

St. Peter's

KEYS

The monthly newsletter of the Episcopal Church in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin.

November 2011



Editor

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OUR VISION

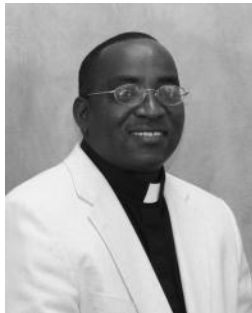
*To be a vibrant,
Christ-centered
community,
actively reaching
out to help and
to bring others to
Christ.*

OUR MISSION

*To provide
opportunities for
all people to grow
in Faith, Hope,
and Love.*

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

by Samuel Nsengiyumva



For some time now, I have come to know the months of November, December, and January as the season of thanksgiving. It is during this time that songs like *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart, Come Ye Thankful People, Now Thank We All Our God, Bless the*

Lord O My Soul, and several others, take on a much more significant meaning.

In November as Thanksgiving Day approaches, I reflect on the blessings of my family, friends, a place to call home, a wonderful job, physical health, and many more blessings. In December as Christmas approaches, I reflect on the spiritual blessings – God’s amazing love for me and the world as demonstrated in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In January, I begin to reflect on the gift of life and God’s protection and providence through the years. This is indeed a season of Thanksgiving. The thing that gives me greater joy is to see many other people who feel the same way about this season. I see it in the family gatherings on Thanksgiving Day, I see it in the yard signs reminding us to *Keep Christ in Christmas*, and I see it in the New Year celebrations around the world. On the other hand, I am very aware of the temptation for some to focus on the celebrations themselves with little or no attention to their meaning. It is possible for people to be so worried about the details of a Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas gifts, or New Year celebrations that they lose the whole point. Indeed, for some, these events have become a source of great misery.

Giving thanks with a grateful heart is only possible when we are intentional about it. Fortunately for us, we have activities that remind and help us to reflect on these matters. The activities

around Consecration Sunday – the letters, the bulletin inserts, the testimonies, the sermons, etc. are meant to help us reflect on the blessings of our lives and so respond with thanksgiving. The pledge we make on Consecration Sunday is meant to be a Thank Offering offered in gratitude and devotion to the God who loves and blesses us abundantly. Other opportunities we have to reflect on what it means to give thanks with a grateful heart is the United Thank Offering (UTO) in gathering, the Adopt-a-Family for Christmas, and beginning this year, the Operation Christmas Child.

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, may we take some time to reflect on the things we are thankful for and then express our thanks in tangible ways. May the Consecration Sunday on November 13, the UTO in-gathering on November 20, and several other occasions be for you opportunities to give thanks with a grateful heart to the God who has done so much for you and me.

*Give thanks with a Grateful Heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One, Give Thanks
Because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son
And Now, Let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us
Give Thanks.*



Coffee Hour Groups



In an effort to improve attendance at Sunday School, Christian education for the youth will take place during the 10:15 a.m. service starting next Sunday, November 6th.

The adult Christian education program has been well-attended and will continue to be conducted from 9 to 10 a.m. For parents who wish to attend adult education, the nursery is available for younger children and the older children are welcome to bring books or electronics and sit in the Sunday School room. A variety of movies are also available in the nursery for children of all ages to view. Thanks for your understanding of the need for this change.

Coffee Hour

The new format for serving at coffee hour seems to have been well received. Fellowship is one of those positive attributes that makes St. Peter's such a great place to be. Coffee hour certainly lives up to its reputation as welcoming. Many thanks to all!

The following guidelines are offered as a reminder of how the new format works.

Team leaders and team members communicate with each other to decide how the month of Sunday's will be covered. Some groups have members who do part of the work every Sunday, and other groups have members who commit to one Sunday and do all the work. Either option is acceptable as long as communication takes place. If team members do not hear from team leaders, feel free to call a leader and let them know what you are able to do.

While generous food offerings seem to be the trend, we encourage teams to be open to more basic offerings too. It has never been expected to be a full meal unless there is a special reason to plan it that way. Don't be afraid to do less.

St. Peter's Church furnishes the kitchen with basic supplies. There is usually a piece of paper on the kitchen counter for the basic supplies grocery list. If you are serving and notice some supplies are low or completely out, please add them to the list.

