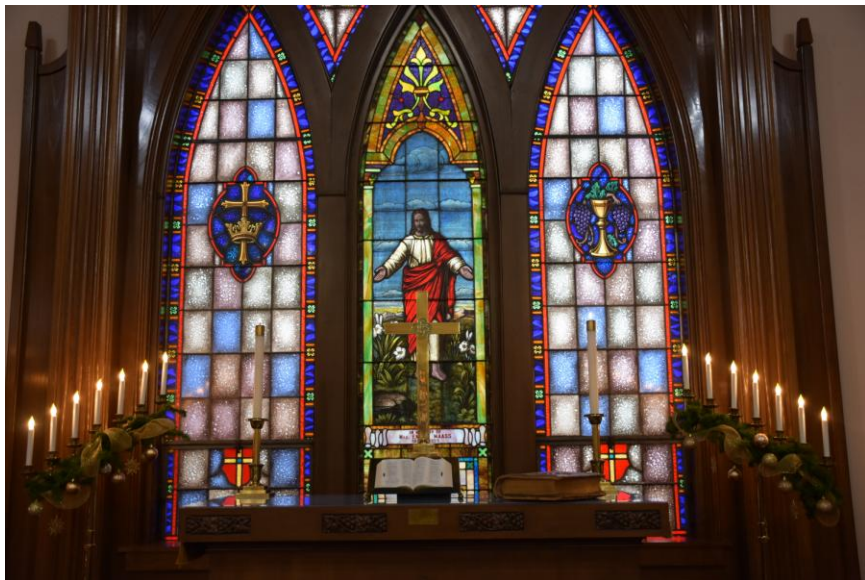


THE KEYS

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
GRANT PARK, IL



April 2023



815-465-6191

St. Peter's

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

PO Box 220

310 N. Meadow St.
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

www.stpetersgp.org

God is still speaking.



If Christmas is the “most wonderful time of the year,” then I propose that Easter is the “most’er wonderful time of the year.” Sure, that isn’t a word, but it should proclaim our Christian proclamation of the meaning of Easter.

It is wonderful for so many reasons. First, we are reminded of Christ’s passion for us. He had every good reason to turn away and head opposite of Jerusalem that first Palm Sunday. Secondly, it reminds us of the pain, agony, and horror that He went through. That doesn’t sound like a wonderful thing, but when you consider it was for YOU and me, we should be thankful we weren’t the ones crucified on a cross. Third, it is wonderful because we realize that His death was the death we all deserved and now, we only have to die once (physical) as our reward is eternal life and not eternal death. I could go on and on, but this isn’t a sermon!

Just remember, like Christmas, let’s not get too wrapped up in Easter egg hunts, giving out candy, and making plans to be busy before taking time to reflect on the season before us.

Each service during Holy Week has a different message, a different theme. We can’t celebrate Easter without first celebrating Palm Sunday. We can’t celebrate Easter without experiencing Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It’s one week of reflection, it’s one week of necessary remembrance, and it’s one week to give in appreciation for a life that Christ gave for us.

Reverend Kyle J. Timmons

Reverend Kyle Timmons

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

DATE:	TIME	EVENT
2ND	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
2ND	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE (PALM SUNDAY)
2ND	1:00 PM-?	FUSION EVENT-ST. JOHN'S SHRINE OF CHRIST'S PASSION WALK
3RD	7:00 PM	4-H MEETING
4TH	6:30 PM	CHRISTIAN ED MEETING
5TH	7:00 PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL
6TH	7:00 PM	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
7TH	7:00 PM	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
9TH	9:00 AM	EASTER BREAKFAST
9TH	9:30 AM	CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT
9TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE (EASTER)
12TH	7:00 PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL
16TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
16TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
19TH	7:00 PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL
23RD	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
23RD	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
25TH	7:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING
26TH	7:00 PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL
30TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
30TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE

