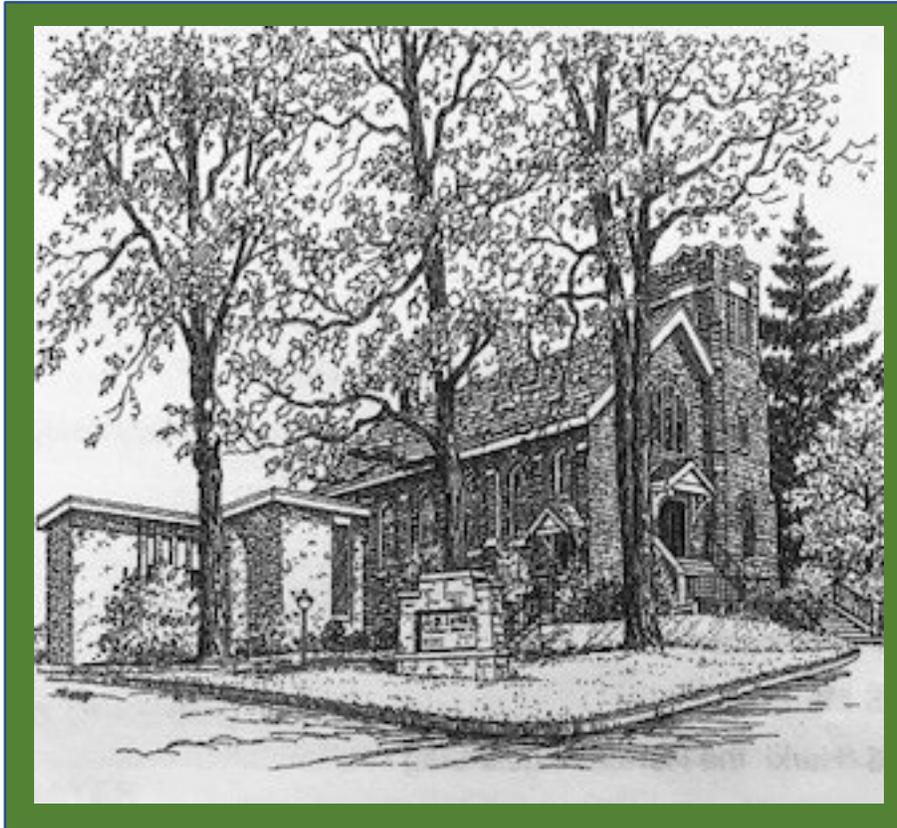


# THE BEACON

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



**NOVEMBER 2024**

**Website:** [www.stlukesuccimperial.org](http://www.stlukesuccimperial.org)

**Email:** [stlukesimperial@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesimperial@gmail.com)

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**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,

November 4, 2024

Another chicken dinner has come and gone; we not only survived, we thrived! Thanks to the efforts of each of our volunteers, we were able to serve 500 chicken dinners – a complete sell out. I am so grateful for those who purchased chickens, organized the plan, prepared food, or served in the parking lot, kitchen, or serving hall. We were blessed with a beautiful day, but my true blessing came from all of you. Well done!

We now look toward the holiday season in the weeks ahead, but before we arrive there, I would like to point out two important events in the life of the church. First, on Sunday, November 17th, we will formally welcome five new members into our fellowship during morning worship. You may have already met Dawne, Graham, Rhonda, Dave, and Wendy, but I hope you will plan to worship with us that morning as we renew our covenant as members of St. Luke's together.

A couple of weeks later, on Sunday, December 1, we will finally be able to celebrate my official installation as pastor and teacher of St. Luke's UCC. The Committee on Ministry of the St. Louis Association has approved my process and application for my ordination to be recognized by the United Church of Christ – my original ordination was in the Baptist church more than 25 years ago – and everything becomes official at a special installation service at 3pm on Sunday, December 1. UCC clergy from throughout the association will be invited to attend, as will representatives from the Missouri Mid-South Conference. You will find an invitation to attend the service and meal to follow in this newsletter; please contact our church office to make a reservation as we want to make sure we have space for everyone.

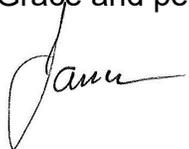
A few of you have expressed interest in attending my next bible study as we have recently concluded "Gospel Parables" via Zoom on Thursday evenings. I've truly enjoyed this study and I hope you have as well. I'm looking at starting something new after the first of the year, and I will likely offer both a daytime, in-person gathering and an evening, Zoom gathering, as well. We seem to have enough interest in both, and I'm glad to share the time. Look for more information, coming soon!

Finally, I hope you will take the opportunity to stop by the church office or give us a call to welcome our new secretary, Stephanie Morlan. I'll let her introduce herself in this newsletter, but I'm thrilled to count her as part of our St. Luke's team. Be patient with her – she has to learn how to work with me!

