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# ST PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC

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SEPTEMBER 2020



God pays attention to how serious we are about our spiritual convictions, to live a Christian life dedicated to Him. As we go through our time here on earth, we are frequently confronted with temptations and testing. We are called to make good on our original convictions we signed on to when we invited Jesus to come into our heart to rule and reign in our lives.

Every man and woman must teach their family these precepts in order to protect them from the destructive influences of wrong desires, false philosophies, and evil companions.

Here are ten Scriptural convictions to learn and hang onto, as we live out this temporary assignment on planet earth.

1. God alone is sovereign, and the Bible is His inspired Word and the final authority for my life.
2. My purpose in life is to seek God with my whole heart and to build my goals around His priorities.
3. My body is the living temple of God and must not be defiled by the lusts of the world.
4. My church must teach the foundational truths of the Bible and reinforce my basic convictions.
5. My children and grandchildren belong to God, and it is my responsibility to teach them Scriptural principles, Godly character, and basic convictions.
6. My activities must never weaken the Scriptural convictions of another Christian.
7. My marriage is a life-long commitment to God and to my marriage partner.
8. My money is a trust from God and must be earned and managed according to Scriptural principles.
9. My words must be in harmony with God's Word, especially when reproofing and restoring a Christian brother or sister.
10. My affections must be set on things above, not on things of the world.

Blessings!

Pastor Larry Worden, Interim



The St. Peter's board held their August board meeting on Wednesday evening August 19, 2019 at 6:30 p. m. After roll call several board members brought to our attention prayer requests. David Hampton led the board in prayer for these needs.

The board then reviewed and approved both the prior month's minutes and treasurer's reports.

The following Old Business items were discussed:

- Review of numerous church maintenance and improvement projects-most if which have been completed
- Review of our investments
- Discussion of continued Covid 19 social distancing
- Discussion of possible upgrade of our projector/sound system to make it more user friendly and versatile
- Discussion of Pastoral Search Committee updates
- The board decided to hold communion in the Sunday morning service of September 6th.

There was no New Business to discuss. The September board meeting will be on Wednesday evening September 9th, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m. September communion steward is Sherry Coker. September newsletter deadline is Wednesday August 24th. Pastor Larry led the board in prayer after we adjourned.

Following is a scripture that Kay Rill quoted to Denise and I several times over the last few days of her life. In a way I believe that this message from Kay was a testimony that she would want me to share with all her St. Peter's family:

Proverbs 3:5,6

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not in your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path.*

What a wonderful testimony from a person we all loved and who loved everyone. She lived her life for Jesus and was an example that we would all do well to follow.

God speed Kay Rill!

We love you and look forward to being with you again someday in heaven.

David Hampton  
Board President



Web links provided at our church web site:  
[www.stpetersucc.us](http://www.stpetersucc.us)

Looking for some free, online daily devotionals? Here are a few to try and see if they suit your needs.

- [United Church of Christ](#) –Daily Devotionals that can be sent to your email. New each day and access to archives too.
- [Our Daily Bread](#)—Daily Devotionals, video devotionals, special group devotions for teens, moms, etc. Lots to see here.
- [Upper Room](#) —Devotionals written by people like you. Do you have a story that would create a devotional? You can share yours!

## September Scriptures

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2020	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149	Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 13, 2020	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114	Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 20, 2020	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Jonah 3:10-4:11 Psalm 145:1-8	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 2020	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

### *When God Crosses our Paths..*

Pastor and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, “God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions.” Last spring, the whole world had plans canceled, first by Covid-19 and then by God “sending us people with claims and petitions.” Some needed prayers for healing or for coping with grief. Medical staff, teachers, pastors and others serving long hours needed support: meals, check-in calls, “thinking of you” cards. Parents working remotely while helping kids with distance-learning needed encouragement. Crucial nonprofit work still required donations.

Pre-pandemic, you may not have realized that staying home or wearing a face mask could be a ministry. Or that sending a card expresses love in Jesus’ name. Or that buying takeout from a local restaurant can be a gift to the owners. When our calendars empty, God “crosses our paths” in new ways – both to be with us and to nudge us toward others (even if virtually, or 6 feet apart!).



THANK  
YOU

FOR PRACTICING SOCIAL  
DISTANCING!

