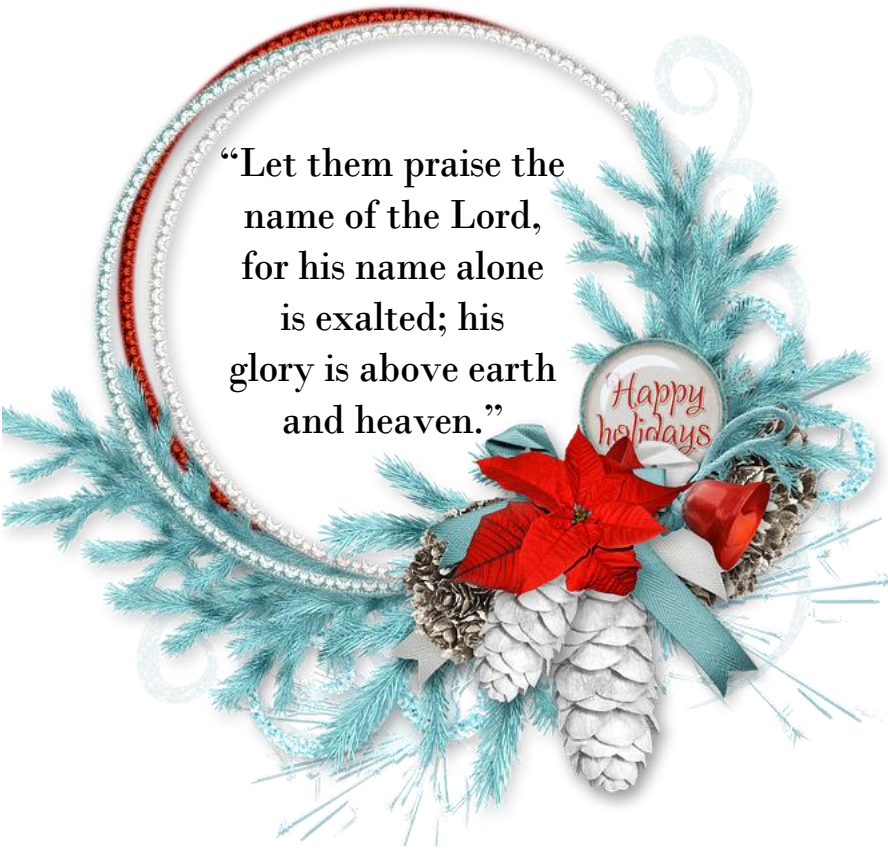




**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



“Let them praise the  
name of the Lord,  
for his name alone  
is exalted; his  
glory is above earth  
and heaven.”

**PSALM 148:13**

**January 5, 2025 | Happy New Year**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\*(Stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Greeting      Announcements      Birthdays      Anniversaries*

PASTOR: *"This is the day the lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."*

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Stand as you are able.)* Rev. Boehm

Leader: Arise! Shine, for our light has come!

**People: The glory of the Lord has been revealed to us through the birth of His son, Jesus Christ.**

Leader: The Light of Israel is a light to all the world, reflected through our radiance.

**People: Come, worship the Lord, our Light. Sing praise to the Triune God who has been revealed to us this day.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #163** *"As With Gladness Men of Old"*

**\*MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)* Don Ramsey

Enter into our hearts, Lord Jesus, and be revealed anew, as You were revealed to the Magi who came from afar so long ago to kneel before you. Let your Holy Spirit leap within us so that we may radiate the joy and love of those who call You their Lord and Savior. Through our actions and our love let the world know the true meaning of the gospel news that the angels proclaimed, so that they too may follow the star that leads to salvation. Amen.

Choral Response: *"Gloria Patri"* #623

*(Please be seated)*

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #136 *"The First Noel"*, verses 1, 3, 5

## **PASTORAL PRAYER      LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Choral Response: #126 *"A Nativity Prayer"* (sung by Congregation)

## **A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 2: 25-35 #833

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 40: 3-5 #581

HANDBELL CHOIR: *"We Three Kings"*

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: *"They Knew"*

## **A TIME OF GIVING**

PASTOR: OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*Doxology #625 unison prayer of dedication

praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above ye Heavenly host; \*\*  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(\*\*alternate: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen)*

PASTOR: OFFERTORY PRAYER

## A TIME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

As we join in taking communion this morning,  
let us share in a moment of silence.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**People: It is right to give our Thanks and Praise.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### A TIME OF GOING OUT

#### THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)*

#### Congregation sings "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*And a Happy New Year!*

*Good tidings to you wherever you are.*

*Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas,*

*And a Happy New Year!*

\*HYMN SENDING FORTH #125 *"Joy to the World"*

## PASTORAL BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*(Please remain seated "quietly" during the postlude.)*

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**Everyone is Welcome! Feel at home, for Christ Jesus is our host. If you are visiting for the first time, we are delighted to have you here!**

The Psalmist sings: *“Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing... thanksgiving... and praise.”* We pray peace and joy to you, dear friend.

