

THE BEACON

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



OCTOBER 2023

Website: www.stlukesuccimperial.org

Email: stlukesimperial@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear St. Luke's Friends & Family,

*"All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations."*

- Psalm 145:10-13

As we turn the page of the calendar into the final quarter of the year, we find a season which many among us consider to be our favorite. The rhythm of normal worship and service has returned in the life of our church in the songs of our choir, the chatter of children in Sunday School, the inquiries of young minds in preparing for Confirmation, and the voices of those gathered around tables in preparation for various ministries. Soon, the sounds of fryers taking on fresh chicken will be added to our sounds of the season!

The Psalmist reminds us that for all the busyness of our own lives in this season, our Creator is at work in the world, too. In fact, from the arcing beauty of the Autumn colors to the various profound blessings in each of our families, we must not miss the "splendor" and "glory" of God's kingdom made manifest. Nostalgia, worry, entitlement, greed, and disappointment can prove to be powerful barriers to our experiencing the fullness and beauty of God's movement in our world. They rob of us of contentment and thanksgiving of today. In each of the Sundays of October, I will be sharing a sermon in a series titled "Enemies of Contentment." Spoiler alert: Together, we will discover that gratitude is the key to defeating each of these enemies.

For generations, the harvest season has been a time to celebrate God's blessings and bounty, and God is still moving in our world. Let us celebrate and give thanks together. I find I am grateful for the patience of our people as I continue to learn of all our various traditions here at St. Luke's, and I look forward to establishing some new traditions together. I hope you and your family will join us in worship each Sunday in October – and I'm looking forward to my first experience of our legendary St. Luke's fried chicken dinner on October 29!

Grace and peace,



Pastor James
(203) 889-6440
jameshilljr@icloud.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

President

Warren Stuckmeyer

Vice President

Dave Pippin

Secretary

Yvonne Davis

Treasurer

Dave Pippin

Don Dankel

Fin. Secretary

Linda Schrepel

BOE Rep.

Gary Hartmann

BOCE Rep.

Kathy Porter

Bldg. & Grounds

Garry Kraus

Burgess Cemetery/Endowment

Don Dankel

Pastor

Rev. James Hill Jr.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

September 19, 2023

Attendants: Warren Stuckmeyer, Don Dankel, David Pippin, Reverend Hill, Gary Hartmann, Yvonne Davis, Garry Kraus, Kathy Porter, and Linda Schrepel.

At 6:30 pm. Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order with a prayer from Reverend Hill.

REPORTS

Church Council Report was given.

Treasurers report was accepted as given.

Financial Secretary report was accepted as given.

Board of Christian Education reports was accepted as given.

Board of Elders report was accepted as given.

Building and grounds report – Clifford Rebsamen has replaced some tiles that came loose at the parsonage. Dwight Kraus serviced the tankless water heater on 8/27. Dwight Kraus also cleaned and put new guts in the men's toilet.

Cemetery had nothing to report.

Endowment had nothing to report.

Pastors report was accepted as given.

Yvonne Davis Made a motion to accept all reports as given, Gary Hartmann seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

*Trash and Treasure sale is set for October 14th and 18th. Items are starting to come in.

*Cameras for Sanctuary – Reverend Hill had purchased the new camera for the Sanctuary. We need to get a bracket and get it installed.

*Excell and word on the old computer has been installed.

*Tithely.com – Reverend Hill is looking into the requirements and operating expenses of this function and will report later.

NEW BUSINESS

*David Pippin made a motion to have Bryan Patrick spray the parsonage while the renters are gone. Linda Schrepel seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

*Reverend Hill has several Events and meetings he needs to complete for licensing and privilege of call process.

*David Pippin made a motion to make Reverend Hill the delegate for our church. Garry Kraus seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

*David Pippin made a motion to cover the classes Reverend Hill needs to take for licensing and privilege of call process. Yvonne Davis seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

*David Pippin made a motion to cover the expense for Reverend Hill to go to the Annual Conference. Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

*David Pippin made a motion to give Reverend Hill the credit card to cover gas and food for the Annual Conference. Linda Schrepel Seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

*Yvonne Davis made a motion to Get a second card on the account so there is one in the office when the secretary is not here. If we do not already have one. Linda Schrepel seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

*Yvonne Davis made a motion to have an All-board meeting February 27, 2024 at 6:30. Garry Kraus seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

*There was a discussion regarding giving/expenses with the Council deciding to send a letter on all member in October with an update on the giving / expenses for the year.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Deaths – Rose Raebel, Carol Cameron

Births

Membership

Open/Close schedule

October 15 – Don Dankel

October 22 – Linda Schrepel

October 29 – Chicken dinner none needed.

