



St. Peter's United Church of Christ

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# CONNECTIONS

February 2004

## From the Study

Hopefully, you will receive this newsletter as Joyce and I are attending the Robert Schuller Institute for Pastors. I will be gone Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, but I am delighted that Rev. Deb Owen will be our guest pastor on that Sunday. She has preached at St. Peter's before and has been well received. We will take the first week of February as vacation, which is also helpful because it allows me a chance to reflect on the experience at the Robert Schuller Institute. When I return home, I'll type my notes and plan to share some insights from the Schuller Institute in my March *From the Study* column.

One of the joys of being pastor at St. Peter's is that we have a good network among our membership. As Federal laws have handcuffed hospitals and others from sharing information, I am grateful when members share information regarding illness and other concerns about our members. Sometimes, someone will call and share information that I already know. I want to be clear that I would rather have 30 individuals give me the same piece of information than not to receive it at all.

Another joy in January was the acceptance by the Eastern Association Church and Ministry Committee of Christie Taube as "in-care status". Christie is attending the Chicago Theological Seminary of our denomination and I hope all of us will lend our support in this process. Hopefully, St. Peter's can nurture her in the "in-care" process so that we will feel comfortable in a few years asking our Association to ordain her into Christian ministry. If you have any questions regarding this process, I will be glad to try to answer them.

We have a prayer group who are willing to pray according to prayer requests. Please let Vera Wachter or me know if you have a prayer request. In addition, if you want the entire church to pray

regarding your request, please let me know that as well.

On another subject, namely spiritual growth, I saw the following devotional entitled *Something to Think About*, which was written originally by Mother Teresa. I first read these words many years ago in a publication from our Inner City Mission in St. Louis. The article is as follows:

### **Something to Think About . . .**

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; Be kind anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and make some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; It was never between you and them anyway.

*Mother Teresa*

Speaking of mission, my niece who has been a missionary primarily in Mexico and Central America might be with us on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, which will be a Contemporary Service. No details have been worked out, but I am thinking of possibilities and alternatives.

See you in church!

With warmest regards,

**Pastor Glenn**

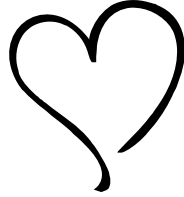


In the Spotlight this month — Tuesday Circle meets on January 27 at 2:00 p.m. in the Lounge at St. Peter's. Please come with program ideas for 2004. Our February meeting will be dinner out at The Ribeye at 7:00 p.m. on February 24. A sign-up sheet

is posted on the bulletin board outside the Pastor's Office. Everyone is welcome!

## February Fun with WINN

Wednesday nights in February are going to be real WINNers! Check out the schedule listed below. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, the WINN Splish, Splash night will be held at the Urbana Aquatic Center. If you have questions regarding WINN, please call Rhonda Shoudel at 352-3353 or Cheryl Lehmann at 398-4817.



|          |    |                    |
|----------|----|--------------------|
| February | 4  | The Breakfast Club |
|          | 11 | Heart 2 Heart      |
|          | 18 | Splish, Splash!    |
|          | 25 | Mardi Gras!        |



## Souper Spirit

On February 1, St. Peter's Youth will collect donations as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. The Youth have selected

Ronald McDonald House as their national mission this year and all donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring will be forwarded to a regional Ronald McDonald House.

Share your caring spirit with thousands of others by dropping \$1 in the soup pot during worship today. Every \$1 dropped in a soup pot helps people in need feel the power of God's love. Since becoming a national event in 1993, the Souper Bowl of Caring has generated over \$20 million to help hungry and hurting people. Now that's something to cheer about!

|                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b> | <b>February 1, 2004</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|



## Sausage Supper . . . Come join the fun!

The St. Peter's Annual Sausage Supper is Saturday, March 6. Serving time will be 4:00–7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 5–12 and children under 5 are free.

On Friday, March 5, the preparation begins at 9:00 a.m. with dining room setup, cooking and squeezing sausage patties. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

Friday evening, March 5, beginning at 6:00 p.m., potato peelers will do their thing. I bet we have a potato peeler that will fit everyone's hand. Come try us out. After all the potatoes are peeled, we'll go out for pizza.

Saturday, March 6, the work begins at 9:00 a.m. in the kitchen. The sausage cookers will begin at noon.



Saturday afternoon and evening, we will need everyone's help. Jobs to be done include cooking, dining room busing, serving line, dish washing and serving dessert, salad and drinks. After the last guest is served, clean up will also need to occur.

This is a fantastic opportunity to work together. Sign up sheets are available on the bulletin board in the church first floor hallway.

Since the sausage supper is a fundraiser, we would also like to encourage bulk sausage sales. We have ordered 200 pounds of fresh mild blend sausage to be sold at \$3.00 a pound. Sausage must be ordered and paid for by February 29. Sausage orders can be picked up at the church on Saturday, March 6.

We have an opportunity for you to clean out your cupboards—we need plastic containers (butter tubs, etc.) for leftovers. Please leave containers in the church kitchen.

Please turn in all your money for tickets and your unsold tickets as soon as you can so we know how many will be attending.



If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Marguerite and Larry Zahnd 359-3808 or Kurt and Fern Eheart 351-7997.



## New Books in the Library

Mark and Sandy Williams have donated three new books. Two are by Harold Kushner – *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* and *Living a Life That Matters*. The first book is concerned with how to deal with painful events; the second is a primer on the truly important things in life. The Williams also gave us *Good Grief*, a book which describes what happens to us when we lose someone or something important.

