



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
 905 S. Russell Street
 Champaign, IL 61821
 217-356-3635
 E-mail: stpeters_ucc@msn.com
 Web Site: stpetersucc.com



CONNECTIONS


October 2005



From the Study

We are saddened by the hurricane named Katrina, which did great damage to persons in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana including the city of New Orleans. Our church is responding with a special offering, which will go to our Illinois Conference Office to be combined with giving from other local U.C.C. churches to the "Hope Shall Bloom" offering which will be channeled to Church World Service and other U.C.C. ministries which have been affected by this storm. The goal of this special offering is three million dollars.

Some of this offering will be shared among the following needs which are on the U.C.C. website. Already, the UCC has made significant pledges of financial support to:

- **Church World Service**, which is leading hands-on emergency relief and rescue. 
- **Slumber Falls Camp**, the South Central Conference's outdoor ministry in New Braunfels, Texas, which is housing evacuated residents of the Gulf Coast Region.
- The UCC's **Southeast Conference**, at the request of the Rev. Andrew Young, which is providing food to evacuees in Atlanta through the Hosea Williams Feeding Program.
- The **Amistad Resettlement Project** of the Community of Faith Church (UCC/Disciples of Christ) in Houston, which is working to resettle 50-100 families.
- UCC-related **Back Bay Mission** in Biloxi, Mississippi, which was devastated by the storm and remains standing in five feet of water. (In another e-mail, I learned that the buildings at Back Bay have had great damage, and the hope is that trailers can be brought on site in order for the mission to continue its service.)

The UCC's national setting is also wiring a portion of the donated funds directly to the UCC's Southeast and South Central Conferences so that money will be available immediately as local needs arise. (I am aware that we have nine churches in the city of New Orleans. Dillard University, which is one of our historic black schools and is located in New Orleans, has also suffered significant damage.)

I encourage those of you with computers to keep up-dated by going to our national U.C.C. website: www.ucc.org. You can also Google the website for Church World Service whose headquarters are in Elkhart, Indiana. Church World Service is a cooperative effort by many Protestant denominations in order to respond to needs.

In addition to our financial support, please keep the affected people in our prayers. Please keep David Wentz, a member of our congregation, in your prayers. David is near New Orleans with the National Guard.

Is there any other way that we can help? A member suggested that we might host a family during this next year. I believe this is an excellent idea. What are your thoughts?



During this next month, we will be planning for next year including our prospective budget and our stewardship drive. It will be a challenge, but remember the challenge of nine U.C.C. churches in New Orleans whose members are dispersed. How do they make plans for 2006?

This next year, 2006, will be a big challenge. However, with God's grace we will be able to meet the challenge. See you in church.

With warm regards,
Pastor Glenn

Happy Anniversary Ed and Barb!



On Saturday, October 1, Ed and Barb Kobel will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception hosted by their children – Patty, Nancy, and Mike – will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. St. Peter's congregation, family, and friends are invited to attend.

Can You Lend a Hand On October 2 or October 9?

Volunteers are needed to make coffee for Fellowship Time on October 2 and October 9. 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 October, November and December, Fellowship Time on Contemporary Worship Sundays (third Sunday) will be held between the morning worship services.

WINN "Falls" into Autumn

October is full of fall 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.

- | | | | |
|---------|----|--|---|
| October | 5 | It's a surprise ??? | |
| | 12 | Show & Tell
featuring chicken nuggets |  |
| | 19 | Oktober Fest
featuring bratwurst and hot dogs | |
| | 26 | Trick or Trunk Family Halloween
Night (don't miss the ghooooolash!) | |



Chicken Noodle Dinner – It's Here!



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 15 in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are available by calling the Church Office at 356-3635. Adults are \$8, 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!

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.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| October 16 | "It's A Matter of Time" |
| November 20 | "Pay It Forward" |
| December 18 | "From the Heart or From the Store?" |



In the Spotlight this month — **Don't miss the Annual Congregational Meeting!** This year's meeting will be held on Sunday, October 23 immediately following worship. See you there!

