

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

"The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

PSALM 51:17

March 2022

THE KEY

40 DAYS OF LENT
ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2

RETURN TO
THE LORD
YOUR GOD.

"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

March 2022

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



"March-Ing Forward In Faith"

"Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace."

(MATTHEW 6:6 THE MESSAGE)

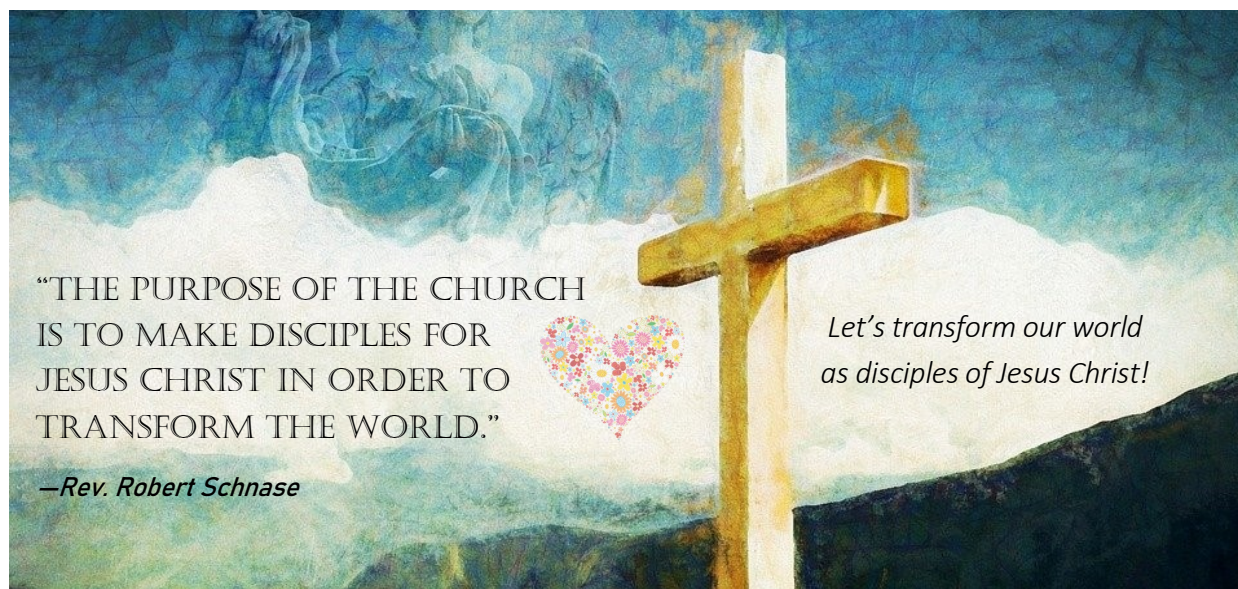
One of the reasons that Jesus' disciples left their lives in order to follow Jesus was because they wanted to grow in faith and knowledge. The relatively short time the disciples spent with Jesus ignited a lifetime (albeit, brief lives) of learning. One of the lessons that the disciples learned, and one which all Christians should follow, was how to pray to God. The above scripture leaves off right before Jesus teaches what we know as, The Lord's Prayer. Find a quiet place and shift our focus from ourselves to God and we will begin to experience God's grace, according to Eugene Peterson, author of *The Message, The Bible in Contemporary Language*.

Do you have, or would you even want, a "quiet place?" Do you find it hard to sit in silence for even a few minutes? Many of us think that we are more comfortable with noise all around us, almost as if noise is a security blanket. I had a friend in seminary who would leave his television on in his room so that when he came back to his room he didn't feel so alone. For those of us who live alone silence can seem like an enemy. I had a teacher once claim that: "God's first

language was silence." So, if we want to speak and understand the language of God, we need to condition ourselves to be more comfortable with silence.

The key phrase I used above is "condition ourselves," which means to approach silence, if we are uncomfortable, with the attitude of an athlete beginning their training for an event. We need to build our ability to be in silence for longer periods of time by challenging ourselves to find a quiet place and spend one minute, then two, and so on, until we are comfortable. If we exercise silence daily, then our lives will become more attuned to hearing God's voice.

