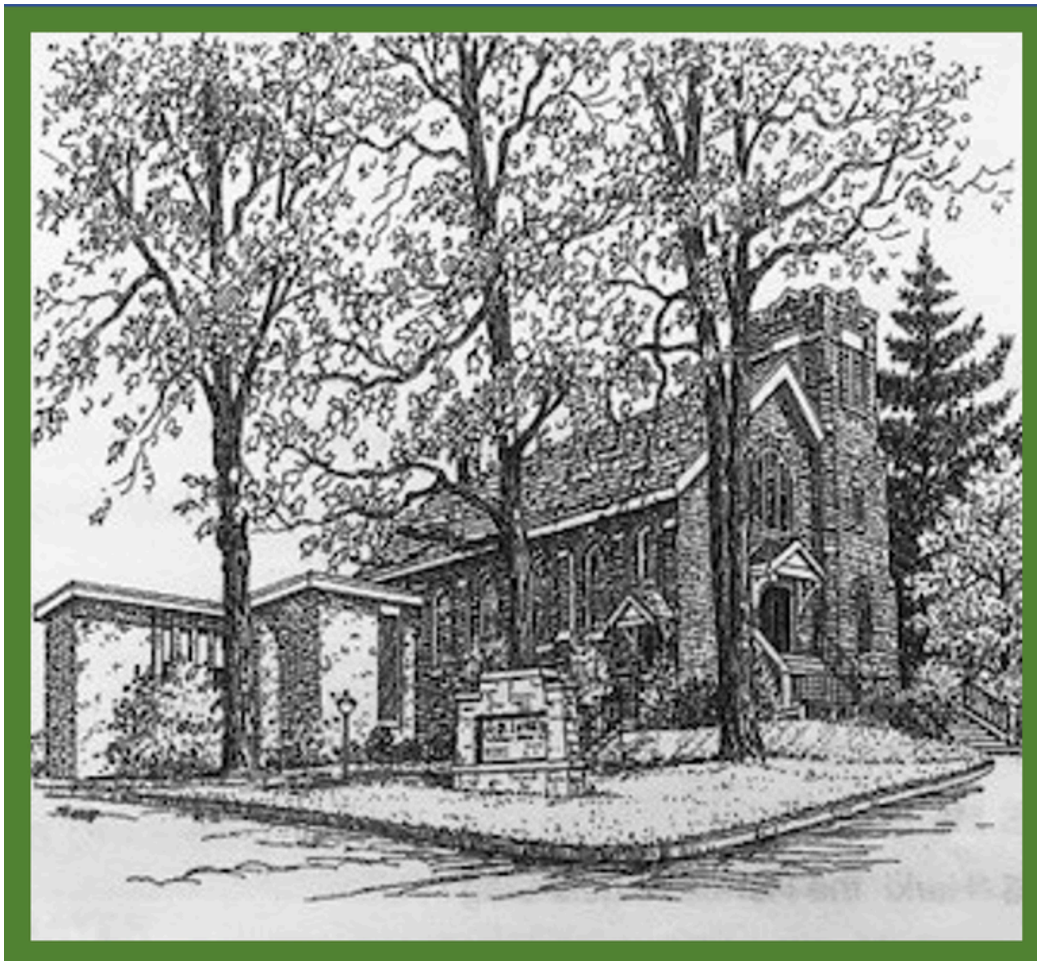
THE BEACON

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



October 2026

Website: www.stlukesucimperial.org
Email: stlukesimperial@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

October 1,2026

Dear St. Luke's Family and Friends,

I love the trees along Old M this time of year – it is truly my favorite season to drive to church. Sometimes, I even create excuses to take the long way when driving through our community during October weeks, just so I can enjoy the vibrant colors of the season. Of course, the harvest season has a natural way for reminding all of us of God's faithfulness in so many ways.

This weekend, we continue an Autumn tradition at St. Luke's of making Apple Butter together. There's always room at the table and the kettle – make plans to join the fun! Later in the month, we gather again for another St. Luke's favorite: the Fried Chicken Dinner on Sunday, October 25th. This meal has a way of turning strangers into friends and friends into family. We get to serve our community and the community gets to support St. Luke's; everybody wins! The sale that accompanies the dinner is always full of surprises, treasures, and the unmistakable creativity of our congregation. Come hungry and look for places to serve, too!

