

St. Peter's Evangelical UCC Newsletter

P.O. Box 250, 303 NE Pine St., Billings, MO 65610 Web page: www.stpetersucc.us

Pastor Kemery Baldwin--Cell phone 417 755-1276 Fellowship Hall & Office 417 744-2701

Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM

APRIL 2016

Pastor's Post

With Easter Day behind us– ***Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!*** – April this year is without a major holy day or Hallmark holiday. My calendar marks Earth Day, April 22, and yes I am old enough to remember the first one, April 22, 1970. My home town and a walk to pick up trash and a rally. The other day noted is Armenian Martyr's Day, April 24, a day of remembrance for the one million Armenians who died in the Turkish massacre of 1915-16 which began April 24, 1915. Armenians know it as "Meds Yeghern," which in their language means "The Calamity."

There are UCC Armenian congregations in the US. My tangential experience is with a retired UCC minister, Rev. Mirhan Koeroghlian, a member of the southern California UCC congregation who called me into Christian ministry. Mirhan, so wise, so gracious and kind, even after surviving great loss and great fear from "The Calamity." I was honored with his gift to me: he gave me *his* clergy robe on the occasion of my ordination to ministry.

Some people we meet **do** forever change us and change what days of the year we remember with weight and honor.

Here at the Body of Christ called St. Peter's there are opportunities to support, to participate, to be involved, to contribute at various times and to varying degrees toward the ministry and mission that takes place from this corner of God's realm. For **April** the short list is:

April 2, 6-8 p.m. – Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser for the Youth Mission Trip

April 3, 10:30 a.m – Special music in worship from David and Denise Hampton

April 8-9, Fri. p.m.-Sat. a.m. –Youth Lock-in

April 29, 6:30 p.m. – Relay for Life Taco Night fund Raiser

April 30, 9a.m.-2 p.m. – Camp Aurora Work Day (\$25 off camp fee!)

Want to be a part? Just start asking!

In the power and the peace of Jesus.

Rev. Kemery Baldwin

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Financial Report February 2016

CASH ON HAND FEBUARY 1, 2016					\$29,314.91
RECEIPTS:	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	TOTAL
Current Exp.	1,938.00	1,780.00	1,115.00	1,365.00	
OCWM		50.00	25.00	25.00	
Loose	81.00		21.00	7.00	
Youth Trip			200.00		
Organ Fund		25.00			
TOTALS	2,019.00	1,855.00	1,361.00	1,397.00	6,632.00
RENTAL INCOME					1,450.00
YOUTH - SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW					115.00
INTEREST INCOME					2.60
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AND MONTHLY RECEIPTS					\$ 37,514.51

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC

Actual Analysis

	ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES	ACTUAL DISBURSEMENTS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES
January	8,651	3,695
February	7,760	4,893
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
YTD	16,411	8,588
	DIFFERENCE =	7,823



April 2016



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 April Fool's Day	2 Fund Raiser For Youth Mission Trip 6-8 PM Spaghetti Dinner
3 Communion 9:30 AM SS 10:30 AM Worship Special Music	4	5 10 AM Bible Study	6 7 PM Choir Practice	7	8 Youth Lock-In	9 10 AM Friendship Guild Meeting
10 9:30 AM SS 10:30 AM Worship	11 7:30 PM Board Meeting	12 10 AM Bible Study	13 7 PM Choir Practice	14	15 12 Noon Newsletter Deadline	16
17 9:30 AM SS 10:30 AM Worship	18	19 10 AM Bible Study	20 7 PM Choir Practice	21	22	23 10 AM Western Ass. Spring Meeting New Franklin, MO
24 9:30 AM SS 10:30 AM Worship April Birthdays & Anniversaries Celebration	25	26 10 AM Bible Study	27 Administrative Professionals Day 7 PM Choir Practice	28	29 6:30 PM Relay for Life Taco Night	30 9 AM-2 PM Camp Aurora Work Day



St Peter's UCC Board Report

March 14, 2016

The Board met on Monday evening at 7:00 PM on Mar 14, 2016 in the Fellowship Hall. Minutes from the February regular meeting and the treasurer's report were discussed and approved. This was followed by Pastor Kemery's report covering events/activities since the last board meeting in February and upcoming events.

