

SAFETY IS THE PRIORITY

Reporter: Nick Luer, Council President

Members and friends of St. Peter, we have recently made an update to our behavior/policy of unlocked doors during events. This change has been made to protect the safety of employees and the congregation.

In the recent weeks we have seen a trend in a behavior that is concerning. We have noticed an individual wandering in the church during several events (not participating in the event). While we welcome the community to participate in ANY activity at St. Peter, we need to know who is in the facility and be sure that it is empty when we lock the doors. Due to the repeated behavior, we have been in contact with authorities. We have been told that the man in question has a history of mental instability and harmful behavior.

For your protection, we ask that the doors be locked while you are alone or in a meeting with a small group of people. There is a doorbell on the East door that can be used if someone without a key needs in.

St. Peter proudly does our part to support those in the Centralia community who are in need of assistance. We do this through supporting the Salvation Army. Rather than attempting to administer our community support funds from the church, we ask all individuals requesting assistance to go to the Salvation Army. If you are approached by a stranger asking for assistance with money, food, clothing or shelter, we encourage you to tell them all of our support is administered by the Salvation Army and that they should go there for assistance.

Your safety is our top priority so please be patient and understand that locking the doors may be an inconvenience, but we do have adults and children in the building at any given time and there are many places for someone to hide and take refuge.

ZION UCC TO HOLD RUMMAGE SALE

They will be open from sales from 7:30 am to 2 pm on Friday, May 4 and from 7:30 am to noon on Saturday, May 5.

DuBOIS SUNDAY DINNER FOLLOWED BY AUXILIARY MEETING ON MAY 20

Reporter: Norma Borgmann, Auxiliary Co-President

DuBois Center Auxiliary-Boosters will have its spring general meeting on Sunday afternoon, May 20th, at 2:15 p.m. at D.C. A special Sunday dinner of barb-e-que pork steak and the sides will be served from noon to 2 p.m. on that same day. Reservations must be made to **Priscilla** by May 14th at 787-2202.

Let's fill up a car or two and support DuBois Center!



The annual Redeemer Lutheran Strawberry Fest will be held on May 20 this year. Serving time is from 5 pm to 7pm at a cost of \$4.50.

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PRAYER CORNER*

Debbie Arning	Elmer Beckmeyer
Rev. Rich Brzowsky	Edna Caraker
Gary Chwascinski	Vivian Cohlmeier
Laura Feig	Rev. Lisa Hart
Paul Kluthe	Charles Luer
Gracie Niermann	Carter Rankin
Don Storck	Betty Telford
Pauline Tibbs	Curtis White
Vickie	

**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

Roberta Kleine	Marjorie Nehrt
Henrietta Schmitz	

WE OFFER OUR SYMPATHY TO

The family and friends of **Arlene Luer, Nick Luer's** grandmother and **Judy Luer's** mother-in-law who died March 22.

Also, to the family and friends of **Bessie 'Bess' Wesling**, the daughter of Ruth Carpenter who died April 4.

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 Mar. 25 - Apr. 15, 2012

General Offering.	\$ 6,015.00
Special Offering.	400.00
Lent Offering - Group Workcamp.	51.00
One Great Hour of Sharing.	130.00
Tables and Chairs.	1,968.96
Harrisburg.	8.62
Lilies.	75.00
Initial Offering.	3.00
CCBA.	20.00
DuBois Camp.	100.00
Donation - Cantata Ad.	100.50
Old Tables.	20.00
2012 Challenge.	156.00
TOTAL.	\$ 9,048.08

**GENERAL OFFERING YEAR TO DATE
(01/01/12 THROUGH 4/15/12)**

Amount received. \$ 22,357.97

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Mar. 25	45
Apr. 1	55
Apr. 8	72
Apr. 15	24

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

Thank you to the Special Events Team for sponsoring the Egg Hunt for the children Easter morning and serving the breakfast in the Narthex.

Thanks to all who bought/sponsored Easter Lilies to brighten our sanctuary in memory or to honor their loved ones.

