC and his extended family.

Congratulations to Washington High School's Pride of Washington Winter Guard for their performance at the MCCGA competition. Sara Barnett is an instructor for this group that includes Caroline Heimos.



**National Day of Prayer Gathering** will take place Thurs., May 2 at noon. This year's event will take place at VFW Post 2661, 813 Jefferson Street, Washington. The event is nondenominational and open to everyone. The theme is: "*Lift Up The Word--Light Up The World*", based on 2 Samuel 22:29-31. Prayers will be offered for America - education, churches, media, government, military, businesses, and families.

**Thank You Donors!**

The Washington Emergency Relief Fund Board would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Marilyn Sherman and Ron & Brenda Brinker for your continued support. The funds we recently received from you were able to help a homeless gentleman get back to his out-of-state family, and hopefully a more secure life. Thank you again.

Thank you to all who brought casseroles for the Easter Breakfast.

**Harvest Table**



St. Peter's will be co-hosting Harvest Table with First United Methodist Church on Sat., July 20. Contact Erna Holland at 636.239.6019, text 314.616.7143 or [erna002@yahoo.com](mailto:erna002@yahoo.com) to volunteer. A **BIG** Thank you to all who contributed in any way for the Sat., April 20 Harvest Table meal!



2024 Graduates: Please let us know about your graduation and post-graduation plans to be included in the June 2024 MESSENGER. Please email Patty at [newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org](mailto:newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org). Thank you!

## Mission Report March 2024

### Harvest Table:

The Harvest Table provided meals and community to 647 individuals in March. Besides providing a safe, warm space to eat, talk, and laugh, the volunteers provided tents, sleeping mats, take-home-table snacks and other necessary items to the visitors. Nurse Leesa provided her compassionate attention to those needing medical advice.

### Salam Free Clinic:

The Free Clinic had two needy patients in March. The doctor attending was kept busy with exams and advice. Nurse Leesa attended to these two patients in her compassionate manner, making sure the afternoon went smoothly. The two hours were necessary and beneficial.

Our Mission of the Month for May is our very own **Washington Emergency Relief Fund (WERF)**! WERF has a tremendous impact, helping to keep people housed, their utilities running, and meeting other needs. You can read about all they do right here every month. Here's the latest:

Out of 197 calls for help, the Washington Emergency Relief Fund gave out 26 grants during March. Eleven of the grants were for electricity, three for water, nine for rent, one for medication, and two for fuel. These grants totaled up to \$5,761.45 and helped 70 individuals.

Thank you for all that you are doing to serve others, St. Peter's UCC. If you want to volunteer for any of these necessary missions of our church, please contact Pastor Eric.



### Friends of the Library Speaker/ Author event for May 2024

Tues., May 7, Patrick Murphy, "The 1904 World's Fair"



Wings Drive thru Picnic is **Fri., May 10, 4-7** at the VFW (new date and new location). Adult meals, \$13, include pulled pork, pork burgers, pork nachos and pork steaks. Meals except nachos include pork & beans and potato salad. Kid meals, \$7, are pork burgers and cheese nachos and include a cookie.

The 2024 East Central Bands Pops concert is Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6 p.m. at the Washington Fairgrounds,

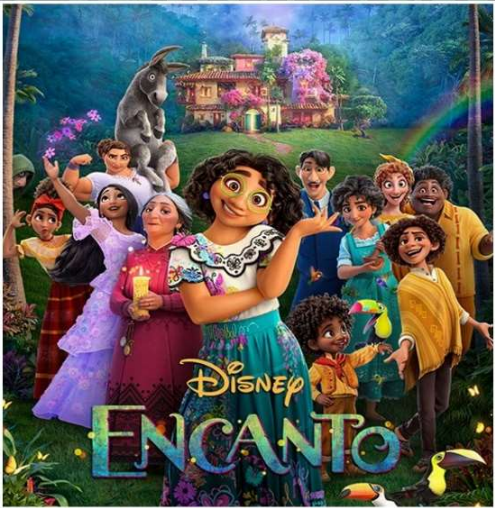
### Aluminum Can Collection



A pick-up truck will be parked in the South parking lot the weekend of May 4 & 5. **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 the help we receive from the congregation!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 150 Defiance Road, Defiance is having a Fried Chicken Dinner on Sun., May 5, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Inside seating available.

**Disney & the Divine @ St. Peter's UCC**  
20 E 5th St, Washington, MO



**A Messy Church Experience**  
**May 5**  
**11:15 AM**

On the first Sunday of every month, we put our faith in conversation with a Disney movie and see what we can learn together in fun, interactive, messy ways! We are exploring Encanto in May! These services are intergenerational and interactive. A meal is served as well. No RSVP needed, just come join in!

[www.stpeters-ucc.org](http://www.stpeters-ucc.org)

Remembering with Purpose & Gratitude...

