



The ANNOUNCER

Quick Upcoming

WORSHIP & LIVESTREAM:
Sundays at 10 AM on YouTube
& in person worship.

**November 1st through
November 7th** – Pastor on
vacation

November 4th 10AM to 3PM –
Holiday Craft Show & Bake
Sale

November 5th at 2AM –
Daylight Savings ends.

November 10th – Wreath orders
due

**November 11th – Veterans
Day.** Chicago Rocks &
Minerals 6:00PM

November 19th after worship –
Church Council Meets

**November 20th – Trans
Remembrance Day;** December
Announcer articles due

November 25th 1-2PM –
Wreath pickup (or after worship
on Sunday the 26th)

November 29th @ 7PM –
Sanctuary Decorations/Jingle
Mingle Prep

**HOW you can
HELP**

**COOKIES & WINTER
ACCESSORIES COLLECTION**
– For the night ministry.
Collecting cookies, hats, gloves,
scarves. See article for more
details.

MINI-FOOD PANTRY donations
are always needed!

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW AND BAKE SALE NOVEMBER 4TH FROM 10AM TO 3PM

St. Peter's gym and Memorial room will be transformed into a holiday wonderland and we'll have over 30 vendors, delicious baked goods, raffle baskets and other surprises- you must come and shop!! Get your holiday shopping started or even finished; so many handcrafted, one of a kind items for everyone on your list. Free to get in, open to the public. *We are still looking for helpers that day, bakers and folks to come in and price baked goods on the Friday before. Contact Wendy at (847) 528-4545.*

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

Typically, and stereotypically, the month of November is marked in the Church as “stewardship month.” Stewardship for us in the Body of Christ has to do with being faithful managers of the resources the Lord has given us. It also bears the belief that all we have is a trust from God, and we will one day be called upon to tell God how we used what we were given (how we managed or took care of it). The parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 is the teaching used perhaps most often in teaching on stewardship; it will be the Gospel lesson at St. Peter's on November 12th!

The church has long lamented the emphasis on financial giving as the premier example of faithful stewardship; that's why we talk about the trio of “time, talent and treasure,” to make sure we let folks know that stewardship is not just about money, but our management or caretaking of other gifts we have (time, talents) in service to the Triune God. As the retired Rev. Susan Chamberlain Smith said, “Stewardship is our whole life.” As in, stewardship tells how we live our lives – the choices we make, the priorities we have, the caretaking of our life and relationships while we are alive and serving God.

None of us, though, would deny the need to include our stewardship of our financial resources in the larger topic. Because we

live in the material world, churches need money to carry out its missions in service to Jesus. Are we generous in our giving, and in our giving to God's work through the Church? How do you or I define “generosity,” anyway? As people living in the light of God's grace, our faith definitely plays an important role in how we share our talents and time, and our money. Paul talked about giving in proportion to one's income, or in the arena of percentages. He talked about how God gave to us first, and he said we should not give reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. See, it's not only our faithful stewardship of our treasure, but also our approach to sharing it!

Later this month, many of you will be receiving a stewardship letter from the St. Peter's Board of Finance. I ask that you let it speak to you, and that, as it requests, you prayerfully consider a gift for the holiday season, and an amount for the coming calendar year. I'm not saying generosity is easy; inflation has made money tighter than at other times in our lives. Interest rates affect us too. So, pray about your stewardship, not only of your treasure, talents and time, but of Saint Peter's U.C.C. itself; for we are stewards / caretakers of the church, too!

Keep the faith, Rev. Richard Lanford

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Tuesday Service November 21st

As of this writing, the Niles Township Clergy Forum has not determined where it will host its annual Thanksgiving Tuesday (formerly Thanksgiving Eve) Community Interfaith service to which all are invited. Keep an eye out for updates on the Weekly Updates from our Church Office and in our Sunday bulletins. Wherever it is, the date is **Tuesday, November 21st**; the starting time is 7:30 PM. Financial offerings at the service will be designated for the Village of Skokie Assist-a-Family Fund. I am not sure if any offerings of foodstuffs will be received, as they once were.

