



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Ashtabula, Ohio

The St. Peter's EPISTLE

July-August 2011

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Ashtabula, Ohio

The Story of Independence Day and America's Birthday

Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing the US consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

In April 1775 as the King's troops advanced on Concord, Massachusetts, Paul Revere would sound the alarm that "The British are coming, the British are coming" as he rode his horse through the late night streets.

The battle of Concord and its "shot heard round the world" would mark the unofficial beginning of the colonies war for Independence.

The following May the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. For almost a year the congress tried to work out its differences with England, again without formally declaring war.

By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28. After various changes a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, Two colonies, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained.

To make it official, John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is said that John Hancock signed his name "with a great flourish" so "King George could read that without spectacles!"

The following day copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after its inscription---***Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof.***

Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence. The first Independence Day celebration took place the following year – July 4, 1777. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. And although fireworks have been banned in most places because of their danger, most towns and cities usually have big firework displays for all to see and enjoy.

From <http://www.holidays.net/independence/story.htm>

COMMUNION BACK TO ALTAR RAIL AND WAFERS

During Lent and Easter we were so fortunate to have several men come forward and bake our communion bread. We are returning to wafers for Pentecost. We are also returning to the Altar Rail for communion.

One of the benefits some have experienced recording communion at the crossing is accessibility. An additional blessing experienced by many is our practice of prayer for each other as we come forward. Now that we are returning to the altar, please don't stop praying for each other. Communion is both personal and corporate, so these prayers are most appropriate. Notice, I didn't use the word "private" when describing communion. While we each experience God's presence privately in communion, receiving common is not private, rather it is a personal act shared within community. Something to think about. Father David

REQUEST FOR EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

We need your help! We simply have too many people who are homebound due to age, illness or other situations. We need your help to bring them Holy Communion. While the goal is to have every member receive communion at least once a month, we cannot do this without many others to help. Please mention your interest to Peter Bean or myself. We will be conducting private training sessions for anyone who is interested. These will be arranged according to your schedule so please say yes to this very rewarding opportunity. Fr. David



PAGING SYSTEM FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

As we continue to grow we are finding both the number of children in church growing as well. This presents us with a novel situation. Our emphasis is on helping families, moms, dads and children grow in their faith.

Some things simply can't be understood by children in church. Some things can't be understood outside a worship experience. So in the fall, or earlier, we will be offering Christian Education for children who are between the ages of 3 to 6 in the Parish Hall or perhaps upstairs in the Christian Education room. (Ask to see this spacious Children's room!)

But this space has one significant drawback. It's so far from the sanctuary. Our solution for this distance has been to purchase an individual paging system for parents, children and their teachers. It will work in this way. Each parent will receive a text pager that both "beeps" and also displays a text message. This way parents will know how their children are doing, and also

if their child needs assistance our parents will receive a personal message. Thanks to St. Peter's Foundation for this assistance. Father David

CHILDREN SERMON BEGINNING AGAIN

We are continuing with the Children's Sermon. This started Trinity Sunday and will continue through until Christmas. Can you give me some feedback about these messages? Parents, ask your children about what they understood. I'm trying to make faith relevant to children and your comments as to what works are invaluable. Father David

CHANGE IN WORSHIP

There will be a small change in worship during the summer months. Let me tell you what and why you will soon experience something slightly different at St. Peter's.

What you will experience is our Licensed Worship Leaders leading the first part of the worship service. This is the part where we read the scriptures, offer prayers and conclude with the peace. Following the Peace, I will continue with communion as we have done.

Here is why we are making this change. Really there are two reasons. First, our Licensed Worship Leaders simply need more practice. Second, but more than this, we need to develop a group of worship leaders who are both called and comfortable leading worship. Years ago there were several churches in the county. This should not have taken place. And while we cannot go back in time and undo the loss that many have felt due to the closing of churches in both Jefferson and Conneaut, we can move forward and plant small worships in these and other communities. The people trained as Licensed Worship Leaders may be one such group that can make such things happen. So in a significant way, our small change in the beginning part of the service has the potential for making a huge difference in other communities.

