

5 - 19 - 38 - 71...

No, I'm not a lottery Psychic!

These are just a few of the numbered offering envelopes available for 2010. If you would like to "adopt" one of these envelope sets, please contact Mary in the Church Office. If you currently have an envelope number, the envelope sets are available for pick up on the table in the Narthex.

Annual Giving Statements

Help Us Save Postage!

2010 Giving Statements will available to be picked up from the box AFTER January 7th. If you do not find your statement, please contact Mary in the Church Office. Statements not picked up by January 25, will be mailed. If you have any questions about your statement, please contact Mary.

Forwarding Service Requested

ST. PETERS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ST. PETERS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CONNECTIONS

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

My mother's best friend's name is Sue. Sue had a rotten 2010. Her daughter continued to have troubles keeping a job. Her son, is an active alcoholic. She had to drive him to work and back home every day due to too many DUI's. Her grandson has a personality disorder and is "difficult" to be around and blames her for his "difficult" mother. Her husband, who had chronic lung disease, died. And a few months later, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Sue is in her mid 70's and really can't be retired. She needs the money because her husband left her with incredible debt, not because of medical expenses, (but those don't help) because he was a chaser of dreams and thought of himself as an entrepreneur extraordinaire. I'm glad she has my mother and father to help her through some of these tough times. Her church is looking for a pastor and doesn't have an interim, but just a pulpit supply. He doesn't do "pastoral care", so there is no pastor for her at this point..but, she says, "I'm holding on!" One thing is for sure: She's thrilled that the year is OVER!

Sue is an example of someone I think of when I have little pity parties because she doesn't have many of them. She's a trooper! When she feels sad and sorry for herself, she nurtures and takes care of herself well and relies on the love of her church family to get through these difficult times. Pity parties for oneself, I believe, are okay as long as they don't last very long. It's important to pull out of them because there's so much to celebrate in life that we wouldn't want to miss the opportunity to express that joy that God has given us as a gift! Sadness is most definitely appropriate in many cases. If I were Sue, I'd be sad, as well. And I'd definitely be having regular pity parties. And at the same time, I'd be celebrating. Because, you see: Sue is alive and well. Sue's children, although addicted and having issues with employment, love her and at the same time, are not in jail. Sue is the organist at the church where my parents also are very active. She has a wonderful gift of music! Sue has a great job at the library that she enjoys a lot. When asked if she'd quit work if she didn't "have" to work, she said she would continue to work because she enjoys it so much. Sue has many friends who love her. Sue's cancer is stage 1 and her surgeon is confident that they "got it all" when they removed it. And so, even though she'll start out the year with chemotherapy, she'll most likely survive this illness. Sue is God's daughter and God will not allow her to sink into oblivion, darkness, chaos, and despair! After all. . .it's a new year!

In this new 2011, let's all remember that God's promises are sure and true. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. . .not wayward children, not cancer, not even death! Nothing! We are God's sons and daughters. We are God's family and whatever we do, as a family, we do in the name of God, and therefore it will shine hope and love and peace for all the world. So. . .what are our New Year's Resolutions? To be the best us and to be the best St. Peter's UCC we can be! That's what we're called to do and be. Amen!

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Focus Group Highlights

Present: Nancy Rabe, Laurie Hill, Melissa Records

So far this group has done mainly outreach-y activities, but Laurie (and the group) initially saw it as a kind of think tank. Can participate in activities, but the committees should be the main do-ers.

Laurie suggested that we get a calendar and have once a month people sign up to organize some fellowship activity (dancing, caroling, canoeing, movies, etc.). Already have some

annual fellowship activities (like the Valentine's dinner).

Easier to invite non-church members to social activities than to church.

Thinking about having a dance ... jazz band only available in the summer. Les had another idea (that Nancy subsequently emailed: sponsoring a church tailgate.

Also, maybe doing a Halloween Party rather than Trick or Trunk. Melissa

mentioned the importance of getting the ad in the newspaper. The library regularly has people calling up asking where they can go for Easter, Christmas, Halloween activities, and library staff rely on newspaper articles/supplements.

Almost everything we do activity-wise happens inside the building. Need to do more outside so that people can see us.

New Year's Resolution for church: MORE FELLOWSHIP

ACTIVITIES.

What about bringing back the Talent Show?

This group should meet quarterly.

Next meeting on February 10, 2011 at 12:00 at the Champaign Public Library café area.

