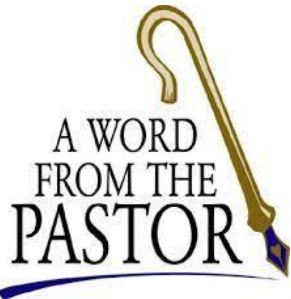




THE BEACON

May 2025

“Let your light shine before others”



I was over at Charlestown Park the other day, and looked around at all the greenery and blossoms, then thought back to when, not too long ago, everything was still just brown. Starting with just one flower at a time, one blossom at a time, one tuft of grass at a time, the annual silent revolution has again taken place, overturning winter’s cold hand. Without a sound, the countryside has once again been transformed.

Then my mind went back to the early centuries of our faith, when, in the first 300 years, the authorities sought to eliminate the Christian movement, first called people of The Way. But, hardly noticed, one convert at a time, one home church at a time, a silent revolution took place, and countless lives were transformed.

A crucifixion prevailed over the power of Rome, now long gone. Strength was found in a message of love and forgiveness more than fear, intimidation, and violence. Heaven’s grace continues to conquer worldly ways; even death itself.

In these 50 days of the Easter season, may we all find renewed strength and inspiration from the Good News of our faith that trusts in the message and Spirit of our Savior, who overcame the world. May God continue to bless us all.



HE IS RISEN!



St. Peter’s Raises 2 Arks for Heifer!!!!

See details on page 2



Heifer Project Gift Fair

Heifer Fair raises TWO ARK+ for 2025 !



The Heifer Fair held March 30, 2025 has raised \$11,000+ so far for Heifer Project International, fighting to stop world hunger.

This amounts to two ARKS for Heifer for 2025. Each \$5,000 gift is deemed an "Ark" because it ensures animals and training for an entire community!

This is the 27th year that the congregation will have contributed at least one ark. Really an amazing record of support and success!

Cumulative gifts from St Peter's to Heifer project since 1984 total more than \$235,000!
Congratulations to the congregation for your generosity.

Creating Change!

For 78+ years Heifer's cornerstones have empowered people to change their lives.

Working in 125 countries to attain sustainable livelihood through community owned interventions.

Heifer has helped 30 million families lift themselves out of hunger and poverty.

Still more to do, 1 Billion people still live in extreme poverty.



The St Peter's Heifer Mission team consists of many members, who perform wonderful and vital work out of the limelight but with so many congregation members involved we are thankful the continued support of the Mission. Special thanks to Sewing Circle Members who hosted the Fellowship time on Heifer Sunday and to Pastor Hanson for organizing the Sunday Heifer service and to Kat Bowman for all her musical support.

Thank you for your wonderful support of Heifer Project International and all the mission teams at St Peter's.



Time for Another FEAST



On Saturday, May 17th, all are invited to another FEAST. At 6pm, we'll enjoy a potluck meal on the macadam behind Fellowship Hall. This time of fellowship always leads to many conversations, often with members who enjoy getting to know one another better. Hope to see you there!

SEWING CIRCLE NEWS

The Sewing Circle ladies were the host of Coffee Hour for Heifer Fair Sunday. A variety of good food was enjoyed by all. It's always a pleasure to help with such a worthy cause.



LAST MEETING

Our last meeting for the year will be Wednesday, May 14th. Join us anytime after 10:30. All are welcome. Our hostesses are Joyce, Cherri and Barb. Lunch will be provided.



PICNIC

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our annual picnic on Wednesday, June 11th. Details to follow in the June Beacon.



Call for Grads

It's that time of year again and we are gathering the names of graduates.



We would like to recognize the accomplishment of all high school, vocational school, and college Graduates in the June Beacon and June worship.



Celebration Sunday

On Sunday, June 1st, we'll hold our annual Celebration Sunday outside, behind Fellowship Hall. Folding chairs will be placed in rows, and we'll worship in God's natural Kingdom.

We'll look back with gratitude on another year together as the people of St. Peter's, we'll recognize our graduates, and enjoy an Ice Cream Social following worship. We also will give thanks to the service of Wayne Freese as our Cemetery Manager, and gratefully welcome Herman Nieuwenhuizen to the position.

If you have any outside games for people to enjoy before or after worship, please feel free to bring them along.

Palm Sunday Events



FISHERMAN'S BREAKFAST

On Sunday, April 13th, St. Peter's hosted our annual Fisherman's Breakfast to support Habitat for Humanity. Thank you to the Wookey family and all of the amazing volunteers and patrons, who once again made this breakfast both delicious and a success!



EASTER EGG HUNT



After the worship service, children and adults alike, searched high and low for treasured Easter eggs. Thank you to Deb Wetty for organizing this special event and thank you to all who donated treats and participated!



