

|      |                                                                                                              |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6/7  | 9AM – Convo meet<br>10AM – Worship<br>w/Holy Communion<br>11:15AM – Elders<br>meet                           |
| 6/10 | 11:30AM Women's<br>Guild Picnic at the<br>Todd's                                                             |
| 6/13 | CRMS – Rock Swap                                                                                             |
| 6/14 | 9AM – Convo meet<br>10AM – Worship<br>11:15AM – Church<br>Council Meets<br>Board of Finance<br>Meets on Zoom |
| 6/16 | July <u>Announcer</u><br>Deadline                                                                            |
| 6/19 | Juneteenth                                                                                                   |
| 6/21 | 9AM – Convo meet<br>10AM – Father's<br>Day Special<br>Worship                                                |
| 6/24 | St. Peter's ONA<br>Covenant<br>Anniversary                                                                   |
| 6/28 | 9AM – Convo meet<br>10AM – Worship                                                                           |

**Calling all Crafters!** Our Annual Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale will be on **Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 3PM.** If you are interested in a table or have a question, please see Annie Noorts or contact Wendy Svenson via email at [stpeteruccbazaar@gmail.com](mailto:stpeteruccbazaar@gmail.com)

## From the Interim Pastor

Dear friends,

I just witnessed a sign of God's Holy Spirit: a large bumble bee buzzed past our brand-new pollinator garden.

Bees may not a biblical symbol of the Holy Spirit, but they could become a symbol for St. Peter's, because we have been watching the Spirit at work. From complaints about trees that had outlived their usefulness that were now blocking the church sign, a vision emerged. As acts of the Spirit often do, this vision flitted in and out of consciousness, began to take hold then, moved by generosity and vision, became a reality.

I love the way Carolyn Kuchler talks about the transformation. After the trees were removed and roots were ground down, we had a mound of dirt: inert and lifeless. Compost was worked in, and the mound became soil that can sustain life. Plants were added and became a garden.

No sooner did we begin the watering of young roots than a monarch butterfly flitted past, a yellowjacket dove in for a treat, and now this bumblebee made its presence known. This gift, inspired by the Spirit, is bringing life to all God's creatures.

This season, we are cultivating several opportunities to listen for the Spirit, envision new possibilities, and let God lead us into a new future. So far you have pondered:

- What is God inviting us to become?
- Who is our neighbor?
- What could the church be like if money, people and condition of the building were no longer problems?
- What kind of a world does God envision for us?
- What could the church do that would excite you so much, you would be willing to drop everything and start on it tomorrow?

By the grace of God, we are just getting started. The dirt is being mixed with the compost, the vision is growing, and new possibilities may soon take root. By the time your new pastor arrives, you will have a solid idea about who you are, why you are here and what you might help you grow into this creative faithfulness. Who knows what the next butterflies and bumble bees will look like?

The more you are involved, the more the Holy Spirit might move the church. I invite you to:

- Pray.
- Peruse the gym. Read ideas generated in our previous events.
- Add your own ideas to the papers on the wall, or email to Brenda.
- Join us as often as possible for pre-worship discussions and post-worship activities.
- **Set aside June 21 (Father's Day) for our next special service and reflection day. We will be done by noon.**

Thank you for taking part in this conversation. Your idea just might be the next inspiration that God needs to help St. Peter's grow.

*Blessings in this journey, Brenda*

## SUMMER CONVERSATIONS

St. Peter's Summer Sunday conversation group has begun! **Join us on Sundays as you are able. We meet in Lanford Fellowship Hall starting at 9am.** This coming Sunday, the group will discuss today's devotional reading which is titled *Illogical*. You can access the reading here: <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/illogical/>. A good conversation starts with questions, and each Monday the Daily Devotional delivers some. To receive other issues of the UCC's Daily Devotional sign up at <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>.

