

**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.

“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.” —Galatians 5:13

**JULY 2023**

**THE KEY**

“Then join hand in hand  
brave americans all!  
By uniting we stand, by  
dividing we fall.”

—John Dickinson



“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

JULY 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

## THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE!

*This is the day, this is the day,  
That the Lord has made,  
that the Lord has made.*

*We will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made.*

*We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made.*

(Based on Psalm 118:24)

**Without fail, every time that one of my beloved church members, who grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, entered our church—no matter the day or time of the week—she would sing the song:**

*This is the day. This is the day!  
That the Lord has made,  
that the Lord has made.*

*We will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made.*

*We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made.*

### *Pastoral Ponderings*

**From the desk of  
PASTOR CHRIS**

It may be a simple song but singing it throughout the day, even in the privacy of our own minds, makes a faithful statement and helps us to build a more positive attitude. This church member had recently lost her husband of over forty years to cancer, and she had spent a year without much mobility due to her own illness. She told me that she had to wake up at five in the morning just to begin the process of stretching and get her body moving so that she could make it to our Sunday morning worship service. She could have very easily, and justifiably had a negative attitude in life, but she knew that the power of positive thinking, that God had created this and every day, was what she needed to make it through each day. She inspired all of us in our church to see the blessings of each day.

We all have more than our fair share of troubles. Recent surveys have revealed that most Americans are feeling negative about



well-everything. Most think that our country is headed in the wrong direction. Most think that their economic future is bleak. Many believe that it is almost too late to effectively stop or alter climate change. We see more wildfires which seem to be directly related to global warming. We see an increase in the amount and intensity of storms. "This is the day that the Lord has made!" I can't do much to reverse all the negative trends that I just mentioned, but I can be responsible for my outlook and attitude and how I may influence others.

Having a positive attitude is not burying our heads in the sand to avoid problems, it is addressing things with the proper perspective. Facing problems and challenges is necessary, but having a positive attitude is essential. We have health problems, and other things in our life that cause us pain and suffering, and a positive attitude won't fix those things, but having a positive attitude, believing that "This is the day that the Lord has made...", Will lead us through the daily challenges and help us to feel the joy of God's presence. And yes, a positive attitude has been shown in multiple studies to lead to better health.

No matter what we are facing, singing Psalm 118:24 will do more good than harm. We can change our brain activity to function at a higher and healthier level by singing "This is the day!" Embracing the blessings of God each day is like throwing a pebble in a pond and seeing the ripples. Seeing our blessings will impact all those around us and lift the mood of our country. You've heard the challenge, "Be the change you seek." Let us be the joy we need. "This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" (Psalm 118:24)

**Remember, you are loved!**

*Rev. Chris Buchanan-Taylor*

**Pastor Chris**

## Spiritual Life Team

Pam Miskov, Judy McCurdy,  
Pastor Chris, Don Ramsey

A thank you from Joyce Darakis



*A special THANK YOU  
to the Spiritual of  
Life team*

*Jerry and Barb thank*

*You for your visit.  
My door is always OPEN  
to you. I look forward to  
your next visit and company.  
May God Bless you all and again  
I Thank You. With love and  
prayer, Joyce*

*Dear Pastor Chris,*

*It meant more  
than you know.*

*Pam & Judy, thank you so  
much for the time shared  
with you and for giving me  
Communion. So always a joy  
to see you. Thank you so  
much for the beautiful orchid  
and bird seed. The birds and  
creatures ARE THANK YOU too.  
Chris was happy you came and  
happy the clock has a "great  
new home!"*



# JULY SERMON SCRIPTURE READINGS

## 7/2 Galatians 5:1, 13, 14, 22, 23

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

## 7/9 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

"But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

## 7/16 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what

was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

## 7/23 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

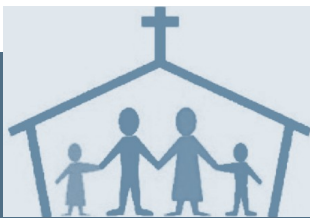
He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

## 7/30 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

# Get to Know Your NEIGHBOR



TOM & LYNN HOLLSTEIN

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.