Monthly Church Council Minutes

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the previous month's council minutes, please contact the church office. An e-mail copy can be sent or we can supply a printed version.

stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net

Church Website: www.stpetersgp.org

Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday: 8AM–11AM

Friday 8AM–12PM

STAFF

Rev Kyle Timmons, Pastor

Jacquelyn Timmons, Office Administrator

Jayne Frahm, Financial Secretary

Ann Smith, Senior Choir Director

Betty Wolfe, Youth Choir Director

Judy Schneider and Shari Ohm, Organists

Laura Foushi, Custodian

Neal Currier & Josh Hamann, Youth Advisors

Neal Currier & Josh Hamann, Connect Sunday School Leaders

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL

Brian McKinstry, President

Rhiannon Currier, Vice President

Shirley Koehn, Secretary

Larry Voigt, Treasurer

Erin Hamann, Assistant Treasurer

Ken Bonifield, Larry Hamann, Lou Ann Hamann, & Jim Schneider



***No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey,
You Are Welcome Here***

How to Worship With Us Online

Facebook: Search for our church page by typing in St. Peters UCC Grant Park. Follow our facebook page. Each Sunday (10:30 am during the traditional school year), our live service will be available.

Church Website: Go to www.stpetersgp.org . On the top menu, go to Media, Choose Sermons, and click the one you want to watch.



You are the Body of Christ!

*If you haven't been to church in a while....
It's okay – we are ready to have you back.*

Services in April:

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 04/02 | “Who Is This?” Palm Sunday Celebration |
| 04/09 | “He is the Messiah!” Easter Celebration |
| 04/16 | “Modern Family Values: Valuing Love” |
| 04/23 | “Modern Family Values: Offering Forgiveness” |
| 04/30 | “Modern Family Values: Accepting Responsibility” |

*Sunday School classes for Pre-K thru 5th Grade meet upstairs

*Middle School/High School meet in the basement

*Adult Class is in the Clyde Lange Fellowship Hall (basement)

Announcements

Announcement Deadlines for Bulletins & Newsletters: Just a friendly reminder that announcements for church related functions need to be submitted to the office by Thursday, 10 am, to be included in the bulletin for that week. Newsletter items need to be submitted prior to the 25th of each month (or the Thursday just before the 25th if it falls on the weekend). Lastly, if you'd like something included on the church facebook or webpage, please let the church office or Pastor Kyle know. Thank you.

Adult Sunday Morning Group: Join us on Sunday mornings during the 9 am Christian Education Hour as we fellowship with one another in God's Word. The group meets in the Clyde Lange Fellowship Hall located in the basement of the church. We are studying the Book of Acts. Did you miss it? It's okay. Jump in any time. Last week's lesson & notes are available on our church webpage under Christian Education.

Funeral Planning & Information Form: Most of us don't want to talk about dying; however, like taxes, it is inevitable. While many individuals pre-plan their funeral arrangements with a funeral home, cemetery, and/or attorney, we believe it could also be a relief for your loved ones if your plans for the service were also on file. This saves them from the stress of planning it themselves. We have Funeral Information Forms available at the church office or they are located on the church website at <https://stpetersgp.org/funeral-pre-planning/> Feel free to pick up or print a copy and fill it out. You may want to leave it with your family in a known location at your home and/or leave a copy with the church office to keep on file. It's never a bad idea to be prepared in life or in death. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Feed My Starving Children: Members of Zion Lutheran Church of Grant Park have scheduled a 'servant project' with Feed My Starving Children (Aurora, IL). We wish to invite our closest neighbors to join us for a food packing event! Join us on Monday, April 10, 2023, @ 4:30-6:15 pm to go to Aurora, IL, to 'pack meals' for those in need of food. Carpooling will be established among those attending--departure will be 3 pm that day from Zion's (GP) parking lot. Children (age 7 and older), youth, and adults are all encouraged to participate. A 3:1 student to adult ratio is recommended. Call Zion, GP's church office at 815-465-6011 to place yourself on the volunteer list. Check out <https://www.fmssc.org/about-us/faqs> for more information.

