

Good News
From St. Peter U.C.C.
"Reaching Out With New Hope"

Volume XXXII . . . 1 January, 2013

NOTES FROM THE COUNCIL

Reporter: From notes by Jim White & DiAnn Caraker

As a result of the special meeting on December 10 the following officers were chosen: President, **Jim White**; Vice-President/Treasurer, **David Stedelin**; Financial Secretary, **Greg Reichenbacher**; Recording Secretary, **DiAnn Caraker**.

The installation of officers will be held during the worship service on January 6. The Council has chosen to meet on the second Monday evening at 6:30 pm making the next meeting date January 14, 2013.

Then the next Congregational Meeting will follow the worship service on January 27, 2013.

"HEART OF HOYLETON"

Reporter: Norma Borgmann

A "Heart of Hoyleton" luncheon will be held on Sunday, January 13th following the worship service in our Fellowship Hall along with ladies from Friedens-Irvington and Zion-Central City. The meal will be provided by the Hoyleton Ministries' Staff, and a short program is to follow. RSVPs may be given to **Norma Borgmann** by January 7 for an adequate amount of food. It is to start at 12:30 p.m.



CHRISTKINDLMARKT SUCCESS

Reporter: Based on email from Verna Steinkamp

Preliminary figures indicate we made almost a thousand dollars! But we have decided to wait until the February newsletter for a more complete report on the Christkindlmarkt since by then we will have the check from Plowshare and other incidentals finalized.

NOT WHAT WE EXPECTED

Reporter: Judy Luer

The Christmas Program was held on Sunday, December 16th during the worship hour. The program was a skit with **Stephen Chontofalsky** being the young married man and **Melinda Graham**, portraying his wife. They remembered some of their earlier married years and Christmas past. After they discussed each special memory, the children presented a present to them consisting of a nativity piece. The final piece was just what they expected – Baby Jesus.



The children who helped with the Christmas presentations were: **Madie Ruez, Russell Ruez, Chloe Scanlan, Nick _____ and JC _____**. (Our apologies to Nick and JC for not having their last names).

A special thank you to **Pat Hall** for designing the Christmas Nativity scene for the children (**Madie and Russell**) to paint. It was wonderful! Also thank you to our actress and actor, **Melinda and Stephen**.

All of your hard work made an enjoyable program for the congregation. Many thanks.

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PRAYER CORNER*

Debbie Arning	Rev. Rich Brzowsky
Esther Campbell	Ileen Castellari
Gary Chwascinski	Robin Cimera
Bob Cohlmeier	Luke Hammond
Rev. Lisa Hart	Candice Kindred
Paul Kluthe	Helen Niekrenz
Gracie Niermann	Bentley Powell
Carter Rankin	Paula Sears
Don Storck	Betty Telford
Curtis White	Brad Wolenhaupt
Chris Wolenhaupt	

**In accordance with HIPPA (It's real name is Heath Insurance Portability Privacy Act.) requirements, the persons on the St. Peter prayer list have requested, or given permission, for their names to be included and published in the prayer list. Names will appear for 30 days unless the individuals or their immediate family request that they be maintained on the prayer list for another thirty days.*

Our Servicemen

Matthew Bratthauar	David Harper
Chris Lyday	Corey Schlau
Nathan Storck	Cole Vehrs
Jared Vehrs	Anna Walls

In Care Centers

Elmer Beckmeyer	Marjorie Nehrt
Sandy Zinschlag	

WE MOURN WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS

A very long time and very active member, **Betty Rose Johnson** died Nov. 20. She had moved to **Tennessee** to be near a niece and her family a few years ago. (Editor's note: I apologize for having gotten the state wrong last month as I did it from memory and Kentucky is where her nieces grew up although they were here most summers.)

We need to also remember family & friends of another active member, **Vivian Cohlmeier**, who died December 2.

