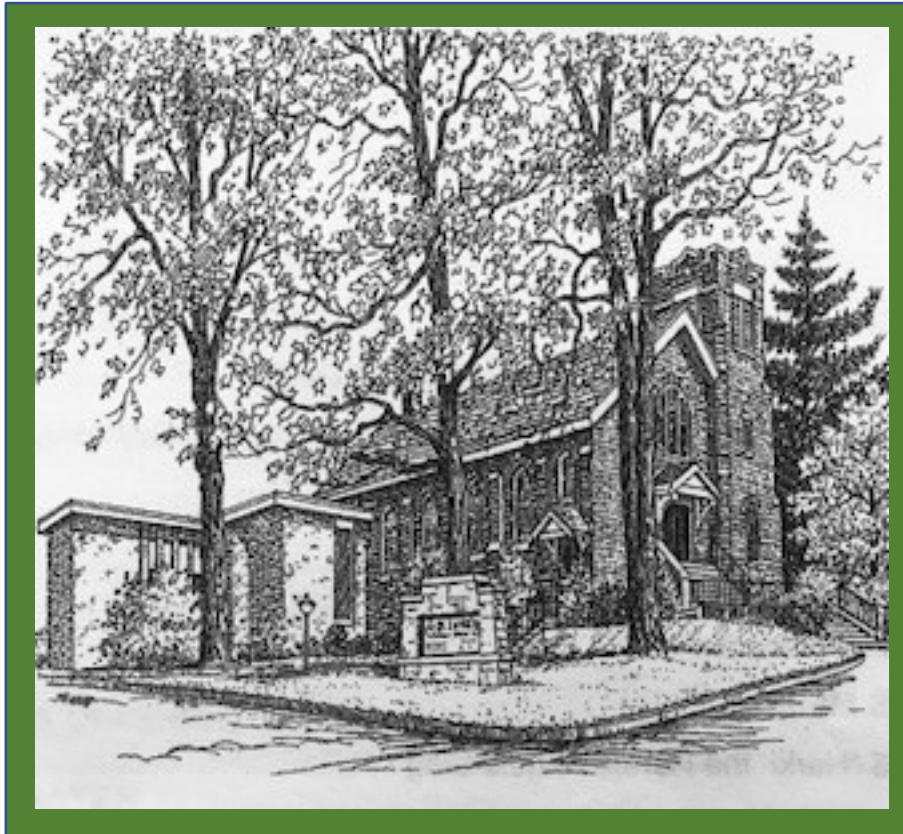


THE BEACON

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



JANUARY 2025

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

January 3, 2025

St. Luke's Family & Friends,

I'm officially back from a week of vacation following Christmas and I hope you are as excited as I am for this coming year in the life of our church. We have much to celebrate, many challenges ahead, and essential opportunities to grasp. So, let's get going!

On Sunday, January 19, at 2:00pm, we will gather for our church-wide annual meeting. As always, this meeting helps us chart the course for the year ahead as we receive reports from our boards and committees, elect new representatives to each, and explore plans for 2025 events in the life of our church. In addition, this year I will be adding two items to the agenda from me: my own review on the 2024 church year, and my challenge to St. Luke's for the year ahead. I look forward to sharing both; come see what it's all about!

This time of year we often encounter winter weather, and sometimes it interferes with the life of the church. When this happens, please choose to do what is best for you and your family, so everyone stays safe. As much as I love seeing everyone on Sunday mornings, when bad weather comes, I understand if staying home and joining us on our YouTube worship stream demonstrates the best discretion. If the worst weather comes, we will post any in-person cancelations on our church Facebook page and website, we will send an all-church email, and I'll plan to share with our church family in a live YouTube stream.

Finally, I want to apologize to those who rely on our worship streaming each Sunday morning for it being unavailable on Sunday, December 29th. Our lay leaders were ready to go, but I dropped the ball. In the busyness of the Christmas season, and especially Christmas Eve, I simply forgot to setup the worship stream before I left town. I hear good things about our guest preacher and worship leader, Mrs. Donna Goede, and I regret you were not able to hear her online. I'll make sure to leave myself a reminder note next time ☺.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hill", with a stylized, flowing script.

