



# *The Voice on the Hill*

## St. Peter's Church of Coupland

**April, 2025**

**Mission Statement**

*Recognizing Jesus Christ as the Son of God, we invite all to share the joy of God's Word through the Holy Spirit, calling us to community, worship, service and fellowship.*

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**President**

Michele Dupy

**Vice President**

Prissy Rumel

**Vice President**

Danny Smith

**Council Secretary**

Ruby Wabbel

**Financial Secretary**

Kandice Samuelson

**Council Members**

Bill Albert

Judy Downing

**TREASURER**

Ted Wittliff

**LICENSED MINISTER**

Charlotte Albert

**MINISTER of MUSIC**

David Cappolino

**CHURCH SECRETARY**

Barbara Coleman

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Dana Smith



## St. Peter's Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 20

### **Sunrise Service and Breakfast at 7:15 am**

Gather around the fire on the lawn across from Fellowship Hall at 7:15 am for the **Sunrise Service**. The service will be moved into the Sanctuary in case of inclement weather.

Don't miss the fabulous **Easter Breakfast** following the service, hosted by **Peter Wabbel** and the **Men's Brotherhood**.

### **Easter Worship Service at 10:15 am**

Our traditional **Easter Worship Service** begins at 10:15 am. Remember to bring flowers to place on the flower cross on the front porch.

The children will present an **Easter Pageant** during the service. Contact **Stephanie Ochoa** at 512-818-4651 in advance if your children would like to participate.

Following the service, the children will enjoy an **Easter Egg Hunt** on the lawn.

We look forward to seeing everyone at St. Peter's Church on Easter!

**Please invite a friend or neighbor to join us** as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. He is Risen, Indeed!

## Rev. Dr. Burt Burleson Selected as Settled Pastor



We're thrilled to announce that Rev. Dr. Burt Burleson will be Settled Pastor at St. Peter's Church starting on **June 16, 2025!**

St. Peter's hosted a Meet & Greet event on March 22 so members could get to know Rev. Burleson and his wife, Julie.

Rev. Burleson preached on Sunday morning, March 23, and was approved as our new pastor by congregational vote immediately after the service.

Many thanks to the Pastor Search Team: **Prissy Rumel, Bill Dupy, Doreen Streit, Heather Shuttles and Scott Ging.**



Thanks so much to **Tessa Strider, Prissy Rumel, Anita Holubec** (pictured) and **Danny Smith** for cleaning up the front flowerbed. And thanks to **Bill Dupy** for his ongoing maintenance projects around the church and parsonage.

## Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry Saturday, April 26

Volunteers are needed to distribute food at the Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry from **7:30 am to 10:30 am on Saturday, April 26.**

If you can help, contact **Charlotte Albert** at 512-924-3335 or email [CharlotteAlbert66@gmail.com](mailto:CharlotteAlbert66@gmail.com).

We will bag groceries and then distribute the food at curbside—no heavy lifting required!

Shepherd's Heart is at 121 East 2nd Street in Taylor. You can enter through the side door on Porter Street.

## Men's Brotherhood

The Men's Brotherhood met at Café 290 in Taylor on March 12 and discussed plans for upcoming events.

The men will build a bonfire for the Easter Sunrise service and help **Peter Wabbel** with the Easter Breakfast following the service.

The group is also hosting a **Classic Car Show** at St. Peter's from 10 am to 2 pm Saturday, **May 17**. Watch for more details about the car show.



Men's Brotherhood Meeting, March 12: **Dean Rumel, Bill Dupy, Peter Wabbel, Kenneth Townsend, Ted Wittliff, Jim Alexander, Arthur Henze, Danny Smith.**

# Council Report

## March 3, 2025



**PRESENT:** Michele Dupy, Judy Downing, Ruby Wabbel, Kandice Samuelson, Prissy Rumel and Danny Smith (via phone) **ABSENT:** Bill Albert

**PASTORAL CANDIDATE WEEKEND:** Logistics for the reception, congregational meeting and vote on March 22-23 were discussed. Council discussed and approved the compensation package for the candidate as proposed by the Pastor Search Committee.

**PIANO:** David Cappolino's request for a donated Grand Piano was tabled.

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:** Barbara is having issues securing enough volunteers for usher, liturgist and projectionist on Sunday mornings. A sign-up sheet for April and May will be placed in the Sanctuary.

**MEMBERSHIP LIST:** Prissy will circulate a list at upcoming Worship services, asking members to verify their contact information so it can be updated in the Church Windows software.

**TRANSITIONAL MINISTER:** Council discussed the Transitional Ministry contract, as a follow up to the February 17th Special Called Council Meeting.