Father David

AED IN SERVICE

The Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) donated to St. Peter's Church by Community Care Ambulance Network (CCAN) is ready for use. Amy Bernato and Jonathan Richardson from CCAN came June 27th for a training and demonstration session with the unit. A short video was shown followed by a question and answer period and then hands on training.

Those participating were Father David, Jim & Norma Carlson, Larry & Marian Hughes, Larry & Marguerite Seymore, Dave Kozak, Ann Balog, Pam and myself and from Share-A-Home Jill Jenner & Emily Henton. All found the training interesting and informative. A question was asked about people who do not wish to have an AED used to "bring them back." If you have a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) or other advance directives, please provide a copy to the church office and we, of course, will honor that.

At this time, I'm not sure when the other AED will arrive, but Pam Bean is an AHA BLS Instructor and will be conducting a first aid/CPR certification class at the church. Finally, thank you to Community Care Ambulance for the donation and my partner on the AED Committee, Rick Balog, as well as the KEN Heart Foundation and St. Peter's Living Memorial Fund for their contribution to this project as well as ILSF for the second AED.

Pete Bean

CPR/FIRST AID CLASS



There will be a CPR/First Aid class taught by Pam Bean on Saturday, July 30th from 10 a.m. to Noon in Parish Hall. Class is limited to 10 persons and cost is \$10 each. Please sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office if you are interested.

* We have acquired an AED and it is stored in the hallway between the church and church offices. It is important that we learn CPR because chest compressions are used along with the AED.

ST. PETER'S SYMPOSIUM

Friends, thank you for attending the first Symposium on June 25th. Over 50 people attended and was a time where members and new members got to know more about the church and her many, many ministries.

The meeting was opened with prayer and testimonies. There followed an opportunity for all in attendance to explore the various ministries in the Church. People were encouraged to visit with representatives of the many ministries in St. Peter's (Altar Guild, Acolytes, Lectors, Intercissors/Prayers, Eucharistic/Visits, Columbarium, Hosts/Name Tags, Choir, Child Care, Christian Education, Dress/Food, Cameras/Security, and Fish Groups) to see where their talents could be best utilized, according to their interests and talents.

A big thank you goes out to all participants AND to the food committee, who prepared a delicious lunch. There will be more information on this Symposium and what we learned from it in the future.

Our next meeting, November 19th, will also include an afternoon session for those wanting to be welcomed into the church by our bishop on December 9, 2012. In the morning we again will offer another building tour as well as featuring our Sunday Ministries, and also helping connect with our pastoral ministries. In the afternoon we will spend time discussing the Book of Common Prayer, its origins and uses. We are one group that believes that prayer is central to any worship experience. If you are on the journey to full membership, then please attend four of these symposiums before December 2012. (If we are covering something you have already experienced, then please only come in the afternoon.)

Don Loose & Father David



COME JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

Some parishioners were disappointed to hear that Coffee Hour was discontinued during the summer months. So, being the Episcopalians we are, Coffee Hour following 10:00 a.m. service is continuing through the summer. There is a list on the Parish Hall bulletin board where you can sign-up to host the Sunday Coffee Hour of your choice.

Of note, two specific coffee hours are reserved for (1) an Ice Cream Social on July 24th and (2) a Church Pot Luck on August 7th. Ice cream, cake, ice cream toppings, etc are needed for the Ice Cream Social. A list will be posted on the office hallway bulletin board. Any questions please talk with Ernestine Bush (599-2783) or contact the church office at 992-8100.

