

# THE VOICE ON THE HILL

Issue 4 Volume 10

April 2023

## 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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### Matthew 28:6 NRSV

He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.



## CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH - AT 10:15 CHURCH SERVICE TO PRESENT REVEREND WILLIAM SCOTT WASDIN AS THE PASTORAL CANDIDATE FOR ST. PETER'S !

PLEASE BE PRESENT as the Pastoral Search Committee introduces Reverend William Scott Wasdin as our proposed Candidate for the position of Pastor of St. Peter's Church of Coupland. Reverend Scott will preach the morning of April 30th and a Congregational Vote will take place immediately thereafter. Per our ByLaws, a 90% favorable response is required to extend a Call Agreement to a Candidate. Although Rev. Scott is currently Pastor of a UCC church, he is Ordained in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. This branch of the denomination is much more moderate than Southern Baptists and you can learn more at <http://www.cbf.net/who-we-are>

### SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH - 4:00 PM - MEET & GREET WITH REV. SCOTT WASDIN

Come join us at St. Peter's Fellowship Hall for an opportunity to meet Rev. Scott and learn more about him, his wife and 4 children (check out his Bio and photos). Light food and beverage will be provided by the Church Council and the Search Committee. Stop in and introduce yourself and discover some fun facts about our potential Pastor!



### BIOGRAPHY:

Reverend Scott Wasdin currently serves as Pastor at First Congregational Church in Whitman, Massachusetts, a South Shore suburb of Boston. Previously, Rev. Scott served churches in Georgia & Virginia. Additionally, he had a successful 6yr tenure as Headmaster of Southampton Academy in Virginia, where he helped increase enrollment, lead fundraising and spearheaded a new \$3 million high school expansion.



Rev. Scott was raised in a small town in Georgia near the Alabama border. Growing up, his ministry and family role models believed in deep community values and relational connections in both business and ministry life. Those influences still echo today through Scott's philosophy of ministry.

Scott is gifted by his beloved family! Crystal, his wife of 13 years, has been a high school & middle school English Teacher for over a decade and now runs Abbey London Boutique, an online children's boutique. Crystal and Scott have been blessed with 5 children: Josh - 11, Xander - 10, Matthew - 8, Emma - 7 and Sam (deceased shortly after birth in December 2017). They are excited for the prospect of moving to central Texas and have relatives living in Arizona & Arkansas.



## Holy Week begins April 2

Holy Week, the last week of Lent begins Sunday April 2 and ends Saturday April 8.

Events for the week include Palm Sunday Service on April 2 at 10:15am and Maundy Thursday Service on April 6, at 7:30pm. We will not have service on Good Friday



### *Celebrate the Resurrection!*

Join us on Sunday April 9 as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Our celebration begins with Easter Sunrise Service at 7am. After sunrise service, the Men's Brotherhood will be serving a full Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30am. All are welcome! **Free will offering appreciated.**

Worship Service begins at 10:15am. The children will participate in the Easter Program during the morning Worship Service in place of a Children's Time. Afterwards, they will have an Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30am.

### **Silent Auction Winners**

Thank you to everyone who bid in our silent auction for John Sumner's paintings to raise money for the playground.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Judy Downing  
**Palo Duro Canyon**

Scott Ging  
**Grain Silos**

Peter Wabbel  
**St. Peter's Parsonage**

**STARK REALITY****APRIL 2023**

Friends, this is going to be a very exciting month! We begin the month with Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Like last year we will hold a Maundy Thursday service on April 6. This is a very moving Tenebrae Service which ends in darkness and recounts the events of the evening that Jesus shared with his disciples at the Last Supper before the day of his crucifixion on Friday. Easter is April 9 and we will look forward to a Sunrise Service at 7:00am. This year we will see the return of the Easter Bonfire which signifies the light pushing the darkness out of our world with the resurrection of Jesus. Following this service we will share a wonderful Easter Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall hosted by the Men's Brotherhood. Our regular Easter worship will be at our regular time of 10:15am. Don't forget to bring your spring wildflowers and other flowers to decorate our Easter Cross for this service.

The month will end with another really exciting event. Our Search Committee has unanimously voted to extend an invitation for the Rev. Scott Wasdin to a Candidating Weekend with our church. You will have an opportunity to meet Rev. Scott at a Meet and Greet Reception on Saturday April 29 at 4:00pm. He will then lead worship on Sunday April 30. Immediately following that worship, the Congregation will hold a Special Meeting to vote on calling Scott to be our next Settled Pastor! There is more information about Rev. Scott Wasdin and this process in another section of this newsletter. As the Interim Pastor, please know that I will not be present for these events so as not to detract or interfere with the process. Please do not think that I am not supportive of this call. I completely support the decision of our excellent Search Committee and congratulate them on a job well done!

As I think about the rich history of this church in the "City on a Hill" as the Rev. Jewel Johnson titled his booklet on our history, I am so happy that I was able to play a part in continuing the journey of this special church. I was honored by a wonderful surprise invitation by Scott Ging to go for a ride in his Dad's 1930 Model A on Sunday afternoon March 19. We had a great time viewing the countryside around this area on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon. We talked about some history and were amazed by a beautiful sea of bluebonnets in a large pasture to the east of us. I had to get a picture to remember this awesome experience, It was a reminder of just how important it is to always be aware of our history and the importance it plays in our lives today.

