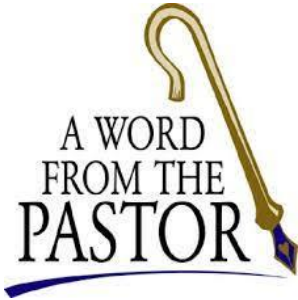




THE BEACON

April 2024

“Let your light shine before others”



“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.”

Jesus modeled servanthood in his last hours on earth. Then he gave his last commandment; a mandate to the Apostles. He said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

In this act of humble servanthood, and in these words, we have our mission as followers of Christ. May the Christ of Easter morning and the blessing of the Holy Spirit help us to fulfill our role as caretakers of God’s Good News, until the last trumpet sounds, and the Resurrection Promise is fulfilled forever.



Opportunity Knocks

-Wayne Freese

Growing membership is a top-of-the-list effort at St Peter's. On Saturday, May 4th from 9-11 AM, we have the chance to hear a program that can help us do this, and to get your evaluation of where St Peter's is right now. Our Consistory has invited the Rev. Cean James, Associate Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference UCC, to present a program called “NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT.” Rev. James has applied this program in other churches, and his own. This event is open to all those members who are interested—more details later.



This year Heifer Sunday is April 21, 2024.

Contributions to support Heifer can be made through offerings or at the Living Gift Market table in Fellowship Hall on April 21st.

See page 2 for all the information you need to know for our upcoming Heifer Sunday!



Heifer Project Gift Fair

Its Heifer Project time! Each spring, St Peter's Pikeland United Church of Christ holds a fair in support of Heifer Project International. This year Heifer Sunday is April 21, 2024.

Solving the problem of world hunger is a heartfelt vision of many people but the sheer magnitude of the problem has overwhelmed agencies.

Heifer Project International (HPI), is the outgrowth of one man with a vision and a practical method of implementation that did not require inordinate financial underwriting. After serving as a relief worker in the Spanish Civil War in 1936 Dan West observed that there was no way to bring enough food to the children of Spain fast enough to address the depravation that surrounded him daily. Mr West's concept was to bring cows to Spain to produce milk and to give a cow to a family with the stipulation that its offspring must be given to another family who would in turn give a calf to yet another family! And so on and so on!

HPI started in 1942 with the first shipment of heifers delivered to Puerto Rico in 1944.

Animals are delivered to communities all around the globe. The species are selected to serve the environment and the needs of the community. In Honduras beekeeping has brought multiple benefits to a community. The bees pollinate crops and other flowering plants. They produce honey which is sold to the local population. In addition sub industries have emerged that include a wax producing factory, hive manufacturing and honey processing factories all from one gift of a beehive.

These farmers build human bridges between communities by passing knowledge, courage and dignity. It is a success story from our local generosity and kindness. You can participate by supporting the Heifer Project at St Peter's Pikeland United Church of Christ April 21, 2024. Your contributions fight hunger and poverty around the world and changes peoples lives.

Contributions to support Heifer can be made through offerings or at the Living Gift Market table in Fellowship Hall on April 21, 2024. No Fair this year but we will have the Living Gift Market table at Fellowship Hall after services.

The Living Gift Market is a chance to change the lives of people. The gifts you can purchase include food and income producing animals like goats, bees, chicks and heifers. The animals go to hungry, rural families around the world including the USA who are working to improve their lives. Heifer Project also provides the training in care of the animals and in enhancing the environment. The gifts are matched to each local environment.

Each Market gift gives over and over. Your gift of an animal and training to an impoverished family impacts the entire rural community. That family shares its knowledge and the animal's first offspring with another family. And that family shares. And the next and the next! In all this you find the gift of peace, the gift of time and the gift of gratitude.

So help a great cause, helping people to help themselves!

Find a gift animal for that special someone!

See you Sunday April 21, 2024



FEAST

On Saturday, April 27th at 6:00pm, all are invited to bring a potluck dish to a FEAST dinner in Fellowship Hall.

At every FEAST dinner in the past, usually in people’s homes, members of our church family have gotten to talk to people they really didn’t know before.

Consistory decided that there would be no agenda for the evening, except to enjoy each other’s company.

As Pastor Doug often says for such events, “You have to eat, anyway,” so let’s gather and bring a dish and enjoy a simple evening of conversation and fellowship.

SEWING CIRCLE NEWS

The Sewing Circle has 2 new members so far this year. Joanna Sheffer and Dorothy Warren. Thank you to everyone who supported our yearly hoagie sale to benefit Bethany. Please come join us the second Wednesday of month!

Pictured below, is the fun we had at our St. Patty’s themed March meeting. Come join this fun group the second Wednesday of the month.

Sewing Circle ladies, mark your calendar for our picnic at Wendy Sherman's for Wednesday June 13!



Trustee’s Corner

On Saturday, April 6th, the Trustees organized another successful Mulch Madness/Spring Clean Up.

Thank you to the following volunteers who helped to make our grounds beautiful again:

Pete Warner, Chris and Scott Maguire, Mark Myers, Kristie Beers, Scott and Tom Raichle, Fred Wookey III, Pastor Doug and Barry Duffield.



A very special thank you to Chris and Scott Maguire, for cutting down a dying tree by the parsonage.

Travel Back in Time; A Trip with St. Peter's

- by Fred Wookey Jr.

Part Two

Are We all 'Pikers'?

Pike's Land was the first name given to the grant of 10,000 acres to Joseph Pike in 1705. Joseph Pike was the eldest son of an English father and an Irish mother. His father had served in Cromwell's army in Ireland with distinction, but both parents later took the Quaker faith.