PLEASE HELP US UPDATE

If you know of someone who needs to be added or taken off, please contact the church secretary, **Judy Reichenbacher**, at the office 532-7124, and if no one is available, please leave a message.

**Remember your Church in your will.
A Gift that will last for generations**

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Giving Totals for Nov. 25 - Dec. 16, 2012

General Offering.	\$ 7,211.12
Special Offering.	400.00
Neighbors in Need.	100.00
Memorial - Todd Freels.	50.00
Memorial - Betty Rose Johnson.	390.00
Memorial - Rev. Gerald Senn.	200.00
Wurstmart.	75.00
Poinsettias.	55.00
Advent Offering.	75.00
Christmas Families.	70.00
Initial Offering.	7.00
Donation for door repair.	229.00
Christkindlmarkt.	928.50
TOTAL.	\$ 9,790.62

**GENERAL OFFERING YEAR TO DATE
(01/01/12 THROUGH 12/16/12)**

Amount received. \$ 71,490.87
(Does not include "Change for Change 2012")

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Nov. 25	31
Dec. 2	33
Dec. 9	30
Dec. 16	45

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Thank You

Dear St. Peter Mission Board

I am sorry this is so late. A lot of my classes run from 8 am to 8 pm. Thank you so much for my scholarship. It made a great difference towards my books. Hope all is well.

Lane (Liggett)

Our thanks to **Rev. Orrin Johnson** for being our guest minister on November 25 and December 2 while Rev. Lisa was on vacation.

Thank you to everyone that had a part in another successful Christkindlmarkt! Special thanks to the Stewardship Team, **Norma Borgmann, David Stedelin** and **Verna Steinkamp** for coordinating.

Thank you to the Christian Education Team of **Cathy Chontofalsky, Judy Luer** and **Edie Ruez** for putting together the program given on December 16. Also, thank you to **Melinda Graham** and **Stephen Chontofalsky** for narrating.

To St. Peter's UCC

May your home be blessed with the spirit of Christmas.

Enclosed is a gift in memory of **Rev. Gerald "Jerry" Senn**. Please use it where it is most needed. Our 7-8 years with you dear people were some of our most happy ones.

God's Blessing to you now and may the New Year bring joy, love and peace to St. Peter's.

God Bless

Shirley Senn

Rev. Lisa and the Members at St. Peter UCC

Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your support, prayers, kindness, cards, food and thoughts. It provided the greatest comfort for us all in this time of sorrow and you are all greatly appreciated.

May You All Have A Blessed Holiday Season

Robert Cohlmeier, Sandy Smith and the Family of Vivian Cohlmeier.

THANKS to the following members who contributed towards making Christmas brighter for the 4 year old girl, **Nadia Futa**, from Uni-Pres Kindercottage in East St. Louis as well as stocking the learning centers there with educational toys: **DiAnn** and **Edna Caraker, Jane Edmonson (and granddaughter who assisted with the shopping), Connie Freels, Helen Niekrenz, Jeanette Storck, Nancy** and **Norma Borgmann**. All the items were delivered along with Campbell's labels and Boxtops for Education on 12/17/12 by **Nan** and **Norma**. Once again, St. Peter UCC-Centralia church family responded generously to the need for "adopting" a child for Christmas and helping the Kindercottage.

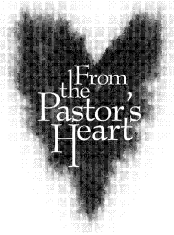
FYI — this girl received 3 outfits, fleece top, tennis shoes, socks, panties, mittens, hats, pajamas, hoodie, hair ribbons, kitchenware, and a plastic skillet full of items. Kindercottage now has a block construction set-up with many options, more trucks, footballs (plush), more batteries of various sizes, and an assortment of wrapped candies.

