



The Voice

St. Peter's Church of Coupland

July, 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

President

Vacant

Vice President

Prissy Rumel

Vice President

Danny Smith

Council Secretary

Kay Hart

Financial Secretary

Kandice Samuelson

Council Members

Robert Bland

Judy Downing

Charles Stark

TREASURER

Ted Wittliff

LICENSED MINISTER

Charlotte Albert

MUSIC DIRECTOR

David Cappolino

CHURCH SECRETARY

Barbara Coleman

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Charles Stark



Wishing you a safe
and happy 4th of July!



Sunday was a meaningful and hard day, as I let the church know that I have resigned as pastor. My “sermon” was actually a time to share my journey through ministry and some of what impacted me. Knowing I would have a chance to write a few more thoughts and it’s about those in the pew and their impact on our lives and ministry.

I’ve often said that those in the ministry are ordained and ordained and ordained. The congregation and the individuals in the church support, encourage, invite, awaken, teach, confront, bless, takes care of in a million ways, including praying. The saints around us ordain us... yes, in a sacred service... but also in ways that we ministers know that hands are being laid upon us. They are imparting something that is needed.

So, may I conclude the “sermon” I started on Sunday with some observations of a few ordinal gifts that came to mind?

Just a few to note:

- The way our children engage and are grateful.
- This church and the way so many attend to it.
- Charlotte’s prompting our prayers.
- The way Hermania is so humble and so wise.
- So many talents... from electronics to corn, from preaching to accounting.
- The encouragers and their thoughtful words on their way out of church.
- And the gift of deep friendships.

I could go on and on and on... I wish I could name those that ordained me in this past year.

Thank you and bless you all. And though I’ll be on the “pastoral sidelines,” remember that we’re all in the ministry, we’re all priest says the Bible. Just call.

Burt

Blessings for Burt

Thank you, Burt, for pouring yourself into the ministry here at St. Peter’s Church. We are so thankful for your faithful service and that God called you to pastor our church this past year.

Now, it is time for you to focus on your health and well-being.

We are praying for you and Julie.

God Bless
St. Peter’s Church Family



Photos from
Burt’s last
Sunday
June 28, 2026



Important Message from Burt

Dear friends and members of St. Peter's,

It's likely now that you are aware that I announced my resignation on Sunday as pastor at St. Peter's. Julie and I want to help you understand the reasons for our decision.

You may have noticed over this year that I've struggled at times. On some days, I've had difficulty finding needed words or remembering names or just speaking clearly. There have also been times when I would look at a word (that I had written) but I couldn't pronounce it. There were Sundays where I lost my train of thought just "out of the blue." While this is common for folks at this age, and while I'd experienced it a bit, it hadn't been this prevalent for me, meaning it seems to be getting worse.

Julie and I had been hoping these cognitive difficulties might get better, perhaps as I got more comfortable and confident but that hasn't happened... yet.

We do know two things; one is that in this chapter of our lives, I need/want to be exploring what I can do to deal with this impairment (something we're already doing). The other thing we know is that St. Peter's needs a pastor that is fit for this ministry. Because of that and with the consultation and wisdom of Council leadership, I am officially resigning and completely retired.

In our time in Coupland, you have given us far more than we could ever give in return. You have walked with us and allowed us to walk with you in holy and hard and beautiful moments that we'll always carry with us. And we're trusting that God is already at work preparing the next chapter for this congregation, just as God is guiding us into ours.

Remember friends, you will always have our love and gratitude.

Burt and Julie Burleson

Community Business Lunch

There will be a Coupland Community Local Business lunch held at the fellowship hall on July 15 at 11:30. Everyone in the community is invited to join and either talk a little about your local business or just learn about what businesses we have in the area.

If you would like to help in any way please let Prissy Rumel know.



LADIES CIRCLE

The Ladies Circle did not meet in June.

The next Senior Lunch will be held on July 21st.

Cindy Alexander



The Community Senior Lunch will take place on Tuesday, July 21st at 11:30 am. The menu includes chicken salad sandwiches, chips, tea, and root beer floats for dessert. Volunteers are always needed to serve and clean up.

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.



Potluck lunch will take place **every 5th Sunday** instead of every other month.

The next potluck lunch date will be Sunday, August 30th after worship.

There may be organized "Lunch Out" throughout the year.

COUNCIL SUMMARY OF JUNE MEETING

EVENT COORDINATOR – JUNE is Judy Downing

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Edward Jones balance is at an all-time high of \$521,764.72
- Tithely online giving is deposited to the bank on Wednesdays. Tithely will generate end of year giving statements for those online gifts. Memorials are not available through Tithely yet due to working out details on capturing donor address information. Venmo is no longer available for regular gifts but will be used for things like income from our garage sale and other similar events.

