

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

582 Church Street

Amherst, Ohio 44001

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

May 2021

THE KEY

ST. PETER'S U.C.C.

582 CHURCH STREET

AMHERST, OH 44001





THE KEY

May 2021

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Fare-well and Well-come" —Arlen G. Vernava

Dear St. Peter's People,

Two questions. In what powerful, life-giving way(s) do you "fare-well"? In what powerful, life-giving way(s) do you "well-come." During the month of May and June, then throughout the rest of this year, St. Peter's, you, me, and Pastor Chris are fare-welling and well-coming. If we do nothing else from now through the Fall and into Christmas, we will have given our self to the best thing. Whether in person or in memory, good, wholesome, life-giving joining roots our ability to fare-well and well-come.

Both need patience and open-heartedness. Both offer gladness and sadness. Both demand courage and forgiveness. Let's take them in turn.

Patience and open-heartedness protect against "hitting the ground running" or "feeling overwhelmed."

Both Fare-well and Well-come remember: success and failure, routine, emotional ties that bind and release. Both bring nostalgia, a need to hold on and a need to reject. They feel protective, cocooning and also "enough already. Let's go!"

Patience and open-heartedness posture one to listen, to go slow, to savor, to stay in the moment, to remember: we are meeting this moment, this place, these relationships, as if for the first time. The goal: simply "be with" one another.

Gladness and sadness protect against acting as if one is not fully oneself and in a relationship with self / God / and others, both past and present.

Both Fare-well and Well-come draw us into vulnerable, feeling rich encounters. We remember all our past ways of fare welling and welcoming, all the pain and joy of it, all the embracing and avoiding of it. Here sadness and gladness are mingled, sometimes overpowering. Here our capacity to join together equals our capacity to engage our heart, and mind and body, to be with. A wise and wary

practice: notice when only the heart engages, or only the intellect, or only the intuition and body.

Gladness and sadness posture one to share and speak, to rest, to give thanks, to forgive (the past), to join as companions. The goal: to not change anything, rather, to understand.

Courage and forgiveness protect against the extremes of arrogance and acquiescence.

Fare-well and Well-come like the way we've done it before. They enjoy certainty and safety. They believe in tools that are well-worn and practiced. They tend to feel that "everyone" understands, values, and affirms (the same) farewell and welcome practices.

Courage and forgiveness posture one to stand on their own feet, know their unique self and needs... with humble gentleness. Here one risks to walk in the other's shoes: early morning (lark) or evening person (owl)? Roberts Rules or Consensus decision-making? Here, empathy and joining will create grace space to try, to fail, to forgive. Here we learn again to be with and be together. Goal: bring into conversation what generally gets taken for granted. Make it plain to all.

Fare-well and Well-come, move at God-time speed with human attentiveness. I pray for you, St. Peter's, for myself, for Pastor Chris and his family, for the place of service (yet unknown) that I will next join. Having joined well all can say: "thanks be to God for what has been; thanks be to God for now; thanks be to God for what is yet to come."

Peace,

Pastor Arlen Vernava

On the Road Again



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

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Genesis 12:1-4, NRSV

You're probably familiar with the story Abraham, "the Father of the Nations," but it's possible that you didn't realize just how old he was when he finally left home. He was seventy-five-years old when he began his journey. Not exactly a spring chicken. While I'm still far from 75, I do feel older as I go through the process of packing and preparing my home for sale, and moving to our new home in Ohio. I am envious of Abraham's move because I imagine that it required a lot less physical effort than I'm exerting. Abraham lived in a tent and could easily pack up and move as needed. By the time most of us are in our seventies we've acquired a lifetime of possessions and our homes are like museums to our lives. We may try to begin the process of thinning out our homes by giving away family items to our children, grandchildren, or others who express interest in our items, but we are still left with a household filled with stuff.

I'm envious of a simple life where we can pack up all of our belongings in a day and then be on our way. Unfortunately, life is much more complicated than that. There's just so much to do, I can't imagine having the strength and energy to move at the age of 75?

