



ST PETER'S EPISTLE

God's Work Our Hands

A Publication of St Peter's Lutheran Church † Dwight, Illinois 60420

E-mail: stpetersdwright@sbcglobal.net
326 West Chippewa Street
Pastor Kurt Hoover

Facebook Page: St. Peters ELCA
Office Phone: 815-584-1199
Pastor's Phone: 815-584-6033

Committed to Jesus - Serving All

March 2016

St. Peter's Food Pantry Update Louis Cronin's Temple Talk - 2-28-16

2015 Annual report shows that our food pantry distributed 358 sacks of food & spent \$5733.

Each sack contained between \$22 - \$25 worth of groceries.

We also distributed 411 dairy vouchers @ \$3.25 (\$1323)

We also contributed up to \$100 per month to the Dwight Township Monthly Food Pantry.
(\$5733 + \$1323 + \$1200 = \$8256)

According to our records we supplied food to about 110 different persons.

All the money for the Food Pantry came from donations to the Food Pantry Fund.

All the money for the Dwight Township Food Pantry came out of the general fund.

At the end of 2015, food pantry funds were minimal so we decided to cut back on our distributions.

In the mean time checked with all the churches in Dwight to see what they were doing & this is what we found: Currently there are 5 sources of supplemental food in our community.

1. Dwight Baptist Church – distributes to 185 families once monthly on the 3rd Thursday each month. They purchase food from a Food Bank in St. Charles. (Pastor Woodward)
2. Dwight Township Food Pantry (Patty Rosenbaum) – distributes food to 60 to 70 families on the 4th Wednesday each month. They receive donations from the Dwight United Methodist Church, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, New Life Assembly of God; Emmanuel Lutheran Church, & St. Peter's
3. The Grapevine Mission (Judy Pershey) works with **Midwest Food Bank** in Bloomington & distributes food to low income families on an as needed basis.
4. New Life Assembly of God (Pastor Randy Randle) uses a program called "Smart Choice Food" which is similar to the Share Food program we used to participate in. You order & pay for food in advance.

5. St. Peter's Food Pantry –we were distributing food at the rate of 1 bag per week per family on an as needed basis.

After checking with several Food Banks in our area – we found the **Midwest Food Bank** in Bloomington currently provides food to 275 food pantries from the Bloomington Facility. This is all at NO COST to the food pantries. We put our name on the waiting list thinking it would take several months & Mike Hoffman called last week & said we were accepted. He said the funny thing is – the more food they send out – the more food comes in, obviously the Good Lord is in charge here & Midwest gives all the praise & honor & glory to God!!!! **Midwest Food Bank** has 8 semi-trucks that travel around the country & pick up overruns from major food producers. Mike said there is not a shortage of food – mainly a problem of distributing the food to the right places at the right time. They are super happy about supplying as much food as they can to be used to: “care for the ill & the needy”. With **Midwest Food Bank** we will be able to distribute some fresh & frozen foods as well as non perishable food. Consequently we are looking for another refrigerator for storage. Chris & Larry Hansen donated an upright freezer last week just in time to take in 29 cases of chicken that was not accepted by Aldi's because the packages did not contain a specific expiration date. The date was on the boxes but not the packages so we have been distributing chickens around the community this week. Some of the chickens were distributed at the Dwight Township Gothic church distribution last week.

We will receive a distribution of food from the Midwest Food Bank on the 1st Monday of each month from which we will distribute the fresh & frozen as well as non perishable food once monthly. Our first distribution is March 7th.

We plan to continue to distribute pre-bagged non perishable food on an emergency basis on Tuesday evenings from 4:30 to 6 PM and on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10AM to 12 noon.

We are always looking for volunteers so if you are interested in helping, please let us know.

So: If St. Peter's distributes food on the 1st week, Baptist Church on the 3rd week, the Gothic Church on the 4th week & the Grapevine Mission & St. Peters continues on an emergency basis – we should be able to do a great job of controlling hunger in our community. It is just fun to work together to take care of God's people.

Obviously, it is amazing how things work out when the Good Lord is in charge.

Isaiah 55:1 “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.”

Hopefully if we can fulfill people's physical hunger needs then we may have the opportunity to help their spiritual needs.

Thanks be to God. ☺

You can check out the **Midwest Food Bank** online at www.midwestfoodbank.org.

