

**ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
582 Church Street  
Amherst, Ohio 44001

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**Sunday Worship Service:** 10:00 AM  
**Wednesday Breeze Chapel:** 7:00 PM  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday:  
8:30 AM-12:30 PM *and* 1:00-2:30 PM  
Afternoons available by appointment.

“Train up a child in the way he should go. And when he is old,  
he will not depart from it.” —PROVERBS 22:6

**JUNE 2023**

**THE KEY**



“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the **KEYS** of the Kingdom of Heaven.”

— MATTHEW 16:18-19

**ST. PETER'S U.C.C.**  
582 CHURCH STREET  
AMHERST, OH 44001





# THE KEY

JUNE 2023

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the **KEYS** of the Kingdom of Heaven." — MATTHEW 16:18-19

*Pastoral Ponderings*

From the desk of  
PASTOR CHRIS

**ENOUGH!**  
**END GUN VIOLENCE**

Perhaps you have used this phrase before, "God helps those who help themselves!" One of the scriptures that leads to that quote comes from 2 Thessalonians 3:10, when the Apostle Paul encourages the Christian community to share what they have with the understanding that no one gets a free meal. To paraphrase Paul, "we all have to work to eat." That's a fair reading and understanding of Paul's thinking and one that doesn't seem to apply to our country as we face an unprecedented surge in mass shootings. I'm writing this in May, following the latest mass shooting in Texas, which is, sadly, becoming a ubiquitous phrase. We have had more mass shootings (where at least 4 or more people are killed by guns) in 2023 than we have had days. Attention! This is not a political issue; this is a survival issue.

One of the arguments that political leaders use to do nothing about gun violence is that we are a Christian nation, and we must put our trust in God. When people say that we need to put our trust in God and allow God to save us from this showering of gun violence, they are missing the point. As Paul suggests in 2 Thessalonians—we must work *with* God, and *for* God to accomplish God's will. However, there are times when God acts in our lives

without our effort—such was the case with the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. People rejected and killed Christ, but God—through grace—brought him back to life so that all who believe in him shall not perish but have everlasting life! You see, despite our collective actions, God works with and through us to repair and heal the world.

*"For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat."*

2 Thessalonians 3:10

We need to allow God to work through us to deal with the gun violence pandemic. If we want to rely on God to help us deal with this explosion of violence and hate in our country, then we all must do something. **Doing nothing but offering prayers and lighting candles in memory of those who have been**

**murdered by weapons manufactured for war, is not a suitable option.** As a nation we have struggled through the years to solve issues surrounding race and gender justice. Do you really think that God was fine with segregation, or for that matter-slavery? When Jesus instructed his followers to "Love one another, as I have loved you!" He was telling us all **to love, not hate.**

# GRACE!

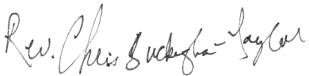
**“We need God to act, but we need to remain open to how God may be using each of us to bring about the peaceable Kingdom.”**

We all know the difference between love and hate. In our minds and hearts, we know what God wants. The issue of gun violence is not as complicated as we make it out to be—gun manufacturers are producing more weapons made for war to be sold for public use for their own enrichment. While mental illness is an issue related to gun violence, we are not the only country in the world with a mental illness problem. We have a supply and demand issue. Americans want to purchase rifles like those used on battlefields, and the manufacturers of these weapons are happy to oblige. It’s math, the more weapons that can produce massive deaths and casualties (including bullets that can pierce Kevlar) that are sold on the open market—equals more mass shootings.

In Paul’s second letter to Thessalonians, he is encouraging all the members of the community to offer their gifts, however generous, so they could share the table meal. We don’t all have the same gifts and resources, but we all have our minds and hearts and the ability to allow God to use us. We may think differently when it comes to gun ownership, but we—followers of Christ—are of one heart and mind in Christ.

I’m not trying to solve the issues around our Second Amendment rights, but I’m trying to clarify God’s involvement in our lives, especially when it comes to mass shootings. In all honesty, the guns are already out there, we can’t put the toothpaste back in the tube. We need God to act, but we need to remain open to how God may be using each of us to bring about the peaceable Kingdom. Grace! God’s forgiveness in spite of our actions, or inactions. This is a time for Grace and action!

