

THE VOICE ON THE HILL

Issue 6 Volume 10

St. Peter's Church

June 2023



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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Proverbs 4:1-2 NRSV

Listen, children to a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight; for I give you good precepts: do not forsake my teaching.

Thank You Pastor Charles!

On Sunday June 25 Pastor Charles will preach his final sermon at St. Peter's. Under Pastor Charles' leadership, St. Peter's was able to purchase a copier and color printer for the office, programmable thermostats that can be set from the secretary's computer, and a new upgraded laptop that can run PowerPoint slides for Sunday Service.

In addition, 5 new members joined the church, 3 students were Confirmed, and Pastor Charles assisted with coordinating the filming of "Love and Death" which has appeared on HBO Max.



**STARK REALITY****JUNE 2023**

Friends, this will be my last article since I will end my Interim Ministry with you at the end of June. This is a time to pause and reflect on where St. Peter's is and where it is headed in the future.

We all need to acknowledge that change is hard! As human beings we are naturally resistant to change. As change happens around us, we are often prone to get into conflicts with our friends and neighbors. As I have mentioned before, I like to save tidbits of wisdom that I find on Facebook from time to time. Here is one that will be important for the people of St. Peter's as you go forward.

"There is nothing worse than people who only see things from their point of view and refuse to try to understand anything from someone else's perspective." Friends, we must affirm that life in the church is relational. We live our lives in the church and the community as individuals created by God. As children of God, we are not clones of each other. God allows us the freedom to disagree. Listen to the wisdom of another FB post, *"Peace is not when everyone agrees. It is when we can respect our disagreements and still play in the sandbox together."*

As I prepare to leave, I want to affirm that you are a wonderful group of faithful people. It has been a real joy to have served you for these past two years. You have a long and important history in this small community of living out the Good News in so many ways.

As you prepare to begin the journey with your new settled pastor, the Rev. Scott Wasdin, it will be a time to adapt to the inevitable change that comes with a change in pastoral leadership. Put plainly and simply, Scott will not be Charles and that is the way it should be. You need to know that I will not continue to attend or be involved in any activities of St. Peter's Church. Please know this is not due to a lack of desire to be associated with you but it is a long-established tradition and ethical boundary that Interim Pastors should remove themselves from the local church so that they do not interfere with the newly called pastor. After a year, I might explore returning so long as Pastor Scott is fine with it.

I will share with you that I think that St. Peter's Church has a great future in this community. I hope and pray the best for each of you and for the ministry that will be provided by Pastor Scott.

With expectations of Peace and Joy

Rev. Charles L Stark
Interim Pastor

1st Annual Car Show & Fundraiser



Join St. Peter's Church of Coupland for our 1st Annual Car Show and Fundraiser **on Saturday September 16th from 10am to 2pm.**

There will be food, fun, a bake sale and a tour of our beautiful 113 year old church.

Trophies will be awarded.

****No alcohol on church property please****



Parsonage siding in progress

COME SEE THE RENOVATED PARSONAGE!

Team Parsonage is very proud of all the updates, improvements and renovations that have been done at our Church Parsonage and would like to invite everyone to take a walk through after church on **JUNE 25th**. It's Beautiful 🌸



Potluck Sunday

Join us on Sunday June 25 for food and fellowship after morning worship. Bring your favorite dish to share!



Senior Luncheon

Our next Senior Luncheon will be a picnic luncheon on July 18 at 11:30am. Root beer floats will be served for dessert!

We hope to see you there!!
Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli Co-Chairs



Happy Birthday Karen!

