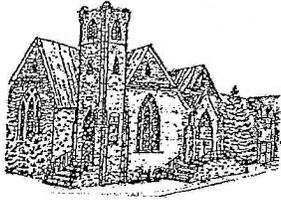


THE LETTERS OF SAINT PETER



SAINT PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 OWENSVILLE, MISSOURI
<http://stpetersucc.yolasite.com>
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**UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST**



MAY 2016

Worship Services at a glance:

- Sunday, 5/01, 8 & 10 a.m.
- Sunday, 5/08, 8 & 10 a.m.
- Sunday, 5/15, 8 & 10 a.m.
- Sunday, 5/22, 8 & 10 a.m.
- Sunday, 5/29, 8 & 10 a.m.

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From Pastor Char

Wind, fire, energy! Pentecost! The description of Pentecost in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, has images of a movie with spectacular, special effects!

For the past Sundays in worship we have highlighted the early disciples as they discovered new beginnings and they learned how the teachings of Jesus stretched their understanding now that they were responsible for spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.

On May 15, we will celebrate Pentecost! We celebrate that those first disciples did not give up, but were filled with the excitement, determination, and conviction that following Jesus is what life is about! This was not easy. They needed to let go of what had been. They had to grapple with what it meant to accept people different from themselves. They had to change their understandings of how things were done, in order to allow the essence of the gospel to be released without limitations caused by tradition.

In many ways we are like those first disciples! We can get comfortable with those we know and our own ways of doing things. But the gospel pulls us and pushes us in new directions. Who might God be intentionally calling us to reach? Who might not know about the unconditional love of God? Who needs the support of a community of faith? How do we need to change in order to help new people feel welcome at Peter's?

The energy of the Holy Spirit changed those first disciples. Are we also willing to be changed by the Holy Spirit?

Blessings,

Pastor Char

Summary of April 11th Council Meeting

All present except for Ken Ellis who was out of town on business.

Reports and minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Pastor's report was reviewed. Single service Sundays in July and August when Sunday School is suspended was discussed. So far all the council members have heard more feedback for this than against it. This will be further discussed with the Music committee about whether organ or piano or a combination will be used, who will be available to play, and whether there will be special music as there has been in the 10 o'clock service in the past. **If congregation members are for or against this temporary change, they need to let Pastor Char or any council member know their feelings. This needs to be decided at the May council meeting in order to start planning.**

Old Business included discussions about the type of vacuum cleaner to buy for use at the church. Judy W will check with Tacony Manufacturing in St. James for ones which might work. Russell is also looking around. It was felt that a commercial model would be better than a residential model.

The replacement or repair of the furnace was discussed. Two bids have been received but we still need to discuss with Larry M whether replacement or repair is our best option. Rodney will do that. Bids will need to be presented at a congregational meeting. We will see if Diane can pull up what we spent on gas for the past three years because a new furnace is supposed to cut this cost by a significant amount.

Quilt Raffle. Betty and Darlene have agreed to contact and work with Debbie Uffmann Bennett to work out details about printing raffle tickets, etc. Quilt is close to being done so this needs to be done relatively soon.

Care Center Committee will be contacted by council rep Judy W to see if help is needed with open house or gifts for teachers.

New business included approving use of fellowship hall for May 21 for Kaye West, approval for Louise Baker's book about Marcie to be sold in the Narthex with an honor system way of paying, discussion about a carry in dinner (or brunch if we go to one service for July and August), and trivia or other games after church. No decision on this was made. Questions about the number of people occupying the Annex was discussed.

Committee reports:

Cemetery: have new sign and will get new bid for grass cutting

Mission: making plans for garage sale May 13th and 14th

Evangelism: will start 6 week session of a grief support group this Thursday

Stewardship: membership will be Libby Brueseke, Shelby Uffmann, and Marilyn Pogue.

Darlene is council rep and meetings will start in July for planning for Stewardship Month

Submitted by: Judy Balluff, Council Secretary

Mission of the Month

Our Mission of Month for May is Strengthen the Church. A little love can go a long way. When our lives become unpredictable or chaotic, when we're facing into a storm, when we're weary and discouraged, fearful or confused... a little love can give the boost we need.

