



ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC

303 NE PINE STREET, PO BOX 250, BILLINGS, MO 65610

417-744-2701 WWW.STPETERSUCC.US

EMAIL: OFFICE@STPETERSUCC.US OFFICE HOURS- WEDS 12:30 -5:00 PM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM

PASTOR BRITTANY SCARINGELLO

We have arrived to another Advent together! As you are looking forward to the birth of a baby in a manger, consider how you could help out this Christmas season! We have many opportunities to be involved. There will be sign ups for Advent readings, but also consider reading scripture or doing a special music piece.



As we prepare for Advent, I ask to consider what sorts of things are you anticipating? Advent is our season of waiting and it should be something we do mindfully! Pick up one of our Upper Room books if you'd like to do daily devotions. You could also join us for our Job bible study! Wednesday evenings once a month. I'll leave us with a prayer to consider for this season:

Gracious God, You came to us as a baby in a manger. Help us to be mindful of the surprising ways You are present in our lives every day. Help us to anticipate Your birth in a meaningful way this year. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Brittany

Upcoming Events:

- Bible Study (Job) —Wednesday, November 29, 2023 @ 6:00 pm
- German/Swiss/Austrian Program @ St. Peter's —December 2, 2023 @ 2:00 pm
- First Sunday of Advent—December 3, 2023
- Choir Practice—Thursday, December 7, 2023 @ 7:00 pm
- Youth Group—Friday, December 8, 2023 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Friendship Guild Meeting—Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 10:00 am
- Second Sunday of Advent—December 10, 2023
- Church Board Meeting —Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:30 pm
- Choir Practice—Thursday, December 14, 2023 @ 7:00 pm
- Third Sunday of Advent —December 17, 2023
- Choir Practice—Thursday, December 21, 2023 @ 7:00 pm
- Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 24, 2023
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—Sunday, December 24, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.
- Christmas Day—Monday, December 25, 2023
- New Year's Eve—Sunday, December 31, 2023

**ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGET 2024**

Adopted November 12, 2023 at the Congregational Meeting.

MINISTER:			
	Salary	\$ 23,200	
	Housing Allowance	16,800	
	Travel & Supply	<u>1,000</u>	\$ 41,000
UTILITIES:			
	Electric - Church	\$ 1,300	
	Gas - Church	1,900	
	Phone & Internet	<u>1,700</u>	4,900
OFFICE / OPERATIONS:			
	Postage, Supplies, Ads, Choir, Youth, Conf. Mtgs., Misc.		6,200
INSURANCE:	Building / Liability / WC		14,500
RENTAL PROPERTY:			2,000
MAINTENANCE:			
	Mowing	\$ 1,800	
	Cleaning Service	2,600	
	Copier Service Contract	100	
	HVAC Service Contract	600	
	Repairs	<u>4,000</u>	9,100
BENEVOLENCE:			<u>10,300</u>
GRAND TOTAL:			<u><u>\$ 88,000</u></u>
PROJECTED RESOURCES:			
	Current Expense	\$ 59,000	
	Interest Checking	400	
	Rent Office	1,200	
	Rental Property	<u>14,400</u>	
	 Total		 <u><u>\$ 75,000</u></u>

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FINANCIAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2023

CASH ON HAND OCTOBER 1, 2023 \$ 76,401.14

RECEIPTS:	<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Week 5</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
Current Exp.	1,260.00	320.00	570.00	790.00	880.00	3,820.00	
Loose	40.00	40.00	20.00	51.00	40.00	191.00	
Paw Packs	100.00					100.00	
Little Food Pantry				50.00		50.00	
TOTALS	1,400.00	360.00	590.00	891.00	920.00		4,161.00

RENTAL INCOME 500.00
 INTEREST INCOME 47.79

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AND MONTHLY RECEIPTS \$ 81,109.93

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC
 ACTUAL ANALYSIS
 2023

	<u>ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>	<u>ACTUAL DISBURSE- MENTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>
JANUARY	6,935	10,034
FEBRUARY	7,276	6,621
MARCH	4,879	6,713
APRIL	5,622	14,429
MAY	4,825	4,497
JUNE	4,583	6,291
JULY	4,987	7,200
AUGUST	3,967	4,165
SEPTEMBER	5,478	7,679
OCTOBER	4,559	7,654
NOVEMBER	-	-
DECEMBER	-	-
YTD	53,111	75,283

DIFFERENCE = (22,172)



It's now easier than ever to give to St. Peter's. We are now set up with **Tithe.ly** to take online donations. It's safe, secure, and simple. Consider giving to help support our ministry. [Click this link](#) or scan the QR code below.





