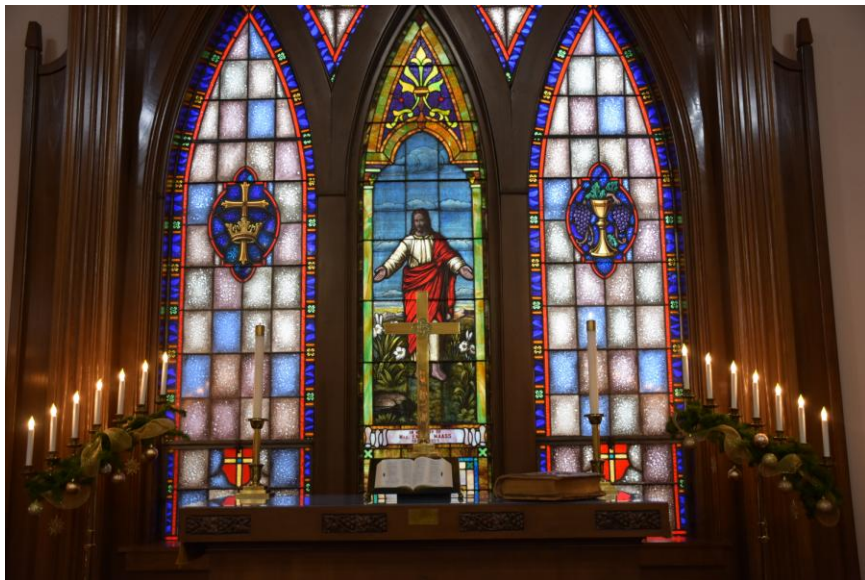


THE KEYS

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



March 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.



Life is a highway! We didn't need a song by Rascal Flatts to remind us that life is a journey with twists and turns that can lead us to destinations beyond our wildest imaginations.

I used to really enjoy driving. I could drive all day and evening and not get tired. Not so much nowadays. I'd prefer to have another driver with me to take over for a few hours at a time to rest my eyes and my brain, or better yet, I'd rather have someone do all the driving...as long as they drove the way I want them to drive.

During each season of Lent, I am reminded that we are all on a journey. Many of us try to make the journey by ourselves. We believe we can do all the driving and we won't get tired. Others may ask for help along the way to take over for a period of time. Still, others would prefer a chauffeur to carry the load.

As Christians, we serve a God who is willing to drive us the entire way through our journey if we allow Him. With God in charge, we don't need to worry about our safety (or speed) and we can relax and enjoy the scenery around us on the path to the final destination. Worry free – and He'll even pay for the gas (I think).

So, when you are ready to say, "Jesus Take the Wheel" – be ready! Enjoy the journey. Enjoy relaxing, knowing that He will lead you to your Promised Land.

Reverend Kyle J. Timmons

Reverend Kyle Timmons

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

DATE:	TIME	EVENT
1ST	6:00 PM	SOUP, SUPPER, AND SCRIPTURE
1ST		CHOIR REHEARSAL FOLLOWING
4TH	5:30 PM- 9:30 PM	FUSION SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER DINNER
5TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
5TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
6TH	7:00 PM	4-H MEETING
7TH	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN ED MEETING
8TH	6:00 PM	SOUP, SUPPER, AND SCRIPTURE
8TH		CHOIR REHEARSAL FOLLOWING
12TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
12TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
15TH	6:00 PM	SOUP, SUPPER, AND SCRIPTURE
15TH		CHOIR REHEARSAL FOLLOWING
19TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
19TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
22ND	6:00 PM	SOUP, SUPPER, AND SCRIPTURE
22ND		CHOIR REHEARSAL FOLLOWING
26TH	9:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
26TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
28TH	7:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING
29TH	6:00 PM	SOUP, SUPPER, AND SCRIPTURE
29TH		CHOIR REHEARSAL FOLLOWING
31ST	7:00 PM	BUNCO NIGHT

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

Assistant Treasurer

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

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***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 March:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 03/05 | “Things to Search For: Righteousness” |
| 03/12 | “Things to Search For: God’s Guidance” |
| 03/19 | “Things to Search For: The Rod and the Staff” |
| 03/26 | “Things to Search For: Understanding” |

*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.

