



The ANNOUNCER

- 11/1- 11/2 IL Conference of the UCC
- 11/2 10am – 3pm Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale
- 11/3 2am -Daylight Savings Time
10AM – Worship with Rev. Ally Vertigan
- 11/9 6-10PM – CRMS Meets
- 11/10 10AM – Worship with Minister Renita Ward
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/15 Wreath orders due
- 11/17 10AM – Worship with Rev. Renita Ward
11:15AM – Church Council Meets
- 11/18 December Announcer Deadline
- 11/24 10AM – Worship with Rev. Wayne MacPherson
11:15 AM – Fourth Sunday Conversation Coffee Hour
- 11/26 7:30PM Thanksgiving Interfaith Service
- 11/28 Thanksgiving Day
- 11/30 AJH Meal Day

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW AND BAKE SALE

The Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale is *this Saturday, November 2nd from 10AM-3PM*. Our gym and Lanford Fellowship Hall have been transformed into a holiday wonderland filled with great vendors showing their handmade wares. When you come shop, there will be vendors selling handmade products like jewelry, bath and health products, home décor, holiday décor, stained glass, printed art, glass art, beauty



products, and so much more. You can expect some of our past vendors back and some new vendors! It's truly a fun day to get a jump on your holiday shopping or just treat yourself. Our bake sale will be back with lots of delicious goodies to take or eat as you shop, and again we'll be raffling off huge raffle baskets! Proceeds for the Bake Sale will go to the Women's Guild, and the other proceeds will go into St. Peter's General Fund.

Hello Rev. Ally Vertigan, Welcome Back Minister Renita and Pastor Wayne!

Please join in welcoming Rev. Ally Vertigan to the pulpit on **November 3rd**. Rev. Vertigan was ordained as a minister in the United Church of Christ in 2020. She was raised in the UCC and attended a UCC college (Elmhurst University '12) and seminary (Pacific School of Religion '16). She currently serves as the chaplain for Supportive Oncology at RUSH MD Anderson Cancer Center in Chicago. On **November 10th and 17th**, we will be delighted by the return of Minister Renita Ward. Minister and Attorney Renita Ward describes herself as “passionate for Jesus Christ” which “fuels her ministry and professional efforts of living out Christ’s model as an

advocate, teacher, mediator, and preacher.” Her clear and compelling messages have left an impression—who in attendance can forget her “Back to Basics” message—and we can look forward to other inspiring messages in these Sundays to come. Closing out the month Rev. Wayne MacPherson returns on **November 24th**, Totenfest Sunday. Pastor Wayne’s long ministry includes his service as pastor and interim pastor for four congregations and preaching at more than twenty congregations across the greater Chicago region. Pastor Wayne’s messages always meet us where we are, whether that’s reflecting on the message of Job or delivering blessings to our furry friends at our annual Pet Blessing.

Journey Notes: Navigating to a New Place

Sometimes you look around and just want to say where ARE we anyway? That's a good question. If we think of our search for a pastoral leader as a journey, we are still in a new place. The Local Church Profile for an Interim Search introduces our congregation to prospective candidates and invites applications. Your Church Council has worked hard to create a Local Church Profile that gathers the information needed to attract the best candidate. After its October 24th meeting with Illinois Conference Associate Minister Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley, the Council was able to cross a couple of t's and dot some i's. The profile is expected to be posted soon. Then comes the time for watching, waiting, and praying too as we seek someone to answer the call to serve. Stay tuned! The journey is just getting started.

Totenfest: Tradition and Remembrance

Across the ages, the church has always found a way to remember and celebrate the lives of faithful people who have died. Totenfest is a distinctive practice that grows out of the Evangelical tradition of the United Church of Christ. At St. Peter's we observe Totenfest on the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar—the Sunday before Advent starts, **November 24th** this year, to tell the story of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Totenfest is a German word that means "Festival for the Dead." It started in 1816 when Prussian Emperor Fredrick William III established it to remember that nation's soldiers who had died in the recently concluded Prussian War and church members who had died during the year. In parts of Germany to this day, Totenfest is a time families visit the graves of loved ones to clean off the summer flowers and cover the graves with evergreen boughs for the winter. *This year we will light a candle for Ron Schurke and Ken Itter. We will also light candles for others we have lost.* Rev. Wayne MacPherson will be our pastor for this special service of remembrance. Totenfest history adapted from: https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/worship-worship-ways-year-c_p_pentecost-totenfest/



The Niles Township Clergy Forum is having their annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service **November 26th at 7:30 PM**, location TBD, stay tuned for details. Donations to the Niles Township Food Pantry are requested. All are welcome!

