

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

Volume XXXII . . . 1 January, 2015



The Church Council has approved moving the Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 25th, to Sunday, February 1st, following the worship service.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS JANUARY 6

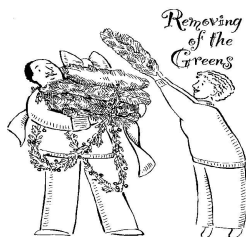
Reporter: Rev. Lisa Hart

Join us to celebrate Women's Christmas!
Tuesday, January 6, at 6:00 pm
St. Peter United Church of Christ

Come to rest, to reflect, to contemplate where you are in your unfolding path. Mindful of those who traveled to welcome the Christ child, we will turn our attention toward questions about our own journey.

(Editor's note)

This is a just reminder. There were more details in last month. Also, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board at St. Peter or call the church office (618-532-7124) to make sure they prepare enough food. NO CHOIR that night so those gals can come.



WILLING HANDS CAN MAKE THIS QUICK!

Rather than a long day on Sunday and a rush for those helping with the 2 pm service at Centralia Manor the decision has been made to take the greens down starting at 9 am on January 10th.



LUNCHEON FOR REV. LISA HART

Reporter: Norma Borgmann, for Special Events Team

Rev. Hart will conclude her designated ministry at St. Peter UCC-Centralia on Sunday, January 25th. The Special Events Team will host an appreciation luncheon following that worship service in the Fellowship Hall by providing table service, beverages, and special décor in accordance to **Rev. Hart's** interests. Meat (ham), potato salad, and cole slaw will be furnished by the Church Council.

Thus, attendees are encouraged to attend and bring a side dish (such as potato chips, relish tray, jello, hot vegetable, etc.) or a favorite dessert. This meal is considered a "semi-potluck". We hope that you will be able to stay and enjoy this noon meal on 1/25/15 with our faith family.

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PRAYER CORNER*

Gladys Atchison	Art Campbell
Esther Campbell	Ileen Castellari
Bob Cohlmeier	Luke Hammond
Paul Kluthe	Dorothy Murray
Nellie Schlau	Betty Telford
Curtis White	

**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

Corey Schlau	Nathan Storck
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IN CARE CENTERS

Marjorie Nehrt

WITH SYMPATHY WE MOURN

Once again I am sorry to have to report a death. **Rita Musial**, who died on December 7, was not a member but had attended for quite some time. Please remember family (**Jane Edmonson's** daughter, **Jana**, was a daughter-in-law) & friends.

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.

If you would like to receive home communion or if you would like a home visit, please call the church office at 618-532-7124.

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

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

On behalf of The Joseph Center and our residents I want to thank your organization for their generous donation of personal hygiene items, books, clothing, laundry detergent, blankets, and toiletries. We are continually grateful for your kind thoughtfulness.

For more information on how your donation is helping to make a difference in their lives, we invite you to visit our website at www.thejosephcenter.org.

Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely

John Herring/Deputy Director

Our thanks to all helped beautify our sanctuary for Christmas be providing poinsettias.

Thank you to the performers that put on a play that told the Christmas Story on Dec. 21. Do to the short production schedule for this issue of the newsletter photos will be in next month.

The following appreciation card from Kindercottage is displayed on the bulletin board and repeated here for your review:

"Greetings and Holiday Cheer Everyone",

On behalf of our staff, children and families, I thank you very much for caring, sharing and making Christmas very happy for our children. I also thank two of Santa's Elves for delivering your gifts and making sure that all of my urges for chocolate are fulfilled this holiday season.

By the way, we ate the cookies today but shared with a couple of parents, the after school group and the mailman too! They were delicious. May you all experience peace, health and happiness this holiday season.

Brenda Crisp

A personal addendum to the above acknowledgment: **Nan and I** were originally asked to deliver any collected items on behalf of our church. As you know, there was an article in last month's newsletter announcing the request for your consideration to make Christmas merrier there. We delivered on 12/15/14.

Once again, you members were so GENEROUS as several outfits, toys, diapers, etc. appeared on the narthex table within a few weeks of notice. In

addition, many of you donated money designated for Kindercottage — \$260.00 in checks plus over \$160.00 in cash was available for the two “elves” to go shopping in addition to the approximate \$100.00 value of purchases already available on display.

Our adopted child did NOT receive all the contributions but rather after making sure her tall gift bag was adequately filled with clothing and toys, we focused on buying much needed items from the Kindercottage general wish list (essentials needed just for daily operations).

