

THE KEYS

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



December 2014 and January 2015



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

God is still speaking.

CHARLIE BROWN/THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

A total of **\$1,342.00** was received for the Charlie Brown Christmas fund. Contributions of **125 pounds** of food and non-food items were received. We provided 5 Thanksgiving baskets, a \$50.00 Target gift card for each of the 13 children, and a \$50.00 Berkot's gift card for each family.

Thanks for making this a much nicer holiday season for these families and children!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our Sunday school youth packed **Thirty One (31) Operation Christmas Child** boxes last week. A total of **\$272.15** was received in donations. This was more than enough to mail the boxes to the children receiving the boxes!

Thank you!



2014 TURKEY SUPPER RESULTS

THANKS TURKEY SUPPER COMMITTEE AND ALL WHO HELPED!!

Served (in 3 hours!): 353 Carry Out

315 Dine in

668 Total served (9 more than last year)

Just over **\$1,600** was raised in basket sales.

Net sales from the dinner was **\$2,880**

We thank McDonalds for donating coupons that were given to many who attended.



I WANA GO HOME!

Pans from the Turkey Supper are waiting to go home. You can find them in the Fellowship Hall. Make sure they are home in time for the holidays!



2014 – 2015 MONEE REGION DARTBALL

Our Dartball team participants are:

Dave Schroeder, Ron Rundquist, Ed Bush,
Daren Lehnert, Jeff Hamann, Mike

Reaman, Roger Sturm. From other UCC churches, Brad Coat -
Beecher , Dean Lohrbach - Kankakee. Also playing with us as
friends of members are:

Dale Lietz, Daren Augustson, and Steve Keys.



DAVE DICKSON – SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to our church member,
Dave Dickson! Dave is the recipient of the
School Board President of the Year Award from
the State of Illinois!



FUSION YOUTH GROUP EVENT – LASER TAG!

When: Sat, Dec 13th 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Where: Stratagem Laser Tag in Frankfort

Cost: \$15.00 for current Fusion members/ \$22.00 for
others

RSVP to Elizabeth
(815) 573-1377 by Dec 11th.

Any adults available to
chaperone, please contact
Elizabeth (815) 573-1377.



CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The annual Children’s Christmas Program will be
Sunday, Dec 14th, during our worship service. The
children are asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a
child around their age the morning of the Program. The
gifts will be given to the Salvation Army so others may
have gifts.



GRANT PARK SENIORS MEETING

The Grant Park Seniors will meet on **Monday, December 15th** from **12:00 – 3:00 pm** at the Community Center, Dixie Highway in Grant Park and on **January 19th** from **1:00-3:00**.



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, December 17^h** and **January 21st**.



CHRISTMAS CARD MAIL BOX

You are invited to bring the Christmas cards you send to your friends at St. Peter's here. Leave the cards by the "mail box" on the counter by the southeast sanctuary entrance. The cards will be sorted and placed alphabetically in the slotted "mail box." You're invited to donate an amount equal to your normal postage costs in the can on top of the mail box. The money will go to support future Confirmation classes.



Be sure to check to see if you have mail!

ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 2015

The annual meeting of St. Peter's United Church of Christ will be held **Sunday, January 25, 2015** immediately following the **worship service**. We encourage all church members to attend as we make decisions and vote on issues that will impact the coming year and years in the life of our church.

Committee reports for the Annual Meeting Report are due Monday, January 5, 2015.

DECEMBER MISSION GIVING

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) –

Also known as Basic Support, our contributions support God's mission in the Illinois Conference, nationally, and globally. 71% of our contribution stays in Illinois to carry out the mission of the Illinois Conference. Part of that mission is the support of local church pastors and the local churches.

Christmas Fund

One of our **5 for 5 Annual Offerings of the United Church of Christ** is the **Christmas Fund**. The generous gifts of UCC congregations and individuals to the Christmas Fund enables the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to provide the following gifts:

- * Ministerial Assistance provided to approximately 1,600 persons.
- * Christmas Gift checks sent to approximately 900 persons.
- * Monthly pension supplementation provided to about 450 persons.
- * Health premium supplementation provided to about 300 families.
- * Emergency Grants for individuals and families.

