

# THE VOICE ON THE HILL

Issue 11 Volume 10

November 2021

## St. Peter's Church

of Coupland, UCC

P.O. Box 146 ~ 108 Wathen St.  
Coupland, TX 78615



### Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Peter's Church of Coupland, recognizing Jesus Christ as the Son of God, invite all to share the joy of God's Word through the Holy Spirit, calling us to community, worship, service and fellowship.

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### Psalm 9:1 NRSV

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

## *In Loving Memory of Those We Lost*

A time of remembrance. **Totenfest** is November 21. We will ring the bell for our loved ones who died since Totenfest 2020. And other loved ones who died will be remembered in the service.



**Robert "Bob" Edgar Rhoades**  
January 31, 2021



**Dennis Wayne Nickel**  
March 11, 2021



**Lisa Jean Gebhardt**  
March 18, 2021

*Revelation 21:4 NRSV*  
*he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."*

**STARK REALITY - November 2021**

November is a month in which our thoughts are directed toward Thanksgiving. It is a time to be particularly aware of what God has provided for the living of our lives. When I think of the holiday of Thanksgiving, I remember wonderful tables full of delicious food. My memory harkens back to times of sharing with family and friends as we gathered around a table, gave God thanks, and shared a common meal of turkey and dressing. It was a time of nourishment not only for the body but for the soul as well.

In terms of feeding our spirits, as a congregation we are fed each time we gather for worship. A worship resource by Ruth Duck picks up this theme in its title, "Bread for the Journey." As people of faith, we derive the strength for our witness from being together as a worshipping community. If we are to continue to make a difference in our community and our world, WE NEED TO MAKE WORSHIP A PRIORITY.

Being together with others on a Sunday morning is not a take it or leave it proposition. Without the regular nourishment of being fed through worship, our community outreach is seriously weakened. If you have been away from worship for whatever reason, I hope and pray that you will consider making a renewed commitment to be present and feel the power of God's rejuvenating Spirit in your life.

Not only are we fed by worship, but we are also fed by our study of the Word. We have resumed our Adult Class on Sunday mornings led by Charlotte Albert. We gather at 9:00 for coffee and begin the study at 9:15. The curriculum follows the lectionary readings which will be used in worship on most Sundays. Please join us in the Conference Room this Sunday for a lively discussion of scripture and what it means for our lives.

Finally, I close with this thought for the season. This year, as I center my thoughts on thanksgiving, I thank God for the gift of each one of you in this household of faith. May God continue to bless you and feed you with the Word, that you will be able to stand fast as a beacon in this community spreading the light of God's love for all of creation!

Peace my friends

Rev. Charles Stark

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**SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES THIS MONTH**

This month will see two very special worship services. One will mark the end of the liturgical year and the other will mark the beginning of a new liturgical year.

**Nov 21 – Last Sunday of Pentecost** On this Sunday we will hold a service of **Totenfest** which is an historically German service which recognizes the passing into the Church Triumphant of those saints of St. Peter's which died in this past year. A family representative will be invited to come forward and light a candle for their loved one and a bell will be tolled for the person being remembered.

**Nov 28 – First Sunday in Advent** This Sunday will see a very special service which involves the **Hanging of the Greens**. I know in the past that this has taken place after worship, but I have a service which will accomplish it during the worship service. It is a very special service filled with Christmas Carols and will involve active participation by the congregation. It will be a service that explains the history behind so many of the symbols which will adorn our sanctuary during this Advent season.



## Election Day

Tuesday, November 2 is election day. St. Peter's Church will serve as one of the voting locations in Williamson County from 7am to 7pm. Please note, unless you are voting, do not enter the Fellowship Hall.



## Senior Luncheon

Our next Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on November 16 11:30 am. We will be serving a Thanksgiving meal so be sure to join us!! There will Bingo and "42" Dominoes played. If you're playing Bingo, don't forget your prizes or gift cards \$10 and under. We hope to see you!

This will be our last luncheon until January 18, 2022 at 11:30 am.

We wish you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!  
Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli  
Co-Chairmen



## Hanging of the Greens

Join us November 28 as we begin the Advent season by decorating the Church Christmas Tree. Everyone is invited to participate.



## Diners Night Out

Diners will not meet in November due to Thanksgiving.