The meeting involved discussion about the Lenten Services, Easter Sunrise Service, and our normal Easter Sunday Service to follow at St. Peter's. There will be a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19 at 2 P.M. at the City Park for Community families. Danny Day was selected to mow the Church, Parsonage and adjacent property lawns again this year. The board is moving forward on a new floor finish in the kitchen of the Fellowship Hall. Also, evaluating what appears to be a new roof leak in the Fellowship Hall ceiling. Several members were able to take advantage of Pat and Allan Ware's invitation to visit their beautiful home with its vast array of Spring flowers. The invitation extends through Easter. Spring is a wonderful time of the year, enjoy and have a meaningful Easter. Sam S.

Avoiding Temptation

Our 10 year old loves playing on his father's tablet but may use only the touchscreen because he's mis-used the keyboard and stylus. One day, after receiving permission to play, he detached and handed over the forbidden objects. His dad said, "Just leave them there," but our son replied, "No, I might be tempted to use them."

We routinely pray, "Lead us not into temptation," hoping God will almost magically keep us out of trouble even as we stray close to enticements: We buy high-calorie treats while intending to "eat healthy." We visit big box stores and spend money we don't have. We gather with gossipy friends, fully aware that such talk is sinful and harmful.

Perhaps we should be more proactive about removing temptations. Perhaps "Lead me not into temptation" means "God, help me keep *myself* away from that which tempts me toward poor choices." Amen!
—Heidi Mann



We extend our deepest sympathy to Kathleen McGee, Mike & Bobbi Rauch, Phyllis & Gene McConnell, and friends & family for the death of Joe McGee. Joe was the husband of Kathleen and step-father of Mike and Phyllis.

You all are in our thoughts and prayers.



President, Diane Zell, called the meeting to order Sat., March 14th with 10 members in attendance. Cindy Wagemann gave the devotional, and Secretary, Chris Rauch, read the minutes of the February meeting which were approved as corrected. Treasurer, Charlene Rumley, reported a bank balance of \$3,378.20 as of March 1st. She further stated that since the last meeting two Get Well, one Thinking of You, one Baby Congratulations, and two Sympathy cards were sent. Church Board representative, Denise Hampton, informed Guild members about the topics discussed at the last meeting. Mary Beyer thanked everyone for the many thoughtful cards sent during her illness.

Under Old Business Chris Rauch asked, on behalf of the Church Board, whether the Ladies Guild would prefer refinishing the kitchen floor, as opposed to installing vinyl (assuming there was already hardwood present). The overall consensus was that it was a good idea. Chris will report this to Board President, Sam Schaumann. The topic of the Youth Spaghetti Supper was revisited. It was agreed that the Guild members would need to meet after church soon to solidify details, since Katy Harting had not been available to discuss it with them sooner. A tentative menu was chosen as well for the Relay For Life Taco Night.

Under New Business, Pastor Kemery said that St. Peter's will be hosting Vacation Bible School this year from June 27th through July 1st. As in the past, Ladies Guild has helped with meal preparation, classes, and supplies. Billings Christian Church will also assist. Ordering more of St. Peter's green T-shirts was suggested, as there were several new members since the original purchase. Luella Thomas agreed to look into it.

For the topic, Chris Rauch read the poem, "Faith Reborn" by Constance Cullingworth and the story, "The Season of the Katy-Berl Tree" by Patsy J. Evans. Both dealt with God's presence in His creation and the ongoing inspiration we, as His beloved children, derive from it. Ms. Evans used the many years of the life (and death) of a beautiful willow tree during her time as a young mother until she all too soon became a loving grandmother, to show that we must welcome and accept God's plan for us and His creation. "But season follows season, in God's perfect order, each with its own unique beauty and potential for joy. All I had to do was let go of the old and open my eyes and my arms to the new."