During October, we will share a mid-week Bible study, on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm, I'm calling "Unselfish Prayer." I hope you will join us each week in the Fellowship Hall. Finally, amidst everything else going on, don't forget about worship and Sunday School each Sunday morning. Our teachers have begun wonderful new season for each of our classes for all age groups. During worship, I'm taking a rare departure from the lectionary to share a sermon series I'm calling, "Passing Judgement." Here are the sermons and scripture for each Sunday:

October 4	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	God Holds Back: Passing Judgement, part 1
October 11	Matthew 7:1-5	Specs & Logs: Passing Judgement, part 2
October 18	Matthew 23:13-33	Judging Like Jesus: Passing Judgement, part 3
October 25	Romans 14	Holding Space: Passing Judgement, part 4

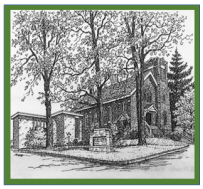
See you in worship!

Grace and peace,

Pastor James



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Reverend Hill
President - Warren Stuckmeyer
VP - Dane Kraus
Co-Treasure - Dave Pippin & Don Dankel
B&G - Garry Dale Kraus
Gary Hartmann

Financial Secretary - Jessica McLard
Secretary - Yvonne Davis
BOCE - Becky Hollerbach
Endowment - Don Dankel
Tim Hollerbach

Meeting called to order @ 6:35 pm by Warren Stuckmeyer
Prayer by Rev. Hill

Pastor's Report

Pastor Hill went over his list of meetings he will be attending
through the end of the year. Garry Kraus made a motion to pay for the meetings
entry fees. Becky Hollerbach seconded. All were in favor, motion carried. David
Pippin made a motion to pay for mileage to the meeting Pastor Hill will be
attending in September in Memphis. Don Dankel seconded. All were in favor,
Motion carried.

Finacial Report

Jess McLark has ordered the giving envelopes for next year
and has cut the order down to alleviate extras.

Treasurer's Report

- We still need to pay Connie Stuckmeyer for playing the organ when Adrea was sick. David Pippin closed the Elon credit card as it is not the one we use. David also took the minutes from the last meeting to Midwest Bank centre to be put on the credit card as Administrator. We will have the new cards any day.

BOE Report

- Accepted as presented

BOCE Report

- Accepted as presented

Church Council Report

- Accepted as presented.

Cemetery Report

- Accepted as presented.

B &G Report

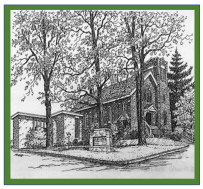
- Daniel Randolph has new doorstops to put on. Mark Davis is going to add receptacles in the library room and one in the quilters room.

Endowment Report

- Next meeting November 2, 2026
  Garry Kraus made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Dane Kraus seconded. All were in favor, Motion carried.

Garry Kraus made a motion to acept all the reports as presented. Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Old Business

- **Plaques – Yvonne Davis is ordering the plaques for the new doors this week. Needed more information.**
- **Insurance – There was a discussion to try to get both the Fellowship Hall and the Church put together as 1 policy. After discussing, it is unfeasible to do that as it will change the deductible amounts.**
- **Directory Information / Memorial Information – still in process.**

New Business

- **Apple Butter** – Friday October 2 (6:00pm) and Saturday October 3. We are in need of supplies (jars, lids, rims, sugar) and HELP!
- **Thithley to Planning Center** – Thithley is not going to be available anymore. We have downloaded Planning Center for online giving and point of sale transactions for the church. We still need to get a card reader with strike on it. Once this program is up and running, we will look at rolling over Church Windows to the new system. Church Windows is a more difficult program and also more expensive.
- **Quilt Raffle** – The Women's Circle has a quilt they are going to finish and requested to raffle it off with the funds going to the Women's Circle. Garry Kraus made a motion to approfe the raffle. Don Dankel seconded, All were in favor, Motion carried.
- **Cocoa & Chrushes** – On December 5, when we have the Bruch with Santa. Gary Hartmann asked to see if everyone would bring in their Manger scenes and set them up around the Fellowship Hall, and leave them for Sunday service for all to see. This includes all members of St. Luke's.

