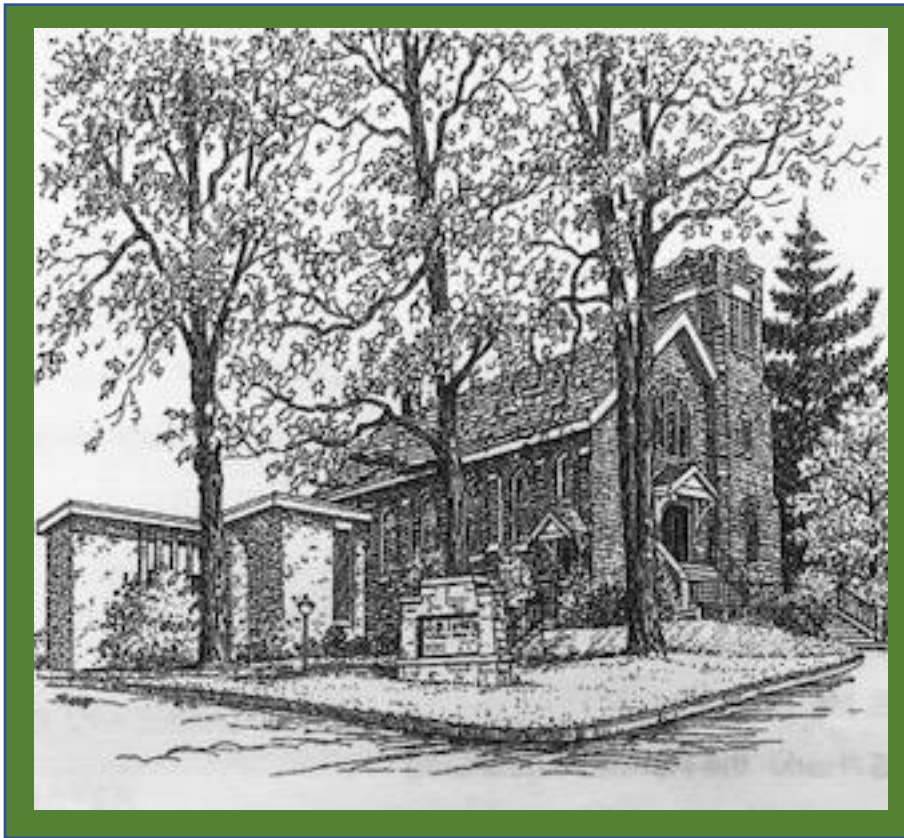


THE BEACON

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



MARCH 2022

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

**The Church Office is currently being managed remotely.
Assistance is available via email/phone**

President's Message

To some people, Lent means giving up something you like until Easter Sunday. I would like our members to ADD a positive thing to their lives. Not just for Lent, but for many months to come consider volunteering at a school or nursing home, smile at everyone you meet and say hello, donate to the people who are suffering in Ukraine, donate more items to the Church's food drive, donate some time doing something different at church and do something kind for someone everyday

Barbara Allen

Church Council President

*The
Season
of
Lent*



LENTEN / EASTER SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY – April 15, 2022

Worship Service to be held at 7:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY – April 17, 2022

Worship Services will be held at 9:00 AM

EASTER MEMORIALS

Order forms for Easter Memorials will be included in the March Sunday bulletins.

Please have your orders turned into the Church Office by Sunday, April 3rd.

March 27, 2022 - ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are planting seeds of new life. Together, we are investing in communities world-wide: providing education to children, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending and seeing people through to self-sufficiency, empowering families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God's children. Through the ministries of this church and through the ministries supported by One Great Hour of Sharing, we have the opportunity to be part of the future growth God brings when we work, plant, and build together. Please give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering to serve the future thriving of the world you so love. Our OGHS OFFERING DATE IS MARCH 27TH. Envelopes will be in the bulletin during worship that Sunday.

Church Council

President
Barb Allen

Vice President
<Vacant>

Secretary
Yvonne Davis

Treasurer
Sandra Arnold

Fin. Secretary
Linda Schrepel

BOE Rep.
Angela Otto

BOCE Rep.
Kathy Porter

Bldg & Grounds
Dwight Kraus

Burgess Cemetery/Endowment
Warren Stuckmeyer

Interim Pastor
Rev. Joshua Pittman

Meeting Highlights from February 2022

Church Council met on February 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Minutes were reviewed and approved from the January meeting.

Financial: Discussion regarding accounts with monies that could be accruing interest and could be transferred out to help grow the funds. The balances remaining in funds give enough to still operate successfully. The rep from United Church Funds will be invited back to a meeting to provide recommendations for funds and amounts. The Financial Secretary's report was given and announced that there were no employment wage / merit increases approved for the 2022 year.