### Our Sick & Shut-Ins:

**Irene Florida:** Shavano Park Senior Living, 3220 North Loop 1604 W, Apt #102 Shavano Park, TX 78231

**Helen Polzin:** The Cottages at Chandler Creek, 2351 North AW Grimes Blvd., Round Rock, TX 78665

**Denny Poldrack:** Will-O-Bell Nursing Home, P.O. Box 107, Bartlett, TX 76511

**Nancy Goodlett:** at home

**Ann Johle:** 1302 TH Johnson Drive, Taylor, TX 76574



### November Birthdays

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1st  | Ruby Wabbel                                   |
| 2nd  | Judy Downing                                  |
| 5th  | Zac Wood                                      |
| 6th  | Dinah Smith                                   |
| 7th  | Hank Smith                                    |
| 8th  | Brandon Dupy                                  |
| 9th  | Peggy Rollins                                 |
| 10th | DeAnna Snell, Regina Eiben, Doyle Lee Harkins |
| 11th | Lance Haag                                    |
| 13th | Isabel Albert                                 |
| 14th | Aleshia Harkins, Alice Finn                   |
| 16th | Rex Snell                                     |
| 17th | Scott Allen, Dawn Fischer                     |
| 22nd | Jonathan Barker                               |
| 23rd | Terry Kuntschik                               |
| 24th | Matt Eiben                                    |
| 25th | Sandra Wernli, Lindsey Reyes                  |





**Giving for September 26**

**Regular Offering: \$2,209**

**Special/Designated Offerings:**

Evangelism & Member Care \$62

LIFT \$50

Memorials \$35

**Church Attendance: Adults: 32 Kids: 0**

**Giving for October 3**

**Regular Offering: \$3,165**

**Special/Designated Offerings:**

Christian Education \$87

Neighbors in Need \$310

Donation from Pre-K Teacher \$100

New Horizon - sale of playground slide \$300

**Church Attendance: Adults: 34 Kids: 0**

**Giving for October 10**

**Regular Offering: \$3,032**

**Special/Designated Offerings:**

Neighbors in Need \$102

New Horizon \$1,000

Adopt-A-Child \$360

**Church Attendance: Adults: 44 Kids: 0**

**Giving for October 17**

**Regular Offering: \$2,960**

**Special/Designated Offerings:**

Salvation Army Taylor Service Unit \$47

New Horizon \$1,000

Adopt-A-Child \$360

**Church Attendance: Adults: 37 Kids: 1**

**Offertory information for Sunday October 24 will be available in next months newsletter.**

**Church Attendance for October 24:**

**Adults: 62 Kids: 10**

**November Worship Schedule**

<b>November 7</b> Liturgist Carolyn Ushers Danny & Dana	<b>November 14</b> Liturgist Becky Ushers Don & Sandra
<b>November 21</b> Liturgist Charlotte Ushers OPEN	<b>November 28</b> Liturgist OPEN Ushers Lois



### PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE:

After months of hard work, the PSC is close to completing the new Church Profile! Please recall, this is the first step in the search process and becomes the information packet for interested Candidates to apply for our permanent Pastor position. We will have the final draft ready before Thanksgiving, so that it can be reviewed and approved by Phil Hodson, UCC Conference Minister, and become "active" online for 2022. Our team will then enter the next phase of our duties: receiving/reviewing Candidate profiles.

Again - feel free to ask any PSC member for updates along the way, but understand that applicant's personal information is confidential.

Michele Dupy (Chairman), Dana Smith, Judy Downing, Peter Wabbel and Jim Alexander.

### WELCOME OUR CONFIRMANDS OF 2021-2022

Please welcome the members of our Confirmation Class which begins on Tuesday Oct 26. The class will be held on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 in our Conference Room. The class will culminate with a Service of Confirmation on Pentecost June 5, 2022.

Confirmands: Cayli Johns, Avery Ochoa, and Haydon Shuttles

Dear St. Peter's Church and Pastor Stark,

Thank you so much for your kindness, help and assistance these past few months. It is never easy to have a guest that just keeps on staying!! You have all been so nice!! The kids have enjoyed getting to see you and talk with you.

Here is a little token of my appreciation for all that you have done to help me begin our school year off right. I would like to donate it to anything that would help the church. I see you have a building fund and would love to help in that if you feel that is the best use.

Again, thank you so, so much!

Helaine Hamline



## Recent Memorials

*N= New Horizon C=Cemetery L=Landscaping M=Memorial Fund*

**There are no recent memorials**



## Council Meeting Minutes October 17, 2021

Members Present: Carolyn Haverland, Bonnie Sladek, Sandra Wernli, Ted Wittliff, Roy Morris, Judy Downing, Barbara Piper, S. R. Moss, and Janet Doss. Pastor Charles Stark was also in attendance as well as our Bookkeeper, Staci Stork. Sharon Kreidel was absent.