JANUARY MISSION GIVING

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) or Basic Support)

Our contributions, sent to the Illinois Conference office, support God's mission in Illinois, nationally, and globally. 29% of our contribution goes to the national setting of the UCC to support ministry reaching from our church to people in need.

Elmhurst College

Elmhurst is a college of the United Church of Christ (UCC). The values and vision of the college are similar to those of the UCC. The college is open and welcoming to people of all faiths. The college affirms the spiritual basis for living a meaningful and purposeful life. Elmhurst is one of 19 colleges and universities that have chosen to be listed with the UCC as a "full member" institution of higher learning.

DO YOU KNOW? Do you know that even if you aren't on Facebook, you can see many of the pictures that are posted on the internet on our church webpage? Go to the church webpage at



www.stpetersgp.org.

Click on the “Event Photos” tab on the left side of the homepage. In keeping with our Safe Church Policy, you will be asked for a password after clicking on the tab. Call the church office, (815) 465-6191, for the password.

ARE YOU WONDERING?

Do you wonder how things get posted on our church Facebook page? The answer is simple. Jen Mussman, our Facebook guru, posts the information she receives from the announcement page, the church calendar, and **from you!** If you don't tell Jen about an event, she can't post it. Email Jen at jennifermussman@gmail.com with the latest information about your group or event. She'll post it.



Then, we will all be informed!

ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH ST. PETER'S UCC, GRANT PARK?

Are you friends with St. Peter's UCC on Facebook? If not, you might want to be. 169 people are currently friends with St. Peter's! To become a friend, go to “St. Peters UCC Grant Park” and click the “Like” icon. You will then be friends and receive all of the latest information about St. Peter's.



Jen Mussman is doing a great job of putting the latest information about church events on the Facebook page. **Thanks Jen!**

PASTOR'S NOTE

As I sit in the office this Sunday evening, I hear the rain on the roof. Rain today. However, the forecast is for colder temperatures in the coming days. Thoughts of the coming Thanksgiving holiday swirl in my head. Almost immediately after Thanksgiving, plans begin for the coming Advent season, the Hanging of the Greens, the Christmas Eve services, and so much more. There is so much to do! How will I get everything done?



Then, I take a moment to read a verse from the Book of Isaiah. Chapter 9:6 says, *“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”* That’s it! That’s what this season is about. Let go of all of the planning, the details, the mountains of work that (we think) need to be done. This is a season of wonder, of joy, of grace, of love. Things will get done. The important part of this season is to slow down, reflect on the special gift that God gave us in God’s son, Jesus.

I’m feeling more at ease. It’s not about the work and plans that I think need to be done. The reason for the season is to celebrate what God has done for us. Won’t you take time to consider the blessings of this wonderful season?

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Pastor Doug

A PASTORAL VISIT AND/OR COMMUNION FOR SHUT-INS

Are you not able to attend church? If not, and you would like a visit from Pastor Doug, please call the church office. If you would like Pastor Doug to bring communion to you, please call the church office (815) 465-6191.





TURKEY SUPPER

BASKET WINNERS

Basket

Disney Frozen
Beecher Bobcats Sportswear
Foot Sock
Adopt a Pet
Aspen Ridge Golf
Manicure & Pedicure Basket
Minnie Mouse Lovers
Lavender Ladies Toiletry Basket
PetSmart Basket
McDonald's
My Little Red Trike
Hyacinth Toiletry Basket
Chocolate Basket
Family Nite at the Movies
Vehicle Maintenance Bucket
Time to Relax
American Girl
Tote Bag Basket
Pasta Bowl
Party Cookware
Minnie Monesse Golf Package
Christmas Wreath
Slow Cookin Mamas
Disney Frozen
Laundry Basket
Snow Package
Be Prepared for "Winter"
Coffee Basket
Thirty One
Leaf Plate w/Candle
Golf Umbrella
Italian Dinner
Coffee

