



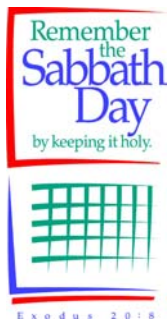
St. Peter's United Church of Christ
 905 S. Russell Street
 Champaign, IL 61821
 217-356-3635
 E-mail: office@stpetersucc.com
 www.stpetersucc.com



A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Sabbath. What does that word conjure up for you in your mind? Most of us, I bet, are thinking thoughts of that blessed 7th day when we are encouraged to rest because God rested. Oh. Did I say "encouraged"???? I meant **COMMANDED!** Commanding someone to rest is not easy. We have people to see, places to go, things to do! We get distracted, we have obligations, we are invited to events! However, Sabbath is a time of rest . . .



a time to be with our family and friends. Sabbath is a time for building up our relationship with God, however doing that is best for you. Sabbath is a time to consider what kind of stewards we have become. This season, we're focusing on the "Light" of God. It's God's glorious light that shines in our lives and through us so that others will see the glory of God. Here's how you can be the light of the world.

Time. God created, made, worked, thought, planned, schemed, talked with the world. God created order and peace out of chaos and confusion. God didn't just rest on the seventh day, but God created that day for us. That day was to be celebrated as a day of enjoyment of the creation and each other. God took the day off of ordering and creating . . . so that God could hang out with us. Time is meant to be ordered and structured at times. And at those other times, we are to be enjoying God and each other. Time is a stewardship issue . . . look at your life. If your light is shining 24/7 (all the time) your energy may burn out too fast. If your light is too dim, you may not be able to see what God has given you! Ask yourself: How much time are you giving what? See where you need to make changes in your life so that Sabbath will be celebrated. If you're too alone, find a way to spend time with more people and with your God. If you're too busy with others, find a way to spend time in prayer and mediation. It's all about balance! There's a time for light and a time for darkness, and God called it good.

Talent. We don't even have to begin talking about how talented our God is . . . God is the inventor of talent . . . and rejoices whenever we discover that talent in ourselves and in each other. Gifts of the Spirit are abundant. God gives us what we need to accomplish

God's will . . . and so you never know the talent you will be given. Sometimes we are surprised at older ages of our lives . . . when we suddenly discover we have new talents. Sometimes, we yearn for talents we had when we were younger. Some talents live with us forever. This stewardship season, think about the light of God and how it shines through you. How are you using the talents and gifts God has given you to build up the kingdom of God in this place? Look around at what our church needs . . . what can you offer? If you have an idea, share it! If you see something that needs to be done, do it! God has given each person gifts. If you need help finding them, let me know!



Treasure. For God, currency is a relatively new thing in history. God didn't create money on any of those first seven days. Money was a human invention, but a good one. It's another way of ordering our lives . . . so that we can justly trade with each other in ways that bring us what we need. Money is a tool for which we can bring about more light and love or chaos and confusion. Our world is most definitely experiencing the chaos and confusion. As people of faith, we might ask ourselves how we can order our own income and giving so that others will experience peace within our own lives and the lives of those around us.

Obey the Sabbath and keep it holy and you will be the light of the world!!!

Peace! Laurie

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 25 in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are available by calling the Church Office at 356-3635. Adults are \$8, children age 5-12 are \$5, 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!

Calling all Julianne lovers! Shhhhhh!



Julianne's last Sunday with us will be October 26. To celebrate her wonderful talented ministry with us, we are collecting a love offering for her. This will be collected by October

22 so we can present it to her on October 26. In the pews are envelopes with a little heart on them. You can use those envelopes, or just send it in the mail, bring an offering by, whatever your heart's desire, as long as your gift is clearly marked as Julianne's gift.

THIS IS A SECRET!!!! As she and her husband begin a new life and family in Mattoon, let us wish her God's peace and love with our generous love for her! Thanks!

Laurie

Family Movie Night!

All Ages Invited!

October 29, 5:30-7:30ish, Church Lounge

HOCUS POCUS



We're brewing the perfect potion for comedy and adventure with this Halloween treat you'll never forget!

Come in costume and enjoy the fun! You can bring a brown bag supper if you wish; snacks and drinks will be provided.

Please bring friends!