Special THANKS to ALL of you who contributed to the "Change Thru Change" noisy offering on April 15th which will be credited to the Challenge 2012 Fund so as to offset the continual deficit that we see in the General Fund. A total of \$156.00 was collected with an attendance of 24 persons.

The Council is especially GRATEFUL to ALL those contributors who donated dollars in the amount of \$1,625.00 to pay off the 2011 deficit which was carried over into this year. Members responded after the initial \$1000.00 anonymous donation in January. THANK YOU!!

Norma Borgmann, Council Secretary

Brenda Crisp, director of Uni-Pres Kindercottage in East St. Louis, sent another appreciation card upon the second receipt of many Labels for Education & Campbells labels (as donated by several of you) this year.

She extends her gratitude to our church family for continuing to help buy supplies via these labels.

Please continue to do so and give to **Ruth Carpenter**.

If you have clicked onto the church's website lately, then the Easter Egg Hunt photos are in clear view. THANKS to **Stephen Chontofalsky** who took them on his I-phone during the hunt .

As you know, our church is responsible for leading the devotional services at Fireside House on Sunday afternoons in April. Approximately 30 residents attend worship being held in the south section of the dining hall as the activity room is being converted into an enclosed therapy area. On Easter Sunday, the worship attenders received either a plastic pot of silk flowers or soft baseballs as gifts from our church (and labeled as such) — anonymous financial resource. The men were pleased to receive stress balls as reminders of that sport's new season while the women enjoyed a cheery reminder of spring in their rooms.

Special THANKS to the following faithful servants who assist me with the services thus far this month:

Jane Edmonson 4/1/12, 4/8/12, 4/15/12

Judy Fehrmann 4/1/12, 4/8/12, 4/15/12

Helen Niekrenz 4/1/12, 4/8/12, 4/15/12

Jeanette Storck (pianist) 4/1/12, 4/8/12

Rev. Lisa Hart (pianist) 4/15/12

Connie Freels 4/8/12, 4/15/12

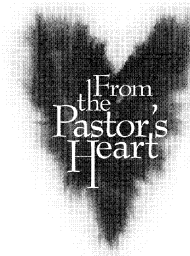
Nan Borgmann (a.k.a. Easter Bunny) 4/8/12

Norma Borgmann-Worship Leader

GET YOUR MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET TICKETS

Reporter: Verna Steinkamp

Tickets for the annual Mother-Daughter Banquet with a theme of "Garden Party" are now available. The event will be held in the Fellowship Hall on the evening of Wednesday, May 9 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and anyone 12 years of age and younger is free. However, a ticket will also be required for them to arrange seating and also to provide sufficient food. Contact **Verna Steinkamp** for tickets. The deadline is Wednesday, May 2. If you have any questions you may contact **Verna** at 533-1563.



St Peter Untied Church of Christ

That is what we were called recently in another church's newsletter. I am not trying to embarrass them—typos happen to the best of us and this one is particularly hard to spot. **Walt** has a mouse pad that says "Misspellers of the world, untie!" I'll bet that some people have not yet noticed anything wrong with my title!

But this particular typo started a train of thought for me. Now, we are the United Church of Christ, and I'm proud of the fact that we are United in Christ and always straining to achieve unity. That is very important. But suppose we are also untied,

as well as united? What will that look like?

An untied church

- Is not so caught up in tradition that it can't try a new form of worship.

- Is able to learn new music and new music styles, along with the familiar favorites..

- Is accepting of new people as visitors and members, even if they don't look exactly like the rest of us.

- Is willing to accept new ideas about how the church does its business. (Ministry teams!). . . .

- Is always looking toward new mission and new direction.

- Is listening to the Still-Speaking God... . .

- Knows that there is yet more truth and light to break forth from God's Holy Word..

- Will be ready for a new called pastor... . .

You add to the list!

May the blessings of this Easter season be with you all.