With the death of Joseph Pike in 1729, having never set foot in Pennsylvania, Elizabeth Pike, his wife, held the lands until her death in 1733, and bequeathed them to her son, Richard Pike, in fee. Richard Pike died in 1752, and by his will devised all his estates in Pennsylvania to his kinsmen, Samuel Hoare and Nathaniel Newberry, merchants, of London, England, subject to the payment of certain legacies. In 1756, Samuel Hoare purchased the interest of Nathaniel Newberry and became sole owner. On Dec. 3, 1773, Samuel Hoare, by his attorney, Amos Strettle, sold and conveyed the lands "known by the name of Pike-land" to Andrew Allen, and took from him a mortgage thereon for sixteen thousand pounds, part of the purchase money. *Note that this transaction took place two years after our church was begun on the hill. This later becomes a source of confusion and conflict.*

Look for Part Three in the next edition of the Beacon.....

A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

-Kat Bowman

St. Peter's Pikeland Concert Series is back! Back by popular demand, Veronika Roemer, violist, joins Kat Bowman, pianist, for another afternoon of beautiful music on Saturday afternoon, June 8 @ 3:00pm. Veronika and Kat will be playing selections by Marais, Bach, Paul Hindemith, and Benjamin Britten, spanning almost four hundred years of music history.

While the names of Bach and Britten might be more familiar, both Marais and Hindemith are important composers for the viola repertoire, as both of them were violists themselves. Marais was a baroque composer, living and performing in Paris during the eighteenth century. He was a student of Jean-Baptiste Lully, and wrote five books of viola music during his lifetime. Paul Hindemith was a twentieth-century violist and conductor from Germany, and found success as a composer of instrumental music during his career.

We welcome everyone to join us on June 8 @ 3:00pm for this wonderful concert. A reception and a chance to meet the artists will follow the performance in Fellowship Hall. Spread the word, and we hope to see you on June 8!



April Birthdays

Renae Bierer	4/1
Mason Stein	4/1
Dave Wise Sr.	4/2
Ben Mansmann	4/2
Sam McCabe	4/3
Alex Page	4/3
Fred Krisch	4/4
Fred Wookey	4/6
Jessica Nieuwenhuizen	4/6
Dawn Meyer	4/7
Katerina Dick	4/9
Isabella Basile	4/9
Ella Yeakle	4/9
Brynn Montieth	4/13
Kimberly Zeller	4/14
John Martin	4/18
Carole Frederick	4/19
Carol Meyer	4/20
Dawna DeRosa	4/23
Shelby Poston	4/23
Diane Dunn	4/25
Denise Harlow	4/30

CHILI COOK OFF



Our Chili Cook Off and Bake Off raised over \$775 for our church missions, and Sam Wachsmuth took home the prize for First place! Runners up were Bob and Dee McClimon and Christina Whitlatch. Thank you to everyone who participated!



A Little Peek at the Fun we had at our Easter Egg Hunt.....

Wedding Anniversaries

- Bill and Alice Bierer
- John and Tammy Gingrich
- Eric and Linda Johnson
- John and Mary Jo Pandjak

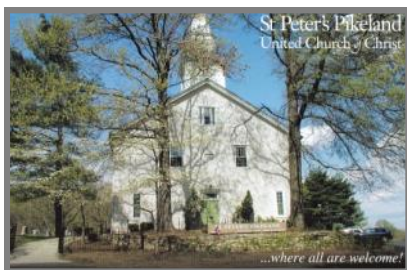
- Mark and Jessica Rochon
- Tilo and Debbie Spranger
- C.J. and Beth Stein
- Joann and Joe Thomson
- Meg and Chris Zaro Sr.



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

Wayne Freese

Cemetery Manager

Church Officers 2024

President of Congregation –
Mark Myers

Secretary of Congregation –
Kathleen Wachsmuth

President of Consistory –
Pete Warner

Secretary of Consistory –
Kathleen Wachsmuth

Elders

Kathleen Wachsmuth-Chair
Deb Wetty, Peter Wilson

Deacons

Herman Nieuwenhuizen,
Sarah Hackman
Pete Warner

Trustees

Fred Wookey III- Chair
Bob McClimon, Dave Wise Jr.

Allison Lockhart, sister of Rev. McLemore
Andrea Lafleur
Angie Schlessman
Ann Kieffer, cousin of Eric Johnson
Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths
Barbara Shivers
Bill Cochran, friend of Fred and Maureen Wookey
Carol Meyer
Connie Hershey, friend of Micki and Alyssa Menkins
Charlie Fishman, Pete Warner's Nephew and Godson
Chris Webb, son of a friend of Lynn Mailey
Debbie Rittenhouse, mother-in-law of Mitchell Warner
Earl Harvey, friend of Mackenzie Wookey
Friends and family of Barbara Hetrich
Guinevere, granddaughter of friend of Dee McClimon
Gwen Davidson
Grady Dendunnen, grandson of Ted and Helen Morgan
Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin
Jamie Glennon, friend of Eric Hanson
Jean Neiman
Jeff Johnson, Co-worker of Eric Johnson
Jennifer Osborne
John Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman
Laura Dick
Lia Sawyer, friend of Cherri Romano
Lisa, cousin of Eric Johnson
Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys
Michelle Ralston, friend of Maureen Wookey
Melinda Greenwood, cousin of Joe Thomson
Mike Brown
Nancy Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman
Pattie and Charlie Freeman, friends of the Bowman's
Patrick, friend of Dee McClimon
Richard, friend of Dee McClimon
Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister
Sally Mehrens, sister of Lynn Mailey
Sammi, great granddaughter of a friend of Dee McClimon
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