

THE KEYS

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST GRANT PARK, IL



April 2018



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

God is still speaking.

Calling and Caring Training Reboot:

The Calling and Caring Training will be on Monday evenings April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th from 6:00-9:00 pm in the Conference Room.

YOU'RE INVITED FOR COFFEE BEFORE WORSHIP!

Don't forget the coffee bar in the Sunday school entrance area each Sunday morning from 9:00 am – 10:15 am. You're invited to have a cup of coffee before worship. Proceeds go to the Board of Christian Education.



THE YOUNG AT HEART

The Young at Heart group will meet on **Monday, April 16th from 1:00 – 3:00 PM** at the Community Center, Dixie Highway in Grant Park for a potluck.

FARMERS AND FRIENDS

Farmers and Friends, a support group for men whose spouses have died, will meet at the USA Restaurant in Grant Park at **12:30 pm** on **Wednesday, April 18th**.

Youth Group

Our First Youth Group Activity!! Game Night!! Friday, April 20th from 6:00-8:00 at St. Peter's. Anyone in 6th-8th grades are welcome to join us. Jessica Frahm Kole Stadt

OPEN HOUSE

An Open House to Celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Lyle and Norma Lehnert will be held on April 22, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in St. Peter's Lange Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. No gifts please.

SERVICE KITS

In response to this year's heavy storm season, United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries is turning to church congregations to help overcome a shortage of much-needed cleanup buckets, stocked with essential supplies that are used after a natural disaster strikes. We will be collecting your donations during the months of March and April. Information about the items needed is on display in Sunday School entrance. We appreciate your help in this worthwhile project! Thank you! - St. Peter's UCC Mission Committee



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

COLLEGE EXAM CARE PACKAGES

The Christian Education Committee is asking for donations for the college exam care packages. Individual wrapped snacks such boxes of cookies, peanut butter cheese cracker packs, granola bars, Pringles, gum, change for the soda machine, boxes of candy, peanuts, popcorn packets, cracker jacks, etc. can be placed in the tubs marked College Exam care packages that are placed in the Sunday School entrance and the south entryway. Donations are needed before April 3rd.

THE SALVATION ARMY sadly, we are no longer going to the Salvation Army to serve the lunch each quarter. The folks who used to work in the living accommodations no longer have that work to do since they have closed the shelters and they are now serving the food that comes already prepared. It was a good ministry but the cutbacks have closed many of the Salvation Army services that we helped with and so we say “goodbye”.



Daffodil Principle

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, “Mother, you must come see the daffodils before they are over.” I wanted to go, but it was a two-hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. “I will come next Tuesday,” I promised, a little reluctantly, on her third call.

Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and so I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn’s house and hugged and greeted my grandchildren, I said, “Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in the clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and the children that I want to see bad enough to drive another inch!”

My daughter smiled calmly and said, “We drive in this all the time, Mother.” “Well, you won’t get me back on the road until it clears, and then I’m heading for home.” I assured her.

“I was hoping you’d take me over to the garage to pick up my car.” “How far will we have to drive?” “Just a few blocks,” Carolyn said. “I’ll drive. I’m used to this.”

After several minutes, I had to ask, “Where are we going? This isn’t the way to the garage!” “We’re going to my garage the long way,” Carolyn smiled, “by way of the daffodils.” “Carolyn,” I said sternly, “please turn around.” “It’s all right, Mother, I promise. You will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience.”

After about twenty minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church, I saw a hand-lettered sign that read, “Daffodil Garden.” We got out of the car and each took a child’s hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then, we turned a corner of the path, and I looked up and gasped.

Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it down the mountain peak and slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns – great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, saffron, and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted as a group so that it swirled

and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. There were five acres of flowers.

‘But who has done this?’ I asked Carolyn. ‘It’s just one woman,’ Carolyn answered. ‘She lives on the property. That’s her home.’ Carolyn pointed to a well kept A frame house that looked small and modest in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house. On the patio, we saw a poster. ‘Answers to the Questions I know you are Asking’ was the headline. The first answer was as simple one. ‘50,000 bulbs,’ it read. The second answer was, ‘One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet and a very little brain.’ The third answer was, ‘Began in 1958.’

There it was, The Daffodil Principle. For me, that moment was a life-changing experience. I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than forty years before, had begun – one bulb at a time – to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountain top. Still, just planting one bulb at a time, year after year, had changed the world. This unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. She had created something of indescribable magnificence, beauty and inspiration.

