

The ANNOUNCER

Quick Upcoming

WORSHIP & LIVESTREAM:

Sundays at 10 AM on YouTube & in person worship.

September 4th – Office Closed

September 17th – Church Council Meets after Worship

September 18th – October Announcer articles due

September 22nd & 23rd – ANNUAL RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE

September 30th – 11:30 AM – Come serve with us at A Just Harvest Kitchen

HOW you can **HELP**

RUMMAGE SORTERS NEEDED MORE THAN EVER! Sorting Tues & Fridays 10AM-Noon, Wed 6:30-8:30.

RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Look for a signup sheet outside the gym doors.

AJH DONATIONS AND SERVICE – Donations will be collected this month, and serving on the 30th – always great experience, join us!

MINI-FOOD PANTRY
donations are always needed!

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

What does God's name tell us about who God is? In Hebrew tradition, the Lord's name is never spoken on sinful human lips. The name was given to Moses in Exodus Chapter 3, when Moses, summoned by the Lord to go and tell the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that he is sent to be their leader to bring them out of the land of Egypt. "If they ask who has sent me, whom shall I say?" Moses asked. The Lord (the word 'God' does not appear here) said, "Tell them 'I AM' has sent you." That is repeated shortly thereafter. The Hebrew has the first person singular of the verb "to be," or "eh-yeh" in pronunciation. Early Hebrew being what it is, there aren't any vowels. The vowels dictate to some extent the verb tense. So, some will legitimately translate the Lord as saying, "I WILL BE" has sent you." We get a future tense. Then, at the end, as the Lord finishes the Divine Reply, he switches to a different position in the verb for 'to be.' It now is 3rd person singular, and although it is now rendered as "YHWH" (not to be spoken; from the verb of 'to be,' but not the first-person 'eh-yeh, I am'), it still can mean HE IS, 'HE WILL BE,' but now can also be translated 'HE WILL CAUSE TO BE.' Since the Lord is speaking in the 3rd person of God's own Self now, the Lord is saying His name can be "HE WILL CAUSE TO BE.' It's given here as we would speak of

the Lord, in the 3rd person. Although I've yet to see it translated like that, and perhaps for good scholarly reasons I did not see, I like this third one as a way to refer to God's being in the third person singular, calling the Lord by the name which comes out "He will cause to be what He will cause to be," what have we got? You see, we are supposed to always take the context into account. What is the context; what is going on around the story? This: God is sending Moses to lead the people out of Egypt to do what? To become the nation Israel. God will be "causing to be" the people of Israel, from whom, of course, shall come Jesus our Savior. God continues to cause things and events and people and churches to be. It is a basis for hope and vision. What might God be "causing to be" at Saint Peter's U.C.C.? What is God "causing to be" in your life or the life of a family member? What might God be "causing to be" in our country, or another country, or the whole world? For God remains the Creator, and although the world might have been finished in a Biblical 7 days (not a literal 7 24-hours in my understanding), God is not done causing things, events, churches and reasons-for-hope to be. That is, after all, one could say, what God does, going by the name the Lord's Self gave to Moses. Keep the faith, Pastor Richard Lanford

ANNUAL RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE SEPTEMBER 22ND & 23RD

Come both days, from 9AM to 3PM. Our Gym & Memorial Room are already stocked full of items for children (including clothing and toys), housewares, decorations, books, music, luggage, linens, jewelry, art, collectibles, sporting goods, tools, games, and tons of men's and women's clothing. We have a featured "Boutique Area" filled with high-end items for the collectors out there. Our famous Bake Sale runs both days and features homemade goodies from the church's members - cakes and pies, cookies and muffins, all available to take home or to eat while you shop! Sneak peeks of items for sale are available on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stpeteruccskokie. Email us at office@stpeteruccskokie.org for more information.

RUMMAGE SORTING – HELP NEEDED MORE THAN EVER!