Tuesday Circle Fall Schedule

Mark your calendars to join us for these Tuesday Circle activities. On October 25, meet at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to work on banners. We will work on Christmas gifts at 1:30 p.m. on November 23. 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.



For a “Howling” Good Time, Join Us!

Whoooo: Friends and Families of St. Peter’s

What: WINN’s 2nd Annual “Trick or Trunk”

When: Wednesday, October 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
(If you don’t want to join us for dinner, the event begins promptly at 6:30 p.m.)

Where: St. Peter’s UCC Fellowship Hall

Why: As part of WINN, our mid-week youth program, we would like to incorporate a fun intergenerational Halloween activity.

We need your help! We need you to bring treats to hand out to approximately 35 kids as they circulate amongst the trunks (rear end of vehicles). We would like you to have as much fun with this as possible!

☐ Dress up

☐ Decorate your vehicle

☐ Be prepared to interact with children and youth in a short activity (easy for all) we will provide for you.



Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway. Our goal is to have a minimum of 20 vehicles to fill the front and back parking lots. We would be chilled and thrilled to have more than 20 sign up.



Please see Rhonda, Kitty or Lisa for further information. Thank you!

Make It – Take It



St. Peter’s Craft Club is sponsoring a 6” x 6” Scrapbook Class on Saturday, October 29 from 9:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will use a

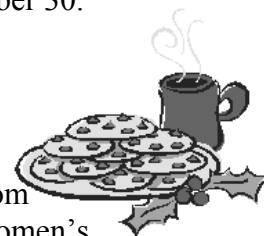
variety of techniques and embellishments to complete 12 double page layouts (24 pages total) for a 6” x 6” album. The pages will be themed so that a completed book will cover months/seasons throughout the year. The class fee is \$30 plus the cost of the album (your choice of color). To register for the class or to get more information, please check the flyer on the bulletin board or call the Church Office.



It’s Time to Fall Back!

Don’t forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, October 29. Daylight Savings Time ends on October 30.

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.

Kudos!

Please help give a big thank you to our September Nursery Attendants – Julie Healy, Patty Kobel, Diana Pointer, Ann Swearingen. Every week, St. Peter’s is fortunate to have these loving volunteers care for our children in the Nursery.

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.



Welcome New Members

St. Peter’s welcomed Gary and Norma Hollen into membership on Sunday, September 11. Gary is retired and Norma is a secretary at U of I. The Hollens have two adult sons. Welcome Gary and Norma – We’re glad to have you with us at St. Peter’s!

New Books in the Library



For those women who attended the spring luncheon and heard the speaker tell of the role of quilts in the escape of slaves prior to the Civil War, *Hidden in Plain View* will be of special interest. This book tells the secret story of quilts and the Underground Railroad.

For *Chicken Soup* lovers, *Chicken Soup for the Nature Lover's Soul* is now available. Inspiring stories of joy, insight and adventure in the great

outdoors are told in this new book.

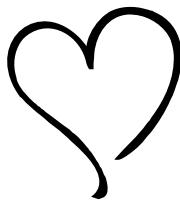
The "no checkout" books are now in alphabetical order by author. Jill Acheson has donated more books, several by Alan Drury. These books are on a "take and return" basis. Many church members have enjoyed having this casual section of novels from which to choose.

From Building and Grounds — Old Print Room

Many items are being stored that possibly should be thrown away. This room is not a storage room. It contains electric panels, heating unit and pipes from boiler that need to be accessible for repair. Plus this area does get water on the floor from time to time. Anyone or any organization that has items in this area should check out what can be thrown away and throw the items away. Any items that need to be saved should be discussed with Building and Grounds to decide where to store them. November 5 is the deadline for removing items. After that date, they will be discarded.

Hospice Volunteers Needed

Provena Covenant Hospice Care Program is currently recruiting compassionate and caring individuals for various volunteer opportunities. Volunteer training classes will begin early in October and will consist of a total of 20 hours. Please call (217) 337-2296 for more information or to sign up.