Of course, it's not just the physical act and work of moving stuff that exhausts us. The emotional act of

moving is just as demanding and taxing as the physical, perhaps even more so. When we spend our lives in a home we don't just collect stuff, we gather memories and establish relationships. While Abraham and Sarah went looking for a place to dwell, they left behind them seventy-five years of relationships. What I have come to realize is that I can live without the "stuff," but I need the relationships.

This isn't my first move. I left childhood friends when my family moved from New Jersey to West Virginia, and then I developed new friends and relationships. I still carry my memories of life in New Jersey, and consider my old friends my friends. This summer my High School is celebrating our 40th anniversary of our graduation. I doubt if I attend, but it doesn't seem that long ago that I was there. I've had several other significant moves, and with each came tearful goodbyes but also the excitement of discovering what's next.

While I have lived in other states, and even for a short time in England, Ohio has always felt like home. I'm excited to begin life anew in Ohio and to pursue and embrace the new opportunities and challenges ministry has in store for us.

Unlike Abraham, I'm not leaving home to find a new home, I'm returning home. I have family in the Columbus area, and in Stow, Ohio. My ancestors arrived in Ohio many moons ago, and I have family roots in Ashland, Mount Vernon, Newark, Savanna, and a little farm community known as New Guilford, Ohio.

I've always been a Buckeye, and I look forward to getting to know each of you as a part of my family and flock. I can't wait to get started! But, first things first- I still have to finish moving. (Back and forth, Back and forth!) I like the road, but I really love when the road leads home! St. Peter's UCC, Amherst, Ohio- I'm coming home!



Remember,
you are loved!

Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor

May Sermon Scriptures:

5/2 John 15:1-11

5/9 John 15:12-17

5/16 John 17:6-19

5/23 Acts 2:1-21

5/30 Isaiah 6:1-8

Attached as a separate PDF.





**IF EVER THERE HAS BEEN A
TIME WHEN OUR NATION
NEEDED TO COME TOGETHER
AND PRAY, IT IS NOW.**

St. Peter's UCC received an invitation from Pastor Paul Werner of St. Paul Lutheran Church & Pre-School to join them to **Pray with Christians across our city on the National Day of Prayer.** They are hosting the following:

**Amherst National Day
of Prayer observance on
Thursday, May 6, 2021,
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

This gathering of believers will occur on the lawn of the Amherst Town Hall, 219 S. Main Street, at the five corners in Amherst, OH.

The purpose is to ask God to guide and bless all facets of our society. Local pastors are invited in offering guided prayers for our homes, schools, health care works, educators, agriculture and business, elected leaders, police and first responders, those who have been afflicted from the pandemic, those who grieve, and that the teachings of Jesus Christ to love God and love others take root in the hearts and behaviors of all citizens of this nation.

Covid protocol will be observed.



Please Give Freely to Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by **investing in new ministries and practices** that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. We will be collecting offerings each Sunday in May. *Thank you for your generosity!*



Homeless Outreach Update

Just a reminder that one family is still going out twice a month and providing the homeless with a hot meal, snacks, toiletries, and any clothing they may need. They are always in need of bottled water and snacks that are easily opened and non-perishable (granola or fruit bars, pop top cans of soup, chili, fruit, or vegetables, packs of cheese or peanut butter crackers, Pop Tarts, etc.). Right now they also need men's jeans size 32 or 34 waist with 32 or 34 inseam. As the weather warms up, they will need men's short sleeve T shirts, sizes large and up.

For now, please place food and clothing items donated for homeless in the clothing collection bin, and indicate that items are for homeless outreach. Thank you for anything you can do!

If you have any questions, please contact
Diane Barnum at 419-602-7264.