Membership Changes

Deaths:
None
Births:
None
Memberships:
None

Open/ Close Schedule

Oct. 18th:
Garry Kraus

Chicken Dinner:
Oct. 25th

Stewardship Update

August's Giving

Giving
$15,486.00

Expenses
$14,524.96

Year-to-Date Giving

Giving
$143.483.00

Year-to-Date Giving
$147,274.00

Motion was made by Becky Hollerbach to adjorn our meeting at 8:40 pm Second by Jess McLard; all in favor.

Closing Prayer: Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Church Council Meeting on October 25, 2026



Board of Elders Highlights

St. Lukes United Church of Christ of Christ Board of Elders Meeting Minutes Aug.

6:30 pm on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026



Pastor to be away Dec. 27th

New Members:

- None

Funerals:

None

Julie Hartmann, Chairperson
Chrissy Kraus, Visitor Care
Judy Duro, Ushers
Kay Moss, Worship
Vicki Randolph, Secretery
Tim Hollerbach, Member
Gary Hartmann, Coucil Rep.
Pastor James Hill, Jr.

CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting Called to order by Julie Hartmann at 6:38 pm.

Prayer

- Pastor James Hill, Jr.

Communion Schedule

- Jan.-Feb.-Mar.-Apl. Kay Moss & Tim Hollerbach
- May-Jun.-Jul.-Aug. Judy Duro & Chrissy Kraus
- Sept.-Oct.-Nov.-Dec. Julie Hartmann & Vicki Randolph

MINUTES motion to except August 11, 2026 minutes made by Judy Duro, seconded by Kay Moss.

REPORTS

Worship: Going Well. Glad to have the choir back.

Ushers: Going Well.

Visitor Care: Will look into the visitors from Goodies with Grands.

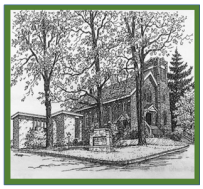
Baptisms: Working on some dates but nothing to confirm.

Communion: Enough supplies for October communion.

Visitor Care: 2 Vistor cards to be sent out this month.

Weddings: Possible Non-church member April 2027

Board of Elders Highlights



New Business

- **Totenfest (11/1/26)- Letters will be sent out ASAP to the families of members who have passed. Julie will announce in church that anyone who has lost a loved one can submit a small paragraph to the slide show.**
- **Christmas Schedule- Looking into alternatives for candles at the Christmas Eve service**
- **Fresh flower calendar- Julie brought up giving church members the option to sign up to bring fresh flowers for the altar. Looking for a point person.**

Other Items

- **Door Hangers- 1000 door hangers were printed and will be passed out to surrounding neighborhoods. Chris Kraus offered to have her Sunday school class to help. Julie will reach out to Chris and see when a good date would be.**

Old Business

- **Summer Food Drive Dates(8/2-8/30)- Julie will look into delivering to Brenden's Backpacks**
- **Chicken Dinner 10am (10/25/26)**
- **All Church Picnic (8/30/26)- Went well some leftover a lot of Hotdogs left this year**
- **Funeral Procedure, Volunteers and Ordering(flower stands, sign-in books, easel)- Julie Hartmann is still looking into prices for easels. Flower stands were moved to the closet under the sanctuary stairs. Julie Hartmann will announce in church that the Elders are looking for volunteers for funerals**

A motion was made to adjorn by Judy Duro and seconded by Kay Moss then closed with The Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Vicki Randolph

Next Meeting: October 13, 2026



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

Date September 1st, 2026

Place 6610 St. Luke's Church Rd.

Attendees:

Opening Prayer - 'Lord help us.'

Shelby Stilwil - President (2nd yr & term)
Greg McLard - Secretary (2nd yr & term)
Sarah Saputo - Sunday School Superintendent & VBS (2nd yr, 3rd term)
Joslysn DeVeydt - Missions Director (1st yr, 1st term)
Becky Hollerbach - Church Council Liason
Pastor James Hill

- **Reports**

- Sunday School - No Sunday School until 9/13/26 "Goodies w/Grands".
  - Sarah - postcards sent (13).
  - Will still do 2/3/4/5 year old (preschool) class. Josyln is taking over as teacher. Jess is stepping down.
  - Sarah has roster ready for each class.
  - Sarah will still ask for other volunteers for teaching preschool.
  - Sarah has a Sunday School registration form for all students.
- Church Council - No report
- Confirmation - No Confirmation this year. Henry Perry will wait 1 yr. That will result in 4 Confirmands for 2027-2028 school year.
- Budget BOCE $2,500 VBS $1,000
- Missions –
  a. 1st quarter = School Lunches - will be sent to Antonia Elementary.
  b. 2nd quarter - helping hands and horses. Joslyn contacted Connie.

