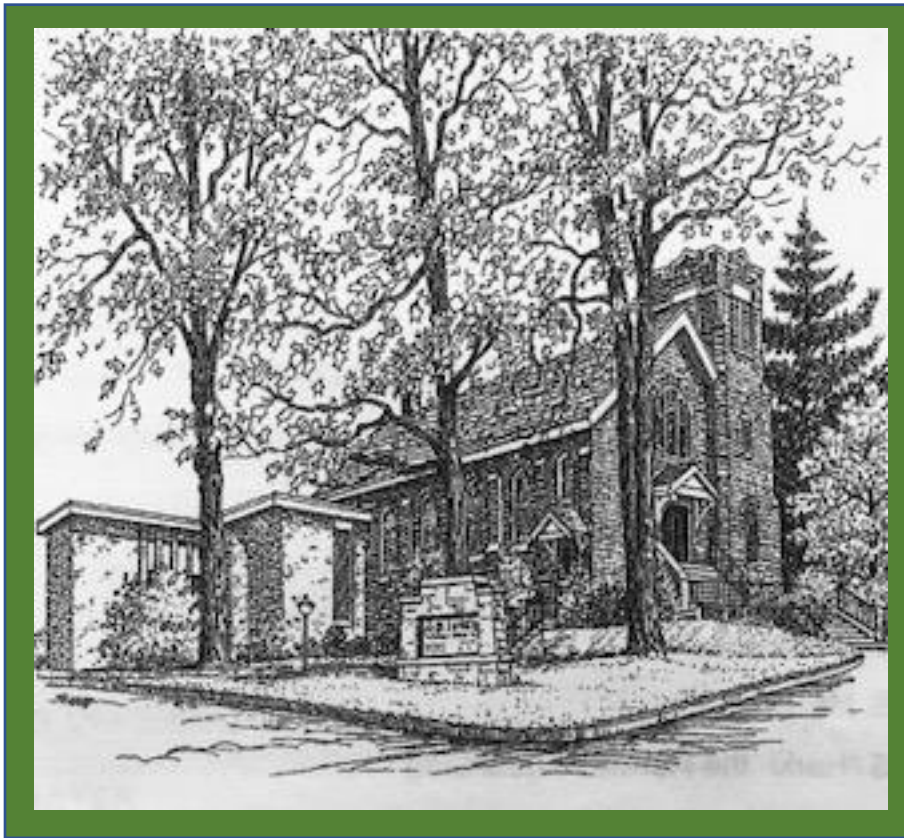


# THE BEACON

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**ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
6610 ST. LUKE'S CHURCH ROAD IMPERIAL MO 63052  
(636) 948-3545



**AUGUST 2021**

**Website:** [www.stlukesuccimperial.org](http://www.stlukesuccimperial.org)  
**Email:** [stlukesimperial@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesimperial@gmail.com)

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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday and Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

# President's Message

August Greetings!

I trust you are doing well and staying healthy in these challenging times.

As you know, our church has faced tremendous challenges over the past year as we have done our best to navigate the pandemic. Your council is continuing to review this situation on an ongoing basis. We are encouraging anyone who is uncomfortable or unvaccinated to wear a mask and encouraging all to practice social distancing. Your health is incredibly important to us, and we want you all to stay well. Our hope is that we don't have to take drastic measures like last spring, but we need your help on practicing social distancing, staying home, and "zooming" to join worship, if you feel at all ill. If you need assistance with accessing the Zoom, please reach out to Tricia or myself. We are happy to help.

After several months of gathering volunteers for our new Search Committee, we can meet and have our first meeting scheduled for Monday, August 2nd. I will do my best to keep you all updated on their progress.

As you all know by now, the Board of Christian Education and the Board of Elders have submitted to Council some recommended Bylaw addendums. We have been working hard to listen to our Church's needs and evolve. Our congregational meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, August 8th immediately following worship service. We welcome and invite everyone to attend. To review the addendums prior to the meeting, they were shared in both last month's Beacon, and the letter that was mailed out announcing the meeting. If you have questions or concerns about these, please send me an email. If you are unable to attend in person, we will have a zoom available for you and Tricia will be sending out an email very soon with that link.

I also want to remind everyone that as of now our Sanctuary is open for funerals and weddings. Our Fellowship Hall is also available. If food will be served at a funeral luncheon or wedding event, we are requesting that all food be catered / store bought versus homemade.

I look forward to seeing all of you on Sunday, August 8th for our Congregational meeting as well as at Rally Day on Sunday, August 29th.

- Becky Hollerbach



## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Sunday, August 8, 2021  
Immediately following 9 AM Worship Service  
ALL ARE WELCOME!

# Church Council

## **Meeting Highlights from July 2021 Meetings**

Church Council met a few times in the month of July to discuss various topics needing to be addressed/approved. Minutes from May and June were reviewed and approved.

