



St. Peter's United Church of Christ

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# CONNECTIONS

September 2004

## From the Study

Rev. Conrad Heisner of our United Church of Christ at Lake Fork included a helpful article in a recent newsletter entitled: *Sharing the Lord*. It read:

"Some time ago, at a Midwestern county fair, a contest was held to see which draft horse could pull the heaviest load. One horse pulled a sled with a load of 4,500 pounds. It was the champion. The second-place winner managed to drag 4,000 pounds.

When the contest was over, one horse owner suggested that it would be interesting to see how many pounds the top two horses could pull together. When the animals were harnessed together they were able to pull 12,000 pounds! Together they had pulled 3,500 pounds more.

Is there a message there? Church members working together can accomplish far more than they can alone."

In recent years, I have discovered the joy of a great church staff. They have a great spirit and they are very competent in their area of ministry. Recently, I was in Iowa to participate in a special wedding. At the rehearsal, the pianist seemed a little confused, but fortunately did a great job at the wedding. I was grateful for our organist/drummer Brett Milan, and our choir director/contemporary worship leader Jay Ivey.

The next weekend, Joyce and I had returned to Champaign. A quilting group had used our basement for three days and we had a wedding in our sanctuary. On Sunday morning, we had a clean basement thanks to our custodian, Carol Martin. Day-to-day it is great to work with Bonnie Taylor.

Because of family events, I had to be gone during this year's Vacation Bible School. I am grateful for Lisa Lynch and the persons who helped her have a good experience. On a regular basis, our Parish Nurse, LiAnne Kitchen ministers to the health needs of our congregation without

compensation. Bobbie Burr did a great job with adult and children's Hand Bells in recent years.

Like the two horses pulling together, we are able to do so much more as we work together. I am grateful for the efforts of many of our members. To be a member of the Consistory is more than a once a month meeting. It includes participation in the committee structure and other projects.

Shirley Records has worked as our church treasurer for several years to get our records on computer. We hope to make helpful financial changes in the future to help all of us have a greater understanding of our church's finances.

Another person who has spent countless hours recently is Bill Limp who is trying to do projects, which will help make our present heating system more effective. If you don't understand the heating system, just know your pastor found out recently it was a "steam" system when I thought it was a "water" system. Thank goodness we have people like Bill who have a greater understanding and knowledge. However, Bill is just one person on Buildings and Grounds, which represents the principle of how we get a lot done when persons work together.

Fall will soon be with us with our annual pledging drive for finances and our need for new persons in leadership. We can ask for volunteers, but truly the more effective way is for leaders to actively recruit other persons for leadership. Break tradition and let Omer Benn or myself know what your interests in leadership might be. Remember, we can do so much more when we all feel involved in the life of the church. See you in church.

Beginning September 5<sup>th</sup>, we will return to 10:00 a.m. worship in our sanctuary. I hope the weather will cooperate. As I write this column, it is the end of July, which is pleasant and cool. I hope it will be pleasant and cool in September.

Sincerely,

**Pastor Glenn**

## To the Congregation

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of St. Peter's Proposed Budget for 2005. The budget this year includes the Building and Grounds budget, which amounts to approximately \$25,000. This is a change in the way we have done the budget in the past. We feel it presents a truer picture of the Church's expenses.

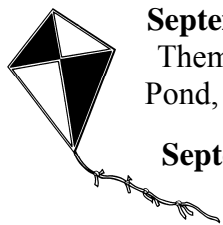
*The Consistory*



In the Spotlight this month — **Mid-year Giving Statements Ready!** The mid-year giving statements for contributions to St. Peter's have been printed and are available outside the sanctuary. If you do not find your statement, please contact Bonnie in the Church Office.

## St. Peter's Fall Activities

Below are dates for our first fall activities. We hope to see you there!



### September 8<sup>th</sup> – First night of WINN

Theme: Let's go fly a kite @ Zahnd's Pond, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### September 12<sup>th</sup> – First Celebration of Youth service for the fall

If you have any questions or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Lynch at 352-4694 or Rhonda Shoudel at 352-3353.