The congregation's Memorial Fund, Building 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 **Peggy Miller**: Billie Ruth Miller

In Memory of **Kenneth Bierbaum**: Delores Borcharding, Barbara Schroepfer

In Memory of **Florence Kempf**: Les Kemp & Denise Towell, Jim & Judy Scannell, Stephen & Pat Forget, Roy & Brenda Morman, Dennis Borgman, Dottie & Bob Brinker, Lois Potochny, Gene & Kay Hunt, Ray & Sharon Schaefer, Kim Colter & Elaine Menke, James & Johanna Probst, Duane & Jonette Woehr, Dennis & Patricia Sahm, Daniel

Buschmeyer, Melba & Harvey Straatmann, St. Peter's UCC Quilters, Rhonda Stockglausner & Carl Clover, Erna Holland, Carolyn Slack, Joline Logan, Sue Wehmueller, Jim & Diane Gephardt, The Klubas, The Thomases, The Emkes, The Gleasons, Judy Verdine, Barb & Jon Bauer, St. Peter's UCC Women's Fellowship

In Memory of **Nola Gorrell**: Daniel & Sheila Brinker, Erna Holland, Pam Gildehaus & LaVerne, Stephen & Amy Howell, Janet Wahlig, Ron & Katie Linnenbrink, Jon & Karen Schmieg, Paul & Barb Helfrich, Larry & Suzanne Hill, Mark & Nancy Kimball, Anna Clair

In Memory of **Ruth Konrad**: Barb & Jon Bauer, Sue & Marvin Cox, Dr. Jeffrey Ness, Ruth Rinne, Carl Clover & Rhonda Stockglausner, Mark & Mary Feller, Sharon Fenner, Norma & Armin Klemme, Anonymous

In Memory of **Ludell Rettke**: Linda Park, Glenn & Yvonne Ridder, Deborah Garbs, Judy & Steven Larson, Donna Bard, George & Joan Meyer, Daniel & Sheila Brinker, Sherri Schaefer, Ronald & Mary Alfermann, Daniel Roewe, Gary Rettke, Essel Kruse, Jim & Diane Gephardt, Anonymous

++ ++ ++ ++ ++

**Your Pastors' Office Hours:** Pastor Kurt: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m.-Noon  
Pastor Eric: Wednesday Noon-3:30 p.m.

++ ++ ++ ++ ++

## **St. Peter's United Church of Christ Church Council Meeting Highlights 16 April 2024**

### **Visitor Presentation on Showers for the Homeless:**

Our visitors were Carmella de Jesus from Peace Lutheran Church and Dr. Kim Colter. Peace Lutheran Church launched a "Warming Shelter for the Homeless" initiative over the winter. Our visitors discussed the possibility of using our showers for the homeless, alternating with the Methodist Church, every other week. There would be a sign-up for volunteers to monitor and clean the shower area. Carmella is spearheading a drive for towels/washcloths, non-slip mats, soap and shampoo, and other supplies that both churches will need. She is also willing to help improve the "look" of the shower area. Volunteers will assist in making the shower area safe, sanitary, and private. Dr. Colter, Elaine Menke, and Jill Lesko will head up the team for St. Peter's.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- March was a good "giving" month. We are in the black on the General Fund at \$2,272.

### **Senior Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor Kurt received many good comments about the Easter services and was pleased with attendance.
- Bible Study restarts April 17.
- He led the Maundy Thursday service at St. Peter's UCC, New Haven.

### **Associate Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor Eric reported that there was low response to Parents' Night Out, so they will try again in the future.
- The Back Bay mission trip has five people interested so far.
- Messy Church on May 5 will reflect on the movie "Encanto."
- He and Pastor Kurt will participate in the Earth Day Celebration at Camp MoVal on April 20.

### **Boards & Committees:**

#### Building and Grounds:

- Hal is requesting a battery-operated stick vacuum, as it is difficult to use the electrical outlets in the sanctuary and clean under the pews.
- We are gathering information on obtaining new security cameras. Harvest Table will assist in paying for cameras to cover the exits.
- A new dusk-to-dawn sensor on the roof has fixed the problem with the parking lot lights.
- The boiler company will be contacted about controlling the heat in the choir room.
- They are getting bids on the zone "F" A/C (Sanctuary) unit. It was suggested to have a trial time without this unit to see if it is truly needed.
- A suggestion was made to contact the city about the possibility of a stop sign and/or speed bump at the southwest corner of the church to prevent cars from moving too fast through our parking lot.

#### Cemetery Board:

- 18 plots were sold in March. Some of these are in the new Green Burial section.
- The insurance company paid for the damaged wall.
- They are still encouraging ideas for the 150th Anniversary next year.

