



St. Peter's United Church of Christ

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# CONNECTIONS

November 2005



## From the Study

One of my favorite texts in the Bible is *1 Corinthians 12:4-13*, which reminds us that diversity has always been a reality in the church. Rather than being a curse, diversity can be a blessing. Despite our diversity, we are reminded that our oneness is in Jesus Christ.

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”

The Apostle Paul then uses the body analogy to reflect that everyone has an important role. Our gifts may be different, but we have equal worth. Paul asks: can the body do without some of its parts? The body can, but obviously the body is diminished if it does not have all of its parts.

Paul then concludes his thoughts on diversity with *1 Corinthians 12:26-31*: “If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles,

second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.”

The excellent way is explained by the Apostle Paul in *1 Corinthians 13*, “The Great Love Chapter.”

“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”

Recently, I read a letter I had received over 20 years ago reminding pastors and local leaders of the church that while we are elected to our position as

pastor or lay leader by our neighbors and friends, we are “set in office under Christ”. “We are not therefore called to do the will of the people but to lead the people in doing the will of God.” I believe to fulfill Christ’s call is to use the gifts we are given to show love to those we meet in our daily encounters. Please reflect as you read the texts of this column, what are the unique gifts that God has given me? How can I demonstrate *1 Corinthians 13* love to others? May we do these assignments with the attitude of Thanksgiving as we prepare for our national and religious holiday of Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

With warm regards, **Pastor Glenn**



**St. Peter's  
Spotlight**

### In the Spotlight this month — Coffee “Makers” Needed

Volunteers are needed to make coffee for Fellowship Time on all of the Sundays in November. If you are able to cover one of these days, please sign up on the bulletin board or call Stuart Yoos at 469-7108.

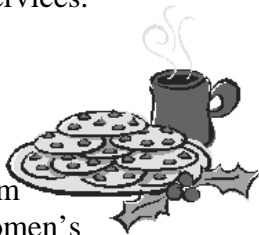
Volunteers are also needed to make or purchase a snack for Fellowship Time. Volunteers may sign up for coffee, snack or both. If you have any questions, please call Stuart Yoos or the Church Office. Please help however you can. Thanks!



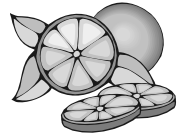
**Note:** During the months of November and December, Fellowship Time on Contemporary Worship Sundays (third Sunday) will be held between the morning worship services.

### Cookies and Crafts and Treasures — Oh My!

On Saturday, November 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 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 2 or from 4:30-7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 4. You may donate gently used or new items, for example: books, purses, jewelry, decorative items, and dishes. Questions? Call Rhonda Shoudel at 352-3353.



## UCC Campus Ministry Annual Citrus Sale



**When:** Sunday, November 6, 2005

**Where:** St. Peter’s UCC

**Who:** Students of our UCC Campus Ministry

All proceeds go directly to help fund the programs of our campus ministry including our Break Away Spring Break Work Trip to Jackson, Mississippi to work with Habitat for Humanity. Please make checks payable to UCC Campus Ministry.

## Hanging of the Greens

Come join us for St. Peter’s festive start to the advent season with our annual Hanging of the Greens. We will meet immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 20. We are hoping to have enough hands to make the workload light and enjoyable for all. We would like to have the decorating completed within an hour and half so we may enjoy a meal out together (at a restaurant to be determined that day).



## Women’s Fellowship Annual Meeting

The Women’ Fellowship Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, November 20 immediately following worship. We will meet in the Lounge. This is a brief meeting to elect new members to the board and adopt our 2006 budget. We hope to conclude the meeting in record time so that we may join the others in the Hanging of the Greens.

## Contemporary Worship Services

Join us this fall, on the third Sunday of the month at 8:45 a.m. for uplifting and inspirational worship services led by our newly formed Worship Praise Team. Contemporary services include an inspirational message based on Scripture in addition to a variety of dramatic techniques (Reader’s Theater, puppets, dramatic readings, dance and movement). Contemporary services are intended for people of all ages.

**November 20**

“Pay It Forward”

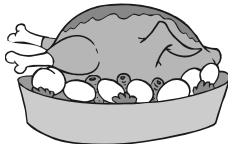
**December 18** “From the Heart or From the Store?”