**Remember, you are loved!**



**Pastor Chris**

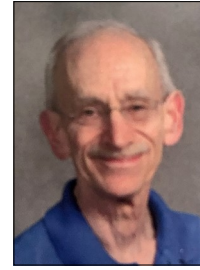
STATS FROM SANDY HOOK PROMISE

**4.6 million** 

An estimated 4.6 million American children live in a home where at least one gun is kept loaded and unlocked.

**68%** 

Guns used in about 68% of gun-related incidents at schools were taken from the home, a friend or a relative.



**Rev. Paul Eaton**

Guest Minister | July 2, 2023

On July 2, 2023 we welcome Paul Eaton to our worship service. He served actively in the United Church of Christ for 38 1/2 years before he retired in 2016. His final yoked pastorate was at St. John’s U.C.C. in South Amherst and the Henrietta U.C.C. in Henrietta which he served for 25 1/2 years .

## Kobiakov Update

On Sunday at church I announced that Anton and Nataliia will be celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary on June 13th. It would be nice to shower them with cards and notes, and they can be dropped off in the church office.

Hlib’s girl friend, Milana, will be representing the Ukrainian Church in Lorain at this year’s International Festival. On June 20th she will be part of the Sacred Music Concert held at St. Peter’s Church in Lorain at 7:00 p.m. The church is on one level and has plenty of parking in front and behind the building.. Geoff and I have attended the concert before and the music has been great. There is no cost and it is a nice way to show your support for the Ukrainians.

 **BREEZE Chapel**

**We will not have Breeze worship for the months of June and July.**

**June Sermon Scriptures:** June 4: Genesis 1-2 v.4 June 11: Genesis 12:1-9 June 18: Genesis 18:1-15 June 25: Matthew 10:24-39

...on page 4



# JUNE SERMON SCRIPTURE READINGS

## 6/4 Genesis 1:1-2v4

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had

done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens,

## 6/11 Genesis 12:1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

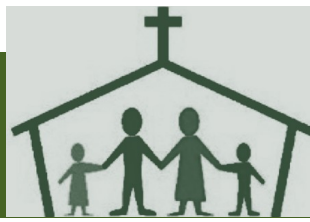
So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

## 6/18 Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."

# Get to Know Your NEIGHBOR



GEOFF & LINDA GATZ

While many of our longtime members know one another, our newer members do not. We hope this new article will bring us closer together as we serve God as one family.

As most of you know we are fairly new members of St. Peter's. We chose to make this our home church for a variety of reasons, an important one being the warm, welcoming people of this congregation. We have attended several different churches in the area over the years; but since giving up our membership to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Elyria, we have not chosen to officially join another church until now.

We moved to Amherst on purpose. As we approached retirement we wanted to downsize and build a home where we could age in place. Amherst was special because of its geographic location and Geoff's ancestral ties. In the 1850s, Philipp Sippel, his great-great grandfather, arrived in Amherst from Germany. He was a carpenter, builder and contractor. He was part of a small group of German Evangelicals who began meeting in the home of William Braun, also a relative. This is the group that would eventually build St. Peter's German Presbyterian Church. Philipp's brother, John, also joined him in Amherst. John set up a shoe store on Cleveland Avenue and eventually became the mayor. Part of John's farm is where Faith Baptist Church is today. Anyway, Geoff's grandfather and mother were baptized in St. Peter's and their certificates are in German which was spoken in the church until the 1950s. If you haven't figured it out, one of Linda's hobbies is genealogy.

In July we will be celebrating our 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary. Geoff was born and raised in Elyria and Linda was born in Maryland and raised in Cuyahoga Falls. We met in the spring of 1968 when someone locked their keys in their new car and wanted a ride to Elyria to retrieve the spare set. Shortly after our marriage in 1970 we moved to Morgantown, West Virginia where Geoff went to Dental School at WVU and Linda taught social studies at Morgantown High School. After four event filled years that we will not bore you with Geoff received his DDS and Linda got her PHT (Putting Hubby Through). On June 12, 1974 our son, Jay was born and a week later we moved back to Ohio where Geoff established his practice in Elyria and eventually Linda returned to teaching.