#### Board of Christian Education:

- It was stressed that parents need to be contacted for their input on what we should "Start, Stop, Keep". Pastor Eric has a list of families that BCE will contact for their ideas.
- Wendy Wisdom is the new chair.

#### Mission:

- Jill reported that the monthly mission moments will continue.

#### Worship:

- Pastor Kurt is working on a document/policy for ushers. Emergency procedures for ushers need to include the AED and LifeVac.

#### Advisory Board:

- They are reviewing documents and policies of the church.

#### Finance:

- Building Fund discussion: It was recommended that this fund should be a monetary cushion to offset the cost of a repair/purchase if something breaks, rather than used to purchase consumables/supplies. Currently, total bills over \$200 are paid from the Building Fund. A motion was made to increase expenditures automatically paid out from the Building Fund from \$200 to \$500.

## **Old Business:**

### Website Update:

- Photos are being placed to enhance the text.

### Harold Wilke Plaque

- We have a couple of photos of Rev. Wilke with President George Bush and Pastor Kurt has some text. This is in progress.

Conference Delegates are still needed for October.

### Sale of tables/chairs

- One bid has been received. After the meeting, the two-week bidding window for this sale closed, with the single bid received. A motion was made via email to accept this bid. The motion passed via email vote.

## **New Business:**

### Easter Recap:

- Nice turnout, tasty breakfast, great music!

### 2024 Goals and Objectives:

- Continue gathering two per council member. There should be objectives (the stepping stones) to reach each goal.
- Each church group should have objectives to help in reaching the main goal stated by the Council.

### Separate heat for choir room:

- B/G looking into it.

### Revisit Showers for the Homeless:

- Discussion about items that will/might be needed.
- Everyone in the building needs to know about this situation.
- A motion was made for a trial period for the showers. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

### YouTube Discussion:

- A notice was placed in the bulletins and E-Messenger about not being able to live-stream the services at this time. They are recorded and can be viewed later in the day. Jimmy is looking into a work-around or purchasing another service.

**Financial Report**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>YTD 2024</b>
General Fund	\$ 59,134.28	\$ 141,947.33
Building Fund	\$ 3,958.90	\$ 11,828.10
Youth Fund	\$ 82.00	\$ 187.00
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,347.75	\$ 3,757.75
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$	\$ 713.00
Pass Thru In	\$ 6,571.39	\$
Total Receipts	\$ 71,094.32	\$ 158,433.18

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>YTD 2024</b>
General Fund	\$ -39,959.97	\$- 127,863.16
Building Fund	\$ -2,311.43	\$ -11,668.65
Youth Fund	\$ -41.89	\$ -121.66
Memorial Fund	\$ -1,855.22	\$ -1,855.22
Sanctuary Music Fund	\$-	\$ -166.74
Pass Thru Out	\$ -6,571.39	\$-
Total Expenses	\$- 50,739.90	\$- 141,675.43

**Bank Balance Report**

Heritage Bank Balance	\$ 89,321.34
Less Building Fund	\$ 6,875.64
Less Youth Fund	\$ 8,776.70
Less Memorial Fund	\$ 67,548.52
Less Music Fund	\$ 3,848.30
Less Perpetual Member	\$
General Fund Balance	\$ 2,272.18

3/31/2024





**May Birthdays**

Matthew Bauer	05/01
Adam Hahn	05/01
Jack Harty	05/01
Scott Hellmann	05/01
Diane Jasper	05/01
Harold Lindauer	05/01
Kenneth Desmond	05/03
Louis Obermark	05/04
Jo Phinney	05/05
Jeremy Sherman	05/08
Emmaline Bailey	05/09
Debbie Door	05/09
Andrew Meyer	05/10
Sadie Mann	05/11
Rose Schulte	05/11
Diane Schwab	05/11
Renlee Coppotelli	05/12
Whitley Merryman	05/12
Logan Owens	05/12
Kevin Roehrs	05/12
Tom Howard	05/13
Carlie Isaak	05/13
Andrew Smith	05/13
Jason Wolking	05/13
Olivia Zastrow	05/13
Kim Colter	05/15
Tabatha Wacker	05/15
Zane Moore	05/16
Austin Jasper	05/17
Julie Wadley	05/18
Paulette Fitzpatrick	05/19
Cecelia Heimos	05/19
Dina Vitoux	05/20
Cindy Kriete	05/21
David Czeschin	05/22
Essel Kruse	05/22
Benjamin Meyer	05/23
McAndrew	

Elizabeth Montgomery	05/23
Amelia Wisdom	05/23
Sabreena Bub	05/24
Robert Moore	05/24
Odelia Gildehaus	05/25
Pamela Kinkeade	05/25
Logan Gillig	05/27
Zander Wisdom	05/28
Shane Clines	05/29
Harper Moeller	05/30
Amy Pope	05/30
Amanda Scheer	05/30