

THE KEYS

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



December 2015 and January 2016



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940



CHARLIE BROWN/THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

Thanks to your generous giving, we helped 6 families with baskets of food, a Berkot gift card, and Target gift cards to each of the 14 children in the families. A total of \$1,240.00 was received for the Charlie Brown Christmas fund. Contributions of over 200 pounds of food and non-food items were received.



Thank you for your generosity in this Season of Giving. !

2015 TURKEY SUPPER RESULTS

THANKS TURKEY SUPPER COMMITTEE AND ALL WHO HELPED!!

We served 673 people in just about three hours. The mix was almost perfectly split between carry-out and sit-down. We roasted 54 turkeys this year.

\$1,720 was raised in basket sales.

Net sales from the dinner was \$3,071.97

Total profits were \$4,791.97

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

CELEBRATE MILDRED KATZ'S 100TH BIRTHDAY!

Mildred's family will be hosting an Open House in the Fellowship Hall right after worship services on January 31st. Everyone is welcome. Her actual birthday is January 30th. If you would like to send a card, her address is P O Box 215 Grant Park, IL 60940.



2015 – 2016 MONEE REGION DARTBALL

Our Dartball team participants are:

Daren Lehnert, Roger Sturm, Ed Bush, Mike Reaman, Ken Heldt,

Jeff Hamann, Other UCC churches: Brad Coates, Beecher and Dean Lohrbach, Kankakee. Also playing: Dale Lietz, Darren Auguston, Steve Keyes, Randy Pettet and Calvin Pettet.



FUSION YOUTH GROUP
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Please Join Us in the Fellowship Hall after Church until 4:00PM
Bring a Side dish, Appetizer, Or Dessert to Share

Also, bring A Wrapped White Elephant Gift for a Gift Exchange

We will have Cookies to Bake, Games, Hot Chocolate, and music
If you have a Favorite game feels Free to bring that as well
During Our Celebration We will also be Collecting Coats, Shoes, Hats, scarves, and Gloves to Be Donated to Women & Children at Harbor House in Kankakee.

If you have any questions Please call Elizabeth Rodriguez at 1-815-573-1377 or erodriguez@anvilintl.com



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, Dec 13th, 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 14th** from **12:00 – 3:00 PM** at the Community Center, Dixie Highway in Grant Park.



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, Dec 16th** and **Jan 20th**.



Pastor Doug will not be able to attend the Dec 16th lunch.

CHRISTMAS CARD MAIL BOX

You are invited to bring the Christmas cards you send to your friends at St. Peter's to the church and 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."



If you'd like, you may donate an amount equal to your normal postage costs in the can on top of the mail box. The money will be used to help cover the cost of the Confirmation Weekend event at Pilgrim Park in February.

Be sure to check to see if you have mail!



ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY JANUARY 24, 2016

The annual meeting of St. Peter's United Church of Christ will be held **Sunday, January 24, 2016 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 Tuesday, January 5, 2016.

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 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.
- *Christmas Gift checks.
- *Monthly pension supplementation.
- *Health premium supplementation.
- *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 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](mailto:jennifer mussman@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. 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 Wednesday morning, I hear the rain on the roof and the howling wind. 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 is 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 FOR SHUT-INS

Are you not able to attend church? If so, Pastor Doug would be happy to visit. Please call the church office to schedule a visit and communion, if you would like to take communion. (815) 465-6191.



TURKEY SUPPER ASKET WINNERS



BASKET

TEXAS ROADHOUSE

OAK SPRING GOLF

MCDONALDS..MINIONS

THE MONKEY SMOKEHOUSE

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE BUCKET

by Chesterfield Investment Services

ASPEN RIDGE/MINNE MONESSE GOLF

CARDINAL'S KITCHEN ESSENTIALS

by Municipal Bank

AMERICAN GIRL

by Anita Bush, Shirley Koehn, Karen Ekhoﬀ, LouAnn Hamann
& Evelyn Bond

MY QUIET MOMENT (MASSAGE)

by Carrico Muscle Therapy Center

PUPPY & KITTY BASKET

JOHN DEERE (MY LITTLE WHEELBARROW)