Church Mailbag

Thank you all for your care and concern:

I want to thank all of you for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits during Bill's illness. This is the first time that I have really realized what it is to have a church home and the support of all its members. I especially want to thank Pastor Glenn for his visits and phone calls. Thanks to Bonnie for being lay reader at Bill's service. She really brought the scripture readings to life. Thank you to JoAnn Malloch and all the people who helped her put together the luncheon after the funeral. I love you all and really felt your love during this painful time.

Shirley Records

Dear Friends at St. Peter's,

Thank you for your very generous gift to the Center for Women in Transition. Community support such as yours has been the backbone and inspiration that empowers us to move forward. . . . This year we have much for which to be thankful. Not the least, we are grateful for community members such as you. Much appreciation for your years of support and faith.

Kathy Sims

Executive Director

My family and I are very appreciative of the expressions of sympathy from friends of St. Peter's Church.

I am especially thankful to Pastor Glenn for giving support so many times when I sorely needed it.

Sincerely,

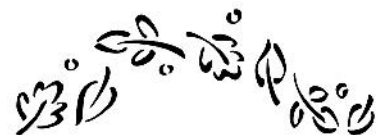
Velma Clark

My family at Saint Peter's,

Thank you all so much for making my tenure in Champaign a meaningful and happy one. You are such wonderful, warm, and loving people. I will always cherish my time with all of you.

Sincerely,

Jay Ivey



God has given us two hands – one to receive with and the other to give with.

Consistory Highlights

Editor's Note: The following notes from the September 18 Special Planning Meeting with Tom Norwalk are for your information only. Minutes and actions of this meeting will not be approved until the October meeting.



After worship on Sunday, September 18th, members of the Consistory, Board of Christian Education and Church and Ministry Committee met with Rev. Tom Norwalk. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the necessary steps St. Peter's needs to follow to prepare for the retirement of Pastor Glenn. Tom shared many important steps that the search committee will need in the process. He will meet with the search committee a couple of times after the committee is chosen. He also discussed the process of calling an interim pastor for temporary duty and the necessary paper work that needs to be completed before Pastor Glenn retires.

The group also had a "brainstorming" session to discuss the needs and goals of St. Peter's. It was decided to form a "Greater Consistory Committee" composed of leaders of all the groups in the church to meet once a month for one hour after worship on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Bill Malone will chair the committee.

With Deepest Sympathy

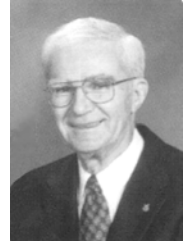
The Congregation of St. Peter's was saddened to hear of the death of Jama Fager's mother, Romanelle Lloyd. Mrs. Lloyd lived in Indiana. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jama, her children (Rochelle Pope and Debra Cushing) and their families.



St. Peter's is deeply saddened by the deaths of two longtime members. **Marie M. Mayer** died August 30, 2005 at the age of 83. Marie was born in Thomasboro, a daughter of Arthur H. and Marie M. Schlorff Mayer. Survivors include a sister, Helen A. Schwartz of Kankakee and a brother, Arthur H. Mayer of Champaign. Marie worked as a printer for a book company for 30 years before retiring. She enjoyed embroidering.

William Norman Records died September 1, 2005 at the age of 78. Bill was born in Placentia, California, a son of William Rodgers and Golda Margaret Campbell Records. He married Shirley Suzanne Seibert in 1958 in Maywood, New Jersey.

Bill served in the Army from July 1944 to July 1946 during World War II. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in June 1949 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He worked at the Bureau of Public Roads (Federal Highway Administration), retiring in May 1982 after 35 years of service. After retiring, Mr. Records attended Prairie State College and earned an associate's degree in computer programming.



During his retirement years, Mr. Records was a very active volunteer for numerous charitable causes including recording textbooks for blind students, testing newborn babies for hearing defects and transporting tissue for an eye bank. In addition, he worked in a food bank warehouse, delivered meals on wheels and donated blood.