Women's Guild Holiday Party 🌲 and Cookie Walk ❄️

We are taking a head count on the number of women attending the Women's Guild Holiday Party and Cookie Walk (with 3 dozen cookies each) on **Wednesday, December 11th at 11:30 AM**. We want to make sure we have enough food for everyone. Please let Sue Bailey (cel – 847-638-6894) or Marlene Russell (cel – 224-440-6427). Please let them know by **December 4th**. Thank you!

A Just Harvest Kitchen Service is this Month

Every time a fifth Saturday comes around is St. Peter's time to serve at A Just Harvest "The Community Kitchen." Part of A Just Harvest's mission is to, "fight poverty and hunger in the Rogers Park and greater Chicago community by providing nutritious meals daily..." Every single day of the year anyone can go to the A Just Harvest and get a hearty free meal! Thank you for helping to make that possible! St. Peter's purchases the food supplies for the community kitchen to prepare and volunteers to help serve the meal. The grocery cost is approximately \$500 each time we serve. Your donation to our long partnership with A Just Harvest is needed, now as much as ever, and is very much appreciated. Our next time to serve with A Just Harvest is coming up on **Saturday November 30th**. Peggy and Chad will be volunteering to serve and we could use 2 more volunteers. Please contact Chad McCoy if you are interested in volunteering.

St. Peter's Women's Guild Report

St. Peter's Women's Guild opened their Fall Season with a Salad Luncheon on Wednesday October 9th at 11:30AM. Devotions were given by Sue Bailey followed by a delicious luncheon of a variety of salads brought by members. Board members provided rolls and desserts.

A short business meeting was followed by a report and discussion of the Rummage and Bake Sale and the sale made an income of \$20,000 and counting. The Bake Sale brought over 700.00 of that total. Very successful. Kudos to Annie Noorts and company; and thank you to our bakers. Peggy Reins informed everyone about the progress on the search for an interim minister. A Zoom meeting was set with Rev. Shernell for Oct. 24th. The Pet Blessing on Oct. 20th was discussed and was noted that Marcia will need volunteers to staff the event and raffle baskets. The Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale on Nov. 2nd was discussed, and everyone was urged to donate baked goodies! Marlene read the list of our Christmas Benevolences and Sue said they will be sent out in January. It was announced that there will be a Christmas Flute Concert on Dec. 15th, organized by Ben Westphal and he needs light refreshments afterwards.

*There is no meeting in November – our next meeting will be on **December 11th**, featuring a Christmas Luncheon, our annual Cookie Walk and Games! Please make a reservation and join us!*

There's a Camp for That! 🍎

Pilgrim Park Camp and Conference Center in Princeton, Illinois, and Tower Hill Camp + Retreat Center in Sawyer, Michigan are two special places for experiencing the wonder of God's world. While you might just think of them only as summer church camps associated with the Illinois Conference of the UCC, they really are much more than that. On **November 8-9th** Pilgrim Park will welcome "faith leaders and families, students and teachers, activists and seekers" to a Climate Action Retreat, an intergenerational gathering to brainstorm plans for a '25 Climate Camp at Tower Hill. Two of your church members, Peggy Reins and Chad McCoy, are going!

Rummage Sale Update!

The 2024 rummage sale was a huge success!! Thank you to everyone who donated, sorted, set up, priced, baked, worked the sale, cleaned up, took loads of leftovers to Goodwill and loads of books to Half Price Books. As of today, the income from all things rummage sale related for the year (Savers drive, items sold online, worker's purchases, bake sale and rummage items sold on the sale days) is over \$20,000. Watch for the full detailed break out of this in the December Announcer, once all the money has been turned in. The money raised from this sale goes into our general fund.

Is it That Time of Year, already?!?

Yes, Day Light Saving Time ends **November 3rd**. Don't forget to turn your clocks 🕒 back for a little more light in the morning but darkness before dinner.

Advent is coming soon too! We light the candle 🕯️ of Hope on **December 1st** and Reverend Wayne MacPherson returns for the first Advent message in the season.

Before the arrival of Advent, we will prepare our sanctuary for the season. 🌿 Helping hands are invited! We'll gather at **7pm, Monday, November 25th** to put up our tree, decorate it with Christmas ornaments, and set out the nativity scene. We hope you will be part of getting in the spirit for Christmas.