ST. ELIZABETH, MARY-MARGARET GUILDS

The St. Elizabeth, Mary-Margaret Guilds meet for lunch on the third Wednesday of each month except January and February. Hostess duties rotate through the group either in their homes or in the Guild Room at the Church. We meet for lunch with a prayer at noon and socialize. July 20th and August 17th are the next scheduled luncheons. More information to follow in the Sunday Bulletin. Members include Ernestine Bush, Genevieve Howe, Nettie Weidig, Bernice Altonen, Irene Bertholf, Marguerite Seymour, Diane Podgorny, and Luanne Meinhart.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Child care and Christian education will take on a new look and even a technological component this fall. Watch for dates and more information about changes coming July through September. Please keep this ministry in your prayers that we may serve "the least of these" in Christ's name.

Lorraine Evans

HOSPITAL VISITATION

We're looking for those interested in visiting parishioners who happen to be in the hospital. Please call Connie Dixon at 997-3606 if you'd like to take part in this ministry. Also, if you know of someone in the hospital, let us know by calling the church office at 992-8100 or Connie Dixon.

ST. PETER'S FOUNDATION

The next regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, July 27th at 4:00 p.m. During the month of June the Board approved an expenditure of \$1,500 to Share-A-Home for new sidewalks. Please keep the Foundation in mind as you do your financial planning.

Don Loose, Chair

THANK YOU FROM THE EVENING GUILD

When we have a death in our Parish family and they would like a meal and reception after the service, Father David will call Pat Hazeltine or me and we make a few calls. There is a list of folks who always come through to make the day and the meal very special. We get a lot of wonderful comments from the family and I hope that I thank everyone for helping both with the food and the clean up.

Carol Wardell



Damon Terry Butler was born January 30, 1956, in Cleveland, OH. He had three brothers (Teddy, Bubba, Larry) and two sisters (Fedoll and Elizabeth). He left Cleveland at the age of six years old. Due to difficult financial times, Damon and Larry were placed in a foster home and raised by Mr. & Mrs. Clayborn here in Ashtabula. His brother Larry enlisted in the Navy and made it his career and currently lives in Michigan. Larry & Damon keep in touch with the rest of the family. Damon remained in Ashtabula and worked for a construction company until he was

hit by a train at the North West crossing in 1991. Damon was very seriously injured in that accident and it took one year to recover. He is considered and called *The Walking Miracle of 1991*. Following recovery, Damon returned to work at the construction company and worked there until they went out of business. He then became employed with Topps Grocery Store Chain. He was "Best Employee of the Month" in 2005 and 2006. He really made an impression on the customers and when the store closed their doors, as Damon will point out, "God opened another door" at Seeds Orthopedics. One Sunday morning, Damon was walking through the park when Father David stopped him and introduced himself and invited him into St. Peter's. Damon returned three weeks later and is now a member of our church. Damon says "God must have a plan for me". Don't you agree?

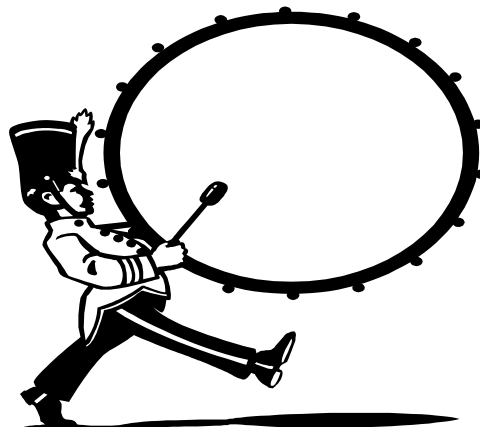


ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Gather those no longer used items and bring them to the Parish Hall beginning in August for the Annual Rummage Sale. The rummage sale will be held September 9th, 10th, and 11th. Remember, one man's trash is another man's treasure! Carol will need help displaying donations, selling merchandise, and cleaning up. Please talk with Carol Wardell for more information (992-9311).