**Financial:** Sandy Arnold will meet Becky at the bank to be added as a signer on the bank account. Financial reports were reviewed and approved. The contingency fund, endowment fund and memorial fund are being reviewed.

**Building and Grounds Committee:** The Sanctuary HVAC unit has a bad computer board and needs to be replaced. The thermostat in the quilting room is bad. The total to complete the replacement and work will be \$3900. Dwight is also working on bids for the security camera system and will be moving forward with getting that installed. Bids received for asphalt paving, to pave from the bridge to the rock road, cut out bad spots and replace with new asphalt.

**Endowment Committee:** Meeting scheduled for August 2nd.

**Church Events:** Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> and Council is responsible for all inside games and prizes.

**Search Committee:** First meeting scheduled for Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. A Chairperson will be elected at that time.

**Funeral / Wedding Procedures:** The current typed office procedures were provided by Tricia and Linda Schrepel has volunteered to review and suggest revisions. Linda will also meet with Tricia to discuss how to handle calls to the office regarding a funeral or wedding.

**COVID Protocols:** (see "President's Message"). Council discussed and for now things are staying the way they have been. Recommendation to have all children wearing a mask currently. Council will continue to monitor changes and if things change moving forward, may have to reinstate some distance precautions in the Sanctuary but plans to keep congregation updated.

**Congregational Meeting:** Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> directly following service to discuss parking lot renovations and bylaw addendums.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.**

# Board of Elders

## Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2021

The Board of Elders held their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Minutes from the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved.

Normally the Board of Elders do not have a July meeting however last month agreed to have a July meeting to discuss Shepherding Groups. As the discussion began, the Elders discussed:

- a) The definition of a shepherding group
- b) The purpose of group
- c) Would they contact only non-active members of the church?
- d) How many shepherds would be needed?
- e) Who would Chair the group?

Pastor Josh suggested that it may be better to hold this topic until after a new Pastor was hired and able to work with the Board of Elders on this and that maybe at this time efforts should focus on our church family and the needs of the community around St. Luke's.

- a) What should the mission of St. Luke's be?
- b) What do we want St. Luke's to be?

To bring our church closer, we should be having at least one fun, not a lot of work, simple event per month. Ideas tossed around were a choir show/sing along, bingo night, movie night, family campout (in the cemetery on Halloween?), do more with local schools, ice cream truck, pancake breakfast (where they catch the pancakes), prepare care packages for "Our Military Personnel" as listed in the weekly bulletins.

To start planning, the Board of Elders will work closely with the Board of Christian Education to coordinate some events and ideas. Jess McLard will get the ball rolling by contacting Connie Stuckmeyer.

Another topic discussed since the Board was meeting was how prayer requests will now be handled during Sunday Worship Service. The Ushers are now going to collect prayer requests during the hymn right after the sermon and deliver them to Pastor Josh before the Pastoral prayer/Lord's Prayer. Pastor and Elders plan to better manage and monitor the prayer list monthly.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

# Board of Christian Education

## Meeting Minutes from July 6, 2021

The Board of Christian Education met on Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> for their regularly scheduled meeting. Minutes from the June 1, 2021, meeting was reviewed and approved.

**Sunday School:** Gail submitted a 2021 Fall classroom list. Sunday School has been going well.

**Church Council:** The Search Committee is organized and will be electing a chairperson. In preparation for the congregational meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>, Connie submitted a bylaw revision request pertaining to the age of confirmation. It will remain the same but with the following addendum: "Pending yearly evaluation of class size to allow the addition of children entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade and upon the discretion of the children's parents and the acting minister".

**Confirmation:** BOCE is currently putting together our motion for the bylaw addendum concerning confirmation for the congregational meeting. Pastor Pittman will confirm with Tricia that the letter is sent to all two weeks prior to the meeting and will include the content for the addendum. Pastor Pittman to arrange an agreeable class time to begin meeting in September, review expectations and a calendar/syllabus and letters will be mailed to possible confirmands pending addendum approval.

**Voyagers / Youth Group:** Kathy Porter suggested inviting Cindy Burke to a meeting, she is a good resource to help develop Youth Groups. Suggested to invite kids from other churches to join us for activities. Seeking a youth group/voyager sponsor.

**Quarterly Mission:** BOCE's 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter mission, Crisis Nursery, received congregational donations of \$74 and Sunday School donations of \$142.87, totaling \$216.87. The money has been deposited and a check will be written to Crisis Nursery. Angie will obtain the contact information. Designated mission for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is Brenden's Backpack.

