

THE VOICE ON THE HILL

Issue 2 Volume 10

February 2022

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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Welcome New Members!



On Sunday January 16, the members of St. Peter's Church welcomed new members Jim and Linda Miller to the congregation. They were invited to attend St. Peter's by their good friend Becky Sutton. We are so glad you chose St. Peter's as your place of Worship.



New Council Members were elected Sunday January 9 at our Congregational Meeting. Welcome new Council Members Cindy Alexander, Anita Holubec, and Peter Wabbel.

The members going off are Judy Downing, Barbara Piper, and Ted Wittliff. A big thank you for your service and dedication!

The following members will take Officer Positions:

- President: Sharon Kreidel
- Vice President: Roy Morris
- Secretary: Cindy Alexander
- Treasurer: Janet Doss
- Financial Secretary: Anita Holubec





STARK REALITY

FEBRUARY 2022

As we enter into the month of February, we are reminded every time we go into a store that this is the month of Valentine’s Day. The aisles are filled with cards, balloons, candy, and lots of red. It is indeed a month that focuses on love. Unfortunately, we rarely think of it in terms of Jesus’ words of encouragement to “love one another.”

I recently saw this thought-provoking post on Facebook.

“At the end of life, what really matters is not what we bought, but what we built, not what we got, but what we shared; not our competence, but our character, and not our success, but our significance. Live a life that matters. Live a life of love.”

I think the importance of Jesus’ call to love one another is to direct our focus away from ourselves and toward others. In serving the needs of others, we find our true purpose in life.

Recently a very influential Vietnamese Buddhist Monk by the name of Tich Nhat Hanh died. He has written a number of books and many have noted that while not a Christian, he embodied a number of principles that Jesus taught. A Presbyterian minister in Austin by the name of Jim Rigby shared his top 10 teachings of Tich Nhat Hanh. Number 8 addresses how we treat others.

#8 I loved when he said that we don’t get angry at lettuce for not growing. Instead, we give the lettuce what it needs to flourish. He said we should treat people just as wisely and compassionately as we treat lettuce.

So, as you think about this month of love, spend some time thinking about how you live your life in relation to loving others outside your family.

With expectations of Love and Joy

Charles

THE ROLE OF THE INTERIM PASTOR

Recently there has been a number of members who have suggested that the church should just call me to be the settled pastor and stop the search process. While I appreciate the validation of my ministry, this is simply not helpful or possible. The role of the Interim Pastor is not just to continue the ministry of the church in a time of transition but rather to help the church to evaluate and envision its ministry going forward. This is only possible when the Interim Pastor can be removed from the process of seeking the next settled pastor for the church. I also need to let everyone know that this approach is locked in place by a signed contract with the church. My contract specifically says the following:

“Under no circumstances will I allow my name to be considered as a possible candidate for the settled position.”

Friends, you have a very good Pastoral Search Committee who I am confident will find the right Pastor for St. Peter’s Church. This will take a significant amount of time and is not a process to be rushed. In the meantime, I am happy to serve you as your Interim Pastor and lead you through this transition period.

Faithfully yours,

Charles Stark
Interim Pastor



Soup Supper Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to prepare soups for our soup supper during Lent which begins Wednesday March 2.

Soup will be served at 6pm followed by Lenten Service at 7pm. Look for the signup sheet in the sanctuary coming soon.



Senior Luncheon

Forty Senior Citizens, Hostesses and Helpers attended our Senior Citizens Luncheon on January 18.

Hostesses were: Sandra Wernli, Becky Sutton, Cynthia Wittliff, Charlotte Albert, Cindy Alexander, Janet Doss, Lois Schmidt, Marge Gebhardt & Linda Miller. Our Helpers were: Wanda Walther, Arthur & Joyce Henze, Don Wernli, & S. R. Moss. Pastor Charles did our blessing and Charlotte Albert decorated.

We thank all of our volunteers! Without our volunteers, we would not be able to do our luncheons.