(Check them out, also, at www.charitynavigator.org.)



In this Epistle

- Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Bible Study Opportunities
- Calendar – March
- Lent/ Holy Week /Easter
- Midwest Food Bank
- Red Carpet Garage Sale
- Remember in Your Prayers
- Salvation Army Hours
- Spandet College Scholarships
- WELCA News
- World Day of Prayer
- Worship Participants
- Worship Schedule
- Youth and Family

COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of Council meetings will no longer be included with the monthly Epistle. Anyone wishing a copy may contact the church office. They will be kept on file there.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:45 a.m.
Light Breakfast

9:00 a.m.
Faith Development for All Ages

10:00 a.m.
Holy Communion Worship



Community Lenten Worship
Wednesday, March 2
7:00 PM
New Life Assembly of God
903 S. Old Route 66

Midweek Lenten Worship
Wednesday, March 9 & 16
6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
Light Supper
6:00 PM

PALM SUNDAY
March 20

MAUNDY THURSDAY
March 25 – 7:00 pm
Worship with Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY
March 25 – 7:00 pm

EASTER
6:00 a.m. Son Rise Worship
7:30-9:30 a.m. Breakfast
Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 am



Would you bless your church family by sharing your musical talents? Corilyn would be glad to schedule rehearsals with you for the upcoming Lent/Easter season: solos/ensembles, traditional, praise and worship, or instruments.



WELCA

Sarah Circle meets Thursday, March 24, 2016, at noon at The Country Mansion. We order off the menu "Dutch Treat" and hold business and Bible Study following.

With only one active WELCA Circle, we now hold General Meeting and Circle Meeting business at the same time. All women of St. Peter's are welcome at any and all of these meetings. Please call Grace Johnson, circle leader, if you plan to attend so that we can give the Mansion a count of how many to set the table for.

WOMEN'S LENTEN BREAKFASTS
7:00 A.M. AND 9:00 A.M.
ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

BINGO! St. Peter's hosts bingo for the residents of Heritage Health the first Wednesday of each month from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Cookies, punch and prizes are provided to enhance the fun. Helpers for the residents are also needed.

A signup chart for cookies is in the narthex. If you can provide cookies on one or another of these Wednesdays please put your name and phone number on that month and indicate how many cookies you can provide.

Coming up - March 2nd - see you there!

REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS

Louise Allen (Janet Brady's mother)
Lori Barschdorf (Debbie Welsh's daughter)
Eunice Boyer
Zoey Coughlin
Peg Watters
Eileen Hampton
Gary Helsing
Gene Krogmeir (Bryce & Reece Mortensen's grandfather)
Shawn Labaugh
Patti (Marx) Mackinson
Julie Marx
Mary Mason (Valerie Larson's cousin)
Laurie McConnell
Elijah McCullough

Colleen Fogarty-Metzke
Cody Patten (Jan Stewart's grandson)
Katie Perkins (Colleen Metzke's daughter)
Jean Ann Schou
Raynice Tadey
Dana Taylor
Diane Taylor
Linda Von Qualen
Jim Woodard (Peggy Leonard's son-in-law)
Don Zehms (Meletta Schou's nephew)
Judy Gillespie
Louis Cronin
Brad Weller
Peg Watters

At Evenglow Lodge, Pontiac: Ella Corrie, Juanita Drechsel

At Heritage Health: Phyllis Butterbrodt, Howard Fredensborg, Ruth Patterson, Margaret Tanner

At home: Dorothy Anderson, Doug Christiansen, Vontrice Lavicka, Dorothy Riccolo, Stella Spandet

All those who ask for healing in their body, mind, and spirit

All the families mourning the loss of loved ones: Brad Brady, Leah Christensen, Lonnie Sorensen, Heather Zacek, Kenny Launius

All the refugees fleeing from their war-torn countries

All those who are affected by natural disasters

Those in leadership of our nation, communities, and churches

Those serving in the Missionary Fields (Masha Wilkinson), Diplomatic and Military Fields, and Peace Corps

For peace, understanding, and tolerance in war torn countries

For peace in all nations: especially the countries of the Middle East

All those who are victims and/or affected by violence

For those who are unemployed, under-employed, homeless and hungry in our society



St. Peter's Prayer Chain Ministry is accepting prayer requests. If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Kurt at the church or his cell at 815-584-6033. He will then begin the prayer chain immediately with the Prayer Chain Leaders. You may make a request on behalf of yourself, your family, friends, neighbors, community, country, and or world. Prayer requests will be honored with respect and confidentiality and will only be shared with members of the prayer team. No request is too trivial or too immense for God to hear and answer according to his divine plan.