Linda Schrepel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Porter seconded. Motion carried and closing prayer was said.

Next meeting of the Church Council October 17, 2023 6:30pm

TREASURER'S REPORT

August

General Giving	\$12,076.00
Expenses	\$12,948.43
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$(872.43)

YTD 2023

General Giving	\$95,089.43
Expenses (Search Com)	\$15,069.77
Expenses (Operational)	\$124,181.02
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$(44,161.36)

The Church Council is asking everyone to do their part to offset the above deficit. Thank you for your support. This is your Church.

BOARD OF ELDERS HIGHLIGHTS

Chairperson
Julie Hartmann

Secretary
Judy Duro

Church Council Rep.
Gary Hartmann

Worship
Kay Moss

Mentor
Jess McLard

Visitor Care
Michelle Perry

Ushers
Brenda Day

Nursery
Julie Hartmann

Pastor
Rev, James Hill Jr.

Totenfest is on November 5, 2023

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, there will be our regular Sunday service with the additional Christmas Eve service later that evening. Time to be announced. There will not be a Christmas morning service.

Hanging of the Greens will be November 26, 2023. Time will be announced.

The Upper Room devotionals are located in the vestibule of the church.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 10, 2023

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Chairperson
Angie Logan

Secretary
Greg McLard

Church Council Rep.
Kathy Porter

Elected Members
Connie Stuckmeyer
Shelbey Stilwill
Chrissy Kraus

Superintendent
Sarah Saputo

VBS
Sarah Saputo

Rev. James Hill

Church Council - forming Pastor relations committee.. Michelle Perry, Brenda Day, Don Dankel, +?
Financials still in the red.

VBS budget discussion. Cost was approximately \$1300. Council was told about this year's cost.

Open Close Church Schedule :

September 10, 2023	Connie
October 8, 2023	Chrissy
November 12, 2023	Sarah
December 10, 2023	Shelbey

Confirmation Class: James sent letters, 1 decline, 3 accepted. James shared class outline/topics. Will let the kids choose some of the topics. Meet 9/17/23. Class will begin the next Sunday.

New Playground: Getting updated quotes.

James will be bringing an adult Bible study to the Church.

BOCE will request use of the Youth Fund for purchase of swing set.

Rally Day (8/27/23) Attendance estimated at 100 people. Lot's of desserts!

Next Meeting 10/03/2023

ENDOWMENT

Endowment has funds available. Any duly elected or appointed Board, Council or Church Committee (not individuals) are eligible to apply. Applications are available upon request from the Church Office.

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!

WOMEN'S CIRCLE

September 7th , 2023 Meeting

Discussions on:

--Planning for the October 2023 Chicken Dinner. It will be a dine-in dinner. The committee will have a brief meeting on October 5th .

--September Mission will be Pony Bird.

--Festival of Sharing donations are going well. We may exceed last year's total donation kits. Our delivery date is October 7th .

--Possible blood drive may be scheduled in December 2023.

--St. Luke's Trash to Treasure sale will be Oct. 14th & 18th in the Fellowship Hall.

Donations should be placed on the stage in the Fellowship Hall by October 7th .

Questions should be directed to Linda Schrepel or Earleen Stockwell.

Next Women's Circle meeting will be Thursday, October 5th , at 11:30 am at St. Luke's Fellowship Hall. All ladies at St. Luke's Church are invited to attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Fletcher McLard

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS.....

Tina White*

Megan Nuelle

Bob Johnson*

Dave Sheffer*

Kim Griggs & Family*

Norville Kraus

Harold Burton*

Glenda Dickemann O'Tool

Betty Acre

Elaine Kraus Alexander* Sister of Marlyn Palmer

Robert Perry*

Kay Carter

Lee Nations

Dianna Johnson*

Paul Seitz

Trevor Dulle*

Jeff Timeus*

Paul Seitz

Loren Stuckmeyer

Landon Miller

Sharlene Schlereth

Kathleen Beining

Della Kramme

Wayne Kramer Jr.

Burnell Raebel and Family

Our Military Personnel

Shawn Farson*

Alec Schrepel*

Isaak Hartung*

Christopher Kettler*

Kelsey L. Schwent*

Susan Bablowitz*

Samuel Lowry

Eric Watkins*

PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Please welcome Walter Miller to St. Luke's. Walter's parents were long time members and Walter was baptized at St. Luke's. He plans on moving back to this area this fall.

THANK YOU!!!

The BOE wants to extend our thanks on behalf of Brenden's Friday Backpacks. We collected approximately 780 items that they used to prepare bags for Jefferson County students in need. Thank you for being so generous.

To Cliff Rebsamen for removing, replacing, and re-grouting the tiles in the Parsonage kitchen floor and entryway that had broken loose over the recent months.

