THE KEYS

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



August 2019





With the 2019 Oktoberfest Weekend coming September September 6th-8th to Grant Park, the theme of the celebration this year will be "*Home of the Dragons*."

Out of curiosity, the theme got me to thinking about the Chinese Zodiac "Year of the Dragon," so I did some research and discovered that 2019 is the year of the Dragon.

In my studying, I found this tidbit of information that got me thinking about our faith.

"Dragons are strong and independent figures, but they yearn for support and love. (anonymous)"

Many of us identify with being strong and independent. We think we are strong enough to do things on our own and we don't need each other, or sometimes even God.

That's until something happens outside of our control. Whether an illness, accident, unfortunate situation in life, or whatever it may be. It's at that point we realize that we deeply yearn for support and love. Thankfully, God is always by our side and His love reaches all of us in amazing ways.

However, additionally, we as Christians are called to be a source of support and love to one another. Scripture reminds us of our responsibilities over and over.

The Body of Christ NEEDS each other. You can't do it alone.

May you be blessed with God's love and support!

Kyle J. Timmons

Pastor Kyle Timmons

Adult Christian Education Opportunities



Sunday School Teacher(s) Sought

We will be in need of a Middle School or High School Sunday morning leader beginning in September.

Material and training will be available if needed, but if God is speaking to you about making an impact with our teenagers, please let Pastor Kyle know.

Back-To-School Picnic

Join us on Sunday, August 18th for worship (9 am) followed by a back-to-school picnic.

Hot dogs and burgers, chips and beverages will be served in addition to a pot-luck style lunch. Bring your favorite dish to share!

A bouncy house will be available for children, a corn-hole tournament for older youth and adults, and perhaps some other fun activities for those who want to stay inside (i.e. bingo).

Rally-Day Celebration

The 2019 Sunday School Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 15th.

Sunday School will begin at 9 am with a game of bingo, a bike-athon after worship and lunch.

Oktoberfest Parade Float

Are you crafty? Artistic? Just enjoy being around other people to help promote the church?

Calling all minds (for creativity) and hands (for creating) together for a brief meeting on Wednesday, August 7th at 7 pm in the Church Conference Room.

We will discuss our idea of what we want to present during the community's Oktoberfest parade.

FYI – we'll also need people to walk or ride next to our entry as we hand out information about our church! Hopefully, something like this (obviously on a smaller scale) – smile.



2019 Dartball Season to Begin Soon

Dartball season will begin soon and anyone interested in playing is asked to contact Daren Lehnert (815) 465-6646 or Roger Sturm (815) 466-0253.



A practice night will be held on August 31st at 7 pm for anyone who would like to give it a try. First game will be September 7th and all regular season games begin at 8 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship!



Here are some dates to save

Trunk-or-Treat

We're going to try something a little different (smile). For those who would like to hand out candy and goodies for Halloween, we will be hosting Trunk-or-Treat on October 31st during the Community observance.

This will allow those who live outside of the village an opportunity to hand out goodies as well.

There will be a "prize" for the best decorated vehicle in the parking lot, and prizes for the local children (costume-related). More information will be available in the October newsletter.

A Night of Worship

Save the Date! We will be having an evening of worship on Sunday, November 24th at 7 pm at St. Peter's.

This will be a casual evening with a variety of music and prayer that will give us an opportunity to praise God and thank him during the week of Thanksgiving.

If you are interested in providing special music (solo, duet, instrumental piece, sharing a poem or prayer of worship, etc.) please let Pastor Kyle know.

A combination of hymns and contemporary worship songs will help balance everyone's preferences (smile).



Sound Technician

It's not as hard as it "sounds" (pun intended). We are looking for individuals who would be willing to sit and monitor the sound system on Sunday mornings during worship. It can be one individual or several who would like to rotate taking turns. Please notify the church office if you'd like to learn more about serving in this capacity.

Power Point Specialist

We are looking for individual(s) who would be willing to operate the power point slides on Sundays when we utilize this feature.