When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

‘It makes me sad in a way,’ I admitted to Carolyn. ‘What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five or forty years ago and had worked away at it ‘one bulb at a time’ through all those years? Just think what I might have achieved!’

My daughter summed up the message of the day in her usual direct way. ‘Start tomorrow,’ she said. It’s so pointless to think of the lost hours or yesterdays. The way to make learning a lesson of celebration instead of a cause for regret is to only ask, ‘How can I put this to use today?’

So, stop waiting...Until your car or home is paid off....Until you get a new car or home....Until your kids leave the house.....Until you go back to school.....Until you finish school.....Until you lose 10 lbs....Until you gain 10 lbs.....Until you get married....Until you get a divorce.....Until you have kids.....Until you

retire.....Until summer.....Until spring.....Until winter.....Until fall.....Until you die.

There is no better time than right now to begin. Life is a journey, not a destination. There is new life all around us! Spring is the reminder that God love us so much that, because of Jesus, we have been gifted with new life! Thanks be to God! Christ HAS Risen!!
-shared by Rev. Tom Norwalk at an Eastern-Western Association meeting

Rev. Jan

APRIL MISSION GIVING

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) –

Also known as Basic Support, our contributions support God’s mission in Illinois, nationally, and globally. 71% of our contribution stays in Illinois to carry out the mission of the Illinois Conference.

CONSECRA (formerly known as Bensenville Home Society and Lifelink)

CONSECRA is a United Church of Christ related organization that began in 1895. Consercra’s purpose is to develop and manage ecologically and financially sustainable affordable housing that strengthens communities) =

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry at St. Luke’s UCC in Beecher is currently providing food for 20-25 families on average. If you are looking for suggestions...canned fruit, sugar free items, canned pasta, paper products, and personal products like toothpaste, deodorant, and shampoo are always needed. The pantry will be open on from 9:00-11:00, on the second Saturday of each month. Your donations are always appreciated! Thank You!



PRAYER CONCERNS

We encourage you to keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Peggy Heusing – thanksgiving for being home,
Pauline Mitchell -prayers for comfort in nursing home,
Stanley Schneider – prayers for healing,
Jennie Hamann – prayers for healing,
Devyn (Dawn Schroeder’s Niece)– prayers for healing,
Carol Hoebet, prayers for comfort,
Vic Frahm, prayers for healing,
Mildred Katz, prayers for healing her broken collar bone,
and all of God’s children seeking comfort, peace, and love.

CONCERNS

The family and friends of **Janice Petit** who passed away March 17, 2018.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much Pastor Jan and Bev! You sure brightened up my day. Beverly your food was so good, especially the orange salad.
Love Margaret

A million thanks to Bev Junker and the Shepherding Committee for the wonderful chicken noodle soup. Yummy soup. I let Bob eat only 1 brownie. And the lime, yes, jello. Very good. Thanks to all of you.

Evelyn Bond

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND
CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS**

Mrs. Louise Sievers
Riverside Senior Life
85 Burns Road
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Mrs. Mary Cirks
717 Long Oak Rd.
Manteno, IL 60950

Mrs. Doris Laking
Humme Home for the
Aging
604 S Webb
Whittenberg, WI 54499

April 2018

1	8:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service
	9:00 am	Easter Breakfast
	10:30 am	Easter Worship Service/Communion
3	10:00 am	Shepherds Meeting
	7:00 pm	Christian Ed Meeting
4	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
5	6:30 pm	Interium Task Force Dinner
8	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	12:00 -4:00 pm	Confirmation Class
9	5:00 -7:00	Gathering with the Family of Janice Petit In the Fellowship Hall
	6:00-9:00	Calling & Caring Training
11	5:30 pm	Girl Scouts
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
15	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
16	12:00	Young at Heart Pot Luck
	6:00-9:00	Calling & Caring Training
18	12:30 pm	Farmer's & Friends
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
22	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	12:00-4:00 pm	Confirmation Class
23	6:00-9:00	Calling & Caring Training
24	7:00 pm	Church Council
25	5:30 pm	Girl Scouts
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
30	6:00-9:00	Calling & Caring Training

APRIL BIRTHDAY LIST

These birthdays are compiled from church membership records.