Finally, if you would like to make a change in your team assignment, please see Joan B. or Judy B.

Group 1 – January & July

Team Leaders – Joan Bruggink (467-3202)
& Joanne Strassburger (207-0682)
Amanda & Rob Zimmerman (467-3933)
Marie Rose Nirere (550-2272)
Eline Nikuze (208-7166)
Sauda & Arnold Hakizimana (208-0542)
Katie & Shannon Williams (550-3223)

Group 2 – February & August

Team Leaders – Dollie Cromwell (893-5215)
& Mickey Heinig (876-4130)
Louise Robson (467-0920)
Pam Ellis (980-2011)
Judy Goes (458-0149)
Barb & Becky Schultz (980-5401)
Lisa Milne (467-0547)
Dina & Andy Schleicher (467-9780)

Group 3 – March & September

Team Leaders – Beth & Paul Bartelt (565-6227)
& Laurel & Mike Cizauskas (726-4808)
Lynn & Brock Brownrigg (876-1179)
Heather & Greg Schneider (254-5720)
Samantha Theis
Terri & Randy LeMahieu (452-6199)
Nancy Simenz (452-0083)

Group 4 – April & October

Team Leaders – Kirk Heinig (893-8248)
& Char Stevens (467-4738)
Linda Gregoire (467-3521)
Francine Cameron (467-1621)
Helen Seubert (467-0660)
Barb & Roger Nysse (980-9215)
Cheryl & Betty Dobrzynski (893-2860)
Cheryl & Paul Marti (467-8415)

Group 5 – May & November

Team Leaders – Sharon & Roger Dulmes (458-0574)
& Linda & George Palmer (457-1522)
Louise & Richard Bennin (459-8515)
Sandy Peterson (467-3446)
Vicky & Dan Meyer (565-5026)
Gordy Pribek (467-6287)
Ricky Vono (457-1522)

Group 6 – June & December

Team Leaders – Heather & Tom Schneider (467-6568) & Lindy & Charlie Malingowski (467-6157)
Judy Behl (458-7198)
Dona Heinig (467-6325)
Raylyn Krauter (980-3244)
Ann & Jon Weeden (893-0150)

St. Peter's

ADVENT RETREAT

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord"

Saturday, December 10, 2011

Conducted by

Kitty Clark

Spiritual Programs Coordinator

The DeKoven Center, Racine

Advent is a time for silence, a time for waiting, a time for new hope, new expectations. In many ways it is everyone's favorite season. *And yet long-time spiritual writer Henri Nouwen rightly wonders, "Do we have enough silence in our lives to hear the Lord when He comes?" The question gives us pause.*

A Quiet Day like this is no more than a breathing space, our conductor reminds us, a chance to be still, if only for these hours, to reconnect with that still-point in our inner lives, to reclaim it for our own.

Of all the world's religions, of all the philosophies of how things are or should be, Christianity's claim is unique: that at one single moment in human history our God was born among us a human baby, born to live the life we live and die the death we die, to be with us in pain and in joy, born indeed to turn our darkness into light.

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!" This is our charge as surely as it was John the Baptist's, or the charge of the Prophet Isaiah who looked not only to the Suffering Servant when once he dwelt among us – but to that final day when God's light and glory would again flood his creation, when the lamb would lie down with the lamb and spears be turned to pruning hooks.

"Yea, we have a goodly heritage," the Psalmist reminds us. And indeed we do! "Prepare ye the way of the Lord!" How do we prepare our innermost selves for the Lord's own coming? A Quiet Day can be a surprising help. We give these hours into God's own keeping. What God does for each of us may very well surprise us. *We are entering the last weeks of Advent, a time of mystery, of wonder, even of awe. St. Clement of Alexandria says, "Blessed is that person in whose heart Christ is born daily." May our hearts too become a Bethlehem as once more we prepare for the Lord at his coming!*

Kitty has been serving for 15 years as volunteer spiritual programs coordinator at The DeKoven Center in Racine, where she now lives. She is a clergy widow, mother of five children, grandmother of twelve, awed great grandmother of two, and English teacher long retired. Kitty brings to this Retreat a life-time's experience attending Retreats, and in the last 20 years leading them in several Dioceses and at The DeKoven Center. The Bishop of Northern Indiana, where she is canonically resident, has named her an honorary Canon of the Cathedral of St. James, a gift and honor she treasures.

