

THE LETTERS OF SAINT PETER



SAINT PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST,
OWENSVILLE, MISSOURI

<http://stpetersucc.yolasite.com>

stpeters@fidnet.com

Worship Services at a glance:

- Wednesday, 03/01, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, 03/05 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, 03/08, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, 03/12, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, 03/15, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, 03/19, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, 03/22, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, 03/26, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, 03/29, 6:30 p.m.

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**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



MARCH 2017

From Pastor Stephanie

The month March for St. Louis Cardinal fans means Spring Training. The Cardinal players gather in Jupiter, Florida to get ready for the new season. The local news stations all send their reporters down to cover the big stories. Fans make the pilgrimage to watch the Cards play and enjoy some of the warm sunshine. We love spring training!

In the church year, March often means Lent. This year the first day of March coincides with Ash Wednesday which is the first official day of Lent. On this holy day, we remember that we have sinned and repent of our sins with a visible sign of ashes in the ancient tradition. Then we embark on a spiritual journey to prepare ourselves for Easter. In the past, many people would give up something for Lent as part of their preparation for Easter. I can recall giving up chewing gum as a teenager. I am not sure just how much of a spiritual discipline this was since I had braces and wasn't supposed to chew gum in the first place. In recent years, there has been a move from giving things up for lent to changing parts of our lives to make us closer to God. This year I would like for us to think of Lent as our own Spiritual Spring Training. Instead of giving up something, choose instead to practice a spiritual discipline such as reading through the Gospel of Matthew, attending the Wednesday evening Lenten service or spending ten minutes a day in quiet meditation. Let's make our Lenten Spring Training an act of love for God.

Blessings,

Pastor Stephanie

From the Council President

Our first council Meeting was a busy one. We got a lot accomplished! Here are some notes of interest from our meeting:

In the future as in the past, any weather related canceling of worship services will be determined jointly by the Pastor and the Council President and will be posted on Facebook, Channel 4 & 5 as St Peter's UCC -Owensville, and also sent in a group email. It will be on the church's answering machine as well. When you get the news please do spread the word to those you think might not hear about it in those ways.

We went over council duties and who will be council reps for which committees and will post a complete list of current committees and their members and council reps after our next meeting.

The new guttering approved in the last congregational meeting has been installed. House and Grounds will monitor to see how this affects the basement leaks.

Funds were approved by council to be used for chain link fencing donated by Bud Taylor to be installed to fence in the Parsonage back yard. Thank you Bud!

A new snow removal contract was approved; and new ways to invest some of our funds in order to actually get some returns on them was briefly discussed. New council members were given info on this and we will discuss further at our next meeting after they have looked over the information.

The construction related to the moving of the church offices will begin the week of February 20th. At Pastor Stephanie and Diane's suggestion, council voted to have a Moving liaison committee formed to coordinate the move between the various ones affected so that this goes as smoothly as possible. Members will be Judy Balluff from council, Janet Diestelkamp from Christian Ed, Bonnie Hengstenberg from Dorcas, and a representative from House and Grounds. Pastor Stephanie and Diane will also be included in all communications. There are some funds in the Memorial Fund to partially pay for all of this as well.

Our next meeting will be changed from the 2nd Monday of the month to Tuesday, March 14th at 7PM because of some conflicts by members. Please contact any of us with any ideas or concerns... and please keep us in your prayers.

Judy Balluff, 2017 Council President

Financial Spotlight for January, 2017

Total General Fund income for January: \$14,549.54 (including offerings of \$13,920.04, OCWM \$340, Helping Hands \$50, Mission of the Month: Owensville/Rosebud Ministerial Alliance \$225.50, apple butter \$14)

Total General Fund expenses for January \$8,566.46



Lenten Services

Lent is an important time in the church year when we reflect more deeply on our faith and prepare for the remembrance of Jesus' death and the celebration of his resurrection.

This year we will be looking at favorite hymns during our mid-week Lenten services. These hymns are so often requested at funerals, and listed among people's favorite hymns. Why do these songs of faith mean so much to so many people? Come to the mid-week Lenten services on Wednesdays, and we will explore this question together.

