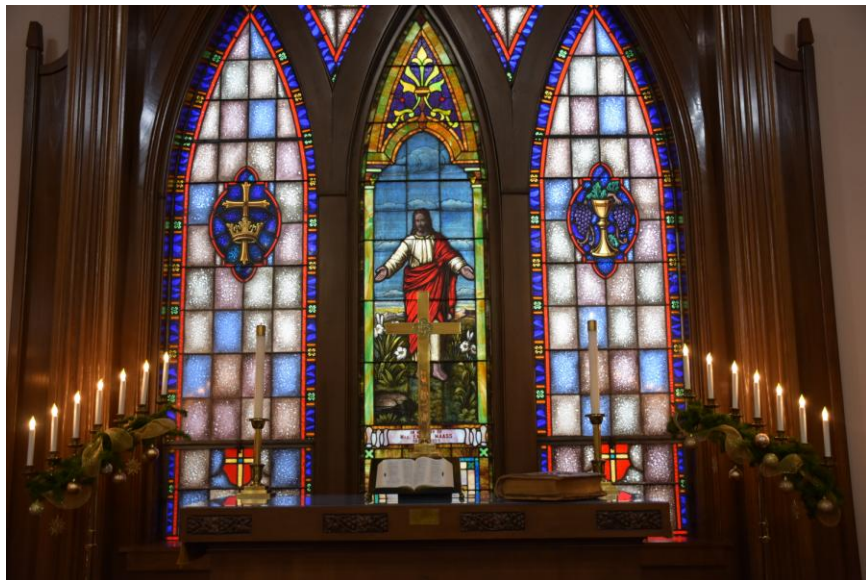


THE KEYS

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



July/August 2024



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.



How much are you growing?

I'm not talking about physical, career, or academic growth; however, spiritually speaking. Are you growing?

2 Peter 3 encourages us to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Imagine tossing a seed into a garden of soil and just letting it be. Will it grow? Most likely not. It needs to be planted, watered, given light, and cared for.

The same is for our faith. We can't expect to just call ourselves “Christian” and then expect to understand God, understand Scriptures, and become more spiritually mature.

We need to be rooted in the soil of God's Word. Reading, meditating, and studying are all ways we can work the soil of our faith. We also need to water it by other spiritual practices such as praying, singing, and more reading. Being in the fellowship with one another helps produce spiritual light as well. Finally, we need to be careful that the weeds, thorns, and thistles (which are false teachers, distractions from our faith, and more) are ridden of so that we can grow without being choked out by the pressures of this life.

It is our prayer at St. Peter's that you are finding ways to grow in your Christian faith.

Reverend Kyle J. Timmons

Reverend Kyle Timmons

Learning What Jesus Really Said

If you're like many, knowing what the Bible really says about things can be difficult. There are many people who teach good things, but are they really Biblical? Here is an interesting lesson titled, "**5 things Jesus did NOT say:**"

1. Follow your heart. Jesus didn't say that; He said, "Follow Me." If your heart is in line with Jesus and His teachings, then follow it, but be careful to discern what is your heart is and what is Jesus' heart.
2. Be true to yourself. While it is practical advice at times, Jesus taught, "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny himself." Our human nature is sinful and often when we try to be true to ourselves we are not in line with Jesus' spiritual nature.
3. Believe in yourself. Absolutely good advice if you believe everything you want to achieve can be done with the power of Christ. Jesus said, "Believe in Me." When our foundational belief is in Christ, it is easier to navigate our spiritual life.
4. Live your truth. The truths we are being taught each and every day are often lies. Satan wants to deceive us and make us believe things that God despises are actually good for us. Jesus said, "I am the Truth." The only truth comes from Him. If something contradicts Jesus' teachings, it is not of God.
5. As long as you are happy. Jesus wants nothing more than for His children to be happy, but our happiness is not the same as what the world defines. Jesus said, "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?"

Always remember Jeremiah 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" Dive into God's Word and study it to be able to recognize His teachings against the false teachings all around.



Things have been different since Covid. While St. Peter's has done its' best to lower the expenses and stay below budget, there is still a gap between income and expenses. In 2024, we'd like to not only meet our budget, but also finish way ahead.