Lent (which means spring, in old English) is a perfect time for us to begin our training regimen. We will have a special service on **Ash Wednesday, March 2, held in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m., complete with the imposition of ashes**, to begin our season of Lent. A common spiritual practice during the season of Lent is to give up something as a



gesture of repentance and sacrifice; things like chocolate and sweets, coffee, TV, exercise (*No. I made that one up!*) or something that we can give up that would be a reminder of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us as we eagerly anticipate Easter. My suggestion for us is that we give up a bit of noise each day in order to find a quiet place where God's voice can be heard.

Another part of our Lenten journey this year, will be a **five-part sermon series** based on Rev. Robert Schnase, *Cultivating Fruitfulness, Five Weeks of Prayer and Practice for Congregations*. I believe that this season of Lent will

be a season of spiritual growth for all of us and that it will make St. Peter's UCC, an even more attractive and inviting place to grow in faith. As the Rev. Robert Schnase says, ***"The purpose of the church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ in order to transform the world."*** MAY THIS BE OUR PURPOSE!

Remember, you are loved!

Rev. Chris Buckingham-Taylor

Pastor Chris

3/2 ASH WEDNESDAY Matthew 6:16-21

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door

and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

February Sermon Scriptures continued on page 4:

3/6– Matthew 25:31-36 3/13– Luke 10:25-37 3/20– John 15:1-7 3/27– Luke 6:24-31





MARCH SERMON SCRIPTURE READINGS

3/6 Matthew 25:31-36

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

3/13 Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

3/20 John 15:1-17

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in

them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

3/27 Luke 6:24-31

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.



For our HISTORY BUFFS

...continued from last month.

The architectural style is described as “Homemade Gothic”. Its spire rises over a 100 feet in the air and towers over other buildings in town.

In 1901 Rev. S. Lindemeyer, our pastor, served the new St. John's in South Amherst.

In 1924 the church windows needed extensive repairs and it was decided to replace them with art glass windows. Organizations, within the church, raised money for the windows and families gave windows as memorials.

On September 14th, the windows were dedicated. The cost was \$4,000.00. In 1974 the 50th anniversary of the windows was celebrated. The windows were insured for \$70,000.

In 1931 the parsonage was built and in 1942 the sanctuary was redecorated.

In 1950 the annex was added to the rear of the church. It contained eight class rooms, a new kitchen and a new heating system.

...continued next month.

The Altar Guild Still Needs Help—many hands make less work.

Weekly Altar Guild Duties

1. Check candles every week. Change when more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the candle is burnt.
2. Mark the Bible readings in the Bible on the Lectern by checking the bulletin for the Bible verse(s) for the service.
3. The book on the altar should be opened to the Sunday marked on the UCC calendar found by the sink. (On communion Sundays the book and missal stand should be moved to the bottom shelf of the pulpit.)
4. Change the paraments according to the UCC calendar found by the sink.
5. Keep altar linens and acolytes' robes clean.
6. Check the bulletin for birth or death notices. A red flower is used for births and a white flower for deaths. The silk flowers and glass tubes are in the altar guild cabinet. The flower is inserted in the glass tube holder and placed above the altar carving to the right of the cross.
7. Check the flower sign-up sheet to determine if flowers will need to be picked up for the Sunday service.



Communion

The first Sunday of each month, remove flowers from the altar panel shelf and place altar taper candles on the altar panel shelf. During Covid pandemic, self-contained communion elements (wine or juice and wafer in one container for each person) will be used. Communion elements will be placed in three baskets at each entrance to the church—at the main entrance, sanctuary entrance by the elevator, and the sanctuary entrance by the Walker lobby. Baskets should be labeled for juice and wine with regular wafer, and juice with gluten free wafer. On the altar the Pastor's bread is placed on the left and the Pastor's wine on the right.

Note: Check the Altar Guild cabinet for detailed instructions on Baptisms, Weddings, and Funerals.

Please contact Lynn Hollstein at **(440) 988-8066**.



MARCH

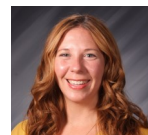
St. Peter's Preschool News



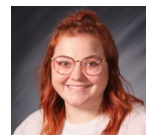
Wendy Kosakowski



Heather Nail



Kerri Kobylka



Ms. Stempowski

This month, the children will work on the letters Jj, Ff, Rr, and the number 9. March is full of many activities for the preschool. The preschool will be selling...