Nan and I were both shocked to see the price of some essentials—such as Dreft detergent for a 60 oz. bottle that costs \$15.97 (only kind they can use) and a box of Pampers priced at \$24.97 (and 4 boxes of sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5 were bought to stock the Kindercottage shelves). These were in addition to the number of bathing accessories, lullaby CDs, educational toys, D batteries, and a variety of nutritious snacks with the remaining money donated.

There are about 80 children currently enrolled in the pre-school programming there, starting with less than 1 year old and progressing until kindergarten eligibility. Each child is “adopted” especially for Christmas attention via Illinois South Conference churches, individual sponsors, and staff.

Once again, THANK YOU for thinking of others during this Christmas, especially our adopted girl-**Ranyah** (her photo is on the bulletin board as taken by me) plus the rest of the students as they will be using the extra purchases (made possible by many of you too) in some aspect! **Lowell Jeffries** had planned to accompany us to re-visit Kindercottage (formerly had been Zion UCC-New Baden deliverer) but was called to volunteer at the Friendship House Project on that morning.

Norma Borgmann,
One of the St. Peter Elves

P.S. **Nan** is to be credited for continuing a tradition of making many dozens of homemade cookies for Kindercottage as started years ago. Evidently, she is the only provider of homemade holiday treats, according to **Brenda Crisp**, director, who also shares the many bags of assorted chocolates from us.

How heart-whelming to know that St. Peter Church-Centralia is greatly appreciated as Kindercottage continues such ministries in East St. Louis with our support.

Continuing with tradition of many years, shut-in members and staff were presented a container of home-made cookies from the ERM Society members again during this holiday season. In addition, a fresh, small poinsettia was given from the church through the Congregational Care Team.

Special THANKS to the following ladies who helped me with the deliveries of the 13 covered bowls of goodies: **Cathy Chontofalsky, Connie Freels, Helen Niekrenz, Judy Reichenbacher, and Jeanette Storck.**

Those church members who live out of state are sent special holiday cards as a reminder that our faith family is still thinking of them too.

Norma Borgmann, ERM President



Do you always feel merry about Christmas? Do you feel cheerful and sure the New Year in 2015 will be healthy and wealthy and full of peace? No? Then Jesus came for you!

The Bible makes it clear that Christ came not because the world was experiencing fullness, but because it had great need. It did not always realize that God was with them, but sometimes doubted God's presence. Sometimes they felt hopeless. They were living in darkness, and they needed light. That's why God sent the Son of God to be Emmanuel, God with us. They needed to be shown that the darkness would end, that God had never deserted them, and that God's perfect love is steadfast.

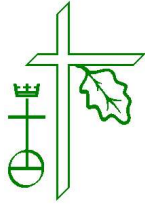
As 2014 ends, we can look around and see much darkness. Troubles in our own nation continue, and war between nations is still a constant. Citizens still live in poverty and seek jobs that are not there; children go hungry. As individuals, many of us face loneliness, ill-health, and economic woes.

The good news is that's exactly why Jesus Christ comes, on that first Christmas and every year again, and every time we invite him to be present!

The Gospel of John reminds us "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

May your 2015 be filled with the light that cannot be overcome.

Pastor Lisa & Walt



ST. PETER PEOPLE AT HOLIDAY PARTY

Reporter: Norma Borgmann

Three members of our church were in representation at the Christmas Party held at DuBois Center on Saturday, December 6th, and they were **Verna Steinkamp, Jeanette Storck, and Norma Borgmann.**

This annual event recognized the volunteers and/or financial contributors during 2014.

DuBois Center will be observing its 50 years of summer camping in 2015. Stay tuned for more details.



CHRISTKINDLMARKT UPDATE

Reporter: Verna Steinkamp, Coordinator

The fourth annual Christkindlmarkt was held Saturday, December 13, in the Fellowship Hall. All profit from this event will go into the general fund of the church. The amount has not been determined and will be reported at a later date.

The hall was very festive with decorations of red and white striped banners, greenery, nutcrackers, etc. and tables covered in red. Garland decorated the ceiling as well as the stairway, and a huge sign was outside to greet visitors. This effort was due to the work of Greg and Judy R., Jeanette S., Connie F., Verna S., David S., Mike P., and Norma B. The bakers of the congregation who are to be complimented provided wonderful tasty cookies, breads, pies, cakes and candy that filled more than three long tables. Cathy C. and Diana B. joyfully helped buyers assemble their boxes while David S. and Norma B. bagged and collected the money. The comment was heard several times that it was difficult to select from so many options. Solution: Buy more!