We will conclude the Season of Lent with the Maundy Thursday Service, including the service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion. Each Evening Worship Service will begin at 6:30 pm. Come and join us!

March 1– Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion

March 8 - *How Great Thou Art*

March 15 - *The Old Rugged Cross*

March 22 - *In the Garden*

March 29 - *Amazing Grace*

April 5 - *Were You There?*



April 9 (Sunday) - 8 a.m. Palm Sunday celebration
10 a.m. Confirmation

April 13 – Maundy Thursday with Tenebrae Service and Holy Communion

April 14 – Good Friday – (Noon) Rosebud/Owensville
Community Service

April 16 (Sunday) – Easter with Holy Communion at 8 a.m.
and 10 a.m. services

PANTRY SUGGESTIONS

Sunday, March 12th, we have our monthly collection of Helping Hands Outreach Food Pantry items. Suggested items this month are instant mashed potatoes, peaches, instant pudding, and canned luncheon meat.

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!

MISSION OF THE MONTH



The Mission of the Month for March is the UCC One Great Hour of Sharing. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more.

What is One Great Hour of Sharing®?

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in 138 countries. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

How is the United Church of Christ's offering used?

More than 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for missionaries. Currently there are 7 OGHS supported missionaries and 2 Global Mission Interns working in disaster relief, health care, education, and agricultural development. The offering funds disaster preparedness and response, and disaster related volunteer initiatives in the U.S.

Where and how are OGHS funds shared?

The United Church of Christ responds to development, disaster, and refugee needs in 138 countries, and provides disaster relief and immigration assistance in the United States.

Funding decisions are made by asking our worldwide mission partners, "What would you have us do with you?" The United Church of Christ responds as a member of organizations such as Church World Service and the ACT Alliance. We also support the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations that the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have direct partnerships with through Global Ministries. Nearly one-third of the UCC's offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, disaster, development, and advocacy programs.

Please consider helping us support this worthy organization. Thank you, as always, for all your support for our missions.

~The St. Peter's UCC Mission Committee

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...

...Bonnie Hengstenberg, Judy Balluff, JoEllen Steineker, Diann Wacker, and Ricky Hacker for assembling the February newsletters.

...Pastor Stephanie, Eddy, Matt Clancy, Nancy and Kimmy Landwehr, Larry Picraux, Bob Deppermen, Rodney Bossaller, and Mike and Judy Balluff for moving furniture and other items out of and rearranging the rooms where the new construction will begin.

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.

THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE has set up a coffee area in the Narthex for people of both services to use as they wish. This is totally optional and totally self serve. If someone feels like making a pot of coffee, bringing juice or other beverages, or bringing any snacks etc., please feel free to make or bring. We hope that this will be a chance for our congregation to mingle before and/or after services to catch up with each other and socialize. No sign up sheet.....just a basket for donations is available. Bring your own cup, label it, hang it on the rack provided and use it to save on the use of Styrofoam! Make some coffee if you feel like it, bring something if the spirit moves you. Stop and have some coffee and chat with your church family!

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Pastoral Relations committee met in January, and have made plans to meet quarterly. We are asking that if you have any concerns or affirmations for Pastor, please share them with a committee member. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 20th at 5:30 pm.



March 1 Clay Ahlfeldt
 March 2 Kurt Giedinghagen
 March 7 Dan West
 March 9 Barb Sicht
 March 10 Marissa West-Derby
 March 10 Ruvia Nowack
 March 11 Diann Wacker
 March 12 Nancy Landwehr

March 14 Bob Niebruegge
 March 14 Kim Taylor
 March 20 Bob Estes
 March 20 Matt Estes
 March 21 Matt Clancy
 March 23 Travis West
 March 27 Judy West



March 28 Wayne & Dian Kemper

Thank you from...

