

# THE KEYS

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



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**December 2016 and January 2017**

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**St. Peter's**

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

815-465-6191

310 N. Meadow St.  
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

God is still speaking.



**WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES  
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
BLESSINGS,  
ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL**

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, during our worship service. This year St. Peter's is participating in a local angel tree, so each Sunday school family is encouraged to select a tag. You will bring your unwrapped gift to the Christmas Program. If there are not enough tags for all of the families we will also be donating gifts to the Salvation Army. Cookies will be served in the Fellowship Hall afterwards, and you can meet our special visitor!



### YOUNG AT HEART MEETING

The Young at Heart will meet on **Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 PM** for a luncheon 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 21<sup>st</sup> and Jan 18<sup>th</sup>.**



### 2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2017 Offering envelopes can be picked up outside the church office. Please pick them up today!



## 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 22, 2017

The annual meeting of St. Peter's United Church of Christ will be held Sunday, January 22, 2017 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 6th, 2017.**

## 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 will go to the Board of Christian Education.



## **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](http://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 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.

**CONCERNS**

The family and friends of **Glenda Granger** (Mother of Dennis Granger). Glenda passed away on November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The family and friends of **Richard Schnell**. Father-in-Law of Bruce (Alyce) Heldt) Richard passed away on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2016. Please keep them in your prayers:



Dear Friends,

I can't believe that it has been 17 days since we said "Good-bye". And what a wonderful "Good-bye" it was!

Thank you for the delicious meal and all of the leftovers! You truly know how to give a party! The cakes were beautiful!

Thank you for the beautiful picture album and the very distinctive and elegant clock. They hold a special place on a shelf in our family room. I think of you each time I see them.

Thank you for your cards, your gifts, your kind word, and, especially for your love and support over the years. You have been a special part of my life!

Blessings, Doug

## TURKEY SUPPER BASKET WINNERS

### BASKET

### WINNER OF BASKET

Baby Blue Basket	Evelyn Bond
Golf Outing by Minnie Monesse	Dave Cooper
Let's Go out to the Ballgame	
By Main Source Bank	Lois Harme
Fall Table by Evelyn Bond	David Lehnert
Pizza Anyone by Sammy's Pizza	Sharkey
Christmas Decorations by Fred's Enterprises	Rita Morris
Movie Night by Berkot's Manteno	B Young
American Girl by Evelyn Bond, Shirley Koehn	
LouAnn Hamann, Karen Ekhoff, Anita Bush	K Ekhoff
Bitty Baby Rocking Chair by Evelyn Bond, Shirley Koehn, LouAnn Hamann, Karen Ekhoff	
Anita Bush	S Dillman
Sleigh Ride by Hub Funeral Homne	Mel Blanchette
Baby Basket by Dornita Hamann	Gail Hamann
Fall Basket by Dornita Hamann	Stephanie Harms
Red Mesh Christmas Wreath by Dorothy Kutemeier	Dawn Schroeder
Gold Christmas Wreath by Marcia Langlois	Judy Schneider
Italian Dinner by Shari Ohm	Dorothy Kutemeier
Star Wars by Betty & John Wolfe	Cindy
5 Piece Measuring Cup set by Kim Sherwood	Karrie Barrera
Tool Kit by Roger & Nancy Sturm, Audrey & Daren Lehnert & Bev & Garry Junker	Bill Denton
Christmas Basket by Sharon Dillman	N Ekhoff
Christmas Swag by Betty Jones	Anita Bush
Red Bicycle by Jill Claussen	Ryder Greenholt
Pasta Time by Grant Park Funeral Home	Dawn Schroeder
Puppy Basket by Marion Duensing	LouAnn Hamann
Puppy Basket by Marion Duensing	Kelly Toppen
Puppy Basket by Marion Duensing	Betty Jones
Thanksgiving Buffet by Grant Park Funeral Home	Betty Wolfe
Believe Snowman by Karen Ekhoff	N Ekhoff
Rainy Day Fun by Lori Burrell & Jayne Frahm	Glen Rewerts
Festive Wreath by Krystal Frahm	Marcia Langlois
Weekend Getaway by Karri Barrera	Jayne Frahm

