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June 2016



St. Peter's Reformed Church

314-320 E. Grandview Avenue Zelienople, PA 16063 (724) 452-8120 stpzelie.org

"In-God-iastic!" Is There Such a Thing?

"Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You ..." - Psalm 40:16

Friends at St. Peter's,

One of my favorite shows on television has become "Shark Tank." I really love the entrepreneurial spirit of the inventors that come on the show and do their best to coax the 'sharks' to invest in their ideas for a stake in their company. Some of the ideas are crazy and out-there! Some are incredibly practical and useful! Some get what they are seeking and many leave with their tails between their legs after being scolded by the sharks for not having the 'business savvy' to be a success. Sharks like Kevin O'Leary, aptly dubbed "Mr. Wonderful", is hardly wonderful when he grills prospective entrepreneurs about business perspectives, gross sales, and an elevated net worth of their businesses. Shark Lori Greiner is a retail guru with QVC who has an eye for what will and will not sell. She currently holds the title for being the most successful investor in a product invented by Aaron Krause called "Scrub Daddy." Scrub Daddy is a small yellow, lemon scented scrubber that is able to reach hard to get places and won't scratch surfaces.

I remember watching this guy's enthusiasm and remarking to myself ... 'How can one guy get so excited over a scrubber?' Then before Lori made her offer she remarked, "Aaron, you seem so excited about Scrub Daddy." And I was enamored at Aaron's response, "If you found something that changed your life, wouldn't you be enthusiastic about it?" What a great question.



HOW'S YOUR ENTHUSIASM?

Enthusiasm is an interesting word. It comes from two Greek words, *en Theos* meaning *in God*. Enthusiasm is literally "in-God-iasm." So, are you in God? Is He in you? Have you been forever touched by His power and

grace? Are you going to heaven when you die? If so, does it not stand to reason that you be EXCITED about all that!?

If Aaron Krause can get psyched about a scrubber, how much more excited and enthusiastic should God's people be who have been saved by His grace and have the Holy Spirit living inside? We ought to be the most enthusiastic people on the planet.

Norman Vincent Peale said, "Years wrinkle the skin, but a lack of enthusiasm wrinkles the soul." Have you lost your enthusiasm? Is your soul wrinkled today? The time is now to get it back! And how do you do that? By seeking Jesus and focusing on what you have in Him!

This month marks the beginning of my sabbatical (June 13th). To say that I am enthusiastic about spending time with God and with my family is an understatement. However, unlike the entrepreneurs coming before the 'sharks' looking for investors, I am a humble pastor, coming before a powerful, loving God, looking to reignite my passion and love for His Church. I am "in-God-iastic" about what God is going to do with me, through me, and in me. I'm "in-God-iastic" about the vision He will lay upon my heart regarding the direction He wishes me to take St. Peter's.

Psalm 40:16 states, "Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let those who love Your salvation say continually, 'The Lord be magnified!'" God wants you and me to seek Him and to be excited and enthusiastic in the search! He wants us to rejoice in Him, to rejoice in His goodness and His grace.

May I encourage you, as I plan on doing over the course of the sabbatical, to take time and do just that? Tell someone about how good God has been to you. Boast and brag on your Savior who died for you. Let Jesus know how grateful and thankful you are for all He has done for you. Ask Him to change your life each day, to help you act and react like Jesus. He will answer that prayer because He wants you to be like Him. I look forward to coming back in September more "in-Godiastic" than ever! Can you imagine if we all were? WOW!

"In-God-iastically" yours, Pastor Jim





Sabbatical Update

In an effort to keep the congregation informed about Pastor Jim's upcoming Sabbatical, scheduled for June 13—September 6, here is some final details to make you feel well taken care of in his absence.

Wow! It's hard to believe that June is here and I will be taking off on the three month sabbatical granted by you the congregation. In the past two months, I have listed for you the supply pastors that will be filling in for me as well as a schedule of events that I have planned over the course of my time away. According to A. Richard Bullock of the Alban Institute, "Sabbath keeping and sabbatical leave are part of a rhythm of life intended to refresh and renew all of creation so that all of creation will continue to reflect the face and will of God."