SPANDET TRUST COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications Deadline: March 21st

College students are reminded that it is once again time to apply for the college scholarships that are available from the Jens and Beatrice Spandet Trust Fund. The scholarships are for **members of St. Peter's** in the age group 17-24. Part-time students can receive \$125.00 and full-time students \$250.00.

Student must be attending college at the time of the Annual Meeting in January to apply. The lifetime benefit is \$1,000.00.

A letter of request should be sent that includes the address to which the money is to be mailed. Send letters of request to:

Spandet Trust College Scholarship
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
326 W. Chippewa St.
Dwight, IL 60420

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2016
1:00 PM
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Appeal for mission support: If anyone would like to donate to Christ United Lutheran Church (NALC) which began 4 years ago in Granite Falls, NC, with Pastor Heidi Punt, there are forms and information in the church office.

ST. PETER'S RED CARPET GARAGE SALE

Spring is almost here! Time to get ready for the St. Peter's Red Carpet Garage Sale! We had such a successful sale during the all-town event last spring, we decided to make it an annual event. Start saving any items you would like to donate: clothing, shoes, coats, hats, books, small appliances, toys, baby items, blankets, sporting equipment, stuffed animals, figurines, dolls, framed pictures or art, puzzles, kitchen items (pans, dishes, utensils, mixing bowls, etc.), lamps, movies, candles..... Any items will be appreciated. The sale will be May 6th and 7th. Everyone is welcome to help!



BITS AND PIECES

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Information for Sunday Inserts: Needed by Wednesday at 2:00 pm. Changes to meeting dates and times, updates to prayer list, etc.

Deadline for Epistle: 7 days before the end of the month.

Salvation Army: Tuesdays 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

Flower Chart is now located on the easel at the front door of the narthex.

Receive monthly Epistle by email: send your email address to Bev Jensen at pageturner526@mymailbucket.com.

Keep the church kitchen clean. Wipe off tables in fellowship hall that have been used, also.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Logan Krople	3-01
Raynice Tadey	3-01
Lisa Kester	3-03
Doug Pedersen	3-04
Mary Kallas	3-05
Julia Cronin	3-06
Art Haller	3-09
Janet Brady	3-11
Henry Lund	3-13
Sara Senger	3-14
Pam Atchison	3-19
Shelli Sargeant	3-19
Don Cecchett	3-21
Marilyn Maskel	3-23
Marjorie Hansen	3-24
Sharon Hansen	3-27
Cody Lee	3-29
Valerie Larson	3-29
Vontrice Lavicka	3-30
Elizabeth Fischer	3-30
Fred Zabel	3-31
- and Anniversaries	
M/M Wayne Welsh	3-17
M/M Curtis Cronin	3-22
M/M David Maskel	3-22
M/M Matt Tribley	3-28

Salvation Army

New day Same hours

Salvation Army, Food Pantry, and Clothing will begin new hours on Tuesday, March 1st. Hours will remain the same – 4:30-6:00 p.m.



ST. PETER'S FOOD PANTRY

Food will no longer be given out during church office hours. The second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m.-noon the food pantry and clothing will be available – but not Salvation Army.



Worship Participants for March 2016

Primary Council Member: Gene Mortensen

Secondary Council Member: Valerie Larson

March 6, 2016

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Reader: Carol Clavey

Greeters: Carol Clavey

March 13, 2016

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Reader:

Greeters:

March 20, 2016

Palm Sunday

Reader:

Greeters:

March 27, 2015

Easter Sunday

Reader:

Greeters:



WE ARE IN NEED OF READERS AND GREETERS FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!

Please sign up in the narthex or phone the church office if you can serve on the above open dates. Thank you!

A special thank you to all the worship participants who served in February!

READERS AND GREETERS ARE NEEDED FOR APRIL TOO!

Sign-up sheets will be posted in the narthex. Please choose a date when you can serve and sign-up today! **Your participation in our worship services enhances the worship experience.**