Tom's history with St. Peter's began not too long after his birth in 1946. He was born right here in Amherst Hospital, the first child of George and Helen Hollstein. To complete the family, his younger brother, Jim, came along a few years later in 1950. Since the parents, George and Helen, were already members of St. Peter's, it was only natural that the two boys would follow the same path, and they were baptized into St. Peter's at an early age.

Tom's mother Helen had three sisters and two brothers. Her siblings, my aunts and uncles, provided me with a number of cousins, and they were like sisters to me, since I had no sisters of my own. Most of this extended family were members of St. Peter's. Tom's maternal grandparents had both emigrated separately from Switzerland. Tom's grandfather Fred Berger had passed away before Tom was born so he never knew him, but he does have very vivid and loving memories of his "Grandma Berger". She loved to cook (or maybe it was just ingrained) and she especially loved to bake: pies, cakes, cookies, bread, a very tasty bread she called sifka. Tom was always well-fed when visiting Grandma Berger!

Tom's paternal grandparents were Walter and Amelia Hollstein, from whom Tom's dad had inherited the farm land where they grew up. Tom's grandfather, Walter, had graduated from Case University in the early 1900's with a degree in electrical engineering, which at the time was a fairly unusual accomplishment. His basement shop was filled with many mysterious and exciting electrical gadgets. At a young age Tom learned from him a basic understanding of electricity, which laid the ground work for his eventual career as a design engineer. One vivid memory is that Grandpa Hollstein felt it was important for Tom to learn the Morse Code! He never really got beyond S-O-S (three dashes, and three dots), and fortunately was never in a situation that called for its use. The paternal grandparents were members of Old Stone Methodist Church, located next door to St. Peter's.

Back to the early years at St. Peter's, Tom's mother was involved in many activities: Sunday School teacher, Choir member, Bell Choir member, Church Secretary, Circle Six member, Married Couples member, United Fellowship member. Likewise, his aunts and uncle Fred Berger were also involved variously as church organist, choir members, and Sunday School teachers.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Tom attended Confirmation Class at St. Peter's. At the time, it was a 2-year program, and it involved much commitment, including studying, doing homework, and testing. He was Confirmed by the Pastor, Rev. Guy Moyer, along with about 20 other students. Most of them have moved away or passed away, but Christine Burman was also a member of that class. She remains here today, and in fact, currently serves as President of the Church Council.

Lynn's path to St. Peter's was by a different route. She was born in Lorain, and baptized and confirmed in the Methodist Church. Lynn's family background is not large. Her only sister, Ellen, is nine years older, and moved to California in the early 1960's. Ellen's only child, Denise, was born in 1966. Denise and husband Jeff, have two children, both of which attend Cal Polytechnic Institute. We visit each other as often as we can, but the distance makes it difficult.

Lynn attended Amherst Schools, and many of her friends were members of St. Peter's. In high school Lynn and Tom were both members of band and so got to know each other. Tom would occasionally bring Lynn to church services at St. Peter's. Their first actual date was initiated by Lynn, a hay ride sponsored by the high school band.

Eventually, Tom and Lynn became engaged and in early 1969 he was drafted into the U.S. Army. In eight months' time he went through basic training in

Kentucky, advanced electronics training in Alabama, and was assigned to a permanent unit in Anchorage, Alaska. When Tom received his orders, he proposed to Lynn over the telephone. During his brief leave at home, they were married on May 2, 1970 here in St. Peter's Church by Rev. Robert Happel. Tom went on to Alaska, and Lynn joined him two months later after graduating from Bowling Green University.

They spent a year and a half living in Anchorage while Tom served his time with the army. They then left Alaska, taking the Inland Ferry south to Seattle. They picked up Tom's old Corvette which had been previously shipped, and hitched it to their car with a tow bar. The drive to Ohio was basically uneventful except for a few tense incidents passing through the Rockies.