Please call to our attention any omissions or corrections

Shelly Lehnert	2	Ethel Zimmerman	14
Alan Bakhaus	3	Shirley Loverin	17
Michael Hammerlund	6	Gina Martin	17
Ron Claussen	6	David Dickson	18
Morgan Wimberly	6	Laura Erickson	18
Madison Meherg	6	Peggy Heusing	18
Connie Schneider	7	Shelby McKinstry	18
Joni Reynolds	8	Bill Dennis	19
Janice Bonifield	8	Nancy Sturm	19
Bonnie Hamann	10	Marge Myers	20
Dawn Schroeder	11	Madison Langlois	22
Bradly Burrell	11	Nathan Kuhn	29
Vicki Kuhn	13		
Jeffrey Hammerlund	13		
Caden Clausing	14		

QUARTERLY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- New furnace – Jerry Lorenz installed a new furnace in basement. We thank Jerry for the labor.
- Smoke Detectors/CO-Fire Dept is working on a plan to all visitors.
- Out reach – Vicki is working on a gift to give to all visitors.
- Social Media– Vicki has been religiously posting events, special days of happenings for St. Peters UCC. Please contact Vicki for posting that you want on Facebook.
- EFT (Automatic Withdraw) letters will be sent out quarterly.
- Spring Clean up/Maintenance for Parsonage and Church.
- Welcome to Our Family – Pastor Jan working on a brochure package for all new members.

Eastern Association Spring Meeting

On Saturday, May 5, Zion United Church of Christ, Gilman, IL will host the Eastern Association Spring Meeting, "We Are Still Alive." The registration hours are 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.

Program: Five mini (25 minute) workshop presentations to offer outreach ideas that can spark your congregation's imagination and energize your ministry and mission. The workshops are not the answer but to stimulate the question "what can WE do?"

Workshops:

1. Where to Start? Asking the right questions
2. Messy Church: Intergenerational Sunday School
3. On-line Bible Study: Group study at home
4. Summer Music/Drama Children Outreach Ministry
5. Jubilee Cafe: A Meal Program with Integrity

You Are Challenged: Every congregation in the Eastern Association (40 of us) is challenged to bring three (3) lay people along with the clergy to the Spring Meeting.

The Spring Meeting is designed to inspire small churches, which is nearly all of us, to explore outreach opportunities that are both relevant for and can energize the congregation. This is also a great way to network with other congregations that could assist you.

Blessing and peace,

Carol I. Picciolo

First Congregational Church UCC, Lockport, IL

FACE BOOK

Those of you who follow our Face Book page please like it and share with your friends.

Mother's Day Carnations

The Missions Board is selling carnations for Mother's Day Sunday April 22nd through Sunday, May 6th. The cost of each carnation is \$4.00. Proceeds from the sale support our Good Samaritan Fund.



IN HONOR OF _____
IN MEMORY OF _____
PRESENTED BY _____
NUMBER ORDERED BY \$4.00 _____

47TH ANNUAL KWIL CLUSTER OF THE EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF THE UCC WOMEN'S SPRING MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018

REGISTRATION – 9:00AM (\$8.00 LUNCH)

MEETING, PROGRAM AND LUNCH 9:30-2:00 PM
ST. JOHN'S UCC 27;942 S. 88TH AVE. PEOTONE, IL

“Loving Neighbor”

Guest Speaker: Rev Cyndi Gavin
Tea Luncheon

“Old Fashioned Sing Along!”

Rev. Craig Forwalter, and his Instruments!

More information posted in the Sunday School entry

BEYOND BELIEF **THE UNIVERSE OF GOD** **2018 SUMMER CAMPS**

**MORE INFORMATION POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD OUTSIDE
OF THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

310 N. MEADOW ST. P.O. BOX 220

GRANT PARK, IL 60940

Church Office / Parsonage (815) 465-6191

Church Email Addresses:

stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net

Church Website: www.stpetersgp.org

Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park

Church Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday; 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

STAFF

Rev. Jan Johnson, Interim Pastor

Marcia Langlois, Office Administrator

Beverly Junker, Financial Secretary

Ann Smith, Senior Choir Director

Kathy Ekhoﬀ, Junior Choir Director

Judy Schneider and Shari Ohm, Organists

Peg McCraw, Custodian

Jessica Frahm & Kole Stadt - Youth Advisors

CHURCH COUNCIL

Evelyn Bond, President

Garry Junker, Vice President

Kelly Schneider, Secretary

Susan Williamson, Treasurer,

Ron Hamann, Assistant Treasurer

Sandy Erickson, Kaleb Frahm, Vicki Gawlinski, Russell Koehn



***No Matter Who You Are or Where you Are on Life's Journey,
You Are Welcome Here***