

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

582 Church Street

Amherst, Ohio 44001

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Afternoons available by appointment

“So if the Son makes you Free, You will be free indeed.”

John 8:36

July 2021

THE KEY



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





THE KEY

July 2021

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**"God renew our strength, as we prepare
for the year of ministry ahead!"**

—Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor

Dear St. Peter's People,

My first month of ministry at St. Peter's has flown by and I am still trying to gather my wits. The sheer exhaustion of moving and getting acquainted with a new home, community, church and area, takes a toll, and yet, I am reminded of one of my favorite scriptures —Psalm 121:

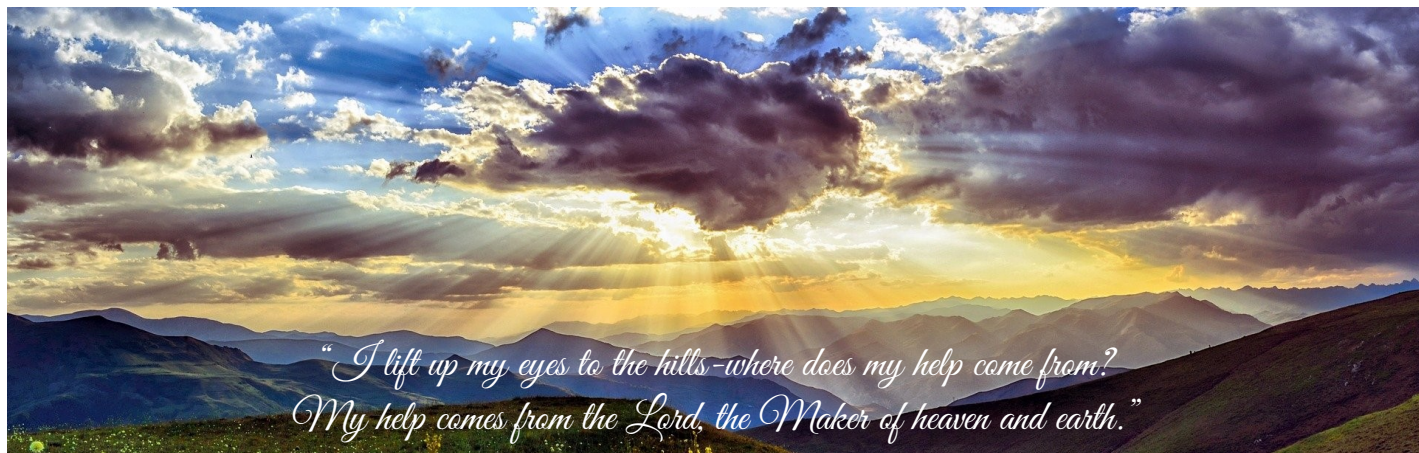
***"I lift up my eyes to the hills-
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth."***

Somehow, in-spite of how tired and weary we may be, the Lord always provides us with new life and energy.

Perhaps, as I am, you too, are feeling energized and excited for our new ministry at St. Peter's UCC? I have just celebrated twenty-five-years of ordained ministry and have always relied on the summer season as a time for God to renew my strength. I have also found that, in general, the church's schedule slows down during the summertime, and that most members take the much deserved and needed time off for themselves to allow God to renew their strength, as well.

Although summer can be a time for churches to slow down and take a breath, many churches continue at a frenzied pace as they welcome such summertime activities as VBS, youth retreats, camp ministry, and mission trips, as examples. I think it is necessary and important to take a spiritual sabbath during the summer. That does not mean that the church should shut down in the summer, but rather-it suggests that we should intentionally use the summer as a time for God to renew our strength as we prepare for the year of ministry ahead.

Pacing ourselves, and catching our breath, are especially important after this last year. COVID 19 has been a huge drain on our energies as individuals, communities, churches and countries. An often, overlooked part of this feeling of lethargy is because we have been worn down by the fear of the disease itself. Living in a state of constant fear, the fear of contracting the illness or giving it to someone we love, has taken its toll on us. Also, having to wear masks everywhere, to constantly be vigilant with our hand washing and social distancing, took away our energy. We spent a lot of energy having to learn new things and worship in new ways- learning new things



can be exhausting. We had to adapt to technologies that were unfamiliar to some of us just in order to share in worship, or spend time with family, to participate in a bible study or attend a meeting via Zoom. Remember how hard it was to not only enter your first Zoom meeting, but also to figure out how to see everyone who was attending the meeting? Perhaps there were times when you struggled to find the worship service link? Some of us could not adapt to the use of computers, or we did not have strong enough Wi-Fi to participate in online church activities, which led to our feeling more isolated and alone, and contributed to our overall state of lethargy. We need rest and renewal!