ESSENTIAL & NECESSARY – JOINING WELL

Somewhat unique, clergy leadership leave-taking for many communions, necessitates “no contact” between congregants and former pastor for a long season of time, beginning with a Pastor’s leaving. The exception: when Senior Pastor mentors and then blesses an Associate Pastor, upon the Senior’s retirement, to rise to Senior Pastor – a process of succession affirmed by the congregation and its leaders. Even then clearly understand boundaries and the retired Senior Pastor’s practice of fully supporting the new Senior exemplify a modified version of “no contact.”

“No contact” seems strange, even hurtful, compared to leave taking in industry, education and most walks of life. Pastor and people care for one another and have shared emotionally intimate life. They reverence and appreciate one another and often, Pastor and certain congregants forge deep and abiding friendships.

“No contact”: includes no worship with, no socializing with, no social media: email, phone text, no following on twitter or Facebook or Instagram, etc. For clergy who reside in the community after leave-taking, “no contact” means clergy are attentive to shared public places like restaurants and grocery stores, mindful of when they frequent those places so to avoid the often unavoidable: seeing and talking with a former congregant.

Yet clergy make this “no contact” promise, as hard and strange as it seems, because they know that emotional ties that bind Pastor and People take a good little while to loosen and relax. For a long season, the memory of the former Pastor, their practice of ministry, their ways of being and doing remain present. Though absent in body, what they said and did serve as comparison to the new Pastor. When the former Pastor remains connected and when congregants know the former will connect – even at social media arms-length, emotional ties remain strong and are a subtle, unconscious hindrance to congregants and (new) Pastor joining well.

Neither Pastor nor congregant can erase feelings and memories. The new Pastor brings with them emotional ties and memories from their former place too. Pastor Chris shares the same challenge as you and me: to loosen and relax former ties, so to newly bind and join with in the present.

And so: upon leaving, I will keep you in prayer, St. Peter’s. I will also practice a long season of “no contact”, accept for “thank-you’s” and “well wishes” connected to our parting. Our good “farewell” always includes some grief. I will miss you, St. Peter’s, for you have become dear to me. I also so desire to do my part in your joining well.

As a help, St. Peter’s, the Living Water Association offers worship words that invite God’s blessing and our releasing one another to the next season of our ministries. Hear this liturgy. **We will share these words or words like these: a blessing and release, as part of our prayer on my final Sunday with you in May.**

“Do you, members and friends of St. Peter’s United Church of Christ of Amherst, release Arlen G. Vernava from the duties of Interim Minister? Do you forgive him his failures and mistakes, and thank him for his ministry with you these last years?”

“We do, with God’s help.”

“Do you offer your encouragement for Pastor Arlen’s continuing ministry as an Intentional Interim minister, consultant to communities in transition, coach to interim practitioners and faculty?”

“We do, with the help of God. Pastor Arlen, your positive influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.”

“Do you, Pastor Arlen, release St. Peter’s UCC of Amherst from turning to you and depending on you? Do you forgive them their failures and mistakes, and thank them for their ministry with you these last years?”

“I do, with the help of God.”

“Do you offer your encouragement for their ministry and mission and their joining with Robert Christopher (Chris) Buckingham-Taylor, St. Peter’s called and authorized Senior Pastor?”

“I do, with the help of God. St. Peter’s People, thank you for your faithful and hard work. I am grateful for your receiving my leadership and for teaching me. I carry with me all I have learned here.”

“The Living Water Association of the Heartland Conference, UCC joins with you, St. Peter’s and Arlen G. Vernava: we hold you in prayer and pledge our support in your new season of ministry.”

TOGETHER WE SAY:

“Thanks be to God for what has been, for now, and for what is yet to come. Amen”





May St. Peter's Preschool News



We have had a very busy year at preschool. The children have worked on letters, numbers, colors, rhyming and their names. Everyone has had so much fun; it is hard to believe that it is coming to an end.

This month the children will learn the letters Vv, Mm and Dd. They will also make something special for Mother's and Father's Day.