Shalom




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## Vacation Bible School

St Peter's Coupland will be having VBS this summer. If you are interested in serving on this committee please contact Laurie Morris at [lauriemorris4@gmail.com](mailto:lauriemorris4@gmail.com).

The first committee meeting will be some time after Easter. We will choose a date for our VBS at that time. More details will be available in the upcoming newsletters.

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## Playground Makeover

A big thank you to Jim Alexander and his crew for spending a long day repairing our swing set. They used an excavator to lift and straighten the end of the swing set and then used dozens of bags of concrete to stabilize it. We appreciate this generous gift from Jim and Cindy.

Tammy Sane is leading a group to find a replacement for the playscape that was removed. Please contact Tammy at [tsane2010@gmail.com](mailto:tsane2010@gmail.com) ASAP if you can help. We need to get the playground ready for Vacation Bible School this summer and

in anticipation of the arrival of our new pastor's children.

The St. Peter's playground and basketball goals are also an important part of our community outreach, as neighborhood children use the facilities.





### Diners

On Thursday March 16 members of St. Peter’s Church gathered at Sir-loin Stockade in Taylor for good food and fellowship. After dinner, we collected \$76 to support the Taylor Food Pantry. At the last Council Meeting, it was decided that we would alternate months between the Elgin Food Pantry and the Taylor Food Pantry.

Our next diners will be on Thursday, April 20 at 6:30pm. Joyce and Arthur Henze are coordinating. Location to be determined.

### Regular Offering Income For February

Total Regular Giving for February \$9,831

Budgeted Amount for February \$12,577 per month

Total Regular giving for January thru February \$21,197

Budgeted Amount for January thru February \$25,154

\*Regular Offering Only\*

### April Worship Schedule

<b>April 2 Palm Sunday</b> Liturgist: Michele Dupy Ushers: Bill Dupy	<b>April 9 - Easter Sunday</b> Liturgist: Tammy Sane Ushers: Sandra & Don Wernli	<b>April 16</b> Liturgist: Charlotte Albert Ushers Cindy & Zac Wood
<b>April 23</b> Liturgist: Judy Downing Ushers Becky Sutton	<b>April 30</b> Liturgist: Michele Dupy Ushers: Bill Dupy	

### 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 #110  
19005 Pleasant Bay Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660

### April Birthdays

- 2nd Clayton Ging
- 3rd Callie Sane
- 5th Traeton Thompson
- 7th Ben Watson, Julie Gregory
- 11th Jason Fryer
- 13th Dakota Marak, Joyce Henze
- 15th Avery Ochoa
- 16th Brenda Arlene Albert, John Sumner
- 17th Alice Matetzschk
- 21st Derek Rumel, Elaine Heinzke-Hennig
- 25th Velma Schneider
- 26th Matthew Valchar
- 28th Staci Johns, Shorty Johns
- 29th Adam Doss, Kaylee Nelson
- 30th Isadora Streit, Karen Rhoades



### Recent Memorials

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

There are no recent memorials to report



## Church Work Day!

Saturday, April 1st at 8:00am is Church Work Day! Volunteers are needed to help spruce up the Church for Easter Sunday. A sign up sheet is located in the back of the church. Your help would be greatly appreciated.



## LIFT

LIFT will meet Tuesday April 11 at 6:00pm. Location to be determined.



## Potluck Sunday

Join us on Sunday April 23 for a delicious potluck lunch. Bring your favorite dish to share!



## Men's Brotherhood

The Men's Brotherhood will meet at Thursday April 27 at 6:00pm. Location to be determined.



## Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry

St. Peter's Church has been asked to assist with the distribution of food **Saturday, April 29 at 7:00am**. If you can assist, please contact the office.



## Noisy Offering Sunday

April 30 is Noisy Offering Sunday. During offering, drop your loose change in the collection plate.



## Senior Luncheon

We had a tremendous luncheon even though it was a rainy Day.! 61 plus senior citizens attended. Our dessert, "Strawberry Dream Cake" was a tribute to our departed member, Marge Gebhart.

Our Hostesses were: Sandra Wernli & Don Wernli, Becky Sutton, Janet Doss, Hermania Vitek, Cindy Alexander, Bonnie Sladek, Cynthia Wittliff and Los Schmidt. Helpers were: Wanda Walther, Arthur & Joyce Henze, JoAnn Ging, Cindy Wood, & Evelyn Draehn. Charlotte Albert did a beautiful job with the decorations. Pastor Charles did our blessing.

We had lots of bingo players and 3 tables of "42" Dominoes. Thanks to all who helped with our luncheon!

**Our next luncheon will be on May 16 at 11:30am.** Bingo and "42" Dominoes will be played. You are encouraged to bring a prize \$10 and under if you are playing Bingo. Be sure to join us for another fun luncheon!