Tentative Future Schedule

December 3 — *Polar Express*

Totenfest — November 2nd

This year, we will be celebrating all those who are members who have passed into life eternal and also, we will celebrate friends and family members, as well. If

you would like to celebrate the life and the passing of someone you have loved in your life, please sign the person's name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hall. Make sure you have the right spelling and the date of death.



Important: As the time gets closer, you may want to inform the family of your friend and/or family member that they will be celebrated and invite them to worship.



St. Peter's has a new email address!

office@stpetersucc.com

Please make a note of this new email address. The old address will become inactive at the end of the year.

October 26: Higher Education Sunday



University of Illinois Students will be here to help us celebrate our loooong history of seeking knowledge! Two students will help us lead the service by reading Scripture and delivering the message that day.

Campus ministry student, Carl Duffield, will be the student speaker. Let's be here to welcome and hear their ways of interpreting God's word. This will help stretch our own minds to new perspectives of understanding the ways of our own U of I students. Please come and support our Campus Ministry!!!

Cookies and Crafts and Treasures — Oh My!



On Saturday, November 8 from 8:00

a.m. to 2:00 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. You may donate gently used or new items, for example: books, purses, jewelry, decorative items and dishes.

Called to Care: November 9th

Do you have a passion for those who are home and facility bound? Do you think to yourself that perhaps you should do something for those in our congregation who are suffering a crisis but don't know what to do? Have you thought, "Gee, someone should take meals to that person!" Have you thought before that our



congregation needs a list of those who are willing to drive church members to the doctor? Have you yourself felt lonely and wished someone from the church would drop by?

Here's your chance! I, with the help of LiAnne, our parish nurse, want to train a team of volunteers, normally called a "Care Team", (although that can change)...who are willing to do some of these things. This team doesn't do it all, but is a coordinating effort for the congregation. Having a care team doesn't mean other people can't do some of these things...it just coordinates the efforts of the congregation. I also would train you in how to visit someone in the hospital or nursing home, what to say, how to listen well, how to pray for others, how to respond in crisis, etc.. For this training, I need six hours of your time. After that, the team can meet quarterly for updates.

If you are interested in hearing and doing more . . . please meet with me right after worship on November 9, in the front of the sanctuary, where we can decide when and where to hold the training sessions. Bring your calendars! Thanks!

Pastor Laurie

Mark Your Calendars!



The Annual Congregation Meeting of St. Peter's UCC will be held following worship on Sunday, November 16. Biographical information for the Consistory and Board of Christian Education nominees is located on page 4. The proposed budget for 2009 begins on page 6. Please take a few moments to read these before the meeting and plan to attend this important event in the life of your church.



Hanging of the Greens and Chili Cookoff!

November 23 – Stay after worship to help decorate the church building for the Advent and Christmas season . . . and then, we will have a Chili Cookoff! Winner will win a prize to be announced later. Bring a crockpot of your favorite chili recipe . . . and we'll see if we can find the best chili maker in the church! Pastor Laurie has the recipe for the winning chili recipe in another church . . . can you beat it? She wants to see you try!!

Adult Bible Study Schedule "Bad Girls of the Bible"

Sunday School Hour 9:00 a.m.

October 26 – Chapter 6

"Delilah: Enemy or Entrepreneur?"
Judges 13-16

November 2 – Chapter 7

"Jezebel: Devious or Diva?"
1 Kings 16-19, 21

November 9 – Chapter 8

"Job's Wife: Foe or Foil?"
Job 1-3

November 16 – Chapter 9

"Gomer: Vixen or Victim?"
Hosea 1-3

November 23 – Chapter 10

"Herodias: Heartless or Hurt?"
Mark 6

November 30 – Chapter 11

"The Woman Caught in Adultery: Fallen or Forgiven?"
John 8: 2-11

Adult Crossings Wednesday Mornings 11:00 a.m.

October 22 – Chapter 3: "The Exodus"

October 29 – Chapter 4: "Sinai Covenant"

November 5 – Chapter 5: "Promised Land"

November 12 – No Study

November 19 – Chapter 6: "Davidic Rule"

November 26 – Chapter 7: "Jesus' Family Tree"

December 3 – Chapter 8: "Jesus' Life"

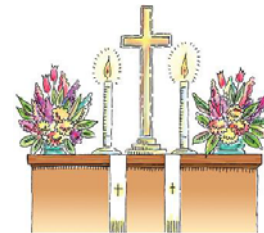
Follow the Rainbow



The Stewardship Committee hopes you have been enjoying the Stewardship Moments during the offering. Past moments include putting old cell phones to use through donation, praying when you hear an emergency vehicle's siren, and giving a special offering to the Neighbors in Need mission.