This rhythm of life includes ceasing; ceasing not only from work itself, but also from the need to accomplish and be productive, from worry and tension, from efforts to be in control and from the humdrums of daily ministry! It includes embracing; embracing time instead of space, and giving instead of requiring. This time will enable me to embrace my call once again and cling to Jehovah Jireh (God the Provider), Yahweh (God the Covenant Keeper), and Jehovah Shalom (God our Peace)! It also includes feasting; feasting on the fun and festivity of reconnecting with family and savoring the sounds of joy from fellowshipping with loved ones! In an effort to not lose the joy, focus and meaning of ministry, this sabbatical will realign those qualities enabling me to forge forward into the future with renewed vision and hope.

Please know that during my absence, I will not only be praying for God's leading and guidance for my leadership and ministry at St. Peter's, but I will also be praying for each one of you. I will have the current directory with me and will be lifting you each up before the Lord. I will be praying that God will use you to make an impact for the kingdom and that God will direct you in how you can make a difference at our church and in our community. May your hearts be open and receptive to His leading as I plan to be.

In the event of you needing pastoral care during my absence, the Elders of St. Peter's are prepared to step up to the plate and assist you with your immediate needs. I have also lined up two of my local pastor friends, Pastor Pete Everett (Grace Church of Harmony) and Pastor Reid Moon (Zelienople Church of Christ) to assist with any pastoral emergencies. Please contact Sheri McMaster, church secretary, for contact information for the Elders or outside pastoral contact.

Thank you again for the wonderful opportunity! I am humbled by the prospect of what God is going to do. I'm energized by knowing that my time away spent with Him will reignite the embers of passion for His people and accomplishing His will on earth. I covet your prayers and look forward to coming back in September full of vision and bursting with love for God and His church.

CONSISTORY UPDATE

Treasurer's Report:

Sheri McMaster presented the treasurer's report for Janet Rogan in her absence. The beginning checkbook balance was \$155,616.64 and the ending balance was \$151,907.03. The budget is still looking good for the year, as we have spent only 33% of the overall budget.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Jim would like to bring in new members on June 12, they are as follows: Cindy Warner, Tracy Kelosky, Derek Richards, Jeff and Becky Bichler. Pastor Jim then asked for approval to bring in the 2016 confirmation class into membership this coming Sunday, May 15th. The Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute is looking for St. Peter's to host a regional "Soul Shop" workshop for Suicide Prevention in late October or early November. Pastor Jim is entertaining the idea of a Widowers Group in the fall to have something for men of the church who have lost their wives, such as social activities with a spiritual element, this would be a quarterly event. Pastor Jim along with Pam's guidance would like to host a "Blue Christmas" worship event (for all in the community) in early December for those who have lost loved ones 2016 and this would be a joint effort with Boylan Funeral Home.

Youth Director, Christian Ed:

Denise just had a Christian Ed. Board meeting and they discussed plans for the end of year Sunday school party, (Sunday, June 5th) it is going to be a lot of fun, a little different this year and the board is very exciting about it. Denise gave out a Mission Trip update about what they will be doing there, background information on Wetumpka, Alabama, this place offers activities and projects such as cleanup projects and they will be working closely with YouthWorks who helps with multiple communities throughout the area. The town has a lot of poverty and they need a lot of help to shine the light of Christ. There are 17 people going, 13 teens and 4 adults. We will be having a car wash fundraiser on May 21st at the church. Willing Workers is going well, but we are going to put a pause on it for the month of May and start back up in June.

Trustee's Report:

Cath Rape brought up the need for signage outside the church in 3 different areas, signs by the back door (elevator) to fellowship hall another sign out by the back door educational building and one more on the Boylan's side. We would probably use Sign Innovations, get a maintenance free type of signs and tie in with the color of canopy. We would also like to see the new logo tied into them somehow, at least for the sign board out front. Cath Rape was asked to go ahead get quotes on these 3 or 4 outside signs.