Our next Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on March 15, 2022 at 11:30 am. Peter Wabbel will be hosting the main meal so be sure to come and enjoy this delicious meal! Also, we'll be playing bingo. If you would like to play bingo at our Senior Lunch, it is suggested but not required that you bring a prize under \$10. "42" Dominoes will also be played.

Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli
Co-Chairs

Our Sick & Shut-Ins:

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

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

Nancy Goodlett: at home

Ann Johle: Sagebrook Nursing Center, 901 Discovery Blvd, Room #210 Cedar Park, TX 78613

February Birthdays

1st	Anita Holubec, Kevin Krieg, Robert Streit
2nd	Janet Doss
3rd	Lois Schmidt
6th	Heather Shuttles
8th	Kandice Samuelson
9th	Candice Wilson
10th	Linda Boydston, Grace Nelson
11th	Jay Sutton, Kenny Asbury
13th	JoHannah Valchar
18th	Jake Townsend
19th	Colin Snell, Kyle Snell, Layne Harkins
20th	Kristin Rathburn, Nancy Pfluger
22nd	Russell Schmidt, Sr.
23rd	Addison Reyes
25th	Richard Brown, Sherry Stifflemire, Tammy Sane
27th	David Wellings
28th	Haydon Shuttles





Giving for December 24 & 26

Regular Offering: \$2,444

Special/Designated Offerings:

Landscaping \$1,020

Maintenance \$1,020

UCC Christmas Fund \$3,870

Memorials \$200

Church Attendance December 16

Adults: 17 Kids: 0

Giving for January 2, 2022

Regular Offering \$1,461

Special/Designated Offerings:

Evangelism & Member Care \$2

Landscaping \$2

UCC Christmas Fund \$2

Maintenance Fund \$2

Church Attendance: Adults: 18 Kids: 0

Giving for January 9, 2022

Regular Offering: \$3,655

Special/Designated Offerings:

UCC Christmas Fund \$50

Church Attendance: Adults: 43 Kids: 0

Giving for January 16, 2022

Regular Offering: \$2,216

Special/Designated Offerings:

LIFT \$133

Initial Offering for Envelopes \$15

Christian Education \$40

OCWM \$50

Memorials \$3,000

Church Attendance: Adults: 32 Kids: 0

Giving for January 23, 2022

Regular Offering: \$2,048

Special/Designated Offerings:

Initial Offering for Envelopes \$35

Cemetery Operating Fund \$2

Christian Education \$2

OCWM \$117

Church Attendance: Adults: 39 Kids: 0

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
GENEROUSLY

February Worship Schedule

February 6 Liturgist Tammy Sane Ushers Ted Wittliff	February 13 Liturgist Linda Miller Ushers Anita Holubec
February 20 Liturgist Charlotte Albert Ushers Paul & Tammy Sane	February 27 Liturgist Cindy Wood Ushers OPEN



Greetings Association Members,

I don't know about you, but I am so thankful that January is almost over! COVID hit our house pretty hard, but thankfully we are on the mends. I know your families, church communities, and others ministry settings have been hit hard as well. I echo the message that I am hearing all across the Association and beyond: **We will get through this!** I know it's an old and tired message, but think about how the Israelites must have felt hearing the same message for 70 years while they were in exile in Babylon. **We will and we are getting through this!**

First, a bit of new from around the Association

- Weimar UCC will vote on their settled minister Sunday, January 23rd.
 - The Committee on Ministry is meeting on Thursday, January 27 and we continue to have a consistent flow of individuals interested in entering the MID process or other authorized minister credentials.
- Touchstone UCC is meeting Sunday, January 30th to vote on their first constitution and bylaws. This is one step in becoming a recognized congregation with full standing in our Association.