Suzin L Chocolates FOR EASTER

If you are interested, candy forms will be in the church

office. All orders are due by March 6. Please make out a check to St. Peter's UCC Preschool. The teachers will be holding conferences during the month of March. **SPRING BREAK STARTS MARCH 21 THROUGH MARCH 25.**

School resumes on Monday, March 28. Thank you to everyone who ordered Soul on Fire Pizza. We appreciate it!!

The Preschool is now enrolling for the 2022-2023 school year. For more information, call the preschool at **(440) 985-1972**. You can also email the school at preschl@stpetersamherst.org.

Sincerely,

Wendy Kosakowski
Preschool Director

...but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."



Christian Education Update

Noisy collection donations from December and January will be going toward **Good Knights**, a local organization that branched off from Sleep in Heavenly Peace and makes beds and supplies bedding to children in the area that otherwise would not have one. February and March noisy collections will go toward buying Easter dinners for local families in need.

COMING SOON!

Gingerbread Bash was such a success that we will be launching an Easter version called **"Easter Egg**

Stravaganza." It will be both in person and virtual as the Gingerbread Bash was. Details coming soon!

While church is virtual only, our Facebook Sunday School page will be up and running again. It will feature crafts, coloring pages, stories, videos and sometimes even snack ideas! Search "St Peter's Shelter in Place Sunday School" and ask to join.

Sincerely, Jessie Kubuske,
Director of Christian Education

**EASTER
EGG-STRAVAGANZA**

**IN PERSON
& VIRTUAL!**

Operation Christmas Child 2021 Report

Below is the report from Samaritan's Purse for the 2021 Shoebox Ministry. I have also attached two of the examples from the report so you can read about where some of them went and what happened as a result. To read the full report I invite you to go to the Samaritan Purse website at:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/2021-special-report/>

I again want to thank all of you who participated and invite all of St. Peter's to join us in 2022. Remember it is never too early to begin scoping out deals on items to fill your boxes.

Love and Peace, Linda Gatz

In 2021, Samaritan's Purse continued to declare God's glory in more than 100 countries and territories through Operation Christmas Child—including among many unreached people groups at the very ends of the earth. We praise God that more than 9.1 million shoebox gifts were distributed to children in need at over 81,000 outreach events!

"Every shoebox represents an opportunity to reach one more child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

—Franklin Graham

In Gabon, the Baka people live on the margins of society and have typically been outside the reach of the Gospel. But that began to change when shoeboxes were given out in a remote village. All 354 children in the community turned out for the festive outreach event—and all the adults, too! Everyone listened carefully as they heard the Gospel for the first time and discovered how much God loved them. At the end of the presentation, all of the children—and all of the adults—prayed to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior! The village

chief, who also gave his life to Christ, was so impressed with the event that he set aside some land for a church to be built. Praise God!

In Bulgaria, many children dig through trash dumps to find food or items they can sell. So, our ministry partners there decided to meet the kids where they were and gave out shoeboxes at a garbage site. Over 40 boys and girls were delighted to receive new toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. They also heard the Gospel and many of them committed their lives to Jesus.



Please JOIN US at CRAFT CLUB!

Monday | March 28 | 6:30 pm

Masks aren't required if you **have been** fully vaccinated. If you **haven't been** vaccinated, we require you to wear a mask for your own protection. Bring your current (or old) craft project to work on and to have some fun fellowship with other crafters!

Circle Six Meeting

PROGRAM: REBECCA MCFARLAND
TUES., MARCH. 1, 6:00 P.M.

Our next Circle Six meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring your own dinner and beverage. Our program is scheduled to be presented by Rebecca McFarland—topic yet to be determined. I will notify all members if there are any changes.

Thank you,
Sally Readinger, President



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Feb. 21, 2021 Minutes

ATTENDEES:

President: Mary-K Kirsch	X	Pastor: Chris Buckingham-Taylor	X
Vice President: Christine Burman	X	Trustee: Jim Kubuske	X
Secretary: Susan Cherry	X	Congregational Rep: Kaye Koler	X
Treasurer: Lauri Hubach	X	Congregational Rep: Tom Hollstein	X
Congregational Rep.: Stacy Gleason	X	Financial Secretary: Rebecca Woods	X
Congregational Rep.: Sally Readinger	X	Congregational Rep: Susan Conkle	X
Past President Moderator: Shelley Harmych	E	X= present; E=excused; A=absent	

Visitors: Sharon and Gary Thompson, Geoff and Linda Gatz, Jessie Kubuske, and Lynn Hollstein
President Mary-K Kirsch opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. and Pastor Chris gave an opening prayer.