CPR: Pastor Jim mentioned that Chuck Nelson is in the process of putting together all the documentation that is needed by our CPR committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri McMaster, Consistory Secretary





412 Summer Schedule 2016

June

Sunday, June 5: Kick-Off to summer! Game night and Ask Anything @ McMaster's 5:00-8:00

Saturday, June 11: Mission Team Only-Training and Meeting @ Geis' 3:00-7:00

June 20-24: VBS

<u>July</u>

Sunday, July 10: Game Night and Ask Anything @ Flood's 5:00-8:00

July 16-23: Mission Trip to Wetumpka, Alabama

Friday, July 29: Matthew Kraynik starring in Aladdin @ Comtra Theater

Sunday, July 31: Hiking and Geocaching with Ed McGuinness- right after church

<u>August</u>

Sunday, August 14: Wild n Wet- Water Games

Sunday, August 21: Mission Trip Service in Church

*There WILL be impromptu Wednesdays where we will be serving with Feed My Sheep and other local organizations! When those come up, you will be notified by Denise!



KITS 4 KIDS ~ Southwest Butler County Food Bank

Did you know that 1 in 7 people in Pennsylvania goes hungry? The Southwest Butler County Food Bank services the immediate area of Zelienople Borough, Harmony Borough, Jackson Twp. and Middle Lancaster Twp., by helping households stretch their income by providing basic household food items. This summer, we are looking to extend that service even further.

Seneca Valley offers lunches, to kids that qualify, at a discounted rate or no cost through the National School Lunch Program. However, families have an increased cost through the summer while the kids are home and more active.

Families with school age children will receive extra meals and snacks to help assist them through the summer. The program, Kits 4 Kids, will be running from June through September. Items will be distributed during the standard distribution night each month. No preregistration is needed for this program.

We are asking for help from your organization. This is not to replace the existing items the Food Cupboard needs on a monthly basis, this is in addition. Below are a list of items that we are looking for. Please note, we are trying to provide a healthy variety to the children. We are looking for items specifically wrapped in **single serving** sizes. Items can be dropped off in the church's existing food bin for the Food Cupboard.

Non-Perishables Food Items:

Jell-O (with or without fruit)

Fruit Cups or Squeezes

Granola or Breakfast Bars

Cereal Boxes

Instant Oatmeal

Fruit Snacks

Sandwich Crackers (i.e. Lance Crackers)

Sun Chips or Pretzels (Avoiding Traditional Chips)

Chef Boyardee

Mac N' Cheese

Juice Boxes or Pouches (100% Real Juice)

Peanut Butter/Jelly (Regular Size or Individual)

Perishables:

Lunchables

Milk Cartons

Cheese Snacks

Yogurts

Non-Food Items:

Sun Screen

Bug Spray

Perishable foods are to be dropped off only after being coordinated with the Food Bank Director

Thank you,

Sara Jacobs

Volunteer

Sharon Klaiber

Director

LIBRARY NOTES

June, 2016



Greetings from St. Peter's library. Hopefully summer is finally on it's way. I have some new books to tell you about, and hopefully all of you will be interested enough to at least come and look on the shelves of our library for some summer reading.

I have several new books to tell about:

Gary and Shirley Knauff have donated several books dedicated to and in memory of three wonderful and God fearing women... Evelyn Breon, Lois Frazier and May Lutz. They are as follows:

GRACE by Max Lucado, this book tells us about God's grace is more than we deserve and greater than we can imagine.

BEFORE AMEN by Max Lucado, the power of simple prayer... join the author on a journey to the very heart of biblical prayer and the power unleashed with six simple lines: FATHER, YOU ARE GOOD; I NEED HELP; THEY NEED HELP; THANK YOU; IN JESUS NAME, AMEN.

Another book given by Gary and Shirley Knauff in memory of Twila Ritzert.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER LIFE? by Ron Rhodes, this book contains 21 amazing revelations about Heaven and Hell.

THE STORY, this book is one continuing "story" of God and his people using selections from the NIV Bible. It is NOT a Bible. The forward is by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee. There is also a study guide by Randy Frazee.

FAMILY MATTERS by Charles Swindoll, this book tells of investing in the things that last (family and other things as well).

BEAUTIFUL ON THE MOUNTAIN by Jeannie Light, she kept a .44 and a Bible at the ready because when there was trouble in Graves Mill, God sent the most unlikely answer. She took on the job of rebuilding "the old church" knowing that was why God took her there.