Many of us find that love in our church. But there are many people still seeking and yearning for a little love, a little hope, and a reassuring word. They have not found a church that's reaching out with an extravagant welcome, where they can hear the message of the unconditional love of our still speaking God. That's where the Strengthen the Church special mission offering steps in.

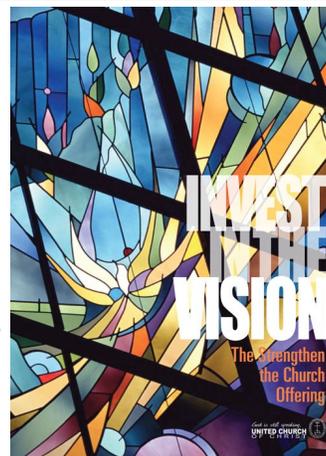
Each year, we receive a special offering that helps the church's love to grow and thrive. Called Strengthen the Church, this offering funds new congregations and renews existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders. And it sends the God is Still Speaking Ministry's message of extravagant welcome and inclusivity into our world.

You may give in the special envelope which will be in your bulletin, by putting checks or cash in envelopes marked Mission of the Month in either the offering or baskets at the entrances to church, or in our noisy coin offering the last Sunday of the month.

Spread the Love. Strengthen the Church. God is still speaking,

As always, the Mission Committee thanks everyone for their support of all of these missions!

~The St. Peter's UCC Mission Committee



Pantry Suggestions



Sunday, May 8th, we have our monthly collection of Helping Hands Outreach Food Pantry items. The suggested items this month are soup, macaroni and cheese, juice and tuna.

As always CASH or checks are very welcomed! You will notice the display and collection area set up for these items with a place in which to leave cash donations for the Food Pantry created by the Mission Committee of St. Peters.



Thank you for your continued support of Helping Hands!

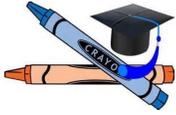


Don't forget to sign up for your Camp MoVal session!

Camps are planned for children, middle schoolers, high schoolers, adults, and families!

Information and registration forms are in the back of church.

Care Center Board News



Congratulations to the graduates of St. Peter's Preschool!

Thank you to those who attended the Preschool Open House on April 24! It was a joyful day as people mingled and memories were shared! Yet it was also sad as preparations are being made for closing. For 43 years we have provided a quality Christian experience for well over 1000 preschool children. However, enrollment has been decreasing for several years which has made continuation not financially feasible. The years have been filled with many joys and blessings! We are grateful that we could offer this special ministry to the community. Thank you to the many teachers and aides who have served the Preschool faithfully over the years. A special thank you to Nancy Kohrmann who has served as the teacher for the last 21 years!

An additional thank you to those who have served on the Care Center Board over the years, providing vision, oversight, and guidance to the Preschool. Current Board members are as follows: Kaye West, President; Ron Vitoux, Vice President; Sara Niebruegge, Secretary; Nancy Landwehr, Treasurer; Janet Diestelkamp; Libby; Judy Willoughby, Council Representative; Nancy Kohmann, Teacher; and parent representatives.

Congratulations to our Graduating High School Seniors



We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 15. Come and give them your blessings as they begin a new chapter in their lives:

Zane Derby-West

Roxanne Bade

Jordan Vincent

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.

~ Henry David Thoreau

Financial Spotlight for March, 2016

Total General Fund income for March \$24,180.96 (including Sunday and Lenten offerings of \$18,517.80, OCWM \$270, and Mission of the Month: UCC One Great Hour of Sharing \$444.33)

Total General Fund expenses for March \$15,594.09



Up to Date Info?

Does the church have your *updated contact and household information* (change of address, college students moving out, etc.)? If you're not sure, give the church office a call at 573-437-2779 or e-mail stpeters@fidnet.com. Thanks for keeping us up to date!

Thanks Go To...

Thank you for the cards, verbal well wishes, and/or contributions to the gift card in honor of my birthday. It was certainly unexpected! I continue to appreciate your graciousness and thoughtfulness during this time of pastoral transition. It has been a joy for me! Blessings, Pastor Char

...**Bob and Ruth Depperman** for major work in the garden located in the street divider across from the Second Street door. It looks wonderful!