Building & Grounds: Dwight Kraus reported the new sign at New Hwy M and St. Luke's Church Road would be replaced before the Sausage Dinner by Ehlman Signs for the cost of \$475.00. A donation was made to the Church to cover the costs of the sign.

Search Committee: The committee has reviewed the church profile. They need one more reference letter from a non-member. They have two but would like three.

Endowment: Warren Stuckmeyer reported that the Endowment Committee approved the request for \$500 to the Board of Christian Education for supplies for the year. They also approve the request from Women's Guild to purchase signs for the Chicken Dinner. Endowment is still processing requests for the 2020 distribution year. They will continue to accept applications until April for the May meeting.

Board of Christian Education: Kathy Porter requested approval from Council to rename the Annual Halloween parade to the "Fall for Jesus Festival." Council approved.

Board of Elders: The BOE requests that they take over the responsibility for the Zoom process, setting up the equipment etc. on Sunday morning for service. BOE provided Council a list of "non-active" members that have been contacted or attempted contact to verify whether they wished to remain "affiliate" members or to be removed from the church roster. The BOE will review the list two times per year to keep up with the process. An "affiliate" is one who does not attend church, does not make a donation of time or funds to the church. A motion was made and passed to move "inactive" members to the appropriate lists as per BOE recommendation. BOE is requesting the Annual Meeting minutes be sent to all boards and members with emails, so they do not have to wait until next year to review the minutes. Council reported that the minutes are being reviewed and corrections will be made at the March meeting. The funeral procedures are being reviewed and will be updated since the church has been approved to hold funerals at St. Luke's.

New Business:

Lenten Worship Service: There will be service at 7PM on Ash Wednesday, 7PM service on Good Friday and 9AM service on Easter Sunday.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 15th, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

ACTUAL (as of January 2022)

INCOME	\$ 15,606
EXPENSES	\$ 14,621
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ 985

Endowment

Chairperson
Amanda Davis

Secretary
Don Scherer

Treasurer
Lorna Meyer

Church Council Rep
Warren Stuckmeyer

Council Visitor
Sandra Arnold

Other Members
Lisa Stuckmeyer
John Sieving

Meeting Highlights from February 2022

The Endowment Trust Committee met on February 7, 2022. Minutes were reviewed and approved from the November 2021 meeting.

Financial: The Financial report for the period 01/01/2021-12/31/2021, prepared by Sherry Pippin was presented and approved.

New Business:

Committee: New committee members Lorna Meyer and Lisa Stuckmeyer were apprised of the current work of the Endowment Committee.

2022 Officers: Amanda Davis, Chairperson; Don Scherer, Secretary & Lorna Meyer, Treasurer

Fund Applications: The committee has received two applications for the available funds. The Board of Christian Education has submitted a request stating the funds would help with Sunday School curriculum and Vacation Bible School Supplies. The second application is from the Women's Guild wishing to purchase new yard, bridge, and road signs for the Chicken Dinner. These requests were voted upon, and motion was made, approved, and agreed by all.

Available Funds: Endowment has extended the deadline to apply if you are interested in the availability of funds. Any duly elected or appointed Board, Council or Church Committee (not individuals) are eligible to apply. The new deadline for application is April 30, 2022. Submitted applications will be reviewed at the May 2, 2022, Endowment Meeting. Applications are available upon request from the Church Office.

Board of Elders

Chairperson
Jess McLard

Secretary
Bob Schrepel

Church Council Rep.
Angela Otto

Worship
Kay Moss

Visitor Care
Michelle Perry

Ushers
Brenda Day

Nursery
Julie Hartmann

Interim Pastor
Rev, Joshua Pittman

Highlights from February 2022

The Board of Elders met on February 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Minutes were reviewed and approved from the January meeting.

Worship: Things continue to go well. Attendance has been steadily improving.

Ushers: Things are going well with three ushers per service. More volunteers are needed to usher.

Nursery Care: At this time, no nursery care is being provided. Discussed when we may consider again providing nursery care. For now, there does not seem to be a need, so we will leave it as is for now.

Visitor Care: In January, we one visitor via Zoom worship.

Confirmation Class: Things are going well with the new class who meet with Pastor Joshua on Sunday right after church. They are currently working on their spiritual autobiographies, and they continue doing an excellent job reading scripture each Sunday and lighting the candles.

Weddings: April 9, 2022: Shelby Stuckmeyer and Kyle Stillwell
May 21, 2022, Justin Stuckmeyer and Courtney Merli

Funerals: Church Council approved to allow funerals to be held in the church. Masks are recommended but per our COVID guidelines, we are not requiring masks. Elders are working on updating the Funeral Committee procedures and volunteers to serve on the committee.