The first home we owned was located in the Eastern Heights of Elyria. In his spare time Geoff rewired the house and remodeled the kitchen and bath among other things. When Jay was 5 we moved to three acres in the country where we again remodeled the house and built a large barn which became the home of "Early Bird Farms" which housed our experiment in raising hybrid red wigglers. This barn became a wonderful workshop for Geoff's woodworking and place for picnic and gatherings with family and friends.

In 2007 we both retired and have been busier then when we were working. We are proud of our son, Jay, who is a successful business executive with Emerson. He currently lives in New Jersey with his wife, Tracy and our two grandchildren: Reagan, 16 and Trevor, 15. We try to see them as often as possible and are amazed at how time has flown by. The grand kids are deciding on colleges and careers.

Besides our hobbies we love to travel and have had many interesting experiences both here and in foreign countries. We had an opportunity to do a mission trip together at an orphanage in Guatemala and have walked the Great Wall of China (only a short distance). We would both probably would agree that our momentous trip was the one arranged by Linda's brother, Jim. After 3 days in Rome we spent 12 days in the Holy Lands following the path of Jesus. Since we had a private guide the three of us could go at our own pace and see what we wanted to see. It is difficult to explain how it felt to stand where Jesus stood and read aloud from the Bible the passages that applied to that spot.

Our lives have had ups and downs but we know that we have been blessed and that God has always been there and that he has had a plan for us.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. 'plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'" —Jeremiah 29:11*

*continued from page 4.*

But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

6/25 Matthew 10:24-39

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted.

So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.



Wendy Kosakowski



Heather Nail



Kerri Kobylka



Ms. Stempowski

# JUNE & JULY

*The best possible introduction for children to the world of learning.*

**Goal: To foster, encourage and instill in children a joy of learning, the wonder of discovery, a love for God and his creation.**

The Preschool class of 2022-2023 has successfully completed the school year. Everyone is looking forward to a fun and relaxing summer. The children are also hoping for less rain, and lots more sunshine!

This year was so much fun. We went on several field trips and even had our traditional Christmas Program. We ended the year with a class picnic on the church lawn. The children sang a few songs and received their end of the year folder and a gift. We will miss our little ones as they

move on to the next class or Kindergarten. We are also looking forward to all the new students that are registered for the coming school year.

During the summer, the staff will be looking for some new, fun filled ideas for the next school year.

The preschool is almost filled up. We have only 2 spots left in our afternoon class! We have started a waiting list for parents interested in attending our morning preschool program in the fall.

If you or anyone else is interested in our preschool or being put on the waiting list, please call the school at 985-1972. Thank you for spreading the word about our wonderful school!

***Have a blessed and safe summer!  
See you in the fall.***

Mrs. Kosakowski, Mrs. Nail  
Mrs. Kobylka, Miss Stempowski



## Rummage Sale Saturday, July 29

*(Exact time to be determined.)*

### ***Fellow Church Members,***

Starting June 1, donated items for the Rummage Sale can be brought to the church during business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:30-2:30 PM and Sunday mornings. Please put items on the long tables at the front of the Fellowship Hall. Please, no clothing or shoes. If you need to bring your items in through the elevator, please call the church office at (440) 988-4965 & Kaye will let you in.

If interested in helping, please contact Sue Conkle (440) 537-1749 or Mary-K Kirsch (216) 559-6160.



## YOGA with Mary-K

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM  
Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

Our Wednesday morning, and Thursday evening class will meet in the lower level of St. Peter's Church. Please arrive by 8:25 a.m. for the morning class, and by 5:55 p.m. for the evening class. Enter through the door by the Chapel.

"YOGA with Mary-K" is for anyone who needs lengthening, stretching and loosening as we target the fascia, connective tissue and joints to develop strength and restore flexibility. Bring your own mat, a water bottle and wear comfortable clothes.

Mary-K is a RN/BSN, with over 12 years of yoga teaching experience, and 30 years of personal practice.  
Cost is \$10 per class.

## Are you Interested in Helping the Altar Guild?

Our team always is looking for some new members. We help with tasks in the Sanctuary and also prepare Communion. Please call the church office at **(440)988-4965** or email [admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org](mailto:admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org) if interested. Thank you!