And when we are weary and tired and struggle to continue our journey-from where does our strength come? We look to the hills for the strength to continue to answer God's call. With that in mind, as my strength is being renewed by God, and as I too enjoy the warmth and slower (mostly maskless) pace of summer, the Spirit is placing ideas for ministry and outreach in my mind and heart, which I will explore and share with our church leaders as we decide together how best to proceed.

There is much to do, and God has great things in store for St. Peter's UCC, in Amherst, Ohio! But, first, let us pace ourselves and allow our Spirits to be renewed and our strength to be replenished. I truly hope you will have a refreshing summer, and I look forward to all that we will be able to do together as we continue to build God's Kingdom.

Remember, you are loved!

Pastor Chris

Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor



July Sermon Scriptures: 7/4 - Mark 6:1-13 7/11 - Mark 6:14-29 7/18 - Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 7/25 - John 6:1-21

Please see next page.



JULY SERMON SCRIPTURE READINGS

7/4 Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

7/11 Mark 6:14-29

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

7/18 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

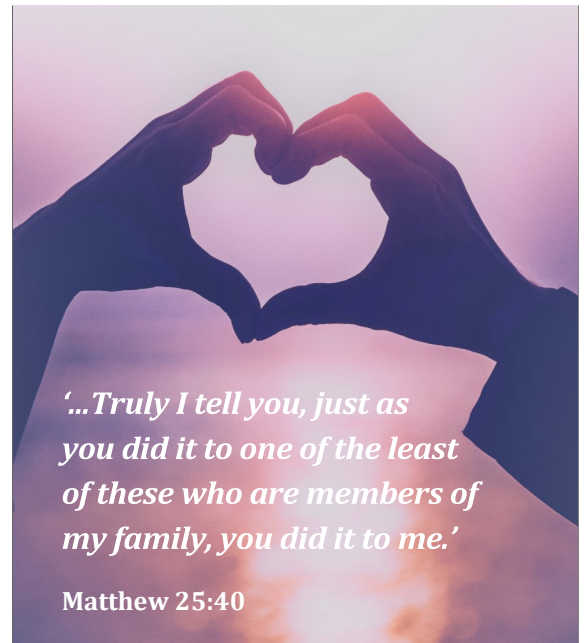
7/25 John 6:1-21

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

A Wonderful Time *at our* Worship Service *at* Lakeview Park, June 13

After the early morning thunderstorms gave us a bit of a scare, the skies cleared and it turned out to be a BEAUTIFUL day for our outside service at Lakeview Park in Lorain. We had a great group of members, and a few visitors. The birds sang loudly to accompany our service, and the lake was so peaceful and nice! Pastor Chris gave us a wonderful service, telling us about lawns, dandelions and a mustard seed! We had music, thanks to Pastor Chris (*and since we were outside we could sing!*) and we concluded with some presents to welcome Pastor Chris. We had such an abundance of food it was amazing! **Many thanks to the committee of Jessie Kubuske, Kaye Koler and Jan Orseno** that planned the brunch after the service and to everyone that brought something to share! Everyone had such a wonderful time, we are going to try to do it again very soon! We hope everyone will be able to join us!



COMPASSIONATE CARE TEAM

Meetings are Now in Person!

We are happy to inform everyone the Compassionate Care Team will be going back to their normal meetings. It will be on the **first Thursday of every month.**

St. Peter's UCC | Fireside Room
Thursday, July 1, 10:30 a.m.

Below are current members on the team. Please reach out to Sharon Thompson at **(440) 327-3447** to join us helping others!

Judy Baker
Chris Buckingham-Taylor
Mary-K Kirsch
Beverly Mischka
Pamela Miskov
Janet Orseno
Serita Reyes
Sharon Thompson
Joan Whitman
Judy Whitman





"Backyard VBS" *TOTALLY TUBULAR!*

We will be heading back to the 80s this year with a **"backyard VBS"** where participants do the activities in their own backyard and/or home. Information on the parent portal for the videos, songs, and information will be sent to participants in early to mid July and **supplies will be provided during a "drive up" at the portico in early July.** Once adults register their children, they will receive further information and dates! Parents/

grandparents/guardians can email the church at dir.ed@stpetersamherst.org or call the church office at **440-988-4965** and leave information for us to contact them including name and an email address.

Jessie Kubuske

Director of Christian Education
dir.ed@Stpetersamherst.org



July St. Peter's Preschool News



The Preschool class of 2020-2021 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 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. Many of the parents are looking forward to sending their child to this year's VBS whether it is in person or virtually. Everyone can hardly wait!

