

THE KEYS

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



September 2022



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 many of you remember making the hand gestures to the little rhyme “Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people?” (If you’ve never seen this, feel free to ask me).

I was thinking about how the church looked not too long ago. Even here at St. Peter’s, before COVID, we were seeing attendance over 100 quite regularly during the normal school year.

Now, that’s nothing like it used to be a few decades ago, and honestly, it seems to be average as I speak to colleagues around the country.

But, why? Where have all the people gone? Where have our long-time members and very active people gone? Why have they stopped attending church? Why have they stopped being a part of the fellowship that meets on Sunday mornings?

There are many reasons. This is not a guilt trip, but a plea to those of you who haven’t been to church in a while. Come back. We need you. You need church. God needs you. We aren’t perfect, but together we can fill the pews again.

If there are reasons you are unable to come or if there are issues and concerns that have arisen over the last few years, please contact myself or one of the church council members and freely discuss these things. We want to work together to see a full house worshipping the Lord!

Love in Christ,

Reverend Kyle J. Timmons

Reverend Kyle Timmons

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

DATE:	TIME	EVENT
4 TH	9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
6 TH	7:00 PM	CHRISTIAN ED. MEETING
7 TH	8:00 PM	DARTBALL VS MANHATTAN
8 TH	11:30 AM	NOR' EASTERN CLUSTER MEETING & LUNCH
10 TH	6:00 PM-?	COOKOUT & BONFIRE AT BOB AND EVELYN'S
11 TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
11 TH	2:00 PM- 4:00 PM	SUMMER FUN DAY-RAPUNZEL & SPIDERMAN
12 TH	7:00 PM	4-H MEETING
12 TH - 14 TH	8:00 AM- 11:00 AM	RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS DROP OFF/SETTING UP FOR RUMMAGE SALE
13 TH	7:00 PM	TURKEY SUPPER MEETING
14 TH	8:00 PM	DARTBALL @ MANHATTAN
15 TH	5:00 PM- 8:00 PM	RUMMAGE SALE
16 TH	9:00 AM- 5:00 PM	RUMMAGE SALE
17 TH	9:00 AM- 12:00 PM	RUMMAGE SALE
18 TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
21 ST	8:00 PM	DARTBALL @ MONEE
25 TH	9:45 AM	YOUTH CHOIR
25 TH	10:30 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE-RALLY DAY
25 TH	12:00 PM	SPAGHETTI LUNCH, BIKE-A-THON, & BALLOON RELEASE
28 TH	7:00 PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL
28 TH	8:00 PM	DARTBALL VS MONEE

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
Beverly Junker, Financial Secretary
Ann Smith, Senior Choir Director
Betty Wolfe, Youth Choir Director
Judy Schneider and Shari Ohm, Organists
Jake Ewoldt, Custodian
Neal Currier & Josh Hamann, Youth Advisors
Neal Currier & Josh Hamann, Connect Sunday School Leaders

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

David Lehnert, President
Brian McKinstry, Vice President
Heidi Frahm, Secretary
Larry Voigt, Treasurer
Carrie Langlois, Assistant Treasurer
Lou Ann Hamann, Shirley Koehn, Rhiannon Currier, &
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.*

Sermons this September:

09/04 (9 am) – “For the Love of Work” – (Eph. 6:5-9)

09/11* – “God, Heal our Land” – (II Chr. 7:11-22)

09/18– “Amazing Grace – Grace at Work” (Eph. 2:4-9)

09/25 – “Amazing Grace – How Grace Changes Us (Phil 2:12-13)

*We return to our 10:30 am worship services beginning 09/11.



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 baked beans, canned potatoes, pasta (spaghetti, egg noodles, mostoccoli), tuna, canned chicken, jello (regular and sugar free), tomato soup, canned pasta, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and body wash. Donations can be placed in the basket 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. It is starting to become bare. 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, or Bev Junker, and 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 September Event: On September 17th, the youth will be participating in the Grant Park Festival parade. 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.

Rain Can't Keep Fusion from Fun

Despite rain and storms altering our August plans to go to Indiana to play miniature golf, the group stayed at the church and enjoyed lunch, popcorn, and a movie in the AMC St. Peter's Theatre.



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. Thank you to all who have donated. It's greatly appreciated.

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.

Summer Fun Day



September 11th

2:00 pm –4:00 pm

Spiderman & Rapunzel

*Registration will fill up quickly, so please submit your forms to St. Peter's UCC (PO Box 220, Grant Park, IL) or email

pastorkyletimmons@live.com



Join us to meet one or both of your favorite characters (and get a picture with them), enjoy an activity with that character (TBD), make a craft, have some food, and hear a Bible lesson expressing how valuable you are to God!

Event is open for 6th graders and below and must have a parent/guardian present.

Cost is \$15 a child (\$10 for each additional child in your household). ****Don't let money be an issue, if you can't afford the full amount, please let us know – the cost is to help offset the cost of the characters, crafts, and food. We are not trying to make a profit.**

More details will be provided about activities, food, etc. at stpeters.org (go to Events, Summer Fun Day).