2023 Young at Heart Meetings: The United Methodist Church of Grant Park would like to invite you to their Young at Heart meetings every third Monday of the month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Grant Park Community Center. On April 17th, there will be a potluck. If you have any questions, please contact Dianna at (815)-465-6933. Thank you.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Members of several Grant Park churches, in support of the Fusion Youth Group at St. Peter's UCC in Grant Park, are raising funds and hands-on support to provide beds and bedding to children without them so that they don't have to sleep on floors.

The missions' project the area churches will be supporting is called "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" (www.shpbeds.org). The ministry is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling, and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need.

To purchase and assemble 30 beds (at a minimum), an amount of \$7,500 needs to be raised (\$250 per bed). Once the minimal goal is raised, the beds will be ordered and a date/location will be set for assembly by anyone in the area who is willing to help.

There are several options to donate to the fund:

Direct cash/check donations may be made to the church. Please put in the memo line/or on the envelope that the donation is towards "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" Project.

You may give online by going to www.stpetersgp.org/give and choose the "Give to: Sleep in Heavenly Peace" category.

All donations are tax deductible.

Stay tuned to the Grant Park facebook page and St. Peter's website for updates on amounts raised, upcoming assembling date/location, and more.

On behalf of the Fusion Youth, we appreciate your support.



The Missions' Team at St. Peter's would like to encourage everyone to be involved in serving Jesus. **There are several ways you can actively and financially support local and church missions' projects:**

BEECHER FOOD PANTRY

The Beecher Food Pantry housed at St. Luke's is in *desperate* need of our support. They are asking for donations of any non food items. They can be placed in the baskets located in the entrance of the courtyard doors. Thank you.

ST. PETER'S UCC BLESSING BOX

Don't forget that we have a "Blessings' Box" outside the courtyard church entrance. Feel free to donate to it as you can. *Several area youth often check it out to see if there are snacks and other families have relied on it over the years.

MISSION'S SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Are you, or someone you know, in need of financial assistance or support? Perhaps assistance in paying a bill? Food assistance? Help with a mission trip? If you'd like a request form, please email stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net, pastorkyletimmons@live.com, call us at (815) 465-6191, or check out our forms on our church website. Forms are to be submitted to the Missions Team.



Supporting St. Peter's

The congregation of St. Peter's UCC in Grant Park has always been a generous people.

We continue to thank God for those who prayerfully and financially support St. Peter's UCC and its' ministries.

We want to make sure that our church continues to grow and is around for a much longer time. Therefore, we kindly ask you to prayerfully consider giving financially on a consistent basis.

Here are some ways you can honor God with the support of your local church, in addition to the traditional mode of giving your gifts via the weekly offering plates:

Electronic (EFT) Giving

Contact the church office to ask for help to get set up with an EFT (electronic transfer) from your bank account. You can have your gifts taken out weekly, bi-monthly, monthly, etc. and you always have access to changing the amount or canceling at any time.

This is a GREAT way to make sure you are giving on a regular basis (even if you miss church due to illness, vacation, or weather).

Website Giving

In addition to EFT giving, there is another avenue that you can plug into your phone right now that is safe and protected. You can provide a credit card number or a bank account and set it up to give as frequently as you desire. Feel free to share the web address with others. <https://tithe.ly/give?c=696160>



Students in Grades 6-12

Fusion Events (Youth Group for 6th-12th graders) - Check out photos from our recent lock-in by going to our Fusion page on our church website or facebook link.



March Spaghetti Dinner: On March 4th, the youth hosted a spaghetti dinner fundraiser to raise money for Sleep In Heavenly Peace. In April, they will be going to St. John's (IN) Shrine of Christ's Passion Walk. More details will be available on our Fusion Youth Facebook page or by going to our church website at www.stpetersgp.org, (Under Ministries Section). You can also contact Josh (815) 693-5341 or Neal (815) 549-5911.

