



**St. Peter's United Church of Christ**

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Web Site: stpetersucc.com

# CONNECTIONS

May 2004

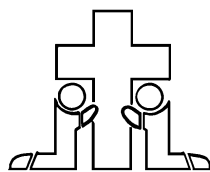
## From the Study

Recently, I attended a Pastor's Prayer Network meeting for pastors of our area. The purpose is to not talk about prayer, but to engage in meaningful prayer. As part of the process, these two Biblical texts were part of this meeting. These texts remind us how important prayer is in the life of the church. My hope is that as you read this column you will not simply reflect on the meaning, but at the conclusion my hope is that you will engage in prayer regarding these emphases.



Colossians 1:9-14 – For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully, giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 – Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.



As I share these texts with the members and friends of St. Peter's U.C.C., I hope we are a people of prayer, and that we be open to the indwelling of God's will in our lives that we may lead lives worthy of the Lord, as we seek to bear fruit in every good work. May we trust God's grace and blessing as we seek to be people of God. It is important to be clear as to our understanding of God's purpose and will for our church and for us as individual people of God.

How do we perceive God's goals for our church? I believe each of us would have an individual answer. I believe my goal as pastor has been to be a transitional leader to help our church move from a meaningful tradition in the past to a church, which will focus on a future of hope and promise. I believe this to be the task of most churches today in every denomination. I believe how effective we are in this transition will determine how helpful we will be to God's work in the coming decade. I ask for your prayers in this pursuit. Such a pursuit does not mean that we deny our past, but rather take the eternal truths of the past and ask how we can share them meaningfully in the future.

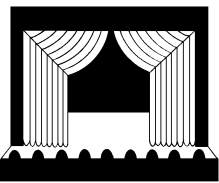
I certainly do not have all the necessary answers. Since we are a unique congregation even though we share with many congregations the same dilemma, we must determine what will be helpful for us. It is important to remember that all of us are children of God and people of worth. Therefore, we treat one another with the same respect that we expect to receive. I believe each of you who receive this column are important in the success of our endeavor to be a faithful church of Jesus Christ. Let us pray for one another that we might continue to be faithful models of Christian disciples. May God bless us all.

Sincerely,  
**Pastor Glenn**

## Universal Health Care: Faith, Justice, and Advocacy

Do you have concerns about US health care? – availability – quality – expense – lack of preventive care – Do you wonder what you can do about these issues? Explore the facts of our national and local health systems from a faith-based perspective during a seminar at Community United Church of Christ, 805 S. Sixth Street on Friday evening April 30 and Saturday, May 1. For more information, call Community United Church of Christ at 344-5091 or visit their website at [www.community-ucc.org](http://www.community-ucc.org).

## Spring Fling – Picnic in The Hall



Don't miss this year's Cabaret on Saturday, May 1 at 3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us for picnic lunch and entertainment. The cost is . . . **free!** An offering will be taken for the

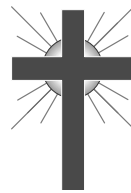
WINN program. This year's Cabaret will incorporate recognition and thanks to WINN supporters and leaders. Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's midweek program a success!

*Cheryl Lehmann, Rhonda Shoudel, Lisa Lynch*

## Church Women United May Friendship Day

May Friendship Day, sponsored by Church Women United is set for Friday, May 7, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at St. Peter's. "In Faith, Women Shape the Future Through Friendship" is the theme of this evening service. Church Women United uses this May celebration as a time to introduce young women to this movement. Churches are invited to name an Outstanding Young Woman to be introduced and recognized. We invite all to gather at 6:30 p.m., the service will begin at 6:45 p.m. and a time of refreshments and conversation will conclude the evening. Childcare is available for children under 5.

Women are invited to bring their Fellowship of the Least Coin offering, items from the list for the Adult Literacy Program of Unit 116 and to share in the regular offering to support Church Women United locally and statewide.



## Reception of New Members – Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

We will be receiving new members into our church on Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in joining St. Peter's at this time, please contact the Pastor or the Church Office for further details.

## Hey all you Secret Someones . . .

Mark your calendars – It's time to find out who your Secret Someone has been.