Trustee Report

The following Trustee Report was submitted to members of Council:

Trustees Meeting Feb. 17, 2022

Attendance: Jim Kubuske, Geoff Gatz, Gary Thompson, Don Krueck, Edgar Vargas, Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor

The preschool needed a certificate of occupancy for classrooms. After searching for this data to no avail, Jim checked with Tammy at the Amherst building inspector's office. Edgar will measure rooms and submit measurements to the building inspector.

Pastor Chris inquired about ice issues, if there was anything to be concerned about with the upcoming ice storm, and building shut down. Trustees felt things would be fine, Edgar checked during his normal business time.

Chimney work that was to be done is on hold due to weather.

The outside door to the elevator had a lock that would not work. Edgar will check (he did, it was frozen and is fine now).

Pastor Chris has inquired with the tax office and we need to go forward with changing the status of

the parsonage. As it is now, we should not be paying taxes on it.

Geoff Gatz raised the question as to what to do with parsonage. Gary Thompson will send information to council members as to possible options. No decisions have been made, trustees are looking at options.

Pastor Chris mentioned what a great job Born did during the last snow storm. Edgar mentioned that he was there when they arrived and walked the truck operator on what needed to be plowed and shoveled. After the last snowstorm, Jim stopped by their office and discussed that they had not shoveled as was agreed, and "Sasha" the receptionist agreed, and passed along the information.

Next meeting on Zoom. March 17, 2022, 6 p.m.

Jim Kubuske verbally added that the Sanctuary, Sunday School, Fellowship Hall, and the Preschool are all going through the occupancy inspection.

Sally Readinger asked for additional information about the 11.6% (\$25.00 fee) increase in the bill submitted by Edgar. Jim Kubuske stated that the amount was

approved by the Trustees. Mary-K suggested more information from Edgar regarding this monthly charge would be helpful. Jim and Sally will meet to discuss the increase.

Treasurer Report:

Mary-K asked if there were any questions from Council members regarding the Treasurer's Report submitted by Lauri? Linda Gatz asked if we were paying for the organist/choir director and bell choir director's salaries, since the choirs and bell choir duties had been suspended during the time that we moved to Zoom only for Sunday worship. We are paying Daniel for the organ music, but we have not paid for choir director or bell choir director during this time of in-person worship suspension.

Pass-Through payments needing approval:

<u>Payable To:</u>	<u>For:</u>
APL	\$0.00
Veterans of the Cross	\$8.00
NIN	\$0.00
Big Brothers	\$0.00
OGHS Endowment	\$0.00
OGHS	\$0.00
Strengthen the Church	\$0.00
OCWM*	<u>\$105.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$113.00</u>

*Our Church's Wider Mission

General Fund Summary

	Jan. 22	Jan. 21	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	Change
Offerings Cash/Check	10,719.85	9,295.00	10,719.85	9,295.00	1,424.85
Offerings Breeze	1,592.00	1,397.00	1,592.00	1,397.00	195.00
Offerings PayPal	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	(25.00)
Transfer to General	1,770.00	1,450.00	1,770.00	1,450.00	320.00
PPP Loan Forgiveness/EIDL	0.00		0.00		0.00
Blessings from the Saints	6,086.19	8,623.89	6,086.19	8,623.89	2,537.70
Expenses	(20,168.04)	(20,790.89)	(20,168.04)	(20,790.89)	622.85
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,075.40

Full report available in the church office.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PASS-THROUGHS. THE MOTION PASSED.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Chris reported that there will be Ash Wednesday services in the sanctuary on March 2, 2022, from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. He also has planned, for the month of March, a weekly series of 5 Lenten messages.

Moderator Report

Mary-K reported that the members did discuss ways for the Church to save money. They also discussed ways to raise additional money. A financial committee is being put together. Members that have already agreed to take part are Geoff Gatz, Lauri Hubach, Tom Hollstein and Pastor Chris.

To save money, the copier default was changed to black and white copies. Jessie Kubuske asked if it were possible to make color copies if she needed to for Sunday School. Jessie needs to see Kaye Oswald for assistance when color copies are needed.