Bill was treasurer of Prairieland Community Supported Agriculture, treasurer of the Champaign County Genealogical Society, president of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees Illinois Chapter 0348 and secretary of the NARFE Illinois State Federation. He was a member of the Lion's Club; a life member of the Chi Epsilon, Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Tau Beta Pi honorary societies; a former member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; and a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Bill had a lifelong interest in history and genealogy and he enjoyed photography, wines and crossword puzzles.

Bill was an active member of St. Peter's. In 2004, St. Peter's was blessed with an intensive inventory of our building, which Bill conducted and completed by himself.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley; a daughter, Melissa A. Records of Champaign; two sons: David T. Records of Bartlett and Jonathan A. Records of Appleton, WI; a sister, Barbara L. Tiholiz of Reno, NV; a granddaughter, Michelle; and a step grandson, Xavier.

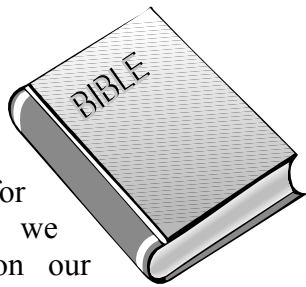
Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of Marie and Bill.

Bibles for Angola

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you.

Several weeks ago we started our "Bibles for Angola" campaign, and we wanted to update you on our progress. With a goal of 1000 Bibles, we currently have funds for over 500 Bibles either pledged or already given. We are well on our way!



When we talked with our Angolan church partners about building our relationship with them, they let us know that they could use more Bibles, and lots of them. We recently learned more about this need. More than thirty years ago there was no real shortage of Bibles for the Congregationalists in Angola. There were then many fewer Christians and many more resources. Now, three years after the end of the civil war, there are many more Christians, and many fewer resources. Sometimes the older church members now bring to worship their old, tattered Bibles, which they managed to save from before the war.

The church in Angola is not yet expecting to get a Bible in the hands of every church member. That would mean getting 800,000 Bibles! Their current



goal is to get Bibles to those lay leaders who carry the burden of most of the teaching in the congregations. They have under 150 pastors for 800,000 people, so the lay leaders teach children, young people at confirmation,

adults becoming Christian, and more. Because of the ravages of war, there are some congregations, especially new congregations, in which no one has a Bible.

Remember, we are encouraging each church to give at least \$40 to fund four Bibles. If you have already given or pledged – THANK YOU! If you have yet to do so, can we count on your four, or forty, or more? Let us know by emailing or calling Mike Solberg (mikesolberg@secondcon.com, 815-963-8431), or calling Naomi Else in the Conference office (708-344-4470). When you are ready, just send a check directly to the Illinois Conference, noted for Angola Bibles.

With joy and thanks,

*The Illinois Conference –
Angolan Partnership Team*

Wisdom's Worth

Wealth, Poverty, and Value in Wisdom Literature

On Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 15, Professor Timothy J. Sandoval will offer three lectures on the core values found within Biblical wisdom teaching and theology. The lectures will be presented at Community United Church of Christ in Champaign. Professor Sandoval is Associate Professor of Hebrew Scripture at Chicago Theological Seminary with primary research interests focused on wisdom literature. The cost for three lectures is \$35 and includes lunch. If you wish to attend, please take a copy of the brochure from the bulletin board outside the Church Office.



B(e)aring the Image

An Overnight Lock-in for Jr. & Sr. High Youth of The Eastern Association



6:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

October 21-22, 2005

Community UCC, Champaign
\$30 per person

Cost includes a concert with
"Lost and Found".

For more information and to make your reservation, please contact the

Eastern Association Office

700 E. Ninth Street

Lockport, IL 60441

Phone: (815) 836-0745

Fax: 815-836-0759

Email: ileastucc@comcast.net

"All people bear (are made in) the image of God."

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the November issue of *Connections* is Monday, October 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!