You will be trained and informed how to operate the slides during the service and you will not need to design the presentations as they will be done for you in advance. Please notify the church office if you'd like to learn more about serving in this capacity.

Children & Youth Choir Director

St. Peter's UCC is looking for someone to lead our children and youth choir. The choir typically sings every other Sunday during the school year and occasionally at special services during Christmas and Easter services.

Please notify the church office if you'd like to learn more about serving in this capacity.



Students in Grades 6-12

Let's Get This Party Started

Bring your friends and join us on Sunday, August 25th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm for an evening of food, faith and fun. We will begin with a small meal, have a short time of worship and spiritual challenge, and then have a fun activity together. We will also discuss plans and ideas for the 2019-2020 year.

There's a Connect Class for YOUth!

It's not Sunday School, I promise! However, on Sunday mornings there will be two different CONNECT classes for our youth.

Grades 6-8 will meet in the church basement room on the north side of the building and Grades 9-12 will meet in the newly remodeled room on the south side of the church basement (don't worry, we'll have signs to direct you).

This will be a relaxing environment with friends where you can discuss current topics, issues relating to real life, and just enjoy growing in your faith in a different way.

Are you in a sport? Music Program? Theatre?

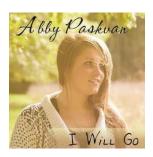
If you participate in after school activities or events, please let Pastor Kyle know and provide him with a schedule. He'd love to come & support YOUth!

Special Presentation at St. Peter's

Erin McMahan will present photos and stories from her recent missionary trip to Kenya on Sunday, August 11th during the 9 am worship service.



Special Concert at St. Peter's



Everyone is invited to join us for worship on Sunday, September 8th (9 am) to hear the musical gifts of Abby Paskvan.

Abby is a professional Southern Gospel singer who has performed in many venues such as performing the National Anthem at Cincinnati Reds, Cleveland Indians, Toledo

Mud Hens games, many county fairs, and more.

Abby is a regular performer at the Christmas in the Smokies in Pigeon Forge, TN and also has performed at Dollywood, Gatlinburg Gathering, and a Carnival Cruise to Alaska. In 2016, Abby was invited to sing the National Anthem at the Republican National Convention.

In 2009 she released her first CD and in 2013 was named top ten "Christian Country Female Artist of the Year."

The concert will be during our 9 am worship service and is FREE (though a love offering will be received).

To find out more about Abby you can view her website at www.abbypaskvan.com.

Miss a Service? Can't Make it on Sunday?

Did something come up and you can't make it to church on Sunday morning? Not feeling well and you want to still join in worship?



We have the solution! Join us on facebook live during the normal service time. While we'd prefer you to be in church we know that life provides many obstacles and we want to give you a chance to stay in touch with the weekly announcements, worship music, time of prayer and sermons.

All you need is a facebook page! From there, search for our church page (St. Peters UCC Grant Park, @StPetersGrantPark) and "like the page."

Click on the "Posts" tab and a post with the current service should begin a minute or two before the service. Occasionally, we have technical difficulty, so be patient with us.

If you aren't on at the time of the service, that is okay as well. You can go to the church facebook page at any time and scroll through the posts to watch the previously recorded services.

If you experience difficulty, please contact the church during the week and explain your problems and we'll do our best to help out.

Want to Give, but forgot your cash/check?

In addition to EFT giving (see that announcement) there is another avenue that you can plug into your phone right now and its 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

Electronic (EFT) Giving

Are you interested in learning more about setting up your giving to St. Peter's electronically? No more need to worry about checks, offering envelopes, etc. Let Pastor Kyle know if you'd be interested to give electronically and we'll help you set it up. This is a GREAT way to make sure you are giving on a regular basis (even if you miss church due to illness, vacation, weather).



AUGUST MISSION GIVING

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) or Basic Support



Our contributions, sent to the Illinois Conference office, support God's mission in Illinois, nationally, and globally. 71% of our contribution stays in Illinois to carry out the mission of the Illinois Conference. Some of these contributions go to our Associations to cover salaries, benefits, and overhead so they may provide support to the local churches.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry at St. Luke's UCC in Beecher is currently providing food for 20-25 families on average.