Financial Secretary Report

Becky Woods gave the Financial Secretary's Report for the month of January 2022. Offerings for the month were \$12,146.08. She also noted that lately we have been averaging over \$2,000.00 per week in offerings.

Spiritual Life/Compassionate Care

Sharon Thompson gave a report for the Compassionate Care group. They are working on Care Bags for walkers, Care Bags for non-walkers, and they discussed delivering soup to people.

Altar Guild

Two meetings will take place this week to separately discuss with Pastor Chris Ash Wednesday and Easter. The ashes for Ash Wednesday are in the Altar Guild closet.

Ushers

No report for the month.

Tech Team

Mary-K reported that she submitted a bill for \$20 for new earphones for better communications between herself and other Tech-Team members.

Old Business-Trustees

The Trustees have put together an analysis of what to do with the parsonage going forward. Pastor Chris requested that council members read through the report and prepare to discuss it at next month's meeting.

New Business

Pastor Chris commented that in reopening in-person worship, we should encourage people to wear masks and to maintain social distance. He felt that we need to move forward and look at increasing the capacity for Fellowship Hall and other areas of the church. We should call back Daniel Jacky to play the organ in person and to start up Sunday School again. Should we reopen in-person worship this Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022, or on March 1, 2022? We went around the room and everyone expressed his or her opinion on when and how we should reopen. The consensus was to reopen on Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022 and go back to pre-Covid status, specifically, people should mask at their own discretion, open the use of Fellowship Hall, and wait for fire code occupancy numbers to determine capacity in the various areas of the church. Edgar no longer needs to sanitize church areas; however, this directive does not cover the preschool or common areas used by the preschoolers.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO OPEN THE CHURCH, TO RELEASE COVID RESTRICTIONS, AND TO USE MASKS AT PERSONAL DISCRETION. THE MOTION PASSED.

For February 27, there will be coffee hour after the church service.

A question arose if Kaye Oswald could use the garage during inclement weather. Mary-K assigned the question to the Trustees to look into and get back to Council.

Mary-K paired Council Members to discuss and report back at the next council meeting with their various ideas for fundraisers to raise additional income.

The next council meeting will be on March 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. **A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.**

Pastor Chris gave the closing prayer and the meeting ended at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cherry, Council Secretary

MARCH EVENTS

Mar. 1 Circle Six 6:00 p.m.
Mar. 2 Ash Wednesday 7 p.m. Sanctuary
 Mar. 3 Girl Scouts 5:30-7:00 p.m.
 Compassionate Care 10:30 a.m.
 Mar. 6 Communion Sunday
 Mar. 7 Boy Scouts 6-8:30 p.m.
 Mar. 8 Preschool Board Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
 Mar. 16 Clergy Meeting 11:30 a.m. FH
 Mar. 17 Trustees Meeting 6:00 p.m.
 Mar. 21 Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Mar. 27 Family Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m.
 Mar. 28 Craft Club 6:30 p.m. Fireside Room

Sanctuary Choir 6:30 p.m. / Handbell Choir
 7:30 p.m., Thursdays
 Spiritual Life: 1-4:00 p.m. Mondays
 Bible Study: 7:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Zoom
 Breeze Chapel: 7-7:30 p.m., Wednesdays
 Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris
 9-11:00 a.m., Wednesdays at Arabica's!



ANSWERING GOD'S CALL *will multiply your gift!*

My family and I answered a calling to a crisis at Neighborhood Alliance that was hit hard with COVID by the residents and staff. They had to quarantine the building and put residents in a hotel. They asked for meals to feed 40 people.

On Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, a warm meal of lasagna with rolls, salad, 3 baked cakes, and 40 printed scriptures to share God's love and Holy Word for encouragement, were delivered.

On top of the staff receiving all the food, they then needed to prepare individual meals to be delivered to the residents at the hotel, following Covid protocol. I was so worried about providing enough food for everyone.

Two weeks ago I received a thank you stating they had plenty of food to feed *everyone* in the shelter and warming centers. **We're so blessed the food given reached more people beyond my expectations!** "With God all things are possible."

Love and Peace,
 Pam Miskov



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

P S A L M 20 : 4

June Nau	March 01
Susan Cherry	March 03
Lloyd McGinnis	March 09
Audrey Huber	March 10
Heather Bring	March 12
Donald Ramsey	March 13
Earl Wiegand	March 13
Carol Faragher	March 14
Edgar Vargas	March 21
Robert Bruce	March 22
Kelly Dupaski	March 24
Carol Murphy	March 25
Russ Cambarare	March 26
Douglas Haney	March 26
Karen Bruce	March 28
Audrey Montgomery	March 30

Greetings
 St. Peter's People!