You will find more information about upcoming events in the life of our church in this newsletter, including Christmas in November, Hanging of the Green, our visit from Santa, the children's Christmas program, and finally our Advent worship services, beginning December 1<sup>st</sup>. This promises to be a wonderful season in the life of our church.

See you on Sunday!

Grace and peace,



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.

### **October 22, Church Council Minutes**

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

At 6:35 pm Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order. Reverend Hill said the opening prayer.

#### **Reports**

Yvonne Davis made a motion to approve all reports as presented. Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

All church workday – There were 15 people that showed up and a few of the projects were completed. There are still things that need to be completed. If you see anything you think needs attention, please let someone know.

Reverend Hill installation – We will have a 3:00 pm service with dinner to follow. The Church Council is recommending reservations so we can get a proper count for food.

#### **New Business**

There is a snow blower in the garage that runs! It hasn't been used in several years. We are looking to sell it.

Yvonne Davis made a motion to purchase a battery-operated blower to be used on the weekends before church services to get rid of the leaves and acorns. David Pippin seconded. All were in favor, Garry Kraus will look into purchasing one.

The email list that we have for church information, also included emails to general people that just want the information on upcoming events. This list will be split so that the church business is not going out to the public.

#### **Membership changes**

Deaths – none

Births – none

Membership – none

#### **Open/Close Schedule**

November 17 – Warren Stuckmeyer

November 24 – Don Dankel

Gary Hartmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Linda Schrepel, All were in favor and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting November 19, 2024 at 6:30 pm

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**October**

General Giving	\$16,197.96
Expenses (Operational)	\$14,183.58
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$2,014.38

**YTD 2024**

General Giving	\$139,396.10
Expenses	\$158,691.73
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$19,295.63)

**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.

Tuesday October 8, 2024

Totenfest – November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Thanksgiving Service will be on 11/24/24. There will be Hanging of the Greens following this service.

Christmas Eve service will be scheduled at 11pm.

Pastor James will be out on December 29th, he is looking for a guest pastor for that Sunday.

Open & close schedule for November & December: Kay Moss & Tim Hollerbach

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 12, 2024

### **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

October 1, 2024

**Sunday School** - good attendance. Opening is going well.

**Goodies With Grands** – Approximately 80 people attended.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

12/7/24 - Santa's Breakfast

12/22/24 - Christmas Program / Cookie reception

#### **Open Close Church Schedule:**

Nov 10, 2024 - Emily

Dec 8, 2024 – Shelbey

Next Meeting 11/5/2023 6:30pm

### **WOMEN'S CIRCLE HIGHLIGHTS**

Women's Circle October 3, 2024, Meeting

There were nine women and Pastor Hill attending the meeting. After joys and concerns were done, a short devotion was done by Marlyn Palmer. The minutes and treasurer's reports were approved. Business was conducted: \* The mission project for October is \$150 to the Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity. \* It was voted to donate \$400 to the General Fund for the Fish dinner. \* Plans for the chicken dinner on Sunday, October 27, 11:00-4:00 were firmed up. (Saturday, October 26 is dinner preparation day, 8:00 am) \* Items for the bazaar table & bake sale are needed. \* Chris Schrepel will be contacted to groom the garden area by the kitchen doors and a few other areas \* Christmas in November will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 6:00 at Pasta House in Arnold (\$15 gift cards for charity & canned goods will be collected). \* Brenda and Don Dankel will organize the Toy Drive again this year (more information will be coming soon). \* Impact Life is asking for blood donations at the Arnold location. The next Women's Circle meeting will be on Thursday, November 7 at 11:30 am.

We welcome any and all women of St Luke's Church to join us in fellowship and the missions of our church and community.

**.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*	Loren Stuckmeyer	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	Michele Day
Harvey Hegemann*	Jane Kraus*	Keith Morris	Carolyn Kraus
Cindy (Held) Donaldson	Paul Schneider	Al Jay Kraus	Brenda Farson
David Belleville	<b>Donald Baum</b>	Family of Dale Ehlers	<b>Ruth Winberry</b>

**Our Military Personnel**

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Carrie Weatherholt	11/3	Katie Medina	11/15
Ethan Miller	11/3	Angela Rebsamen	11/16
Lacie Shaye Perry	11/3	Denise Kraus	11/16
Wesley Allen	11/4	Llewlynn Perry	11/17
Lisa Stuckmeyer	11/5	Jody Stockwell	11/18
Daryl Steffen	11/5	Rebecca Hollerbach	11/18
Minerva Ainsley	11/6	Gracelyn Rose	11/18
Haley Stuckmeyer	11/7	Jane Rebsamen	11/19
Abraham Kraus	11/7	Dorothy Schlittler	11/19
Rachel Pippin	11/8	Donald Scherer	11/20
Ronald Gillman	11/9	Terry Kohler	11/21
Kinsey Miller	11/9	Evelyn Stuckmeyer	11/22
Emily Dulle	11/11	Thomas Duro Jr.	11/24
Joyce Kraus	11/12	Patty Wirth	11/25
Linda Schrepel	11/12	Brian Haefner	11/28
Belinda Miller	11/14	Robert Schrepel	11/29
Dane Kraus	11/15	Gary Mueller	11/30
Mark Sumner	11/15	Kathy Porter	11/30

**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW SECRETARY STEPHANIE MORLAN**

Hello, members of St. Luke's! Thank you for the warm welcome! I am so pleased and grateful to become a member of the St. Luke's Imperial team. I'm a De Soto native, a former therapist, and an

animal and nature enthusiast. I enjoyed 18 years as a school counselor with the Fox School District, and I am happy to anticipate many successful years here at St. Luke's, as well. Please feel free to stop by the office to say hello! I look forward to meeting everyone!

