

THE BEACON

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



SEPTEMBER 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 Family and Friends,

Seventh century monk and bishop Isaac of Syria said, "Do not fall into despair because of your stumbling, for you should not consider them incurable. There is indeed a healer; he who on the cross asked for mercy on those who were crucifying him, who pardoned murderers as he hung on the cross. Christ came on behalf of sinners, to heal the brokenhearted and to bind up their wounds."

On a regular basis, I need to be reminded of this truth: God doesn't promise an easy life – and sometimes I make a mess of things. While God is at work moving our world toward what is just and right, we are going to experience how unfair our world can be, as well. And sometimes, my own decision-making gets me into a world of trouble! In 2 Corinthians, Paul observes how God's strength is no better revealed than in our weakness – but I'm not sure Paul was asking us to prove this point as often as we do.

Most important of all, God does promise we will never be left to face the reality of our choices or this unfair world alone. I am grateful for our church family, for all those lives God brings into my orbit, and for my God - come - near in Jesus Christ, who promises never to leave nor forsake us. We serve One who heals and calls forth life, who transforms our circumstances in ways we rarely see coming. On September 10th, I will begin a three-week sermon series which will wrestle with the question, "How do we live when life is unfair?" I hope to see everyone in worship on our September Sunday mornings.

We are one month into our journey together – and what a month it has been! I've enjoyed learning about traditions new to me, like our annual Rally Day, and I'm excited about the seasons we have in front of us. Sunday School, Choir, and Confirmation classes return this month, and on September 24th we have the privilege to celebrate and share in the baptism of Josie Belle Dulle. In addition, I continue to schedule appointments to meet each of our church households. Want to schedule a time? Contact Pam in our church office this week to make an appointment, or stop by the office. In the next week, I will be posting regularly scheduled office hours, and please do not hesitate to reach out to me at any time at the number and email below.

Join us in Sunday morning worship this month!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rev. James Hill
(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

August 15, 2023

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

At 6:35pm Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order.

Reverend Hill said the opening prayer.

REPORTS

Preacher's Report – accepted as presented.

Council Report – accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report – David Pippin has transferred \$10,000 from the savings to the checking as noted last month. David Also found a credit card that needs to be canceled as it is in the name of a previous secretary. Garry Kraus made a motion to make David Pippin the Principal officer on the TCM Bank VISA card so he can make changes to the card. Seconded by Kathy Porter, all were in favor, motion passed.

Financial Secretary – accepted as presented.

Executive Committee – nothing reported.

BOCE – accepted as presented.

Board of Elders – accepted as presented.

Building and Grounds – The bridge has been repaired by Dwight Kraus and Kevin Stockwell after it was damaged by a vehicle sometime in the week of August 6, 2023. There is a tree at the corner of the parsonage that has a few broken branches. Garry Kraus will look at it to see if it can be taken care of by us or if we need professionals.

Cemetery Report – nothing to report.

Endowment Committee – accepted as presented.

Garry Kraus made a motion to accept all reports as given. Linda Schrepel seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Reverend Hill has looked into a new camera for the sanctuary. Yvonne Davis made a motion to have the camera that was proposed for \$1,330.00 to be purchased with the Confirmation funds so that the camera can be placed out of site for the parishioners. Kathy Porter seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.
- Yvonne Davis made a motion to approve the building use for the Jacob Stuckmeyer shower on September 17, 2023. David Pippin seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.
- Reverend Hill's licensing came through so he can now administer the sacraments. It should take about 8 months to be fully credentialed.

- Warren Stuckmeyer and Tammy Glaus will research Tithely.com for online donations and acceptance of cards at dinners.

OLD BUSINESS

- Trash & Treasure sale has been set for Saturday October 14, 2023, with the 18th as a second day. Linda Schrepel has the name of a company that will take all remaining items. David Pippin made a motion to approve the building use for the Trash & Treasure sale on October 14 & 18, 2023 with items to be accepted **AFTER** Rally Day. Linda Schrepel seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.
- Rally Day games for Council are the inside games. Each member of the Council is to bring boxes of prepackaged goodies for the cake walk. Water pong will be played, Garry Kraus will provide the Saran Ball game.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Deaths – none

Birth – Elizabeth Lynn Meyer 7/24/2023

Membership – none

OPEN/CLOSE SCHEDULE

September 17 – David Pippin

September 24- Garry Kraus

Yvonne Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting – September 19, 2023, 6:30 pm

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. | |

Pastor James will be reviewing the weekly worship and making some simple changes such as adding the Declaration of Forgiveness., please be patient as he works through these changes.

Elder's continues to work on updates to our directory and more information will be available as we work out options for printing and distribution.

Upcoming baptism of Josie Bell Dulle on September 24.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 12, 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

The Board of Christian Education met for their monthly meeting on 08/06/23.

Sunday School Curriculum: no classes in August. Curriculum for 2023/2024 year discussed.

Vacation Bible School: 31 children registered for VBS. 30 volunteers. Approximate total spent 1,000.00.

Confirmation Class: Seven 8th graders contacted for class this year. 4 families responded.

Playground Equipment: Construction discussed. Greg McLard will get updated quotes.

Rally Day: Elders has Kitchen. BOCE has outdoor games.

Goodies With Grands: Foods discussed.