Birthday List: Brenda Day has updated the monthly birthday list through December 2022 and provided changes to Tricia

2022 Food Drive: The Food Drive will run from February 6th through March 13th. The food collected will be donated to the St. Joseph's Food Pantry. Collection will include dry goods, personal care items and baby care items. Monetary donations may be made also, and funds will be used to purchase additional items for donation.

Sausage Dinner: A sausage dinner is being planned by the combined Women's Guild and Evening Circle for Sunday, February 20th. The dinner will be drive through only 11am-4pm or until sold out. The cost is \$12/plate.

Membership Task Force: Responses from the inactive member list letter were reviewed and the task force will continue to move forward with recommendations to Council for those who should be moved to "Affiliate" status in the Church database.

Ash Wednesday: We plan to have an Ash Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. on March 2nd. Good Friday evening service on April 15th at 7 p.m. and Easter Sunday service at 9 a.m. on April 17th.

Pastor: Pastor Josh is working to update the "Supply Pastor" list for us to use for those times when he is not available.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

Board of Christian Education

Chairperson
Connie Stuckmeyer

Secretary
Chris Kraus

Church Council Rep.
Kathy Porter

Elected Members
Angela Logan
Gail Heckenberg
Sherry Pippin
Sarah Saputo

SS Superintendent
Kayla Bailey

SS Asst Super.
Brenda Farson

VBS
Jess McLard

Highlights from February 2022

The Board of Christian Education met on February 1, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. Minutes were reviewed and approved from the December meeting.

Sunday School: There were sixteen kids in attendance at reward party including Confirmands. This party included pizzas from Papa Murphy's, popcorn, treats, movie Encanto, and a puppet show by Chrissy's class Judd, Jillian, and Ella (Brenna and Delany assisted with sound effects).

Confirmation: Students are using the R4 curriculum which focuses more on spiritual experiences. Kids seem to be on track and are writing their Statements of Faith. No field trips have been scheduled but the BOCE is researching several options for virtual and/or live tours such as the Love Packages, Holocaust Museum, Greek Orthodox Church, and the Old Cathedral. More information to come.

Church Council: Rev. Pittman's contract has been renewed for one year with the option to review every three months. The 2022 BOCE Calendar has been approved.

2022 Budget: BOCE \$2500; VBS \$500. Connie applied for money from the Endowment Trust to help with purchases. Connie plans to keep a 2022 ledger of expenses.

Easter Breakfast: Adult Fellowship (no longer active) previously sponsored this event with help from the Confirmands and their parents. Connie will gather more information and more information to come.

Green Eggs & Ham Breakfast: Sunday, March 13th following worship. Kids encouraged to wear green and bring a friend for the day. The book will be read to the kids reiterating the positive message from the story. Committee assignments were finalized.

Palm Cross Making/Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 9th. Confirmands will be asked to help with the Easter Egg Hunt and will need one volunteer to dress up in costume as our "special guest." We will also invite Pat/John Sieving to help instruct them on making Palm Crosses. Palms to be ordered, plastic eggs in Sunday School office. Discussion to finalize event at the next meeting.

Rummage Sale: Sale will take place on the church parking lot on June 4th (rain date June 11th). Sarah will make a signup sheet and flyer. This will be a fundraiser for BOCE with funds supporting the church youth. This will be advertised in the Leader free section and possibly the radio. Flyer will be emailed to local churches.

Halloween Activity: The activity originally planned for October 23rd has been changed to "Falling for Jesus Festival" which will include fall themed games, competitions and activities following Sunday School. Some ideas provided were shuffleboard, ping pong, cornhole, bobbing for donuts, corn kernel shucking. More discussion to follow. Kids will be encouraged to bring friends to worship, Sunday School, and the festival.

Event Sponsors: Connie spoke with Jess McLard regarding the proposal to have the Board of Elders sponsor the Bingo and Hayride/Bonfire for 2022. These events have been removed from the BOCE calendar.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.



Matthew Metz (AMS Principal), Judd McLard, & Brenna McLard

Dear St. Luke's Family,

We wanted to thank everyone for such a great outpouring of support to our recent mission. The kids were able to raise \$550 to donate toward Antonia Middle School's homeless families. This mission began with a sermon by Rev. Pittman, then evolved into our amazing St. Luke's kids brainstorming for ways to help. They produced the idea of selling their homemade crafts; then went to work. I was amazed at their talent and creativity; and humbled by their caring hearts.

