

303 NE PINE STREET, PO BOX 250, BILLINGS, MO 65610
417-744-2701 WWW.STPETERSUCC.US
EMAIL: OFFICE@STPETERSUCC.US
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M./WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 A.M.

Faithfully serving in Jesus' name since 1880. Honoring traditions of the past, growing spiritually in the present and preparing for the future

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC

APRIL 2020

Our God, In Him will I trust!

Pastor Larry Worden

We were recently visiting with family. We were enumerating all the areas of chaos that seem to be filling our world at this moment.

I enjoy poetry and thought of excerpts of a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The story goes that he had just received word that his eldest son had been critically wounded at the Battle Of New Hope Church during the Civil War. He must have been very depressed as he wrote this: “And in despair, I bowed my head; there is no peace on earth I said. For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, goodwill to men!”

But as Christians, we know that “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high, shall abide under the shadow of the almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver me from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence.” God gives us the peace that passes all understanding.

Longfellow finished with, “Then pealed the bells more loud and sweet, God is not dead nor doth He sleep. The wrong shall fail, the right prevail with peace on earth goodwill to men.”

Think of the words of this song: “What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.”

It will be worth it all, when we see our friend, Jesus!





The St. Peter's church board met for their monthly meeting on Wednesday March 11th. The meeting was called to order shortly after 6 p. m. Roll call was taken and all board members were present except for Pastor Larry who was officiating at the weekly Lent service being held at the Methodist church.

Several prayer requests were taken from various members. David Hampton opened the meeting with prayer for the aforementioned prayer requests as well as praying for God to guide and direct each board member as we handled the items of business before us.

The board then reviewed both the minutes from last month's meeting as well as the February financial report. After motions were made to approve the above reports both were approved unanimously.

The board then handled the following items of Old Business:

- Discussion was held regarding the initiatives brought to our attention last month by Pastor Larry. After discussion it was decided to table these until next month when Pastor would be present.
- David Hampton gave the board an update on the Search Committee schedule of upcoming meetings in March on the 17th and the 24th to continue work on our Pastoral and Church profiles.
- Discussion and review of 3 stump grinding bids for the 5 stumps on the church's vacant lots. The board voted unanimously to award the stump grinding job to Cody Murray since he had the low bid of \$700.
- The board next reviewed the benevolence portion of our monthly budget. After going over the amounts we give quarterly to 9 separate benevolence recipients the board decided to increase what we give to Paw Packs by \$100 per quarter and leave all others at their current levels.
- The board reviewed the list of jobs that we plan to handle on the Saturday March 28th church work day. The board agreed that pizza would be purchased for lunch to feed all those volunteers working that day.

The board looked next at 2 items of New Business:

- Discussion of our monthly newsletter with the decision to renew for 1 year a subscription to a resource the Lee uses to help with art and articles used to create the newsletter. The deadline to submit articles for the newsletter was set for the 1st Monday after the last Sunday of each month. Discussion then centered around the monthly newsletter calendar and the various individuals that Lee needs to contact each month to be certain that all events for the coming month are noted on the newsletter calendar.

Communion stewards for each of the remaining months of 2020 were assigned and a brief discussion was held regarding the responsibilities to be handled by each communion steward.

The board will next meet on Wednesday April 8th at 6:30 p. m. The board meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p. m. with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

I want to encourage our church to remember the words of encouragement found in Philippians 4:8 Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

May God bless and keep us all in unity and peace is my prayer.



President, Diane Zell, called the meeting to order with 9 members present. Denise Hampton gave the devotional titled, "Prayer for a Troubled Heart." The minutes were approved as read by Secretary, Chris Rauch. Treasurer, Charlene Rumley, reported a bank balance of \$3,942.64 as of 3/1/20. She sent one Get Well and two Sympathy cards since last month's meeting. Cindy Wagemann reported that on 3/13 the Youth Group had 12 children who had a good time playing games & doing activities. Jennifer Williams had the lesson on the meaning of Lent. Chris Rauch gave the Church Council Report.