**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS**

Dave & Wendy Schiller  
Dawne Sobocinski  
Graham & Rhonda Dobbs

**TOY DRIVE**

St. Luke's is once again conducting a toy/gift drive this Christmas season. We will be working with one of our local schools. The gift drive begins on November 24<sup>th</sup> and ends on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Gift suggestions will be given in the cards that will be posted in Fellowship Hall. We appreciate everyone's generosity and look forward to another successful toy drive this year. If you have any questions, contact Brenda or Don Dankel at 636-942-3630; 314.330.0337 (Brenda's cell); or 314.705.2729 (Don's cell).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE**

Jessa Davis

Jillian Davis

Jordyn Davis

**THANK YOU!!!!**

A big thank you to Dave Pippin for the use of his truck and delivering the 75 personal hygiene kits (13 cases) to the ShareFest in St. Louis.

**Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!**

With grateful appreciation, the Women's Circle would like to thank everyone who contributed personal hygiene kits for the Festival of Sharing mission project. There were seventy-five (75) kits collected, which is four more than last year. St. Luke's has a very giving congregation and this does not go unnoticed. These kits were delivered to the Sharefest collection site in St. Louis on Saturday, October 12 where they will be put to great use by those in need.

With Sincere Thanks,  
The Women's Circle

**NOVEMBER**

3<sup>rd</sup> Totenfest during morning worship 9:00am  
Daylight savings time ends  
5<sup>th</sup> BOCE Meeting 6:30pm  
7<sup>th</sup> Women's Circle 11:30am  
11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day  
12<sup>th</sup> BOE Meeting 6:30pm  
19<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL Meeting 6:30pm  
20<sup>th</sup> Christmas In November, Arnold Pasta House 6pm

24<sup>th</sup> Hanging of the Greens after Worship  
28<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving

## **DECEMBER**

1<sup>st</sup> Pastor James Installation 3:00pm  
3<sup>rd</sup> BOCE Meeting 6:30pm  
7<sup>th</sup> Santa's Breakfast / Caroling  
10<sup>th</sup> BOE Meeting 6:30pm  
17<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL Meeting 6:30  
22<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Program / Cookie Reception  
24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve – Worship at 11:00pm  
25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day  
29<sup>th</sup> Guest Minister  
31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE**  
**"CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER"**  
**YOU'RE INVITED!!!**



**PLACE:** Pasta House Restaurant, 921 Arnold Commons Dr, Arnold, MO

**DATE:** Wednesday, **November 20, 2024**

**TIME:** Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Meal at **6:30**

**COST:** We will be ordering off the menu and you will just pay your own bill.

**RSVP:** Brenda Dankel before **November 13th** at 314-330-0337 or [dbdankel@charter.net](mailto:dbdankel@charter.net)

**Below are some of the projects we will be working on if you wish to participate:**

**1. Please bring a \$15.00 gift card from a store of your choice (Target, Walmart, etc, to be placed in a Christmas card (provided that night).**

**2. And/or please bring a canned good to be added to the Food Drive.**

**3. All women are invited...not just Women's Circle Members.**

**Sunday School Food Drive!**

October through the end of December!

Here are some weekly ideas:

**October 13-** BRING ANYTHING CANNED! (beans, tuna, fruit, vegetables)

**October 20-** SQUEAKY CLEAN (paper towels, wipes, vinegar, baking soda, laundry detergent, lysol, sponges, dish soap, comet)

**October 27-** CHICKEN DINNER NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

**November 3-** RISE AND SHINE (breakfast items: pancake mix, syrup, jelly, pop tarts, honey, muffin mix, cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars)

**November 10-** PASTA WEEK (noodles, mac and cheese, sauce)

**November 17-** BOXED IN (snacks, mixes, instant foods)

**November 24-** BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE (soups, hot cocoa, crackers)

**December 1-** CANNED FRUITS AND VEGGIE WEEK

**December 8-** SCRUB A DUB DUB (toilet paper, tissues, toothpaste, tooth brushes, soaps)

**December 15-** PEANUT BUTTER (that's it) \*Christmas Program this evening\*

**December 22-** Bring ANYTHING canned!

**December 29-** BABY'S HERE (diapers, baby wipes, baby food, cereal, formula)

\*If we reach our goal of 500 items, there will be a movie and pizza reward!\*