Congratulations to **Liam Gleason** on his Confirmation!



St. Peter's   
**Craft Club**

TUESDAY | JUNE 27 | 6:30 PM



Craft Club will meet on Tuesday, June 27th, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Fireside room. Bring your current (or old) craft project to work on and to have some fun fellowship with other crafters! All are welcome. We had look forward to more joining us. *Can't wait to see you!*



**Art Darakis' handcrafted "Grandmother" pendulum clock, now hanging in St. Peter's Church Amherst, Ohio**

*Joyce's husband Art handcrafted Grandmother pendulum clock that the Darakis family donated to our church that is hanging in the sitting area near the church office for many to enjoy. Pastor Chris with help of others prepared the perfect place for it. Geoff Gatz hung the clock.*

May 15  
2023  
MEETING

# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

## ATTENDEES:

*"When a leader in the Church inspires council members with vision, he helps them focus on their real mission so that they are ministering to people rather than merely administering programs." — M. Russell Ballard*

President: Christine Burman	X	Pastor: Chris Buckingham-Taylor	X
Vice President: Judy McCurdy	X	Congregational Rep.: Susan Conkle	X
Secretary: Tom Hollstein	X	Congregational Rep: Stacy Gleason	X
Treasurer: Lauri Hubach	X	Congregational Rep: Kaye Koler	X
Assistant Treasurer: Sally Readinger	X	Congregational Rep: Don Ramsey	X
Financial Secretary: Rebecca Woods	A	Congregational Rep: Joan Whitman	X
Past President Moderator: Mary-K Kirsch	X	Preschool: Wendy Kosakowski	X

X = present  
E = excused  
A = absent

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Christine Burman, and began with a prayer from Pastor Chris. **Visitors:** Katie Leonard; Heather Nail; Sharon & Gary Thompson

## Secretary's Report

The April meeting minutes were sent out a few days after the April 17 meeting, and were approved online by council members. For the record, the minutes were approved again at this meeting.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION MADE, AND SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

## Preschool Report

Preschool budget was discussed. Several corrections and changes were suggested and will be incorporated in the final budget.

## Treasurer's Report

Pass Through payments needing approval:

Edgar Vargas \$40.00  
OCWM \$205.00  
Total: \$245.00

**MOTION: TO APPROVE PASS-THROUGH EXPENSES OF \$245.00. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

## Pastor's Report (Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor)

Discussion of salary for organist at \$150 per week, which is \$5,850 per year.

The Oberlin Students' Fund currently has \$4,007.

**MOTION: TO USE THE MONEY FROM THE OBERLIN STUDENTS FUND FOR A PARTIAL PAYMENT OF THE ORGANIST'S SALARY, LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$1,843 TO BE TAKEN FROM THE GENERAL FUND. MOTION MADE, AND SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

Breeze service will be cancelled for June and July.

Mens' breakfast at Quarry Café is going well; attendees from Brownhelm church as well as St. Peter's.

Confirmation of Liam Gleason on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, reception to follow.

1st outdoor service will be June 18, Father's Day.

Pastor and his son are working on an outdoor sound system, for improved coverage.

## Compassionate Care

Nothing to report.

## Altar Guild

Communion wine is in short supply; it is ordered but on back order. Will substitute grape juice in the interim.

## Spiritual Life

Two less people to visit: one now living with relatives, and the other passed away.

Slowing down for summer, probably reduce visits to twice a month.

We are blessed to be able to visit most people twice a month.

## Circle Six

The boat ride will be the final activity for the summer.





### **Ushers**

The small Christ candle has been replaced with a larger one to better withstand the breeze from the open windows.

With the limited number of children attending worship we no longer have an acolyte schedule. The two Wasilk children, Tanner and Xavier are taking turns and doing a great job.

### **Tech Report:**

Hoping for new camera in near future. The current camera is not well suited for distance work.

Problems with Facebook prevented going live on Sunday.

Will be investigated.

### **Website**

Our website is a bit disorganized and difficult to navigate.

Kaye is still becoming familiarized with it.

Has begun collaborating with Brian to determine ways to improve it.

### **Garden Team**

People have been mowing and trimming.

The dead tree has been cut down by Gary and his son.