Big Bands on the Beach, Sunday, July 24th, from 4-6 p.m. at Walnut Beach in Ashtabula will feature the Prime Time Big Band performing swing tunes from the 1930s and 1940s. This is free and open to the public. Bring lawn chairs, parasols. Restrooms and Concession available. Rain or Shine. Sponsored by the City of Ashtabula.
Dr. Timothy Kalil

BIG BANDS ON THE BEACH



CELEBRATE STUDENTS TREATED TO A 'CALVARY' DAY

Thanks to the generosity *and* hard work of the Sheldon Calvary Camp counselors and Director Tim Green, a St. Peter's parishioner, the CELEBRATE students of the Ashtabula Area City Schools will be treated to a day of fun and faith on Tuesday, July 5th at the camp where we traditionally hold our church picnic.

At the end-of-the-year meal for CELEBRATE students sponsored by Great Music without Barriers with money provided by the National Church Jubilee Grant, Tim Green came and invited students to come to Sheldon Calvary Camp. CELEBRATE'S overseeing umbrella, After School Discovery, offered to help with recruiting students to attend. Apparently, that was not a difficult task, for 25 students jumped at the chance. Upon further consideration, After School Discovery will pick up the students at their homes, transport them to the camp and then return them home after what promises to be a fun-filled day for youngsters who might not otherwise have the chance to experience a camp. Please keep all involved in your prayers.

The St. Peter's Church Foundation supports Sheldon Calvary Camp with generous donations that are to be used for students who, first and foremost, have contact with St. Peter's Church.

Roger Smith

MISSION GROUP REASSEMBLING

We're starting to plan our next mission trip! Are you interested in traveling next year on a mission project outside the Ashtabula area? If you are, then you won't want to miss our first meeting on Sunday, July 17th following the 10 a.m. service (about 12:30 p.m.).

One of the things required BEFORE anyone travels with us on a mission trip is our working together on a local mission trip. This year we are planning to finish the work started last year at Share-A-Home. While the date for this project is not set, we need to schedule it soon.

Father David

YARNING CIRCLE

The ladies of the Yarning Circle continue to meet on Tuesdays from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Guild Room. We are working on blankets and prayer shawls to distribute to the women and children who will be residents at Beatitude House when it opens later this year. Please join us for fellowship. Novices are welcome – we have plenty of hands willing to help you learn how to knit or crochet, if you so desire!

Martha Shippy

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee meets seasonally with Father David to discuss our church services, our music, how we use our worship space--whether we should celebrate inside or outside, where we have communion--the use of the Book of Common Prayer, children's sermons, involvement of readers, acolytes, the bulletin, ante-communion, morning prayer, and special services of the church. We discuss other topics as they arise through conversation with parishioners.

This is not a committee with its own agenda; we talk, we listen, we share. Anyone who would like to sit with that committee should make her/himself known to Father David or to Marguerite in the office.



STUDENTS FROM BELIZE WILL BE HERE!

As the Dioceses of Ohio and Belize seek to establish an Episcopal relationship, eight students from Belize and their chaperones have been invited to spend a week at Cedar Hills, the Diocese of Ohio summer camp. Following that week of camping, the students and their chaperones will be housed in the Western and Eastern parts of the Diocese from August 7th to August 14th.

Our Vestry and our Mission Team have requested that St. Peter's be allowed to host at least two students and their chaperone(s). Additionally, to support the work of the Diocese and to further validate the work done in Belize by our super Mission Team, the Vestry has chosen to pay for a week at camp for one student and to contribute toward the airfare for that student. The total amount tendered to the Diocese of Ohio from funds remaining in the Mission account will be \$1,000. Please pray that we will be chosen as hosts for some of these youngsters.

Training for those who will house children from Belize will be July 23rd. Jill Mintzloff (Brockway) will again host the seminar "Safeguarding God's Children." We are hoping to host several children this summer from Belize when they attend camp at the end of July. This training IS necessary for those considering being a host family and also for those in an active role of the church where you come in contact with children or receive any financial compensation. The training will begin at 10 a.m. and you will be through by noon. Please call Marguerite to make your reservation (992-8100).