Winner of the Basket

Jill Claussen
Ron Claussen
Ed Bush
Dybema
Dee Lokenback
Hadleigh Loitz
Matt Hamann
Betty Jones
Dan Schneider
Ian Hamann
Barb Murkha
Dan Schneider
Gerald Boicken
Nella Rodriquez
Melissa Heldt
Ione Engleking
Issac Hamann
Vicki Gawlinski
Denise Wessman
Maureen Myers
Melissa Heldt
Jessica Frahm
Linda
Melissa Heldt
Jan Voigt
Glen Bewerts
Stephanie Loitz
Bob Chesterfield
Kathy Ekhoff
Robin Racz
Jill Claussen
Cecelia Bell
Jan Voigt

GIFT CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Gift Certificate

Fireside Grill
Brickstone Brewery
Gravina 801
Lone Star Restaurant
Rigo's Café
Olive Garden
Red Lobster
Traxx Sports Bar & Grill
Kansai Japanese Cuisine
Bed, Bath & Beyond
Manteno Golf Club
Bakes Square Pies

Winner of the Certificate

Diane Newberry
Jeannine Munyon
Tom Kerr
Karen Ekhoﬀ
Sharon Heidemann
Dan Schneider
Alex Meyer
Evelyn Bond
Erin Hamann
Mary Ann Kutemeier
Jill Claussen
Lori Burrell

HAVE YOU HEARD??

Many times you, the members and friends of St. Peter's United Church of Christ learn of events, illnesses, and deaths before we do in the office. Please contact us with the information.

Jen Mussman is keeping us informed by posting information about events in the life of our church on the church's Facebook page. If you're on Facebook, find us and "friend" us; St. Peters UCC Grant Park. Jen is asking that Committee Chairpersons, committee members, or someone having information about events at the church to email her the information at jennifermussman@gmail.com. Thank you.



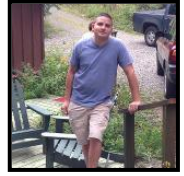
CONCERNS

Three families recently experienced the loss of a family member. Please keep them in your prayers:
The family and friends of **Kenny Ohm** (Larry Ohm's father)

The family and friends of **Shirley Ritter**

The family and friends of **Tom Morris** (Tom Morris's father)





CONCERNS (CONTINUED)

Christopher Paez has Acute Leukemia. His address is:
Rush University Medical Center, Christopher Paez, 14
East Tower Room 1453, 1620 West Harrison St.,
Chicago, IL 60612.

Please note on the card that you are a member of St. Peter's UCC
in case Chris doesn't recognize your name.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Warren Wessman - cancer,

Tim Langlois – (Son of Marcia Langlois) cancer,

Sue – (Friend of Wally and Tonita Reifsteck) cancer,

Kim Nolte – (Friend of Kim Sherwood) cancer,

Jean Halloway (friend of Ethel & Clifford Zimmerman) – cancer,

Cynthia Gerdez – (friend of Margret Chesterfield) – cancer,

Allison Kijewski - (Granddaughter of Gene & Marilyn
Rademacher) heart surgery

Ione Hebert (friend of Ethel and Clifford Zimmerman) – chronic
back pain

Judy Decker (Sister-in-Law of Betty Jones) - Cancer,

Emily Spitzig – Car accident,

Matt Schaff (Friend of Larry & Shari Ohm) Cancer,

Nancy Adas (Mother of Marge Myers) – Alzheimer's,

Delores Shimmin (Mother of Rhonda McKinstry) – Recovery,

Richard Schnell (Father-in-Law of Bruce [Alyce] Heldt) –
Alzheimer's,

Dorothy Schnell (Mother-in-Law of Bruce [Alyce] Heldt) – ALS,

Jan Locke - Complications from hip surgery,

Emma Lou Lemon – Stage 4 lung cancer,

Donna Hamilton (Mother of Mark Hamilton) – Stage 3 Ovarian
Cancer,

Mardele Engleking - broken hip

Christopher Paez - (Husband of Jamie Bakhaus Paez) Acute
Leukemia, and

all of God's children seeking comfort, support, peace, and love.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND

CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS

Mrs. Louise Sievers
891 Exeter Turn
Unit C2
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Mr. Clarence Heldt
Heritage Woods Rm 191
355 Diversatech Dr.
Manteno, IL 60950