Joslyn talked with Dave to issue checks.

Minutes - Shelbey motion to approve minutes. Becky 2nd - motion to passed.

Open Close Church Schedule:

September 13, 2026 – Shelbey Stilwill
October 11, 2026 - Greg McLard
November 8, 2026 - Joslyn DeVeydt

Board of Christain Education

Old Business

- **Rally Day (8/30/25)**
  - Remind Pastor to announce that no games will be ready until after lunch. All kids should be superised prior to games.
    - Games aren't 100% ready.
    - Bounce house is safety concern if no one is around.
    - Traffic.
  - Elders - Kitchen
    - Meat and Drink
  - Council
    - Cake Walk
    - Could the council take more on?
    - **Help with contacting Fire Dept.**
    - **Help with door prizes.**

BOCE (old Business)

- Outdoor Games
- Dunk Pond - Shelbey
- Bounce House – Joslyn
- Key game – Joslyn
- Cornhole - Joslyn
- Sucker Pull – Connie provided suckers
- Balloon dart – Sarah
- Soda ring toss – Greg
- Bags for prizes – Becky
- Extra games
  - Corn hole
  - Jenga
  - Dominos
  - Bubble machines
- **Still have prizes in Sunday School office**

- Door Prizes
  - Camping theme - Joslyn
  - Picnic theme - Joslyn
  - Kids prizes - Sarah
  - Snow Cones – Schneiders – Sarah contacted
  - Antonia Fire Dept – Sarah contacted arrived @ 10:30

- Bibles were handed out during Service to incoming 4th graders (8/30/2026)
- Blessing of the Backpacks (8/30/2026)
  - Huge Success – Did we have enough tags???
  - **22 Backpacks. 2 tags left.**
  - **Get 36 tags next year.**
  - Postcards – Were sent out to any incoming 2–3-year-old to join Sunday School starting on 9/20 – Sarah
  - **13 children had postcards sent to them.**

BOCE: New Business:



- **Goodies with Grands (9/13/25)**
- **Food –**
  - **Drinks – Sarah**
  - **3 dozen donuts – Greg**
  - **Donut holes – Greg**
  - **Fruit Tray – Joslyn**
  - **Decorations – Joslyn and Sarah**
  - **Pastries/ Muffins – Shelbey**
  - **Plate/Utensils/table cloths - Joslyn and Sarah**
- **Flyer – Has been sent out – Chrissy provided to secretary**
- **Arrive at 8**
  - **Last year: About 80 people attended. Plan for the same this year.**
  - **Teachers will be asked to have a craft in 1 common room with kids/Grandparents. Can also have a tour of their room(s).**

- **Will have an opening then go to craft/class time.**

Upcoming Events:
9/13/26 - Goodies with Grands (Grandparents Day)
10/18/26 - Chicken Dinner
12/5/26 - Santa's Breakfast
12/20/26 - Christmas Program / Cookie reception

Sarah Saputo (started in 02/2021)
3rd term: 02/2025 - 01/2027

Shelbey Stilwill (started in 02/2023)
2nd term: 02/2025 - 01/2027
3rd term: 02/2027 - 01/2029

Greg McLard (started in 02/2023)
2nd term: 02/2025 - 01/2027
3rd term: 02/2027 - 01/2029

Emily Duelle (started in 02/2024)
1st term: 02/2024 - 01/2026 - *Declined to continue*
2nd term: 02/2025 - 01/2027 - *open for volunteer*
3rd term: 02/2027 - 01/2029 - *open for volunteer*

Joslyn DeVeydt (came in 02/2026)
1st term: 02/2026 - 01/2028
2nd term: 02/2028 - 01/2030
3rd term: 02/2030 - 01/2032

Open for volunteer (start in 02/2026)
1st term: 02/2026 - 01/2028
2nd term: 02/2028 - 01/2030
3rd term: 02/2030 - 01/2032

BOCE to announce / let the Church know we have 2 openings currently on the board. We also have members completing their tenure in 2026.