MISSION UPDATE FROM PAUL/JEN SHAEFER

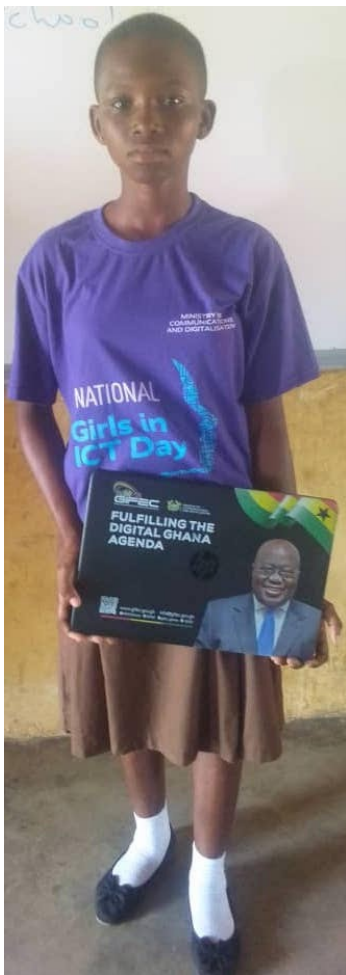
Thank you all for praying! We are all doing pretty well, trying to stay healthy during this time when lots of colds and other viruses and such are floating around.

We especially wanted to thank you for praying for Paul and his neck/back issue! He is improving daily. A couple of weeks ago he was able to see the physical therapist doctor whom we really liked. She worked with his neck a bit but because of the numbness that comes and goes in his right arm, she didn't feel comfortable doing much until she knows

more about the cause of the numbness. So she ordered an x-ray and an MRI to be done on his neck and right shoulder so as to be able to discern the root of the problem before moving forward on treatment.

Paul had the MRI last week and we are now waiting to hear back from the doctor. But thank you so much for praying, as he is truly improving, with pain almost gone and the numbness is bearable. However, please continue to pray for this healing process as he is

still not able to work on the computer for long periods of time without significant issue. (And as you know, so, so much of our work is on the computer, especially the type-setting process.) But we thank God for the improvement! And we are so thankful that Paul was finally able to do some work on the computer the past couple of weeks, in order to finish up the quarterly reports on the Consultants-in-Training. So we thank God for that!



TRANSLATION

Pastor Sammy came back from his first semester at seminary a couple weeks ago, but he has been sick with malaria--please pray for his health.

Nicholas has been steadily reading through the gospels and noting minor corrections, and will soon move on to Acts.

Elisha had a problem with his computer, but Mumuni repaired it and Elisha is now also reading through the Safaliba translation of Mark.

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LITERACY AND EDUCATION OUTREACH

Five more Safaliba teachers completed the education course: Matilda, Solomon, and Manjeed (from, and teaching in, Mandari), and Daniel and Moses (Gbenfu), have all fully completed their college courses to become teachers. Now they need prayer for employment and assignment to the schools they have been helping at during their training. If this difficult step (getting employment and being assigned to these schools) comes off as we pray it will, it will have a huge impact in the Safaliba community - it would almost double the number of Safaliba teachers teaching Safaliba children in the public schools in the Safaliba area!

Teachers Eden and Samua have been away for the past two months on a study program. Eden is finishing an MA in Ghanaian Languages Education, while Samua is beginning the same program and will finish next year. They are both doing research on Safaliba as well as studying another language, Dagaare, that is very similar to Safaliba and is taught in

some public schools. These courses of study will help Eden and Samua to continue to develop Safaliba literacy and education materials, and guide new teachers as they begin their service in the Safaliba area schools.