Roger Smith

MULTI-CULTURAL FESTIVAL

The Ashtabula Downtown Development Association welcomes all who wish to participate in its inaugural Multi-Cultural Festival to be held in Downtown Ashtabula Saturday, July 9th. Festivities will begin at 11:00 a.m. with an Ethnic Parade. Heralded as a "cultural sight, sound, and taste explosion" that will CELEBRATE "life in all its diversity", there will be several vendors set up at Lance Corporal Kevin Cornelius Memorial Park & Main Avenue selling a potpourri of items between the hours of 12 noon and 9:00 p.m. Come and check us out!

For more information, visit www.downtownashtabula.com or contact Marty at (216) 262-0138 or Oscar at (440) 992-3700.

Martha Shippy

SHARE-A-HOME UPDATE

Many thanks to Chuck Brockway, Don Loose, and Larry Seymour who have collaborated in an effort to replace the sidewalk in front of Share-A-Home. We have been working for over a year now in an effort to spruce up the front of the facility. Now, with funding made available from St. Peter's Foundation and from the City of Ashtabula, we are closer to our goal of improving the lives of the residents of our facility. Anyone who has traversed the treacherous terrain in front of Share-A-Home and adjacent Marion Drive understands the need.

We are awaiting word from The Episcopal Community Services Foundation in anticipation that we will receive grant funding from the Church Home Grant that was applied for in March. Funding will help both with Operating Expenses and necessary repairs.

Anyone willing to help with painting the front porch of Share-A-Home, please let me (Martha) know at (440) 969-1758. We have the paint and just need a few hands to complete the project within the next few weeks. We will be advertising for new residents and would like to complete this project as soon as possible!

Martha Shippy, Treasurer, Share-A-Home

PERSPECTIVES ON PRAYER III

During a recent excursion to visit J.D.'s mother in Kansas, we spent one Sunday morning attending services at the local Pleasant Valley Mennonite Church in Harper, Kansas. The Scripture for the day was John 10:1-10:

*“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and **THE SHEEP LISTEN TO HIS VOICE**. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and **HIS SHEEP FOLLOW HIM BECAUSE THEY KNOW HIS VOICE**. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.”* Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore, Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

Needless to say, the sermon and children’s sermon both focused on prayer and “listening” for the voice of God. Since this is a rural, farming community, the congregation could easily identify with animals (their own sheep and cattle) that responded readily to their masters’ voices while ignoring all others. More than one individual alluded to this experience as being universal in the relationship of farmer to flock/herd. But – why??? Is it not because the farm animal has become dependent on the farmer for his sustenance – perhaps, in many cases, from birth? It is the result of listening to their masters’ voices daily over a lifetime. These are voices to be trusted.

This is not totally unlike the relationship of God to humankind (his flock). If so, why do I have such trouble discerning what it is God desires of me? Perhaps I need more practice. Perhaps that is why the contemplatives espouse the value of short, frequent, repetitive prayer. We can never pray too often!

Martha Shippy

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

St. Peter’s offers many prayer opportunities that are communal in nature – during worship and in small group settings.

Thank you to several people who have been faithful in praying for the church Sundays between services in the library, about 9:15 a.m. We pray for the services, parishioners, and other concerns Father David gives us. But beyond specific prayers for both people and situations, these people pray for the welfare of each person and the work that God has set before us. So again,

thank you! By the way, there is no long term commitment necessary to participate in this group. If you are available, and are willing to intercede for others, please spend an occasional few minutes with this group. Come join us for this Spirit filled time. It's open to everyone! Anyone having special prayer concerns please contact Cathy Pelton at 294-9175 or Connie Dixon at 997-3606.

Also on Sunday mornings, the contemplative prayer groups meet in the sanctuary at 7:30 a.m. prior to the 8:00 a.m. service and following the 10:00 a.m. service. We have incorporated music into these group sessions, along with using various prayer methods creatively, such as lectio divina, centering prayer, and prayer beads.