A Secret Someone Potluck will be held on Sunday, May 16 immediately following our Worship Service. Bring a dish to share. Table service and drink will be provided.

There will be food, fun and games. And of course, our final gift exchange! So don't forget that special gift for your Secret Someone (in addition to your covered dish).



## Spring Cleaning Time!

The Building and Grounds Committee invites everyone to a day of fresh air, friendship and exercise. Spring Clean-up Day is Saturday, May 22 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Projects include general yard work, washing windows and re-roofing the shed. If you can't work all day, just come when you can and stay as long as you can.

## Congratulations Graduates!

St. Peter's would like to congratulate the following seniors who will be graduating from area high schools this year. These students will be recognized in worship on Sunday, May 23. A reception in their honor will be held immediately following the worship service.



**Amanda Burr**, daughter of Bobbie Burr of Mahomet

**Sarah Malone**, daughter of Bill and Debby Malone of Champaign

Congratulations to our 2004 graduates on a job well done!

## The Sweet Taste of Summer

Mark your calendars – on Sunday, June 13, St. Peter’s will hold a Strawberry Festival. Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for a sweet taste of the season.



Sandwiches, dessert, drinks and table service will be supplied. Please bring a salad to share! If you have any questions, please contact Patty Kobel.

## Summer Worship

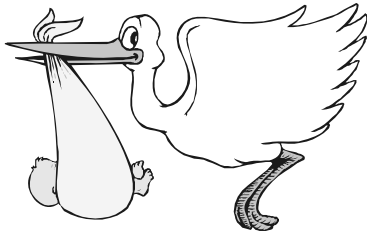
The Consistory voted at its April meeting to hold worship at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall during the summer months of June through August. Beginning Sunday, June 6, our worship will be at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our last summer Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m. will be Sunday, August 29. Please mark your calendars.

We have a new air-conditioner in Fellowship Hall, which is preferable to the extreme heat of our sanctuary. Please let the pastor or church office know if you would be willing to do special music. Please let us know how we might make worship more helpful during the summer. See you in church!

## Shhhh . . . It’s a Surprise . . .

### “Baby” Love Offering for Brett and Dana

St. Peter’s is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the latest addition to the Milan Family . . . Brett and Dana are expecting their first child in the next few weeks. We would like to surprise them with a love offering for their new child. Please make your donation through a check designated for “Milan Love Offering”. We will collect the money toward the end of May and present it to Brett and Dana. If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office.



Remember . . . this is a surprise, so please do not say anything to Brett and Dana.

## Join the Bible Study

Remember the Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. every Thursday. We have wonderful discussions and it is well worth your time. Everyone is welcome.

## 2004 Confirmation Class

We would like to recognize our 2004 Confirmands who were confirmed in worship on Sunday, April 18. Congratulations to Kellie Dahl, Maura Healy, Ryan LeBaugh, Christopher Lehmann, Courtney Lehmann and Sierra Marcum. Well done!

Bring rakes and gloves if you have them. See you there!

## Consistory Highlights – April 2004



**Editor’s Note:** *The following notes from the April Consistory meeting are for your information only. Minutes and actions of this meeting will not be approved until the May meeting.*

Bill Records reported that he had spent 150 hours compiling the church inventory. He passed a copy of it around for the Consistory members to see. The Consistory thanked him for a job well done.

Before the Consistory meeting, the members went down to the basement and Bill Limp explained the workings and the problems connected with the furnace system. The Consistory voted to purchase a new dual air compressor for heating/AC control so it can be in place before air conditioning is needed.

The Building and Grounds Committee reported that May 22<sup>nd</sup> would be Spring Clean-up day.

The summer hours for church worship will be 9:30 a.m., June through August. Weather will determine if the service will be in the sanctuary or in Fellowship Hall.

## One Great Hour of Sharing Report

Your wonderful response to the Mission Committee’s appeal produced \$1,120 on March 21. This may be a record for our congregation and was certainly much more than last year’s total.

Thank you, thank you!

People around the world, people we will never know or meet, will be helped in many ways because of our generosity.