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer, after which refreshments and fellowship were enjoyed by all. The next meeting will be at 10:00 am on April 9th. All ladies are encouraged to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Chris Rauch

In the spirit of springtime, we focus on the new life God causes to sprout — in the world and church, in lives and hearts.

RELAY FOR LIFE



TACO NIGHT

APRIL 29

6:30 PM

**ST. PETER'S UCC
BILLINGS, MO**

**TACOS OR TACO SALAD
OR FRITO PIE
AND**

**DESSERT AND DRINK
FOR \$5**

**DONATIONS ARE WELCOME
AND VERY APPRECIATED!**

Look to Christ

The man who has struggled to purify himself and has had nothing but repeated failures will experience real relief when he stops tinkering with his soul and looks away to the perfect One. While he looks at Christ, the very things he has so long been trying to do will be getting done within him.

A.W. Tozer

Relay for Life

I am hoping that we will be able to have a Relay for Life team again this year. The relay will be held on Saturday, June 11, from 4 PM to midnight, at J R Martin Park in Republic.

As a team member you'll help us raise money to reach our team goal. On the night of the relay we'll walk laps, have a team money raiser, and enjoy the activities, food, and fun. Let me know if you'd like to join us in the fight against cancer.

Cindy Wagemann

In His Hands

John G. Paton (1824-1907) was a pioneer missionary to the South Pacific islands now known as Vanuatu. Previous evangelists to the area had been consumed by cannibals, but Paton was undeterred — even after his wife and newborn son soon died of tropical fever.

Paton clung closely to Jesus amid deprivation, animosity and many attempts on his life. "I knew not, for one brief hour, when or how attack might be made," he wrote. "And yet, with my trembling hand clasped in the hand once nailed on Calvary, and now swaying the scepter of the universe, calmness and peace, and resignation abode in my soul."

Today about 85 percent of Vanuatu's population is Christian.



Keep them in Your Prayers

Bruce Baker, Tommy Baxley, Mary Beyer, Brock and Mora (friends of Karen, Kelsey and Kayla Rumley), Mary Burkhardt, Joanne Coker, Barbara Ebert, Jean Ebert, Tryston Ellis, Bob Hays (request of Becky Pannucci), Austin Haase, Debbie (Stever) Huffman, Jenise Huffman, Cameron Jones (Debbie Wagemann's cousin), Lois Kastendieck, Joe Katzur, Matthew Logan, Michael Newman (friend of Samuel Faris), Gene McConnell, *the family and friends of Joe McGee* (Mike Rauch's step-dad), Kathleen McGee, JoAnn McGehee, Lucille Miller (Debbie Wagemann's aunt), Louise Owen, Les Miekley, Judy Rauch, Kay Rill, Roger Rill, Seth Rumley, Charles Schatz, Ray & Ella Marie Schultz, Aaron and Ben Sears, Ann Staiger, *the friends and family of Martha Stewart*, Cody Verch, Margie Verch, Charles Wallace, Carolyn Zell, and Mary Zoller.

Fools for Christ

April Fools' Day isn't a religious holiday, though it may date to Pope Gregory XIII and his new calendar. In 1582, he shifted New Year's Day from April to January, and people who didn't believe the change were called April fools.

April Fools' Day may also be connected to the lightheartedness that comes with warmer weather, as well as to medieval Christian festivals that involved pranks, disguises and a temporarily inverted social order.

Yet, in Scripture, such reversal characterizes the kingdom of God. In 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25, St. Paul writes that the gospel seems foolish to people who don't know Christ, that God uses the "foolishness of our proclamation" to offer salvation to all and that God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Jesus "foolishly" inverted the social order, saying the last will be first and the first, last.

So if on April 1, and every day, we live as "fools for Christ," we're precisely what he calls us to be!



Your donations to the food pantry are very important and St. Joseph's would like to thank everyone who donated. Our next collection day will be April 3rd. All donations of canned foods, paper goods, or cash are appreciated.



May Newsletter Deadline

All articles must be received by noon on April 15th to be in the May Newsletter.

