

The ANNOUNCER

- 12/1** Advent Begins
Poinsettia Orders Due
- 12/7** 1-2PM Wreath pickup
- 12/8** 10AM – Worship with
Rev. Ally Vertigan
11:15AM - Bag & Tag
Cookies
- 12/11** 11:30AM – Women's
Guild Holiday Party
6:00PM –
Communications
Committee Meeting
- 12/15** 10AM – Worship with
Minster Renita Ward
11:15AM Church
Council
3:00PM – Holiday
Concert w/Lakeside
Flutes
- 12/16** Announcer Deadline
- 12/22** 10AM – Worship with
Rev. Wayne
MacPherson
- 12/24** 7:00PM – Christmas
Eve worship with Rev.
Wayne MacPherson
- 12/25** Merry Christmas!
Office Closed
- 12/26-
1/3/25** Laura on Vacation
- 12/29** 10AM – Lay Service
Worship



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Christmas Eve worship is so special at St. Peter's UCC as we await the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Our worship service includes lessons, carols, an Anthem, Holy Communion and closing candlelight. Join us at **7:00 PM December 24th** for

worship Christmas Eve, there will be no service Christmas Day. Our service will also be livestreamed on YouTube for those unable to attend in person. All are welcome for this and any service at St. Peter's UCC, so please join us!

HOLIDAY CONCERT WITH THE LAKESIDE FLUTES

St. Peter's UCC is excited to welcome back Lakeside Flutes for a lively holiday concert in our beautiful Sanctuary. www.LakesideFlutes.org is a select ensemble of talented flutists from the greater Chicago area. Founded in 1987 by a group of flute enthusiasts, they will again grace us with a program of Christmas holiday

music on **Sunday December 15th at 3:00pm.** This event is free - families and children of ALL ages are invited to join us. Light refreshments and coffee will follow the concert in the Lanford Fellowship Hall. We will take a free will offering, and no reservations are required.

BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

The St. Peter's Sunday School will carry on its Christmas Mission Project of collecting baby items for the Niles Township Food Pantry. The **collection will begin Dec. 1st** with donations being placed under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary. Items we are collecting include: Baby food, formula, baby shampoo,

cheerios, diapers in all sizes, wipes, fruit cups, fruit snacks, juice/milk boxes and pudding cups. Please, no clothing, blankets or toys. If you have any questions, contact a member of the Sunday School team. Items will be collected through December. Thank you so much!

Women’s Guild Report, Holiday Party 🎄 and Cookie Walk 🍪

The St. Peter’s Women’s Guild will hold their annual Christmas Luncheon and Cookie Walk on **Wed., Dec. 11th at 11:30AM**. The board will serve a chicken luncheon complete with salads, rolls, ice cream and cookies as dessert and to take home. The brief business meeting will include a review of our annual Benevolences, to be distributed in January, and a discussion of refreshments for the Holiday Concert on Dec. 15th. We will conclude with games from Carol Iannotti. We will not meet in January or February but will meet again for our Kitchen clean up meeting on Wed., March 12th 2025.

Rummage Sale Totals

As promised in the November Announcer, here are the final numbers from the rummage sale. Thank you again to everyone who helped to make this sale such a huge success!

Totals from 2024 Rummage Sale	
Attendees	709
Boutique	\$ 6,132.09
Gym/LFH/Cards	\$ 12,357.06
Bake Sale	\$ 680.00
Savers	\$ 984.00
Half Price Books	\$ 59.50
Cash Donation (New Life)	\$ 100.00
Expenses Reimbursed with goods	\$ 150.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 20,462.65
Income - Expenses = PROFIT	\$ 19,744.77

Craft Show Totals & Thanks

The Holiday Craft Show once again was a great success. Thank you to Wendy & Roy Svenson and Annie Noorts, all the wonderful volunteers, the raffle basket creators, and the bakers of St. Peter’s. It couldn’t have been done without you.

Craft Show totals:
 Table sales \$1255
 Raffle \$ 377
 Pizza \$56
 Popcorn \$38
 Bake Sale \$730 (this income goes to the Women’s Guild)
 Total Income = \$2456 (\$1726 to the general fund)

Night Ministry Collection Ends Dec. 8th

Every year the good folks at St. Peter’s UCC collect cookies, tubs of hot cocoa, winter hats, scarves and gloves for the Night Ministry to distribute to Chicago’s most needy. Once again our people did not let them down! We are still collecting these items if you are able to bring them to the church; items can be brought to the table in the lobby or left in the Narthex. On **Sunday, December 8th** these items will be “bagged and tagged,” which those able to help after worship create an assembly line of bagging the cookies for The Night Ministry to hand out. Items will then be boxed up and a volunteer will bring them over to the Night Ministry. Your donation will help so many, so please donate if you can, and help us spread some holiday cheer!

