



# 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

## An Update from St. Peter's Church Board President

The church board met on Wednesday, February 9. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

### Financials

Giving in January was strong in spite of no services on January 16 due to weather. Compared to January 2021, we were down only \$382. Thank you to all who are able to give financially to keep our church going.

### Pastor's Report

After just two short months, Pastor Brittany has become an invaluable asset to our church family. It's truly a blessing to have such a strong spiritual leader for our congregation. She possesses a great skill in listening to and learning about our board, members, and friends.

Having a permanent pastor gives us the opportunity to prayerfully move forward with our ideas and dreams, tackle challenges, and divide up the work of our church. For example, Pastor Brittany now has office hours (Wednesday, 12:30 – 5:00 p.m.) and is preparing the church bulletin each Sunday morning. She is also collaborating with Pastor Jeff Carr at the Billings United Methodist Church to co-lead community Lenten services between our two congregations. Details of these services – along with a Maundy Thursday and a community Easter Sunrise service--are still in the works. We will let you know when all plans are finalized.

Pastor Brittany's ordination is scheduled for Sunday, May 15, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Johns Church in Springfield. Mark this special date on your calendar and make plans to help her celebrate this momentous occasion. Plans are to have Pastor Brittany's installation at St. Peter's on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, at 3:00 p.m.

### Specific Outreach

Maintaining the Pine Street Pantry is challenging, and we want to encourage our entire church family to help us keep it stocked. If everyone brings just one or two items each Sunday to church, the work is made much easier. The need is just as great now as it ever has been. Such a small donation can make a big difference to the lives of families in our community. Cash donations are, of course, also accepted. You can be a blessing to so many!



*Continued on Page 2 . . .*

Continued from Page 1 ...

## Church and Property Maintenance

David Rauch and David Hampton have been meeting with potential contractors to get bids on repairs to church property. Those repairs include roofing, siding, gutters, fascia, and more to the church and surrounding buildings. An insurance payment of around \$70,000 is available to make repairs to all church property. More information about these repairs will be made to members as we finish gathering the contractor proposals, compare them, and then schedule a congregational meeting. If you are interested in being involved in this process, please contact David Rauch. We all welcome your involvement.

## Other Activities

We are always keeping an eye on COVID, and at this point in time, data suggests a national decline in the number and severity of cases. As this trend continues, we hope to bring you more and more opportunities for socializing in 2022. Here are some plans and ideas in the works:

As we look forward to spring, its warmer weather, and the life emerging from a winter slumber, we have plans to enjoy an **outdoor church service on Sunday, April 24**, at Petal Junction, the gardens found at the home of Pat and Allan Ware.

**“Getting to Know You” small, informal fellowship gatherings** with Pastor Brittany. These events could be held in the fellowship hall, someone’s home, or even at a restaurant. We could play card games, have a small Bible study, do crafts, or even talk about specific books. We are in the idea stage; let us know what YOU would like!

**Church Directory Update:** we have not updated the church directory in several years. When you receive an email from St. Peter’s, be sure to scroll to the bottom of that email and update your information. If you don’t have email, we will be asking you to update your contact information on a form during church. This helps Pastor Brittany and our church family when sending cards or making phone calls.

That’s all for this month. If you ever have questions, concerns, positive or constructive feedback, please reach out to me or any of your church board members. We are here to listen and carry out God’s plan for our congregation.

Blessings and Love, Sherry Coker, Church Board President

[cokers628@gmail.com](mailto:cokers628@gmail.com) 417.343.3017



**You may know that St. Patrick** used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn’t Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick’s death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.

# FRIENDSHIP GUILD

The meeting was called to order with 6 members present. Judy Crockett gave the devotion titled "Joy Stealer" taken from Focus On Family. Cindy Wagemann reported a balance of \$2,379.62 in the treasury. Judy Crockett gave the Church Board report.

The Food Pantry was discussed. They discussed the expense of maintaining the Pantry. Pastor Brittany suggested placing a box in the vestibule for Church members to donate food items. We all decided this would be a good idea to keep it going.

Lent services were discussed. The topic of serving food after services was discussed. Everyone was in agreement to not serve after services. Diane said she had called Elaine Gold and talked to her about not serving. Her response was that it was smart thing to do. She said they would have a Board meeting after Church that Sunday and discuss the idea.

Pastor Brittany's ordination will be May 15th at St. John's Church in Springfield at 3:00 p.m. Her installation here at St. Peter's will be Pentecost Sunday, June 5.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be March 12 at 10: 00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All Ladies are invited to come. After the meeting several stayed to make pie dough.

Respectfully submitted in Chris Rauch's absence



In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: Butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, God alone can see.