Please send all articles for the May Newsletter to: Mary Steinmann, Editor, at email:
msteinmann37@hotmail.com

"His Glory"

*God sends rainbows after showers
arching 'cross the freshened skies,
Every rainbow shows God's glory,
Every wonder tells his story.*

*God sends Jesus down from heaven
offering mercy, hope and life,
On the cross he showed God's glory,
Every blessing tells his story.*

*God sends me forth into this world
sharing love that offers life,
And I hope to show God's glory
In the way I tell his story.*

—MaryAnn Sundby

In the spirit of springtime, we focus on the new life God causes to sprout — in the world and church, in lives and hearts.

Special Dates

- Apr 1, April Fool's Day
- Apr 2, 6-8 PM, Spaghetti Dinner, Fund Raiser for Youth Mission Trip
- Apr 8-9, Youth Lock-in
- Apr 9, 10 AM, Friendship Guild
- Apr 11, 7:30 PM, Board Meeting
- Apr 15, Noon, Newsletter Deadline
- Apr 23, 10 AM, Western Ass. Spring Meeting, New Franklin, MO
- Apr 24, After Worship, April Birthdays & Anniversaries Celebration
- Apr 27, Administrative Professionals Day,
- Apr 29, Taco Night-Relay for Life
- Apr 30, 9-2 Camp Aurora Work Day

Treasures

One by one he took them from me,
all the things I valued most,
until I was empty-handed;
every glittering toy was lost.

And I walked earth's highways, grieving
in my rags and poverty
till I heard his voice inviting,
"Lift your empty hands to me!"

So I held my hands toward heaven,
and he filled them with a store
of his own transcendent riches,
till they could contain no more.

And at last I comprehended
with my stupid mind and dull,
that God could not pour his riches
into hands already full!

—Martha Snell Nicholson

Readers and Scripture Text

04/03	Becky Pannucci	Ps 150;	Acts 5: 27-32;	Rev 1:4-8;	John 20:19-31
04/10	Debbie Wagemann	Ps 30;	Acts 9:1-16 (7-20);	Rev 5:11-14;	John 21:1-19
04/17	Chris Rauch	Ps 23;	Acts 9:36-43;	Rev 5:1-5;	John 10:22-30
04/24	Cindy Wagemann	Ps 148;	Acts 11:1-18;	Rev 7:9-17;	John 13:31-35
05/01	Amber Tinsley	Ps 67;	Acts 16:9-15;	Rev 21:1-6;	John 14:23-29
05/08	Gale Boswell	Ps 97;	Acts 16:16-34;	Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21;	John 17:20-26



APRIL
Birthdays



- 4-01 Cody Verch
- 4-02 Brad Rumley
- 4-03 Sierra Watson
- 4-04 Mary Ann Rambo
- 4-08 Shauntae Staiger
- 4-10 Jean Ebert
- 4-18 Mark Schultz
- 4-18 Mary Burkhardt
- 4-19 Kelsey Kay Rumley
- 4-21 Millie Webb
- 4-22 Koltin Rumley
- 4-29 Ella Marie Schultz

- 04/03 Herman & Mary Steinmann
- 04/10 David & Luella Thomas
- 04/17 Charles Wallace & Carl Kastendieck
- 04/24 Fred & Diane Zell
- 05/01 Sherry Coker & Nick Dziwanowski
- 05/08 Mark & Andrea Schultz



- 04/03 John Wagemann
- 04/10 Amber Tinsley
- 04/17 Schaumann
- 04/27 John Wagemann
- 05/01 Amber Tinsley
- 05/08 Schaumann



Anniversaries
in
April



- 4/03/16 Jeff Ware
- 5/01/16 Luella Thomas

ACOLYTES



- 4-12-03 Douglas & Deanna Dahlman
- 4-15-07 Jay and Shauntae Staiger
- 4-18-09 Jess L. & Millie Webb
- 4-20-85 Rev. Kemery Baldwin
& Steve Pokin
- 4-22-67 Fred and Diane Zell

- 04/03 Jady Dzwonowski
- 04/10 Kayla Rumley
- 04/17 Nick Dziwanowski
- 04/24 Sierra Watson
- 05/01 Jady Dzwonowski
- 05/08 Kayla Rumley