## Bible Study/Discussion Group Begins Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

Last spring, we agreed to begin our fall Bible Study/Discussion Group with a review of Rick Warren's book *The Purpose Driven Life*. At our first meeting (10:00 a.m., September 16 in the Lounge), we will discuss how to approach studying the book. The book is originally intended to be read over a period of 40 days with a chapter each day. Since we are meeting weekly, we will have to discuss how we will do different chapters. If you plan to be part of this study, please purchase Warren's book prior to the first meeting. Later in the fall, we may form another discussion group, which would meet after church on Sunday mornings to study the book. If you are interested in a Sunday group, please let the Pastor know your interest.

## Tuesday Circle Date Change

Don't miss the Tuesday Circle All Church Potluck at 6:30 p.m. on **Monday**, September 20 in Fellowship Hall. Table service and drinks will be provided. Our guest speaker will provide a presentation on Homeland Security. **Don't forget – this month's Tuesday Circle is on Monday!**

## Come Join the Fun!

Do you love to craft but can't find the time . . . or the space? Come join the St. Peter's Craft Club! Our first meeting will be Friday, September 24 from



5:00-9:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Anyone who would like to work on stamping or scrapbooking is invited to bring their projects for an evening of fun. During the evening, we'll also discuss plans for future craft club nights. After September, the group will meet from 5:00-9:00 p.m. on the **third** Thursday of every month. The club is open to any church member, family member or friends. You may bring a snack and beverage if you wish. If you can't make it at 5:00 p.m., don't worry. Just come when you can and leave when you need. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office or Rhonda Shoudel.



## Chicken Noodle Dinner – Coming Soon!

You won't want to miss the best meal in town . . . St. Peter's Chicken-Noodle Dinner. Join us from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 2 in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are available by calling the Church Office at 356-3635. Adults are \$7, children age 5-12 are \$4, and children under 5 are free. Carry-outs are available.

We hope you can come join us for good food and fellowship. If you are interested in helping, please sign-up in the hallway outside the Church Office. There are many varied opportunities to lend a hand with the dinner. There's no need to work all day . . . as long as you can commit to one shift, we can use your help!

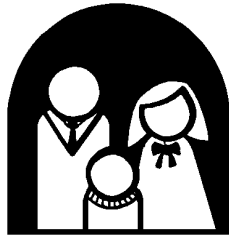


## Cookies and Crafts and Treasures – Oh My!

On Saturday, November 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, the Women’s Fellowship will be hosting its annual Cookie and Holiday Craft Sale. Start baking cookies now! While the cookies are in the oven, clean out a closet or two and bring your gently used items for the Attic Treasures sale. Please bring your items – **no clothing please** – to the church between 4:30-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10 or from 4:30-7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 12. You may donate gently used or new items. Examples of items: books, purses, jewelry, decorative items, dishes. Any questions, call Rhonda Shoudel at 352-3353.

## Say Cheese!

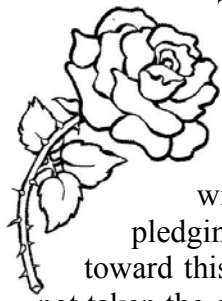
Lifetouch Church Directories will be taking directory photos at St. Peter’s on November 17-20, 2004. Additional information will be available in future issues of the newsletter and bulletins.



## Mark your Calendar!

o VBS 2005 – June 13-17<sup>th</sup> o  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

## Stewardship Committee Thanks Donors



The members of the Stewardship Committee would like to express their appreciation to church members who have responded to the financial crisis of the church with extra contributions. Fifteen pledging units have given about \$4,500 toward this special need. For those who have not taken the opportunity to help, we suggest that you mark your checks, “Special Contribution” so they are distinguished from regular pledges.

*Stewardship Committee  
Jim Acheson, Gladys Hemp, Shirley Records*

## Many Thanks

A big thanks to those who filled in as babysitters in the nursery this summer while our regular sitter, Lynn Goodall, took a well-deserved vacation. Those helping were Carolyn Hamrick, Christi Taube, Kellie Dahl, Maura Healy and Dorris Baumann. You provided an important service – well done! Carolyn Hamrick has agreed to serve as nursery coordinator. Dorris Baumann has provided this service for the last 15 years. We wish to give Dorris a huge thank you for her years of service to the Nursery.

## SonGames 2004 VBS of Champions – A HUGE Success – because of you!

Twenty-three non-church members/regulars attended VBS! Each evening 40-50 attendees enjoyed fellowship, songs, crafts, games and food. The menus and themes ranged from “Training Night” to “Time Zone Buffet”.