Pastor Stark opened the meeting with a prayer.

The agenda was adopted. Minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

Judy gave a brief report on the Siding Project. It is anticipated that this project will commence in the spring of next year, perhaps as early as March.

Staci provided the council with a compilation of reports and explained each report. Council made several decisions to hopefully simplify not only the understanding of the reports but to better grasp what reports QuickBooks can generate. The Budget Committee was appointed with Carolyn serving as the Chairman.

The Pastor's Report was discussed with several highlights: the Coupland ISD Pre-K Class moved out and left a large Thank You with the handprints of all of the children along with a typewritten note and a personal donation from their teacher for the building fund; the Adult Sunday School Class began meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup>; a confirmation class will begin on October 26<sup>th</sup> with Cayli Johns; office procedures continue to be updated; individual visitations will commence once HBO wraps up its production.

### Old Business

The small group meetings with Pastor Charles will be transformed into individual visits.

Van Herd has agreed to be the Music Director through December. Leads continue to be followed and it is hoped that finding a permanent Music Director will not take that long. Further discussion is needed regarding choir.

A long list of HBO Max updates was provided. They included the addition of three days of prep which should result in an additional \$10,000 (this amount will pay for additional water usage); moving of funds to the general account to cover increased electrical expense;

sticking doors have been repaired; Vic's Heating and Air serviced all a/c units. Conference room thermostat will be replaced by HBO (damaged during filming). A deep cleaning company will clean on October 15 and 22. Paint job in conference room will remain gray as well as the paint on the swings and monkey bars. Numerous ideas and lots of conversation ensued regarding the "garden" between the church and fellowship hall. There will be an email sent out notifying members of what the church desires to keep and what will be available to members for a small donation.

### New Business

The coffee maker (the old Bunn) is currently being repaired. The dryer at the Parsonage was repaired at a cost of \$234. A new church sign will be discussed at a later date. The door to the fellowship hall will be turned over to the Master Planning Committee. Both ovens are now working in the kitchen. The fire extinguishers were tagged and recharged by 1<sup>st</sup> Fire Safety for a total cost of \$220. The Offering Envelopes will be discussed by the Budget Committee. The church's insurance policy renews in November. Further research and discussion are needed as material presented did not precisely compare with what is now in place and another company. The persons on the committee to go over the church membership roll have not met. The Council approved the request for the Coupland ISD's Christmas Party on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The designated term contract was discussed and the decision made to use the UCC form.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Piper  
Substitute Secretary

# November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> <b>Election Day</b> 7am - 7pm  Coffee Connections 9:30am  Confirmation 5-6pm	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 10:15am Worship/ Communion	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>  Coffee Connections 9:30am  Confirmation 5-6pm	<i>10</i>  <b>Chocolate Lizards Filming – Exterior</b>	<i>11</i>  <b>Veteran's Day</b>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 10:15am Worship  <b>Church Council</b>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>  <b>Senior Lunch</b> 11:30am  Coffee Connections 9:30am	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>  Newsletter Deadline	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 10:15am Worship/ Communion	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>  Coffee Connections 9:30am  Confirmation 5-6pm  Newsletter Assembly 10:30am	<i>24</i>  <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 10:15am Worship  <b>First day of Advent</b>  <b>Hanging of the Greens</b>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>  Coffee Connections 9:30am  Confirmation 5-6pm				

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ST PETER'S CHURCH OF COUPLAND  
PO Box 146, Coupland, TX 78615

NON PROFIT  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #2  
COUPLAND, TEXAS 78615

**Return Service Requested**

## *Come and Worship with Us*

### **St. Peter's Church of Coupland, UCC**

108 Wathen St.  
P.O. Box 146  
Coupland, TX 78615

### **Office Hours:**

Monday– Thursday  
8:00 am - 12 noon

**November 2021**

### **WORSHIP SERVICE HOURS**

10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

*Interim Pastor: Charles Stark*

*Interim Pastor Phone: 830-660-7239*

*Pastor Email: clstark52@gmail.com*

*Licensed Ministers -*

*Charlotte Albert, John Boydston,*

*Interim Pianist/Choir Director- Van Herd*

*Secretary - Barbara Coleman*

*Church's phone: 512-856-2433*

*Church Email: stpeterscoupland@gmail.com*

*Church Website: www.couplandchurch.org*

*St. Peter's... "The Church on the Hill with the Heart as Big as Texas"*