...**Letha Ellis** for taking the beautiful Confirmation pictures

... **KLIC, FROG, TACO** members who made cards to be mailed to our shut-ins. You brightened the day for several people!

...**Dorcas Circle** for providing refreshments for the Preschool Open House.

...**Ken Ellis and Rodney Bossaller** for removing the large, heavy cross that graced the front of the sanctuary for the season of Lent and Easter. And for members of the choir who put the chancel furniture back in place.

...**Bonnie Hengstenberg, Ruth Depperman, Louise Baker, Judy Balluff, and Diann Wacker** for assembling the April newsletters.

Please remember that if ***you*** see someone “doing good” around church, or on behalf of Saint Peter’s, to submit the information to the church office so we can recognize the person or group on our “thank-you” list.



May 1	Caleb Hlavaty
May 2	Kaitlyn Davis
May 2	Larry Picraux
May 4	Mike Balluff
May 4	Richard Brueseke
May 6	Paul Baker
May 15	Liz Clancy

May 16	Jeffrey Landwehr
May 17	Joyce Uffmann
May 20	Brad Baker
May 22	Vicki Bock
May 25	Cassie West
May 27	Carol Nowack
May 27	Fritzlan Nowack



May 2	S. Tolliver & Morgan Todd
May 9	Tom & Laura Hengstenberg

May 12	James & Sarah Connor
May 23	Bob & Joyce Uffmann



Get ready for St Peter's all church fund raiser garage
and bake sale!!

Sale to be held Friday, May 13th, from 8 to 3
and Saturday, May 14th, from 8 to noon

Bring your items to sell on Saturday, May 7th 9-11 AM
Or Tuesday, May 10th, 6-8PM
There will be people to help you unload

Call Mike and Judy Balluff 573-437-8979
or Bob and Ruth Depperman 573-437-2226
if you need us to pick your stuff up

All items to be sold need to be at the parsonage by the AM of
Thursday, May 12th if at all possible!

All committees should clean out storage areas at church in
preparation for this sale!

If you can bake items for the bake sale, please sign up on the
sheets in the back of the church!



May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1  Holy Communion</p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45 am-Sun. School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>2 </p> <p>4:30 pm-Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Dorcas mtg</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30pm-Care Center mtg 6:45pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> 	<p>5 </p> <p>9:30-11:30am- Upper Room Store to benefit Helping Hands 1-3pm Bereavement Support Group</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9-11 am drop off items for the Garage Sale</p>
<p>8 </p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45 am-Sun. School 10am-Worship 5pm-KLIC, FROG, TACO</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>7 pm Council mtg</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6-8pm drop off items for the Garage Sale</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:45pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>9:30-11:30am- Upper Room Store to benefit Helping Hands 1-3pm Bereavement Support Group 6 pm- Christian Ed. Committee mtg</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8am - 3pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8am- noon GARAGE SALE</p> 
<p>15  Pentecost Sunday</p> <p>Graduate's Sunday 8am-Worship 8:45am-Sun. School 10am-Worship Music Committee meets</p> <p>NewsLetter DEADLINE</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:45pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>9:30-11:30am- Upper Room Store to benefit  1-3pm Bereavement Support Group</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45am-Sun. School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30-11:30am- Upper Room Store to benefit</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 MoM Noisy Offering </p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45am-Sunday School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>30 </p>	<p>31</p>	<p>SAINT PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OWENSVILLE, MISSOURI http://stpetersucc.yolasite.com stpeters@fidnet.com on Facebook: St. Peter's UCC Owensville</p>			

May Scripture Readings

May 1st: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10,22-22:5

John 14:23-29 OR John 5:1-9

May 5th: Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 OR 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

May 8th: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

May 15th: Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 OR Genesis 11:1-19

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17 OR Acts 2:1-21

John 14:8-17, (25-27)

May 22nd: Trinity Sunday

(First Sunday after Pentecost)

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

May 29th: Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Second Sunday after Pentecost-Proper 4)

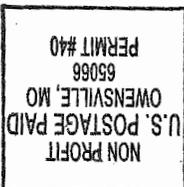
1 Kings 18:20-21, (22-29), 30-39

Psalm 96 OR 1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43

Psalm 96:1-9

Galatians 1:1-12

Luke 7:1-10



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
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Return Service Requested