**FUTURE BUSINESS:** The following topics will be tabled until after the Settled Pastor's arrival.

- Evaluation of Church Windows software
- Digital church sign
- Updating of Constitution and Bylaws
- Volunteer Teams vs. Elected Teams
- Policies and Procedures manual

### EVENT COORDINATORS

- April: Michele Dupy
- May: Ruby Wabbel
- June: Danny Smith



**Westin Scott Finn**, son of Derrick and Elizabeth Finn and brother of Casin Finn, was baptized on March 22, 2025, by Charlotte Albert with family and friends present. Sponsors are Kerry Finn, Bethany Carey and Hanna Delacerda.



## Heart of Texas Association Spring Meeting

The Heart of Texas Association of the UCC will hold their Spring Meeting at St. Peter's Church on **Saturday, April 5**. There will be worship in our Sanctuary, a brief business meeting, and lunch served in our Fellowship Hall.

**Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve lunch!** We're so grateful for all the support the Heart of Texas Association has shown to St. Peter's this past year — let's thank them with our hospitality! Please contact **Anita Holubec** if you can help with lunch.

## Community Senior Luncheon

The Community Senior Luncheon on March 18 was a huge success. The Ladies' Circle served soup, cornbread, and peach cobbler. A total of 63 people attended the lunch, and they enjoyed bingo and 42 dominoes after the meal. Thanks to the students from Coupland ISD for their help in serving the meal and cleaning up. Everyone benefits from their presence.

A special thank you was extended to **Wanda Walther** for her help setting the tableware and condiments on the tables for many years. Wanda recently moved to La Grange with her daughter and was able to attend as a guest. We are truly going to miss your help, Wanda!

We celebrated birthdays for **Esther Smith, Grace** and **Alice**. Thanks for allowing us to share this moment in your lives!

We also want to recognize **Brynley Finn** and **Krista Poldrack** for assisting **Charlotte Albert** in decorating the tables for St. Patrick's Day. The decorations were beautiful, as usual. Thanks to Charlotte for always going the extra mile in setting the atmosphere for our luncheons and other church activities.

As always, thanks to all the ladies who volunteered, cooked, and served the delicious meal. It is definitely a group effort and a lot of hard work goes into the planning and execution of the meal.

Many thanks to all the men who help make this event a success: **Jim Alexander, Arthur Henze, Danny Smith, Ted Wittliff, and Mick Lemp**. The Ladies' Circle could not do it without you.

Our next Senior Luncheon will be on **May 20** and the meal will be provided by our renowned chef **Peter Wabbel**. Don't miss this special treat!



Community Senior Luncheon, March 18



Prissy Rumel, Cindy Alexander, Machel Sandbulte and Janet Doss



Charlotte Albert and Wanda Walther



## Social Sunday Lunch Out April 27

Don't miss Social Sunday on **April 27**, after Worship Services.

We will meet for Lunch Out at the **Lucky Duck Café**, 220 E 4th Street in Taylor.

Please make plans to join us —this is a great way to visit and get to know each other better!



Many thanks to **David Cappolino, Doreen Streit, Martha Poldrack, Prissy Rumel and Judy Downing** for the heavenly music on March 23.



## Family Village Farm

For years St. Peter's Church has financially supported children living at the Family Village Farm in Tamil Nadu, India. We recently received a letter from FVF with updates on two of the children we have sponsored in recent years.

Lavanya G is now 11 years old, in 6th grade and doing well. Madhen K graduated 10th grade, then completed a two-year training program to learn Engine Mechanics, and is currently working for a garage in the area.

Stop by the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall to read the recent correspondence from Family Village Farm, read letters written by the children, and see pictures drawn by them thanking St. Peter's for our support.



Lavanya G



Madhen K

# PRAYER list

We lift up prayers of healing and comfort for all members, friends and family who are sick, grieving, or facing challenges. Lord, hear our prayers.

We remember all those who are living in care facilities or are homebound. A card or visit really brightens their day!

Lois Schmit and Betty Marosko have been added to the list of members in Care Facilities.

Continued prayers for **Denney Poldrack, Gene Henze, Troy Watson, Robert Bland, Terry Finn, and Fred Marosko.**

For pastoral concerns or prayer requests, please contact **Charlotte Albert** at 512-924-3335 or email [CharlotteAlbert66@gmail.com](mailto:CharlotteAlbert66@gmail.com).



After the pastor's **Children's Moment** during Sunday Worship Services, children may leave the sanctuary to participate in supervised activities such as art projects, music and games. Coloring sheets are also available at the back of the Sanctuary.

