



The Voice

St. Peter's Church of Coupland

May, 2026

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

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Vice President

Prissy Rumel

Vice President

Danny Smith

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Kay Hart

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Charles Stark

Church Work Day May 16th



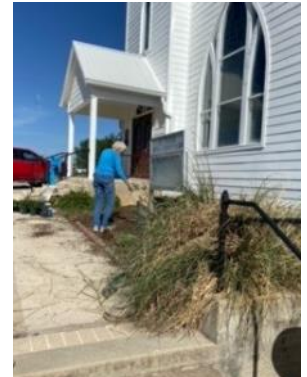
SPRING WORK DAY, SATURDAY MAY 16TH @ 9am

Spring is here and it's time to do a little work around the Church.

On Saturday, May 16th, from 9am - 12noon, we will be holding a Work Day to accomplish various projects in and around St. Peter's.

Bring work gloves and a great attitude and we'll supply the rest!

~Lists will be compiled and available for various tasks needed ~
Contact Danny Smith at dannydonsmith@gmail.com for details.





The Rose

Theodore Roethke

*Near this rose, in this grove of sun-parched,
wind-warped madronas
Among the half-dead trees,
I came upon the true ease of myself.
As if another man appeared
out of the depths of my being,
And I stood outside myself,
beyond becoming and perishing,
As something wholly other,
As if I swayed out on the wildest wave alive,
And yet was still.
And I rejoiced in being what I was. . . .*

I love this piece of poetry. It fell in my lap years ago and since then I've taken note of these kinds of moments that come my way, the ones where I "come upon the true ease of myself." Are you familiar with those gifts... you know where you stop wrestling you. It's a gift isn't it, something we should mark and keep an eye out for. You'll want to say thanks.

I hope... I pray... I know... that the Divine is behind the grace when "the true ease of ourselves" pops upon us and we are "beyond becoming and perishing" and we get to rejoice in being who we are.

God's peace,

Burt

Volunteer Corner

This section will be dedicated to listing opportunities for you to be involved in helping the ministries and activities of the church.

Volunteers needed for the Church Work Day, Saturday, May 16th, 9am. No special skills needed. There are jobs for everyone. Please contact Danny Smith at dannydonsmith@gmail.com if you can help.

Volunteers are needed to help with serving and clean up for the Senior Luncheon, May 19th at 11:30 am.

Community Senior Luncheon

The Ladies' Circle at St. Peter's Church of Coupland will be hosting the next community luncheon on May 19th at 11:30 a.m. The meal is free, but donations are appreciated. Attendees can enjoy bingo and 42 dominoes afterward.

Please bring a \$10 bingo prize if you are able, but not necessary to enjoy in the fun.

Cindy Alexander
President



Third Annual Car Show – April 11, 2026

The Men's Brotherhood of St. Peter's Church of Coupland held their Third Annual Car Show on April 11, 2026. Due to the risk of rain, the turnout was not as good as we were hoping for. There was a total of 29 classic vehicles, compared to 57 in 2025. We had a variety of classic cars including Model A's to a short 1951 short school bus.

A total of four trophies were awarded:

- The Men's Brotherhood Choice Trophy went to James Marks with a gorgeous 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air.
- The Pastor's Choice Trophy went to Don Burkland with a 1936 Ford Model A.
- The People's Choice Trophy went to Bill Dupy with a really nice 1930 Ford Model A.
- The Best in Show Trophy went to John Jones with a 1968 Dodge Charger.

Special thanks goes to Jeff Nevers with Old Car Revival in Coupland for making all of the one-of-a-kind trophies.

There was a 50/50 raffle that was held for the first time, and congratulations go to the winner, Jennifer Bird.

I want to personally thank everyone who attended and all the people who helped put the event on.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

Jim Alexander, President
Men's Brotherhood





THANK YOU FROM JEANETTE WATSON

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers during my three hospital stays, which totaled 28 days over February and March. Your prayers were truly felt and deeply appreciated.

I would also like to thank the Ladies Circle for organizing a meal train for the two weeks following my return home. Your kindness and support helped me more than I can express.

Again, thank you all for your prayers and support. I love my church family!

Jeanette Watson

Thank you to the following people who assisted with the Car Show

- Jim for organizing and the Men's Brotherhood for facilitating
- The Ladies Circle and All, who brought baked goods
- Bodie Doss for bringing his barbecue trailer and Adam Muery for donating the sausage
- Russell Schmidt and the City of Coupland for the barricades

A/C REPAIRS ON UPSTAIRS UNIT

a Big THANK YOU... to Peter and Bill for diagnosing the problem.

Bill for ordering the parts necessary for repairs and to Peter for installing the equipment and making sure it worked probably.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

Easter 2026 Photos






LADIES' CIRCLE

The Ladies' Circle at St. Peter's Church of Coupland hosted a bake sale at the Men's Brotherhood Third Annual Car Show on April 11, 2026. There were a lot of home baked cookies, cakes, breads, banana pudding and other treats for sale. Thanks to all the ladies who donated their time and talents.

PRAYER list

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

The passing of Julie Burleson's Brother-in-law.

As a community we hold in our hearts and pray for those who are impacted and grieving the tragedies in our nation and around the world: the floods and fires, the shootings, accidents, and escalation of war.