Mumuni (the son of literacy teacher Iddi) continues to do a great job of keeping the Safaliba translators' computers working. He also continues to teach classes in ICT (Information and Communication Technology) at the Safaliba junior-high schools in Mandari. Last December, when we were there, Mumuni was busily teaching basic computer and game programming to a group of girls



who were preparing for an area-wide contest, which they won!

Then this past May, Ghana held a "Girls-in-ICT" contest in northern Ghana for girls who had already learned computer skills in school.



For the "Girls-in-ICT" event, 10 girls from Mumuni's classes qualified to take part, including two of Pastor Stanley's daughters, Josephine and Diana (yellow shirts).



For the "Girls-in-ICT" event, 10 girls from Mumuni's classes qualified to take part, including two of Pastor Stanley's daughters, Josephine and Diana. Five of the girls did so well they were awarded new laptops of their own from the Ghana government and they also get to go on to another ICT contest soon.

Computer skills can make a big difference in school and work success, and it is an encouragement to the whole Safaliba community that these girls' efforts got them this far. Pray that we can help Mumuni extend this service to Gbenfu soon. We thank God that we've received a portion of the cost of a motorcycle for Mumuni, but please continue to pray for the remainder needed.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

--We are thankful that Nicholas and Elisha (despite issues with his laptop) have continued making progress on checks to the Gospels.

--And Sammy is back from his first semester at seminary.

--Also, Eden and Samua are doing well in their linguistic-education studies.

--We are thankful for Mumuni and all his computer help (repair, teaching, printing materials, etc.) in Mandari.

--Also, we praise God that a portion of the cost of a motorcycle for Mumuni to also begin teach-

ing in Gbenfu has been donated.

--As well, a part of the tuition, books, and travel costs Sammy needs for seminary have also been donated.

--And we thank God Paul's neck is improving.

--Pray for Sammy as he's been struggling with malaria since his return from seminary.

--Pray also for Eden and Samua as they finish up their semester this week and travel back home.

--Pray that Sammy and Eden will have the strength and time to resume their editing and

typesetting checks of the NT (both of them are detail-oriented and especially good at this stage of the work).

--Pray for time and health for Elisha and Nicholas to continue to make progress on Mark and Acts edits as well.

--Also, pray for Samua and Eden as they guide the volunteer teachers, especially the ones who just completed their degree in education (Matilda, Manjeed, Moses, Daniel and Solomon).

--Please also pray for the additional funds needed for the motorcycle for Mumuni and also for Sammy's schooling.

--And pray for Paul's ongoing healing process and that we hear again from the doctor soon about the results of the MRI and how to move forward.

Thanks for praying, encouraging, and supporting us and the Safaliba project!

Serving together,

Paul and Jen Schaefer

Caleb, Micah, Josiah and Sarah



To partner with Wycliffe to support our ministry financially:

Checks can be written to:

Wycliffe Bible Translators

with a separate note saying:

'With preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Paul and Jennifer Schaefer #303484'

and mailed to:

Wycliffe Bible Translators
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando FL 32862-8200

Or, for ONLINE giving through Wycliffe:

Go to Wycliffe.org, click on "missionaries", and choose "find a missionary".

Below the search bar, click on "view **unlisted missionary** page" (we try to keep a low internet profile)

[or you can go directly to: <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/give-to-the-ministry-of-my-wycliffe-missionary>]

On this page, enter our names or finance ID number or both: Paul and Jennifer Schaefer 303484

It gives the options for e-check (free), or credit/debit card (deducts a fee from the donation)

Our permanent US home mailing address:

Paul and Jennifer Schaefer
25494 State Highway 265
Marionville, MO 65705

Phone numbers:

Ghana: +233 246 542 140
US: (417) 450-0806 (cell)



Friendship Guild will be meeting Saturday, December 9th at 10:00 am for the annual Christmas meeting. Attendees are asked to bring a snack and a Christmas reading to share. All ladies and friends are encouraged to attend!