BLANKET SUNDAY IS BACK

Reporter: Norma Borgmann

Our church will be continuing a 60 plus year old tradition of informing members and visitors about the importance and impact of BLANKET SUNDAY in May. Once again, both kinds of blankets (lightweight orange and heavyweight gray) will be on display in our church to illustrate how much they are used all over the world during disasters via Church World Service (headquarters in Elkart, IN). Each blanket costs \$5.00 and can be used as a cover, ground cloth, tent, shelter, shawl, tarp, etc. Also, as the special envelope indicates, tools and special training can be applied towards your donation. Just think of how many tornadoes alone have hit the Midwest in the recent years — and these blankets proved most helpful!!

Therefore, please give this mission opportunity prayerful consideration and hopefully provide a donation in the designated envelope or indicate on your check in the memo line or put in a new generic envelope as seen in the pew racks now. *Thanking you in advance.*

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED BANQUET COMING

Reporter: Norma Borgmann, CWU "Key Woman"
for St. Peter UCC

Church Women United will gather for a noon potluck and special program on Friday, May 4th at 1st Baptist Church. The public is cordially invited. The least coin offering will also be dedicated — THANKS to ALL of you who have deposited your coins into such multi-striped box on the narthex's library table.

PROPERTY UPDATE

Reporter: Norma Borgmann, Council Secretary

If you recall, a special Council meeting was called on Easter Sunday after the worship service to consider the following topic: Master Bathroom Mold/Damage in the Parsonage. This specific bathroom was constructed in the late 80's by converting a closet into such (yes, it is that small but serves the purpose).

In the recent months, the bath tiles in the shower have fallen off to reveal mold which is not healthy!!

In seeking professional assistance, the church's plumber, **Roger Downen** (9 to 5 Plumbing), is willing to install a discontinued color in materials (at MUCH cheaper price than the newest kind) but mold resistant.

Therefore, the Council approved this sand-colored project at this special meeting as an improvement to the parsonage. Needless to say, it has to be done now or later as the bathroom would not pass an inspection if we sell the parsonage. The \$1,250.00 bill will be paid by **Nan** and **Norma**, and thus there will not be any expense to the church's improvement fund (which is low also). We thank **Roger** for his time in pursuing appropriate materials at a discount plus lowering his labor costs to accommodate this concern.

UPCOMING REGION 6 MEETING

Reporter: Verna Steinkamp, Region Convener

Our Region 6 Meeting will be held on Monday, May 21, at Friedens UCC in Farina beginning at 1:30 p.m. **Cory Hartz** who will graduate from Eden Seminary two days before will give a presentation on his recent trip to the Holy Land. **Cory** is from our region and associated with Zion UCC in Central City and has been serving Hookdale UCC. Everyone is invited to attend this interesting as well as entertaining event.

STEWARDSHIP TEAM PLANS

David Stedelin, Verna Steinkamp, & Norma Borgmann,
Stewardship Team

The Stewardship Team will continue to focus on “Change Thru Change” and Challenge 2012 by having the special noisey offerings on 3rd Sundays in each month. All coins, currency, and checks (marked as such) will be greatly appreciated and credited to this special endeavor to reduce/eliminate the deficit in the General Fund.

BACK BAY MISSION TRIP
JUNE 10-16, 2012
OPEN TO PEOPLE OF ST. PETER, IMMANUEL, ZION IN HOYLETON

Reporter: Rev. Lisa Hart

Back Bay in Biloxi, Mississippi, is a multi-faceted ministry that offers help to people in all circumstances of life. Some of the services provided are: housing recovery program, housing for homeless persons with disabilities, and other needs of the homeless such as hygiene and mail.

Why a mission trip to Biloxi?

- To learn about Back Bay, part of the United Church of Christ.
- To be exposed to cultural patterns and value systems that may differ from the volunteer's own, and to provide an opportunity for dialogue about that experience
- To help communicate Back Bay's mission to local congregations, regions and Conferences
- To provide an opportunity for meaningful service to others

Housing – Housing will be in the new “Mission House” located on campus, dormitory style

Meals – Responsibility of our group to secure and prepare our own meals

Fees - \$75 per person lodging fee for the week, plus a share of the cost of meals and transportation.

Who can be a service learning volunteer?