## CELEBRATE PRIDE WITH US

**Niles Pride** is holding its fourth annual **Niles Rainbow Walk at 11am, Saturday, June 6th** in Kirk Lane Park, 7000 W Jonquil Terrace. St. Peter's UCC was a visible presence when the Niles Rainbow Walk was an all-new community event four years ago. Music Director Ben spoke at the first two annual events. St. Peter's UCC won't have an organized group at this year's Rainbow Walk, but your individual presence will be most welcome. Contact our church president and Niles Resident Peggy Reins if you would like more information.

**Skokie Pride, Sunday, June 28 1-4pm** – Show up and show out! St Peter's will be participating again in this wonderful annual event, and we need your help! You don't need to stay the whole time – just an hour will do. Please contact any member of the ONA committee – Jen, Mark, Peggy, Bonnie, Chad, George, Ben, or Annie – to let them know when you can participate. You can sit in a chair and smile if you want to, or you can talk to folks ... it's all about being there.

## RUMMAGE SALE SORTING STARTS SOON

Our annual rummage sale will take place on September 25th and 26th, 9:00AM-3:00PM. This is our biggest fundraiser, providing over 10% of the church's budget this year. A successful sale includes everyone. Over the summer we are looking for people to donate goods and to help clean and sort donated items. No experience needed! We also need a couple of folks who can pick up items from donors who cannot bring them to us. Please let Annie know if you can help with this. the outer walls of the gym. This should not take long, especially if we can get a good crew

helping. Upcoming dates: **June 22nd** we will set up the tables and shelves in the gym, time will be announced soon. **June 24th** we will start collecting rummage in the gym. If you have donations before then, please put them upstairs in the room at the end of the hall on the north side of the building. **June 26th** we will start sorting, 10:00-2:00. We will continue to sort on Fridays 10:00-2:00. In July we will add a second sorting day, and an evening sorting time. Please let Annie know what days work best for you if you are planning on sorting.



## Emergency Planning: It Is as Easy as 1-2-3

We all know what to do in severe weather, right? 1. Go to an interior room on the lowest level. But what next? We also need 2. a way to stay in touch with each other. Texting is better than calling in an emergency. Does the church have your mobile phone number? Finally, if any emergency requires us to leave the building, we need a place to meet up. 3. In the unlikely event that an evacuation of the church building is necessary, we are asking our church goers to use the parking lot near the Skokie log cabin (the east side of Floral Avenue) as our meet-up spot. Now, you know!

## YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES AND MORE

Do you see new things growing at St. Peter's! We do! The Church Council approaches the new month with the sense of fullness that summer and being an active, growing church brings! To keep members abreast of Council doings we offer these links to minutes of the

[April 19](#) and [April 27](#) meetings. Note: the next Council meeting will be on June 14<sup>th</sup> and the Council is taking a hiatus from its regular meeting schedule in July. Please join in offering thanks to the Council for all their hard work!

## GENEROSITY DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION!



Summer travels may take you away, but the work of your local church continues anyway. Electronic giving is a convenient, easy way to support St. Peter's United Church of Christ. By giving electronically, you can give anywhere, anytime from your computer, smartphone, or tablet. You can set up recurring contributions with the assurance your gifts of financial support to

your church continue uninterrupted. Get started today! Visit our donations page, <https://www.stpeteruccskokie.org/donate>, to set up your recurring online contribution with Vanco. You can also give regularly via Zelle! Simply go to your bank app, add [finance@stpeteruccskokie.org](mailto:finance@stpeteruccskokie.org) as a recipient and set up your recurring church offering.

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS – AS TOLD BY THEIR SPONSORS AT WORSHIP

It is my honor to introduce the DuGu Family, also known as Kristin Dubinskas and Heather and Maura Gulinski. They are from Chicago but now call Skokie home. Their passion for diversity and community led them to St. Peter's – which is another place that feels like home for them – a new family of shared beliefs and a passion for helping others. – *Karen Christianson*

Marilyn Froelich wants the congregation to know that she has the gifts of help and she intends to use the gift of help in many ways. Marilyn and husband Paul have helped in many ways already. – *Marlene Russell*