Trans Remembrance Day November 20th

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR) is an annual observance that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. Each year it is on **November 20th**. As we have the past three years, we will observe it in worship the Sunday prior by naming those who were from Chicagoland in the pastoral prayer. That is *Sunday, November 19th*.

Wreath Orders

Wreath orders are being taken now! We have fresh, real branch displays smelling of pine and all the great scents of the holidays. Orders must be placed by **Friday,**

Nov. 10th and will be available for pickup **Saturday, Nov. 25th from 1-2 PM, or after worship on the 26th**. An order form is included in this Announcer, or in the bulletins.

Sanctuary Decorating Set

Come help us decorate!! All those interested in helping prepare the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas are encouraged to come to the sanctuary by 7 PM on **Wednesday, November 29th!** There are garlands to hang, a tree to decorate with our

Chrismons, a creche to set up, and more! There will also be time made to start setting up half of the Gym for the December 3rd Lakeside Flute holiday concert's refreshment space. Please think about making this a family affair; many hands make light work, but don't show up too late!

Night Ministry Hats, Cookies, Etc.

In keeping with our identity as a mission-oriented congregation, we are again going to hold our annual drive for cookies, winter hats, hot cocoa mix, gloves, and scarves for the Night Ministry **BACK IN DECEMBER!** We, and the Night Ministry, ask for cookies (home-baked of any kind, or store-bought holiday Oreos), We ask that tins of powdered hot cocoa mix not be individual packets nor boxes of them, please. This is an advance notice, so

folks have most of November to prepare & bring items if they want to be part of this! We will be 'bagging and tagging' them all in the Gym's further half after worship on **Sunday, December 3rd**. This means that is the last day to bring something for the collection! Please note in advance, that the Night Ministry is telling us that Dark Colors are preferred for hats, scarves, and gloves. We will also benefit from donated cardboard boxes in which to load and deliver all these, too! Thank you in advance, Pastor and the Micah 6:8 committee.

Holiday Concert & Jingle Mingle

In place of our past Advent dinners we have something fun and new! "Lakeside Flutes" flute ensemble will treat us to a Christmas holiday concert to start the Advent season. Following the concert will be a "Jingle Mingle" fellowship with sweet and savory hors' d'oeuvres and liquid refreshments. When: **Sunday December 3rd at 3:00pm.** Suggested donation:

\$10/adults, \$5/kids over 3. Reservations requested – visit our website (Upcoming Events) or call (847) 673-8166 to save a seat. Lakeside Flutes is a select ensemble of talented flutists from the greater Chicago area. Founded in 1987 by a group of flute enthusiasts, they strive to bring to the public a wide variety of flute literature and the unique sound of ensemble playing in a flute choir.

Pastoral Vacation

Pastor Richard will take 7 days of vacation in November, from **Wednesday, November 1st through Tuesday, November 7th.** He'll be back at work in the pastor's study the next day, Wednesday, Nov. 8th. The Guest Preacher for Sunday, November 5th is the Rev. Wayne MacPherson. Wayne will also lead us

in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Rev. MacPherson has preached here in the past and has known our Pastor Richard for decades. He comes to us after just having finished a fruitful Interim Ministry at Epiphany U.C.C., Chicago. Please give him a warm St. Peter's welcome!

BAPTISM!

During worship on Sunday, October 29th, the Body of Christ at St. Peter's U.C.C., Sharlette and Dion Meggs, and Pastor Lanford, will have celebrated the baptism of Braxton Michael Meggs into the Christian faith and Church. He was born on May 26th this year and is the grand-nephew of Willie and Diane Meggs! The family makes its home in Skokie.



HOSPITALIZATION

Heather (Schuhrke) O'Hara had surgery to remove a benign but growing tumor that was close to her optic nerve on October 25th at the Galter Pavilion of Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Ron Schuhrke continues to receive radiation and (oral) chemo for prostate cancer. Please remember her in prayer.