Regarding your own individual daily devotions, please explore the use of the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. Daily devotions in the form of Scripture (also known as Daily Office) are found on pages 934 to 1001 in the Book of Common Prayer. This section is divided according to liturgical year – A. B. or C. If you have questions regarding which liturgical year we are presently following, ask Father David, Roger, Marguerite, or Martha. This information is also found on the front of the Sunday bulletin.

Another portion of the Book of Common Prayer is devoted to *Special Prayers and Thanksgivings* (pp. 810-811). On pages 841-2, you will find a Table of Contents with prayers for every topic imaginable – and then some. These may help in your daily prayer life.

PRAYER MINISTRIES

PRAYER CHAIN -- Devoted to prayers for the concerns of our congregation. Anyone desiring to put someone on the prayer chain please contact Eleanor Andrews at 998-3286.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY -- Meets every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Yarning Circle. Blankets/shawls are blessed prior to distribution to those in need.

PRAYER BEAD MINISTRY -- Prayer beads are distributed to those in need. If you know of anyone who might benefit from the gift of prayer beads please contact Martha Shippy (969-1758) or Danielle Weiser-Cline (228-5591). Prayer beads are available for sale in the Bookstore.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY -- NEW!! Coming soon as an outgrowth of the Yarning Circle. Interested parties should contact Martha Shippy at 969-1758!

BOILER COMMITTEE

Rick Balog, Don Loose, and Chuck Brockway and I have reviewed all four quotes submitted for a new boiler/heating system. Maintenance contracts have also been submitted and the boiler committee will be meeting soon to make the final decision.

Larry Seymour, Jr. Warden

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET SUNDAY

Thank you to all who supported Blanket Sunday on May 15th.

St. Peter's was able to send \$148.00.

Ernestine Bush

Canticle of Brother Sun

(The Song of the Creatures)~~St. Francis of Assisi

Most high and most holy, most powerful Lord,
Whom with honor and blessing and praise we acclaim.
No man can be worthy to utter the word,
The Name of thy Name!

Reasons

Some go to church to take a walk;
Some go there to laugh and talk;
Some go there to meet a friend;
Some go there their time to spend;
Some go there to meet a lover;
Some go there a fault to cover;
Some go there for speculation;
Some go there for observation;
Some go there to doze and nod;
The wise go there to worship God.

To thee and thy creatures we proffer our praise:
To our brother the Sun in the heavens ashine,
Who brings us the beauty and joy of our days,
Thy emblem and sign.

We praise thee, O Lord, for our sister the moon
For the stars of the night shining sweetly together,
For our brother the wind, for the bright of the noon,
For all of thy weather.

For our sister the water, so humble and chaste,
For beautiful fire, with his perilous powers,
For our mother the earth, who holds us embraced,
Who delights us with flowers.

Independence Day – July 4th BIBLE STUDY

Our Monday evening Bible Study / Fellowship Group / Book Study will continue but after Lorraine's surgery scheduled on July 27th. Father David

AUGUST 28, 2011
information to follow.

St. Peter's Picnic

More



AFRICAN MINISTRY JEWELRY

Mark Your Calendar...The African Ministry Jewelry will be displayed October 23rd through November 6th. This is an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts early. We are told that this collection is going to more awe inspiring than the last. Can't wait!!!



CHILD CARE

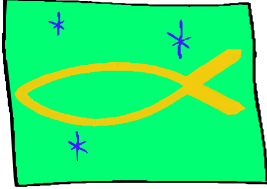


We extend a big thank you to Phyllis Shimko for doing such a wonderful job with child care at the 10 a.m. Sunday service. This nursery care allows more parents to participate in this service. While having more families with children attend the 10 a. m. service is good news for the church, Phyllis is becoming overwhelmed and is in need of child care assistance during the 10 a.m. Sunday service. If you are ages 10-100 and would like to volunteer to help, please say something to Lorraine Evans, Alison Burnham or Cathy Pelton.

