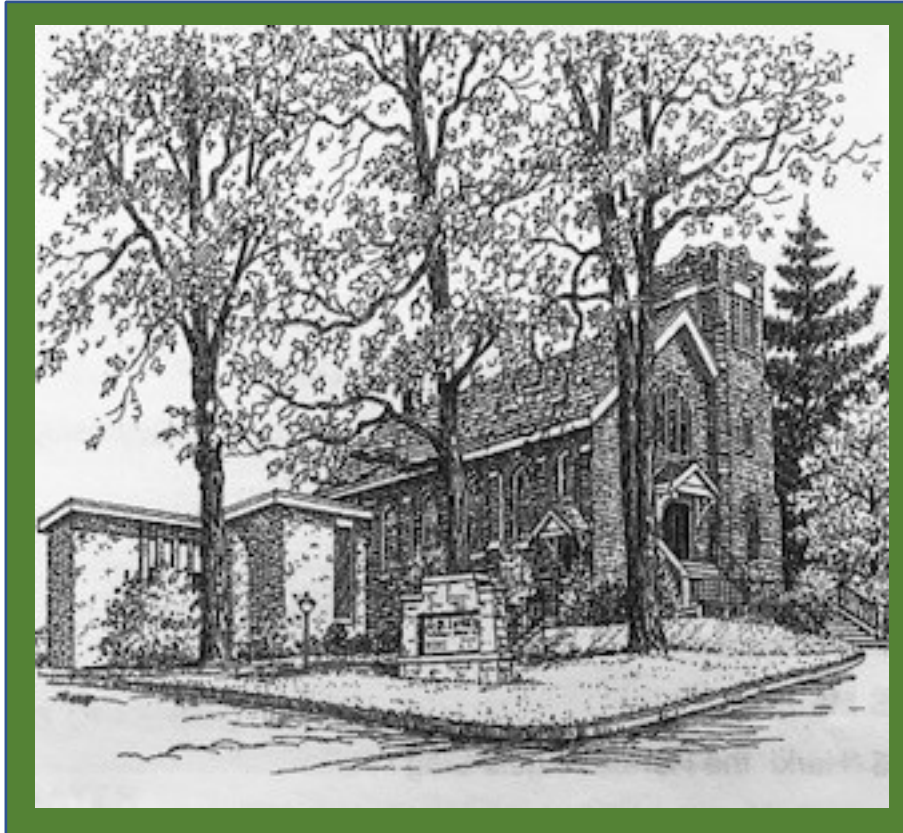


THE BEACON

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



November 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

November 3, 2025

Dear St. Luke's Family & Friends,

For many of us, this time of year remains among our favorites in the life of the church. On Sunday, October 26, our church shared another spectacular Chicken Dinner & Bazaar – and even the rainy day could not dampen our spirits. I remain both grateful for and impressed by our entire church family, which works so hard to make this event a continued success. This past Sunday, November 2, we have remembered and honored those in our church family we have lost in the past year during our Totenfest observance. In the coming weeks, we will give thanks for the continued blessings in our lives, especially our family and friends. We will also be looking forward to the new church year as Advent begins November 30th.

This year, I will be sharing a 5-part sermon series, during Advent and concluding on Christmas Eve, which I'm calling "Advent Therapy." Here's a sneak peek of what's on the way:

Nov 30	Matthew 24:36-44	Our Abandonment Issues: Advent Therapy, Part 1
Dec 7	Matthew 3:1-12	Our Confidence Issues: Advent Therapy, Part 2
Dec 14	Matthew 11:2-11	Our Expectation Issues: Advent Therapy, Part 3
Dec 21	Matthew 1:18-25	Our Imposter Issues: Advent Therapy, Part 4
Dec 24	Luke 2:1-14	Our Fear Issues: Advent Therapy, Part 5

However, the weeks ahead present many opportunities in the life of our church before we even get to Advent. My Thursday evening bible study for this season will conclude in the next few weeks, and it is not too late to join us and even get caught up through recordings from previous weeks. Our Women's Circle will be hosting this year's Christmas in November on Wednesday, November 20th, and our annual toy drive kicks off on Sunday, November 23rd. Finally, make plans to join us on the first Sunday of Advent, November 30th, as we hang the greens in our sanctuary in preparation for the coming holiday season.