Typically, we get off to a slow start in the winter months, catch up a little, get further behind in the summer, and struggle to catch up by the end of the year. This year, we are challenging each of you to give early, give regularly, and give generously.

If you haven't given in a while, we prayerfully ask you to consider start again. If you have been giving the same amount for the past 5-10 years (or longer), please consider increasing your giving. If you've been consistently giving, we thank you and ask for your continued support. While you are always welcome to give in the church offering or drop/mail your checks to the church, there are also ways to set up your giving electronically. This helps us keep a constant flow of income even when you're away for a while.

If you'd like more information, or help setting up online giving, please contact the church office and we'll put you in touch with our financial secretary. Thanks in advance – YOUR church family.

BUDGET: \$100,949 EXPENSES: \$97,424 OFFERING: \$80,560
***REFLECTS JANUARY 1, 2024-JUNE 28, 2024

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

DATE:	TIME	EVENT
2ND	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN ED MEETING
7TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
10TH	5:00 PM- 8:00 PM	CULVER'S DINE IN TO DONATE NIGHT
14TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE (OUTSIDE)
15TH- 17TH	9:00 AM- 5:00 PM	TEACHER/HOMESCHOOL SALE SET UP
18TH	5:00 PM- 8:00 PM	TEACHER/HOMESCHOOL SALE
19TH	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	TEACHER/HOMESCHOOL SALE
20TH	9:00 AM- 12:00 PM	TEACHER/HOMESCHOOL SALE
21ST	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
21ST	1:00 PM	MEMORIAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
23RD	7:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING
27TH	2:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.	FUNDRAISER AT SOLLITT TAP FOR DORNITA HAMANN
28TH	9:00 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.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

DATE:	TIME	EVENT
4TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
4TH	10:00 AM	CHURCH LIFE MEETING AFTER CHURCH
6TH	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN ED MEETING
11TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE (OUTSIDE)
11TH	7:30 PM	MOVIE DRIVE IN NIGHT
18TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
18TH	10:00 AM	FAMILY FUN DAY/COOKOUT AFTER CHURCH
25TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
27TH	7:00 AM	COUNCIL MEETING

***The second Sundays in July and August will be outdoor worship in the church courtyard (weather permitting). Bring a chair and enjoy the Lord's creation.

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
Debbie Mussman, Financial Secretary
Ann Smith, Senior Choir Director
Betty Wolfe, Youth Choir Director
Shari Ohm, Ann Smith, & Rebecca Timmons, Organists
Laura Foushi, Custodian
Neal Currier & Josh Hamann, Youth Advisors

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

Jim Schneider, President
Lou Ann Hamann, Vice President
Shirley Koehn, Secretary
Erin Hamann, Treasurer
Audrey Lehnert, Assistant Treasurer
Ken Bonifield, Neal Currier, Larry Hamann, & Justin Langlois



***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.

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.

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 a.m., 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.

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.

Girl Scouts: Did you know that our local Girl Scouts meet at the church on Friday afternoons? If you have a daughter that would like to be part of their group, please contact the church office for more information.

Rummage Sale: Thank you to all who donated, help set up, work the sale, and help pack it up to donate. We couldn't do it without you!

Beverly Junker Youth Music Scholarship: St. Peter's UCC in Grant Park is committed to encouraging and financially supporting students as they enhance their skills and love of music/fine arts activities. The Beverly Junker Scholarship may be used to attend a music camp, musical lessons, or toward fees associated with music related expenses (i.e. instrument, etc.). Scholarships up to \$150 will be awarded based on availability and submission guidelines, and will be available to students entering grades 4-12. Students must be currently studying music in some capacity. Students will complete a scholarship application and submit it to St. Peter's UCC for consideration. Students should be a member of St. Peter's, but not necessary. Consideration towards St. Peter's members will be a priority, along with students who attend worship and youth activities. Students may earn the scholarship a maximum of two times. To apply, contact stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net for a copy of the application form.

Lay Readers: We are in need of lay readers for August 18th, August 25th, September 1st, and September 29th. If you are interested in signing up, please put your name on the lay reader sign up or contact the church office.