We have a lot of work to do to get ready. PLEASE COME HELP US SORT AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN!! We have so many donations, we need your help to clean, sort, price, etc. We will be adding sorting days and times as the sale gets closer. Check the bulletin and Monday updates for details as they happen. Remember, you can come sort anytime Laura or Pastor is in the building as well. Please call ahead to be sure one of them are there. *We will be setting up the clothes in the memorial room after September 10th so we will definitely need a lot of help with that.* Please bring your donations in ASAP. *The last day they will be accepted is September 10, but earlier is better!* We will be having the bake sale again this year. Please plan to donate your favorite homemade baked goods. Lastly, look for the signup sheet for the days of the sale to be posted on the gym doors, and sign up to help! There's a spot for everyone, sitting, standing, helping customers in whatever way you are able, we'll take your help! Thanks to everyone for the hard work that has been done so far!

A JUST HARVEST— OUR TIME TO SERVE

Our long partnership to serve our neighbors and fight poverty and hunger continues. Our next time to serve at A Just Harvest (AJH) Community Kitchen is **Saturday, September 30th**. That's when we purchase and deliver the ingredients for a meal to serve 150 people and send 4 to 5 volunteers to help serve that meal. Day-of-service volunteers are especially needed. Please let Chad or Maria know if you can help. Monetary donations to this hands-on ministry are always welcome, of course. By the way, the fifth Saturday of the month, our regular time to serve, is just one way St. Peter's members and friends support AJH. Rita McMahon is a regular volunteer most Wednesdays and this summer Chad McCoy has been involved in a food rescue operation, pickup up unsold, donated produce from Evanston Farmer's Market vendors and delivering it to the kitchen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY

The fall season of St. Peter's Sunday School begins **September 10th at 9AM**. A short worship service in the Chapel led by Pastor will begin us off. It is not too late to join! Classes Kindergarten through Jr. High will be taught by Karen Christianson, Carolyn Van Til and Rita McMahon. A special coffee hour will follow this very special day as we welcome our students! Since the upstairs is not available to us classrooms will be in various locations downstairs for the start of fall. We're still looking for a couple volunteers. Contact Karen C. at (847) 308-3120 for more info.

	July Actual	Monthly Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Operating Contributions	13,080	13,342	88,642	93,392
Operating Expense	11,140	15,493	104,213	108,451
Gain/(Loss)	1,940	(2,151)	(15,571)	(15,059)

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

ALL CHURCH FALL CLEANUP/WORKDAY

October 7th from 10AM to 1PM please join us for an all-church fall workday! Help us get the church ready for all our wonderful fall and holiday events. Items on the list include Rummage Sale cleanup and outdoor winter prep. Please let the trustees know if you have other suggestions and thank you for your help!

MICAH 6:8 SOUP & STUDY MEETING

The Micah 6:8 Committee is planning to meet, soup-and-study style, **5 – 7pm, Sunday, October 8th**. We will view a video recording of Rev. John Dorhauer's April 2023 talk at Elmhurst College "Christian Nationalism: A Threat to Both Democracy and Christianity." All are welcome to attend the meeting. Rev. Dorhauer served as General Minister and President of the UCC until July this year. During his eight-year term he prioritized the UCC's work on racial justice and worked to expose the threat of Christian Nationalism.

PET BLESSING/CARE

Bring your 4-legged furry loved one on **October 22nd at 3PM** for a special pet blessing, service and pet party! For a small donation Pastor will bless your pet. We'll also have a pet raffle, goodie bags and C.A.R.E. will be on hand with adoptable animals. All proceeds will be split 50/50 with C.A.R.E. Open to the public, all 4-leggeds are welcome with their parents.

5 LESBIANS EATING A QUICHE

This play is a seriously scintillating satire of women's roles in the 1950s, not to mention an unapologetic declaration of lesbi-independence! Presented by St. Peter's UCC Skokie and Evanston Pride, performed by Mosaic Players, at St Peter's UCC on **Saturday October 28th at 5pm**. Show is followed by Q&A with the actors and refreshments.