On April 30th Karen Rhoades celebrated her 82nd birthday at the Heritage Lakes Assisted Living in Pflugerville

Members in Assisted Living or Care Facilities:

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

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

Ann Johle: Sagebrook Nursing Center,
901 Discovery Blvd. Cedar Park, TX 76511

Karen Rhoades: Heritage Lakes Assisted Living
Room #9 19005 Pleasant Bay Drive, Pflugerville, TX
78660

June Birthdays

- 1st Jayme Johns
- 5th Cindy Alexander
- 7th Melvin Poldrack
- 14th Parker Dollins
- 15th Aubrey Shuttles
- 16th Brynley Finn
- 19th June Schmidt
- 25th Allison Albert, Linda Albert
- 26th Sawyer Poldrack
Hunter Poldrack, Randy Gregory
- 29th Honey Eiben, Lisa Townsend
- 30th Alan Schmidt





April 2023 Income

Total Regular Giving for April \$14,681

Budgeted Amount for April \$12,577

Total Regular Giving January thru April \$46,836

Budgeted Amount January thru April \$50,308

Regular Offering Only

There are no recent memorials to report



June Worship Schedule

June 4 Liturgist: Becky Sutton Ushers: Judy Downing	June 11 Liturgist: Tammy Sane Ushers: Don & Sandra Wernli
June 18 Liturgist: Charlotte Albert Ushers: Zac & Cindy Wood	June 25 Liturgist: Michele Dupy Ushers: Bill Dupy

Baptism and Marriage Celebration!

We celebrate with Derrick and Elizabeth Finn two big events recently in their life.

Casin Wayne Finn, their infant son, born July 28, 2022, was baptized by Pastor Charlotte Albert in the sanctuary of St. Peter's Church on Friday, April 21, 2023, at 4:00 in the afternoon. His sponsors are Terry Finn, Bethany Carey, T.J. Kirchner, and Leighanne Kirchner. Grandparents are Terry and Gretchen Finn, Denise Rittenburg, Scott and Melissa Ebright.

A reception honoring Casin followed the service in the fellowship hall.

On Saturday, April 22, 2023, Derrick and Elizabeth were united in marriage outdoors at their home in Beyersville by Pastor Charlotte.

A reception followed at SPJST Hall in Taylor for family and friends.

Congratulations to Derrick and Elizabeth.





Minutes for Congregational Meeting held on April 30, 2023
St. Peter's Church of Coupland

Laurie Morris, Council President, called the meeting to order. Three items were presented to St. Peter's congregation for votes.

Extending a call to Reverend Scott Wasdin to become Pastor effective 7-1-23.

Questions were asked by members. Written votes were passed out to members. A unanimous vote was counted, and the call to Scott was extended. He accepted.

Parsonage Renovation

The congregation was asked to approve costs not to exceed \$31k for renovating the inside of the parsonage. Funds are available in savings. A motion was made by Barbara Piper to approve funds for the renovation. Becky Sutton seconded the motion. It was approved by the congregation.

Playground Equipment

Tammy Sane presented a proposal to approve costs not to exceed \$25k to purchase and install playground equipment, purchase pea gravel for protective base as required by code, and fencing to enclose the entire area. A motion was made by Charlotte Albert to approve the funds. Sandra Wernli seconded the motion. It was approved by the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Alexander
Council Secretary



Kawai Grand Piano

Susan Marcus is a widow whose husband had a passion for music. Susan has a Kawai Grand Piano belonging to her late husband that she is looking to give to a loving home, music school or church.

If you are interested or know of someone who is interested, please contact Susan Marcus at susanmarcus136@gmail.com



Security Announcement

A concern regarding the security of the church was brought up to Council. Going forward, during worship, all doors except the sanctuary front doors will be locked. The interior sanctuary doors will be closed once worship begins. People who need to use the restroom during services will need to go up the side aisle and through the sacristy. On potluck days, 1 or 2 people will be in the kitchen and the fellowship hall front doors will be open.

Anita Holubeck will be heading a security committee that will be making further decisions regarding the safety and security of St. Peter's Coupland. Please contact her if you are interested in serving on this committee.



VBS Meeting

We will hold our first VBS planning meeting on Wednesday, June 7 at 4:30 PM in the church conference room. We will decide on dates in July for our VBS and choose a curriculum.