Under Old Business a thank you note from Charlene Rumley for the angel statue after her eye surgery was read by Diane Zell. The Friendship Guild was reminded that the Wednesday Lenten Service on 3/18 would be held at St. Peter's. It was decided that this year the refreshments would be divided up between Guild members every other time it was held here, as so much food at one time was unnecessary. The last time Lenten Services would be at St. Peter's would be on 4/1/20 and it was agreed that ice cream, toppings, and cake or cookies would be served as it was very popular last year. Cindy Wagemann suggested that the Friendship Guild set out this year from having a Taco Night as a fundraiser for Relay For Life, as there has been waning interest the last couple years. New team members were not forthcoming & It was not yet certain that the rally would even be held this year.

Under New Business, it was brought to the attention of the Friendship Guild that the commercial dust mop handle had worn a large hole in the cotton head and needed to be replaced. Chris Rauch motioned to purchase a new cotton head and Norma Wagemann seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chris Rauch offered to look for one.

Chris Rauch gave the topic titled, "Letter to God." It was a story reported by a four year old girl's mother regarding the death of the little girl's old dog, Abbey. The little girl was very concerned that the old dog be recognized by God in Heaven so that she would continue to be loved and cared for, and, as a result, asked her mother if they could send God a picture of Abbey in a letter. The mother wrote down the little girl's exact words and addressed the letter To: God in Heaven, affixed a stamp to the envelope, included the photo, and put it in the mailbox. Several days later a package arrived in an unknown handwriting addressed to the little girl containing a book by Mr. Rogers titled, "When a Pet Dies," their picture of the dog and the little girl (by which she might have it to remember Abbey), and a letter. An obviously thoughtful Christian postal worker (on behalf of God) had assured the little girl that Abbey had indeed arrived in Heaven and had "loved being her dog." "God" also told her that she had a very wonderful, loving mother that would help her write such a letter on Abbey's behalf! "God" wrote, "I picked your mother especially for you. I send my blessings every day. Remember that that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find. I am wherever there is love." Love, "God"

The little girl's mother assured people that the story was true and finished by saying, "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind, the second is to be kind, and the third is to be kind." Diane Zell also had a short story from Guideposts, which, coincidentally, dealt with an old couple's very old and ailing dog which could no longer get up and walk. Briefly stated, when brought in, it was obvious that short of humanely putting the dog to sleep, there was nothing else available for the veterinarian to do. He told the old couple as much, but through their tears they asked the vet if they could leave the dog overnight and pray about it. When the old couple returned the next morning, miraculously the old dog was able to walk again as though nothing at all was wrong! There is nothing in the universe that is beyond God's love and care. Miracles DO happen!

DUE TO COVID-19 GUILD WILL NOT MEET IN APRIL. Next meeting will be on May 9th at 10:00 am, Lord willing.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Chris Rauch

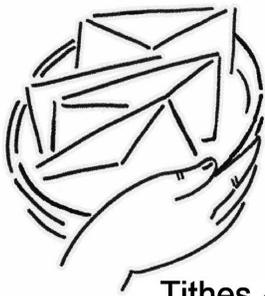
St. Peter's Evangelical United Church of Christ

Financial Report

Cash on Hand February 1, 2020						\$67,633.40
Receipts:		<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current Expense		1,505.00	745.00	735.00	1,382.00	4,367.00
Loose		182.00	40.00		91.00	313.00
OGHS		50.00				50.00
Totals		<u>1,737.00</u>	<u>785.00</u>	<u>735.00</u>	<u>1,473.00</u>	\$4,730.00
Rental Income						\$950.00
Interest Income						\$5.71
Total Cash on Hand and Monthly Receipts						<u>\$73,319.11</u>

**ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC
ACTUAL ANALYSIS
2020**

	<u>ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>	<u>ACTUAL DISBURSEMENTS FOR CUR EXPENSE</u>
JANUARY	\$6,231.00	\$3,099.00
FEBRUARY	\$5,636.00	\$3,922.00
YTD	<u>\$ 11,867.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,021.00</u>
	DIFFERENCE =	\$4,846.00



Tithes &
Offerings

Many of you have been thinking about how you can continue to give your tithes and offerings during this time that we are apart.

Danny and Jeff will continue to deposit your gifts into St. Peter's account. Mail your tithes and offerings to:

**St. Peter's
P.O. Box 250
Billings, MO 65610**

ATTENTION!