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW & BAKE SALE DATE CHANGE

We've changed the date of the Holiday Craft Show to November 4th, 2023 from 10AM to 3PM. Please mark your calendars and plan to come and shop or volunteer to help out if you are able! We'll have over 30 vendors and delicious baked goods; come and get a jump on your holiday shopping!

NEW MEMBERS / SEEKERS CLASS

As of this writing in mid-August, Pastor Lanford is still trying to secure a date for a New Members / Seekers Class. There was communication over the summer but it has not yet secured a class time and date. We'll be posting it when we do in

case others want to check it out and be a part of it! Remember, you do not commit to joining St. Peter's just be coming. We mean it when we add "Seekers" to the name of the class.

HOSPITALIZED

As noted in your August newsletter, both Beth Sterba and Beth Lanford had hip replacement surgeries last month. Beth Sterba was at the NorthShore Orthopedic & Spine Institute specialty hospital in Skokie, AKA Skokie Hospital and her surgery was a week

before Beth L. Beth Lanford's was at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. Both have been recuperating at home, with physical therapists making visits and outpatient P/T to follow. Dorene Schurman, mother of Jen Schneider, is in hospice care in Ohio. Please keep these persons in your prayers.

BIRTHS

On Saturday, August 12th, Rev. Lanford officiated at a private ceremony baptism of 11-month-old Rory Carlton Tompkins, first born son of Kate and Stephen Tompkins of Skokie. Another baptism is tentatively scheduled for the latter half of October.

UNDY 500 THANK YOU

Maria Altmayer of our Micah 6:8 Committee let us know how many packages of underwear were collected at Saint Peter's U.C.C. in May, during our "Undy 500" project: It was 216 undies. Maria added, "Good job everyone!" These were for our mission partner, The Night Ministry.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

There will be no meeting in September, as members of the Women's Guild focus their energies along with others on the upcoming Rummage and Bake Sale. The Women's Guild will meet, however, on **Wednesday, October 11th at 11:30 AM.**

IN SYMPATHY

We regret to share the news with you that former member Barbara Donna, 89, died last July 31. Her parents were Elsie and Theodore Peterson. Later Elsie married Lou Gershon, a supportive and loving second dad. One of Barb's aunts was Marion Kreft, another Lillian Mau, and Bruce Mau was a cousin. She was one of the "Country Kitchen Bazaar" inventors for Saint Peter's (thank you for these details, Marlene!). A service to celebrate her life was held August 28th. Laurie Mitchell's dad, John L. Kammin, 92, died on July 10th after some time of declining health. He was an Army veteran, a great builder and passionate golfer. In addition to Laurie, he leaves behind two other adult children, 6 grandchildren (including two by Laurie), and 5 great-grandchildren. A service was held in early August. We also are sorry to share with you that the husband of Rich Schneider's sister Traudel, Guy Cline, died suddenly on Saturday, August 12th. Although his health was not good, it was his wife, Rich's older sister Traudel, who was in hospital in Wisconsin in even poorer health.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9/2 – Bill Schaller
Ursula Dworak
- 9/8 – Isabella Aguayo
- 9/9 – Jackie Johnson
- 9/10 – Nathan Paige
- 9/11 – Isabella Mau
Gemignani
- 9/12 – Judy Williford
- 9/18 – Errol Mitchell
- 9/19 – Dylan Kahn
- 9/20 – Megan Caras
Ryan Puckett
- 9/25 – Amanda Steegmueller
- 9/27 – Beth Sterba
- 9/30 – Maya (Schuhrke)
Martinek

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/3 – Anthony & Jennifer
Gemignani
- 9/11 – Wendy & Roy Svenson
- 9/12 – Maribel & Joey Powers
Laarveld
- 9/18 – Jackie & Dave (Meyer)
Rosenthal
- 9/29 – Angela & Harrison
Kuras
Kathy & Jeffery Issel

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL SOCIETY

Let's celebrate being joiners! In August we joined the Community Renewal Society which has a mission to bring people of faith and congregations together for greater justice and equality. Community Renewal Society member congregations come together across racial, ethnic, geographic, and socioeconomic lines to shape public policies that will foster hope and create opportunity to overcome the barriers of racism and poverty. Olivia Altmayer will help lead our congregation's involvement in the CRS.