The preschool will have their last

Dine-To-Donate at Soul on Fire Brick Oven Pizza

**Wednesday, May 19
and Thursday, May 20**

3-9:00 p.m. at
3819 Oberlin Ave, Lorain, OH

To place your order, call **440-240-8529** and mention you are ordering for St. Peter's UCC Preschool.

The preschool staff would like to thank everyone for coming out and showing your support of the school throughout the year. Thank You!

The children will end the school year with a small socially distance performance on the church lawn. They will sing a few of their favorite songs and receive their Preschool Diploma.

Have a safe & wonderful summer!

The Preschool Staff

There's Still Time to Help Support our Preschool!

Gift Basket Items Due May 7

Preschool Board Zoom Meeting | May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

St Peter's church is supporting St. Peter's Preschool! We are sponsoring a gift basket to generate interest and excitement in the Preschool Board! One lucky parent who participates in the **Preschool Board zoom meeting on May 13th** will be the winner of a HUGE basket of fun and goodies!

**OUR PART IS TO DONATE ITEMS
FOR THE BASKET GIVEAWAY!**

Here are some suggestions for moms and dads of preschoolers:

Coffee (k-cups or gift cards) /
fun mugs

Target gift cards

Anything beauty!

Wine / glasses / candles

Lottery tickets

Water bottles / tumblers

Blankets or cozy socks

Gift certificates
from Amherst businesses



Other ideas are welcome!

You can leave the donations with Kaye in the office by **FRIDAY, MAY 7TH.**

Thanks so much for your support of our Preschool!

Best Regards,

**Mary-K Kirsch
Council President**

Help Beautify St. Peter's this Spring!

If you are able to contribute in helping beautify our church beds this Spring, please drop off bags of red mulch next to the garage *or* monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office with Kaye, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. *Thank you!*



Circle 6 Meeting

Thursday | May 4 | 6:00 p.m.

Circle Six will hold it's next meeting on **Tuesday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m.** at **Amherst Beaver Creek Park, Shelter #1** (weather permitting).

Please bring your own bagged dinner and place setting. If the weather does not allow us to meet at the park, a One Call will be made and we will hold the meeting in Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Sally Readinger at sallyreadinger57@gmail.com or **440-949-6420** with questions.



ST. PETER'S UCC Craft Club

CRAFT CLUB has Started!

Monday | May 24 | 6:30 p.m.

Craft club will meet **May 24 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fireside room. Masks are required, (even if you have been vaccinated!) and 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!

St. Peter's Food Pantry

CORONAVIRUS IS EVERYWHERE AND SO IS HUNGER!

The month of April had a total of **82** food items donated. Thank you to everyone who donated items to the food bank. It is greatly appreciated!

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	

'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

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

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 19, 2021 St. Peter's Council Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES:

President: Mary-K Kirsch	x	Pastor: Arlen Vernava	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

x= present; E=excused; A=absent

Visitors: Doug Haney and Jessie Kubuske. President Mary-K Kirsch opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. with a prayer from Pastor Arlen.

Trustee Report

Mary-K thanked Jim Kubuske for the comprehensive **4/15/21 Trustee Meeting Minutes**. Those are detailed below:

—“Jessica at Movement works sent an email asking if flooring under mats should be left. Trustees told her that anything that was there when she moved in should stay. Jessica also signed and returned letter stating her move out will be by May 8. She hesitated returning it because she was concerned about her refund (from remaining May balance) and was told by Kaye Oswald, church secretary, if signed letter was not returned, then the April 13 deadline on the original letter would be honored. Refund of remaining May balance will be given after walk through determines if there is any damage.

-Columbia Gas started work on repairs, but needed a permit. Once that is obtained, valve will be fixed and the meter in the parsonage will move outside.

-Edgar cleaned the Walker Lobby light fixtures, and replaced bulbs with energy efficient (and brighter) LED bulbs. He also replaced light fixtures that needed repair in the preschool rooms. As lights need replacing they will be replaced with LED bulbs.