Have a great summer everyone. Come and see our library on the second floor of the church building by the openings to the balconies.

Sandy Nolte, Librarian

St. Peter's would like to recognize all our high school, college, technical/trade school graduates in the July Newsletter. If you would like to have your son or daughter acknowledged, please let Sheri know as soon as possible by email at smcmaster@stpzellie.org and please give her any information regarding which school your child attended and what his/her future plans are. If possible, please also submit a graduation picture. **The deadline for submitting all information and pictures is Monday, June 20. Thank You!**





Volunteer Ministry News From the pen of Pam





Spotlight on "Dorcas Circle"

The Dorcas Circle continues to be very capably led by Betty Lighthiser, who is one of the original members of our church's sewing group. As a ministry that truly touches lives both inside and outside of St. Peter's, they serve to be the 'hands and feet of Jesus' as they reach out to the least, the lost, and the lonely in tangible ways. Here are some examples of their ministry in action: they make 'comfort' items for our shut-in members, local nursing homes, and the Butler VA Hospital – they have also donated items to Bethlehem Haven (a women's homeless shelter in Pittsburgh), VOICe in Cranberry and Butler, and also made things that were able to be given out on previous church mission trips. They make items such as eyeglass cases, neck pillows, quilted throws, and walker and wheelchair tote bags. They always have items available, and if you know of someone who needs an item (the person doesn't need to be a church member), please feel free to visit the Dorcas Circle room (located on the second floor above the sanctuary) and take what you need. All they ask is that you sign the sheet on the clipboard, as they do keep track of how many/what type of items they distribute. The Dorcas Circle members have been very grateful for those people who have donated fabric and other needed materials, and if you have materials that you think they can use, Betty and the other ladies will be most appreciative (you can just bring them to church).

There will not be structured meeting times at the church during the summer, but they will be meeting on Tuesday, June 7, at 9:30 in their upstairs room. If you are interested in contributing, but cannot come to that meeting or any meetings, don't worry — most of the crafting and sewing is done at home. When meetings are held, they are for the purposes of catching up with one another, planning future projects, bringing items in and sorting them for distribution, and having a devotional time.

If Dorcas Circle sounds like a volunteer ministry that you would like to be part of because of the significant contributions that they make and the wonderful fellowship that they enjoy, please contact Betty Lighthiser (724-452-6861) or call or email me at the church office (724-452-8120).

P.S. An interesting additional fact about the Dorcas Circle is that ever since the group began in 2006, they have distributed approximately 2000 items!!!

(continued) Volunteer Ministry News From the pen of Pam

A ministry that blesses St. Peter's littlest ones!!



A very important part of our outreach to our young parents and their babies is our Cradle Roll department. Serving faithfully as our Cradle Roll coordinator is Flo Gross, who took over the responsibility of this ministry from Isabelle Hendren in 2006. After getting the information about a child's birth from the church office, Flo connects with the parents in several ways, starting with giving them a card signifying that their child is enrolled in the Cradle Roll of St. Peter's at the time of the child's baptism/dedication; at this time she also puts a card with the child's name on the Cradle Roll board located currently in the cry room. She also keeps in touch by sending birthday cards to the children for their first and second birthdays (and sometimes their third as well). Then at age three, each child is entered into our nursery Sunday school class, where we hope and anticipate that they will become involved in a lifetime of learning about and loving the things of God by being part of our Christian Education department. Flo maintains that all of this is done for the glory of God and in honor of each new life that comes into our St. Peter's family, and having our little ones as members of our Cradle Roll department lets the parents know that our church takes very seriously our role in helping each child grow in 'the nurture and admonition of the Lord.' We thank Flo for her ten years of service to this important ministry and pray God's blessing upon her as she continues on!



Mark your calendars!

The Senior Choir will be presenting the cantata

"A Patriot Salute"
Sunday, July 3 during our morning worship service

This inspiring collection of patriotic songs has been artfully created and arranged by Mason Brown and Luke Gambill and the message really speaks to the love of God and country, a message that is so necessary for all to hear in the United States today, particularly as our country approaches the fifteenth anniversary of 9-11 in just a few short months. The cantata includes some newer patriotic songs as well as some classic ones along with a most stirring and poignant piece called "Salute to Soldiers". There will be a free-will offering

taken at the end of the service that will be designated for the Butler VA Hospital. Please plan to come so that you can show your own love of God and country and invite someone else who will also be inspired as they take part in this meaningful worship service, especially as it will be held the day before our family and community 4th of July celebrations!!