The garage sale is proceeding and will be held July 29. Various ideas are being considered as to its format. The next planning session will be June 4.

Donations can be received in Fellowship Hall, beginning June 1. Volunteers are requested to help sort items.

A 50/50 raffle is being considered for the rummage sale.

### **Old Business (Various)**

Neighbors are using our parking lot. Will not complain to illustrate good will.

**Grant construction:** Will proceed when the building is available, looks like the 25th and 26th.

Will begin demoing for the bathrooms, painting and flooring will be next.

### **New Business (Various)**

Brian Schieferstein has agreed to act as treasurer until a permanent one can be found.

Lauri has begun the transition to the accountant.

The accountant says an acting treasurer is still needed.

The question will be referred to executive session.

Decision needs to be made on prospective janitor.

Person is needed to organize and procure cleaning equipment.

Sally brought up the question of gas billing, fixed rate vs. variable.

Next potluck will be June 25; it should not interfere with the rummage sale setup.

Quilts of Valor will have a presentation on July 2.

**MOTION: SWITCH PARSONAGE GAS ACCOUNT TO SANTANA AND CHURCH ACCOUNT TO MERCURY ENERGY. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.**

***Respectfully submitted, May 26, 2023***

Tom Hollstein, Council Secretary



## JUNE EVENTS

- June 1 Compassionate Care 10:30 AM Fireside  
Handbell Choir Practice 7:15 PM  
*last practice for summer break*
- June 4 Communion Sunday & Handbell Choir
- June 6 Circle Six 6 PM, Cruise
- June 8 Men's Breakfast, Quarry Café 9:30
- June 18 Father's Day, Outdoor Worship
- June 19 Council Meeting Zoom 7 PM
- June 21 Clergy Mtg., Fireside 11:30 AM
- June 26—July 4 **Pastor Chris on vacation**
- June 27 Craft Club 6:-8:30 PM Fireside

Communion Visits: Mondays 1-4 PM

Bible Study: 7 PM, Tuesdays, Zoom

### **No Breeze Chapel in June & July**

Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris  
Sandstone Coffee House  
Every Wednesday 9-11:00 a.m.

YOGA with Mary-K, St. Peter's lower level  
Wed. 8:30-9:45 AM & Thurs. 6:00-7:15 PM



## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thurs., June 8, 9:30 AM  
Quarry Café

All men are invited to join us for our Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Quarry Café in Amherst. *Contact Pastor Chris for more information.*



## BIRTHDAYS

"MAY HE GRANT YOU  
YOUR HEART'S DESIRE  
AND FULFILL ALL  
YOUR PLANS!"

- Shelley Harmych ..... June 03
- Betty Pekare ..... June 05
- Barbara Zaletel Harmych .. June 06
- Dorothy Wilford ..... June 14
- Deborah Makay ..... June 21
- Vicki Zeller ..... June 22
- Judy McCurdy ..... June 25
- Kurt Beiswenger ..... June 27
- William Kinloch ..... June 27
- Garrett Fleeman ..... June 28
- Jean Snyder ..... June 30

## OUTDOOR WORSHIP

**June 18th, July 16th, August 20th**

## FATHER'S DAY – JUNE 18

TO ALL THE FATHERS WHO...

Stepped up, plugged in, held on, forged ahead, committed to, learned how, embraced all, encountered much, battled through, held tight, loved soft, never quit, backed off, let loose, braved courage, faced fears, prayed for, tightened up, loosened reigns, remembered when, helped often, inspired much, led forward, stayed true, taught morals, found strength, said yes, valued life, reasoned well, gave in, made time, had fun, helped out, played fair, took care, provided plenty, let go, stood up, swallowed pride, changed paths, took risks, dug deep, went easy, pushed forward, fought for, carried burdens, kept going, dreamed big, never quit, shed tears, forgave often, found patience, shined light, suffered pain, made dates, had faith, showed respect, wrote notes, held hands, stayed safe, laughed loud, lost sleep, slowed down, tackled chores, tried hard, let win, chose right, opened up, gave grace, got involved, gave your all...

I COMMEND YOU.

*For the true integrity of a man  
is measured by such things.*



St. Peter's UCC  
**FOOD**  
pantry

In May,  
we collected  
**229**  
food items!