FISH GROUPS

Would you like to join a Fish Group? And Fish will not necessarily be on the menu. The basis of Fish Groups is the story of Jesus feeding the masses with loaves and Fishes. Hebrews 10, verses 24 and 25, says "And let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another." Here are some of the reasons to join a Fish Group.

Get to know each another better



Have fun

- Share table fellowship
- Expand and build friendships
- Share our joys, concerns and problems with others
- Grow and spin off another small group
- Enjoy good food
- Welcome newcomers

There are currently five active Fish Groups with approximately 44 people meeting for fun, fellowship and food. Some of the meetings are held in homes and some in restaurants. This is a great format for "connecting" with our fellow members.

If you have an interest in becoming a member of a Fish Group, please call the Church Office or Don and me at home, 964-5549. Mary Kay Loose

TAKING A DAY FOR REST

Lorraine and I are going to be absent from worship at St. Peter's on July 10th. We are either going to spend the time with Lorraine's father in southern Indiana or take a short trip filled with silence. We'll be in church somewhere and pray you will too. Father David

Did You Know...?



**This year July has 5 Fridays 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays.
This apparently happens once every 823 years.**



ST. PETER'S STRICKERS PLAY BALL

Thank you to Danielle Balog for all her hard work in organizing our church softball team. The *St. Peter's Strickers* is one of ten co-ed church league softball teams that play games Tuesday's at Columbus Avenue. Other churches in the league include Geneva United Methodist, Ashtabula Church of God, CDRM, Cherry Valley Nazarene, First Baptist Ashtabula, Jefferson United Methodist Church, New Life Assembly of God, Tri-Parish Catholic Churches of Ashtabula and Pentecostal Community Church.

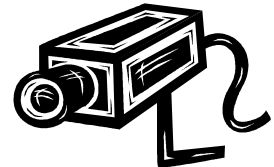
The goal of the league, which has participants ranging from ages 14-72, is to have fun while competing. The league has a very family-oriented atmosphere. Come support the teams. A schedule is posted on the bulletin board.



St. Peter's Strickers



Carrie Dickey and Danielle Balog



SECURITY

For the safety of our church family several security issues have been addressed. Rick Balog ordered outdoor security cameras that he and Jim Carlson installed in the front and back of the church to view parking areas. Dusk to dawn lights have also been installed in the Bishop's Garden and side door to the church. Father David has recommended that parishioners park in the back parking lot and enter the church through the back door. Additional door locks are also being installed. The safety of our church family, and those using the church facilities, is priority #1.

Larry Seymour Jr., Warden

Parent's Day – July 24th



Birthdays and Anniversaries

July				
David & Sharon Kozak	01		Eleanor Palmer	05
Sharon Kozak	05		Grace Dickey	07
John & Sandy Buckel		08	David & Mary Beth Dixon	07
Mary Lou Fowler	08		Larry Meloro	08
Rex Dickey	09		Ruby Cooper	10
Irene Bertholf	10		Tom Fowler	10
Don Loose	11		Tracy Wuori	10
Eleanor Andrews	12		Daniel & Darlene Coursen	14
Alice Merriman	13		Darlene Coursen	15
Carl & Debra Nelson	13		Tom & Mary Lou Fowler	15
Grace Flower	14		Ryan & Stacey Chiles	16
Bill & Connie Dixon	15		Doug & Cyndy Dill	17
Wayne Pelton	20		Roger Shaffer	17
Daniel Coursen	26		Dale & Billy May Theis	17
Fred Schroeder	27		Tom Jackson	18
Chris Podgorny	30		Hazel Phillips	19
Bill Dixon	31		Mary Ellen Pelyhes	21
			Joyce Holt	24
			Sara Hazeltine	27
			Russ Kapalin	27
August			Nettie Weidig	28
Dick & Grace Flower		02	Peter & Pam Bean	29
Tim & Antoinette Green	03		Brian & Pat Van Allen	29
Wayne & Cathy Pelton	04		Jane Regner	30
Tom & Carol Jackson	05			

Thought for the Day

Lot's Wife

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"