Written by Norma Borgmann

ERM PROJECTS FROM THEIR DECEMBER MEETING

Reporter: Norma Borgmann

The ERM Society met on December 12th for their regular meeting and donated \$40.00@ to the following UCC mission partners as end of the year donations: Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi, DuBois Center, Hoyleton Children's Home, Kindercottage in East St. Louis, and New Athens Home for the Aged. The members also provided cookies to fill 14 cans for our church members who are sick/shut-in and 3 for staff plus sent out 4 Christmas cards to others.



This is a new year, a time of new beginnings. So I looked at Genesis, our story of the beginning of history. At the end of the first chapter, Genesis 1:31, it reads: “God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

When God was all done creating the heavens and earth, the cardinals and cats, the tall giraffes and the funny platypus, after God had even created humans, made in God’s image, God looked at all of it and said “very good.” God looked at all his ideas for plants and animals and beautiful sunsets and majestic storms, sighed in contentment and said, “Very good.”

God did not say, “Now everything is perfect. Don’t touch a thing.” God did not say, “OK, humans. It’s perfect, don’t mess it up.”

I agree with **Anthony Robinson**, (from whose Still-Speaking devotional I borrowed for the ideas for article). God saying “very good” is like, “This is cool, this is great, but not all done or finished.” That is a way of saying that there’s a place for you and me and something for us to contribute here. “Very good”, but not finished.

This is God’s church, not ours. Christ is the head of the church, not you or me. But I think God looks at the church and says, “It’s very good, but not complete or perfect.” There is a place for us in God’s plan for the church. There is need for each person’s contribution. So at this beginning of 2013, let’s you and I look at the church and think about what we should be doing for it, within it. Look at St. Peter UCC and think: “Very good. Now what’s next?”

December 2012							January 2013							February 2013													
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
						1	<h1>January 2013</h1>												1	2							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8								3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9	10	11	12	13	14	15								17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																					
30	31																										
							1	Office Closed	2	Grief Support with guest Speaker 6pm	3		4		5												
6	Communion Installation of Council	7	150 Anniversary Comm. 6pm	8	Quilts of Love Setup 8:30 Sew 9-2 Girl Scouts 5:30 - 7:30 pm Choir 6:30 p.m.	9	NO ERM Exec. Bd. Mtg.	10		11		12															
13	"Heart of Hoyleton" lunch & program 12:30	14	Council 6:30 p.m.	15	Choir 6:30 p.m.	16		17		18		19															
20	Good News Deadline	21		22	Girl Scouts 5:30 - 7:30 pm Choir 6:30 p.m.	23		24	Church Women United 9 a.m. 1St. Presbyterian	25		26															
27	Congregational mtg. following worship	28		29	Choir 6:30 p.m.	30		31																			

Unless otherwise noted:

St. Peter Sunday School 9:30 a.m, Worship 10:45 a.m.

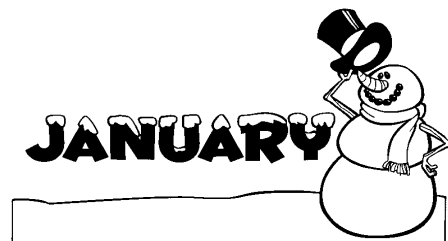
Tuesdays — Bible Study at Redeemer — brown bag lunch 12:30 — Study 1-2 pm

BIRTHDAYS

1 Charlene Smith	17 Robert Cohlmeier
1 Brad Wolenhaupt	19 Christopher Feig
2 Betty Telford	21 Joe Hinton
3 Mary Ann Bender	22 Joshua Knolhoff
7 DiAnn Caraker	27 Corky Alcorn
12 Brooke Taylor	28 Patty Hinton
16 Charles Atherton	

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Nick & Jen Luer



ST. PETER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
318 WEST THIRD STREET
CENTRALIA IL 62801
(618) 532-7124
... where God is still speaking,
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Schedule: Church School 9:30 am; Worship 10:45 am
Email: office@stpeterucc.com
Rev. Lisa Hart, Interim Pastor
Jane Brink, Newsletter Editor