For the lovers of Jan Karon’s books, the most recent Mitford Years novel, *Shepherds Abiding*, is now in our collection. I have read that she will only write one more book in this series.

A replacement of *Chicken Soup for the Gardener’s Soul* is now available for the *Chicken Soup* lovers.

Two best selling books by Mitch Albion – *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* are now available. Both books are concerned with death. They are short and quick to read. Bill Malone highly recommends these books, and so do I.

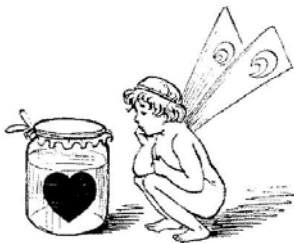
Gladys Hemp, Adult Librarian

## Building and Grounds Update

The condenser unit for the Fellowship Hall air conditioner has been installed and checked out. The dumpster is still outside until we have time to build a bumper to protect the unit.

All of the thermostats upstairs are now easily adjustable. Please return to night setting when you leave an area so the setting will be 55°-60°. When boiler is on, you can adjust the day setting with the knob.

Bill Limp



## Newsletter Deadline

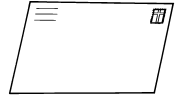
The deadline for the March issue of *Connections* is Monday, February 16. Please submit your articles to the Church Office or

leave them in the Office Manager’s mailbox. Please include your name and phone number. Thank you!

## 2003 Giving Statements

Giving Statements for 2003

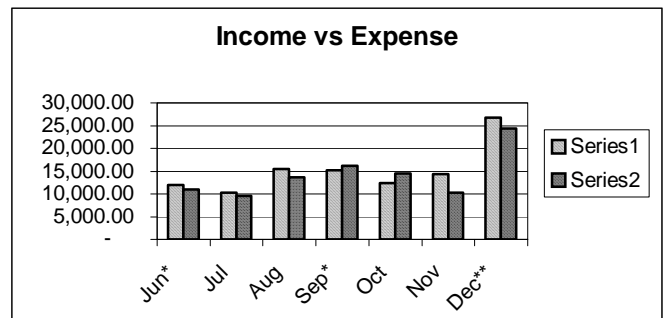
contributions to St. Peter’s have been printed and are available on the table outside the Sanctuary. If you do not find your statement, please contact Bonnie in the Church Office.



## 2004 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2004 are on the counter in the Church Office. If your name is not on a set of pre-numbered envelopes and you would like them, please contact the Church Office.

## Financial Update



\* \$5000 was transferred from the Farm Account  
\*\* \$7000 was transferred from the Farm Account

The last two months have included large expenses on the heating and air conditioning systems. It was necessary to install a new air conditioner for the Fellowship Hall and there have been numerous repairs to the existing heating system.



## Suggestion Box

Don’t forget we have a suggestion box in the hallway south of the Narthex. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please submit them and the Consistory will check on them. Please sign your name to your suggestion. Names will be kept confidential. Thank you!

## New Address

Letha Taylor  
1204 W. Union  
Champaign, IL 61821  
352-6849





## With Deepest Sympathy

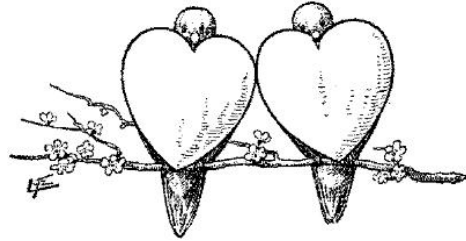
St. Peter's is greatly saddened by the death of long time member, Elizabeth Schultz. Mrs. Schultz died on January 15, 2004 at the age of 75. Mrs. Schultz worked for more than

20 years with her husband, Louis, at their Crop Service Co.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Elizabeth's children, David Schultz and Nancy Schultz.

## February Greeters

- 1 Sandy and Lee Eichhorst
- 8 Kurt and Fern Eheart
- 15 Linda McCarthy Family
- 22 Eloise and Bob Heller
- 29 Carolyn and Stuart Yoos



## February Acolytes

- 1 No Acolyte
- 8 Courtney Lehmann
- 15 No Acolyte
- 22 Maura Healy
- 29 Chris Lehmann

## February Anniversaries

- 11 Bruce and Pam Bostwick (1961)
- 17 William and Diann Wingler (1979)
- 20 William and Joyce Krahling (1960)



Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.



## February Ushers

- |             |            |               |
|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Ken Baumann | Barb Kobel | Patty Kobel   |
| Kurt Eheart | Ed Kobel   | Mark Williams |

## February Birthdays

- 1 Loreen Bonnell  
Ruth Schloz
- 2 Bernice Weipert  
Irene Lofton
- 7 Eileen Walters  
Diann Wingler
- 9 Evelyn Kitchen
- 11 Jason Stahl
- 12 Lena Dowling  
Virginia Bryan
- 17 Eric O'Neill
- 18 Omer Benn
- 20 Bob Reifsteck  
Tessa Vowels
- 21 Bill Malone  
James Martinie
- 24 Ben Sterrett
- 26 Dale Bennett



**Editor's Note:** We apologize for omissions or errors. Information for the newsletter mailing list, birthday list and anniversary list is taken from Church records.

**Please report changes in writing** to the Church Office (weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.). You may mail changes, place notes in the Office Manager's mailbox or send an email to [trost@net66.com](mailto:trost@net66.com). *Thanks for your help!*