

THE KEYS

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



November 2016



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

God is still speaking.

A REMINDER

Sunday, Nov 6th Daylight Saving Time ends.

Turn your clocks *Back* - (Fall Back) one hour

TURKEY SUPPER WORK DAY!!

The Turkey Supper Committee is asking for your help on Friday November 4th. 8:00 am until ????. Come for whatever time you can!!



HANGING OF THE GREENS

We will have the “Hanging of the Greens” (the decorating of the church building and sanctuary for Christmas) during worship on Sunday, November 27th. Members of the Worship Committee will have the decorations ready so the decorations simply have to be put up.



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, November 16th**.



YOUNG AT HEART MEETING

The Young at Heart will meet on **Monday, November 14th from 1:00 – 3:00 PM** at the Community Center, Dixie Highway in Grant Park.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DIRECTOR

We are in need of a Christmas Program Director – please be in touch with Rachel Lewke or Neal Currier



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.



SERVING LUNCH AT THE SALVATION ARMY – FRIDAY, NOV 18TH

You can volunteer in two ways:

* **Donate cookies, brownies or a bar cookie** - please deliver them to the church by 10:30 am on the 18th.

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board by the Sunday school entrance.

* **Serve lunch** - meet at the Salvation Army at 11:30 am



NOVEMBER 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, helping local churches during the search and call process, and providing intervention teams to help local churches work through times of challenge.

Neighbors in Need (NIN)

The total offering received for NIN was \$ 234.00. Thank you for your generous offering



MISSIONS - HOLIDAY HELPERS



As the holidays are approaching, it can be a stressful time for some families, who may be going through financial difficulties or just getting by. This year our MISSION COMMITTEE is joining up with a community program that began three years ago called "Holiday Helpers". They assist families by arranging "angel trees" around town. Tags will then be placed on the tree based off the families' wish lists for their children. These tags remain anonymous and help provide gifts for children in the program. If you and your family would like to be a Holiday Helper this year and purchase a gift for a child in our community, you can find the gift tags at Dillman Hardware, Main Source Bank, Midland Bank, ST. PETER'S UCC, or the Village Hall beginning the week of Thanksgiving. Unwrapped gifts will be collected here at church up until /and at the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 11th.

Thank you!

PRAYER CONCERNS

We encourage you to keep the following people in your thought sand prayers:

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

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

Richard Schnell (father-in-law of Bruce [Alyce] Heldt) – 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

Mark Bishir - (brother-in-law of Jennie Hamann) – prayers for recovery following his heart attack

Dean Schneider - prayers for healing during treatment,

Jeff Schneider – confronting ALS,

Glenda Granger (mother of Dennis Granger) – cancer,

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

THE PASTOR'S NOTE

People Come Into Your Life for a Reason, a Season or a Lifetime. Unknown Author

When someone is in your life for a REASON. . .It is usually to meet a need you have expressed. They have come to assist you through a difficulty, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally, or spiritually. They may seem like a godsend, and they are! They are there for the reason you need them to be. Then, without any wrongdoing on your part, or at an inconvenient time, this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end. Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away. Sometimes they act up and force you to take a stand. What we must realize is that our need has been met, our desire fulfilled, their work is done. The prayer you sent up has been answered. And now it is time to move on.

Then people come into your life for a SEASON....Because your turn has come to share, grow, or learn. They bring you an experience of peace, or make you laugh. They may teach you something you have never done. They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy. Believe it! It is real! But, only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you lifetime lessons: things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation. Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person, and put what you have learned to use in all other relationships and areas of your life. It is said that love is blind but friendship is clairvoyant.

The time has come to say farewell. I've shared one of my favorite poems with you because I believe it talks about life and the reasons people come into our lives.

I thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor for the last eight and a half years. I appreciate all that we have done together as a church, to show the love of God to others.

Blessings,
Pastor Doug

SOMETHING TO PONDER

Eleven Words by Martin B. Copenhaver

"The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other." - 2 Corinthians 5:16-20 (The Message)

At a couple of church gatherings the week before Thanksgiving, I asked this question: "Who will be around your table at Thanksgiving and does that represent any challenges?" The responses were quite remarkable:

"Well, it all depends if my aunt shows up."

"This year Thanksgiving is with my wife's family, so we'll be fine. But next year we'll be with my family, and that's a whole other story."

"My brother hasn't been with us for Thanksgiving for a long time, so we'll have to see how that goes."