Mrs. Pauline Mitchell
84 N. Franklin St.
Momence, IL 60954

Mrs. Geraldine Hamann
Riverside Senior Life
85 East Burn Rd, Apt. 5
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Mrs. Doris Laking
North 8163 Maplewood Rd.
Wittenberg, WI 54499

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS SERVING IN THE
MILITARY**

Mark & Krysta Farina
PCS 9 Box 1709
APO, AE 09123-0018

Austin Langlois
6111 Randall Ave
Bldg. 220, Box 54
FE Warren AFB, WY 82005

LCpl Lopez, Jessica R.
PSC 557 Box 2031
FPO, AP 96379-2301

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

Has your house address, email address,
or phone number changed?

Please contact the Church Office to advise us of the change

YOU'RE INVITED FOR COFFEE BEFORE WORSHIP!

Shari Ohm and her helpers host a coffee bar in the Sunday school entrance area each Sunday morning from 9:00 – 10:15 am. You're invited to have a cup of coffee before worship. Proceeds benefit the Board of Christian Education programs.



DECEMBER 2014
CALENDAR OF EVENTS



1		Office Closed
2	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
3	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - Peotone at GP
4	6:30 pm	Junior Troop 70951
5	2:00 pm	Elementary School Program
7	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Communion
8		Office Closed
9	10:30 am	Worship Service at Beecher Manor
10	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - Manhattan at GP
13	10:00 am	Kids rehearse for Christmas Program
14	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/Children's Christmas Program
15		Office Closed
	12:00 - 3:00	Grant Park Seniors
17	12:30	Farmer's & Friends
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Matteson
18	7:00 pm	Middle School & High School Music Program
21	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
22		Office Closed
23	7:00 pm	Church Council
	6:30 pm	Junior Troop 70951
24	7:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE
		Candlelight/Communion
28		NO Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
29		Office Closed
31		NEW YEAR'S EVE

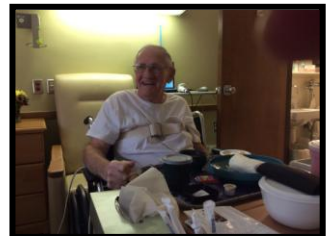
JANUARY 2015

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1		NEW YEAR'S DAY Office Closed
4	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Communion
5		ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!!!
6	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
7	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Peotone
8	6:30 pm	Juniors Troop 70951
11	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/Take down the greens
13	10:30 am	Worship Service at Beecher Manor
14	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Manhattan
15	7:00 pm	Ladies Bunco Night
18	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
19	1:00-3:00	Grant Park Seniors
21	12:30	Farmers and Friends
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - Matteson at GP
25	9:00 am	Sunday School
	9:00 am	Adult Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/Annual Meeting
27	7:00 pm	Church Council
28	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart/PLAYOFFS

JOYS

Mardele Engleking is doing well following his hip surgery after his fall. He thanks all of you for your prayers, cards, and well wishes! Hopes to be home soon!