We have created a fun way to show how these actions can add up over time. Blank, colored cards can be found on the backs of the pews. Members are encouraged to write down the Stewardship Moments they have completed or to record any other acts of good stewardship in which they have taken part. Stewardship cards may be placed in the offering plates. The inclusion of the stewardship cards as part of the offering is symbolic of our giving through time and talents.

The cards will be added to the rainbow that was posted on the wall in the hallway across from the library in June. The rainbow started off bare but is now filling in nicely as stewardship cards are added to it. If we keep up the good work, the rainbow will eventually be completely filled. You are encouraged to take a look at the stewardship cards that have been submitted and see the wonderful acts of stewardship that St. Peter's members have been up to. If you ever find yourself wondering how you can be a good steward, just follow the rainbow!



Altar Flowers

Flowers gracing the altar add a touch of beauty to our worship service. Flowers can be an arrangement from a florist, or an arrangement from your own garden. They can be given in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special event such as a birthday, anniversary or graduation, or "just because." There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Many Thanks

☞ Carolyn and Ed Hamrick and the Choir for coordinating Fellowship Time during October.

Nursery Workers Needed

Volunteers are needed to provide care in the Church Nursery during worship. Please sign-up on the bulletin board or call Carolyn Hamrick if you'd like to help.





2009 Nominees for Consistory and Board of Christian Education

At the November 16 Annual Meeting, the following candidates for the Board of Christian Education and the Consistory will be presented for approval.

Board of Christian Education – Carolyn Hamrick, Melissa Records, Rhonda Shoudel

Consistory – LiAnne Kitchen, Gary Hollen, Bob Vaiden, Mark Williams (trustee)

Brief biographical information for these candidates follows.

Carolyn Hamrick – I'm an "old" member of St. Peter's . . . both in duration and age. I was confirmed at St. Peter's, married to Ed Hamrick here and we raised two sons in the great family presence of St. Peter's. They both have good memories. In the past, I've served in various capacities. Since WINN began, I have supported and felt privileged to be a part of it. I hope we can get it going again. Christian Education is an important part of St. Peter's. I would be honored to serve on the Board of Christian Education.

Gary L. Hollen – My wife, Norma and I have two sons and five grandchildren. To follow my profession as a plant manager in the shoe manufacturing industry, we found ourselves moving many times on the east coast, Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic. Over this 40-year span, we spent a lot of time in many different churches. After retirement we returned to Illinois to be near family. We were looking for a small friendly church and found it at St. Peter's United Church of Christ.

LiAnne Kitchen – I have been an active member of St. Peter's for about eleven years. During this time, my family and I have participated in many of the programs here at St. Peter's. About eight years ago, I started the Parish Nurse Program. Some of my past contributions include being a trustee, serving as Consistory President, serving as the chairperson of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, helping at Vacation Bible School and cooking for WINN.

Melissa Records – I was born in Washington, DC, where my family attended First Congregational United Church of Christ. I came to C-U to attend UIUC in 1978 and have lived here ever since. I sampled various local churches over the years, but I began attending St. Peter's when my parents invited me. While I've occasionally participated in church activities like WINN and most recently, working on Pastor Laurie's office, I look forward to becoming more involved. Over the years, my work and hobbies have often included some aspect of education, training and outreach. I am a librarian at the Champaign Public Library and I enjoy quilting, gardening, mountain bike riding and tai chi.

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. In past years, I have been Consistory President, Vice-President, WINN Co-Director and Director; as well as Co-Leader of Senior High Youth. I look forward to serving on the Board of Christian Education.

Bob Vaiden – I am a former machinist and school teacher, and have been a geologist with the Illinois State Geological Survey for almost 30 years; I have been a part-time instructor at Parkland College for 15 years, and act as Steward of Meadowbrook and Weaver Parks.

I have been a member of St. Peter's for about 25 years, acted as nursery attendant for several years, participated in the WINN program for years, and have pretended to be a tenor in the choir for over a decade. My wife, Judy, and I, have parented our three children here at St. Peter's.

Mark Williams – I have been involved in various aspects of television production for almost 30 years. Currently I am an Audiovisual Producer with the Illinois Farm Bureau in Bloomington. I create radio and television commercials plus corporate, educational, and informational videos. I also assist in Media Training classes which involve giving people practice and advice on being interviewed by a television reporter.