If you are interested in helping with VBS please plan to attend. If you would like to help, but cannot attend please contact Laurie Morris



**St. Peter's Church of Coupland
Council Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2023**

Members present: Anita Holubec, Sharon Kreidel, Cindy Alexander, Janet Doss, Tammy Sane, Laurie Morris, S.R. Moss

Members absent: Peter Wabbel, Linda Miller, Carolyn Haverland

The agenda was approved.

Minutes for April 2023 were approved.

Financial Report

Monthly reports for April 2023 were not available for review.

Update access and signatures on accounts at Citizens Bank in Coupland: A motion was made and approved by the Council to remove Rex Snell and Carolyn Haverland from the account and add Laurie Morris.

Progress of last month's financial decisions: All items have been completed except for moving funds from the United Church Funds to Edward Jones. Jay Sutton is working on this item.

Committee reports:

Pastoral Search Committee has completed their duties and is now dissolved. The Council extends thanks to all the members who served.

The Council verified the Pastoral Relations Committee who will now facilitate the transition to our new Pastor, Scott Wasdin.

Facilities:

Playground: The congregation approved costs not to exceed \$25k to purchase playground equipment and fencing on April 30, 2023. Tammy Sane reported the committee has received a quote for delivery and installation of a playscape, seesaw, and other materials. Tammy also stated they had received almost \$10k in donations for the project. A motion was made and approved by the Council to allow the purchase of playground equipment and other materials.

Update on fire inspection and parsonage renovations: Received a passing report from the Williamson County Fire Marshal's Office. Team Parsonage provided a list of projects completed and those still in progress.

Pastor's report:

Pastor Charles has moved out of the parsonage as of May 15th. He attended the Annual meeting of the Conference and it was decided to sell Slumber Falls Camp to a for profit cooperation. Please see Pastor's report for more information.

Old Business:

The Council reviewed the three items presented and approved at the Congregational Meeting held on April 30, 2023. The Minutes will be published in the Newsletter.

New Business:

The Men's Brotherhood has requested to have a Car Show on September 16, 2023, at the church.

Facilities Use Agreement: A revised form was presented to Council for review. A motion was made and approved to accept the new form. It will be available on the website.

Special Offering Reports: These will be posted in the church bulletin.

Security: The security of Church buildings during weekly services was discussed. Anita Holubec has agreed to head a Security Committee to come up with solutions. Volunteers are needed to address concerns and solutions. Please contact Anita if you are willing to serve.

Parsonage Open House: Michelle Dupy is planning an Open House for church members to see all the upgrades made to the parsonage. A date will be announced in the near future.

Memorial Gift Fund Suggestions: Suggestions are needed now that the Horizon Funds Project has been completed. The Memorial Fund Committee will be assigned to provide a list of suggestions.

The council reviewed and updated the calendars for June and July 2023. Event coordinators and Communion bread providers will be Sharon Kreidel for June and Laurie Morris for July. It was also decided to move the Council meeting to June 11th due to observance of Father's Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Alexander
Council Secretary

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion	5	6 Coffee Connections 9:30am LIFT 6:00pm	7 VBS Meeting 4:30pm church conference room	8 Coupland City Council 6:00pm	9	10
11 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship Church Council	12	13 Coffee Connections 9:30am	14	15 Diners 6:30pm	16	17
18 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion Father's Day	19 Holiday Juneteenth	20 Coffee Connections 9:30am Elgin Ministerial Alliance 11:30am	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24
25 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship Potluck Luncheon	26	27 Coffee Connections 9:30am Newsletter Assembly 10:30am	28	29	30	

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

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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

June 2023

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 Minister -

Charlotte Albert

Pianist-

Secretary - Barbara Coleman

Church's phone: 512-856-2433

Church Email: stpeterscoupland@gmail.com

Church Website: stpeterscoupland.org

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