## Tuesday Circle Schedule

Mark your calendars to join us for these Tuesday Circle activities. We will work on Christmas gifts at 1:30 p.m. on November 22. On December 13, you won't want to miss the All Church Christmas at 3:00 p.m. at the Malloch home followed by a light supper at 5:00 p.m.

## Thanksgiving Office Schedule

The St. Peter's Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.



## Thankful WINN-ers

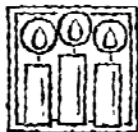
November is full of thankful fun for the WINN Program. Check out the schedule listed below. If you have any questions regarding WINN, please call Rhonda Shoudel at 352-3353 or Kitty Hallett at 355-9316.

- November 2 Souper Helper Homeless Night featuring soup
- 9 God Bless America featuring meatloaf
- 16 Cosmic Turkey Throwing featuring turkey and all the fixin's
- 23 No WINN (Thanksgiving Break)
- 30 Happy Unbirthday to You! featuring pizza and cake



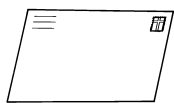
## Acolytes and Liturgists Needed

If you'd like to serve as an acolyte or liturgist for Sunday worship, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the Pastor's office.



## 2006 Offering Envelopes Available

Numbered offering envelopes for 2006 are available. If you do not currently have an envelope number and would like a set of pre-numbered envelopes, please contact Bonnie in the Church Office. The offering envelopes will be available to be picked up during worship services in the month of December.



## Consistory Highlights

*Editor's Note: The following notes from the October meeting are for your information only.*



*Minutes and actions of this meeting will not be approved until the November meeting.*

The Building and Grounds Committee reported that the boiler has been checked and is ready for the winter season. Bids are being considered for some interior and exterior painting. Some new tables for Fellowship Hall have been purchased and committee members have done some other repairs in the church.

Women's Fellowship reported that the chicken noodle dinner was a success and reminded everyone of the cookie, craft and white elephant sale on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Start baking now!

The contemporary services have been well received and the Consistory gave the Praise Committee the OK to start planning further services after the trial period ends in December.

## 2006 Nominees for Consistory and Board of Christian Education

At the October 23 Annual Meeting, the following candidates for the Board of Christian Education and the Consistory were approved.

Board of Christian Education – Amy Durukan, Julie Healy, Katie Malone

Consistory – Jeff Hallett, Phyllis Jones, Linda McCarthy, Rhonda Shoudel

Brief biographical information for these candidates follows.

**Jeff Hallett** – I have been attending St. Peter's since sixth grade and was confirmed as a member 30 years ago. I met my wife, Kitty, at St. Peter's when we were in junior high school. We were married at St. Peter's in 1986. After an absence for medical training, we returned to St. Peter's in 1993. We have two children – Lindsey, age 16 and William, age 13.



**Phyllis Jones** – I have been a member of St. Peter’s United Church of Christ for most of my life. I am currently a member of the Choir and the Tuesday Evening Circle. As a member of the Tuesday Evening Circle, I serve as treasurer. As a teenager, I was a member of the youth group, sang in the choir and played piano for the devotional period prior to Sunday school.

My work experience includes six years as an elementary teacher with the Champaign schools and 28 years as a secretary at the University of Illinois. I worked in the Office of Campus Life for the Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services for the majority of this time. Duties in this position were diverse. They included manuscript typing, helping with organizing banquets, designing the banquet programs, maintaining the mailing list for the annual summer wheelchair sports camps, collecting the tuition fees for camp, and completing the forms necessary for payment of camp expenses and referee’s fees for tournaments and meets.

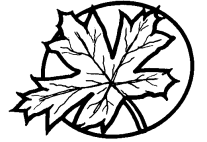
If elected, I will do my best to serve the church well.

**Linda McCarthy** – I have been attending St. Peter’s since 1990. I have a son, Kris and a daughter, Kymberly. As a member of St. Peter’s I have been on several committees and have helped out in several ways. Some of them are: as a member of the Board of Education twice serving as Chair both times; co-director of WINN as well as helped in other capacities; helped with Vacation Bible School several times; worked the Chicken Noodle and Sausage suppers.