In preparation for Consecration Sunday coming up on November 13th, please prayerfully consider your level of giving for the year ahead and decide if you are able to step up your giving. The chart below may be helpful as you do this.

Weekly Income	Beyond a Tithe		Tithe	Upper Range Giving			Middle Range Giving			Lower Range Giving		
	15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$200	\$30	\$24	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$2
\$300	\$45	\$36	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$3
\$400	\$60	\$48	\$40	\$36	\$32	\$28	\$24	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$75	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
\$600	\$90	\$72	\$60	\$54	\$48	\$42	\$36	\$30	\$24	\$18	\$12	\$6
\$700	\$105	\$84	\$70	\$63	\$56	\$49	\$42	\$35	\$28	\$21	\$14	\$7
\$800	\$120	\$96	\$80	\$72	\$64	\$56	\$48	\$40	\$32	\$24	\$16	\$8
\$900	\$135	\$108	\$90	\$81	\$72	\$63	\$54	\$45	\$36	\$27	\$18	\$9
\$1,000	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
\$1,100	\$165	\$132	\$110	\$99	\$88	\$77	\$66	\$55	\$44	\$33	\$22	\$11
\$2,000	\$300	\$240	\$200	\$180	\$160	\$140	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$60	\$40	\$20
\$3,000	\$450	\$360	\$300	\$270	\$240	\$210	\$180	\$150	\$120	\$90	\$60	\$30

Find where YOU are on the chart (your weekly income/giving).

Move one block to the left to determine what GROW ONE % would be for you.



Women of Faith is coming back to the Bradley Center in Milwaukee October 5-6, 2012. Carol Entringer from St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Falls is organizing a group of women from the area to attend the conference. Tickets for the two-day event are \$90, and they also have a block of hotels reserved for around \$102. per night if you are interested in staying overnight. This would make a wonderful Christmas gift idea for yourself or an important woman in your life. Contact Carol Entringer at 920-627-6627 or contact Angela Ruh in the church office for more info. www.womenoffaith.com

Have you seen the pink posters around church? LifeLine Screening will be here once again on Monday, Nov. 21st doing health screenings. Call 1-800-324-1851 to pre-register.

The Gathering Place Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a creative and meaningful use of your free time? The Gathering Place, a social model day program for adults with memory loss, located in Sheboygan Falls is seeking volunteers. Volunteers are truly the strength of The Gathering Place.

Volunteer hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30am-3:30pm For the busier individual half days are gratefully accepted. This can be once a week or twice a month. What can a volunteer do at The Gathering Place? Our first focus is on building relationships. We also believe in providing physical, social, emotional, cognitive, spiritual and community-based activities. If you have a talent for socializing with individuals, cooking meals, art music, writing, or crafts, you just may enjoy spending a day with us. The Gathering Place is located in St. Paul Lutheran church, on Hwy PPP, Sheboygan Falls. For more information please contact the Executive Director, Cindy Musial at 627-6847.


Birthdays

November 3 – Lily Schneider
 November 5 – Roger Nysse
 November 19 – Joanne Strassburger