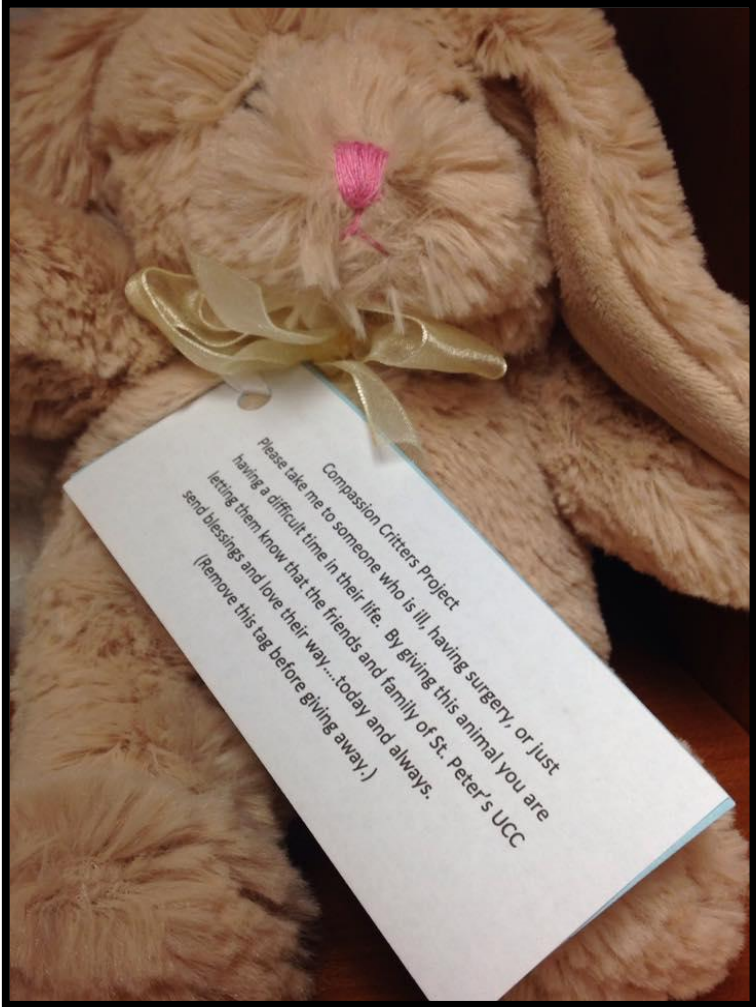


JOYS (CONTINUED)

Kate (Eckhoff) and Tyler Hickman welcomed **Grayson Tyler Hickman** on October 9, 2014. He weighed 9 lbs 9 oz and was 22 in long.



COMPASSION CRITTER PROJECT (the animals are in the pews)



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

These birthdays are compiled from church membership records. Please call to our attention any omissions or corrections

Bob Dennis	1	Michael Wimberly	15
Clifford Zimmerman	1	Wesley Schneider	15
Isaac Hamann	2	Viola Langhorst	16
Kaleb Lehnert	3	Rachel Lewke	16
Owen Reynolds	3	Russell Reynolds	17
John Wolfe	3	Peggy Weybright	17
Jason Schneider	4	Audrey Lehnert	18
Brittany Buttle	5	Noah Hamann	23
Sue Dillman	5	Erik Neidlinger	23
Josie Boicken	8	Ed Bush	24
Brian McKinstry	9	Jerald Eckhoff	24
Joyce Segert	10	Alex Fugate	24
Ronald Rundquist	11	Connie Granger	25
Hollie O'Nions	12	Erin Hamann	25
Lukus Hamann	14	Velma Stanbro	26
Margaret Lietz	14	Colleen Martin	28
Michael Reaman	15	Clayton McKinstry	30
		Lori Burrell	31

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Julie Schneider	1	Nathan Raloff	14
Karen Ekhoﬀ	2	Donald Claussen	15
Andrew Bakhaus	3	James Thompson	15
William Loitz	3	Ian Hamann	16
Reyna Hammerlund	6	Kathy Buttle	18
Shirley Koehn	8	Rhonda McKinstry	20
Kevin Langlois	8	Tony Brunello	24
Tyler Schroeder	8	Bonita Heldt	24
Jennifer Thompson	8	Steven Jacobson	29
Karla Lehnert	9	Laurie Bakhaus	30
Bob Chesterfield	11	Mildred Katz	30
Betty Jones	11	Dianna Claussen	31
Kelly Lorenz	11	Branden Lacer	31
Vicki Gawlinski	13		



ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**310 N. MEADOW ST. P.O. BOX 220
GRANT PARK, IL 60940**

Church Office/Parsonage Phone: (815) 465-6191

Pastor's Cell Phone: (815) 342-8927

Church Email Addresses:

stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net and stpetersgp@gmail.com

Church Website: www.stpetersgp.org

Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park

STAFF

Rev. Doug Zimmerman, 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

Christine Garbaciak, Custodian

Elizabeth Rodriguez and Sharon Buchler, Youth Advisors

CHURCH COUNCIL

Kevin Mussman, President

Bev Junker, Vice President

Kathy Ekhoﬀ, Secretary

Josh Hamann, Treasurer; Dave Schroeder, Assistant Treasurer

Ed Bush, Pam Lawrence Trisha Meherg, Roger Sturm



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