Next Meeting: 10/06/2026 @ 6:30 PM

GM - Motion to adjourn. Josyln granted.



Women's Circle Updates

On Thursday, September 3, 2026 there were ten ladies who met in the fellowship hall for the monthly meeting. The meeting was called to order by Sherry Pippin, Vice-President at 12:30. After an opening prayer, a short devotion and offering collection the business meeting was conducted as follows.



- **Minutes and treasures reports were reviewed and approved.**
- **The September Mission is Pony Bird in Mapaville in which $150 will be sent.**
- **It was decided not to participate in the cap & lid collection program.**
- **Festival of Sharing was reviewed with collection ending on Sunday, October 4 and deliver to East Region Sharefest in St. Louis on Saturday, October 10.**
- **The funeral luncheon form was approved and will be sent to the church office electronically so it may be utilized easily for family who wish to use the service.**
- **Chicken dinner preparations were reviewed.**
- **Garden area was discussed for removal of the dead dogwood tree as well as upkeep for the garden(s).**
- **It was approved to replace the coffee maker that is not working on the kitchen counter area. One was purchased by the Women's Circle in the amount of amount $368.**
- **Betty McLard is reaching out the the Church Council with information on a quilt raffle to be held from October through the end of February. Tickets will be $1 each or 6 for $5. The quilt will be displayed for all to see during this time. Proceeds will go to a St. Luke's project/fund.**
- **The calendar of events was reviewed (Apple Butter cook (prep. Oct. 2 & cook 3), Chicken Dinner (prep. Oct.24 & dinner 25)**

We invite any and all ladies of the church to join in the meeting and be a part of the projects and fellowship of the St. Luke's Women's Circle.

Next meeting: October 1, 2026 at 11:30

ST. LUKE'S UCC

EVENT SCHEDULE

Collecting in September

Women's Circle Presents
FESTIVAL OF SHARING

OCT. 10TH

All Kits Are Due on Oct. 4th

Oct 2nd & 3rd	**Apple Butter preparation**
Oct 3rd	**St. Louis Association Annual Meeting, St. John's UCC, Manchester**
Oct 6th	**Board Christian Education meeting, 6:30pm**
Oct 8th	**Pastor James' Fall Bible Study, "Unselfish Prayer," begins, 6:30pm**
Oct 13th	**Board of Elders meeting, 6:30pm**
Oct 20th	**Church Council meeting, 6:30pm**
Oct 21st	**Church Workday**
Oct 25th	**Annual Chicken Dinner, 11:00am – 3:00pm Worship at 10:00am**
Oct. 29th	**Fall Bible Study, "Unselfish Prayer," 6:30pm**

OCT. 8th

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study Returns in October!

Pastor James will be leading a study on prayer he is calling, "Unselfish Prayer," beginning Thursday, October 8, at 6:30pm. Watch for more information in the weeks ahead. We will meet each Thursday from October 8 through November 12 (we will not meet on November 5). See Pastor James for more information

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. Please return the kits to church by Sunday, October 4. The kit will be delivered on Saturday, October 10, 2026

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.



In Christ we serve.
The Women's Circle

FestivalofSharingnotesofinformation:

As a cooperative response to hunger, poverty and injustice in Missouri and beyond, our hope is to support projects and programs that help our

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 wework with range from food pantriesand 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.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Personal Hygiene Pack

1 fluoride toothpaste, (6 oz. or more) **1**

toothbrush in original, unopened 1

washcloth

1 hand towel

1 body wash (15-22 oz.)

1 deodorant

1 bottle skin lotion (sm.10oz. or travel size)

1 bottle shampoo (12-16 oz.)

2 disposable razors

1 comb (large) **or brush**

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

APPLE BUTTER SIGNUP

Apple Butter preparation is only weeks away!
Find a signup sheet for items to donate in the church foyer.
Plan to come help on Friday evening, October 2nd,
and Saturday morning, October 3rd.