Connie motioned to adjourn. Kathy 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Lords Prayer

Next Meeting 9/5/2023

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

August 3rd, 2023 Meeting

Discussions on:

--Planning for the October 2023 Chicken Dinner. It will be a dine-in dinner.

--August Mission will be Unleashed Potential.

--Agreed to participate in the Festival of Sharing again this year. More info will be in the Beacon.

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

Next Women's Circle meeting will be Thursday, September 7th, at 6:30 pm at St.

Luke's Fellowship Hall. All ladies at St. Luke's Church are invited to attend.

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

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tina White* | Robert Perry* | Loren Stuckmeyer |
| Megan Nuelle | Kay Carter | Landon Miller |
| Bob Johnson* | Lee Nations | Sharlene Schlereth |
| Dave Sheffer* | Dianna Johnson* | Kathleen Beining |
| Kim Griggs & Family* | Paul Seitz | Della Kramme |
| Norville Kraus | Trevor Dulle* | Wayne Kraemer* |
| Margaret (Peggy) Kinzel* | Harold Burton* | Jeff Timeus* |
| Robert Perry* | Glenda Dickemann O'Tool | Paul Seitz |
| Burnell Raebel and Family | Betty Acre | Wayne Kramer Jr. |
| Elaine Kraus Alexander* Sister of Marlyn Palmer | | |

Our Military Personnel

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Shawn Farson* | Christopher Kettler* | Samuel Lowry |
| Alec Schrepel* | Kelsey L. Schwent* | Eric Watkins* |
| Isaak Hartung* | Susan Bablowitz* | |

A NOTE FROM ROSE RAEBEL

I want to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls and prayers while I was in the hospital and now. Thank you, Rose Raebel

CONGRATULATIONS PROUD GRANDPARENTS LORNA & LOU

Louis & Gabby Meyer have a new addition to their family. Elizabeth Lynn, born July 24, 2023. 7lbs, 5 oz, 21" long. Grandparents – Lou & Lorna Meyer, Cyndi Schweiss Big Brother - Walt

THANK YOU!!!

To Kevin, Adam, and Dean Stockwell and Abe & Dwight Kraus for helping repair the bridge handrail and support beam that was broken away from the bridge by a vehicle that lost control during the last rain event. They also straightened the section of guardrail that was bent by the same vehicle.

To Abe Kraus for helping replace a toilet tank shutoff in the downstairs ladies' restroom.

To Abe, Chrissy and Dwight Kraus, and Darrell Kraus for helping to clean up the large tree limbs in the cemetery next to the Parsonage that came down during the recent storms.

To Michelle Perry, Linda Schrepel, Bob & Linda's Grandson, Ashton Schrepel for Manicuring the landscaping at the Church's kitchen entrance. It looks amazing!

To everyone that volunteered their time to make Rally Day a success.

We are so blessed to have folks in our Congregation that step up and tackle these maintenance and repair tasks.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Sherri Kempf-Hill | 9/1 | Kevin White | 9/15 |
| Ed Magee | 9/2 | Samuel Lowry | 9/15 |
| Patricia Timeus | 9/2 | Jacob Stuckmeyer | 9/15 |
| Gary Hartmann | 9/2 | Gerald Hollerbach | 9/17 |
| Amy Warren | 9/2 | Caleb Russell | 9/17 |
| Megan Gillman | 9/3 | Stephanie Anthonies | 9/20 |
| Angela Farson | 9/4 | Dean Stockwell | 9/21 |
| Elmer Schaper | 9/6 | Michael Ferbet | 9/21 |
| Jana Kramme | 9/6 | Cynthia Anthonies | 9/23 |
| Andrea Johnson | 9/7 | Blakeli Nuelle | 9/25 |
| Carla Bradley | 9/7 | Michael Davis | 9/26 |
| Samantha Stuckmeyer | 9/7 | David Miller | 9/27 |
| Peyton Nash | 9/7 | Gwynne Elrod | 9/27 |
| Tobey Stuckmeyer | 9/8 | William Magee | 9/28 |
| Barbara Allen | 9/11 | Andrew Kraus | 9/28 |
| Ashley Perez | 9/11 | Peyton Seitz | 9/29 |
| Laura Harris | 9/12 | Eric Kundert | 9/30 |
| Gabe Schneider | 9/13 | Kay Olsen | 9/30 |
| Gail Lents | 9/14 | Chloe Jacob | 9/30 |
| Ava Carver | 9/14 | | |

SEPTEMBER

5th BOCE 6:30
 7th Women's Circle 6:30
 10th Goodies with Grands – Choir Returns
 12th BOE 6:30
 19th Council 6:30
 24th Josie Belle Dulle Baptism

OCTOBER

3rd BOCE 6:30
 5th Women's Circle 6:30
 10th BOE 6:30
 17th Council 6:30
 29th Chicken Dinner / Soda Sales / Hymn Sing

NOVEMBER

4th Jason Stuckmeyer Wedding

DECEMBER

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

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 JOIN US FOR

Goodies with GRANDS

HONORING OUR GRANDPARENTS

Sunday, September 10, 2023

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Worship Service at 9am

Activities & Goodies from 10am to 11am

RSVP

Please let us know how many in your family are coming. Thank You!

Call/text Sarah: 314-315-5335



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



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