

THE VOICE ON THE HILL

Issue 5 Volume 10

St. Peter's Church

May 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.

Inside This Issue:

Stark Reality	2
Onward & Upward	3
Offertory Report	4
News & Such	5
Council Meeting	6
Church Calendar	7

Proverbs 31:28-30 NRSV

28 Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her:

29 "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."

30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.



Photos from our Easter Celebration!

Our Easter Service began with Sunrise Service at 7:00am followed by breakfast. Thank you to Peter Wabbel for preparing our delicious breakfast. Morning Worship began at 10:15am followed by our annual Easter Egg Hunt.





STARK REALITY

MAY 2023

As this newsletter goes to press, there is an excitement in the air! On the weekend of April 29-30, St. Peter's Church will be hosting a candidate to be their settled pastor. The Rev. Scott Wasdin comes to us from Massachusetts and is a unanimous choice of the Pastoral Search Committee (Michele Dupy, Dana Smith, Peter Wabbel, Judy Downing, and Jim Alexander). Make sure you make plans to informally meet and greet Rev. Scott on Saturday afternoon in the fellowship hall at 4:00pm. Then on Sunday morning April 30, Rev. Wasdin will lead worship with the assistance of Michele Dupy as liturgist. Following the worship service there will be a Special Congregational Meeting to vote on extending Rev. Scott a call to become your next pastor. That meeting will also have a financial component to approve renovation work at the parsonage to prepare for the arrival of Rev. Wasdin and his wife and 4 children in mid-June. As is appropriate for an Interim Pastor, I will not be present that weekend so as not to interfere with the call process.

As we move forward in May and June, please know that we will have time to say our goodbyes. I do know that saying goodbye is never easy because with it comes that dreaded fear of **CHANGE!** Although the idea of change is usually met with fear and trepidation, it is really a major part of what it means to be alive. The seasons change. The calendar changes. The clock changes. Our body changes. As I always say, **LIFE IS A JOURNEY!** That means that we can never stop change for it is always with us. Sometimes it is a tough uphill journey and sometimes it is a joyful downhill journey. St Peter's Church has been in this community for 129 years. Through all of those years it has seen many changes including many different pastors. Like our lives, the life of the church is one of constant change as well. Change is not something to be feared but something we accept as part of life.

The promise of a new pastor is a promise of a new and exciting future! Remember the promise of God as shared in Isaiah 43:18-19.

*Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

I pray that God will bless this congregation of special people as you journey on into the future. Please remember that you do not journey alone. God is with you every step of the way!

Shalom my friends.

Rev. Charles L Stark
Interim Pastor

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT UPDATE

The playground committee has been researching new equipment for our playground, and we are ready to move forward with the purchase of a playscape! At the April 30 Congregational Meeting there will be a vote for funding of this project.

Thank you so much!!





Senior Luncheon

Our next Senior Luncheon will be on May 16 at 11:30am.

We hope to see you there!!

Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli Co-Chairs



Potluck Sunday

Join us on Sunday May 28 for food and fellowship after morning worship. Bring your favorite dish to share!

Church Workday

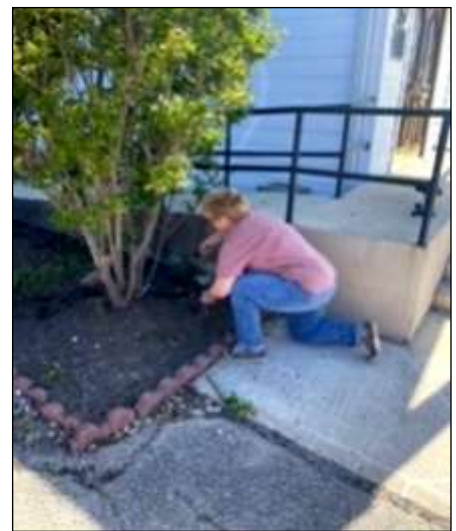
Thank You to everyone who came out on April 1 or before or after that day to volunteer to complete the projects. We had a great turnout and beautiful weather!

Laurie & Roy Morris
Arthur Henze
Lois Schmidt
Tammy Sane
Carolyn & Blake Haverland

Dean & Prissy Rummel
Scott Ging
Judy Downing
Dana & Danny Smith

Linda Miller
Becky Sutton
Bonnie Sladek
Rex & DeAnna Snell
Sharon, Matt & Paige Kreidel

Don & Sandra Wernli
Ted Wittliff
Charles Stark



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

May Birthdays

- 3rd Beau Finn, Robby Shuttles
- 4th Stephanie Ochoa, Susan Schmidt, Charles Stark
- 6th Doreen Streit, Nathaniel Gregory
- 7th Kate Wellings
- 8th Tallie Thompson, Carolyn Haverland
- 11th JoAnn Ging
- 18th Sylvia Summers
- 24th Paige Kreidel
- 26th Betty Marosko
- 28th Easton Finn
- 29th Kerry Finn





March 2023 Income

Total Regular Giving for March \$10,958

Budgeted Amount for March \$12,577

Total Regular Giving January thru March \$32,155

Budgeted Amount January thru March \$37,731

Regular Offering Only



May Worship Schedule

<p>May 7 Liturgist: Ushers: Danny & Dana Smith</p>	<p>May 14 Liturgist: Laurie Morris Ushers: Ted Wittliff</p>
<p>May 21 Liturgist: Charlotte Albert Ushers: Anita Holubec</p>	<p>May 28 Liturgist: Cindy Wood Ushers: Zac Wood</p>



South Central Conference Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ in Dallas, TX on May 19 and 20, 2023. We would like to extend an invitation to all members to attend this important event.