Come make this season special with us. See you on Sunday!

Grace and peace,



Pastor James

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
Oct 21, 2025

In attendance – Warren Stuckmeyer, David Pippin, Jess McLard, Yvonne Davis,
Dane Kraus, Garry Kraus, Reverend Hill, Gary Hartmann.

At 6:34 Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order. Reverend Hill gave the opening prayer.

Reports:

Pastor Report – confirmation going good. He and Emma had a good review. We are looking into a mobile cart for the TV so that zoom meetings can be moved around to different rooms of the building.

Financial Secretary Report – envelopes have been ordered for 2026 and will be ready on time this year.

Elders Report – Hanging of the Greens will be November 30 after service.

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

OLD Business

- Copier – Reverend Hill is looking into a new copier. He presented a quote to lease a copier for \$193.86 a month This will include maintenance and toner. The only thing we will have to purchase is the paper and overage cost. Yvonne Davis made a motion to accept the quote for the Ricoh copier from Da-Com as submitted for 60 months.

Seconded by Dane Kraus. All were in favor, motion carried.

- Roof – The Special Congregational meeting approved the funds to have the 3 roofs repaired from the storm damage. This is scheduled for November completion.

- Tree Limbs – Waiting to hear back from them
- Outside lighting – Dane Kraus will Contact Lou Meyer and Mark Davis and get this going.

- Doors – the Hardware is in, and the doors are completed, we just need to schedule the installation.

- Workday – This was a success. The garden was cleaned, Low branches by the road were cut, the garage doors were painted, and the fryers were lit to make sure everything is working for the chicken dinner.

New Business

- Library / archive room – Reverend Hill discussed how the library will be completed. We just need help carrying and moving items.

- Building usage – Emma Barton requested using the fellowship hall the afternoon on December 13, 2025. Yvonne Davis made a motion to approve the building use. Seconded by Jess McLard. All were in favor, motion carried.
- Building usage – Jess McLard is requesting to use the fellowship hall after the Brunch with Santa on December 6, 2025. Garry Kraus made a motion to approve usage. Seconded by Dane Kraus. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Membership changes

Deaths – Jean Seymour

Births – Estelle Ray Neislein 9/24/2025

Membership – none

Open/Close schedule

November 23 – Dane Kraus

November 30 – Garry Kraus

Gary Hartmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by David Pippin. All were in favor and the meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Next Meeting November 18, 2025, at 6:30 pm

BOARD OF ELDERS HIGHLIGHTS

6:30 p.m.

October, 14 2025

Julie Hartmann, Chairperson Kay Moss, Worship

Chrissy Kraus, Visitor Care Michelle Perry, Secretary

Judy Duro, Ushers Tim Hollerbach, Member

Pastor James Hill Gary Hartmann, Council Rep

CALL TO ORDER : Julie Hartmann called the meeting to order at 6:43 pm.

PRAYER: Opened meeting with prayer, by Pastor James

COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR 2025

● September-October-November-December Judy Duro & Chrissy Kraus

MINUTES (September 17, 2025): Minutes were reviewed, motion was made by Tim Hollerbach to accept and approve the minutes, Kay Moss seconded the motion and minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Worship: Kay reports everything seems to be going well. Pastor Hill reports he has observed the YouTube weekly views seem to be about 30 or so viewings each week and Facebook views have also increased.

Ushers: Going well. Pastor Hill reports that he will have Brenda Day meet with the Confirmands to learn about ushering.

Communion: Going well, supplies have been refilled.

Visitor Care: Chrissy Kraus reports we had 8 visitors in the last month, with cards being sent to those that have left an address.

MEMBERSHIP

Confirmation Class: Pastor stated in addition to learning about ushering he has asked Dwight Kraus to demonstrate ringing of the church bell. Kay Moss would also like to show the Confirmands the vestments and when we make the changes for various events.

Baptisms: We had 2 baptisms on September 28th as reported in the last month's minutes.

There are no additional baptisms scheduled at this time.

Weddings: None at this time.