Please submit the following information to the church office, email pastorkyletimmons@live.com, or mail to the church: Name(s) of children, ages, parent/guardian information (i.e. name, address, email, and phone number), food allergy, and payment.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY LIST

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

Avery St. Peter	1	Debbie Dennis	18
Mark Marcotte	2	Nicole Hiland	18
Troy Reynolds	3	Betty Wolfe	19
Greg Hamann	5	Jerry Loitz	19
Mitchell Hiland	6	Alicia Hiland	20
Ella Hamann	7	Grace Toppen	21
Kaylyn Engleking	9	Jaden Ewoldt	22
Zoe Gawlinski	9	Jean Schroeder	23
Neal Currier	11	Alex Meyer	26
Ralph Kutemeier	12	Colleen Goers	26
Rebecca Schriefer	12	David Lehnert	26
Kora Schneider	13	Braxton Schneider	27
Larry Voigt	15	Kelly Hunter	27
Tracy Zuniga	16	Shannon Meherg	28
Zackary Hamann	16	Patricia Dulin	30

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Gary Ekhoﬀ, 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, Mark Millay, Delores Schimmin, and the family of Opal Hartman

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

Minnie Pﬂingsten
703 N. East Street
Hudson, IL 61748

Rev Frank Hoss
601 Lutz Road
Bloomington, IL 61704

Announcements

Fall Worship Schedule: The fall worship schedule starts on Sunday, September 11th. Worship will begin at 10:30 am. Sunday School and Youth Choir will begin on September 25th at 9:00 am for Sunday School and 9:45 am for Youth Choir.

Rummage Sale: If you weren't able to drop off your items for the June sale, here is your chance. We will be having our second rummage sale the weekend of the Grant Park Festival (September 15th-17th). Please drop off your items September 12th-14th. We will also need workers to help sort and work the sale. Please contact Jackie Timmons if you are interested in helping. Thank you again for your support!

The Church Blessing Box: The blessing box is getting empty. If you have items that can be placed in the box (that won't perish in the heat, etc.), please feel free to fill the box up or bring the items to the church office and we'll stock as needed.

Specially marked envelopes: Envelopes have been made for Fusion and Fortitude. They are located on the back tables of the sanctuary. Feel free to use those or mail in your donations. Thank you for your support of these two wonderful programs.

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. Lastly, if you'd like something included on the church facebook or webpage, please let the church office or Pastor Kyle know. Thank you.

Bakers Needed for Communion Sunday



Bakers Kneaded (Needed) - Can you bake? We are in need of volunteers to bake different breads (recipes provided) and bring fresh to our Sunday, October 2nd (Communion Sunday) Breads from Around the World 9 am educational hour (for adults & children).

Most of the recipes should be relatively easy; however, if you are up for a challenge, let us know and we'll see if we can put you to the test.

Let Pastor Kyle know ASAP if you are willing to make a bread, two, or even more. He will provide the instructions.



Back to School Supply Drive

The “Back to School Supply Drive” was a huge success! We were able to raise roughly \$3,000, along with some gift certificates and school supply donations. How exciting it is to serve our kids, parents, and teachers in the community! The remaining school supplies were donated to the elementary school for the teachers to use throughout the year.

Thank you so much for your support of the supply drive. We wouldn’t have been able to help the families and teachers without it.



The UCC outdoor ministries have several camps and retreat opportunities for children, youth, adults, and families. Check out their website at www.outdoorministries.org to learn more.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in attending a camp or retreat, please let the church know. The Christian Education Team has scholarships available to help offset the cost(s).

Wine and Canvas Night



Friday, November 11th – 6 PM

To make reservations to attend our Wine and Canvas evening hosted by Grant Park's art teacher, Jennifer Capizzano, contact the church office at 815-465-6191.

Cost is \$50 a person and includes hors d'oeuvres (i.e. snacks), wine, canvas, and supplies.

Gaither Vocal Band Concert



The Gaither Vocal Band is coming to Olivet on **November 19th at 6 pm.** We have a limited amount of tickets left for \$26 each. If you are interested in going, please stop by the church office to let Jackie know.



We have many upcoming events.
Please make sure to mark your calendars.

- September 10th Cookout & Bonfire at Chesterfield/Bond's @ 6 pm
11th Worship Service @ 10:30 am
Spiderman & Rapunzel Event @ 2pm
15th-17th Rummage Sale
25th Rally Day (Spaghetti Luncheon, Bike-a-thon, and
balloon release)
October 14th Bunco @ 7pm
November 5th Turkey Supper
11th Wine & Canvas Night @ 6:00 pm
19th Gaither Vocal Band Concert @ Olivet



Porkchop Dinner

Saturday, October 15th
4:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Tickets \$15.00

Carry-outs only from the Church basement includes:
2 pork chops, 2 sides, roll, & homemade dessert
St. Paul's UCC of Monee
5323 West Margaret St.
(708) 534-8471

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

Purchase a second Fusion Banner - \$180

Bags of Candy (or monetary donation towards) – for GP Fest Parade

Again, we thank you for your support and look forward to bringing the hope and love of Jesus Christ to our community.

Cookout & Bonfire at Bob & Evelyn's

Bob Chesterfield and Evelyn Bond invite everyone to their home on Saturday, September 10th, at 6 pm for a cookout and bonfire.

Bring a dish/dessert to share and enjoy fellowship with one another.

They will also be having a raffle to win some bottles of homemade honey and a 50/50 with all proceeds going to the Fusion Youth Group.

If you need their address, please contact Evelyn Bond at (815) 922-3237 or contact the church office.