

THE KEYS

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



June/July 2013

Our Mission

*We are a family of faith that seeks to walk in the footsteps of Christ.
We seek to know God's will and purpose in our lives.
Our doors are open to all who wish to join our journey.*

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 23, 2013 MEETING

Unfinished Business:

- Cemetery Board –
 - Mowing guidelines were created by the Board and given to the Jim Hamann family.
 - Two vacancies on the Board were filled by Jerry Loitz and Tom Morris
- Property and Maintenance Committee –
 - Three new members have agreed to serve on the committee: Eric Frahm, Russ Koehn, and Dave Schroeder.

New Business

- Church pens –
 - New pens will be ordered because the other pens are gone.

Motion approved the order new pens.
- Fee Policy Guidelines –
 - The guidelines were reviewed. No changes were made
- Compassion Critters program –
 - Roger Sturm presented the Compassion Critters program on behalf of Nancy Sturm. Stuffed animals will be supplied by Roger and Nancy. A special message will be attached. Church members and friends are encouraged to take a stuffed animal if they know someone who it will help.

Motion approved this program
- Church Insurance Policy –
 - Discussion held about “shopping” for insurance. Decision was to stay with Guide One, the current carrier.



- Review of Church Committee terms, meeting schedules, officer requirements, and the number of members on each committee to ensure committees have the proper number of members.

Pastor's Report

- Pastor Doug submitted a written report for March

Committee Reports

- Board of Christian Education (CE) –
 - Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be in July. Jenny Hamann will be the director
- Cemetery Committee –
 - Mowing guidelines will be distributed
 - Committee vacancies will be filled
- Church Life Committee –
 - Plans to meet soon
- Memorial Committee –
 - There are now two people listed on the checking account
- Task Forces:
 - Accessibility: waiting for decision by the state for the variance applied for
 - Music in Worship: received some negative feedback about the music recently. Feedback on not using the screen is positive

May “Council Person of the Month” is Kevin Mussman

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 28th at 7:00 pm

The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully Submitted
Michelle Claussen



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINUTES

APRIL 2, 2013 MEETING



Reports:

Youth Group (Jen Mussman)

- Mission Trip – 14 kids and 4 drivers scheduled to go
- Legends Sports Complex Lock – In – need 30 people. \$35 per student (8 hours of activities and pizza party included)
- Summer Events – Six Flags Great America, Christian concert, waterpark. Details to be announced.
- Fundraising idea – Summer Pig Roast. \$11.99 per person. Funds will go to Fusion. This is a family event with games, etc. Planning in process
- Considering Youth Fellowship on Sundays next fall/
- Discussion about Teen Worship Service once a month. Would invite youth from other UCC churches

Budget (Pastor Doug)

- Heather will order Sunday school curriculum for next year

Council (Josh Hamann)

- Josh was not in attendance

Sunday School (Dawn Schroeder)

- Letters sent to families with rotation schedule
- End of year events (Community Day and Recognition Day) still in the planning stages

Confirmation (Pastor Doug)

- Classes are going well. No class Apr 21 (St. Louis Mission trip) or May 19 (Fusion Lock-In)

Old Business:

- Vacation Bible School
 - Jennie Hamann discussed ideas for crafts and snacks
 - VBS scheduled for July 17 – 19; 5:30 – 8:00 pm
- Movie Event idea on hold

New Business:

- Sunday school teacher and choir recognition – May 19th
 - During worship
- Assistant Sunday School Superintendent
 - Need someone for the fall
- Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, Sep 8th

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00 pm
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Marcotte

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CEMETERY BOARD
MINUTES**



APRIL 4, 2013 MEETING

Old Business:

- Ron Claussen was elected President. Garry Junker was elected Vice President
- Ron will talk to candidates about filling the two outgoing board members
- Pastor Doug and Marcia will check requirements with the state of IL for registering burials in the cemetery
- A liability rider to the church's insurance policy was put in place for liability coverage at the cemetery
- Richard will schedule a clean up day at the cemetery
- Ron and Chris will mark the remaining lots at the cemetery
- Chris' name will be added to the Cemetery Trust Fund account and the safety deposit box

New Business:

- Members received a copy of the current by-laws
- Lot maps were updated
- Mowing guidelines were discussed and amended

CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO BOARDS/COMMITTEES

Each member of the Church Council sits on a Board/Committee of our church to be the liason between the committees and the members of the church. If you have a comment about something concerns one of the Boards/Committees, please contact the Church Council Representative.