We are so grateful to all who make it possible to gather Sunday mornings on Zoom. We "Praise God and Jesus Christ", being filled with the nourishment of God's Holy Word through prayer, scripture, song, and an uplifting sermon by Pastor Chris. It prepares and inspires us for the days ahead, applying God's word through action, ready for the moment God may use us to be a blessing to someone in this hurting world who needs us.

With grateful hearts, Spiritual Life Ministry along with Compassionate Care, continue to reach out to our church family in prayer, phone calls, cards, even at times dropping off homemade soup at a front door. Due to COVID there has been no in-person, Communion Visits. With God's love and guidance, we hope to resume visits when it is safe to do so, with the support of Church Council. We love and miss our times together.

We are so grateful to hear of the many stories of how St. Peter's people and the various ministries are reaching out into the Community, answering God's calling to safely serve those in great need during COVID. "Thank you" to all who give of their time and share their talents. Keep sharing God's love and serving His people so they may feel His loving presence through us.

Luke 10:27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

As we move forward to the upcoming weeks, let us prepare for the Holy Season of Lent with reflection, service and prayer. Fill your heart with God's Holy Word. May we grow closer to God preparing our hearts as we walk with Christ.

The love and peace of Christ be with you.

Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor, Pam Miskov, Judy McCurdy



Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank you, for you are a just and righteous God.

Even though you are a holy God, you love us with all our flaws. There is none like you, my King. Healing and wholeness lie in your hands. You heal those that cry out to you day and night for help; that is why I come before your throne to ask you to heal me and make me whole again. Remove this sickness from my body and cause me to enjoy good health for the glory of your name.

In Jesus' name, I believe and pray.

Prayer Changes Things

Please add the following people to your prayers:

Don Swift
Bev Mischka
Audrey Montgomery
Janet Siron
Judy Baker
Jean Swift
Tudy Diaz

Serita Reyes
Dot Wilford
Joyce Darakis
Sherry Spratt
Mary Ann Sterna
Glenn Miskov
Valentino Dziak

Karin Andy
Christine Burman
Lois Barnes
Elaine Thompson
Ruth Kossow
May Poor
Roger Becker

Carol Battenhouse
Darlene Mudrich
Jean Marsh
Edgar Vargas
Tom McKinley
♥ Family of Ida Horvatic

If you would like to be added or removed from this list, please contact the church office at **440-988-4965** or **adminofc@stpetersamherst.org** or Compassionate Care **sgthompson@windstream.net**

Sharing is Caring



'TRULY I TELL YOU,
JUST AS YOU DID IT
TO ONE OF THE LEAST
OF THESE WHO ARE
MEMBERS OF MY FAMI-
LY, YOU DID IT TO ME.'

MATTHEW 25:40

For the month of February, we collected 52 food items!

Thank you to everyone who *continually* donates items to the food bank. It is greatly appreciated by St. Peter's church, and those receiving help!

A big thank you to Pam Miskov for taking the time to ensure all the items are transported to Good Shepherd Baptist Food Bank. There currently is a need for:

Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken)	Kleenex	Paper Towels
Canned Soup (Pop top lids)	Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta
Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)	Peanut Butter	Jelly
Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)	Oatmeal Cereal	

Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church.



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



Jessie Kubuske, Christian Ed. Director
(440) 988-4965
dir.ed@stpetersamherst.org



Kaye Oswald, Administrative Secretary
(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.

Please visit our website, 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

Mary-K Kirsch, Council President	(216) 559-6160	president@stpetersamherst.org
Christine Burman Council Vice-President	(440) 522-8035	redcar1105@yahoo.com
Susan Cherry, Council Secretary	(440) 988-7425	secretary@stpetersamherst.org
Lauri Hubach, Treasurer	(440) 988-2459	treasurer@stpetersamherst.org

St. Peter's Preschool

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

Website and Social Media Addresses

St. Peter's Website	www.stpetersamherst.org
St. Peter's Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/stpetersuccamherstoh
St. Peter's Twitter	https://www.twitter.com/StPetersUCCOh
St. Peter's YouTube Channel	St Peters UCC Amherst