TotenFest Observance Coming November 1

Our annual TotenFest observance will be on Sunday morning, November 1, as a part of our morning worship. Please contact the church office with the name of individuals who have passed in the last year we might not have in our records.

STL Cure Sarcoma Race

The STL Cure Sarcoma 6k Run/Walk is Sunday, October 11. The event will be held at the Tremayne Shelter at Creve Coeur Park, 13725 Marine Ave., Maryland Heights, MO 63043. For more information or to sign up, go runsignup.com, or type in the following

link:https://runsignup.com/Race/MO/MarylandHeights/STLCURESARCOMA6KRUNWALK.
A group in memory of Megan Nuelle has been established as "Megan's Memory."



Quilt Raffle

Tickets: $3 Each or 5 for $10

Drawing: Sunday, Feb. 21, 2027

at St. Luke's Sausage Dinner

Tulip quilt size: 85" x 102" (Full Size)

To buy raffle tickets, please see one of the St. Luke's Quilters listed below:

Patti Bone, Gail Heckenberg, Gail Lents, Betty McLard or Earleen Stockwell

All are welcome!

PORK SAUSAGE DINNER

Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026

St. Johns United Church of Christ

11333 St. Johns Church Rd. 63123

314-892-0848



SERVING 11:30 AM—3:00 PM

(Or Until We Run Out)

Featuring Schuberts Pork Sausage

Dinner also includes:

sauerkraut, green beans, mashed potatoes (with milk gravy), applesauce, drinks & dessert.

***Dine in (cafeteria Style) & Carry outs available ***

Adults $16 Children (ages 6-12) $8 5 & under free



Upcoming Out of Office:

•Danielle (church secretary) will be out October 30th and will be in the office on October 29th.



PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Fletcher McLard
Jolene Perry
Jessa Davis
Jordyn Davis
Mariella Saputo
Vincent Rieff
Ellen Stilwill

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**DENOTES NON-MEMBER, NAMES IN BOLD R NEWLY ADDED*

Sharlene Schlereth
Alan Bess*
Mike Burcham*
Kathy Porter
David & Pam Belleville
Bob Schrepel
Brenda Farson
Doris Stephenson*
Bruce Seitz*
Minerva Ainsley
Jody Stockwell*
Sharon Kaplan*
Ollie Stuckmeyer
Juliet Gilmore*
Jane Kraus*
Michele Day*
Terry Wilson
Family of Robert Perry*
Family of Ron Gillman
Marilee Sturmer
Family of Betty Acre
*Noelle Horner
Wendy Schiller
Michelle Perry
Gabby Dierker

Our Military Personel

Christopher Kettler*
Susan Bablowitz*
Samuel Lowry
Brian Randolph
Eric Watkins*
Jacob Wolters*
Isaak Hartung*

Happy Birthday

Alexander Schimsa	10/01	Walter Miller	10/16
Ellee Russell	10/02	Loren Stuckmeyer	10/17
Jason Stuckmeyer	10/02	Jordan Omlid	10/18
Scharlene Schlereth	10/04	Gregory Rose	10/18
Brian Day	10/04	Ellen Stilwill	10/18
Sherry Mueller	10/05	Lleyton Perry	10/19
Sandy Winters	10/06	Brenda Dankel	10/20
Kay Moss	10/07	Kimberly Crump	10/21
Elizabeth Russell	10/08	Glee Naes	10/21
Jack Wilson	10/08	Glenda O'Tool-Potts	10/21
Ralph Hoffarth	10/09	Marilee Sturmer	10/21
Sarah Sumner	10/09	Crystal Burcham	10/22
Adam Wright	10/09	Paige Seitz	10/23
Michael Allen	10/10	Ruth Mueller	10/24
Michael Hartmann	10/10	Roberta Kuenzle	10/26
Emily Rogers	10/10	Christy Nolbert	10/26
Chelsea Lowry	10/11	Dale Winters	10/26
Janice Lowry	10/12	Thomas Duro	10/27
Mariella Saputo	10/12	Angie Kraus	10/27
Tammy Stewart	10/12	Jill Charleville	10/28
Donna Wirth	10/13	Emma Prescott	10/28
Oliva Kraus	10/14	Emmet Wuertz	10/29
Julie Hartmann	10/15	Demi Elrod	10/30
Owen Nuelle	10/15	Aaron Russell	10/31