- * Board of Christian Education – Josh Hamann
- * Budget Committee – Lary Ohm
- * Cemetery Committee – Michelle Claussen
- * Church Life Committee – Roger Sturm
- * Endowment Committee – Kevin Mussman
- * Memorial Committee – Bev Junker
- * Mission Committee – LaDonna Swanson
- * Property and Maintenance Committee – Ed Bush
- * Worship Committee – Trisha Meherg



Father's Day Carnations

The Missions Board is selling carnations for Father's Day Sunday through Sunday, June 9th. The cost of each carnation is \$4.00.

Proceeds from the sale support our Good Samaritan Fund church.

IN HONOR OF _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

PRESENTED BY _____

AMOUNT DUE: Number ordered times \$4.00 - _____



GRANT PARK SENIORS MEETING

The Grant Park Seniors will meet on **Monday, Jun 17th**; Noon to 3:00 pm at the Community Center, Dixie Highway in Grant Park. Lunch will be served.



The Grant Park Seniors will meet on **Monday, Jul 15th**; 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Community Center

CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE

The Church Council is seeking people to serve on the Church Life Committee. This Committee is not as active as it has been in the past. The vision of the Council is to breath new life into this Committee. A minimum of three (3) members will serve on the Committee. Each member will serve a 2 year term. The Committee will elect a chair or co-chairs and will hold quarterly meetings. The Council would like the Committee to plan two (2) events annually.



The Committee will be responsible for planning events and recruiting people to serve on a sub committee to plan, organize, and hold each event.

If you're interested in serving on this Committee, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board by the Sunday school entrance or by contacting Roger Sturm or another member of the Church Council.

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, Jun 19th**.

Farmers and Friends will meet at the USA Restaurant in Grant Park at **12:30 pm on Wednesday, Jul 17th**



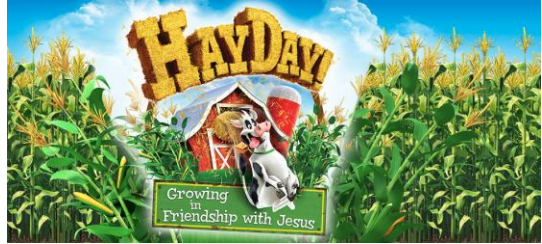
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – HAYDAY!

VBS will be Wednesday July 10th through Friday, July 12th
(Changed from July 17 – 19 to avoid a conflict with the
Community Play) **from 5:30 until 8:00 pm.**

It's not too early to sign up to volunteer.

A Sign up sheet is posted on
the bulletin board by the
Sunday school entrance.

Volunteer now!



WORSHIP IN THE PARK ECUMENICAL SERVICE

The annual Ecumenical Worship in the Park service will be on
Sunday, Jul 28th at 10:30 am.

The Grant Park Fire Dept will have a
Chicken Fry after the service.



SERVING AT THE SALVATION ARMY – SATURDAY, JULY 20TH

One mission of our church is to serve lunch on Saturday six times
a year at the Salvation Army in Kankakee. There are two parts to
this service: 1) donate a dessert and 2) volunteer to serve lunch.

Our next opportunity to serve lunch and provide desserts is
Saturday, July 20th. We are asking for
donations of cookies, brownies, or some type
of bar cookie and 4 members of our
congregation to help serve lunch. Please
sign up on the sheet that will be posted at the
beginning of July to serve lunch and/or
provide a dessert. Thank you!



JUNE/JULY MISSION GIVING

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) – Also known as Basic Support, 71% of our contribution stays in the Illinois Conference to carry out the mission at the Association and Conference level. Included are the support of local church pastors and the local church, helping the church through the search and call process, and providing intervention teams to help local churches work through times of challenge.

Strengthen the Church (June)

Strengthen the Church is the United Church of Christ's (UCC's) Annual offering to help build our denominational future. Directed to our Conference, Local Church Ministries, and the Stillspeaking Ministry, these gifts help invigorate congregations, foster new leaders, and grow the UCC's presence as a community of *Extravagant Welcome*.

WHAT IS YOUR
MISSION?

Emmaus Home (July) - Emmaus Homes has provided services to men and women with developmental disabilities for nearly 115 years. Today, approximately 325 people receive services on Emmaus' two campuses in St. Charles and Marthasville, Missouri, as well as in five counties throughout eastern Missouri. Through a variety of residential and programming options, staff members work with clients to help them reach their highest levels of physical and social independence. While Emmaus Homes is a Christian ministry, it is committed to serving persons of any or no religious persuasion who have a developmental disability. Emmaus Homes is a private, not-for-profit facility related to the United Church of Christ's Council for Health and Human Service Ministries.

MISSION PROJECT – CLEANUP BUCKETS AND SCHOOL KITS

Audrey and Daren Lehnert delivered 5 “Emergency Cleanup Buckets” and 10 “School Kits” for Church World Service to the Eastern Association Spring Meeting. Thank you for your contributions!



ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

If you would like to receive *The Keys*, our church newsletter, and/or your Giving Statements by **email**, please call the church office (815) 465-6191 or email us at:

stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net or stpetersgp@gmail.com.



FOOD PANTRY

We continue to participate in the Food Pantry through St. Luke United Church of Christ, Beecher. They serve families in Beecher and the surrounding communities, including Grant Park. Currently they are accepting food items, paper products, and personal hygiene items.



Donations received:

	<u>Monetary</u>	<u>Pounds of Items</u>
May	\$ 0.00	12 pounds
Year-to-Date	\$315.00	82 pounds

TREASURER’S REPORT – YEAR-TO-DATE THROUGH APRIL 2013

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Income:	\$53,712	\$57,281
Total Expenses:	<u>\$58,082</u>	<u>\$56,693</u>
Net Income:	(\$ 3,786)	\$ 2,577

Note that current expenses exceed current income by almost \$4,000.00 mainly because giving is under budget by \$3,569.00.



CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2012 - 2013

Our current Confirmation class has completed much of their work for the class. Together, we've learned about the Bible, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the sacraments of our church (baptism and Holy Communion), the Creeds of the Protestant church and the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith, and prayer. We've had in depth discussions in all of these areas and learned even more during our Confirmation Weekend at Pilgrim Park this past February.

During the summer we will take some time away from class, reflect on what we've learned in class, in worship, and through life, and begin work on our Personal Statements of Faith and preparation for Confirmation Sunday on October 6th, World Communion Sunday.



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!



FUSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Upcoming SUMMER Events

JUNE 15, 2013



**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 am – 9:25 am.

You're invited have a cup of coffee before worship.

Proceeds will go to the Board of Christian Education.



THE PASTOR'S NOTE

Borrowed from St. Luke UCC, Beecher's newsletter:

Note
from the
pastor



"According to a Greek legend, in ancient Athens a man noticed the great storyteller Aesop playing childish games with some little boys. He laughed and jeered at Aesop, asking him why he wasted his time in such frivolous activity.

"Aesop responded by picking up a bow, loosening its string, and placing it on the ground. Then he said to the critical Athenian, 'Now, answer the riddle, if you can. Tell us what the unstrung bow implies.'

"The man looked at it for several moments but had no idea what point Aesop was trying to make. Aesop explained, 'If you keep a bow always bent, it will break eventually; but if you let it go slack, it will be more fit for use when you want it.'"

We hear about the "hazy, lazy, crazy, days of summer." What are your summer plans? Do they allow for some "down time," or is the summer going to be so busy that its going to be crazy?

Several years ago a colleague shared this story about. He was complaining about how busy his schedule was to his sister. She asked to see his calendar. He proudly opened the calendar to show her all the appointments that were scheduled. She looked at the calendar and said, "Everything seems to be in your hand writing." He had no response.

Do we overschedule? Most of us do. Summer should be a time to step back from our busy schedules and take some time for ourselves. We are much like the bow described by Aesop. We need time to step back and give ourselves some slack, so we don't break.

Wishing you a wonderful, relaxing summer.

Pastor Doug

Luke 11:1-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."



PRAYER CONCERNS

Warren Wessman - Cancer,

Linda Frahm - Cancer (daughter-in-law of Vic and Elaine Frahm),

Bill Posey - Pancreatic cancer (Cousin of Karen Ekhoﬀ & Karri Barrera),

Bill Pugh – Kidney cancer (Father of Jenny Hamann)

Ashlynn Zimmerman, Cancer (Great granddaughter of Clifford & Ethel)

Sharon Carlin – Cancer (Mother of Dornita Hamann and Gwyneth Stadt)

Darlene Bakondi (friend of Linda Neidlinger) – cancer

Stacia Sellers (friend of Amy Schneider) – cancer

Matt Schaaf (friend of Larry & Shari Ohm) - cancer



JOYS

* The baptism of **Hank Ryan Isbell** on May 5, 2013. Hank is the son of Raymond and Amelia Isbell. His sponsors were Lucas Sluis and Sarah Sluis.

* The baptism of **Leilah Maelynn Houston-Panio**. Leilah is the daughter of Kelly Wade and Sylveter Houston-Panio. Her sponsors were Jessica Claussen and Connor Claussen.

* The wedding of **Hollie Dulin and Nicholas O’Nions** held at St. Peter’s on June 1st, 2013.



THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to everyone for the cards, and phone calls. I really appreciate it so much!