It will be interesting to see the total given by United Church of Christ members, as well as the other nine denominations participating. As soon as this information is available, I will pass it along to you via this newsletter.

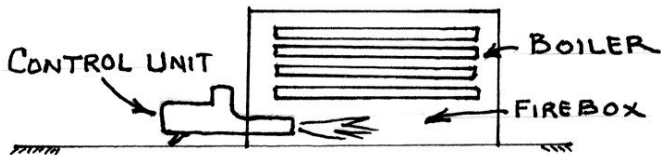
*Charles Luer*

## Opinions Requested

We need your help and opinion. The Building and Grounds Committee recommends purchase of a boiler electronic burner control. The Consistory recommends the purchase of a boiler electronic burner control. We now need the Congregation's input and approval.

### What is a boiler electronic burner control?

It is a king-size blowtorch that shoots the flame into the firebox underneath the main boiler.



### Why do we need a new boiler electronic burner control?

1. The old unit is 60 years old and very inefficient.
2. The pilot light burns continuously and uses extra gas.
3. Our present control system breaks down more often than it should and each time it does, the furnace runs wide open and uses extra fuel.
4. The new system should pay for itself within three years by the fuel it will save.
5. Cost of the boiler electronic burner control – \$8,900

This is not a budgeted item and we need financial help. If you or your group can help, please contact us. An informational and approval meeting will be held after church on May 2, 2004.

*Omer Benn, Consistory President  
The Consistory  
Building and Grounds Committee*

## Correction Concerning WINN Helpers

In the last newsletter, information about the people who have helped with WINN this year should have included the leadership of Bobbie Burr, who works with the children's bell choir. Judy Moller-Vaiden works with the chimes. Please accept our apology, Bobbie.



*Gladys Hemp  
Board of CE Secretary*

## Endowment Committee Distributes Funds

The Endowment Committee has announced the distribution of its funds from 2003 as follows:

- Logos training – \$920 (given in 2003)
- WINN – \$500
- Emmaus Homes – \$500
- Restoration Ministries – \$500
- Women in Transition – \$500
- Campus Ministry – \$1,000
- Christie Taube – \$500

Funds are given from the interest earned on the investments of the Endowment Fund. This fund was created in the 1980's with money bequeathed to the church. Interested members can specify this fund in their wills. It is a protected fund in that the principal is never touched, and only the interest is spent.

There are four kinds of recipients of these funds: Christian education (for example, Logos training), gifts to seminary students (such as Christie Taube), capital improvements (for example, the elevator), and missions, both within the church and to other worthy groups.

The committee is made up of the three trustees and two other members not in the Consistory. Currently these members include Phil Sandidge, Mike Lehmann and Paul Hemp, trustees; JoAnn Malloch and Bill Kuhne. The treasurer is Mike Lehmann. The members are open to suggestions from the congregation as to worthy recipients of these funds.



## With Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with George and JoAnn Malloch and Steve Malloch and his family following the death of Steve's wife, Christie. Christie died on April 7, 2004 at the age of 53. Mrs. Malloch was a supervisor for 20 years at the 911 Center for the City of Champaign. She also owned and operated Chris Malloch Monogramming. She enjoyed embroidery and playing golf. Mrs. Malloch is survived by her husband Steven; three sons, Gerald Lighty Jr. of Rantoul, Richard Malloch of Savoy and Bryan Malloch of Champaign; a daughter, Susan Lighty of Cisco; five brothers Albert C. Hoss, Timothy M. Hoss, Charles Hoss and Michael Hoss, all of Champaign, and Patrick Hoss of Seymour; and two grandchildren.



## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the June issue of *Connections* is Monday, May 17. 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!