The staff would also like to thank you for your support at our Dine to Donate at Soul on Fire Pizza fundraiser nights. We always enjoy a night off from cooking. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to the preschool board meeting baskets. It was so kind of you to help encourage parents to participate in the meeting and try to win one of the two baskets that were filled with many of your donations. **THANK YOU!!**

Miss Jones is off to college. She was a wonderful addition to our staff this year. We will miss her and wish her well as she continues her studies in education at Ashland. The preschool is setting up interviews for a poten-

tial Preschool Aide to start in the fall. Please keep us in your prayers.

The preschool is almost filled up. We have only a few spots left! 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 **440-985-1972**. 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 Jones

A Note from Audrey Montgomery!



Dear Friends, I am living proof that prayer works! My 4.5 hour surgery was complex and questionable as to my survival. My thoracic surgery along with the physicians, nursing staff, home health, and family thankfully all successfully helped me recover via the prayers on my behalf.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, God bless, *Audrey Montgomery*



Please JOIN US *at* CRAFT CLUB!

Monday | July 26 | 6:30 p.m.

Craft club will meet **July 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fireside room. 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. We will set up to be socially distanced.

All are welcome, bring your current (or old) craft project to work on and to have some fun fellowship with other crafters! Can't wait to see you then!



A Fun Time at the Circle 6 Picnic

Circle Six met in the Fellowship Hall for their June picnic on June 8 due to inclement weather. There was not a program, just lots of good food and fellowship along with a quick business meeting to get us ready for the upcoming year! Our first meeting next year will be **September 7**, the day after Labor Day and would love to have everyone (*including new members*) come! It will be at 6 p.m. at the **Amherst Beaver Creek picnic shelter**. Enjoy your summer and we'll "See you in September!"

St. Peter's Food Pantry

IF WE CAN CONQUER OUTER SPACE, WHY NOT HUNGER?

The month of April had a total of **170** food items donated. Thank you to everyone who donated items to the food bank. It is greatly appreciated by St. Peter's, 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 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 of boxes at the church.

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

MATTHEW 25:40

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

June 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	A	Financial Secretary: Rebecca Woods	x
Congregational Rep.: Sally Readinger	x	Congregational Rep: Susan Conkle	x

x= present; E=excused; A=absent

Visitors: Jessie Kubuske, Rachel Nagy, Wendy Kosakowski, Sharon Thompson

President Mary-K Kirsch convened the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor Chris gave the opening prayer.

Trustees Report

Jim Kubuske previously submitted the Trustees Report, which has been inserted below:

Trustee Meeting 6/17/21

In attendance: Don Kruecek, Jim Kubuske, Edgar Vargas

Old business:

Edgar and the trustees had no repairs this past month.

We were awarded the variance to go ahead with the lighted sign. Process will begin soon.

Griffith Blacktop was given a deposit and will call us with a date to seal and re-line the parking lot.

New Business:

Front door of the church needs to be sanded and varnished. Edgar will get a quote and information from Sherwin Williams, and hopefully the Trustees will be able to complete the job.

The downspout near the garage drains into the basement area and needs to be capped off and detoured into the lot. Edgar will take care of it.

Edgar has given the Trustees a quote of \$955 to clean and wax basement areas vacated by Movement Works. It will include the dance room, dance office/waiting room, classroom, hallway and bathroom. It will also include steam cleaning the carpet in the yoga room. (Jim Kubuske asked if he could approve the charges for cleaning the floors and Lauri Hubach informed him that if the cost is below \$2,500, he is able to approve the cost.)

Edgar has also given the preschool the same quote of \$955 to clean and wax floors in the preschool rooms. The question was raised if the preschool pays, or we share that expense with the preschool?

It should be noted that the Trustees are not responsible for turning on the air conditioning, opening windows,

and turning on fans before or during the church service. That is the job of the ushers/deacons.

(Mary-K noted that before church Brian Schieferstein opens the windows and Mary-K helps Brian close the windows after the service.)

Also, the Trustees would like to ask that the monthly calendars be replaced outside the administrative office so that services can be scheduled and they know what church events they need to avoid interrupting with any repairs and work. Return of the calendars was approved.

Next trustee meeting will be July 15 at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Trustees Report. The motion was passed.

Financial Secretary's Report

Becky Woods gave the Financial Secretary's Report. Offerings for the month of May were \$14,449.26. Also received was a donation of \$20,000 to St. Peter's from Marge Marshall's estate. Marge's family also requested that a picture of Jesus, also donated, be hung with a plaque underneath commemorating Marge and Warren Marshall's work with the Church's youth. Jim Kubuske stated he would order the plaque. Becky also indicated that Marge's family would like to know how the \$20,000 donation would be used within the church. Tom Hollstein indicated that Marge should get recognition for the donation. Lauri Hubach and Kaye Koler will work together to get the details and thank you published in "The Key." A motion to accept the Financial Secretary Report was made, seconded, and passed.