New Addresses

Jay and Brooke Ivey

612 S. State Road 446, Apt. 26A
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 322-5425
jayivey@hotmail.com



Ruth E. Schloz

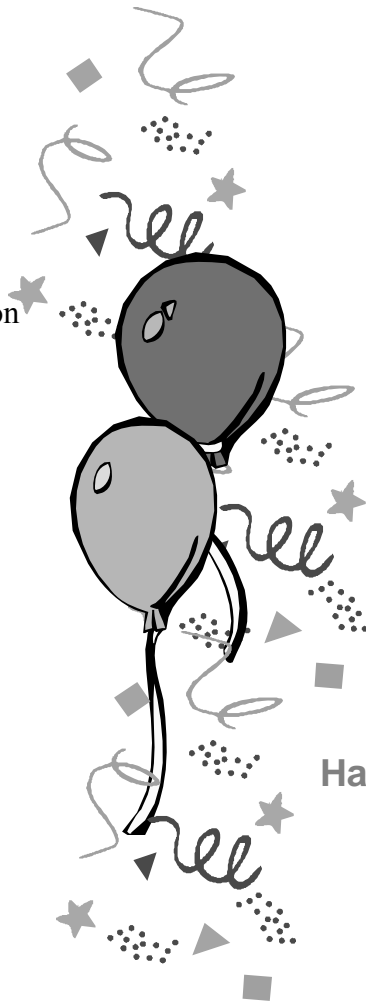
Clark-Lindsey Village
101 W. Windsor Road, #4314
Urbana, IL 61802-6663

October Ushers

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

October Birthdays

- 1 Marie Kuhlman
Jill Acheson
- 3 Lola Tennyson
John Colson
Amy Durukan
- 4 Betty Smith
- 5 William Henderson
- 8 Jim Acheson
- 10 Mark Sterrett
- 13 Karlene Ornelas
- 15 Bernice Mueller
- 17 Mike O'Neill
- 18 Marilyn Foster
Cory Rolfe
- 19 Glenda Smith
- 21 Robert Lewis
Susie Kuhne
Lee Eichhorst
Dale Pelg
- 23 Wilma Bennett
Maralena Taube
- 24 Jessica Jewett
- 28 Mary Ziegler
- 30 Ed Pelg
Daniel Wingler



Ha ha
Ha ha

October Greeters

- 2 Bob and Eloise Heller
- 9 Geoff and Linda Dahl
- 16 Richard and Ann Swearingen
- 23 Bill and Debby Malone
- 30 Lloyd Phipps



October Anniversaries

- 1 Ed and Barb Kobel (1955)
John and Sharon Van Grinsven (1977)
- 20 Walter and Genevieve Claussen (1945)

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. **Thanks for your help!**

Tee Hee

You who Laugh – Lasts!

Tee Hee

It's been said that it's potent enough to lower blood pressure, ward off colds and stifle the flu – and help you to sleep better and even lose weight. What is this miracle tonic and where can it be found? Down deep in your own belly. No joke. Good old-fashioned laughter is getting a lot of attention for boosting the immune system and improving overall health. How? The answers vary, but the theory goes like this: Just as grief and anger can suppress the immune system, mirth can strengthen it.

Laughter creates a unique physiological state, with changes in the immune system opposite to those caused by stress. Regardless of its physical effects, laughter remains good for the soul – so boost your dose with these:

- ☺ Socialize. People laugh nearly 30 times more often in social settings than they do when alone. So get together with friends, family and coworkers for a chuckle.
- ☺ Look for a shared sense of humor in friends. It can provide the foundation for a life-long bond.
- ☺ Make an effort. In conversation, be animated, spice it up or exaggerate for humor's sake. It's easier to be dull than to be witty, so don't be lazy.
- ☺ Laugh early – and laugh long. Send a quick and funny e-mail to a friend before heading to work, or catch a morning cartoon with the kids. Enjoying a few minutes of looniness in the morning can change your mood for the rest of the day.

Prayer: *O God lighten our spirits! Remind us to be silly and fill us with your deep chuckle. Amen.*

reprinted from Advocate Health Care

Ho ho

Ho ho