## Church Mailbag

*I offer special thanksgiving for my recent good surgery and recovery and many thanks to the prayer chain and others for prayers and good wishes. I appreciate you all!*



Vera Wachter

*Our thanks to all of you for your prayers, cards, hugs, calls and food. Thanks to Glenn for his visits and concern. We will always remember your love.*

Steve Malloch and Family  
George and JoAnn Malloch

*Thanks for all your support . . . My family and I wish to thank all of our friends at St. Peter's for all the cards, letters, hugs, inquiries, emails and prayers during my father's recent illness and death. We would especially like to thank those of you, including Glenn, who drove the three-hour drive to be with us for his visitation or funeral. We have been overwhelmed by the love expressed by the people of our church. We are blessed to have such a great church family.*

Bill Malone and Family

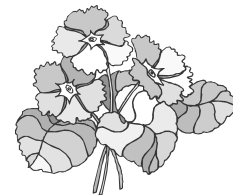
## Change of Address

**Jessie Schlorff**  
Room 67A  
The Arthur Home  
423 Eberhardt Drive  
Arthur, IL 61911  
(217) 423-2103



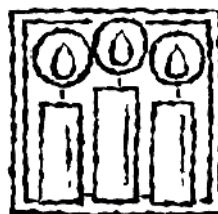
## May Worship Schedule

- 2 *God Feeds and Guides His Sheep*  
Psalm 23; John 10:22-30
- 9 Mother's Day  
*God is the Alpha and Omega*  
Revelation 21:1-6
- 16 Contemporary Worship  
*Do You Want To Be Well?*  
John 5:1-9
- 23 Senior Sunday  
*The Grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the Saints*  
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
- 30 Communion  
*Speaking in a Language People Understand*  
Acts 2:1-21



## May Acolytes

- 2 Maura Healy
- 9 Sierra Marcum
- 16 No Acolyte
- 23 Kellie Dahl
- 30 Courtney Lehmann



## May Greeters

- 2 Lola Tennyson and Bernice Mueller
- 9 Virginia Zindars, Carol Pointer and Diana Pointer
- 16 Bonnie Joop and Bobbie Burr
- 23 John M. Key and John D. Key
- 30 Emma Kidd and Mildred Holleman

## May Ushers

Jim Acheson	Kathryn Luther Henderson
Bernice Benn	Mildred Luther
Omer Benn	Al Shoudel
William Henderson	Cal Twenhafel

## May Anniversaries

- 20 Al and Rhonda Shoudel (1978)
- 21 Mark and Sandy Williams (19??)
- 23 William and Crystal Vowels (1987)
- 24 Jim and Doris Hershbarger (1947)
- Mike and Tracie O'Neill (2003)



## May Birthdays

- 1 Joan Brown
- 2 Jim Voigtlander
- 3 Barbara Schultz
- 6 Mary Casey
- 7 Adam Malone
- 8 Grace Woller
- Betty Myers
- 10 Jason Jewett
- 11 Edna Nimmer
- 14 Bruce Bostwick
- 21 Felice Rhodes
- 23 Eloise Heller
- 24 Amanda Burr
- 26 Sandy Williams
- Tristan Bishop
- 27 Linda McCarthy
- 29 Bernice Benn
- 31 Deborah Malone



**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!*

## The Chorale – Celebrating over 20 Years of Singing!

Don't miss The Chorale's Young Artists Scholarship Concert, "Celtic and Other Folk – with Jean Redpath", at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 2 at Faith United Methodist Church. The concert features The Chorale performing folk music of Celtic and other countries, renowned Scottish folk singer Jean Redpath, the presentation of a \$1,000 scholarship and performances by the 2004 scholarship winner and past recipients. Admission is **free**. For more information, call 586-2970 or visit The Chorale on the web at [www.thechorale.org](http://www.thechorale.org). **OR...**call the Church Office and speak with St. Peter's Office Manager...Bonnie and her mother both sing with The Chorale!



## Stand up to Donate

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to, after the worship service, ask the congregation to come up with money for repairs to the church building. He was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service," the minister said impatiently. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected, and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist.

– From the Internet

**JOIN A WINNING TEAM!**

You are being recruited to play at!



**SonGames**  
2004

Please join all your teammates for sporty good fun!

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ**  
**June 21-25, 2004 5:30-7:30 p.m.**  
**Ages 6-12 \$10**  
**Sports • Waterslide • Dinner**



**DON'T SIT ON THE SIDELINES—**  
**JOIN IN AT SonGames 2004!**