Lord, hear our prayers.

For pastoral care contact Pastor Burt at CouplandPastor@gmail.com.

Members in Care Facilities

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

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

Calvin Ging: SPJST Assisted Living, 505 East Lake Drive, Room #111, 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

ST. PETER'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - April 7, 2026

PRESENT: All 8 Council Members +Burt

ABSENT: Ted Witliff (illness)

Event Coordination

April - Michele & May - Charles Stark

- Car Show - April 11
- Manville Water - April 16
- Shepherd's Heart - April 25

Reports

Financial Report

- Regular Giving and Expenses are on track in 1st quarter

Financial Secretary's Report

Discussion regarding Venmo account management with Action Steps.

Pastor Burt's Pastoral Report

Sunday School during Lent: 10 adults and up to 8 children

- 9 pastoral care visits
- Attic begun to be cleaned out and organized.

Other Reports— Natural Burial

Inquiry received regarding Natural Burial at St. Peter's Cemetery -(interment within 24 hours without embalming, using a biodegradable container or none). Legal in the State of Texas • **MOTION** passed to allow Natural Burial at St. Peter's Cemetery with amendment to cemetery rules requiring using a contracted grave digger from the church's approved list.

Previous Business

B. Memorial Fund — Parking

Council discussed replacing broken parking stops with rubber/composite (\$500 for 20 units) and retaining the good concrete ones. **MOTION** passed to approve and funds to be allocated from Memorial Fund.

New Business

Spring Work Day - Saturday, May 16, 2026, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Work Day to cover: painting, cleaning, and other facility tasks. A list will be prepared for the congregation.

Heart of Texas Association — Spring Meeting - April 18th @Faith United New Braunfels.

We need up to 5 Lay Delegates to attend in addition to our authorized Ministers (Burt, Charles,& Charlotte). Call the Church Office to sign up!

Digital Sign

Discussion of digital sign being cost prohibitive. Researched more modest road sign on Hwy 95 at the new Stop Light. Prissy to investigate and report.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 5, at 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Hart, Council Secretary

South Central Conference

Sign up for the weekly SCC E-News.

<https://sccucc.org/scc-e-news/>



2026 Annual Meeting Registration is Open!

Join us June 5 & 6th at Friends Congregational Church in College Station for the Annual Meeting of the South Central Conference.

sccucc.org

Hotel reservation information is in the final stages of confirmation and the booking link will be sent out next week in a stand alone email.

FILMING AT ST. PETERS MAY 23RD

If you happened to drive by the church on Saturday May 23 you may wonder what in the world is taking place. Our Church Council was approached this spring about using our church for a filming project. The producer is a UT film student and this is a major project for him and his crew. There are about 30 crew members.

We are negotiating the last few details, but the crew will be filming in our sanctuary for 12 hours on that Saturday. They are suggesting that the time frame may be 6:00am – 6:00pm. During that day they will be using our Fellowship Hall for feeding the crew and for storing some equipment.

The plan is for them to bring a cargo trailer with all of their equipment on Friday May 22 and park it in front of the church. At the end of the filming day, they will load up the trailer and move it to our remote parking lot across Broad Street. They will pick up the trailer on Sunday.

Charles Stark and Danny Smith will share in being present during the filming so that we will have someone present during the entire day to supervise the group's presence in our facilities. Both Charles and Danny met with the producer and director at the church so we have a very good idea of what will be taking place and they are satisfied in terms of what will be taking place on that Saturday May 23.



May Mission Offering Heifer International



Heifer International helps small farmers sustainably address hunger and poverty in their communities. Since 1944, Heifer has assisted 52 million households and they now operate in 19 countries.

With this month's mission offering, St. Peter's has the opportunity to provide farm animals to families in need, along with training to help them maximize the opportunity.

For each **\$120** that we raise, we can gift a **goat** to provide milk, cheese and butter to nourish a family.

Gifts of **\$20** will buy a starter flock of **chicks** to provide eggs, a good source of protein.

Offspring and excess products can be sold, generating a sustainable stream of income and helping lift families out of poverty.

Gifts like these can be life-changing. Please give generously! Just write "Heifer" on your check.

IN LOVING
Memory

In Memory of Nancy Pfluger Payne

Given By: Calvin Ging

In Memory of Betty Marosko

Given By: Calvin Ging

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Mornings

Adult Sunday School 9:00 am
Children's Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship at 10:15 am

Monday Evenings

Fitness Dance Class 7:00 pm

Tuesday Mornings

Community Connections 9:30 am

Tuesday, May 5

Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Saturday, May 16

Church Work Day 9:00 am - 12noon

Tuesday, May 19

Senior Lunch 11:30am

Saturday, May 23

UT Film Project

Monday, May 25

Office Closed for Memorial Day

Sunday, May 31

Potluck Sunday
Noisy Offering Sunday

Connect With Us

St. Peter's Church of Coupland

PO Box 146

108 Wathen Street (physical address)
Coupland, TX 78615 * 512-856-2433

Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday, 8:00 am -12 noon

Office Email: StPetersCoupland@gmail.com

Pastor Email: CouplandPastor@gmail.com

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



Our Website:

StPetersCoupland.org

Venmo Donations:

StPetersCoupland

Photos of Church Life