THANK YOU'S

Dear Church Family,

I wish to thank all of you who sent me cards and good wishes for my birthday. It was very thoughtful of you to remember me in so many nice ways and make this day an extra special day. Thanks again for remembering me on this special milestone in my life.

Sincerely yours, Ruth Toth

Hands Helping Hearts

Jesus didn't come to be served, HE came to SERVE.



THE GREATEST AMONG YOU MUST BE A SERVANT. MATTHEW 23:11 NLT

There will be no Community Dinners for the months of June, July or August.

See you all again on September 9, 2016.

LUNCHEON FOR PASTOR JIM AND KENDRA ~ PLEASE JOIN US!!

Save the Date: Please join us on **Sunday, June 12**th after our worship service in the fellowship room for a luncheon, a time of fellowship and a good sendoff for Pastor Jim and Kendra on their sabbatical. The luncheon is free, but we ask that you bring one dessert per family to share.

SUMMER COMMUNION OFFERING

St. Peter's will be having our summer communion on Sunday, June 12th. This month's communion offering is going to support Southwest Butler County Food Bank, specifically for their **Kits 4 Kids summer program**. You can read more about the program in this month's newsletter.





Sunday School End of the Year Luau June 5th 9:00-10:00



It's crazy to think that our Sunday School year is coming to close for the 2015-16 year. What a great year we've had. From opening off the year with the reveal of the new Sunday School building and learning that we are all STARS in God's Story, to the production of Twas the Light at Christmas featuring all of the younger classes, and now we will conclude with a Luau on June 5.

While every year we end with trivia and games at the final party, we are doing something different this year. Our luau will include a hot breakfast with ham, cooked veggies, Hawaiian rolls, fruit salad, yogurt, assorted cereals for the younger students, and coffee and juice. We will enjoy a time of fellowship and conclude with a short skit where we will meet missionaries on their first trip abroad and learn from them what it means to be the church. As we prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming summer, may we remember that WE are the hands and feet of Jesus and are called to be the church in this broken world!

Youth Mission Trip Summer 2016

It is almost time for St. Peter's Youth to embark on their summer mission trip! A group of 13 students and 4 adults are set out to serve the town of Wetumpka, Alabama. We are partnering with YouthWorks, who has been serving alongside youth and families all over the country for over 20 years! We will be gone from July 16-23. Please see below to learn more about where we are serving and what we will be doing!



About Wetumpka

Wetumpka, The City of Natural Beauty, is a small community just about 10 miles north of Montgomery, Alabama, and right on the Coosa River. It is home to around 6,500 people and is in one of the fastest growing counties in the country. It is a community with a diverse population, including the Porch Creek Native American Tribe. Wetumpka has a rich history, starting with its location — it is said that the town itself sits in a crater formed by a meteor ages ago. It is also home to an old French Fort, and the blockbuster movie *Big Fish* was filmed here. Wetumpka is a community where the majority of those who live under the poverty line are either elderly or young families with children. At the same time it is also a quiet and loving town where people care about one another and desire to help those in need.

What we will be doing

Throughout the week, we will help facilitate a Kids Club at a local church, participate in work projects and serve with organizations seeking to meet the needs of the community. One of the regular service partners in Wetumpka is Adullam House, a home for children whose parents have been incarcerated, where YouthWorks participants provide much-needed help to the grounds crew and spend time playing with the children who live there. In the evenings, we will not only spend time getting to know the community of Wetumpka and worshiping with a local church, but we will also venture into Montgomery for a tour of the Rosa Parks Museum and a visit to the first church that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., pastored. We will be challenged by Wetumpka's history, inspired as we serve, and encouraged by the wonderful community that has taken an active role in YouthWorks' involvement there!