Can you picture that famous Norman Rockwell painting that depicts a large family gathered at a dining table for a Thanksgiving meal? The father is at the head of the table, hands folded. All heads are bowed. I always assumed they were all offering prayers of thanksgiving for their manifold blessings. But now I wonder if the prayers were more like these:

"Dear God, help me to hold my tongue."

"God, everyone is doing real well so far. Don't desert us now."

"Please help us steer clear of political arguments."

When I imagine prayers like that, the depiction of the Norman Rockwell family goes from merely sentimental to something very real and very poignant.

Ira Byock, a professor at Dartmouth Medical School, writes from his experience with dying patients and grieving families about the eleven words that people need to hear in such moments. Then he rightly observes that these eleven words are important to say—and powerful—not just at such critical moments, but at other times and in other circumstances.

Those eleven words are: "Please forgive me. I forgive you. I love you. Thank you."

So in the wake of Thanksgiving, let me ask: Does anyone need to hear these words from you today?

THANK YOU NOTES

On behalf of our Father, Clarence Heldt, we would like to thank everyone who attended his 100th birthday celebration. Thank you for all the cards and well wishes that you brought. He was extremely moved and really appreciated the turnout.

God Bless you all!!

Bruce, Richard and Susan

**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

Austin Langlois
3320 Randy Road
Cheyenne, WY 82001

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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



1	7:00 pm	Christian Education meeting
2	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart GP at Matteson
4	8:00 am	Turkey Supper Work Day
5	4:00- 8:00	ST. PETER'S TURKEY SUPPER
6	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Totenfest/ Communion
9	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart GP at Manhattan
13	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Frahm Fellowship Hall
14	1:00-3:00	Young at Heart
16	12:30	Farmers and Friends
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart Peotone at Grant Park
18	11:30 am	Serve Lunch at Salvation Army
20	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	1:30 pm	Mid-season dart tournament at Peotone atrium
22	7:00 pm	Church Council
23	7:00 pm	THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP
		COMMUNION
24		HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!!!
27	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Hanging of the Greens
30	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart - Matteson at Grant Park

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY LIST

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



Ashlee Ekhoﬀ	1	Gary Ekhoﬀ	16
Kathy Sievers	2	Tanner Barrera	16
Norma Lehnert	3	Jayne Frahm	17
Karri Barrera	3	Jim Hamann	17
Jennie Hamann	3	Molly Markland	17
Greg Engleking	4	Al Stanbro	18
Bruce Heldt	5	Emily Marek	18
Jeff Hamann	5	Dan Schneider	20
Kim Couwenhoven	5	Hadleigh Loitz	20
Kurt Reichel	5	Hank Isbell	20
Kole Stadt	9	Seth Hamann	23
Gordon Schneider	9	Brian Morris	24
Roger Sturm	10	Jill Shafer	24
Christian Benson	11	Kennedy Marcotte	25
Tyler Claussen	12	Andy Dillman	27
Kathy Ekhoﬀ	14	Gigi Schneider	28
Elaine Frahm	15	Nick Hamann	28
Hayden Lehnert	16	Joshua Lorenz	29
Marion Duensing	16	Chris Claussen	29

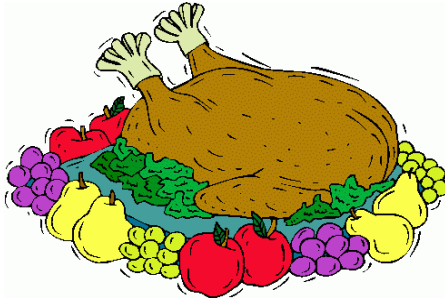
JOYS

The Wedding of Justin Schriefer and Kelly Norman on October 22, 2016.

CONCERNS

The family and friends of **Judy Johnson** who died on October 26, 2016.
The family and friends of **Virginia Heldt** who died on October 27, 2016.

Please Join us for St. Peter's UCC Annual



TURKEY SUPPER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

4:00 – 8:00 PM

ADULTS - \$10.00
KIDS 6-12 YEARS - \$6.00
UNDER 6 YEARS - FREE
ALL CARRYOUTS - \$10.00

**Join us for our all-you-can-eat supper of:
Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Sweet
Potatoes, Corn, Rolls, Cranberries, and Fruit Salad**

Many themed baskets will be raffled!!!!

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***