We are still collecting for the Weekend Children's Backpack Program and below are some suggestions that would be helpful with this great need. Also, you can still donate 'regular food items' in addition to the Backpack Program. Many families are in need.

Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Pam is back and came to count, load, and deliver the food to Good Shepherd Baptist Food Pantry. Thank you Pam for serving with a grateful heart!

We greatly appreciate your donations, along with Good Shepherd and those receiving food items. Thank you to everyone who donates!

Single Serving PB & Jelly

Canned Soup (Pop top lids)

Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)

Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)

Peanut Butter Crackers

Individual Cereals

Granola Bars

Oatmeal Packages

Small Bag Chips

Small Bag Pretzels

Fruit Cups

Jello Cups

## Compassionate Care June 1 Meeting is Cancelled

Joan Whitman, Team Leader | 440-320-8923 | rwhitman1@oh.rr.com

We meet the 1st Thursday of the month in the Fireside Room at 10:30 AM. Joan Whitman is the Team Leader. If you have any questions regarding Compassionate Care, or would like to join our group please contact Joan. We would love to have you join us as we minister to those in our church that need care.

## Are you in need of Prayer?

Call Joan Whitman, contact person for the Prayer Team at 440-320-8923

Please call Joan if you would like to be added or removed from **THE KEY** prayer list shown below. Also, if you want to keep your prayer request confidential, we can also add your name to the list for our Prayer Team.



### Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Karin Andy

Lois Barnes

Roger Becker

Richard Berry

Joyce Darakis

Tudy Diaz

Valentino Dziak

Don Flock

Jean Marsh

Tom McKinley

Bev Mischka

Glenn Miskov

Audrey Montgomery

Darlene Mudrich

Carol Murphy

Serita Reyes

Janet Siron

Sherry Spratt

Mary Ann Sterna

Don Swift

Jean Swift

Elaine Thompson

Edgar Vargas

Gloria Versace

Sue Smith

Sharon

Rich Orseno

June & Carl Nau

Family of Jean Snyder

Kaye Oswald & Family



# ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

582 Church Street, Amherst, OH 44001

**Office Phone:** (440) 988-4965  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday  
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m.  
*Afternoons available by appointment  
with Pastor Chris.*



**Chris Buckingham-Taylor, Pastor**  
(920) 650-0761  
pastor@stpetersamherst.org



**Kaye Oswald, Office Administrator**  
(440) 988-4965  
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org

**Sunday Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. | **Sunday School:** 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**Wednesday Breeze Chapel Service:** 7:00 p.m. will be cancelled June-July

Please visit our website, [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org) to make your donation electronically via Breeze or PayPal.  
**Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT!** If you would like more detailed information, please contact the church office.

## Executive Council

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Christine Burman, Council President	(440) 522-8035	president@stpetersamherst.org
Judy McCurdy, Council Vice President	(419) 366-2828	judymccurdy4@gmail.com
Tom Hollstein, Council Secretary	(440) 988-8066	tomholls06@gmail.com
Lauri Hubach, Treasurer	(440) 988-2459	treasurer@stpetersamherst.org
Mary-K Kirsch, Past President Moderator	(216) 559-6160	marykkirsch@gmail.com

## St. Peter's Preschool

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Wendy Kosakowski, Administrator & Teacher	(440) 985-1972	preschl@stpetersamherst.org
Heather Nail, Teacher & Assistant Administrator		
Kerri Kobylka, Teacher		
Taylor Stempowski, Teacher's Aide		

## St. Peter's Website and Social Media Addresses

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<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.stpetersamherst.org">www.stpetersamherst.org</a>	<b>Twitter:</b> <a href="https://www.twitter.com/StPetersUCCOh">https://www.twitter.com/StPetersUCCOh</a>
<b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/stpetersuccamherstoh">https://www.facebook.com/stpetersuccamherstoh</a>	<b>YouTube Channel:</b> St Peters UCC Amherst



At St. Peter's we work together in love to build strong foundations for our lives in Christ. This firm foundation allows us to put **"Arms and Legs on Christ's love in the world."** We believe that God is calling you to be embraced by God's radical love and to be a part of this foundation of faith.