Guest Preachers to Start the New Year

We are so grateful to have had such wonderful guest preachers for the second half of 2024. We can look forward to seeing them again during the early days of 2025. We’re very excited to have them all back!

For the month of January:

Rev. MacPherson for the 5th and the 26th, Minister Renita Ward will join us Jan. 12th and Rev. Ally Vertigan will be here January 19th.

For the month of February:

Rev. MacPherson joins us Feb. 2nd, Minister Renita Ward Feb. 9th, Rev. Ally Vertigan on the 16th and Rev. Carol Ann Munro on the 23rd.

Join us every Sunday at 10AM for worship!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

12/2 - SANDY GUENTHER
 12/4 - LORE LOPEZ
 12/5 - PEGGY RESS
 12/7 - MARY ANN KUETH
 12/8 - DREW RYAN
 12/8 - ERK CHRISTIANSON
 12/10 - JON MAU GEMSHAM
 12/11 - JUDY PAGE
 12/16 - ANNAMARIE
 12/17 - GLOECKNER
 12/20 - CALDER LUMDEN
 CONDELA LUMDEN
 PAYTON McDONALD
 12/24 - CAROL IANOTTI
 12/26 - CAROL HOOK
 12/27 - LAURA OLSON
 BEVERLY MAU
 12/28 - BEN WESTPHAL
 12/31 -

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

12/3 - NANCY & PHILIP LUDROTH
 12/6 - JUDY AND JIM WILLIFORD
 12/8 - DIANNA AND LARRY HAWK
 12/21 - ERK & LIESEL CHRISTIANSON

Budget at a Glance, October 2024

	<u>October Actual</u>	<u>Monthly Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Income	\$11,538	\$16,008	\$160,641	\$160,080
Expenses	\$6,570	\$15,939	\$135,523	\$159,390
Gain/(Loss)	\$4,968	\$69	\$25,118	\$690

Prayer Requests

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

- Jackie Johnson is having shoulder surgery next week and therapy to follow.
- Carol Hook, mother of Anna Riley suffering from a hernia that may require surgery.
- Ricky Riley's heart surgery has been scheduled for February 7th, 2025.
- Marcia Hilliard had surgery Friday the 29th.
- 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.
- Ann Herren's two daughters; Betsy Herren in Oregon, has begun radiation treatment for breast cancer. Jenny Herren Gatesman, recently also diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Sharon Johnson's daughter Donna is doing very well after having surgery but continues her battle with Lymphoma, which can be controlled but not cured.
- 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.
- 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's recent MRI was encouraging but his treatment for brain cancer is continuing.
- Annie and Gerry Noorts's cousin Susie Richter has started chemo and is doing well. Gerry's Uncle Ron Richter passed away and prayers are requested for his wife Maria and the whole family. Also, their friend Bunny Thompson started chemo for lung cancer and has been very sick from the chemo. Eddy Thompson has been in and out of the hospital as he is fighting multiple myeloma.

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!



**Lector/Nursery
for December 2024**

Dec. 1 st	Nursery: Kathy Z. Lector: Marcia/Andre
Dec. 8 th	Nursery: Laurie M. Lector: Mark L.
Dec. 15 th	Nursery: Heidi T. Lector: Rita M.
Dec. 22 nd	Nursery: Carolyn V. Lector: Olivia A.
Dec. 24 th	Nursery: N/A Lector: TBD
Dec. 29 th	Nursery: Rita M. Lector: Peter S.



The ANNOUNCER

NOVEMBER 2024

Softgoods Collection in January

In January we will again be having our annual FUNDrive, a collection of soft goods. This is a great chance for everyone to clear out those closets after the holidays. We receive 20 cents per pound for all items collected. Soft goods include all clothing, linens, shoes, belts, purses and stuffed animals. Items can be dropped off in the gym from **January 1st through February 2nd**. On February 8th we will haul the donations to Savers. Again this year, the Cub Scouts will be helping us to load the truck. We are lucky to have such great helpers!!

Forget about “Mini”! Small Acts Have a Big Impact

Our mini pantry is not just a thing, it is part of a movement! The first mini pantry sprang up in 2016, the brainchild of Jessica McClard who took inspiration from the Little Free Libraries she saw while jogging in her hometown of Fayetteville, Arkansas. She installed the first mini pantry on the grounds of her church and posted about it on Facebook. Within a few months more than 100 pantries in places as far away as New Zealand were helping neighbors in need. Jessica describes the movement this way on her website: “We are not an organization, and we are not a nonprofit. We are neighbors. We don’t have a lot of time, and our budgets are nearly maxed. But we see our neighbors’ daily struggles and feel called to do something in a way that reflects our shared values—compassion, generosity, and trust. Whether a need for food or a need to give, mini pantries help feed neighbors, nourishing neighborhoods.” This appeal to supply our mini pantry comes at a most distracting time, but that doesn’t erase the need. Our mini pantry is one of the most visited ones in our community. The need—and the invitation to supply it—is always there.