Helping Hands Outreach Center of Gasconade County
604 S. 2nd Street
Owensville, Mo 65066

Jan. 15, 2017
St. Peter's UCC
Attn: Pastor Stephanie DeLong
P.O. Box 151
Owensville, Mo 65066

Dear Pastor DeLong:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Helping Hands Outreach Center I wish to thank the members of your congregation for their continuing generous support of our food pantry operation.

Bill & Delores Green have donated \$100.00 (12/25/16) on behalf of St. Peters. The church members have donated \$150.00 12/25/16 & the Advent Tea of 12/21/16 brought 14 \$5.36.00. All are appreciated & will help us provide food to other emergency support for our patrons, the truly needy of our area.

The needs have been great. In Oct. we served 293 households (850 individuals) at the pantry. In Nov. we served 316 households (992 individuals); in Dec. 200 households (618 individuals). Currently, we are serving 135 (OES) oms, 40 (HS) students weekly in the Backpack Program. We served 192 families with food & gifts for Operation Christmas 2016 at New Hope UMC Dec. 16 & 17. The pantry will serve 135-150 households at Jan. 27 Mobile Market at New Hope UMC. The 5th Area Foodbank will provide perishable goods.

We are grateful for the members' recognition of the needs that people have & their willingness to help us meet these needs.

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Michel
President

Please retain this letter for tax purposes. It is your receipt acknowledging your generous contribution(s). No goods or services were received by you for this donation.

Helping Hands Outreach Center of Gasconade County
604 S. 2nd Street
Owensville, Mo 65066

February 12, 2017
St. Peter's UCC
Attn: Pastor Stephanie DeLong
P.O. Box 151
Owensville, Mo 65066

Dear Pastor DeLong:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Helping Hands Outreach Center I wish to thank the members of your congregation for their continuing generous support of our food pantry operation. Their donations of \$50.00 (Fifty Dollars) on Jan. 31, 2017, and 15 food items (15.5 \$) on Jan. 16, 2017, are greatly appreciated and will help us to continue to serve the truly needy of our area.

The needs continue. We served 277 households (830 individuals) at the pantry in January. We served 123 households at the Jan. 27 Mobile Market at New Hope UMC. (The next one is Feb. 24th). Currently we are serving 130 (OES, oms, 40HS) students weekly in the Backpack Program.

We are grateful for the members' recognition of the needs that people have & their willingness to help us meet these needs.

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Michel
President

Please retain this letter for tax purposes. It is your receipt acknowledging your generous contribution(s). No goods or services were received by you for this donation.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>			<p>1 </p> <p>4:15pm-Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm-Ash Wednesday service 7:15pm-Chancel Choir practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30-11:30am-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 </p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45 am-Sunday School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7 pm Dorcas mtg</p>	<p>7</p> <p>2:30-4:30pm-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>8 </p> <p>4:15pm-Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm-Lenten service 7:15pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> <p></p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30-11:30am-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p> <p>6 pm- Christian Ed. Committee mtg</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 </p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45 am-Sun. School 10am-Worship. 5 pm-KLIC, FROG, TACO</p> <p></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>2:30-4:30pm-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p> <p>7 pm Council mtg</p>	<p>15 </p> <p>4:15pm-Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm-Lenten service 7:15pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> <p></p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30-11:30am-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>17 Happy St. Patrick's Day</p> <p></p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 NewsLetter DEADLine</p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45am-Sunday School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>2:30-4:30pm-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>22 </p> <p>4:15pm-Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm-Lenten service 7:15pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> <p></p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30-11:30am-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 MoM Noisy Offering </p> <p>8am-Worship 8:45am-Sunday School 10am-Worship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2:30-4:30pm-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>29 </p> <p>4:15pm-Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm-Lenten service 7:15pm-Chancel Choir practice</p> <p></p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30-11:30am-Upper Room Store to benefit</p> <p></p>	<p>31</p>	

March Scripture Readings

March 1st; Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:16-21

March 5th; First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

March 12th; Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

March 19th; Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

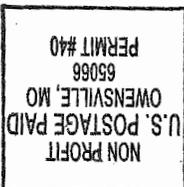
March 26th; Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
P. O. Box 151
Owensville, MO 65066
Return Service Requested