Doris Laking



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. Alice Hagenow
12998A E 4000N Rd.
Momence, IL 60954

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

Mrs. Viola Langhorst
Butterfield Court
1485 Butterfield Trail
Kankakee, IL 60901

Mrs. Geraldine Hamann
317 Westwood Court
Kankakee, IL 60901



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS
SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

Dylan & Kalie Lergner
815 Vosler Loop
San Antonio, TX 78227

AB Langlois, Austin D.
5697 Redwood St.
Box 107
WPAFB, OH 45433

PFC Lopez, Jessica R.
3D MLG, CLR-37, HQCD
COMPT Unit 38404
FRO, AP 96604-8404

JUNE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	4:30 pm	Dulin/O’Nions Wedding
2	9:30 am	Worship Service – Communion celebrated
3	5:30 pm	Brownies
4	7:00 pm	Christian Ed
9	9:30 am	Worship Service
11	10:30 pm	Worship at Beecher Manor
13 – 15		Illinois Conference Celebration at Oak Brook
16	9:30 am	Worship Service
27	12:00 pm	Grant Park Seniors
19	12:30 pm	Farmers and Friends
23	9:30 am	Worship Service
25	7:00 pm	Church Council
26-July2		Pastor Doug & Anita Bush go to General Synod
30	9:30 am	Worship Service



JULY
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4		HAPPY 4TH OF JULY
7	9:30 am	Worship Service – Communion celebrated
9	10:30 am	Worship at Beecher Manor
10-12	5:30-8:00pm	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
14	9:30 am	Worship Service
15	1:00 pm	Grant Park Seniors
17	12:30	Farmers & Friends
20	11:00 am	Salvation Army
21	9:30 am	Worship Service
23	7:00 pm	Church Council
28	10:30 am	WORSHIP IN THE PARK – Grant Park Fire Department Chicken fry

St. Peter's 2013 Graduates

Eighth Grade Graduates

Jacob Dixon

Samantha Greenholt

Ashton Loitz

Gavin Reynolds

Ethan Schneider



High School Graduates

Tyler Fritz will be attending Kakakee Community College, Sports Management.

Luke Hamann will be attending Lakeland College, Mechanics

Eric Neidlinger plans on attending Western Illinois University, Business

Tyler Schroeder workforce, computers

College Graduates

Tyler Claussen received an Associate Applied Science Degree in Electrical Technology from Kankakee Community College.

Heather Erickson graduated from the University of Washington, Seattle earning a Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communications.

Ken Erickson received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Olivet Nazarene University.

Graduate School

Jeff Lawrence received a Masters Degree in Library and Information Sciences from San Jose State University.

Jeff Mussman graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelors Degree in Community Health with a concentration in Hospital Administration and Planning.

Erin Williamson received a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design from North Central College.

Leisa Rundquist received an Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina, Ashville.



JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAY LIST

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

JUNE

Mabel Phebus	1	Randy Schneider	13
Madelyn Dickson	3	Jaron Jacobson	14
Tim Markland	3	Natalie Lacer	14
Julie Wade	4	David Schreoder	15
Dave Dillman	5	Michelle Graf	16
Judy Lange	6	Rita Morris	17
Ryan Dulin	7	Emily Wieghaus	19
Pauline Mitchell	7	Dylan Marcotte	20
Jacob Stadt	8	Linda Schneider	21
Ione Engleking	9	Debbie Mussman	22
Julia Hammerlund	9	Denise Wessman	22
Lonnie Martens	9	Josh Hamann	23
Karl Hamann	11	Vic Frahm	24
William Lewke	11	Lexi Hamann	26
Mike Flynn	12		
Stephanie Loitz	13		
Judy Schneider	13		



JULY

Michelle Claussen	1	Scott Dillman	15
Garry Junker	1	Earl Kuetemeyer	20
Kimberly Lorenz	2	Mardele Engleking	23
Keith Ohm	2	Ashton Loitz	23
Kaleb Frahm	3	Wendy Markland	23
Andrew Graf	3	Jessica Lopez	24
Andrew Buttle	5	Keli Flynn	25
Chris Benson	7	Kaitlyn McMahan	25
Dana Dickson	8	Julia Flynn	26
Patrick Hayes	9	Heather Erickson	27
Eleanor Tyson	9	Andrea Kuhn	27
Craig Schneider	10	Doris Laking	27
Janet Locke	11	Erin McMahan	27
Jamie Paez	11	Eugene Sievers	28
Brad Dulin	12	Adam Ekhoﬀ	29
Richard Marek	12	Mark Lawrence	29
Tracey Claussen	14	Carol Hoebet	30

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. Peter's 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, Organist
Delores Caton, Organist
Christine Garbaciak, Custodian
Jen Mussman, Youth Advisor

CHURCH COUNCIL

Trisha Meherg, President
Kevin Mussman, Vice President
Michelle Claussen, Secretary
Larry Ohm, Treasurer **Josh Hamann, Assistant Treasurer**
Roger Sturm, LaDonna Swanson, Bev Junker, Ed Bush

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Judy Schneider, Charlie Moore, Ray Isbell



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