Youth 14-17 years of age with adequate adult supervision; adults over 17. Participants, or their parents, must complete and sign a liability waiver. Each member of the group must have a recent tetanus immunization.

Transportation –Once mission trip participants have been identified the group will work out transportation arrangements, probably carpool.

Tools and Equipment – Back Bay Mission furnishes all the tools and equipment required for the work projects. However, we are welcome to bring our own tools if we so desire, clearly labeled as to ownership.

Weekly Schedule

- **Sunday 7:00 pm** General orientation. Meet with volunteer coordinator in your dorm.
- **Monday – Friday 7:30am – 4 pm** Orientation to work assignments and work assignments, time off for breaks and lunch
- **Tuesday, 4 pm** Meet with Shari Prestemon (Executive Director) for update on recovery, issues of faith and social concerns and questions and answers
- **Wednesday, 7 pm** Worship experience at a local church
- **Friday, 4 pm** Evaluation in your dorm with Craig Steinkamp, (Program Director)

Currently work may include such things as carpentry, insulation, drywall, painting, roofing, flooring, deck building, and some demolition. Volunteers can opt to work in The Micah Day Center or food pantry at Back Bay Mission

It's Not All Work – There will be time to enjoy local sights, some groups plan an afternoon trip to New Orleans (typically Thursday).

Persons willing to participate in Back Bay Mission trip please contact **Pastor Lisa Hart** at the church office or home (618-526-8378); or contact **Pastor Earl Menchhofer** (618-594-3011 – Immanuel UCC in Carlyle).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
APRIL 2012 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	<h1>May 2012</h1>			JUNE 2012 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			
		1 Quilts of Love 9:-2 Choir 6:30 pm.	2	3 Noon @ Zion Rummage 7:30-2	4 CWU Potluck @ 1St. Baptist Zion Rummage 7:30-2	5 Rummage Sale 7:30 am -Noon @ Zion	
6 Communion Blanket Sunday	7	8 Biscuits, Gravy & Crosswords 9:30 am Choir 6:30p.m.	9 Grief Support 6pm Mother-Daughter Banquet 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12	
13 Good News Deadline Mother's Day	14	15 Choir 6:30p.m.	16	17	18	19	
20 Noon -2pm Dinner at DuBois Auxiliary 215 pm Redeemer Strawberry Fest 5 to 7 p.m.	21 1:30 p.m. Region 6 @ Friedens in Farina. Council 6:30 pm	22 Choir 6:30p.m.	23	24	25	26	
27	28 Memorial Day - Office closed	29	30	31			

Unless otherwise noted:

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

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

BIRTHDAYS

3 Roberta Kleine
 3 Katie Wiles
 4 Savannah Lamar
 11 Paige Brinkmann
 11 Bobby Clifton III
 12 Penny Greer
 16 Zachary Storck

18 Fairlene Weihe
 24 Tracie Feig
 25 Sandy Davis
 25 Brett Wehking
 26 Robert Clifton Jr.
 26 Rae Ann Myers
 29 Lisa Lamar

ANNIVERSARIES

22 Steve & Charlene Smith
 31 Mark & Michelle Hill



ST. PETER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
318 WEST THIRD STREET
CENTRALIA IL 62801
(618) 532-7124

... where God is still speaking,
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**May 4 & 5
(Friday & Saturday)**

7:30 am to 2pm
Friday

7:30 am to Noon
Saturday

Zion UCC
101 N. Broadway,
(Continuation of
Centralia's North Elm)
Central City

**May 9
Mother/Daughter
Banquet**

6:30 pm in
Fellowship Hall
St. Peter UCC

Order tickets by May
2 due to seating and
food planning.

May 20

DuBois Ctr. Sunday Dinner
Noon to 2 pm
Adults \$9.50, Ages 5-11
\$5.00, 4 & under free
RSVP by noon on May 14

DuBois Center Auxiliary
meeting 2:15 pm

Redeemer Lutheran
Strawberry Fest
Corner 4th & Cherry
\$4.5 serving 5 - 7 pm

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