To Dwight Kraus for servicing the tankless water heater and cleaning and installing new guts in the men's toilet.

We are so fortunate at St. Luke's to have folks like Cliff to take on this type of challenge and do such a great job!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Alexander Schimsa	10/1	Walter Miller	10/16
Jason Stuckmeyer	10/2	Loren Stuckmeyer	10/17
Austen Ferbet	10/2	Jordan McKinley	10/18
Ellee Russell	10/2	Gregory Rose	10/18
Sharlene Schlereth	10/4	Paul Seitz	10/19
Bryan Day	10/4	Lleyton Perry	10/19
Sherry Mueller	10/5	Brenda Dankel	10/20
Sandy Winters	10/6	Glee Naes	10/21
Kay Moss	10/7	Marilee Sturmer	10/21
Elizabeth Russell	10/8	Glenda O'Tool-Potts	10/21
Sarah Sumner	10/9	Kimberly Kirk	10/21
Ralph Hoffarth	10/9	Crystal Burcham	10/22
Michael Allen	10/10	Paige Seitz	10/23
Michel Hartmann	10/10	Ruth Mueller	10/24
Nancy Roorda	10/11	Dale Winters	10/26
Chelsea Lowry	10/11	Angie Kraus	10/27
Janice Lowry	10/12	Thomas Duro	10/27
Mariella Saputo	10/12	Jill Charleville	10/28
Donna Wirth	10/13	Emma Haefner	10/28
Olivia Kraus	10/14	Demi Elrod	10/30
Julie Hartmann	10/15	Kane Neislein	10/30
Owen Nuelle	10/15		

OCTOBER

3rd BOCE 6:30
5th Women's Circle 6:30
10th BOE 6:30
14th Trash to Treasure Sale – Day 1
17th Council 6:30
18th Trash to Treasure Sale – Day 2
29th Chicken Dinner / Soda Sales / Hymn Sing / **Worship at 10:00**

NOVEMBER

4th Jason Stuckmeyer Wedding
26th Hanging of the Greens

DECEMBER

2nd Santa's Breakfast
17th Christmas Program / Cookie Reception



ST. LUKE'S UCC TRASH TO TREASURE SALE

SAT. OCTOBER 14th 7 AM - 2 PM
&
WED. OCTOBER 18th 7 AM - NOON

PLACE YOUR DONATIONS ON THE STAGE IN
FELLOWSHIP HALL

MON. WED. OR FRI. 9 AM TO 2 PM
FROM

AUG. 28th to OCT 6th

WE ACCEPT ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES,
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND DECOR, KNICK-KNACKS,
BOOKS, KITCHEN ITEMS, DISHES AND GLASSWARE,
GENTLY USED CLOTHING

PLEASE! NO MATTRESSES OR SOFAS

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT AN ITEM
CALL LINDA SCHREPEL @ 636-209-7903 or
EARLEEN STOCKWELL @ 314-496-7405

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Personal Hygiene Pack

- 1 fluoride toothpaste, (6 oz. or more)
- 1 toothbrush in original, unopened
- 1 washcloth
- 1 hand towel
- 1 bath-size bar of soap
- 1 deodorant
- 1 bottle skin lotion (10-16 oz.)
- 1 bottle shampoo (12-16 oz.)
- 2 disposable razors
- 1 comb or brush (Large)

Tighten lids and place all items in the large zip-lock bag provided.

The Women's Circle will once again be participating in the FESTIVAL OF SHARING

We are asking for your help in providing Personal Hygiene Kits through the month of September. The kit will be delivered on Saturday, October 7, 2023. Donation bags with a list of items may be found in the Narthex and on the piano at the handicap entrance. Completed bags may be returned to the same locations. Your help and support is greatly appreciated. The Women's Circle

Festival of Sharing notes of information:

As a cooperative response to hunger, poverty and injustice in Missouri and beyond, our hope is to support projects and programs that help our neighbors experience healthy and full lives. Our efforts include providing funding and resource goods, sharing information on agency efforts in communities and praying for our collective work. When people of faith come together and share, we can make a positive and powerful difference. This year we will be hosting seven regional events throughout September-October. These interfaith gatherings of resources connect the state of Missouri with a common goal: providing resources for our neighbors in need. Join us to experience the joy of sharing!

OVER 150 AGENCIES IN MISSOURI ARE APPROVED TO RECEIVE GOODS AND SERVICES THROUGH THE FESTIVAL OF SHARING.

Agencies we work with range from food pantries and clothes closets, to foster and adoption programs and anything in between! We look to partner with agencies who are ecumenical in who they serve and in how they are supported by their community.

Please Note: Linda will be in Germany from September 20th to October 2nd And Unable To Accept Calls.