March Scriptures				
<b>Ash Wednesday</b> March 2, 2022	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Psalms 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<b>First Sunday in Lent</b> March 6, 2022	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> March 13, 2022	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalms 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> March 20, 2022	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalms 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> March 27, 2022	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalms 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FINANCIAL REPORT

JANUARY 2022

CASH ON HAND JANUARY 1, 2022 \$ 87,164.63

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.	1,475.00	995.00		1,000.00	955.00	4,425.00	
Loose		25.00			26.00	51.00	
Little Food Pantry		50.00				50.00	
Williams Family	100.00					100.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>1,575.00</u>	<u>1,070.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>981.00</u>		4,626.00

RENTAL INCOME 900.00  
 INTEREST INCOME 7.87

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AND MONTHLY RECEIPTS \$ 92,698.50

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC  
 ACTUAL ANALYSIS  
 2022

	<u>ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>	<u>ACTUAL DISBURSEMENTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>
JANUARY	5,384	3,616
YTD	<u>5,384</u>	<u>3,616</u>
DIFFERENCE		1,768

**Every Good Gift**

A poor man was given a loaf of bread. He thanked the baker, but the baker said, "Don't thank me. Thank the miller who made the flour." So he thanked the miller, but the miller said, "Don't thank me. Thank the farmer who planted the wheat." So he thanked the farmer, but the farmer said, "Don't thank me. Thank the Lord. He gave the sunshine, rain, and fertility to the soil, and that's why you have bread to eat."



Regardless of how sophisticated, how advanced we may be scientifically, we still can't create: we still can't make a kernel of wheat. That has to come from God. God gives us the things we need in order to live on this planet. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17).



# MARCH 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Lenten Services times and locations to be announced.</i>		1	2 	3	4 	5
6 -9:30 AM Sunday School -10:30 AM Worship and Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12 Friendship Guild 10:00 AM
13 -9:30 AM Sunday School -10:30 AM Worship  Daylight Savings Time	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20 -9:30 AM Sunday School -10:30 AM Worship  Spring Arrives!	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 -9:30 AM Sunday School -10:30 AM Worship	28	29	30	31		





This year, **Ash Wednesday**, the first day of Lent, falls on March 2. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical book: "O God, you know how fragile is our human nature, wounded as it is by sin. Help your people to enter upon the Lenten journey strengthened by the power of your word, so that we may be victorious over the seduction of the Evil One and reach the paschal feast in the joy of the Holy Spirit."

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.



On March 25, we remember **the Annunciation** when the angel Gabriel visits Mary to tell her she is to bear the Son of God, and she says yes.

In *Wholehearted Faith*, Rachel Held Evans writes: "I am a Christian not because of anything I've done but because a teenage girl living in occupied Palestine at one of the most dangerous moments in history said yes — yes to God, yes to a wholehearted call she could not possibly understand ... yes to a vision for herself and her little boy of a mission that would bring down rulers and lift up the humble, that would turn away the rich and fill the hungry with good things, that would scatter the proud and gather the lowly, yes to a life that came with no guarantee of her safety or her son's. ... And through Mary's example, God invites us to take the risk of love."



*And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.*

Luke 1:31, NRSV

Remind us again, O God, of your loving presence, from which nothing can separate us.

**40**—In Scripture, this number often indicates a time of trial or testing, or simply marks significance. It rained 40 days and nights during the Flood. Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. The Christian church has long observed 40 days of Lent (not counting Sundays).



# MARCH Birthdays

- 03/05 Cassie Staiger
- 03/07 Andrea Schultz
- 03/18 Samuel Faris
- 03/19 Pat Ware
- 03/20 James Rumley
- 03/21 David Hampton
- 03/26 Jady Dziwanowski
- 03/27 Jane Staiger

# MARCH Anniversaries

- 03/24 Andrew/Cassandra Staiger
- 03/25 Allan/Jennifer Williams

**Bible Quiz**

All four Gospels tell of a woman anointing Jesus. Details vary; clearly, she isn't the same person in all accounts. In John, who is she?

- A. Jesus' mother, Mary
- B. Mary Magdalene
- C. Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus)
- D. None of the above



Answer: C (See Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-39; John 12:1-8)



### April Newsletter Articles

Due on Wednesday, March 23, 2022  
 Send to Mary Kastendieck  
 Email: marykasten@gmail.com  
 Call or text: 913-594-2484

# IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

## Nursing Home Care:

Mary Lou Hutter and Judy Rauch

## Health & Wellness:

Chet Jenkins, Larry Mathews, 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), Brandy Richter (Cassie Staiger friend), Mike Rauch, Rebecca Davis (Shauntae Staiger's friend/breast cancer and medication complications), Mary Steinmann, Pat Barker (lung cancer), Jennifer Williams (cancer), Alicia Verch, Jessie Verch, David Rauch, Marie Risley, Penny Kastendieck, Albert Rauch, Michelle Lam, Mary Beyer, James Rumley, Charlene Rumley, Chris Rauch. All those dealing with COVID.

*"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."*  
 — Mother Teresa



March 2022						
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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