To encourage youth (liberally defined as 12+ through age 20-something) to participate in the retreat, organizers are offering youth scholarships to attend. If you are interested in learning more or know someone who might be interested in attending with youth scholarship support, please talk to Peggy or email her at peggy.reins@gmail.com. But that's not the only event coming up. You might be interested to learn there's a Crafters Retreat at Pilgrim Park, **December 5-8, 2024**. Summertime brings the Making Memories Family Camp, an intergenerational camp for grandparents and grandchildren, parents and children, aunts/uncles and nieces/nephews, godparents and godchildren. Camp—it is not just for kids anymore!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 11/2 - Maria and Randy Altmayer
- 11/3 - Olivia Altmayer and Michael Schwalen
- 11/6 - Jenn and Rich Schneider
- 11/9 - Laura Olson 14 years at St. Peter's UCC
- 11/12 - Marcia Hilliard & Andre Gloeckner
- 11/14 - Beth and John Sterba
- 11/24 - Roberta & Henry Muhner

Budget at a Glance, September 2024

	<u>September Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Income	\$29,065	\$16,008	\$149,103	\$144,072
Expenses	\$8,849	\$15,939	\$128,953	\$143,451
Gain/(Loss)	\$20,216	\$69	\$20,150	\$621

Prayer Requests

Please keep St. Peter's extended family in your thoughts and prayers. Other folks that need your prayers include:

- Sharon Johnson, though recovering well from her surgery, has contracted Covid. She is resting and isolating at home.
- Continued prayers of healing for Diane Hickman, friend of Rich & Jen Schneider, who was hit by a car while on her bike. She has multiple broken bones and brain trauma.
- Betsy Herren, daughter of Ann, in Oregon. She is in treatment for breast cancer and has begun radiation treatment.
- Sharon Johnson's daughter, Donna, in addition to fighting cancer has been hospitalized for a blockage due to scar tissue. She had surgery Thursday.
- Marcia Hilliard as she recovers from her surgery this month and prepares for another surgery.
- Those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Helene and Milton.
- 15-year-old family friend of Denise Hopp is currently suffering from self-harm.
- Cancer has returned for Susan Garcia's Aunt Janice, whom we've prayed for previously.
- Ricky Riley, who will be undergoing heart surgery in February.
- Jane Abramchik continues to recover at home aided by a team of home caregivers and her husband Paul.
- Jen Schneider's mom Dorene Schurman, who is in hospice care in Ohio.
- Paul Brzozowski is doing well after additional treatments following brain cancer surgery.
- Annie and Gerry Noorts's cousin Scott Richter completed his chemo. His wife Susie Richter, who has breast cancer, had surgery and will be starting treatment soon. Also, their friends Bunny and Eddy Thompson are both fighting cancer.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers. Also thinking of Larry Baumhardt, Ursula Dworak, Lois Jarmuth, Bob Seitman, and Jackie Johnson. *If you are aware of others to include in our shared prayers, please let a church officer, an Elder, or the office know!*

POINSETTIAS

Orders are now being taken for Christmas

Poinsettias. This years' colors are Red and Marble. See below for details on each. To place an order, please fill in the form below, include payment and drop it off at the office, mail it to St Peter's, or place it in the collection plate on Sunday morning. *The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 1st 2024.* The plants will be delivered to the church in time to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Please take your plants after Christmas Eve worship if possible.



Name:	Phone #:	
In Honor Of:	In Memory Of:	

Quantity	Color	Price	Total
	Red (6") Single	\$16.00	
	Marble (6") Single	\$16.00	
Grand Total			

St. Peter's UCC
 8013 Laramie Ave.
 Skokie, IL 60077
 www.stpeteruccskokie.org



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**Lector/Nursery
 for November 2024**

Nov. 3rd Nursery: Carolyn V.
 Lector: Barb T.

Nov. 10th Nursery: Rita M.
 Lector: Jenn S.

Nov. 17th Nursery: Annie N.
 Lector: Judy P

Nov. 24th Nursery: Mike R.
 Lector: Karen C.

Dec. 1st Nursery: Kathy Z.
 Lector:
 Marcia/Andre

Subject to switches. Thank you to everyone for helping each week!

**Poinsettia Orders are
 being taken now!
 Order form included.
 Orders are due
 December 1st!**

The ANNOUNCER NOVEMBER 2024

Pet Blessing Pictures!

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. Thank you to Marcia & Andre and all the folks who came out to help plan and be part of one of our very favorite events. Also special thanks to Rev. Wayne MacPherson for his wonderful blessings! A great time had by all!