-Pastor Chris' moving expenses - his first estimate was \$15,000 which was over the allocated \$7500. He wanted to make sure we would be flexible with expenses. He was able to get another estimate of \$7200. He has already made one trip with a U-Haul. Boy Scouts were set to help unload, but by the time he got the message, they were already unloaded. Boy Scouts are willing to help with the next load.

-Central exterminating did their monthly spraying, etc.

-The certificate for the boiler inspection was received and displayed correctly by Edgar Vargas.

-Born Landscaping was contacted to straighten out confusion. We do not have a landscaping contract with them.

-There was a new bid for the bathroom in the parsonage of \$24,900. It was decided that at this time we will leave it as it is.

-The furnace pump was repaired by Geisel Heating and repair. We have a maintenance agreement, but there is a question as to what the Maintenance agreement covers. It was agreed to ask Lauri Hubach about the contract. (The expiration on the contract is 7/31/21)

The air conditioning units will be serviced on May 18, 2021 by Geisel. A question was raised about servicing remotes as well.

-James Woods inquired about using the Fellowship Hall for Cub Scouts. He was given a Facility Use Contract.

-An email was received from NPERM about them supplying our gas instead of Columbia Gas. Jim Kubuske checked with Earl Weigand (Whose name supposedly was on the contract) and was told we turned them down March, 2018. We are sticking with Columbia Gas.

-After last month's council meeting where an agreement was made to move forward with Wagner signs, it was requested that trustees get another estimate to make sure that Wagner was our best option.

-A third estimate was acquired for the lighted church sign. An attempt was made to get an estimate from a company in Cleveland, but they will not travel out of Cuyahoga county. Brady Signs from Sandusky gave an estimate of \$32,900 - \$43,400. Estimate is attached. Trustees would like a motion from council to accept Wagner sign's bid of \$25,450 plus permit costs so we move forward with placing the sign.

-Preschool donated \$20,000 in October, 2014 toward the lighted sign. Because there was no "sign fund," it went into the general fund.

-Preschool will be having their spring program on May 20 and 21 at 10:30 am. They asked if they could use the sanctuary in case of rain. Trustees agreed as long as there are no more than 75 people in the sanctuary and all are wearing masks and are socially distanced. Preschool will be giving a facility use agreement to fill out (no charge).

-Edgar asked if an announcement could be put in the bulletin to ask people to donate red mulch or to give money toward buying mulch. He said the same thing was done last spring and it helps defray the cost of the mulch.

-The Peace Pole will be fixed or replaced. Edgar suggested putting a spike into the ground to attach to the pole so that the wood wouldn't rot. One of the tiles needs replaced as it was broken. Trustees will see if they can just replace the tile or if we need a whole new pole. The International Day of Peace or Peace Pole Day is September 21, 2021. Trustees would like to have it in place by then and have a little ceremony.

Trustees need to check the list of keys and find out where all the keys are.

-Next meeting May 17, 2021"

Jim Kubuske noted that the final walk through for the Movement Works area will be on the afternoon of 5/7/21. Jess Widener understands that a check for the over payment she made on monthly

rent will not be refunded until after the walk-through on 5/7/21 and the Trustees check out the vacated area.

After a discussion of the three quotes submitted for a new electronic sign (Wagner Electric Sign Co., Stewart Signs, and Brady Signs), a motion was made to accept the quote from Wagner Electric Sign Co. The motion was seconded, discussed, and unanimously passed.

Wage Increase for Preschool Aide

From a previous meeting the question was raised about whether Council had approved an increase in the hourly rate to \$10.00 per hour for the new aide Wendy Kosakowski would like to hire for the preschool. The council had approved the \$10.00 per hour rate for the preschool aide in December 2020. Mary-K said she would pass this information on to Wendy.

Update on Pastor Chris Move

Mary-K had spoken to Pastor Chris and he indicated that his moving expenses should be within the maximum amount listed in the contract. He will be using a U-Haul to move a portion of his possessions. The Boy Scouts will be helping him with a move-in on May 3, 2021.