**VBS:** There were 49 students enrolled as of 7/6/21 with the largest percentage being non-members. Many of the volunteers include past confirmands and older Sunday School students. There will be a children's bible story skit from VBS week, along with presentation of activities and singing songs they learned during worship service on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>

**Rally Day/All Church Picnic:** Discussed planning details for August 29<sup>th</sup>, and committee assignments.

**Other Events Upcoming:** Planning to begin for Fall Festival, Gary Cronin has agreed to be Santa for our Santa's breakfast on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Sarah presented ideas to celebrate Grandparents Day September 12<sup>th</sup> with a "Goodies for Grands".

### Calendar of Events

- Aug. 29:** All church picnic (planning needed)
- Sept. 12:** "Goodies with Grands" (Grandparents Day)
- Oct. 16:** Hayride/Bonfire/Trunk or Treat
- Dec. 4:** Santa's breakfast (Gary Cronin will be contacted)
- Dec. 19:** Christmas Program (makeup date Jan 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Feb 5, 2022:** Bingo

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

# Congratulations



## JUNE

Maybree Saputo  
Fletcher McLard  
Judd McLard  
Emma Hollerbach

## JULY

Maybree Saputo  
Jessa Davis  
Jordyn Davis  
Julian Davis



**FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE**  
We hope you had fun learning about God's word and blessings.

# Evening Circle

## **Report for July 2021**

The Evening Circle group held their meeting on Thursday evening, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, at LaChance Winery at Kimmswick. We enjoyed a delicious dinner and great fellowship on the outside patio under big tents.

- There were 17 ladies present.
- Attendance at the August 5<sup>th</sup> Women's Guild meeting was encouraged as the Guild will be discussing the upcoming drive-through Chicken Dinner in October.
- There was discussion about our group going to see "Jesus" at the Site & Sound Theatre in Branson in early November.
- The Blood Drive is still on hold due to COVID cases increasing.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We invite all ladies to join us in fellowship and being a part of the discipleship work of our church.

# Building & Grounds

## Thank you...

- **Cliff Rebsamen...**for the TLC to the Education building. Cliff replaced the photocell on the dusk to dawn light and the light that shines on the cross on the east side of the building. He also cleaned out the roof drains on top of the building, there was 2" of water covering most of the roof.
- **Kraus Dairy Farm...**for providing a skid loader for cutting down the old roadway in preparation for new rock to re-work the Burgess Cemetery Road.
- **Kevin Stockwell...**for purchasing and grading the new rock on the Burgess Cemetery Road and his work on the improvement of the road.
- **Dean Stockwell & Dave Pippin...**for their work re-working the Burgess Cemetery Road.
- **Earleen & Kevin Stockwell...**for the TLC they provide to the Burgess Cemetery.
- **Jane & Cliff Rebsamen...**for their effort to re-wax the tiles in the hallway by the kitchen.
- **To an anonymous source...**for replacing the dusk to dawn light on the garage.
- **To all those that ...** contribute to offsetting recent projects at the church...the goal to offset the Sanctuary lighting expense has been met!
- **To all those that...** offer up their time and efforts behind the scenes to help keep our Church buildings and property in great shape. It is inspiring to see the Congregation pull together to make all these things happen.

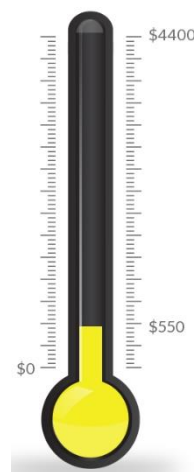
**Thanks to All,**

- Dwight Kraus, Building and Grounds

## Sanctuary Lighting and Sanctuary HVAC...

In the July Beacon, we informed everyone of recent upgrades and repairs that became necessary for the church's Sanctuary lighting and HVAC. The total cost for the lighting project was \$5318.66 and the Sanctuary HVAC unit replacement and maintenance / repairs to other units for the building totaled \$4400. At that time, we asked that anyone interested in helping offset the cost of these projects to please mark your donation as a "Church Lighting" or "Church HVAC" donation. WE DID IT! We collected \$5600 in our Sanctuary Lighting fund which surpassed the unexpected costs we faced. We have also collected \$550 towards offsetting the HVAC costs.

**THANK YOU to everyone that has contributed to our project funds.**





## LET'S CELEBRATE AUGUST ...

8/1	Owen Miller	8/14	Mark Davis	8/24	Jason Gilman
8/2	Craig Charleville		Leighton Gillman		Rich Schlittler
	Mark Day	8/15	Leah Timeus	8/25	Lydia Leeka
	John McKenzie	8/16	Walter Nash		Peter Sturmer
	Carter Wallace		John Sieving	8/26	Vera McCullough
8/3	Brooke Anthonies		Connie Stuckmeyer	8/27	Gail Heckenberg
	James Duncan	8/17	Abigail Stockwell		Carol Simino
	Hannah Duro	8/18	Thomas Arnold		Michelle Stockwell
8/6	Robert Daly		Michael Wirth	8/28	Donald Baum
	William II Glaus	8/19	Donald Dankel		Louis Meyer
	Barbara Lovera	8/20	Angela Logan	8/29	Taylor Olsen
	Thomas Stockwell		Norville Kraus		Nicole Ramirez
8/7	Garrett Schimsa		Nicolle Nash	8/30	Kathleen Belleville
8/12	Megan Nuelle		Finn Weatherholt	8/31	Katie Klable
	Ollie Stuckmeyer	8/21	Cody Steffen		Dwight Kraus
8/13	David Olsen	8/23	Betty Kraus		Courtney Stark
			David Nash		
			Aiden Rebsamen		