Funerals: Jean Seymore's funeral was on October 1 officiated by Pastor Hill at Kutis funeral home. Andrea Johnson's husband, Bob Johnson, passed away on September 18, 2025, he was a member of First United Methodist Church of Festus/Crystal City.

New Member: None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Totenfest 11/2/2025- Letters have been sent out to the following families from our congregation:
Donald Baum, passed November 9, 2024

Carolyn Marie Kraus, passed December 17, 2024

Loren O. Stuckmeyer, passed January 3, 2025

Joan Thurman, passed January 6, 2025

Verlon Murrell "Burr" Thurman, passed June 27, 2025

Lee Ivan Nations, passed July 26, 2025

Ruth Mueller, passed July 31, 2025

Arnedá McClenahan, passed September 6, 2025

Jean Seymore, September 24, 2025

Julie will get with Brenda Day regarding the vases we will need for the flowers and she will pick up the flowers and arrange them for the service. We also will need to set up the movie screen on the Friday prior to the service. Julie will make an announcement in church this Sunday regarding the service and to invite anyone in our congregation who has lost a loved one in the past year to contact the church office with the person's information and send in a picture. There will be a firm deadline this year of 10 am on Friday, October 31st for all information to be sent to the office. Last year we had several people read the information of the congregation members during the service. Judy Duro has agreed to read again this year but we need at least 1-2 additional people to read, we can also ask anyone in the congregation, it doesn't have to be an Elder member.

2. Christmas Service Schedule-Hanging of the Greens on November 30th and Christmas Eve service time at 11 pm has been added to the bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Board Candidate Ideas: Michelle Perry's second term ends this year. Danielle Randolph's name was mentioned but we need to check if she has been a member of the church for 2 years according to the By-Laws. Elders need to search for a new candidate.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Pastor reports he has accepted a temporary position on the UCC Committee on Ministry Support to finish out an existing term for another person.

Motion made to adjourn by Judy Duro, seconded by Kay Moss. The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.

NEXT MEETING: November 11 , 2025

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

October 7, 2025

*Angela Logan - Chairperson

*Greg McLard - Secretary

*Sarah Saputo - Sunday School Superintendent & VBS Kathy Porter - Church Council Liaison

*Shelbey Stillwill

*Connie Stuckmeyer

Emily Dulle

*Pastor James Hill

***present**

Opening Prayer - PRAYER at 6:38pm

Welcome - Angie welcomed us all.

Minutes - Connie motion to accept, Sarah 2nd. Motion passed.

Reports

1. Sunday School -

a. Class Rosters - review with Sarah.

- b. **We will need to understand who is in which grade.**
- c. **We need to update attendance chart.**
- d. **Curriculum ordered**
- 2. Church Council - **No report.**
- 3. Confirmation - **Going well. Met twice so far.**
- 4. Budget BOCE \$2,500 VBS \$1,000
- 5. Missions - **4th quarter = Food drive.**
 - a. **1st quarter \$92 to Clyde Hamerick for lunches.**
 - b. **2nd \$177 to Helping Hands and Horses**
 - c. **3rd \$? Brendan's Backpack (will include proceeds from VBS for Brendan's Bkpk).**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Open Close Church Schedule :
 - Oct 12, 2025 Greg McLard**
 - Nov 9, 2025 - Sarah Saputo**
 - Dec 14, 2025 - Connie Stuckmeyer**

2. Goodies with Grands (9/07/25)
 - o Notes, thoughts, details to review?
 - i. **83-ish attended.**
 - ii.
 - Foods - Angie-Drinks
 - Greg- 3 dozen Donuts - **4 Dozen next year.**
 - Emily - Fruit Tray
 - Sarah- Decorations
 - Shelbey- Pastries/ Muffins
 - Angie - Donut Holes - **reduce to 2 containers.**
 - **Chrissy made Cinnamon rolls. Add cinnamon rolls to the list (these were all eaten)**
 - flyer?
 - Arrived at 8
 - Attendance-
 - o Teachers will be asked to have 1 craft in classroom with kids/Grandparents.
 - i.3 rotations. Younger kids crafts went well. Older kid craft may need something different?**