Do you have a student in grades 6-12 or know of a student who may benefit from a Christ-centered program? Contact us for more information about our Fusion Youth Group and stay updated on future meetings, events, and ways to get involved.

Fusion (Youth Group)

Fusion is igniting the lives of young people here at St. Peter's and our local communities through event gatherings, meals, fundraisers, and more!

We are extremely thankful to all who have helped with our recent endeavors through financial support, hands on support, meal support, and prayer.

Here are some more ways you can help us ignite our program:

Sponsor or Serve a lunch/meal to Fusion when needed Donations to Sleep In Heavenly Peace

There is a sign-up list sheet on the back table in the sanctuary for individuals, families, friends, groups, (however you want to do it) to provide lunch for the Fusion Youth Group each month. You may sign up to cover a month by bringing lunch and serving it, by providing it and letting them serve it, or providing a monetary donation to offset the cost of the lunch. Josh Hamann or Neal Currier will be in touch with you prior to the month that you sign up for to confirm the date (which is normally the 1st Sunday of the month). On average, there are nearly 20 students and leaders to feed. Fusion truly appreciates your support as this allows them to keep the gatherings free for the students and the overall cost of their monthly gatherings at a lower amount.

Fusion financial gifts may be given at any time through your offerings or dropped off at the church office. ***Please be sure to note that your gift(s) are for Fusion Youth Group so that the money is allocated appropriately.

APRIL BIRTHDAY LIST

These birthdays are compiled from church membership records. Please call our attention to any omissions or corrections.

Alan Bakhaus	3	Justin Schriefer	16
Todd Sherwood	3	Shirley Loverin	17
Eli Karstensen	5	David Dickson	18
Ellen Toppen	5	Laura Erickson	18
Bucky Burrell	6	Shelby McKinstry	18
Madison Meherg	6	Bill Dennis	19
Michael Hammerlund	6	Nancy Sturm	19
Ron Claussen	6	Lucas Schneider	20
Connie Schneider	7	Ryleigh Schneider	20
Megan Cadieux	7	Marge Myers	20
Tim Frahm	7	Delaney Karstensen	23
Jamie Brooker	8	Will Napolitano	24
Janice Bonifield	8	Austin Langlois	25
Joni Reynolds	8	Katharina Frahm	25
Mary Toppen	10	James Schneider	26
Dawn Schroeder	11	Joliene Scott	26
Richard Dulin	11	Jennifer Radostits	27
Jeffrey Hammerlund	13	Marge Johnson	29
Ethel Zimmerman	14	Nathan Kuhn	29

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Gene Sievers, Melissa Mort, Reverend Frank Hoss, Carter Fortin, Mason Beseke, Keith Myers, Marge Myers, Heather Phillips, Austin Delaney, Linda Havelly, Taylor Cleary, Joy Currier, Richie Rodriguez, Dorothy Kutemeier, Mary Ann Price, Judy Schneider, Sandy Erickson, Brian Koop, Delores Schimmin, Megan Breckenridge, Neal Currier, Alexis Verhulst, Bucky Burrell, Pamela Nolan, Delores Hartman, Katheryn Hickey-Scott, Patricia Regnier, Ann Wessman, the family of Becky Contreas, and the family of Richard Lorenz, and the family of Eleanor Tyson

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS

Minnie Pfingsten
703 N. East Street
Hudson, IL 61748

Rev Frank Hoss
601 Lutz Road
Bloomington, IL 61704



It's that time of year again! It's spring cleaning time. Want to get rid of the stuff you don't want? Our annual rummage sale is quickly approaching in June (to be coordinated with the community garage sale weekend). This year, we are only having one rummage sale (stay tuned for our event during GP Fest). If you are interested in helping/donating to the sale, please contact Jackie Timmons at 815-465-6191 or text 567-249-5141. Thank you!