We indulged in fruit smoothies, McDonald’s apple pie, Scriptural fortune cookies, Caesar salad, S’mores and brats! The SonGames video series *Teaming Up at SonGames*, reinforced the importance of teamwork and encouragement. Via video, we met five athletes – including Jean Driscoll – who shared their testimonies and the importance of Christ in their lives. Crafts included sport pennants, visors, key chains and light switch covers. During Recreation Station, the young athletes played handball, water softball, held a decathlon and enjoyed a tennis workshop. (Thank you Lindsey and Kitty!) The weather at Sholem waterslides was perfect, as 61 people attended and gathered for SonGames private slide party. I was undefeated in the slide-off, until Nikki Shoudel splashed in moments before me.

SonGames Closing Ceremonies welcomed all volunteers and families for a BBQ, watermelon Seed Spitting Contest (Congratulations Mike Lehmann! ☺) and Awards Ceremony. A big thank you goes out to the Board of Christian Education, Women’s Fellowship, the Consistory, Building and Grounds Committee, the Champaign Park District, McDonald’s, parents, coaches (volunteers) and especially Rhonda Shoudel.

I love you all! Thank you!

*Lisa*



## Thank You Team Mates!

We'd like to thank these volunteers for making SonGames 2004 such a success.

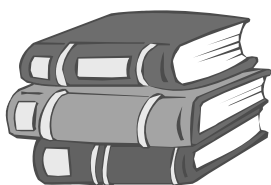
Rhonda Shoudel, Cheryl Lehmann, Linda McCarthy,

Carrie Thomas, Gladys Hemp, Lynn Goodall, Carolyn Yoos, Stuart Yoos, Carolyn Hamrick, Al Shoudel, J. C. Lynch, Bonnie Taylor, Karlene Ornelas, Ann Swearingen, Julie Healy, Paul Hemp, Linda Dahl, Bonnie Joop, Jim Acheson, Kurt Eheart, John Van Grinsven, Kitty Hallett, Ed Kobel, Denton Brown, Bill Limp, Mark Williams, Fern Eheart, Dorris Baumann, Lindsey Hallett, Robin Fisher, David Ho, Kellie Dahl, Abbey Knop, Ben Sterrett, Chris Lehmann, Amanda Burr, Maura Healy, Kym McCarthy, Maureen Sterrett, Courtney Lehmann.



## Library Notice

We are still missing our copy of *The Buddy Book* (for girls 5-8). If you have it, please return it **now**. Thanks!



*Children's Library  
Dorris Baumann*

P.S. Avoid a fine by returning books that you have by September 1, 2004.



## Church Mailbag

*On behalf of the Emmaus Homes clients, board of directors and staff, we extend our sincerest thank you for your gift. Your generous support assists us in caring for persons with developmental disabilities through residential care and day programs such as our Adult Continuing Education Program. We are deeply grateful for your contribution in support of our mission.*

*Sincerely,  
Judy Alexander, President & CEO  
Emmaus Homes, Inc.*

## A Message from St. Peter's Youth Director

Dear Friends,

Your youth programming continues to grow and we need your support! Please consider being a table parent at WINN. See Cheryl or Rhonda to sign up for an 8-week commitment. See LiAnne, Mark or Nancy to inquire about the WINN kitchen schedule – cooks and clean-up crews are needed each week. Please consider joining us and becoming a WINNER!

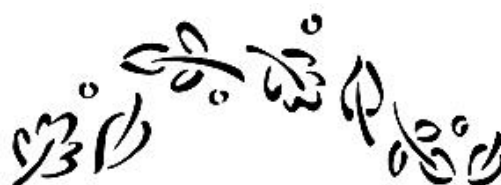
Also, a new, midweek worship service begins on September 15<sup>th</sup>. **WINN Worship** is a half hour service, contemporary and focused on youth and WINN themes. Together we'll worship through music, the Word and activities. Everyone, including table parents and senior choir members are invited to join us at WINN Worship from 6:15-6:45 p.m. every Wednesday night. Please note that WINN Worship will follow the WINN schedule and will not be held on field trip evenings or school breaks. See Lisa or the bulletin board for exact WINN Worship dates.