A native of rural Indianapolis, I have also lived in North Carolina and Colorado. I spent six years in the Air Force. During this time I maintained defensive weapons on B-52 bombers, then re-trained to operate and maintain seismic research and monitoring stations. Upon returning from a one-year assignment in Korea I served as a technical instructor in Denver. I graduated with honors from Butler University in Indianapolis with a degree in Radio and Television Production.

Sandy and I were married by Rev. Kalkbrenner in 1994. I have been involved in activities at St Peter's since about 1990. For the last several years I have been Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, an usher, and a frequent helper at various dinners and other church events. I am honored to be asked to be a Trustee and pray that I may serve wisely and well.



Newsletter Deadline

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

November Liturgists

November 2 – LiAnne Kitchen

November 9 – Bobbie Burr

November 16 – Carolyn Hamrick

November 23 – Stuart Yoos

November 30 – Advent Lighting, Week One



Church Mailbag

I wish to thank my friends at St. Peter's UCC for the cards and prayers at the time of my recent illness.

A very special thank you to Pastor Laurie Hill for her time, visits and prayers. May God's blessing to all.
Elvira Ebs

We want to thank everyone for your concern during George's brief hospital stay and also your cards and calls following the sudden death of Beth's husband. Your love is appreciated.

Beth Aquino, Rob and Tracie Trotter,
Jessi Trotter and Blake Kasper,
George and JoAnn Malloch

November Ushers

Carolyn Hamrick Mark Sterrett Richard Swearingen
Bill Kuhne Ann Swearingen Evelyn Weber

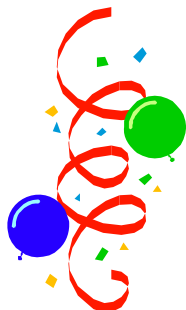


November Anniversaries

4 Steve and Laurie Hill (1978)

November Birthdays

- 4 Ken Adams
- Sean Berry
- 7 Ken Baumann
- Clayborn Lofton
- 8 Jocelyn Voss
- 9 Evelyn Weber
- 12 Barbara Schaede
- 13 Michael Martinie
- 15 JoAnn Malloch
- 18 Dorothy Woller
- Helen Phipps
- 19 Larry Zahnd
- 20 Barb Kobel
- 21 William Lyons
- 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



the CHORALE

The Chorale Celebrates 26 Years of Singing Together with a once-in-a-lifetime, "One of a Kind" choral experience.

Opening its 26th season, The Chorale presents a choral festival weekend with world renowned conductor/composer, Alice Parker. Ms. Parker travels the world conducting workshops, concerts and "sings" where participants of every age and experience learn to make



music with remarkable joy and clarity. During her weekend with The Chorale, Ms. Parker will share her techniques for maximizing the potential of singers at all levels during a Saturday, November 8 morning workshop. Those who touch the lives of others with

music and singing – choir directors, music teachers, singers, song/worship leaders, pastors – should be on hand when Ms. Parker shares her successful techniques for maximizing the potential of singers at all levels. Registration fee: \$25. The workshop will be held at St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 905 S. Russell Street, Champaign from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, November 8. Registration materials are available at www.thechorale.org or by calling 217-586-2970.

At 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, The Chorale presents its annual Celebration of Life Concert, "One of a Kind – American Folk", a program featuring the world premiere of *In Sacred Manner*, written by Alice Parker to celebrate The Chorale's quarter century of singing together. Poet and author of *In Sacred Manner*, Susan Palo Cherwein, will participate in the concert as well as one of the 2008 Young Artist Scholarship winners, Jennifer Roloff, on oboe. Ms. Parker and Chorale founding director Julie Beyler will each conduct The Chorale in selections by American composers. The concert is free to the public and will be held at Faith United Methodist Church, 1719 W. Prospect Avenue in Champaign.

On Sunday morning, November 9, the musical weekend concludes with one of Ms. Parker's famous "sings" incorporated in a worship service with emphasis on hymn singing. Open to everyone with music in their hearts, we will sing, listen, improvise and unite in "melodious accord." No charge. Open to the public at 11:15 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 309 W. Green Street in Urbana.

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. You may mail changes, place notes in the Office Manager's mailbox or send an email to office@stpetersucc.com. Thanks for your help!