

THE KEYS

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



October 2016



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940



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.



YOUNG AT HEART MEETING

The Young at Heart will meet on **Monday, Oct 17th from 1:00 – 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, Oct 19th**.



TURKEY SUPPER WORK DAY!!

The Turkey Supper Committee is asking for your help on Fri, Nov 4th from 8:00 AM until ????. Come for whatever time you can to help peel potatoes and help with other jobs! They are also in need of cool whip containers and raffle basket donations.



November 6th, 2016

Don't forget to change your clock!



MEAN GREEN GOES PINK
ANNUAL VOLLEYBALL GAME



Grant Park High School Volleyball teams and Beverly K. Roberts Cancer Foundation would like announce the Mean Green Goes Pink annual Volleyball game to be held on Friday, **October 21, at 5:30p.m.** with the St. Anne Cardinals - doors open at 4:30 p.m.

There will be T-shirt sales, basket raffles, 50/50 raffle, memory and survivor recognition and live auction items with Larry Lorenz.

Basket raffle donations can be dropped off at Main Source Bank or Grant Park High School beginning October 17, 2016.

Admission will be \$1.00 for all those wearing pink. All proceeds will be given to the Beverly K. Roberts Cancer Foundation to help folks of the Grant Park area who are battling any kind of cancer. Bev was a 1967 graduate of GPHS, enjoyed sporting events and lost her battle with breast cancer in 2007.

Come out and see super volleyball games and help support this worthwhile cause that has been helping folks of the Grant Park area in 2008.

BIKE-A -THON

The Sunday School Bike-a-thon collected **\$325.00**, which was donated to the Open Door Fund. Thank you to all who participated!



COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES

College student addresses (email and regular mail) are needed so we can keep in contact with them by sending our newsletter, *The Keys*, and other information about events at the church. **NEW** and **OLD** addresses are needed to update our records. Please call the church office. Leave a message if you are calling after hours. Thank you.



SOMETHING TO PONDER

From the **Liberating Word** by Michael Piazza; Jun 3, 2016

For the first decade of my ministry I preached from the King James Version of the Bible. As a result, much of the scripture I have committed to memory comes from that translation. Although it is inadequate in many ways, it also is rather remarkable and beautiful. One example is Luke 21:19, which says, "In your patience possess ye your souls." The New Revised Standard Version replaces the word "patience" with "endurance," which may be more accurate, but I think it misses the mark for modern living.

Perhaps you are a more patient driver than I am and don't mind if the person sitting in front of you is texting after the light turns green. Of course, they look up just in time to make it through, leaving everyone else to sit through the light again. Maybe you are not irritated by the guy in the checkout line who forgot something and has sent his child or spouse to fetch it while you and everyone else waits. Perhaps the doctor keeping you waiting for 45 minutes while she sees three pharmaceutical reps isn't a problem with your schedule. Yeah, I didn't think so.

Jesus, though, was onto something. Patience, or the lack of it, really does say something very explicitly about the state of our souls. Why are we always in such a hurry? Are we really that important? Will someone die on the operating table if it takes us 90 seconds longer to check out at the grocery store? Is there really nothing we can read, or think or pray about while we wait for the doctor? I'm always complaining about not having any downtime, and here the Universe is giving me some. I'm wasting it, however, by fussing and fuming and resenting it.

I have to say that isn't true for me anymore...at least not as much. I've come to enjoy my time sitting at the airport or on planes. Oh, I still get impatient now and then, but, somehow, in a life that has gotten overfilled, I have come to relish found moments of freedom to think and pray and breathe. When the doctor was running late, I read a magazine, and I can't remember the last time I did that. Thanks for letting me catch my breath and find a new recipe for deviled eggs with avocados. Yum.

OCTOBER 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. We contribute \$1,008.33 each month to OCWM through our budget.

Neighbors in Need (NIN)

NIN is an annual special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. We have budgeted \$200.00 for this year's donation.



TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 23, 2016 the congregation is invited to participate in "Trunk or Treat" immediately following Worship. Our kids will be dressed up in their Halloween Costumes during Sunday School and excited to Trunk or Treat after Worship!



We will have a sign up on the bulletin board for those of you participating. This way we can reserve an appropriate amount of parking spots. We encourage the congregation to dress up as well and there will be a prize for Best Decorated Car! (Sign ups by October 16th!) So mark your calendars and sign up for "Trunk or Treat" October 23rd at St. Peter's UCC!