	September Actual	Monthly Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Operating Contributions	24,164	13,342	120,093	120,075
Operating Expense	14,292	15,493	132,194	139,437
Gain/(Loss)	9,872	(2,151)	(12,102)	(19,362)

These numbers exclude line items for directed contribution, directed gifts, interest/investment income and the Clara Melone estate gift.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/4 – Brian Russell
- 11/7 – Anna Riley
- 11/9 – Bridgette Sterba
Michael Taheny
Paul Brzozowski
- 11/10 – Justin Balling
Peter Svenson
- 11/11 – Ann Herren
- 11/13 – Alexandra Paige
- 11/15 – Bruce Mau
- 11/16 – Chad McCoy
- 11/18 – Christine Svenson
Heidi Tarzian
Isabelle Banoyo
- 11/20 – Dorothy Stielow
Pat Mauer
Erdman
- 11/21 – Bill Cain
- 11/25 – Linda Mau
- 11/26 – Felix Roy Svenson
- 11/27 – Emily Brzozowski

NOVEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/2 – Maria and Randy Altmayer
- 11/6 – Jenn and Rich Schneider
- 11/12 – Marcia Hilliard & Andre Gloeckner
- 11/14 – Beth and John Sterba
- 11/24 – Roberta & Henry Muhrer

WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING - OCTOBER

Women's Guild opened the Fall season with a Salad Luncheon on Wed. Oct. 11 at 11:30 a.m. Thanks to everyone who brought such interesting salads - such a variety! Devotions were given by Pres. Barbara Todd, featuring a story about country singer, Reba McEntire. Annie Noorts reported by E-Mail that the Rummage Sale netted, to date, over \$17,000, including over \$1,000 from the Bake Sale. Carol Iannotti reported that attendance on Friday was over 600 people and on Saturday, over 400 people. UPCOMING: Pet Blessing on Sun. Oct. 22. Pride Play on Sat. Oct. 28 at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$15 .00, handled by Evanston and that includes refreshments, provided by Evanston. Holiday Craft Fair on Sat. Nov. 4 from 10 to 3 p.m. The Bake

Sale will be handled by Sue Bailey and she requested that baked goods be brought in by Fri. afternoon, so she can price. There is no meeting in Nov., but we will be baking again for the "Jingle Mingle" and a Christmas Concert on Sun. Dec. 3 at 3p.m. Performing will be a "Flute Chorus" of 12 flautists in our sanctuary - should be interesting. The "Mingle Jingle" will be like last year, held in the gym and featuring a buffet of Hors D'oeuvre by Rich Schneider and sweets and punch by the ladies of the Guild. This will be the beginning of our Advent Christmas Season and more info will follow. The Guild will also celebrate Christmas with a **Luncheon and Cookie Walk on Wed., Dec. 13.** Special games will be conducted by Carol Iannotti and fun will be had by all - Join us! - Barbara Todd, Pres.

Lector/Nursery for November

Nov 5th Lector: TBD
(Also the Lay liturgist that Sunday)
Nursery: Heidi T.

Nov 12th Lector: Rich S.
Nursery: Carolyn V.T.

Nov 19th Lector: Mark L.
Nursery: Rita M.

Nov 26th Lector: Olivia A.
Nursery: Mike R.

Dec 3rd Lector: David I.
Nursery: Kathy Z.
(First Sunday of Advent)



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The ANNOUNCER

NOVEMBER 2023

Rummage Sale Update

WOW! That is the word for this sale. Truly WOW!! This year we broke all the records we smashed last year. As of October 12, 2023 we have a total income of \$17,601.05. Expenses were \$404.16, with \$236.16 of that being donated so the total cost to the sale is \$168. After expenses, our income for this sale sits at \$17,433.05. This included \$4,862 from the boutique and a record smashing \$977 from the bake sale. On Friday September 22nd there were 135 people in the door within the first few minutes. This was just the start! We had a record 405 people come in that day. On Saturday we had 299 people, for a total of 704. Thank you to everyone who donated, sorted, priced and especially to the 32 people who showed up to work the sale days.