All April Church services, meetings and activities have been canceled to comply with directives from county authorities regarding COVID-19. Please stay safe and shelter in place.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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12 	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

April Scriptures

Liturgy of the Passion April 5, 2020 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14-27:66 or <i>Matthew 27:11-54</i>
Resurrection of the Lord April 12, 2020 <i>Easter Day</i>	*Acts 10:34-43 or <i>Jeremiah 31:1-6</i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Colossians 3:1-4 or <i>Acts 10:34-43</i>	John 20:1-18 or <i>Matthew 28:1-10</i>
Easter Evening April 12, 2020	Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalm 114	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8	Luke 24:13-49
Second Sunday of Easter April 19, 2020	*Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
Third Sunday of Easter April 26, 2020	*Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
Fourth Sunday of Easter May 3, 2020	*Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10

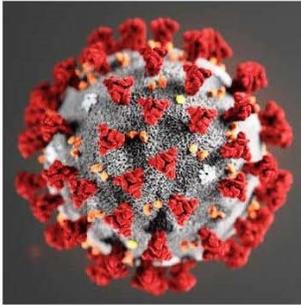
YOUTH AND RELAY FOR LIFE

Check out the artwork created by the youth group at their last meeting! →

I've discussed participating in Relay for Life this year with the Ladies Friendship Guild. I suggested that we not participate in the relay this year. After discussion, we decided to not be a part of the 2020 relay. Hopefully, we can start up for next year this fall. **Cindy**



Coronavirus and the Church



As new cases of the coronavirus (CoVid-19) are reported in the United States and around the world, the church is called to education, caution and common sense. Here are a few basic guidelines for congregations.

Good hygiene helps prevent the spread not only of coronavirus but also of colds and flu!

- Members, ministers, ushers - wash your hands frequently – with soap and water and for at least 20 seconds.
- Sneeze or cough into the crook of your elbow or a tissue, not your hand. Wash immediately after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Do not touch your face, especially your mouth, nose and eyes. Itchy? Use a clean tissue as a buffer.
- Regularly disinfect surfaces frequently touched including keyboards, desktops, elevator buttons and door knobs.
- Use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid close contact with someone who is sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.

Coronavirus (CoVid-19) is a respiratory illness that causes flu-like symptoms including fever, coughing and difficulty breathing.

- If you have any of these symptoms, seek medical advice.
- Call ahead before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room. Tell them about any recent travel and your symptoms.
- Stay home. Do not travel while sick. Avoid contact with others.
- Ask to join meetings via video or telephone conference call while you are recovering. Join worship via livestream.

Helpful links:

- Short educational video on the "5 Things to Know About COVID-19" <https://youtu.be/2OKr53uXhS4>
- Latest guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) at: <http://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- More resources from UCC Disaster Ministries: ucc.org/disaster [coronavirus resources from the ucc](#)


**KEEP
CALM
AND
READ
THE BIBLE**

Psalm 91 (NIV):

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.' Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. If you say, 'The LORD is my refuge,' and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. 'Because he loves me,' says the LORD, 'I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.'



A big thank you to Lee Lurvey for editing the February and March newsletters. Lee's help was very much appreciated during my illness. Thanks for a job well done! *MARY K*

Easter's Dawn

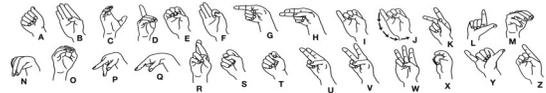
On the third day, the friends of Christ coming at daybreak ... found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener, God walked again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but of the dawn.

—G.K. Chesterton



Puzzle!

Hands play a key role in the biblical accounts of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Use this sign-language alphabet to retell what happened.

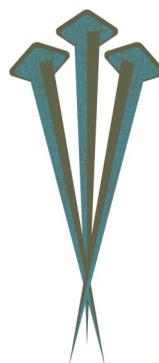
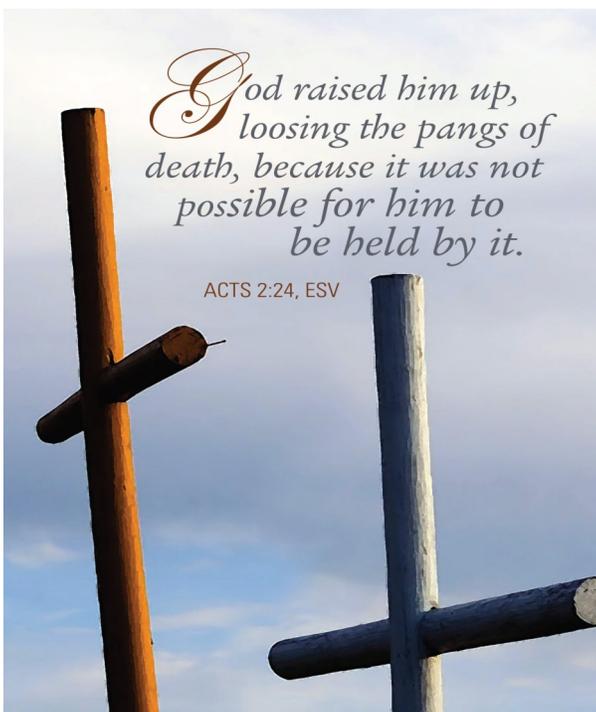