Family Fun Day and cookout: On August 18th, we will be having a family fun day and cookout after church. Stay tuned for more information to come.

Rally Day: Rally day will be September 15th. We will have a cookout and a bike-a-thon following church.

Ice Cream Social: Everyone is invited to attend a Memorial Birthday Celebration ice cream social in loving memory of Craig Schneider. It will be held on July 21st at 1 p.m. Hope to see you there!



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 seeking shampoo, deodorant, laundry soap, toothpaste, ketchup, jelly, hamburger helper, tuna, canned pasta, jello, and spam. Thank you for your continued support.

ST. PETER'S UCC BLESSING BOX

Don't forget that we have a "Blessings' Box" outside the courtyard church entrance. We could use some items to fill it up. 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 Mission's Team.

JULY BIRTHDAY LIST

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

Garry Junker	1	Tracey Claussen-Wydra	14
Jean Rundquist	1	Connie Schrage	15
Michelle Claussen	1	Kathy Rodriguez	15
Peyton Greenholt	1	Nancy Eckhoff	16
Kimberly Lorenz	2	Nick St. Peter	16
Haley Hamann	3	Ashton Loitz	23
Kaleb Frahm	3	Mardele Engleking	23
Piper Pickens	3	Wendy Markland	23
Carlie Langlois	4	Isabelle Currier	24
David Greenholt	4	Kaitlyn McMahan	25
Ryder Greenholt	4	Livienne Schneider	25
Kevin Schneider	6	Andrea Kuhn	27
Melissa Benson	7	Erin McMahan	27
Dana Dickson	8	Heather Erickson	27
Jamie Paez	11	Eugene Sievers	28
Brooke St. Peter	12	Mark Lawrence	29

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAY LIST

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

Linda Ault	2	Matt Hamann	19
Isla Schneider	4	Richard Boicken	19
Jessica Bornemann	4	Anna Timmons	21
Jacquelyn Timmons	4	Evelyn Bond	22
Shirley Riley	4	Gavin Reynolds	22
Claudia Scott	6	Dorothy Kutemeier	23
Jared Heldt	7	Judith Miller	24
Bob Hoevet	8	Barbara Fanning	26
Larry Ohm	8	Patrick Koehn	26
Dennis Granger	9	Russ Koehn	26
Max Frahm	9	Tyler Williamson	26
Ian Meyer	10	Chase Bornemann	27
Jan Voigt	11	Isaac Grant	27
Karen Spangler	11	Kelly Schneider	27
Susan Williamson	15	Paige Sherwood	29
Nick Timmons	17	Walker Hamann	30
Eric Frahm	19	Wren Farina	31

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Reverend Frank Hoss, Carter Fortin, Heather Phillips, Linda Havely, Taylor Cleary, Joy Currier, Dorothy Kutemeier, Judy Schneider, Roger Sturm, Delores Schimmin, Jeff Jones, Pamela Nolan, Jackqueline Dupuis, Sandy Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jack Hiland, Kristopher Meyer, Tim Langlois, Dornita Hamann, Dawn Schroeder, Tim Miller, and the family of Richard Boicken

Teacher Book and Supply Drive

We are doing another Teacher Book and Supply Drive. Our last opportunity to help raise money for this is the Culver's Dine in and Donate on July 10th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (no flier necessary). Depending on donations, each teacher should receive roughly \$100 in items for their classrooms. If you know a teacher who is interested in participating, please have them reach out to the church office for a form.

Teacher/Homeschool sale

Mark your calendars as St. Peter's UCC will be having their Second Annual Teacher/Homeschool sale on Thursday, July 18th, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, July 19th, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, July 20th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring anything that you would use in the classroom as teaching supplies, curriculum, books, etc. and sell them. If you are interested in a table or two or have any questions, please contact Jacquelyn Timmons at (815) 465-6191 (church office) or text (567) 249-5141. Tables will be provided and the event is inside the church building. This is at no cost, but if you wish to make a donation, all proceeds will benefit our Teacher Book and Supply Drive. Tables are on a first come, first serve basis. St. Peter's UCC is located at 310 N. Meadow St., Grant Park, IL, 60940. A Facebook event will be created, along with some fliers. Please share this event on social media and anywhere else to get the word out.