Welcome Event for Pastor Chris

Jessie Kubuske reported that a committee has been formed and has already met. A suggestion was to have the event outside in an outdoor shelter. One suggestion was to have a service at Mill Hollow and have a picnic and reception after the service.

Drawing of Church Returned by Marge Marshall's Family

Mary-K referred this item to the Trustees to find a place for the picture to be displayed.

Doug Haney–Tent/Canopy

Doug Haney is part of the Good Knights group, which builds and provides beds to children in Lorain County. This year they provided about 200 beds. Doug asked if St. Peter's would loan our Farmer's Market tents to the Good Knights so they could build the beds outside (to allow their personnel to be outside and socially distant while building). They would only need those tents a couple of times a year. It was agreed that we would accommodate his request. Doug will coordinate the times required to borrow the tents with the Trustees.

Logo for Church–Dot Wilford

Dot Wilford is working with Kaye Oswald, who is assisting in enabling the digitization of the church logo for use on different embroidery sewing machines. Circle Six would like to put the logo on labels that are sewed onto the blankets the group makes.

Financial Secretary Report

Becky Woods gave the March 2021 Financial Secretary's Report. Incoming funds for the month of March were \$38,946.52. Of the \$38,946.52, investment transfers were \$25,000. Offerings for March totaled \$12,325.27.

The question arose if instructions to electronically make offerings to the church are readily available or should be listed in The Key or weekly bulletin. Lauri Hubach stated that detailed instructions are listed on the Church website. Lauri will put a reminder in The Key to refer those, who were interested in making electronic payments to the church, to the church website.

AV Room, Media Screens

Mary-K brought up the need for an audio-visual room in the church, to outfit the room with equipment to facilitate production of church services

over the internet, to improve communications between those involved in the production, and to upgrade equipment. Mary-K asked each of the council members present if they thought this was, with the additional effort and expense, supportive of the church's mission of praising God, caring for others, and caring for ourselves. Mary-K went around the room and each council member commented on the question. In summary, everyone felt that these improvements were seriously worth looking into, that this is the future, we should look into options, and it's an effective outreach. Pastor Arlen added that we should do some grant research for funding from the UCC and other sources, take this on as a capital project, and take a year to work on this project.

Treasurer Report

Lauri Hubach gave the Treasurer's Report. Pass Throughs for the month were \$533.00, as follows:

OGHS Endowment	\$ 10.00
OGHS	418.00
OCWM	105.00
Total	\$533.00

(OGHS–One Great Hour of Sharing | OCWM–Our Church's Wider Mission)

Note: Pass Through items are donations received for missions that we forward to the mission.

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

General Fund Summary:

	Mar-21	Mar-20	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	Change
Offerings	10,472.00	11,464.00	29,034.00	37,300.50	(8,266.50)
Breeze Offgs.	1,818.00			4,475.00	
Paypal Offgs.	600.00			875.00	
Preschool Tsf.					
To General	1,450.00			4,350.00	
Blessings from					
Saints	11,863.95	9,924.88	25,409.29	36,232.70	(10,823.41)
Expenses	(25,978.95)	(21,388.88)	(64,143.29)	(73,533.20)	(9,389.91)
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	

Full report available in the church office.

Other Items

-Sally Readinger reported on the research she did regarding the two Church conferences scheduled for this year. She spoke with Judy McCurdy and Judy is interested in attending both of the conferences as a delegate. The websites indicated that both the Heartland Conference and the Living Waters Conference will be virtual this year. Pastor Arlen reminded us that we need to think about budgeting for expenses in 2022 for attending these conferences in person and for related travel expenses.

-Tom Hollstein asked about video signs for the church. Pastor Arlen stated that this is part of the AV upgrade.

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

Christine Burman gave the closing prayer. The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cherry
Council Secretary



MAY Birthdays

'For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.'