Jesus' _____ were _____
 to the tree. Two criminals were also crucified,
 one on the _____
 and the other on the _____ of Jesus. Jesus
 cried out with a loud voice, " _____ ,"
 into your _____ I commit my spirit."
 (Luke 23:46) Jesus' friends _____
 him from the cross to the tomb. Jesus showed
 _____ his _____ to prove
 he was Christ. Bring your _____ together
 in _____ , and thank God for his
 Son, Jesus!

Answer: hands, nailed, right, hand, left, Father, hands, carried, Thomas, hands, hands, prayer

*God raised him up,
 loosing the pangs of
 death, because it was not
 possible for him to
 be held by it.*

ACTS 2:24, ESV



Christian Symbol — Nails

Nails symbolize Jesus' passion and suffering because they were used at his Crucifixion. They are often depicted in groups of three because two nails were used to secure Jesus' hands, and a third was used to secure his feet. Three nails are also used to identify Jesus as a member of the Holy Trinity.

Special dates

- Holy Week, April 5-12, 2020
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 5, 2020
- Maundy Thursday, April 9, 2020
- Good Friday, April 10, 2020
- Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020
- Administrative Professionals Day, April 22, 2020

GREETERS SCHEDULE

04/05 James/Charlene Rumley
04/12 Sam/Debbie Schaumann
04/19 David/Luella Thomas
04/26 Fred/Diane Zell
05/03 Sherry Coker & Family

Newsletter
APRIL
23
Deadline

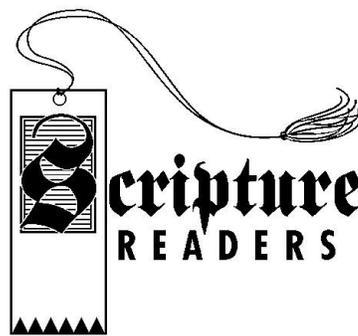
Please send any May Newsletter articles to Mary Kastendieck at marykasten@gmail.com

 **APRIL**
Birthdays

4-01 Cody Verch
4-03 Sierra Watson
4-05 Jean Robinson
4-08 Shauntae Staiger
4-18 Mark Schultz
4-19 Kelsey Rumley
4-21 Millie Webb
4-30 Lavona Lurvey

 **APRIL**
Anniversaries

4-12 Douglas and Deanna Dahlman
4-15 Jay and Shauntae Staiger
4-22 Fred and Diane Zell



04/05 Diane Zell
04/12 Chris Rauch
04/19 Cindy Wagemann
04/26 Amber Tinsley
05/03 Gale Boswell

In Our Thoughts & Prayers 

Prayer Requests

Nursing Home Care: Mary Lou Hutter, Ray Schultz, and Judy Rauch

Health & Wellness: Jerry Davis, Mike Rauch, Chet Jenkins, Kay Rill, Larry Mathews, Steven Zoller, Raymond Garbee, Jenise Huffman, Steve Netzer, Aaron Sears (Denise Hampton request), Jeannette Wilson (Friend of Cindy Wagemann), Dwight Worstenholm (Chris Rauch's brother), Ann Staiger (Hearing), Shirley Snyder (Luella Thomas's Friend-cancer), Marilyn Mattas (request by Judy Crockett), Mary Kastndieck (cancer), Jean Robinson (Shingles and hand problems), Colton Henderson (6 yo/cancer), Cody Verch, Alicia Verch, Crissy Wilson (Cassie Staiger's sister), the Meny Family, Randy Menkel (shoulder).

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall have eternal life” (John 3:16, NIV).



April 2020						
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