## TURKEY SUPPER BASKET WINNERS

### BASKET

Fireman Surprise by Grant Park fire Dept.  
Breast Cancer Awareness by Stephanie Loitz &  
Kim Sherwood  
Snow Package by Josh Hamann &  
Vicki Gawlinski  
Mary & Martha

### WINNER OF BASKET

Ione Engleking  
Jim Vickery  
Bravo  
Erin Hamann

## GIFT CERTIFICATE WINNERS

### GIFT CERTIFICATE

KANSAI JAPANESE RESTAURANT  
OLIVE GARDEN  
TRAXX SPORTS BAR & GRILL  
DURBINS  
USA RESTAURANT  
MAYBERRY JUNCTION  
THOLENS GARDEN CENTER  
MALLANEY'S CARSTAR  
CRACKER BARREL  
PRINCESS CAFÉ  
CARDINAL CREEK GOLF COURSE

### WINNER OF CERTIFICATE

Tim Henderson  
Rita Morris  
N Ekhoff  
Pam Lawrence  
Fette  
S Dillman  
Kim Lorenz  
Kathy Ekhoff  
Kaleb Frahm  
Carrie Dumas  
Jill Claussen

## 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.

**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. 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

**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*

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

**Cynthia Gerdez** – (friend of Margret Chesterfield) – cancer,  
**Nancy Adas** (mother of Marge Myers) – Alzheimer’s,  
**Christopher Paez** (husband of Jamie Bakhaus Paez) Leukemia,  
**Peggy Heusing** – prayers for healing,  
**Gary Ekhoﬀ** - prayers for healing following surgery,  
**Gene Sievers** – prayers for healing from injuries following an accident  
**Dean Schneider** - prayers for healing during treatment,  
**Jeff Schneider** – confronting ALS,  
and all of God’s children seeking comfort, peace, and love.





**DECEMBER 2016**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

4	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service/ Communion
5 & 6		Office Closed
6	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
7	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - Manhattan at GP
11	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship/Children's Christmas Program
14	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - GP at Peotone
18	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Choir Cantata
19		Office Closed
	1:00-3:00 pm	Young At Heart Luncheon
21	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice
		Dart - Matteson at GP
24	7:00 pm	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE</b> Lessons, Carols, Candlelight, & Communion
25		<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS! NO WORSHIP</b>
26		Office Closed



**JANUARY 2017**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

1	10:30 am	Worship Service?/ Communion
2		Office Closed
3	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
4	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Manhattan
6		ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!!!
8	9:00 am	Sunday School 10:30 am
		Worship Service /Take down the greens
11	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart Peotone at GP
15	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
18	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart - GP at Matteson
22	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service/ <b>Annual Meeting</b>
	11:30	Worship Committee Meeting
25	12:30	Farmers and Friends
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
		Dart -Playoff Games
29	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
30		Office Closed



## 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	Colleen Martin	28
Hollie O’Nions	12	Clayton McKinstry	30
Lukus Hamann	14	Lori Burrell	31
Michael Reaman	15		
Michael Wimberly	15		

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Julie Schneider	1	Nathan Raloff	14
Karen Ekhoﬀ	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**

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

### **STAFF**

Interim Pastor pending

**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

**Rhiannon Currier & Rhonda McKinstry**, Youth Advisors

### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Karen Brunello**, President

**Sandy Erickson**, Vice President

**Vicki Gawlinski**, Secretary

**Dave Schroeder**, Treasurer,

**Kaleb Frahm**, Assistant Treasurer

**Kathy Ekhoﬀ, Jim Hamann,**

**Bruce Heldt, Pam Lawrence**



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