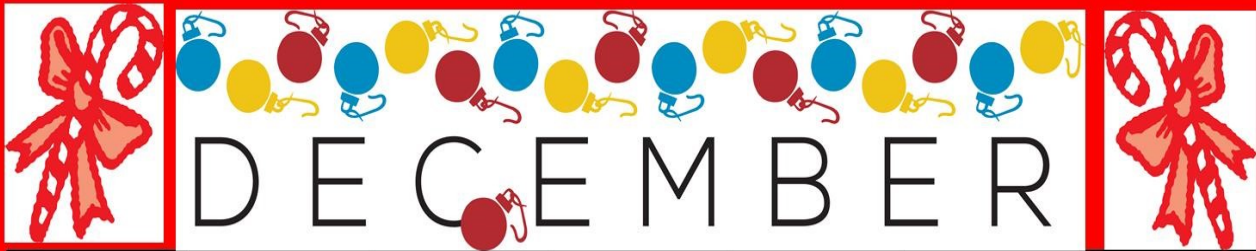
Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 30th

4:00 pm

Alan/Pat Ware's

All are welcome!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Sunday Worship at 10:30 am All are welcome!					1	2 -2:00 pm German/Swiss/ Austrian Program at St. Peter's
3 First Sunday of Advent	4	5	6	7 -7:00 pm Choir Practice	8 6:00-8:00 pm Youth Group	9 -10:00am Friendship Guild
10 Second Sunday of Advent	11	12	13 6:30 pm Church Board	14 7:00 pm Choir Practice	15	16
17 Third Sunday of Advent	18	19	20 7:00 pm Choir Practice	21 7:00 pm Choir Practice	22	23
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent -7:00 pm Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29 Newsletter Deadline	30 -4:00 pm Christmas Open House at the Ware's.
31 New Year's Eve						



**German-Austrian-Swiss
Historical Society
Advent Program**

Saturday, December 2 @ 2:00 p.m.
All are invited!



Billings Community Angel Tree

Located in the Bank of Billings
in December.

Stop by and purchase an angel to help
provide a local child with Christmas gifts.



You are Invited!

Reception for Ken Cloud

Sunday, December 10, 2023

2:00—4:00 pm

Billings UMC

Ken is moving to Louisiana!

December 2023 Lectionary

First Sunday of Advent--December 3, 2023

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Second Sunday of Advent--December 10, 2023

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent--December 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent--December 24, 2023

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

First Sunday after Christmas Day--December 31, 2023

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40



Christmas Eve has long been a high point at St Peters as we come together for a candlelight service to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The inscription above the chancel area--now in its 130th year--reminds us every time we enter the church of the proclamation of the angelic hosts to the lowly shepherds outside Bethlehem on that first Christmas Eve. Though few of us can read the German language translation, we all know the message nonetheless: "Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on Earth and Goodwill to all Mankind!" (EHV). Our service will begin at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to join with us for this special time together of worship and song.



- 12/09 Jessica Verch
- 12/09 Samantha Williams
- 12/11 Jonathan Staiger
- 12/19 Susan Staiger-Wilkins
- 12/23 Chris Rauch
- 12/25 Charlotte Ware
- 12/28 John Staiger



- 12/26 Sam/Debbie Schaumann
- 12/28 David/Judy Crockett
- 12/30 David/Chris Rauch



If you would like to donate a poinsettia plant for the church sanctuary decoration in memory or honor of a loved one, please let Pat Ware or Mary Kastendieck know. The cost will be \$5 each.



Choir practices this month are on Thursdays—December 7, December 14 and December 21 at 7:00 p.m. Come sing with us!

PRAYER list

Nursing Home Care:

Judy Rauch

Health & Wellness:

Larry Mathews, Steve Netzer, Jean Ann/Jenise Huffman, 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), Brandy Richter, Rebecca Davis, Mike Rauch, Mary Steinmann, Jennifer Williams, Alicia Verch, Jessie Verch, Mary Beyer, Jami Stocker, Norma Wagemann, Johnie Shoemate, Sonya Sears, Marcus Moore, Carol Forester, Bruce Baker, Denise Hampton, Michelle Lam, Trudy Berry, Rex Tinsley, the Middle East, and all those dealing with illnesses.

Please join us for an
Old Time Christmas
Senior Citizen Luncheon

December 13, at Noon
FEMA building

Delicious food, music,
and giveaways!

Contact the
school at
744-2623
to RSVP





December 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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