Jeremiah 29:11

Kasey Haney	May 01
Rebecca Harmych	May 01
Brad Sprague	May 01
Allison Zahorec	May 01
Jill Harmych	May 02
John Scalli	May 02
Nancie Murello	May 03
Tamara Selent	May 04
Kay Sutton	May 04
Olivia Kendrick	May 05
Lindsey Stumpp	May 05
Benjamin Zahorec	May 05
Delores Campbell	May 06
James Woods	May 06
Lewis Zeller	May 06
Natalie Kendrick	May 08
Thomas Hollstein	May 09
Richard Ashton	May 11
Lois Barnes	May 11
Haley Mullen	May 11
Olivia Cotton	May 15
Gregory Huber	May 15

Andrea Bockwich	May 16
Scott Cornelius	May 17
Michael Ranney	May 17
Lewis Heller	May 18
Joel Cotton	May 19
Kyle Park	May 19
Kaitlyn Mullen	May 21
Janet Orseno	May 21
Nicholas Kosakowski	May 22
Leah Sprague	May 22
Courtney Noster	May 25
Jessica Dziak	May 26
William Greenless	May 28
Lori Kissling	May 28
Dana Smith	May 28
Drew Ashton	May 29
Katelyn Schuster	May 29
Jeffery Griffith	May 30
Mary Ann Sterna	May 30
Sharon Vollmer	May 30
James Lane	May 31

Calling All Graduates

If there are any St. Peter's members that are due to graduate this spring from either high school or college, please let the office know by May 16 at 440-988-4965. Thank you!

May Events

- May 2 Communion Sunday
- May 4 Circle 6 Meeting 6 pm
- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 10 Executive Board 6:30 pm
- May 13 Preschool Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- May 17 Council Meeting 7 pm
- May 24 Craft Club 6:30 pm

Bible Study: 7 pm, Tuesdays

Zoom Prayer Room: 9 am, Thursdays

Mother's Day is
Sunday, May 9

Her children
arise up, and
call her
blessed; her
husband also,
and he
praiseth her.

Proverbs 31:28



Thank You dear God for *all* of our Mothers either with us, or in Heaven, for their unconditional love, self-sacrifice, and wisdom. A Mother's bond is a tie that can never be broken.

Pray

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

Please add the following to your prayers:

Judy Baker	Sherry Spratt	Carol Battenhouse	Those with conflicts,
Mary Ann Sterna	Glenn Miskov	Darlene Mudrich	concerns or medical
Debbie Raesler	Valentino Dziak	Pam & Bill Shuster	issues left unspoken.
Audrey Montgomery	Lois Barnes	Pastor Arlen & Robin	Those who have asked
Karin Andy	Ruth Kossow	Pastors Chris & Delisa	for confidential prayers.
Jim & Linda Brown	May Poor	Penny Knepper	
Joyce Darakis	Roger Becker	Don Swift	

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**



St. Peter's Prayer Room

"Lord, hear our prayer"



You are invited to join St. Peter's Prayer Room! We look forward to you joining us on Zoom where a name for prayer will be read and we will respond "Lord, hear our prayer". There will also be a time for you to submit yourself or someone you know for prayer. The meeting will be every **Thursday** at **9:00 a.m.** Please join us! If you have any questions, please contact a member of Compassionate Care.



Saint Peter's Prayer Room

Every Thursday | 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. or before

Join from Zoom app:

Meeting ID: 940 8487 2220 | Passcode: Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting from computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/94084872220?pwd=ckJ2bURSZHlVW4xdEFLNHVrNnI1Zz09>

OR Call in with phone:

1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 940 8487 2220 | Passcode: 022121



St. Peter's United Church of Christ

582 Church Street
Amherst, Ohio 44001

Church Office Phone:
(440) 988-4965

Arlen G. Vernava, Interim Senior Pastor	(585) 455-2289	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

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 UCC Preschool

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

Website and Contact 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

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10-11:00 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.