- 3) Rally Day (8/24/25) - **Well attended.**
 - o **Donation can left out - \$71 put into 'Rally Day's account.**
 - o Elders – Kitchen- confirmed
 - i. Provide meat and drinks.
 - o Council - Indoor games confirmed - :
 - o BOCE - Outdoor games - 2025 games:
 - i. Duck pond - Shelbey - will get prizes **NEED NEW POOL!**
 - ii. Bounce house - Angie will bring - **DIDN'T USE THIS YEAR.**
 - iii. Sucker Pull - Connie - will bring suckers. - **GOOD**
 - iv. Balloon darts - Sarah - will get prizes. - **GOOD**

- v. Goliath - Chrissy? Is it even available? **DIDN'T USE THIS YEAR.**
- vi. Face paint and tattoos - Chrissy? **NONE THIS YEAR.**
- vii. Corn hole - Connie 'Connie's Corn Hole!!' - will get prizes - **GOOD**
- viii. Soda ring toss - Greg - GM will purchase Soda/drinks - **GOOD**
- ix. Basketball shooting game - Emily - will get prizes - **GOOD**
 - x. Bags for prizes - plastic and paper to decorate. **DIDN'T GET THIS YEAR (ONLY WHAT WAS LEFT AROUND CHURCH).**
- xi. Paul & Peggy Schneider brought snow cone machine.**

- o Prizes?

- i. 8 prizes

- ii.

- o Door prizes

- i. the children.

- ii. Need 2 for adults - 1x women and 1x for men.

- iii. Joslyn won women's prize

- iv. Fire fighter won men's prize.

- v. \$amount went to Helping Hands and Horses.

- o send Postcards?

- i. To late this year. **NO POSTCARDS SENT**

- ii. Teachers to contact kid's families. - **DID DO THIS**

- o announcements in Church for Rally Day.

- i. Chrissy to create flyer in bulletin this Sunday.

- ii. Announce in Church this Sunday - **THIS WAS DONE**

- iii. Ask Emma to do email blast - include flyer.

- iv. **SARAH SUGGESTED PUTTING FLYERS ON FACEBOOK (THOSE THAT MAKE SENSE FOR THE COMMUNITY)**

- o New ideas for activities:

- i. Bigger bounce house?

- ii. Bubble machine - Angie will get for this year.

- iii. Special guests - Fred Bird, Bluey - Not enough time this year.

- iv. Fire Dept. / Ambulance - Ask Sarah to check.

- v. Pie to the face booth/fundraiser - Not in 2025.

- Year long voting for 'eat a goldfish' or 'pie in the face', etc. for 2026

New Business

1. Soda Sales helpers will be found by Dining room lead. BOCE will supply soda. **NO SODA SALES.**

2. Santa's Breakfast prep. **12/6/25**

- Santa
 - Food
3. Christmas Program
- **How many ornaments? Some adults want one.**

Upcoming Events:

- 10/26/25 - Chicken Dinner/soda sales - NA
- 12/06/25 - Santa's Breakfast
- 12/21/25 - Christmas Program / Cookie reception

GM- Motion to adjourn. Angie 2nd.

Lords Prayer

Next Meeting 11/4/2025 6:30pm

WOMEN'S CIRCLE UPDATES

The Women's Circle meeting was held on October 4th at 11:30 with thirteen in attendance. After a brief lunch the meeting was called to order and a message from Pastor Hill was given on "The Kingdom of God" calming the soul. * Correspondence, prayers and concerns were shared and cards were sent. *the minutes and treasures reports were approved, * A mission donation of \$150 will be sent to Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity. * Chicken dinner plans were discussed and finalized. * It was encouraged to help with the 'All Church Cleaning Day' on October 18, at 8:00. * Christmas in November is set for Wednesday, November 19th at Weber's Front Row in Arnold. Arrive at 6:00, dinner at 6:30. All ladies of the church are invited. Bring a \$15 dollar gift card and canned good for the mission(s). More information will be in the church bulletin and Beacon. * The Dankel's will be organizing the Toy Drive again, watch for more information. * **The next Circle meeting will be on November, 6th at 11:30.**

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!