Tom returned to his former job as a draftsman at Lorain Products Corp. He later moved to Nordson Corp. in Amherst, finishing as a mechanical engineer after a 32-year career. Lynn began teaching elementary school in Lorain, and later in Amherst. Once back in Amherst, they also resumed their relationship with St. Peter's Church. In addition to attending regularly, they became involved in various activities and groups. Over the years, Tom has participated in Church Choir, Bell Choir, Church Council, Trustees, Mission Dinners, and Farmers' Market. Lynn has for the most part been involved with these same activities, and has taught Sunday School and is a current member of Altar Guild.

We have no children of our own, but we are foster parents to three young people in Kenya: Alicia, 15, is in high school and hopes to enter the medical field; Felix, 17, is in high school and plans to be a journalist; and Eunice, 18, is finishing school, is interested in religious education, and also hopes to become a journalist. We support them through Childcare Worldwide, a Christian sponsorship ministry, which oversees their education and well-being. Christian religious studies are an integral part of their education. Their living conditions are vastly different from ours! How blessed we are compared to their part of the world! We pray that our support will allow them to realize their full potential and work toward their goals. Our home has always had pet cats, beginning in the 1970's. Over the years we have had 14 cats at various times, and today we are home to two eight-year-old fur baby adoptees, Rocky and Cali.

My hobbies are varied and numerous; too numerous Lynn would say. My interests run to almost anything of a mechanical nature. Even though I don't have a hobby car anymore, I'm still quite interested in automotive happenings. Model cars and model airplanes are another big interest. Probably strongest of all is my love for music – music of all kinds and types. And I especially like the electronics, loudspeakers and amplifiers that are able to reproduce recorded music in a realistic way. Finally, since I was raised on a farm, I still have a strong interest in farming and modern ag practices. Lynn loves to read, and keeps the library busy supplying her with books.

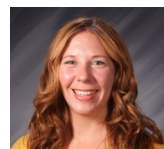
Finally, to address some of the items on the questionnaire, St. Peter's feels like my home. This church has been a major part of my life for 77 years. People have come and gone over the years, but the feeling of church family love and caring remains as a constant. I can still remember my early days in kindergarten and Sunday School and the elder people of the church and their influence on me, and how they shaped my life. Now, suddenly it seems, I am one of those elders! I pray that by example my actions will be a positive influence on those around me, especially the young. Lynn and I have been greatly blessed in life, and our wish is to pass it on as God would have it.



Wendy Kosakowski



Heather Nail



Kerri Kobylka



Ms. Stempowski

# 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 1 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, 9-3 PM

Entrance will be through the garage & elevator.

Sales will be in the lobby, garage and Fellowship Hall.

### ***Sale to benefit the Pipe Organ Fund!***

Please continue to bring in your donated items for the Rummage Sale, 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.

# The Preschool Grant Project is Now Completed

*A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this happen!*



The remodeling of the preschool and related areas has been both challenging and rewarding and is now completed.

We appreciate the Congregation's support and want to recognize the preschool Administrator, Wendy Kosakowski, for writing the grant that made part of this project possible.

Additionally, a heartfelt thank you to the members who shared their time, talent and financial support for the project, as well as with various cleaning jobs around the church:

Walter & Luena Beale  
Fred & Lynda Helyes  
Gary & Sharon Thompson  
Shelley Harmych  
Jo Janas  
Nataliia Kobiakov  
Sally Readinger  
Earl Wiegand  
Vicki Zeller  
And, Tom & Lynn Hollstein  
for generously providing  
lunches and  
oft needed coffee!

In our opinion, the preschool area has been restored to "NEW" STATUS!

*Blessings & Peace  
to All of You,*

Mary K Kirsch and  
Geoff & Linda Gatz

June 19  
2023

MEETING  
ATTENDEES:

# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

*"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*

**Note:** This is a summary of the council meeting. The official approved minutes of the meeting are on file and are available in the church office.