**Rhonda Shoudel** – I have been a lifetime member of St. Peter’s. My husband, Al, and I were married here in 1978. We have two daughters, Heather and Nicci, both in college. In recent years, I have been WINN Co-Director and Director; as well as Co-Leader of Senior High Youth and *Tranquility*. I am currently the chairperson of Youth Advisory and Women’s Fellowship. This December, I will finish my term on Board of Christian Education and look forward to serving on the Consistory.

**Amy Durukan** – I have been affiliated with St. Peter’s all my life. I was baptized, confirmed and married at St. Peter’s. My parents, Jim and Jill Acheson, continue to be active members of the church. My husband, Ata, and I have a three-year-old daughter, Erin, who will attend Sunday school soon. My family enjoys being active in many local organizations. I graduated from UI in 1993 with a liberal arts degree, and now own and operate a small travel business out of my home. It would be a privilege to serve on the Board of Christian Education and I look forward to contributing to the life of St. Peter’s.



**Julie Healy** – I am honored to be nominated to the Board of Christian Education. I have a background in education with a particular interest in early childhood education. I am the co-director of Mother’s Morning Out childcare center in Champaign where I have worked for the past 14 years. I believe that my experience with young children and their developmental abilities will be an asset on the Board of CE.

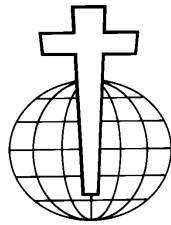
My family first became affiliated with St. Peter’s through the WINN program. Over the years, we have become more involved in St. Peter’s many other worship offerings. My daughter, Maura, has been attending WINN since 1997. Since that time, her siblings, Emma and Aidan, have joined her in participating in WINN. Maura was confirmed here and is a church member. While I would consider myself a regular and dedicated attendee at St. Peter’s, I currently remain a church member at the First Congregational Church in Toulon, Illinois. I grew up in that church and all of my immediate family members still worship there. While I am seriously considering a dual membership at St. Peter’s, that tie to the church of my childhood is one that I cherish.

My husband, Bob, and I consider St. Peter’s UCC the church home for our family. We have had many wonderful experiences here and plan to continue to do so in the years to come.



## International Disaster Relief

The UCC has set up a fund for relief of disasters. If you would like to contribute to help the victims of the most recent earthquake in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan you may send your check payable to:



Illinois Conference of UCC  
1840 Westchester Boulevard, #200  
Westchester, IL 61054

Please designate in the memo section, "International Disaster".

Thank you and Blessings,  
*Jane Fisler Hoffman*

Conference Minister of the Illinois Conference



## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the December issue of *Connections* is Tuesday, November 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!

## November Greeters

- 6 Jill and Jim Acheson
- 13 Jeff Jewett Family
- 20 Linda and Kymberly McCarthy
- 27 Vera Wachter and Paul Crusius

## November Ushers

Carolyn Hamrick	Ann Swearingen
Ed Hamrick	Richard Swearingen
Mark Sterrett	Evelyn Weber



## November Anniversaries

- 9 Roy and Maxine Colson (1941)
- 20 James and Sally Martinie (1976)



## November Birthdays

- 4 Sean Berry
- 7 Ken Baumann  
Clayborn Lofton
- 8 Jocelyn Spitzer Voss
- 9 Evelyn Weber
- 12 Barbara Schaeede
- 13 Michael Martinie
- 14 Cal Casey
- 15 Jessie Schlorff  
JoAnn Malloch
- 18 Dorothy Woller
- 19 Larry Zahnd
- 20 Barb Kobel
- 21 William Lyons  
Lisa Trost
- 23 Doris Drake
- 25 Pam Bostwick
- 26 Bobbie Burr



- 27 Esther Lyons  
Barb Jewett  
Jim Berbaum
- 28 Elton Roberts
- 29 Cara Marcum  
Pam Berbaum  
Christie

Taube

- 30 Dorothy Yates

**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 12:00 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!**



## A Word about the Future from a Voice of the Past

A child is a person who is going to carry on what you have started. He is going to sit where you are sitting, and when you are gone, attend to those things you think are important. You may have all the policies you please, but how they are carried out depends on him. He will assume control of your cities, states, and nations. He is going to move in and take over your churches, schools, universities, corporations . . . the fate of humanity is in his hands.

– *Abraham Lincoln*