## **WORSHIP TEAM**

Guest Minister	Rev. Mike Boehm
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Zoom Assistant	Tom Hollstein
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Scripture Reader	Tom Hollstein
Ushers	Geoff Gatz, Linda Gatz Don Ramsey, Marcia Ramsey

# Church News

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For safety reasons the front steps to the sanctuary will be closed for the months of January and February. The elevator and west Walker lobby doors will be open. Thank you.

On January 12<sup>th</sup> after worship, everyone is invited to help take down the Christmas decorations. *Thanks in advance!*

## **Circle Six Meeting**

Circle Six's next meeting is Tuesday, January 7 at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Bring your own dinner and your wrapped gift for our White Elephant gift exchange. -*Sally Readinger*

# Help Feed our Children!



Needed items for CHILDREN'S WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM

- . Single Serving PB & Jelly
- . Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)
- . Oatmeal Packages
- . Peanut Butter Crackers
- . Individual Cereals
- . Small Bag Pretzels
- . Canned Soup (Pop top lids)
- . Granola Bars
- . Small Bag Chips
- . Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)
- . Fruit Cups & Jello Cups

There's a great need for the following items for the Food Pantry:

- 1. Peanut Butter**
- 2. Spaghetti Sauce**
- 3. Canned Tuna or Chicken**

Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Pam Miskov will make sure donations are delivered. Thanks to Pam and everyone for all you do in helping others!

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## Ponderings About St. Peter's

In the 1974 May "Key" a reference was made to the fact that St. Peter's had sent a check for \$600 to the Rev. Clayton Rammler, Executive Minister of our Southwest Ohio Association. This money was from the St. Peter's "Tornado Relief" offering received on Easter and the following Sunday. Some of you may recall the 1974 Tornado Outbreak. On April 3-4, 1974 there was a historic "Super Outbreak" that produced more than 100 tornados in a 24-hour period. In fact, 148 confirmed tornados occurred in the U.S. and Canada, 30 of which were F4 & F5. The path of these storms stretched 2,598 miles. Xenia, Ohio was one of the hardest hit areas. Winds of 250-305 MPH leveled half the city in a matter of minutes. There were 34 fatalities and 1,150 injured. The damage there was estimated to be at least \$100 million. It is nice to know that even then we were "caring for others."

# CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR FOCUSED ON JESUS

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## YOGA with Mary-K

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM

Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

Cost is \$10 per class.

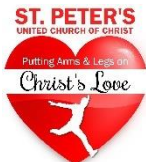
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## Worship Committee Meeting today after worship in the Fireside Room.

Please fill out the Participation cards and drop into the offering plate. *Cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you!

Help us continue to move forward in faith by submitting your pledge card, if you have not already done so. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*



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.

Join us LIVE on **Facebook: St. Peter's UCC Amherst, OH**

**Zoom: Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**  
(or call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099)

The service will be posted at a later date to view on our  
**YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst**

# What's Happening

## This Week's Events

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- Mon., Jan. 6 Spiritual Life visitations throughout the week  
Preschool classes resume
- Tues., Jan. 7 Circle 6, 6 PM, Fellowship Hall  
Bible Study 7 PM
- Wed., Jan. 8 YOGA with Mary-K 8:30-9:45 AM  
Coffee Chats, Sandstone 9-11 AM
- Thurs., Jan. 9 YOGA with Mary-K, 6-7:15 PM  
No Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- Sun., Jan. 12 Worship Service 10 AM

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Monday–Thursday 8:30-2:30 PM

**Address:** 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

**Website:** [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)

**Phone:** 440-988-4965

Judy McCurdy, Church Council President  
[president@stpetersamherst.org](mailto:president@stpetersamherst.org) 440-988-4965

Kaye Oswald, Church Office Administrator  
[admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org](mailto:admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org) 440-988-4965

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*to make your donation electronically* via Breeze or Paypal.  
**Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT!**  
For more detailed information, contact the church office.

**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Please remember St. Peter's UCC in your estate planning.*