If you are looking for suggestions...canned fruit, sugar free items, canned pasta, paper products, and personal products like toothpaste, deodorant, and shampoo are always needed. The pantry will be open on from 9:00-11:00, on the second Saturday of each month. Your donations are always appreciated! Thank You!

YOUNG AT HEART

The Grant Park Seniors will not be meeting in August.



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.

Thanks!

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Ann Smith – prayers for healing,

Pauline Mitchell – prayers for healing,

Stanley Schneider – prayers for comfort,

Dean Lohrbach – prayers for healing,

Summer Emilia Mussman – prayers for healthy and continual growth,

Austin Delaney (Great Grandson of Clifford & Ethel Zimmerman) – prayers for healing,

The family and friends of Mike Malkowski – prayers for peace, The family and friends of Allen Schroeder – prayers for peace, The family and friends of Doris Laking – prayers for peace, and all of God's children seeking comfort, peace, and love.

YOUNG PEOPLE SCAVENGER HUNT

Calling all Middle School, High School, and young people in their 20s to join us on Saturday, August 17th for a unique Scavenger Hunt and Pizza Party.



Show up at 5:45 and get ready to go "hunting" for clues in Grant Park. You will return to the church by 8 pm for pizza hosted by the Church Life Team.

AUGUST BIRTHDAY LIST

These birthdays are compiled from the church membership records.

Please call to our attention any omissions or corrections.

Jessica Frahm	4	Nick Timmons	17
Shirley Riley	4	Richard Boicken	19
Jackie Timmons	4	Eric Frahm	19
Jared Heldt	7	Matthew Hamann	19
Bob Hoevet	8	Anna Timmons	21
Larry Ohm	8	Gavin Reynolds	22
Dennis Granger	9	Harold Voigt	22
Karen Spangler	11	Nancy Lewke	25
Kimberly Cousin	11	Russ Koehn	26
Jan Voigt	11	Tyler Williamson	26
Alex Rodriguez	15	Leisa Rundquist	28
Susan Williamson	15	Paige Sherwood	29

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
4	9:00 am	Worship Service/Communion		
6	7:00 pm	Christian Education Meeting		
<u>11</u>	9:00 am	Worship Service		
17	5:45-8:00 pm	Young People's Scavenger Hunt		
18	9:00 am	Worship Service		
		Back to School Picnic		
25	9:00 am	Worship Service		
27	7:00 pm	Church Council		

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND					
CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS					
Mrs. Mabel Phebus	Mrs. Louise Sievers	Minnie Pfingsten			
19101 State Line Rd	Riverside Senior Life	703 N East Street			
Lowell, IN 46356	85 Burns Road	Hudson, IL 61748			
	Bourbonnais, IL 60914				
	Pauline Mitchell				
	Bickford Sr. Living				
	100 Jones Drive				
	Room 227				
	Bourbonnais, IL 60914				

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

310 N. MEADOW ST. P.O. BOX 220 GRANT PARK, IL 60940

Church Office (815) 465-6191 Parsonage (815) 466-4048 Church Email Addresses: stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net

Church Website: www.stpetersgp.org
Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday; 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

STAFF

Rev Kyle Timmons, Pastor
Marcia Langlois, Office Administrator
Beverly Junker, Financial Secretary
Ann Smith, Senior Choir Director
Judy Schneider and Shari Ohm, Organists
Peg McCraw, Custodian
Jessica Frahm & Kole Stadt - Youth Advisors
Jennifer Radsotits & Samantha Greenholt - Connect Leaders

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

Garry Junker, President
Russ Koehn, Vice President
Kelly Schneider, Secretary
Susan Williamson, Treasurer,
Ron Hamann, Assistant Treasurer
Evelyn Bond, Michelle Claussen, Karen Ekhoff & Max Toppen



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