Fellowship Activities

One of our goals for 2011 is "Getting to Know You". Some of us know each other really well and some of us don't know each other very well. And the best way to get to know each other is to spend time with each other. So, on the bulletin board, there is a sign up sheet, with each month listed for the new year. If you have an idea of an activity, please sign up to be the host. The activity doesn't have to be at the church; it can be anywhere! Then, as host, all you have to do is choose the date, the place, the time, what you'd like everyone to bring or do. . .and tell Pastor Laurie how you want it advertised. We will help advertise it in the bulletin and newsletter for you. Some possible events that have been suggested are: A Game night, A Dance, A Tail Gate Party, Bowling, Halloween Party, Picnic, Talent Show, etc.. the possibilities are endless!!!!

Annual Report Submissions

ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSIONS

Committee Chairs, it's the time again in the year where we need to start gathering your submissions for the 2010 annual report. Your submission should include: members of your committee, goals for 2010, activities and successes of 2010, and any goals you may have for 2011. If you need any guidance on your report don't hesitate to contact us and we can help make sure you cover all the essentials! Please submit your reports to the Church and Ministry Committee no later than January 16, 2011. Thanks!



In Memoriam- Helen Bernice Herr Schowengerdt



Helen Bernice Schowengerdt of Champaign died on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010, at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana.

Helen was born on April 19, 1917, near New Berlin, Ill.

Following graduation from MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Helen pursued a career in nursing and nursing education at noteworthy hospitals in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas, Ohio and Champaign until her marriage to Dr. William H. Schowengerdt in 1947. She was an educator, devoted wife and mother, and enjoyed her many friendships. She also enjoyed creating exhibits of her husband's rare orchids at Orchid shows throughout the Midwest, as well as participating in the work of state and national medical auxiliaries. She was an avid reader and storyteller, to which friends and family will attest.

She is survived by her three children, William (Catherine), Daniel (Jane) and Cathryn Schowengerdt; four grandchildren, Kate Rogers (Christopher), Christine, Cassandra and Will Schowengerdt; and a great-grandchild, Adeline Rogers. She is also survived by a cousin, Marilyn Egger (Auggie).

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents.

Memorials can be made to St. Peter's United Church of Christ, Crisis Nursery and Champaign County Humane Society.

Mayberry Bible Study

Mayberry won't meet again til January 18th: "Opie and the Spoiled Kid" is the episode and "The Value of Good Values" is the lesson

Thank You!!!

THANK YOU ST. PETER'S FAMILY for your Christmas gift!!!!

Your loving gift this year is deeply appreciated. It is received as a token of your love and support for the ministry we do together in Christ's name. Gratefully, Pastor Laurie

To St. Peter's Congregation-

I would like to thank you all for your Christmas Gift! It was an unexpected surprise that will be put to use on a UCC Mission trip I plan on going on this summer. The Love and Grace that I have received since coming on board has been such a light in my life and there are not enough words to say THANK YOU as lavishly as I would like. Have a joyous Christmas and Peace to your New Year!!

~Mary

December 19, 2010 Consistory Highlights

Officers for the new Consistory were determined. Phyllis Jones volunteered to continue as secretary, LiAnne Kitchen will continue as president, Melissa Records is vice president

The prices for the Chicken Noodle Dinner and Sausage Supper were raised to \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

Installation of the Consistory members will be January 9, 2011.

Editor's Note: The preceding notes from the December meeting are for your information only. Minutes and actions of this meeting will be approved at the January meeting.

Tuesday Morning Spiritual Walks

Our Tuesday morning "weight loss group" has "morphed" into something different! We have become a group that discusses our spiritual walk with God. We use a book to guide our discussions and thoughts on how God is shaping us and helping us to be the spiritually, mentally, and physically healthiest we can be. Although some of us continue to have weight loss goals as part of that goal to be the healthiest we can be, we also have other goals that are not weight related. Perhaps you're working toward letting go of grudges, or perfectionism. Perhaps you want to have a group of committed Christians to talk about your own ideas of what God's presence means in your daily life. Perhaps you have a goal to be more physically active or sing more or serve in missions more this year. If you would like to be a part of a group that supports each other in reaching all sorts of goals towards health and wellness through our spiritual walk with God on a day to day basis, please feel free to come. We meet Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am in the Lounge. We'd love to celebrate with you as you accomplish your goals. All are welcome!

Welcome to the World!

Kasten Lee Buschmann
 Born 8:57 am December 16th
 7lbs. 7oz
 20-1/2 In. long

Mom (Nicci Shoudel Buschmann) and Dad (Jeff Buschmann) and Kasten are all HOME and doing well. Congrats to them and to Grandma & Grandpa Shoudel!