**St. Peter's Evangelical United Church of Christ**

**Financial Report**

Cash on Hand July 1, 2020						\$76,588.11
Receipts:		<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current Expense		1,000.00	933.50	1,330.00	1,440.00	4,703.50
OCWM			30.00			30.00
Loose		40.00	50.00	30.00		120.00
Totals		<u>1,040.00</u>	<u>1,013.50</u>	<u>1,360.00</u>	<u>1,440.00</u>	\$4,853.50
Rental Income						\$850.00
Interest Income						\$5.86
PPP Account Funds						<u>\$653.70</u>
Total Cash on Hand and Monthly Receipts						\$79,505.75

**ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL UCC  
ACTUAL ANALYSIS  
2020**

	<u>ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR CUR. EXPENSE</u>	<u>ACTUAL DISBURSEMENTS FOR CUR EXPENSE</u>
JANUARY	\$6,231.00	\$3,099.00
FEBRUARY	\$5,636.00	\$3,922.00
MARCH	\$3,807.00	\$8,085.00
APRIL	\$6,821.00	\$3,412.00
MAY	\$11,752.00	\$3,796.00
JUNE	\$8,828.00	\$12,324.00
JULY	\$6,327.00	\$14,151.00
YTD	<u>\$ 49,402.00</u>	<u>\$ 48,789.00</u>
DIFFERENCE =		\$613.00

**Many Parts, One Body**

Through the teaching, support, sacrifice, worship and commitment of the church, utterly ordinary people are enabled to do some rather extraordinary, even heroic acts, not on the basis of their own gifts and abilities, but rather by having a community capable of sustaining Christian virtue. The church enables us to be better people than we could have been if left to our own devices.

—Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon



# September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Worship Service 10:30 am	7 	8	9 Church Board Meeting 6:30 pm	10	11 	12
13 Worship Service 10:30 am	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Worship Service 10:30 am	21	22 	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25	26
27 Worship Service 10:30 am	28	29	30	<p><i>Other church activities will resume when the Church Board determines it is safe to do so.</i></p>		



## ALPHA & OMEGA

God created this world,  
everything that it holds.  
And God still is creating  
as each day unfolds.  
What we once called the future,  
we now call the past.  
While the present is fleeting,  
God stays — first and last!  
—Peggy Ferrell

## The Joy of Work

How do we know if we are doing the work we are meant (or called) to do? The clue is whether we feel joy when we carry out our daily duties. There is no joy, if we agonize daily because our particular laboring leaves us unfulfilled and restless. Our mental and spiritual health might demand a change.

Christians believe that God has a plan for our lives. God has given us talents to do certain work.



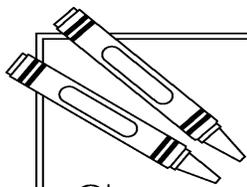
When we are not doing the tasks we are suited for, we will probably be in some misery.

Workers who delight in their jobs can hardly wait to be productive. Many who love their work find joy in what they accomplish and are able to say, "I'm glad that I'm able to serve God through my work."

—Charles Ferrell

Therefore,  
since we are surrounded by  
so great a cloud of witnesses,  
let us also lay aside  
every weight, and...  
*run with endurance the race*  
that is set before us,  
*looking to Jesus*  
the founder and  
perfecter of our faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2



## Just for KIDS

### Search for Wisdom

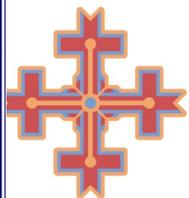
It's the start of a new school year! You'll learn many things and read many books. There's an important book in the Bible called the book of Proverbs. It tells us to learn about God and to search for wisdom.

Read Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV) below, and then search the puzzle for the capital words. → ← ↓ ↑ ↘ ↙

"... if you ACCEPT my words and store up my COMMANDS within you, turning your EAR to WISDOM and applying your HEART to UNDERSTANDING, and if you call out for INSIGHT and cry aloud for understanding, and if you LOOK for it as for SILVER and SEARCH for it as for hidden TREASURE, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the KNOWLEDGE of GOD."

U	F	R	P	Q	X	I	X	H	E	A	R	T
D	N	R	D	X	R	M	P	F	I	C	O	E
H	A	D	I	Z	O	I	P	J	E	B	G	X
S	E	G	E	D	C	R	N	R	J	D	P	H
S	Y	U	S	R	E	O	U	S	E	O	C	I
E	U	I	E	V	S	S	M	L	I	Y	K	B
A	W	K	L	D	A	T	W	M	H	G	Z	P
R	X	I	P	E	T	O	A	K	A	C	H	L
C	S	D	R	P	N	J	G	N	N	N	E	T
H	J	T	J	K	O	N	O	V	D	W	D	K
H	U	Y	N	L	O	R	D	O	S	I	O	S
Z	X	Z	A	G	X	C	Z	M	U	O	N	J
A	C	C	E	P	T	S	Y	D	L	E	D	G

## Christian Symbol—Cross Crosslet



*This cross is formed of four smaller Latin crosses joined at their overlapping bases. The cross as a whole represents the spreading of the gospel to the four corners of the earth. This cross is often used in connection with missions.*





September 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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