THE PASTOR'S NOTE

No Body Like This Body by Matt Laney, May 5, 2015



"We are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." - Romans 12:5

Last month I had an epiphany of biblical proportions. Fortunately, I was sitting down at the time and right now, I hope you are too.

It happened as I witnessed our church choir and orchestra prepare for a Good Friday offering of Fauré's Requiem. Each singer had their part. The instrumentalists had their parts. The conductor had his part and I realized, in a watershed moment of spiritual awakening if not full-blown enlightenment: They are all one thing!

Sure I'm being a bit dramatic. On the other hand I don't think it's possible to overstate the significance of this moment. They individually created and were transcended by something larger than themselves. Any single participant, even the conductor, could have dropped out and the music would have continued uninterrupted.

Then I came down with the stomach bug. In Holy Week. You can appreciate the powerful threat this posed to the most sacred time of the year and to the Kingdom itself. How would my flock successfully navigate these theologically complex days without me?

Of course, they did. Beautifully. It helps to have outstanding colleagues. And drugs. I revived in time for Easter.

An absent pastor is sometimes the best thing that can happen to a church (and the pastor). Whether your pastor is out sick, at a denominational gathering, on vacation or on an extended sabbatical, there is no better opportunity for the congregation (and the pastor) to discover themselves anew, as ministers one and all.

Yes, ministers play their part, the greatest of which is to put ourselves out of a job, as we both point to and join the heavenly song of the three-in-one-God.

Although this article is from 2015, it rings true for us as a congregation as we prepare for my departure and the arrival of the interim minister. As Matt says, "An absent pastor is sometime the best thing that can happen to a church." We have an opportunity to "discover ourselves anew," as Matt says.

Blessings!
Pastor Doug



PRAYER CONCERNS

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
Judy Johnson - (Clifford Zimmerman’s cousin) prayers for healing from injuries following a car accident,
Dean Schneider - prayers for healing during treatment,
 and all of God’s children seeking comfort, support, peace, & love.

JOYS

- * The wedding of Jim Schneider and Kelly Koehne held at St. Peter’s on September 3rd.
- * The Birthday Celebration for Clarence Heldt’s 100th Birthday.
- * A wonderful Italian Night Dinner hosted by the Church Life Committee.

CONCERNS

The family and friends of **Warren Wessman** who passed away on October 29th.

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!

**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
Humme 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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY LIST

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



Louise Sievers	1	Andrew Hamann	19
Gwyneth Stadt	3	Lisa Dennis	20
Keaton Lacer	7	Ron Hamann	21
Brandon Bird	8	Karl Schneider	21
Lucas Castelli	9	Clover Schneider	23
Karl Reichel	10	Marvin Bredemeier	24
Nixon Marcotte	11	Roberta Ferris	25
William Weybright	11	Tom Barrera	27
Lisa Reichel	12	Ethan Schneider	27
Paige Flynn	14	Larry Hamann	28
Beverly Junker	14	Jeffrey Mussman	28
William Reichel	14	Holly Wade	28
Mark Schneider	14	Sheryl Wieghaus	28
Adrian Fox	16	Margaret Chesterfield	31
Kalie Langlois	17	Austin Langlois	31
Michael Loitz	17	Christopher Mussman	31
Kaylie Meherg	17	Linda Neidlinger	31

OCTOBER 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
		Rite of Confirmation/Communion
4	7:00 pm	Christian Education Meeting
5	2:00 pm	Fusion Youth Group
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart - Peotone at GP
7-9		Grant Park Oktoberfest
8	8:00 pm	Oktoberfest Lighted Parade
9	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Worship Committee Meeting
12	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart Ball - GP at Matteson
16	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
17	1:00-3:00 pm	Young at Heart
19	12:30 pm	Farmers and Friends
	5:30 pm	Brownie Troop 71518
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart - Manhattan at GP
21	5:30 pm	Bev Roberts Volley Ball Game
23	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Trunk or Treat
25	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
26	7:00 pm	Adult Choir practice
		Dart GP at Peotone
30	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service

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

*** Get a \$1 off coupon at Grant Park Oktoberfest
Parade, 10/8/2016**

**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 to 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

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 Joni Reynolds, 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***