Happy June Anniversary to:

Ralph & Ruth Gross ~ June 14 ~ 56 years Bob & Judy Marshall ~ June 18 ~ 50 years



Happy June Birthday to:

Arlene McCandless ~ June 20 ~ 83 years young Delores (Susie) Rape ~ June 21 ~ 83 years young Annabelle Davey ~ June 24 ~ 86 years young Ralph Gross ~ June 27 ~ 86 years young



Women's Ministry News

St. Peter's Women's Ministry and guests met on Saturday, May 14th for the "Daughters' of the King" Banquet. We enjoyed a delicious buffet prepared by Nancy Korczynski, had a great time of fellowship & were entertained by the talented Cindy Speck (ventriloquist) with her puppets.

We will meet on Saturday, June 12, 2016 at 10 am in the fellowship room for a business meeting and to assist in setting up the fellowship room for the luncheon in honor of Pastor Jim as he begins his Sabbatical. Our Women's Ministry has been asked to help with the luncheon on Sunday, June 13th which will be following the church service. Please plan to attend the Saturday meeting and lend a helping hand. If you are unable to attend on Saturday, but would like to help serve the luncheon or clean up on Sunday, please notify Marla Clouse at 724-622-2264.

As noted last month, we will not be collecting Plastic grocery bags for the Mats for the homeless throughout the summer. You may collect them on your own, cut them into strips, & loop the strips to wrap into a ball. The balls may be deposited in the breeze way near the food cupboard collection area so that the ladies crocheting the mats may have them.

Thank you for your continued support with these projects.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO Saturday Women's Ministry meetings in the months of July or August.

Blessings,

Marla Clouse





June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Head Usher For June Ginni Smoke Pastoral Assistant For June Gene Lee			1 9am Prayer Group 7pm Senior Choir 7pm The Journey ~ Fellowship Rm.	2 11:30am Ministerium ~ Fellowship Room 5pm Video Announcements ~ Parish House 6:30pm Mission Trip Team Leaders mtg. ~ Parish House	3	4 1pm Sunday School Breakfast Setup ~ F.R.
9am Sunday School End of Year Party ~ Fellowship Rm. 5-8pm 412 Event Games and Ask Anything ~ McMaster house 6pm Prayz Him practice ~ Sanctuary	6	7 7pm Elder's Mtg. ~ Parish House	9am Prayer Group 7pm Senior Choir 7pm The Journey ~ Fellowship Rm.	5pm Video Announcements ~ Parish House	10	11 10am Women's Ministry Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room 3-7 pm Mission Trip Team Training ~ Geis house
12 Summer Communion 12:00pm Luncheon for Pastor Jim & Kendra ~ Fellowship Rm. 6pm Prayz Him practice ~ Sanctuary	13	14 7pm Consistory Mtg. (All welcome) ~ Ed. Bldg.	9am Prayer Group 7pm Senior Choir Cantata 7pm The Journey ~ Fellowship Rm. 7pm AFSP Support Group ~ Ed. Bldg.	9am WIC ~ Ed. Bldg. 5pm Video Announcements ~ Parish House	17	18 8:30am Prayz Him practice ~ Sanctuary
19 Happy Father's Day	20 6-8:30pm VBS	21 6-8:30pm VBS	9am Prayer Group 6-8:30pm VBS	5pm Video Announcements ~ Parish House 6-8:30pm VBS	24 6-8:30pm VBS	25
26	2 7	28	29 9am Prayer Group 7pm Senior Choir Cantata 7pm The Journey ~ Fellowship Rm.	30 5pm Video Announcements ~ Parish House		



Please join us this summer at St. Peter's for our Cave Quest VBS! June 20-24, 2016 from 6:00-8:30pm Preschool age-5th Grade Welcome

Child's Name:				
Parent/Guardians Name:			-	
Child's Date of Birth:				
Grade in School (15-16):				
Address:				_
Phone Number:				
Email address:				
Allergies or other conditions we				
Emergency Contact name and I				
I, the undersigned parent or gu to my child upon consent of a S authorization is to permit my cl with St. Peter's Reformed Chur be effective from June 20-24, 2	St. Peter's Reformed Church s hild to receive emergency me ch or when I or my emergenc	taff member or designated vedical attention when needed	olunteer. The purpose of the while involved in the active	his vities connected
Signature:	Date:			