Pastor: Chris Buckingham-Taylor    Assistant Treasurer: Sally Readinger  
President: Christine Burman    Congregational Rep: Susan Conkle  
Vice President: Judy McCurdy    Congregational Rep: Stacy Gleason  
Past President: Mary-K Kirsch    Congregational Rep: Don Ramsey  
Secretary: Tom Hollstein    Congregational Rep: Joan Whitman



**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Christine Burman, and began with a prayer from Pastor Chris.

## Secretary's Report

The For the record, the May meeting minutes were approved again at this meeting.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED. MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## Preschool Report

- Preschool enrollment is full for the coming year.
- The grant was submitted on June 16.
- Thanks to everyone who had a part in completing the work.

## Financial Secretary's Report

- Our new CPA will meet with our treasurer to exchange information.
- There will be a month's time between an actual event and its appearance in the report.
- Pass-throughs are listed in the Financial Sec'y. Report and will be approved in a timely manner.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE AND PAY THE PASS-THROUGHS. MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED. MOTION WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## Pastor's Report

- Special thanks to everyone on the volunteer crew doing the grant work. Many hours were donated by the volunteers, and the money saved was substantial. It was a major accomplishment that was shared by all who participated. It was a good example of the positive things happening at our church.
- July 2 church service will be led by guest minister, Pastor Paul Eaton.
- A special council meeting will be held in September to set goals for next year. We are challenged to learn where we as a church want to go.
- The Budget process will begin in August, and will be coordinated with the preschool budget.

## Spiritual Life

- We are easing up a bit for summer, and then will resume full speed in September.

## Compassionate Care

- Joan Whitman asks to be informed of anyone in need of cards, contact, or visitation.

## Altar Guild

- The Miskov wedding is coming up in July. Linda Gatz will be acting as temporary wedding coordinator. Altar guild will do the setup.
- The Communion cup, prefilled with wine or juice and wafer will become our standard for the foreseeable future because of convenience and safety.
- We still need more members for Altar Guild, and men are welcome.

## Circle Six

- The Black River Cruise went well and was enjoyed by all those who attended.
- No further activities are planned for summer.
- Entertainment ideas are always welcome, and events are mostly open to the congregation.
- Committee will meet this summer to plan meetings for next year.

## Ushers

- We welcome our newest member, Liam Gleason, as he begins to serve St. Peter's as a member of the ushers.
- Liam will learn from the existing ushers as they impart their wisdom to him.
- Ushers are still needed to sign up for July.

## Tech Report

- Because of heavy involvement with the grant program, the publishing of the church services' videos has fallen behind. Now that time is available the schedule will be restored.



## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 19, 2023 continued

- The recent outdoor service was not video recorded or broadcast, but Mary K has taken still photos which she will put to music and post on Facebook.

### Garden Team

- The church gardens are looking good.
- One plant on north side suffered from a virus in the soil and had to be removed.
- Weeding is planned for the coming week. If you would like to help, please contact Sue Conkle.

### Funding and Activities

- The Rummage sale setup is progressing nicely. It will not interfere with upcoming wedding.
- Some very nice items have been coming in for the sale. Please bring your items to the church.
- Volunteers are needed for the sale: cashiers and floor walkers, for two-hour shifts on July 29.
- If you'd like to help, please contact Sue Conkle or Christine Burman.
- The pot-luck luncheon went very well. Thanks to all who attended, and especially those who helped set up, and clean up afterward. Another pot-luck will be held at the end of August.
- Special Thanks to Luena Beale who has been busily selling raffle tickets. With the church's portion, she was able to purchase a lawn mower, a trimmer, a blower, and an edger to be used for the church's lawn maintenance. The drawing will be held July 29 at the rummage sale.