Bruce Acre\*, June Balajka, William Brewer\*, Tony & Brenda Carter\*, Londyn Dixon\*, Luella Gammons\*, Betty Gruenewald, Logan Heckstetter\* Adam Hughes\*, Doris Kettler, June Koenig\*, Shirley Neun, Jim Ploesser\*, Joyce Ruhland, Jean Seymour, Loren Stuckmeyer, Donald Wendler\*, Ron White, Lisa Young\*

### Our Military Personnel

Josh & Michelle Brewer\*, Caleb Davidson\*, Shawn Farson\*, Christopher Kettler\*, Joseph Koch\*, Samuel Lowry, Eric Oliver\*, Kai Reyes\*, Kelsey L. Schwent, Eric Watkins



Please review the above prayer list and notify the Church Office by emailing or calling to provide the name of someone you would like included and/or removed from our ongoing prayer requests. [stlukesimperial@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesimperial@gmail.com) or (636) 948-3545





- Aug 2** Pastoral Search Committee Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 2** Endowment Committee Meeting (7:00pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 3** Board of Christian Education Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 5** Women’s Guild Meeting (11am Fellowship Hall) *\*Bring a sack lunch.*
- Aug 8** Congregational Meeting (after 9am Worship Service)
- Aug 9-13** Church Office will be CLOSED (Tricia will be on vacation)
- Aug 10** Board of Elders Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 16** HARD Deadline to submit articles/announcements for Sept. Beacon.
- Aug 17** Church Council Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 22** Leighton Gillman Baptism (during 9am Worship Service)
- Aug 24** Evening Circle Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Aug 29** Rally Day / All Church Picnic / Teacher Appreciation (following Worship)

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Dear Friends of St. Luke’s,

*At this trying period of my life, I want to say Thank You for all the condolences and gifts in memory of Vernon Kramme. Not only the condolences, but for the many sympathy cards received and phone calls checking on how we are doing.*

*Prior to Vernon’s health issues and mid pandemic, Vernon and I celebrated our 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Since we were unable to have a face-to-face celebration, there was a campaign for us to receive “70 Cards for 70 years”. We cherished all the beautiful cards but felt a fondness for those cards received from the members of St. Luke’s UCC – our home church for 68 of our 70 years together.*

*Again, thank you for being a major part of our lives and being there with your thoughts and prayers.*

*Della Kramme*



**SUNDAY SCHOOL – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER MISSION**

The Sunday School 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Mission will run from July through September. Sunday School will be collecting for Brenden’s Backpack.

Hunger can affect anyone, and hundreds of children in our area suffer every day. These can be children in your neighborhood, children that your child sits next to every day at school or children your child plays with at the park. These children do not look forward to the weekends and long school breaks because often they know that they may not have much to eat until they go back to school. School food programs only provide free breakfast and lunch during the week but many times these families struggle to put food on the table over the weekend.

Brenden’s Friday Backpacks began in 2011 with 4 children in a single school and has grown to a program that currently feeds over 1400 children in 68 schools throughout Jefferson County and in St. Francois County on a weekly basis during the school year. Every Friday, each child takes home a bag of single-serve, non-perishable, kid-friendly foods that can be easily prepared and last until the child returns to school the next week. The program is run entirely by volunteers and takes anonymous referrals directly from local schools.

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**FESTIVAL OF SHARING**

Women’s Guild is collecting personal hygiene kits. There are plastic bags with the list of requested items placed in the Narthex for pickup. These bags will be collected both in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. We ask that the items have lids tightened and placed into the large Ziploc bags provided. Thank you.

**PERSONAL HYGIENE PAK**

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 fluoride toothpaste (6 oz or more)
- 1 toothbrush in original, unopened package
- 1 bath-size bar of soap
- 1 bottle shampoo (12-16 oz.)
- 1 deodorant
- 1 bottle skin lotion (12-16 oz.)
- 2 disposable razors
- 1 comb or brush

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**QUILTS! QUILTS! QUILTS!**

Anyone interested in quilts or quilting, come to church on Tuesdays anytime from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We are ready and willing to help you! Come for an hour or two, bring your lunch and stay if you want. We welcome all!