Rev. James Hill

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

President

Warren Stuckmeyer

Vice President

Jess McLard

Secretary

Yvonne Davis

Co-Treasurer

Dave Pippin

Don Dankel

Fin. Secretary

Linda Schrepel

BOE Rep.

Gary Hartmann

BOCE Rep.

Kathy Porter

Bldg. & Grounds

Garry Kraus

Burgess Cemetery/Endowment

Jess McLard / Don Dankel

Pastor

Rev. James Hill Jr.

December 17, 2024

In attendance – Warren Stuckmeyer, David Pippin, Don Dankel, Linda Schrepel, Yvonne Davis, Jess McLard, Garry Kraus, Gary Hartmann, Kathy Porter and Reverend Hill.

At 6:40 pm Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order. Reverend Hill said the opening prayer.

Pastor's report: New secretary is working out well.

Cemetery Report: Minimum of 2 people needed for cemetery committee

Garry Kraus made a motion to approve all reports as presented. Kathy Porter seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

OLD Business

- Snow Blower has been purchased and is gone.
- New computer purchased for office under budget.

NEW Business

- 2025 Budget – Yvonne Davis made a motion to bring the budget as proposed to the annual meeting for final approval. Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- 2025 Insurance – We will be having an insurance review on the buildings as it has been a few years since the last one.
- Items for Annual meeting – New projected need to be added to the agenda. There are some painting projects that need to be completed outside on the buildings. Any other project ideas need to be turned in so they can be added to the agenda.

Membership changes

Deaths – Carolyn Kraus

Births – None

Membership – None.

Open/Close schedule

January 19 – David Pippin

January 26th – Garry Kraus

Yvonne Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Kathy Porter. All were in favor and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2025 at 6:30 pm

TREASURER'S REPORT

November

General Giving	\$17,341.00
Expenses (Operational)	\$17,734.28
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$ 393.28)

YTD 2024

General Giving	\$167,256.00
Expenses	\$178,710.83
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$ 11,454.83)

We are very grateful for the continued support of all who give to the ministry of our church. It is only through the faithful stewardship of our people that we are able to be the church God has called us to be in this community.

BOARD OF ELDERS HIGHLIGHTS

Julie Hartmann, Chairperson

Judy Duro, Visitor Care

Brenda Day, Ushers

Pastor James Hill

Kay Moss, Worship

Michelle Perry, Secretary

Tim Hollerbach, Member

Gary Hartmann, Council Rep.

December 10, 2024

MEMBERSHIP

- Confirmation Classes
 - Both confirmands will be added to the Liturgist and Usher lists in the upcoming months. Pastor to connect with the parents for available schedules.
- Baptisms
 - None at this time.
- Weddings
 - None at this time.
- Funerals
 - None at this time. *(Carolyn Kraus passed following this meeting.)*
- New Members
 - None at this time.

OLD Business

- Taking down the Greens will be on January 12, 2025.

NEW Business

- Winter Food Drive: elder's sponsored food drive will be scheduled from February 23 – April 27.

OTHER ITEMS:

A special THANK YOU to Tammy Glaus for making the new outdoor wreaths for the doors and for ordering and placing the Poinsettias in the church sanctuary.

Open/Close schedule:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| • January, February, March, April | Brenda Day & Judy Duro |
| • May, June, July, August | Michelle Perry & July Hartmann |
| • September, October, November, December | Kay Moss and Tim Hollerbach |

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Angie Logan, Chairperson
Sarah Saputo, Sunday School Superintendent & VBS
Shelbey Stilwill
Emily Dulle

Greg McLard, Secretary
Kathy Porter, Church Council Liaison
Connie Stuckmeyer
Pastor James Hill

December 3, 2024

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Good attendance, preparing for Christmas program, ornaments in, curriculum ok. Dave Pippin had some questions about curriculum – all understood.