Don't forget these upcoming events:

- February 1 at 9:30 am HOTA Clergy Gathering
- February 2 at 7:00 pm HOTA Church Leaders Gathering

February 3 at 12:00 pm HOTA Annual Meeting Planning

Remembering that we all sever different contexts, there are some great webinars/training coming up in February that may serve you:

- February 2 at 3:00 pm MESA: MID Process
- Wednesdays in February at 7:00 pm Sexuality and the Bible 101
- February 3 at 2:30 pm United Black Christians Celebration of Black History Month
- February 10 at 2:30 pm Reading the Bible Through Womanist Lens
- February 17 at 2:30 pm Becoming and Abolitionist
- February 23 at 10:00 am Middle Eastern Christians in an Age of Empire
- February 23 at 6:30 pm Stewardship Year Round
- February 24 at 2:30 pm Confronting Bias in Search and Call

February 28 at 6:30 pm MESA: Pastoral Relations Committee

Also, I encourage you to subscribe the Conference E-news that comes out on Thursday. A lot of exciting things are taking place at the Conference level including gearing up for the Annual Meeting the last weekend in May where EVERYONE is invited to attend and to bring their families. More information really soon on that!

Remember to follow the Heart of Texas Association on Facebook or Instagram, if that is a thing for you. And I'm always here to answer questions, offer support and in general, just here for you.

Peace,
Nikki

Rev. Nikki Stahl
Heart of Texas Association Minister
cell: 512-751-3557
revnikkstahl@gmail.com

Recent Memorials

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

For: Helen Polzin
By: Melvin Poldrack (N)
Mary Pfluger (N)

For: Frances & Henry Dagerath
By: Virigina Callanan (C)

For: Dennis Nickel
By: Larry Nickel (C)
Mary Pfluger (N)

For: Otis Naron
By: Mary Pfluger (N)



**St. Peter's Church of Coupland
Council Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2022**

Members Present: Cindy Alexander, Janet Doss, Carolyn Haverland, Anita Holubec, Sharon Kreidel, Roy Morris, Bonnie Sladek, Peter Wabbel, and Sandra Wernli

Absent: S.R Moss

New Members were welcomed to the council – Cindy Alexander, Anita Holubec, and Peter Wabbel

New officers were elected. President – Sharon Kreidel, Vice President – Roy Morris, Secretary – Cindy Alexander, Treasure – Janet Doss and Financial Secretary – Anita Holubec.

Approval was received for the minutes of last month.

Financial reports were reviewed. Detail of individual accounts were reviewed and compared Quick Books and Bank/Financial Statements for end of year.

Committee Reports: None presented

Pastor's Report

Reviewed the Pastor's report. It was a very busy December with the holidays. In addition, he had time out due to Covid. A request for vacation for June 6-12 was made and approved by the council. See Pastor's report for more detail.

Old Business

Pianist search is still very active. We really need to find someone soon. Pastor Charles will review ad costs in hopes to get the position out to more locations. If anyone has any candidates, please contact the church office.

New Business

Council Retreat will be held Saturday, January 29th at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Noisy Offering that will be taken up on January 30 and it will be donated to Salvation Army.

A request and proposal was presented to the council to upgrade the church office Windows software. This was approved.

A review of the current status of Covid was discussed and was agreed that church, meetings and all church functions will continue as normal.

A review of calendars was done for February and March with a few changes. Special Note: Lent is a month away and we will continue the tradition of Soup Supper - soup/bread beginning at 6 pm and service at 7 pm stating Wednesday, March 2nd – April 6th. A sign-up list will be in the back of the church in the next few weeks. We will need two people/families to sign up per week.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Kreidel
Secretary

addendum to the January 2022 council minutes.

A motion was made and approved by the Council Members to allow the following persons to sign on our bank accounts at Citizens National Bank:

Sharon Kreidel – President
Janet Doss – Treasurer
Anita Holubec – Financial Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Alexander
Secretary

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Confirmation 5-6pm	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>6</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Confirmation 5-6pm	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship	<i>14</i> Valentine's Day	<i>15</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Confirmation 5-6pm	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion Church Council	<i>21</i> President's Day Newsletter Deadline	<i>22</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Confirmation 5-6pm Newsletter Assembly 10:30am	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship	<i>28</i>					

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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

February 2022

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

Interim Pianist- 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"