Judy R. greeted everyone at the door and pointed them in the right direction. Jim and Susan W. manned the kitchen serving brats, hotdogs, hot cinnamon rolls, soda and coffee with assistance from Jane E. Jeanette S. along with help from her daughter-in-law, Marcy, served pieces of cake (German Chocolate, Italian Cream, and Stack Cake) as well as pieces of pie (German Chocolate, cherry, apple, blackberry, pecan and mincemeat). Two tables of crafts donated by members as well as a 25 cent table was manned by Diane S. Vendors provided an array of items including four tables of jewelry, 31 table, children's books, baskets, scarves, handmade cards, afghans, and country Christmas items. Edie R. along with her Girl Scouts offered animal treats and other crafts. We expanded our advertising as well as adding more vendors so we hoped for a larger attendance but were in competition with other similar groups as well as a pretty warm day which one would think would be better than the snowstorm last year. If anyone's efforts have been omitted, please know it is not intentional as all is very much appreciated. It shows we have a committed congregation when we all work together for the church.


A NEW ALTAR BIBLE STAND GIVEN IN MEMORY OF SANDY ZINSCHLAG

Reporter: Norma Borgmann, A member or another chapter

Sandy Zinschlag, a life-time church member of St. Peter UCC-Centralia, was remembered for her faithfulness to our church on Sunday, December 14th. Her service sorority chapter, Laureate Alpha of Beta Sigma Phi, desired to have a hand-made Bible stand made in her memory. Thus, they asked **Gary Altenbaumer** to design a beautiful memorial that has multi angles for display. (Ironically, Gary worked for Sandy's parents when younger, and thus he knew Sandy).

Therefore, two of her chapter sisters (**Sandy Beguelin** and **Ann Dunn**) were present for the special Bible stand dedication on 12/14 during the worship service. They had it engraved with a brass memory plate.

On behalf of the church, we truly thank Sandy's sorority sisters for the oak enhancement that uplifts the "Word of God for the people of God". Thank you Laureate Alpha Chapter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 2014 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	<h1>January 2015</h1>			FEBRUARY 2015 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		
				1 Office Closed	2	3
4 Communion, Installation of Council Cent. Manor 2pm	5	6 Blankets of Love Setup 8:30 Sew 9-2 Women's Christmas 6 pm	7	8	9	10 9 am 
11 Cent. Manor 2pm	12 Council 6:30 p.m.	13 Choir 6:30 p.m.	14	15 Girl Scouts 6 to 8 pm	16	17
18 Good News Deadline Change for Change Cent. Manor 2pm	19	20 Choir 6:30 p.m.	21	22 Church Women United 9 a.m. First Presbyterian	23	24
25 Luceon following service Cent. Manor 2pm	26	27 Choir 6:30 p.m.	28	29	30	31

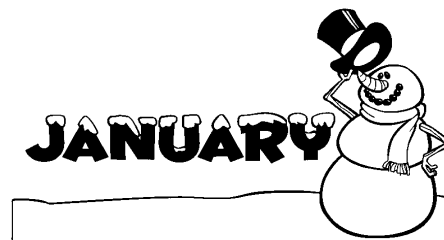
Unless otherwise noted:
St. Peter Sunday School 9:30 a.m, Worship 10:45 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

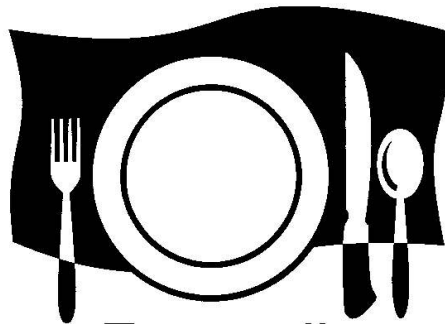
1 Charlene Smith	16 Charles Atherton
1 Brad Wolenhaupt	17 Robert Cohlmeier
2 Betty Telford	19 Christopher Feig
3 Mary Ann Bender	21 Joe Hinton
7 DiAnn Caraker	28 Patty Hinton

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



Farewell

Luncheon for Rev. Lisa Hart January 25

Please see article starting on page 1

Congregational Meeting Moved to February 1

Sunday Schedule: Worship 10:45 am
Email: office@stpeterucc.com
Rev. Lisa Hart, Designated Minister
Jane Brink, Newsletter Editor