Women's Fellowship News

The Women's Fellowship Board met in September to review the budget and plan financially for 2011. We decided that it was not feasible to have an annual meeting due to crowded fall schedule and poor attendance. Instead we are printing the planned budget and ask that you contact any member of the Board if you have questions or comments. We would like to point out changes including increasing local mission giving from \$200 to \$300, kitchen fund to \$1200 and misc. cleaning to \$2000. This would enable the Fellowship to hire a local firm to clean the floors in the entry, fellowship hall, and kitchen. You may or not know that Mark Williams preformed this task over the Thanksgiving weekend. Thank you so much, Mark.

The following women attend Board meetings: Amy Durukan, Patty Kobel, Bernice Benn, JoAnn Malloch, Gladys Hemp, Ann Swearingen, Bernadine Helbling, Cleo Pelg, Laurie Hill. Any woman in the church is welcome to attend and offer input.

Currently the Women's Fellowship Fund stands at \$11,001.32. There is \$9,717.20 in the Vanguard GNMV account.

Women's Fellowship Proposed Budget- 2011

Kitchen Fund	\$1,200.00
Postage & Supplies	\$ 230.00
Library	\$ 200.00
Craft Fair Advances	\$ 300.00
Christmas Decorations	\$ 200.00
Bulletin Board Supplies	\$ 20.00
Equipment	\$ 500.00
Alter Committee	\$ 200.00
Unbudgeted	\$ 500.00
Flowers	\$ 100.00
Sam's Club Fee	\$30.00
Misc. Cleaning	\$2,000.00
TOTAL:	\$5,480.00

Missions

Campus Ministry	\$500.00
Emmaus Home	\$ 500.00
Emergency Relief Fund	\$ 500.00
Center of Women in Transition	\$ 300.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 300.00
Restoration Urban Ministries	\$ 300.00
Empty Tomb	\$ 300.00
Salt & Light	\$ 300.00
Christian Health Ministry	\$ 300.00
TIMES Center	\$ 300.00
TOTAL:	\$3,600.00

Total Budget: \$9,080.00



Change of Address & Phone:

Diana Pointer
 411 Luria Lane
 Champaign, IL 61822
 217.355.4459

January 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 HEINRICH SCHMIDT
- 2 JUDY MOLLER VAIDEN
- 4 CELESTE HONN
- 5 DALTON TROTTER
- 6 JEFF HALLETT
- 7 SHIRLEY HOFFMAN
- 8 DORIS HERSHBARGER
NANCY RABE
- 9 LLOYD PHIPPS
- 10 SOPHIA KASPER
- 11 WILLIAM LIMP
CASSIDY MARCUM
- 13 HENRY VOIGTLANDER
- 14 BLAKE LEHMANN
- 15 DOTH SYSOUVANH
- 21 TED EICHHORST
- 22 JAMA FAGER
PAUL MARCUM
- 24 AILEEN SCHINDLER
- 26 SALLY MARTINIE
SHARI SCHULTZ
JEFF JEWETT
- 27 CLAYTON LEHMANN
- 31 JULIUS DEMLOW

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 29 JAMES & DOROTHY WOLLER (1960)
- 30 PAUL & GLADYS HEMP (1954)

JANUARY USHERS-

JIM ACHESON, BERNICE BENN, OMER BENN, AL SHOUEL, HOWARD RHODES

JANUARY ACOLYTE-

- (2) SAM SCHULTZ
- (9) ROY YOOS
- (16) ERIN DURUKAN
- (23) CAROLINA BARNARD
- (30) SAM SCHULTZ

JANUARY LITURGISTS

- (2) MARK WILLIAMS
- (9) SANDY WILLIAMS
- (16) BERNICE BENN
- (23) OMER BENN
- (30) BOBBIE BURR

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!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE- THE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY WILL BE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19TH. PLEASE HAVE ALL ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS INTO MARY BY NOON ON THE THIS DAY. THANKS!

Sundays:		Tuesdays:	Wednesdays:				
Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am		9:00 am Stitchers Spirit Walks	7:00 pm Choir Rehersal				1
2	3 Office Closed Worship Comm. 6 pm	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10 Church & Ministry 5:30 pm ----- Missions & Stewardship 7:00pm	11 Building & Grounds 6:00 pm	12	13 Illini Quilters 6:00 pm	14	15	
16 Committee Reports due	17 Consistory 7:00	18 Mayberry Bible Study 7:00	19 Newsletter Deadline 12:00	20	21	22	
23	24	25 Tuesday Circle 1:00 pm	26	27 Illini Quilters 6:00 pm (Project Linus)	28	29 Illini Quilters Workshop 8a-5p	
30	31						