Co-Chairmen, Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli



**St. Peter's Church of Coupland  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2023**

Members present: Anita Holubec, Peter Wabbel, Sharon Kreidel, Cindy Alexander, Carolyn Haverland, Janet Doss, Tammy Sane, Laurie Morris

Absent: S.R. Moss

The agenda was adopted with additions.

Minutes for February 2023 were approved.

**Committee reports:**

**Pastoral Search Committee:** The committee has completed negotiations with potential pastoral candidate, Scott Wasdin. He will travel to St. Peter's Church for a meet and greet on April 29<sup>th</sup>, and will conduct services on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Facilities:**

Repairs to the swings have been completed by Jim Alexander with help from a special crew. Special thanks to JM Plumbing for providing the heavy equipment required to complete the project.

Tammy Sane is researching the costs and budget for the Playscape.

**Financial Reports:** Council members reviewed the available reports.

**Pastor's report:**

Pastor Charles went over the attendance for Sunday services and Lenten Services. He also provided a list of items that may be need to be purchased for the future Pastor. These are his personal items which he has been using to save church funds. Please see Pastor's report for more information.

**Old Business:**

**Pianist search update:** David White will be available until mid-May. They are continuing their search for a new pianist.

**Signs to direct people to Church office:** Pastor Charles provided examples of signs and costs provided by Fast Signs. A motion was made and approved by the council to purchase the signs.

**Heart of Texas Association Lay Delegates (5):** The Spring Association meeting will be held on April 22, 2023, at the United Christian Church in Austin, TX. Anita Holubec, Amanda Palm and Carolyn Haverland will be attending.

**Parsonage Leveling:** Pro Level will begin the project in three weeks.

**Parsonage Siding:** Roof Crafter will begin the project once the levelling project has been completed.

**Call List:** Should be ready by the April council meeting.

**New Business:**

**Elect Council President:** Laurie Morris volunteered to become President. A motion was made and approved to elect Laurie as President.

**Review possible members for Council:** Linda Miller has offered to fill the vacant position on the Council. A motion was made and approved to accept Linda on the council.

**Update letter and timeline:** A proposed letter to the congregation regarding the decision to explore our connection with the UCC and to make a decision regarding the future of our relationship has been postponed until the July 16<sup>th</sup> council meeting. The council decided to postpone this due to the possibility of hiring a new pastor in the near future.

**Edward Jones Access List:** Laurie will get with the Financial Committee who is working with Jay Sutton, E. Jones Financial Advisor, to get the appropriate people on the access list.

**Easter:** The council began discussing getting with persons to discuss plans for the Sunrise service, breakfast, and regular worship service.

**SCC Annual Meeting:** The meeting will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, TX.

A motion was made and approved by the council to cover registration and hotel fees for Pastor Charles and Anita Holubec. The council also agreed to cover registration fee for Amanda Palm who had already made plans to attend.

**Windows software:** A motion was made and approved to purchase a 12 month upgrade at a cost of \$230.

**Flower beds:** The council discussed cleaning up and planting new plants in the flower beds to be ready for Easter and visit by pastoral candidate. A work day has been scheduled on April 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 8:00 a.m. Volunteers are encouraged to bring tools.

The council reviewed and updated the calendars for April and May 2023. Event coordinators and Communion bread providers will be Janet Doss for April and Cindy Alexander for May.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Alexander

**The next Council Meeting will be April 16 at 11:30am**

# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> <b>Church Work Day 8:00am</b>
<i>2</i> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Coupland ISD Drill 8:30am <b>Maundy Thursday Service 7:30pm</b>	<i>7</i> <b>Good Friday No Service</b>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 7:00am Sunrise Service 7:30am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship 11:30 Easter Egg Hunt	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am <b>LIFT 6:00pm</b>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion  <b>11:30am Council</b>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> Newsletter Deadline  <b>Diners 6:30pm</b>	<i>21</i> 2:00pm Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall Rental	<i>22</i> 10:00am Heart of TX Association Mtg in Austin
<i>23</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship  <b>Potluck Sunday</b>	<i>24</i> 6:30pm Coupland Civic Organization	<i>25</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am  Newsletter Assembly 10:30am	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> <b>Love &amp; Death Premiere HBO Max  Men's Brotherhood 6:00pm</b>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 7:00am <b>Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry</b>  4:00pm <b>Meet &amp; Greet with Rev. Scott Wasdin</b>
<i>30</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Called Congregational Mtg  <b>Rev. Scott Wasdin preaches</b>  <b>Noisy Offering Sunday</b>						

# THE VOICE ON THE HILL

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

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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

**April 2023**

### **WORSHIP SERVICE HOURS**

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

*Interim Pastor:* Charles Stark

*Interim Pastor's Phone:* 830-660-7239

*Licensed Ministers -*

*Charlotte Albert*

*Pianist/Choir Director-*

*Secretary - Barbara Coleman*

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

*Church Email:* [stpeterscoupland@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterscoupland@gmail.com)

*Church Website:* [www.couplandchurch.org](http://www.couplandchurch.org)

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