May Birthdays




Dylan Smiley	5/1
Susan Hanson	5/7
Carlos Martini	5/8
Julia Beatty	5/9
Jacqui Cornog	5/9
Chett Breiling	5/11
Kristen Wookey	5/15
Reagan Basile	5/15
Meg Zaro	5/16
Ashlee Bradbard	5/16
Allen Barry	5/16
Haley Smith	5/19
Shawn Nordhoff	5/20
Trevor Johnson	5/22
Thomas Page	5/23
Doug Yeakle	5/24
Jenny Osborne	5/25
Christy Bullard	5/25
Dave Wise Jr.	5/25
Bennett Nordhoff	5/25
Scott Barry	5/27
Pam Booraem	5/28
Courtney Sproule	5/28
Blake Boden	5/28
Lena Duffield	5/29
Rebecca Nieuwenhuizen	5/30
Debbie Spranger	5/30
Justin Mest	5/30

Wedding Anniversaries

- Scott and Kathy Barry
- David and Victoria Cagliola
- TJ and Diane Dunn
- Charles and Virginia Garber
- Scott and Cindy Maguire
- Tom and Sandy Raichle






Thank You to Diane Yeakle

The front of the church has once again been spruced up, thanks to Diane Yeakle. Thank you to Diane for another act of “quiet ministry” that members perform behind the scenes.

SIGN UPS

THANK YOU to everyone who signs up to help on Sundays. Please take a look at the sign up sheets posted in Fellowship Hall to see what you can sign up for in the upcoming Sundays to help with worship through ushering, altar flowers, reading scripture as our lector or hosting social hour.

You can now give to the church more easily by scanning the QR code here:
 All online giving will be designated on your giving statements. Thank you!

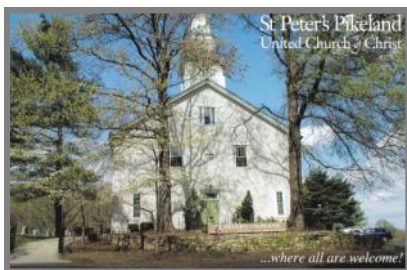




Stay in touch with us

Www.StPetersPikeland.org

On FaceBook as St. Peter’s Pikeland United Church of Christ



Our Prayer List

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Church Staff

Rev. Douglas Hanson,

Pastor

Kat Bowman,

Director of Music and Organist

Jill Cook,

Church Secretary

Deborah Wetty,

Nursery Attendant

Debbie Wolk,

Bookkeeper

Herman Nieuwenhuizen

Cemetery Manager

Church Officers 2025

President of Congregation –

Mark Myers

Secretary of Congregation –

Kathleen Wachsmuth

President of Consistory –

Pete Warner

Secretary of Consistory –

Kathleen Wachsmuth

Elders

Deb Wetty- Chair

Kathleen Wachsmuth, Peter Wilson

Deacons

Herman Nieuwenhuizen– Chair

Sarah Hackman

Pete Warner

Trustees

Dave Wise Jr.- Chair

Bob McClimon

Albert Wachsmuth

Andrea Lafleur

Angie Schlessm

Ann Kieffer, cousin of Eric Johnson

Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths

Barbara Shivers

Bill Cochran, friend of Fred and Maureen Wookey

Carol Meyer

Cole Davenport

Connie Hershey, friend of Micki and Alyssa Menkins

Charlie Fishman, Pete Warner's Nephew and Godson

Charles and Virginia Garber

Danielle Smith, friend of Sara Hackman

David Richman, friend of Grace Merryman

Debbie Rittenhouse, mother-in-law of Mitchell Warner

Diane, friend of Dee McClimon

Dr. Michael J. Ward

Ernie Gross, cousin of Fred Wookey

Gayanne Loring, sister of Dawna DeRosa

Gwen Davidson

Heather Murphy, cousin of Steve Krasley

Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin

Hugh Lawson

Jamie Glennon, friend of Eric Hanson

Jason Cox, cousin of Kelly Martini

Jeff Johnson, Co-worker of Eric Johnson

Jennifer Osborne

Jessica G., friend of Grace Merryman

Jim Smith, Denise Harlow's brother

John Pandjak

John Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman

Laura Dick

Laura S., friend of Grace Merryman

Lisa, cousin of Eric Johnson

Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys

Melinda Greenwood, cousin of Joe Thomson

Patrick, friend of Dee McClimon

Richard, friend of Dee McClimon

Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister

Sandy Pereni, Joyce Rosen's sister

Sharon Basile, Jennifer Basile's mother-in-law

Sylvia Houff, Kathleen Wachsmuth's sister

Tara Cantello, friend of Denise Harlow

Tina Frick, friend of Sarah Hackman

Tracey Knox, cousin of Kathy Krasley