This year's theme, Love Like That, comes from Ephesians 5, which speaks about living in love and following in the way of Christ. In this passage, we are reminded that we are called to love others just as Christ loved us, to be kind and compassionate to one another, and to forgive each other as God forgave us. We believe that this message is particularly relevant in today's world, where conflict and division can be all too common.

During the meeting, we will remember what it means to Love Like That as we gather in fellowship and business, and do the important work of the church. There will be opportunities to learn from each other, share our successes and challenges, and develop new strategies for spreading the love of God in our communities.

We will be joined by author and pastor, Philip Gulley, who will offer insightful and inspirational messages to guide us on our spiritual journey.

In addition to doing the important work of the church through our business sessions, we will also be inviting participants to engage in acts of service. Once again, all attendees and churches are invited to create and bring Hygiene Kits which will be distributed by **Back Bay Mission**.

Sincerely,

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee



Children's Easter Pageant and Egg Hunt



Recent Memorials

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

There are no recent memorials to report



**St. Peter's Church of
Coupland
Council Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2022**

Members present: Sharon Kreidel, Janet Doss, Carolyn Haverland, Anita Holubec, Roy Morris, Bonnie Sladek, Sandra Wernli

Absent: Pastor Charles, S.R. Moss, Peter Wabbel

The agenda was adopted with additions.

Approval was received for the minutes of last month.

Financial reports for Income & Expense and Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual were reviewed by council members.

Committee reports:

Pastoral Search Committee: One application has been received and under review.

Pastor's report:

No report available at meeting due to Pastor Charles accident.

Old Business:

Member List: Letters were mailed on March 23, 2022. Some responses have been received as of April 4th. Council agreed to wait for more responses before the member list is updated.

Committee list: Assigned task force to work on committee lists. The group consists of Pastor Charles, Sharon Kreidel, Roy Morris, and Carolyn Haverland. Future meeting dates to be determined.

Call list: The Call List has been updated for 2022.

Playground: This is on hold until the siding is determined. The possibility of applying for grant money for playground equipment was

brought up. Irene Florida will provide information on grant application. Looking for a volunteer to research the information.

Authorize all St. Peter's accounts to be updated to current contacts. Stacy Stork is in process of updating all accounts.

Conference Delegate: Anita Holubec will be attending the South Central Conference.

New Business:

Domain/Facebook: Dana Smith purchased a new domain for St. Peter's Church.

Diners Group: A signup sheet will be available for members to volunteer to set up destinations.

Update facility contract: The council approved a motion to update the contract to include a guideline that states no alcohol is allowed in Fellowship Building or on church grounds.

Heart of Texas annual conference meeting will be held in April in San Antonio, TX. The council agreed that St. Peter's will send Pastor Charles as our church delegate, but no lay delegate would be sent.

Member Care: The council discussed the purpose for this fund and how the funds can be disbursed. It was determined that a process needs to be created that would provide the necessary guidelines. A committee consisting of Carolyn Haverland, Anita Holubec and Sandra Wernli will be responsible for creating the process.

Summer Program: There will be no summer program at St. Peter's. Coupland School will be notified, and information will be included in the newsletter.

Review of leveling and siding bids:

The quotes were reviewed and discussed by council members. A motion was made and approved by the council to sign the Roof Connections siding contract to lock in current prices. The council also approved the expenses for the leveling and underpinning. The estimated cost for the projects is \$167,640.

The council also discussed future projects that will need to or may be addressed:

- A propane leak was discovered and repaired. It was noted that the propane tank and line are 30+ years old and may need to be replaced.
- A new fire extinguisher for the kitchen area needs to be purchased. The building maintenance fund will be used for this.
- A monitoring system for the church and Fellowship Building would allow for emergencies to be identified when no one is on the premises.
- Updating the Parsonage: The estimated cost is \$40K-50K to update the parsonage. This includes leveling, new siding, replacing AC, dishwasher, and carpet.

Sign: The estimated cost is \$6,000 to purchase a new sign.

Grounds upkeep: Will need to be addressed.

A review of the calendars was done for May and June with a few changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Alexander

Secretary

**The next Council Meeting
will be May 21 at 11:30am**

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am LIFT 6:00pm at Monarcas in Taylor	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Mother's Day	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Elgin Ministerial Alliance 11:30am Senior Lunch 11:30am	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Newsletter Deadline South Central Conference Clergy Retreat	<i>19</i> South Central Conference Annual Meeting	<i>20</i> South Central Conference Annual Meeting
<i>21</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship/ Communion Church Council	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 9:15am Adult Class 10:15am Worship Potluck Luncheon	<i>29</i> Memorial Day Office Closed	<i>30</i> Coffee Connections 9:30am Newsletter Assembly 10:30am	<i>31</i>			

THE VOICE ON THE HILL

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

May 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 Ministers -

Charlotte Albert

Pianist/Choir Director

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"