<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeter/Usher</u>	<u>Reader/Prayers</u>	<u>Chalice</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
11/6	Roger & Sharon Dulmes	Beth Bartelt	George & Linda Palmer	Charlie Malingowski
11/13	Randy & Terri LeMahieu	Gordie Pribek	Joan Bruggink & Barb Schultz	Lindy Malingowski
11/20	Paul & Beth Bartelt	Nancy Simenz	Lynn & Brock Brownrigg	Isaac Cizauskas
11/27	Judy Goes & Helen Seubert	Louise Robson	Terri & Randy LeMahieu	Ethan Cizauskas
12/4	Tom & Heather Schneider	Brock Brownrigg	George & Linda Palmer	Charlie Malingowski
12/11	Children	Children	Joan Bruggink & Barb Schultz	Ethan Cizauskas
12/18	Char Stevens & Louise Robson	Nancy Simenz	Lynn & Brock Brownrigg	Isaac Cizauskas
12/24	Gordie Pribek & Joanne Strassburger	Louise Robson	Randy & Terri LeMahieu	Charlie Malingowski
12/25	Mike & Laurel Cizauskas	Roger Dulmes	George & Linda Palmer	Lindy Malingowski
1/1	Marie Rose	Beth Bartelt	Joan Bruggink & Barb Schultz	Ethan Cizauskas
1/8	George & Linda Palmer	Gordie Pribek	Lynn & Brock Brownrigg	Charlie Malingowski
1/15	Roger & Sharon Dulmes	Barb Schultz	Randy & Terri LeMahieu	Lindy Malingowski
1/22	Heather & Tom Schneider	Judy Goes	George & Linda Palmer	Isaac Cizauskas
1/29	Char Stevens & Louise Robson	Nancy Simenz	Joan Bruggink & Barb Schultz	Ethan Cizauskas

If you are interested in serving on or being removed from the liturgical schedule, please see our Senior Warden, Linda Palmer. If you are ever unable to serve in your scheduled position on a given date, please switch with someone else on the schedule. Thank you!



Sunday, November 6th, 2:00AM, daylight saving time ends. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour and check the batteries in your smoke detectors.

	September		Year-To-Date		Difference
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Income					
Contributions	\$8,956.00	\$12,794.00	\$86,280.52	\$115,146.00	-\$28,865.48
Other Income	\$374.45	\$884.00	\$7,024.77	\$8,756.00	-\$1,731.23
Total Income	\$9,330.45	\$13,678.00	\$93,305.29	\$123,902.00	-\$30,596.71
Expenses	\$12,888.75	\$12,978.49	\$115,563.31	\$128,485.21	\$12,921.90
Difference	-\$3,558.30		-\$22,258.02		

November is St. Peter's month to help in the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry. Your donations of food items are needed now more than ever in these tough economic times. Please place your food donations in the basket at the back of church, and if you are able to volunteer your time at the Food Pantry, contact Joan Bruggink for more info. Thank you for your participation in this critical ministry to our community.



As Thanksgiving approaches, it's an ideal time to acknowledge and to give thanks for our blessings. The United Thank Offering is a wonderful way to say thank you and to help another in need. Individuals and families are encouraged to express thankfulness and to deposit coins in a UTO box at dinnertime. Please place the box in the offering plate by November 20th. For those who prefer to make a one-time, tax-deductible donation, envelopes are also available with the boxes at the back of the church and downstairs on the information table. Thanks for your assistance with this beneficial project.

**LET US COME BEFORE HIM WITH
THANKSGIVING AND EXTOL HIM WITH
MUSIC AND SONG. PSALM 95:2**

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CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday

Holy Eucharist

8AM and 10:15AM

Christian Education for all
ages 9-10AM

(Child care available from 9AM
through end of the 10:15 service)

Wednesday

Holy Eucharist

9AM

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION...

- The St. Peter's Book Club has chosen a historical fiction about the Mormon culture, "The Nineteenth Wife" by David Ebershoff, for its next discussion. The meeting will be at 6 p.m. November 15 at the Church House. Please bring an item for the group's popular and tasty buffet. We hope to see you there!
- If you wish to prepare a Christmas box for a needy child via the Samaritan's Purse program, instructional forms are available on the information table downstairs. Boxes need to be returned to church by 11 a.m. November 6th. Please leave boxes in the library downstairs.
- If you know of an individual, couple or family who needs assistance this holiday season, please complete a nomination form for St. Peter's Adopt-A-Family program. Forms are available on the information table downstairs.
- Feasting on Gratitude is this year's stewardship theme. Please take some time to read the reflection in your bulletin insert on Sundays or visit them online at <http://www.thestewardswell.org/>. Also, watch for the letters you are receiving in the mail. Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated on Nov. 13 followed by a Brunch.
- Thanksgiving and Christmas can be particularly difficult times for those who are adjusting to the death of a loved one. Wenig Funeral Homes are hosting a "Holiday Service of remembrance" to be held at Hingham Reformed Church in Hingham on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 13, 2011 at 2:00PM. The public is welcome. Call 467-3431 for more information.