### Old Business

- Volunteers will be used for cleaning the church. There is a sign-up sheet which specifically describes all cleaning tasks. Scheduling is flexible. Teams of three will vacuum the sanctuary. Teams of two will do the mopping. A new vacuum cleaner has been purchased, and cleaning supplies are available for all tasks.
- We think that the regular cleaning of our church can be handled by volunteers. We will try it first, at least through July. If it doesn't work out, we will have to consider hiring a cleaning person.
- Since we are without a formal Trustee group, our church council members have been handling the maintenance issues, and this has been working well. We will continue this practice for the foreseeable future.
- We are developing a list of approved contractors and vendors to be used in standard situations.
- We will be more diligent in keeping records, i.e. why a certain thing was done, and the reasoning behind the decision. It will prevent making the same mistake twice, and will also be a great help to our successors in the future.

- Church Treasurer: This position is now open. Our bylaws state that it must be a church member, but not necessarily an active member. It will be advertised in the church bulletin and the Key. Christine Burman will prepare the article.
- Sandstone repair on preschool building will begin in July.
- The organ has been repaired and we have received the bill, approximately \$3,000. The money will come partially from the Music Fund, and partially from a special fund raiser.
- Pastor Chris recently had a conversation with David Happel, son of our former Pastor, Robert Happel. Part of the discussion centered around whether we may use money from the Happel funds to help with current expenses. The answer is that the Happel Family is committed to honoring the memory of their father. They wish to remain true to his original purpose in setting up the funds, which was his deeply felt desire to help others with their education. We will respect the wishes of the Happel Family by limiting the funds to educational use.

### New Business

- An inquiry was made as to whether we would sell a few of our wooden folding chairs. There is evidence that they may be worth more than just a few dollars as we originally thought. We will try to determine their actual value before we decide whether or not to sell.
- Will the proposed volunteer cleaning include the preschool building? That will have to be determined. It will depend on the level of cleaning the preschool expects and how much they can do themselves.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Adjournment:** Meeting ended at 8:22 PM after prayer by Pastor Chris.

**Respectfully submitted, June 21, 2023**

Tom Hollstein, Council Secretary



## JULY EVENTS

Pastor Chris will be on vacation

June 26-July 4, returning to the office July 5

July 2 Communion Sunday with the  
**Rev. Paul Eaton** as our guest pastor  
Quilts of Valor presentation

3rd-4th Kaye will be out of the office.

**July 7 Miskov Wedding Rehearsal 6 PM**  
**Dinner 7 PM Cole's Public House**

**July 8 Miskov Wedding at Noon**

July 13 Men's Breakfast, Quarry Café 9:30 AM

July 16 Outdoor Worship Service

July 17 Council Meeting Zoom 7 PM

July 19 Clergy Meeting, Fireside 11:30 AM

July 29 Rummage Sale 9-3:00 PM

Communion Visits:

Monday, July 10 & 24 from 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., July 13, 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.*

## JULY BIRTHDAYS



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

P S A L M 2 0 : 4

James Adkins..... July 04

Karen Geduldig..... July 06

Karen Norton..... July 10

Carri Thompson ..... July 15

Diane Barnum ..... July 18

Erin Link ..... July 19

Teri Walter ..... July 22

Gary Thompson..... July 23

Wendy Kosakowski .... July 26

## OUTDOOR WORSHIP

July 16th & August 20th

St. Peter's

## Craft Club

Off month of July & August.

## St. Peter's Needs a Treasurer! *Can you help?*

St. Peter's is seeking a new Treasurer as Sally Readinger will be retiring from this position. She has graciously agreed to stay on through the end of July. Thank you Sally! Tasks include:

- writing checks and reconciling the checkbook
- paying bills and working with the CPA
- attending monthly council meetings

A volunteer would be appreciated, but compensation can be negotiated. Please call the church office at 440-988-4965 if interested. Thank you!

## Altar Guild Still Needs Help!

The Altar Guild desperately needs help and are looking for new members, **including couples**. 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.



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

In May,  
we collected  
**101**  
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 Meeting on July 6 at 10:30

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

Jim Koler

Jean Marsh

Richard McCurdy

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.