This is Paul, who has served eight years in the Illinois State Legislature as an **elected Representative**. He was a wrestler and is now an assistant wrestling coach at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, serving as a mentor to young student athletes. He is our official sign changer and can sometimes be found early weekday mornings cleaning and brightening the grounds with his wife Marilyn. – *Chad McCoy*

**Aaron and Michael Chavez** – the family moved to Skokie 2022 with the hope of finding a church nearby. Aaron's goal was for his son to have religious education and St. Peter's was the fit they were looking for. We are so glad and blessed to have them. – *Rita McMahon*

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS 🎂

6/1 – Barbara Bailey  
6/3 – Barbara Todd  
Ben Rees  
Edmund Oliver  
Christanson  
6/7 – Katy Schuhrke  
Aguayo  
6/8 – Colin Medaglia  
6/11 – Ginger Kalensky  
6/16 – Barbara Gack  
6/20 – Laurie Mitchell  
6/29 – Gena Zelenka  
6/30 – Kristine Hoellerich

### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/1 – Lana and Don Kahn  
6/6 – Gena and Dayle Zelenka  
6/11 – Cristy and Louie Lopez  
6/14 – Karem and David Iannotti  
6/17 – Valerie and Christopher Mahoney  
6/27 – Aaliyah and Eric Svenson  
Adrianna and Ken Paige

*Wishing God's Blessings on your special day!*

Operating Budget at a Glance for April, 2026

|             | April Actual | April Budget | YTD Actual* | YTD Budget |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Income      | \$10,282     | \$11,508     | \$48,317    | \$44,333   |
| Expenses    | \$14,243     | \$17,041     | \$69,290    | \$69,572   |
| Gain/(Loss) | (\$3,960)    | (\$5,533)    | (\$20,973)  | (\$25,239) |

\*The YTD Income includes a \$10,000 transfer from Savings to Checking in March.

#### Monthly Income deficit:

Jan. <\$11,496.88 >  
Feb. <\$8,063.35 >  
Mar. <\$7,451.82 > \*  
Apr. <\$3,960.49 >  
<\$30,972.54

\*Without the \$10,000 income transfer in March.



### Lector/Nursery for June 2026

|                       |                                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| June 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Lector: Marilyn F.<br>Nursery: Rita M. |
| June 14 <sup>th</sup> | Lector: Barb T.<br>Nursery: Kathy Z.   |
| June 21 <sup>st</sup> | Lector: Carolyn V.<br>Nursery: Rita M. |
| June 28 <sup>th</sup> | Lector: Kristin G.<br>Nursery: Rita M. |
| July 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Lector: Ann H.<br>Nursery: Laurie M.   |



Come see what we've been growing!

## The ANNOUNCER

JUNE 2026

### WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING IN MAY

St. Peter's Women's Guild met on May 13 at 11:30 AM. Welcome and Devotions were given by President Barbara Todd, followed by dessert and coffee, served by hostesses Judy Paige and Ginger Kalensky. A business meeting included: minutes by Marlene Russell, a Treasurer's Report by President Todd in the absence of Sue Bailey. We are well over \$1,000 in the bank, so we are in good shape. Ginger reported that she had sent out several Easter cards to shut-ins as well as some Get Well cards. Several new members will be installed on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, followed by a special Coffee Hour. There was no new election of officers for the Guild at this time and President Todd brought up a need for new leadership next year. Adaptations could be made for different meeting times and programs, but some sort of structure had to be maintained. More discussion will follow. ***The next meeting will be our annual picnic at President Todd's house (8825 Mason Ave., Morton Grove) at 11:30AM.*** There will be no meetings in July, August, or September, due to the work on the Rummage Sale. Our meeting concluded with a fun game of BINGO! -Barb Todd, President.

### UNDY 500 THANKS

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to our May Mission project the UNDY 500!! We got halfway there with **232 pairs of underwear**. The undies will be delivered to The Night Ministry, a program that helps Chicago's most needy folks!

### SPECIAL THANK YOU

Marlene Russell would like to thank everyone for their prayers for her nephew Matt Anthony. He passed away in Florida last month. Also, a nephew in California, Michael Larrain also died at the end of March.