Pet Blessing Thanks

Our Pet Blessing this year was truly blessed! We had an amazing turnout, and Pastor blessed many dogs- and also a bird!! We raised \$300 for C.A.R.E./St. Peter's to split. Many thanks to Marcia & Andre who worked so hard putting this together, and all the volunteers! If you'd like to see all the pictures from the event, go here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/1pme1dFABRYZxPCf8>

Thank you to Annie for taking the great photos!!

Veterans Day

Veterans Day is **November 11th**! We'd like to take a moment to thank all our Veterans and their families, for keeping us safe and free! Your bravery and sacrifices made this world better for us. We are so blessed to be here today in America because of you. Thank you so very much.

Handcrafted Wreaths and Decorations



24" Balsam Wreath with Velvet Ribbon

Single Face Balsam Outdoor Wreath 24", 30", 40"
Double Face Balsam 36"



Noble Fir Mixed Wreath 20" Indoor/Outdoor



4' Mantelpiece/Centerpiece

Place your order by Friday November 10th.

(Contact Rich Schneider or call 847.673.8166)

Pickup will be on Saturday Nov 25th from 1 - 2 pm or at St. Peter's after worship on Sunday Nov 26th.

24" Single Face Balsam	\$17.00
Cemetery Stand	included
30" Single Face Balsam	\$29.00
36" Double Face Balsam	\$52.00
40" Single Face Balsam	\$45.00
4' Noble Mix Mantlepice / Centerpiece	\$45.00
12" Candle Ring Wreath (No Candle)	\$21.00
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$21.00
32" Evergreen Planter	\$31.00
42" Evergreen Planter	\$51.00
Fire Starter Basket	\$21.00
Balsam Door Swag	\$15.00
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$25.00
24" Boxed Decorator Wreath	\$41.00
25' Balsam Garland	\$32.00



**32" Evergreen Planter
42"+ Evergreen Planter**



**12" Candle Ring Wreath
WITHOUT Candle**



24" Boxed Decorator Wreath



Holiday Yule Log 12"



25' Balsam Fir Garland



Firestarter Basket



Balsam Swag

CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND MORE!

We are taking orders for pine Christmas wreaths and decorations from Northern Wisconsin to adorn your home or to be placed at a cemetery.

The standard 24 inch diameter wreath, with red velvet bow and pine cones is \$17.00.

Cemetery stands are included this year.

Proceeds from this fundraiser help to decorate the church for Christmas with the remainder going to the General Operating Fund.

We will make arrangements for placing wreaths on the St. Peter's UCC Cemetery, if you desire.

All orders **must be placed** by **Friday Nov 10th.**

Pickup will be on Saturday Nov 25th from 1 - 2 pm or at St. Peter's after worship on Sunday Nov 26th.

To place an order, please:

- **fill in the form and place in collection plate with payment.**
- **fill in the form and return with payment** by mailing it to St Peter's.
- or, **email your order form to office@stpeteruccskokie.org** and send payment separately via mail, text the amount, or use PayPal. For information on how to use any of these methods, please see the weekly bulletin.

Please make checks payable to:
St. Peter's UCC.

Name		
Address		
I will pick up my order up at church		
Please place on cemetery for:		
Item Description	Price	Quantity
24" Single Face Balsam Wreath w/ Velvet Ribbon for Home or Cemetery	\$17.00	
Cemetery Stands	included w/ cemetery placement	
30" Single Face Balsam	\$29.00	
36" Double Face Balsam	\$52.00	
40" Single Face Balsam	\$45.00	
4' Noble Mix Mantlepiece / Centerpiece	\$45.00	
12" Candle Ring Wreath (No Candle)	\$21.00	
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$21.00	
32" Evergreen Planter	\$31.00	
42" Evergreen Planter	\$51.00	
Fire Starter Basket	\$21.00	
Balsam Door Swag	\$15.00	
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$25.00	
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