HEART OF TEXAS DUES

-It was discovered that the last payment of dues was for the year 2023. The Council voted that the bookkeeper be informed that we need to make the dues payment for 2024, 2025, and 2026. The dues are \$7.50 per voting member.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- The Worship/Music Survey resulted in 34 responses. The strong majority prefer traditional hymns. 70% prefer that the hymns be on the screen rather than singing from the hymnals. Communion frequency (once vs twice monthly) was inconclusive. Rev. Burleson will be finding pulpit supply for July 12 and August 16 when he will be on vacation.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS

- Austin Keith has not signed the Facility Use Agreement and has not paid the fee to hold the filming date of June 20. Danny Smith has informed him that if we do not have the agreement and the fee of \$400 by June 4, we will not hold the date.

- **Cemetery Rules Amendment** re: Natural Burial. Ted Witliff submitted a draft of an amendment to the cemetery rules. The Council voted to table the amendment pending further review of the immediate family definition.

-**ByLaws Revision** The bylaws revision committee (Michele Dupy, Charles Stark, Kandice Samuelson, and Doreen Streit) presented to Council a draft rewrite of both the Constitution and the ByLaws. The Council will review the documents in July and August and the Congregation will vote on these documents but not before October at the earliest.

-Prissy Rumel presented a revised consolidated list of church committees with a Council liaison for each committee. This list will be reviewed once the by-law revision is complete.

NEW BUSINESS

- With Michele Dupy's departure as Council President, both Vice Presidents Danny Smith and Prissy Rumel were selected to serve in an interim role on a rotating basis each month. It was also decided that we needed to fill the vacancy on the Council before making a final selection of a President. Council also noted that the term limit of two years may need to be revisited given the size of the council. This will also be considered as part of the bylaws review.

- Robert Bland confirmed that he will serve as our delegate to the South Central Conference Annual meeting which will be virtual. Charles Stark will help with any technical support needed.

- Recognition of Graduates The Council noted that we have not in recent years recognized those who are graduating and suggested that we resume the practice.

- Annual Calendar The Council discussed the need for a standing annual calendar that flags recurring events so that they are not forgotten.



ST PETER'S IN ANOTHER FILM

After a couple of meetings and lots of communications with Austin Keith who is an Independent Filmmaker, film day arrived on June 21. The extensive crew worked from 8:00am - 8:00pm.

The scenes were totally done in our sanctuary for a film entitled "A Letter from the Father." Special thanks to our two site managers, Charles Stark and Judy Downing there was a representative from the church on site for the entire production day.

Austin told us that this film would not be out until probably December but that he would let us know when it was airing.





DEATH OF WILLY ZUCKNICK

Frederick William Zucknick Jr. (Willy), son of Trona LaJuana (Wilson) Zucknick and Frederick William Zucknick Sr., passed away June 11th, 2026.

Willy is preceded in death by his parents, Fred and LaJuana Zucknick; and his brother, Thomas Otis Naron III.

Willy is survived by his sisters, Katherine Friedrich and Patricia Hammack; aunts, Faye Neathery and Hermania Vitek; numerous cousins, including Jim Neathery Jr., Sharon Smith, Jeff Stork and wife Stacy, Herman Stork and wife Nina; 12 nieces and nephews, and 33+ great nieces and nephews, including niece Angela Wolfe and husband Todd, and their children, who he lived with for many years.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 25th at 11:00 am at St. Peter's Church of Coupland, with interment to follow at St. Peter's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to National Alliance on Mental Illness.

[National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](https://www.nami.org)

Nami.org



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

We pray for the Zucknick Family, Karen Cappolino, Gene Henze, Robert Bland, and Terry Finn.

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 Charlotte Albert at charlottealbert66@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



July Mission Offering Coupland Schools



The July's mission offering goes to **Coupland Schools** to help students who need school supplies, special equipment or other items.

St. Peter's Church has long partnered with Coupland ISD for the benefit of the community. School officials help coordinate our **Angel Tree** gift program at Christmas, and students assist with serving at the **Community Senior Luncheon**.

Join us in supporting students in our community! Just write "School" on your check. Or choose Coupland ISD from the drop-down list on our Tithely Giving app or through the Donate Link on our website.



14 but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

Matthew 19:14 NRSV

On Sunday, July 5th, join us for the Baptism of Charles Wayne "Charlie" Empey.

Parents are Charles "Tucker" and Daryl Marie Empey.

Grandfather is Darold Wayne Hubbard



Worship Schedule for the month of July

July 5th	Adam Muery preaching Charlotte Albert- Communion and Baptism
July 12th	Nikki Stahl preaching
July 19th	Charles Stark preaching
July 26th	TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Mornings

Adult 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

Sunday, July 5 Baptism Sunday

Tuesday, July 7

Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday, July 15

Community Business Lunch 11:30 am

Tuesday, July 21

Community Senior Lunch 11:30 am

Saturday, July 25

Memorial Service for Willy Zucknick 11:00am

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

Facebook: St. Peter's Church of Coupland

or ww.facebook.com/StPetersCoupland

Our Website:

StPetersCoupland.org

Photos of Church Life