October 27<sup>th</sup>'s WINN theme is **Trick or Trunk** and we need your help to make it an awesome success! Please sign up at the bulletin board if you and your vehicle are interested! ☺ See Rhonda for details. *Tranquility*, the YPC, Youth Bells, the Lounge n'Library, a Praise Band, TWINN, and SHLURPEE are ready to roll as we ROCK St. Peter's with youthful, vibrant hearts – for Christ – for servanthood – and for our neighbors.

*Love, Lisa*

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the October issue of *Connections* is Wednesday, September 15. 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!



## Consistory Highlights – August 2004



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

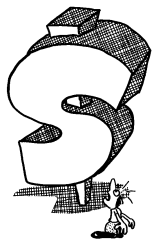
Barb Kobel of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee reported that the committee has had some feedback from members of the congregation regarding the suggested changes in the documents.

Larry Zahnd led the Consistory members downstairs and explained where the broken pipes were. The new compressor and burner have been moved into the furnace room and Bill Limp is in contact with the installers. After the old burner is removed, the new installation will be done. Larry also reported that the tiles in the floor where the pipes were repaired would need to be fixed.

The Budget Committee has recommended raises for all the staff members.

The Board of Christian Education has some new and innovative activities planned for the WINN program and also the Sunday school program.

There have been extra contributions made by some members of the congregation to help cover the recent crisis expenses. These contributions amount to a total of \$4500.



The General Treasurer provided the Consistory with a proposed budget for 2005. The members will study the report and have a special meeting after church service August 29<sup>th</sup> to vote on it. The budget will be distributed to the members of the congregation and a vote will be taken at the annual meeting on the third Sunday of October. The cash balance July 1 was \$9,262.79. Additions during the month were \$15,703.14. Deductions were \$16,255.86, leaving a cash balance of \$8,710.07.



## September Anniversaries

- 4 Jeff and Barb Jewett (1982)
- 6 Mike and Cheryl Lehmann (1986)
- 14 Ed and Carolyn Hamrick (1957)
- Ata and Amy Durukan (1996)

## With Deepest Sympathy



St. Peter's is greatly saddened by the death of long time member, Anna Gerth. Mrs. Gerth died August 20, 2004 at the age of 95. Anna was a daughter of Charley and Lena Ziegler Reifsteck. During her lifetime, Anna worked at the Illinois Glove Factory and Colwell Publishing. She enjoyed quilting, playing cards and gardening. Mrs. Gerth is survived by two daughters, Jean Christman and Betty Cekander, both of Champaign; three sisters, Mildred Holleman and Emma Kidd, both of Champaign, and Violet McDuffee of Urbana; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.



Anna will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family members.

## September Birthdays

- 1 Mark Williams
- 6 Dorris Baumann
- Dorothy Roberts
- 7 Michelle Records
- 8 Sally Pelg
- Ione Douglas
- 9 Shirley Sebens
- Robert Vaiden
- 12 Nicole Van Grinsven



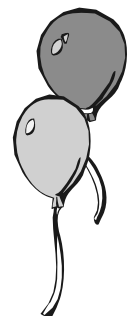
- 14 Ed Hamrick
- Landon

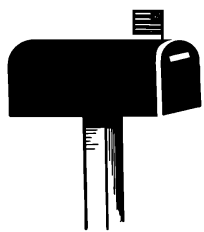


- Vowels
- 17 John D. Key
- Hilda Roberts
- 18 William Wingler
- Cheryl

## Lehmann

- 21 George Malloch
- 23 Nicole Shoudel
- 24 Maxine Colson
- Roberta Federhart
- 26 Mary Limp
- Marianne Hutcherson
- 27 Barb Dalenberg
- Donald Berbaum
- Kurt Eheart
- 28 Arlene Luer
- Katie Malone





## New Addresses

**Fred and Norma Rhines**  
30 Juniper Road, Apt. 44  
North Attleboro, MA 02760

**Ralph and Loreen Bonnell**  
401 Burwash, Apt. 202  
Savoy, IL 61874

## September Ushers

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

**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!*

## September Greeters

- 5 Ruth Schloz and Irene Van Rheeden
- 12 Violet McDuffee and Betty Matlock
- 19 Mike and Cheryl Lehmann
- 26 The Marcum Family

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## St. Peter's United Church of Christ Proposed Budget for 2005 – Explanations