## IN LOVING Memory

### Memorials for SR Moss

Scott Allen  
Mary & Bob Scarborough  
Ramona & Johnnie Michna  
John & Nancy Norton  
Don & Sandra Wernli  
Calvin Ging



## Members in Care Facilities

**Lois Schmidt:** SPJST Skilled Nursing, 1810 Old Granger Rd, Room 101, Taylor, TX 76574

**Betty Marosko:** Pavilion at Great Hills, 11819 Pavilion Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

**Robert Gebhardt:** Autumn Leaves of Georgetown, 3600 Williams Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628

**Calvin Ging:** SPJST Assisted Living, 505 East Lake Drive, Room #110, Taylor, TX 76574

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

**Karen Rhoades:** Heritage Lakes Assisted Living, Room #17, 19005 Pleasant Bay Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660



## April Birthdays

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



**Regular Giving Feb 23 thru March 30:** \$15,405

**Year-to-Date Regular Giving:** \$31,024

**Special Offerings:**

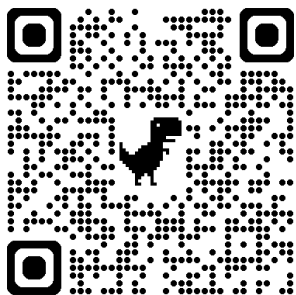
- One Great Hour of Sharing: \$570
- Memorials: \$695
- New Horizons \$20
- Building Rental \$100



St. Peter's depends on regular contributions to fund our operations.

If you aren't able to be in church regularly, please consider using your bank's **automatic bill pay** service to send funds to the church on a weekly or monthly basis.

When writing checks, it's a big help if you **write on the memo line of your check what the money is for**. It's not necessary to use an envelope for checks.



St. Peter's also accepts donations through **Venmo**. Use this QR Code or search for "StPetersCoupland" on your Venmo app. Please use check, cash or bank transfer for Regular Offerings, if possible, due to the fees charged by Venmo.



Our special offering in April is for **Down Home Ranch**, located near Elgin. This working farm and ranch was founded in 1989 by parents of a girl born with Down syndrome.

Today the ranch provides on-site housing, day programs, vocational training, and employment to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The beautiful Christmas poinsettias at St. Peter's come from the ranch greenhouse, which provides both job training and income.

You can make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities! Support this world-class organization right in our back yard. Learn more at on their website at [DownHomeRanch.org](http://DownHomeRanch.org).



## Community Connections

Our Tuesday morning Coffee Connections group has a new name—**Community Connections**—designed to encourage community involvement.

The coffee pot is on at **9:30 each Tuesday morning**, but feel free to use the Keurig machine or bring your own tea, soda, juice, smoothie or whatever :)

Community Connections is a great way to get to know people and keep up with what's going on in our area. **Invite a friend or neighbor to join you** around the conference room table at St. Peter's on Tuesday mornings!

# Event Calendar

## Sunday Mornings

Adult Sunday School, 9 am  
Worship Service and Children's Church, 10:15 am

## Tuesday Mornings

Community Connections at 9:30 am

## Saturday, April 5

UCC Heart of Texas Assoc. Meeting at St. Peter's

## Monday, April 7

Council Meeting at 5 pm

## Sunday, April 20

7:15 Sunrise Service and Breakfast  
10:15 am Worship, Pageant, Easter Egg Hunt

## Tuesday, April 22

Newsletter Deadline

## Wednesday, April 23

Men's Brotherhood Meeting

## Saturday, April 26

7:30-10:30 am Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry

## Sunday, April 27

Social Sunday: Lunch at Lucky Duck in Taylor

# Connect With Us

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

108 Wathen Street, PO Box 146  
Coupland, TX 78615 \* 512-856-2433

## **Office Hours:**

Monday to Thursday, 8:00 am -12 noon

**Email:** StPetersCoupland@gmail.com

**Facebook:** St. Peter's Church of Coupland  
or [www.facebook.com/StPetersCoupland](http://www.facebook.com/StPetersCoupland)



**Our Website:**  
[StPetersCoupland.org](http://StPetersCoupland.org)



**Venmo Donations:**  
StPetersCoupland



## Donate Your Used Eyeglasses

St. Peter's has collected **37 pair of glasses** for the Lions Club! The collection box is still in the foyer of our sanctuary.

Please check your junk drawer and ask your family and friends. All types of glasses, including prescription, readers and sunglasses are accepted. Children's glasses are especially needed. The Lions Club distributes the glasses to people in need, particularly in developing countries.

Let's all help give the gift of sight!



Children's Moment with Rev. Burlison on March 23