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Lector/Nursery for September

Sept. 3rd	Lector: Barb T. Nursery: Kathy z.
Sept. 10 th	Lector: Jen S. Nursery: Mike R.
Sept. 17 th	Lector: Peter S. Nursery: Heidi T.
Sept. 24 th	Lector: Judy P. Nursery: Carolyn V.
Oct. 1 st	Lector: David I. Nursery: Rita M.



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SEPTEMBER 2023

SUMMER'S ABUNDANT HARVEST

Have you ever wondered what the Farmers at the Farmer's Market do with the food they were unable to sell on Saturday? All the green beans, sweat corn, eggplant, broccoli, cauliflower, cucumbers, peppers, squash, cabbages, kale, collards, plums, apples, mint, dill, lavender, basil, parsley... even bread, mushrooms, flowers... what do they do with all that unsold food? Do they take it all back home just to bring it back again next week to sell? No, most of the food won't keep well for a week. Do they take it back home and compost it to improve their soil? Nope, most farmers do not have the facilities or the space to compost at that scale. Usually, they will dispose of the overabundance of food that they produced in a dumpster to be taken to the landfill. Just think of all that food going to the landfill, wasted when there are those among us that too often go hungry. What a shame! While I was at A Just Harvest (AJH) for St. Peter's turn to provide the meal and to server in the Kitchen on July 29th, David (chef) and Mark (volunteer coordinator) asked me if I would give Kelly (another volunteer) a hand with the "Farmer's Market run". I had no idea what that consisted of but hey, I was there to volunteer and to help so of course I said sure I'll help Kelly. We loaded 2 boxes of plastic bags, 24 bins (totes) and two dolly carts into the AJH red pick-up truck and we were off to the Evanston Farmer's Market. We met John (another volunteer) at the market there to lend us a hand. AJH is in cooperation with some of the farmers/vendors at the market to have the unsold food donated to AJH. We lined the bins with the plastic bags and distributed them to the vendors who wanted them. Some wanted just one or two bins but a few of the larger farmers asked for 15 or 20 bins! We would make the rounds with the dolly carts and collect the filled bins, haul them back to the truck, transfer the filled plastic bags from the bins to the truck, reline the bins and redistribute them to be filled again. We kept this up until the market ended at 1:00 pm. We must have distributed and collected those 24 bins at least twice. The AJH truck is a full size pickup with a full 8 foot bed and we had it filled and mounded with donated fresh food! We had to put the empty bins in John's vehicle as the truck was so full. All that fresh food is driven back to the AJH Kitchen and hauled into the dining room. The leafy greens, herbs and flowers were laid out on the tables and every chair held a bin full of fresh vegetables. It was really a glorious sight to see all that fresh food and to know that the AJH Kitchen will soon open their doors to anyone to come in a take what food they needed. For FREE! I realize that not all that food was consumed and some of it did eventually end up in a dumpster. But it warms my heart to know that the collaboration between AJH Kitchen and the Evanston Farmer's Market exists and that some of our neighbors in need of food are receiving some benefit from summer's abundant harvest. Mark emailed me asking if I could help Kelly again on August 5th as they needed some help. Kelly, Alec and I hauled another AJH red truck load of donated fresh food back to the Kitchen. AJH makes a trip to the Evanston Farmer's Market every Saturday at 11:30 am to collect the donated food. If you have the opportunity do volunteer, I encourage you to do so. You just might see me driving up in the AJH red pick-up truck. Chad McCoy www.stpeteruccskokie.org