September Expenses

Monthly		YTD
\$12,403.50	Giving	\$126,3744.57
-\$14,635.06	Expenses	-\$149,895.58
=\$ -2,231.56		=\$-23,521.00

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

(*DENOTES NON-MEMBER, NAMES IN BOLD ARE NEWLY ADDED)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Robert Perry* | Sharlene Schlereth | Alan Bess* |
| Mike Burcham* | Kathy Porter | Burnell Raebel |
| David and Pam Belleville | Bob Schrepel | Mark Pursley* |
| Vicki Kramme Carpenter | Doris Stephenson* | Al Kraus* |
| Sharon Kaplan* | Eddie Lowry | Joyce Kraus |
| Ollie Stuckmeyer | Jana Kramme | Kay Olsen |
| Minerva Ainsley | Juliet Gilmore* | Betty Acre |
| Family of Ruthie Mueller | Jane Kraus* | Steve Hammers* |

Family of Bob Johnson
Family of Arnedo McClenahan
Ed Ziegelmeyer

Family of Jean Seymour

Michele Day*
Ken Eckert

Our Military Personnel

Christopher Kettler*
Susan Bablowitz*

Samuel Lowry
Brian Randolph

Eric Watkins*
Jacob Wolters*

Isaak Hartung*

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Maybree Saputo

Mariella Saputo

Evelyn Keith

Fletcher McLard

Roni Belt



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

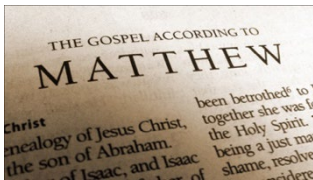
ANNOUNCEMENTS

November

- 4th Board of Christian Education meeting, 6:30pm
- 6th Women's Circle, 11:30am
- 11th Board of Christian Education meeting, 6:30pm
- 13th Final Pastor's Fall Bible Study, 6:30pm
- 14th Board of Elders meeting, 6:30pm
- 18th Church Council meeting, 6:30pm
- 23rd Thanksgiving Service
- 30th Hanging of the Greens

Pastor's Fall Bible Study

Matthew's Message: A Journey Through the First Gospel



Pastor James' new Bible study will run throughout the Fall on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and will meet in-person in Fellowship Hall. For those who need it, we will also have a way to attend online via Zoom. Please contact the church office or Pastor James by email to be added to the Zoom attendance list.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There were 43 members in attendance.

Don Dankel and Dane Kraus were appointed Tellers.

At 10:15 Pastor Hill opened the meeting with a prayer.

Warren Stuckmeyer gave the details of the storm damage claim and the amounts to be paid out, the amount we will receive for damages and the amount still needed to cover the expense.

We will have 30 year shingles put on the Church, Parsonage and Garage.

There are enough funds in the General Fund and Building and Grounds funds to cover costs.

Pastor Hill made a motion to approve 20 thousand dollars to cover expenses for all 3 roofs to be repaired. Seconded by Ken Eckert. It was a unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Amanda Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Gail Heckenberg.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday School Food Drive!

October through the end of December

Here are some weekly ideas:

Oct 19th: Squeaky Clean (paper towels, wipes, vinegar, detergents, Lysol, sponges)

Oct 26th: Chicken dinner NO Sunday school

Nov 2nd: Rise and Shine (breakfast items)

Nov 9th: Pasta week (noodles, sauce, mac and cheese)

Nov 16th: Boxed In (snacks, mixes, instant foods)

Nov 23rd: Baby it's cold outside (soups, hot cocoa, crackers)

Nov 30th: Canned veggies and fruits

Dec 7th: Scrub a Dub Dub (toilet paper, tissues, toothpaste, soaps,)

Dec 14th: Peanut Butter (Christmas program this evening)

Dec 21st: Bring anything Canned

Dec 28th: 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!

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 23rd and ends on December 14th. 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).

THANK YOU

A big thank you to everyone who helped make our 2025 Chicken Dinner such a success! From the fryers, preppers, peelers, bakers, crafters, quilters, servers, ticket sellers, ticket buyers, clean-up crew, parking attendants, trash crew, and everyone behind the scenes, we can't thank you all enough. It takes an army to pull off such a successful task, and that's what we have within our St. Luke's family! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

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



PLACE: Weber's Front Row Grill

3930 Vogel Rd, Arnold, MO 63010

DATE: Wednesday, November 19, 2025

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

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 which will be 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.**