Treasurer's Report

Lauri Hubach gave the Treasurer's Report.

General Fund Summary:

	May-21	May-20	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	Change
Offerings					
Cash/Check	13,026.00	12,056.00	52,235.00	61,464.50	(9,229.50)
Offerings Breeze	1,445.00		7,320.00		
Offerings PayPal	20.00		1,415.00		
Preschool Tsf.					
to General	1,450.00		7,250.00	4,500.00	
PPP loan					
Forgiveness/EIDL	19,804.82			19,804.82	
Blessings from					
the Saints	(17,065.51)	3,787.65	26,789.27	40,974.92	(14,185.65)
Expenses	(18,680.31)	(15,843.65)	(114,814.09)	(106,939.42)	7,874.67
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Pass Through Payments:

Strengthen the Church	\$284.00
OCWM*	105.00
	\$389.00

*Our Church's Wider Mission

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded, and passed.

A motion to approve the Pass Throughs was made, seconded, and passed.

Media Grant

St. Peter's had applied to the UCC for a media grant for \$5,000. Mary-K announced that our request for the grant had been approved today. The grant will be used to purchase a 75-80" screen TV for the sanctuary and for other uses, a cart to roll the TV around, and secure storage for the TV. A committee composed of Brian Schieferstein, Mary-K Kirsch, possibly a Trustee, and Pastor Chris will coordinate the purchase of these items.

Preschool Budget

Wendy Kosakowski presented the preschool budget for 2021/2022. After discussion of the proposed budget a few revisions were made to the hourly wages paid to the preschool staff. A motion to accept the revised preschool budget for 2021/2022 preschool school year was made, seconded, and passed.

Lauri indicated that the PPP forgiveness (\$26,900) and the economic disaster loan (\$7,000) were split between the preschool and the Church—\$14,095 was allotted to the preschool and \$19,805 was allotted to the Church.

Outside Services

Pastor Chris discussed the possibility of having outside services, in conjunction with other churches, the Sunday of the Woolly Bear Festival, which would be the first Sunday in October. He also proposed having the third Sunday of each month, starting on 7/18/21, as an outside service in either the parking lot or another location on the property.

Installation of Pastor Chris

Sunday, September 19, 2021 will be installation day for Pastor Chris with Nayiri Karjian, Association General Minister, Living Water Association, officiating.

Categorization of Membership Status

Sharon Thompson brought up the work being done by her group to recategorize membership status based on our re-

cent congregational meeting to establish voting membership status. Mary-K indicated that the executive council members were in agreement with the information that Sharon had submitted via email on 6/11/21.

Blessing of Animals

Pastor Chris announced that he will be doing a "Blessing of Animals" on the first Saturday in October. It will be held outdoors, weather permitting, or held in the Chapel if the weather is uncooperative.

Scholarship Documentation

Jean Swift asked Mary-K how long scholarship applications should be kept, since she is doing a review of those files. Lauri Hubach suggested that scholarship applications and documentation be kept for the last 7 years. Mary-K will relay this information to Jean.

Covid Protocols

Mary-K Kirsch distributed to council members a link to the CDC website outlining considerations for events and gatherings, to review recommendations on promoting healthy behaviors that reduce spread, and risk factors for large gatherings. Currently, both the CDC and the State of Ohio recommend wearing masks at services.

Since the weather is warmer, the air conditioning units will be turned on prior to Sunday services to cool down the sanctuary. Just prior to starting the services, the A/C will be turned off, the windows will be opened and the ceiling fans will be used. Vaccinated attendees will not be required to wear a mask. Unvaccinated attendees will be asked to wear a mask. Social distancing protocols for seating will remain in effect. Families will not have to socially distance themselves in seating arrangements. Soft singing will be allowed with masks. For now, the hymnals will not be used. The front doors of the church will be opened for entrance and exit. We should continue to keep social distance at the end of the service. Fellowship time should take place outside at the end of the church service. Mary-K will do a "One Call" to let the congregation know about these changes and that we are actively reviewing and considering loosening Covid restrictions.

Fellowship Hall Rental

Jim Kubuske asked if we were able to rent Fellowship Hall. He had a request from Shelley Harmych's niece to rent the hall on 6/26/21. Shelley would open the church for the group, monitor the activities, and close the church. The rental fee is \$250 plus a \$50 refundable deposit after final clean up of the activities. The basic rental fee is for four hours with a fee of \$50 for each additional hour.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and passed.