CHURCH COUNCIL

- Working on Budget.
- Christmas Eve at 11pm.
- No Christmas Day Service

CONFIRMATION

- Not meeting for the next couple of weeks. Will be here for 21st and 22nd.
- Three joint excursions planned with Kirkwood UCC.
 - Cathedral (mass plus tour)
 - Synagogue
 - Holocaust Museum

BUDGET

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| • Board of Christian Education | \$2,500 |
| • Vacation Bible School | \$1,000 |

MISSIONS:

- Food Drive this quarter. Offering will go to buy more food.

- \$49.35 to Brendan's backpack (3rd quarter)

Upcoming Events:

12/7/24 - Santa's Breakfast

12/22/24 - Christmas Program / Acts of Kindness Experiment / Cookie reception

Open/Close schedule:

Dec 8, 2024 – Shelby Stilwill

Jan. 12, 2025 – Sarah Saputo

February 9, 2025 – Greg McLard

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 6:30 pm

WOMEN'S CIRCLE UPDATES

The Women's Circle didn't have a meeting in December but our caring and sharing continued.

There was a donation of \$540 dollars in gift cards that was given to the Safe Place Women's Shelter for the Christmas season. A collection of 152 canned goods was collected to donate to the Sunday School food drive. Various women of the circle also delivered eleven music cookie tins to shut-ins of St. Luke's congregation. Our circle of ladies not only enjoy doing for our church but for outreach missions for those in need.

Any and all women of St. Luke's are welcome to join us for our meetings on the first Thursday of each month.

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!

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS..... **(*DENOTES NON-MEMBER, NAMES IN BOLD ARE NEWLY ADDED)**

Robert Perry*	Bob Johnson*	Lee Nations	Sharlene Schlereth
Kyle McPhedren*	Jeff Timeus*	Alan Bess*	Mike Burcham*
Sandy Fischer*	Jim Forsyth*	Lauren Watkins*	Bob Heitert*
Glenda Dickemann O'Tool	Kathy Porter	Keith Morris	Cindy (Held) Donaldson
Al Jay Kraus*	Brenda Farson	Michele Day	Ken Eckert
David and Pam Belleville	Family of Donald Baum		Family of Dale Ehlers
Family of Shirley Pursley	Family of Carolyn Kraus		
Family of Loren Stuckemeyer			

Our Military Personnel

Christopher Kettler*	Samuel Lowry	Alec Schrepel*	Kelsey L. Schwent*
Eric Watkins*	Isaak Hartung*	Susan Bablowitz*	Brian Randolph*

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Wyl Belt
Jessa Davis
Morgan Belt
Evelyn Keith
Lauren Belt
Fletcher McLard
Jordyn Davis



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Amy McLard	1/2	Sarah Schimsa	1/14
Kelsey Nash	1/4	Judith Duro	1/16
Stephanie Winters	1/5	Ida Haefner	1/17
Alexandria Meier	1/5	Emily Magee	1/18
Lorna Meyer	1/7	Aidan Elrod	1/20
Gavin Kundert	1/7	Joseph Stuckmeyer	1/23
Tyler Morris	1/8	Eddie Lowry Jr.	1/24
Jean Seymour	1/10	Olivia Raebel	1/26
Peggy Schneider	1/10	Ryan Perry	1/29
Benjamin Lowry	1/13	Zach Schneider	1/30
Patricia Sieving	1/13	Teresa Kraus	1/31

JANUARY 2025

2 nd	Women's Circle, 11:30am
7 th	Board of Christian Education, 6:30pm
8 th	Committee & board reports for Annual Report due in church office
12 th	Taking down Hanging of the Greens
14 th	Board of Elders Meeting, 6:30pm
19 th	Church Annual Meeting, 2:00pm
21 st	Church Council Meeting, 6:30pm

FEBRUARY 2025

4 th	Board of Christian Education Meeting – 6:30pm
11 th	Board of Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
16 th	Worship at 10:00am (<i>please note change</i>)
	Annual Sausage Dinner – 11:00am
18 th	Church Council Meeting – 6:30pm