PET BASKET

by Marion Duensing

WEEKEND FUN

by Lori Burrell & Jayne Frahm

WRAP ME UP

by Karen Ekhoﬀ

THIRTY ONE

by Karri Barrera

FRESH FRUIT

by Pam Lawrence, Ione & Mardele Engleking

ITALIAN DINNER

by Grant Park Funeral Home

THE COOK IS IN THE KITCHEN

by Grant Park Funeral Home

CAR WASH

by Susan Williamson

CHRISTMAS WREATH

by Dorothy Kutemeier

FIRE BOWL

by Jill & Tracy Claussen & Trisha Meherg

WINNER OF BASKET

Jeff Facoette

Jill Claussen

Dolores Hartman

Dan Schneider

Hayden Albers

Nancy Lewke

Gloria Vagt

Julie Thompson

Judy Lange

Katrina Frahm

Zoraya May

Kathy Jacobson

Stephanie Loitz

Evelyn Bond

Brenda Raber

Anne Oakes

Jayne Frahm

Kathy Ekhoﬀ

Jill Claussen

Shari Schneider

Sharon Buchler

MOVIE NIGHT FOR THE FAMILY by Gloria Vagt (Fred's Enterprises)	Jeanie Schneider
COFFEE	Dave
SPORTS BUCKET by Hub Funeral Home	Terry Siemien
BASKETS/CORN BAGS (5 WINNERS) by Ron Rundquist & Evelyn Bond	Terry Siemien, B Groeger,
Ione Engleking, Judy Lange,	M Chesterfield
MOVIE BASKET by Betty & John Wolfe	Karrie Barrera
AUTUMN BLESSINGS by Larry & Shari Ohm	Patty Dulin
CHRISTMAS SWAG by Betty Jones	Tracy Claussen
DRAGON TOTE BAG by LaDonna Swanson	Dave
JOHN DEERE #2 by Jim & Dornita Hamann	Tim Hendrickson
FALL BASKET by Jim & Dornita Hamann	Virginia Plioette
BEAUTY BASKET by Jim & Dornita Hamann	Gloria Vagt
BAKERS KITCHEN by Stephanie Loitz & Kim Sherwood	Jeanie Schneider
BREAST CANCER by Stephanie Loitz & Kim Sherwood	Jessica Frahm
BEAUTY BASKET by Rachel Lewke	Nancy Lewke
FROM THE GARDEN TO THE KITCHEN by Main Source Bank	Betty Jones
MINIONS by Julie Thompson	Julie Thompson
SNOOPY SNOW DAY by Julie Thompson	Tim Hendrickson
LET IT SNOW By Bella Rodriguez	Tracy Claussen

GIFT CERTIFICATE WINNERS

GIFT CERTIFICATE

KANSAI JAPANESE RESTAURANT
OLIVE GARDEN
TRAXX SPORTS BAR & GRILL
GRAVINA 801
BRICKSTONE BREWERY
BENNETT CURTIS HOUSE
MCDONALDS
DURBINS
TUCCI'S

WINNER OF CERTIFICATE

Dennis Claus
Jessica Frahm
Karla Lehnert
Connie Korsgard
Judy Lange
Fred Vagt
Bernetta
Jeff
Bev Chesterfield

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

The family and friends of **Steve Jones** (Son of Betty Jones). Steve passed away on November 13, 2015. Please keep them in your prayers:



JOYS

Ella Ann Kutz was baptized at St. Peter's on November 29, 2015.

Ella is the daughter of Tyler and Michell Kutz. Her sponsors were Becky Schneider and Kyle Kutz.



PRAYER CONCERNS

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



Warren Wessman - cancer,

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

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

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

Richard & Dorothy Schnell (father-in-law & mother-in-law of Bruce [Alyce] Heldt) – Alzheimer's & ALS,

Emma Lou Lemon – Stage 4 lung cancer,

Christopher Paez (husband of Jamie Bakhaus Paez) Leukemia,

Verne Kochel (Dawn Schroeder's dad) – prayers for strength and healing,

Karen Pickens (Mother-in-law) of Chrissy Pickens – car accident
and all of God's children seeking comfort, support, peace, & love.

THANK YOU

Dear Members and Friends of St. Peter's,

Sue and I thank you for the wonderful gifts you gave us in celebration of our wedding. The crystal cross sits in a window at the parsonage, catching the rays of the sun and casting a rainbow into the house. We will enjoy the gift card from the Princess café soon.

Thank you and Blessings,
Pastor Doug and Sue

THANK YOU

This year's Turkey Supper was held on Saturday, November 7th and it was a huge success. The committee would like to thank everyone who participated in some way whether it was through a donation of a basket, dessert or your valuable time. There are so many details that have to come together when serving 673 people in three short hours and we could never do it without the congregation coming together to make it happen.

Thanks!

The Turkey Supper Committee

**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. Doris Laking
Homme Home for the Aging
604 South Webb
Wittenberg, WI 54499



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

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

Austin Langlois
1321 Medley Loop
Cheyenne, WY 82007

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

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.





DECEMBER 2015
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
2	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - Matteson at GP
6	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/ Communion
7		Office Closed
9	6:00 pm	Budget Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - Manhattan at GP
10		Girl Scouts
12		Christmas In The Village
	10:00 am	St Peter's Church Band Concert
13	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship/Children's Christmas Program
14		Office Closed
	12:00 - 3:00	Grant Park Seniors
16	12:30	Farmer's & Friends
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - GP at Peotone
17	2:00 pm	Pastor Doug offers communion at Vets Home
20	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Fusion Christmas Party
21		Office Closed
22	7:00 pm	Church Council
23	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
24	7:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE Candlelight/Communion
25		MERRY CHRISTMAS!
27	10:30 am	Worship Service Olivia Johnston Baptism
28		Office Closed
29	6:00 - 8:00 pm	Church Life Family Movie
31		NEW YEAR'S EVE

JANUARY 2016
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1		NEW YEAR'S DAY Office Closed
3	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service / Communion
5		ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!!!
	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
6	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Manhattan
10	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/Take down the greens
13	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - Peotone at GP
14		Girl Scouts
17	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
20	12:30	Farmers and Friends
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart -GP at Matteson
24	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service/ Annual Meeting
26	7:00 pm	Church Council
28	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart/PLAYOFFS
31	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Sunday School and Adult Education Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Fellowship Hall Rental

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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



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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

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

Bev Junker, President

Karen Brunello, Vice President

Kathy Ekhoﬀ, Secretary

Josh Hamann, Treasurer; Dave Schroeder, Assistant Treasurer

Ed Bush, Jim Hamann, Bruce Heldt, Pam Lawrence



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