Soup, Supper, and Scripture: Please join us each Wednesday during Lent for soup, supper, and Scripture at 6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you on March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th.

Bunco Night: We will be having a Bunco night on March 31st at 7 p.m. RSVP to the church office by March 30th. If you have a card table to loan for the event, please let us know.

Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser: Who doesn't enjoy homemade cinnamon rolls? We will be selling them by the half dozen. All proceeds will go to the Fusion youth group. Stay tuned on the church website and in the church bulletin for more details!

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.fmsc.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 March 20th, they will be serving salads. 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 Mission's 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.



February SkyZone: On February 5th, the youth went to Sky Zone in Schererville, IN. Their March event will be a spaghetti dinner. 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.

MARCH BIRTHDAY LIST

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

Joshua Schroeder	1	Kelly Wade	16
Norma Riley	1	Emily Voigt	18
Tom Swanson	2	Shari Ohm	18
Judy Schneider	3	Gatlin Schneider	22
Sawyer Loitz	3	Jeffrey Lawrence	22
Isabell Brooker	7	Karen Brunello	22
Cade Lacer	8	Ken Erickson	22
Krissy DeBold	10	Lisa Mussman	22
Lou Ann Hamann	11	Anita Bush	24
Bill Riley	13	Scott Spangler	25
Tracy Langlois	15	Ann Smith	29
Elizabeth Voigt	16	Ken Johnson	31
		Stacey Rincker	31

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 Havely, 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, Russ Koehn, Pamela Nolan, Delores Hartman, Katheryn Hickey-Scott, Patricia Regnier, Ann Wessman, and the family of Sharri Palacios

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



Fusion Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner

Want a break from cooking? This Saturday, March 4th at 5:30 p.m., the Fusion Youth Group at St. Peter's UCC in Grant Park will host a spaghetti dinner to raise financial support for their missions' project with "Sleep in Heavenly Peace".

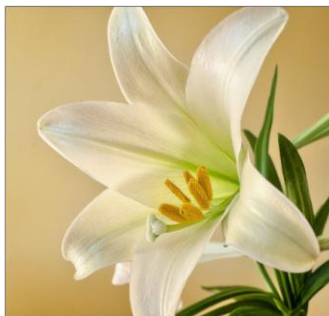
Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun. Homemade spaghetti with meatballs, garlic bread, salad, desserts, and drinks will be served for a donation to support the fundraiser.

Following the dinner, around 6:45 p.m., everyone is invited to continue upstairs for a short presentation about "Sleep in Heavenly Peace", the Fusion Youth Program, and an opportunity to play "Family Feud" in the sanctuary!

A 50-50 drawing will also take place.

To learn more about Sleep in Heavenly Peace, check out their website at <https://shpbeds.org/>

If you plan on attending, please RSVP no later than Thursday, March 2nd, so that we have a rough idea of how many to plan for. You may call the church office at 815-465-6191 (leave a message if with your name and number in your party if no one answers) or you may email Pastor Kyle at pastorkyletimmons@live.com or Josh Hamann at hamannentinc@gmail.com – Thank you!



Want to help beautify our church sanctuary for Easter? We will be selling Easter Lilly plants for \$20 each. If you would like to purchase one or more, please fill out the following information with your payment. Please place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office. Forms must be turned in by Friday, March 24th. Thank you.

Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

Qty: _____

In Memory of: _____

Qty: _____

In Memory of: _____

Qty: _____

In Honor of: _____

Qty: _____

In Honor of: _____

Qty: _____

In Honor of: _____

Qty: _____