Pastor Chris gave the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cherry
Council Secretary



JULY Birthdays

"I'll fill you full with old age. I'll show you my salvation."

Psalm 91:16

Susan Krieg	July 01	Caroline Cooksey	July 17
Logan Bruce	July 02	Diane Barnum	July 18
Dean Coghlan	July 02	Janet Ranney	July 18
Dawn Bonnett	July 03	Erin Link	July 19
Gage Hume	July 05	Ethan Link	July 20
Karen Geduldig	July 06	Travis Mead	July 20
Patricia Wolf	July 06	Amy Gentry	July 22
Allen Erhart	July 08	Teri Walter	July 22
Lisa Jeskie	July 11	Colin Kossow	July 23
Judith Polansky	July 11	Theodore Mudrich	July 23
John Haglund	July 13	Gary Thompson	July 23
David Leuszler	July 15	Wendy Kosakowski	July 26
Carri Thompson	July 15	Genna Muriello	July 28
Denise Di Luciano	July 16	Gary Orseno	July 28
Janis Kurth	July 16		

July Events

July 1	Compassionate Care 10:30 a.m.
July 4	Communion Sunday Independence Day
July 12	Executive Board 7:00 p.m.
July 19	Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
July 25	Family Sunday Worship
July 26	Craft Club 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study: 7:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Zoom

NEW! Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris
9-11 a.m., every Wednesday at Arabica's in Amherst. Come to socialize, enjoy break-face, and get acquainted with Pastor Chris.
Everyone is welcome!

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

Galatians 5:1



Independence Day—July 4

Independence Day (colloquially the Fourth of July or July 4) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the **Declaration of Independence** of the United States, on **July 4, 1776**. The Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject to the monarch of Britain, and were **now united, free, and independent states**.

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, political speeches, and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is the national day of the United States.



Pray

*"Cast all your anxiety on Him
because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7*

Please add the following to your prayers:

Terry Clark
Don Swift
Mary Ann Sterna
Debbie Raesler
Audrey Montgomery
Karin Andy
Jim Brown

Linda Brown
Joyce Darakis
Sherry Spratt
Glenn Miskov
Valentino Dziak
Lois Barnes
Ruth Kossow

May Poor
Roger Becker
Carol Battenhouse
Darlene Mudrich
Pam & Bill Schuster
Dot Wilford
Jean Snyder

Those with conflicts,
concerns or medical
issues left unspoken.

Those who have
asked for confidential
prayers.

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**

From the Council President

It is with great joy and gladness that we welcome our new Senior Pastor, Chris Buckingham-Taylor! Pastor Chris brings an enthusiasm and excitement for spreading the Good News, for us and for others, through the ministry of St. Peters.

Hopefully, you have had a chance to experience his preaching live in the sanctuary or on Zoom or Facebook. We look forward to you being able to join us, if possible, in church as we gradually and safely open as this pandemic recedes.

Council has made the decision to open slowly and carefully with precaution, guided by the CDC and the state of Ohio guidelines. Based on science and local Covid data we will make determinations on how to proceed while keeping our congregation safe.

Beginning June 27th, vaccinated people may enter the sanctuary without a mask; unvaccinated individuals are asked to continue to wear a mask. We will continue to social distance in the marked pews, with families allowed to sit together. Hymnals, pew cards, passing of the collection plate and communion may be reintroduced at a later date. *Please wear your mask if you want to sing aloud.* Elbow bump and the peace sign are acceptable forms of greeting; no hand shaking. We ask that you socialize outside in the parking lot. This is a fluid situation and may possibly change from week to week.

Zoom and Facebook Live services are here to stay! We have received a grant from the UCC foundation for more media equipment that will allow us to produce an even better service. Stay tuned for more details.

Finally, please remember that to continue to do the work, we need to pay the bills! Mail your tithes and offerings to the church or use the *easy, safe electronic way* to give at our website www.stpetersamherst.org via Breeze or Paypal. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Thanks to Council and ALL members of the church, named and unnamed, who work so hard behind the scenes to keep St. Peters running smoothly; it is truly a group effort and a labor of love of God and of the Church!

And thanks to all of you for your continued patience and generosity of spirit as we work together in these challenging times to do our part in God's ministry.

Best regards,
Mary-K Kirsch



ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

582 Church Street, Amherst, OH 44001

Office Phone: (440) 988-4965

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-12:30 p.m.

Afternoons available by appointment



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.

Please visit our website, www.stpetersamherst.org to make your donation electronically via Breeze or Paypal.
If you would like more detailed information, 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