We also want to thank the adult helpers that showed up for craft night and to Jess McLard for doing the legwork in getting our funds to those in need. While this mission has ended, we will continue to be available to contribute to St. Luke's when help is needed, and to seek out ways to serve God, our community and those we love.

Thanks again,

Chris Kraus and the kids from Hopesquad

ST. LUKE'S

MARCH 13 2022

DRESS IN GREEN & BRING ALL YOUR FRIENDS - WE'RE MAKING A PLAN TO SERVE...

Green Eggs and Ham

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Please join us for breakfast following Sunday School on

March 13, 2022

from 10:30 to 11:30!

St. Luke's U.C.C. - Fellowship Hall

STORY • FOOD • FUN • FELLOWSHIP

WE JUST CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE, EVEN IF YOUR FRIEND IS A BEAR!



DON'T FORGET...Sunday, March 13th is Daylight Savings time!
Be sure to set your clocks forward one hour before bed on Saturday night.

Building & Grounds



Kevin White...for snow removal on the parking lot and Church roadway and for also salting the parking lot and hill after the recent snowfalls.

Kraus Dairy Farm...for providing their loader tractor to cut the packed snow off the gravel and asphalt roadways. Also, for helping grade the gravel road and gravel parking lot before the sausage dinner

Kevin Stockwell and Family...for continuous efforts cleaning up the leaves around the Church

Alan Derickson (church neighbor) ...for helping clear the snow from the gravel lot and roadway

To Members of the Church...those that do things behind the scenes to keep our Church operations flowing smoothly.

Thanks to All,

- Dwight Kraus, Building and Grounds

Thank you

*“Dear Church friends,
I'd like to thank you for the cards, calls, visits, and most of all your prayers. To give you an update on my cancer, I would like to say that your prayers worked again! I got my latest results and for the third time, the results are clean! Hopefully the third time is my last! As for my back surgery on November 30th, it went well but is taking longer to walk without my walker. I made it home from Nazareth rehab on January 7th. Mike has been a real blessing, keeping me on target with all of my meds and food. A big thank you!*

Jean Seymour

P.S. I received a flower when I was at Nazareth, but it was missing the card so if anyone from church sent it, Thank you!

Women's Guild

Highlights from February 2022

The Women's Guild was scheduled to meet on February 3, 2022 however due to inclement weather the meeting was cancelled. The meeting was not rescheduled for February. Our next meeting will be March 3, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a sack lunch and plan to discuss the merger with the Evening Circle. All ladies of the church are invited and welcome to come. Hope to see you there.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 3rd, 2022 @ 11:30 a.m.

Hanging Basket Order Form St. Luke's UCC Evening Circle



\$15 each



Payable to St. Luke's UCC Evening Circle
Payment is due at the time of order

Deadline for orders is Sunday, April 17

Sold by: _____	Ivy Geranium (list color) Red or Pink	New Guinea Impatiens (list color) Pink, Red, Orange, Purple	Calibrachoa (MillionBells) Purple, Pink, Yellow (list color)	Double wave petunia Mixed	Geranium Combo (list color) Purple, Red	Non-stop begonia (list color) Red, Yellow	Total Plants Sold	Total amount paid
CUSTOMER NAME								
Grand Totals:								

*If a color or plant is not available one will be substituted

You may place an order by filling out the form on the piano at church or you may call an Evening Circle member. If you choose to mail an order to the church please make sure you mark the envelope Evening Circle and include your payment.

You may Call: Gail Heckenberg 314-630-2248
Earleen Stockwell 314-496-7405

Sherry Pippin 314-805-6051
Brenda Dankel 314-330-0337

Orders will be here for Mother's Day



A HUGE Thank you to everyone that helped make the 2022 Sausage Dinner such a success!

We sold approximately 400 meals, 145+ pounds of sausage and numerous piggies! It took only 35 minutes to SELL OUT!!!

It was a success because of ALL of the members of St. Luke's Church!

Thank you – Thank you – Thank you!

Thank you

*“St. Luke’s Congregation,
I wanted to express my gratitude with all the help with the hall,
desserts, and donations. My daughter would be so grateful for
everything that everyone has done for her family.
May God Bless,*

Vickie & Michael Scott



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!

Congratulations



Sarah Schimsa...for being named to the Dean's List in recognition for her academic achievement as a full-time student during the Fall 2021 semester at Jeffco.



***Denotes Non-member, (Names in bold are newly added)**

David Belleville
Jim Kraus
Loren Stuckmeyer

Brenda Day
Megan Nuelle
Ron White

Londyn Dixon*
Zachary Palmer*

Brenda Farson
Tim Stockwell

Our Military Personnel

Shawn Farson*

Christopher Kettler*
Kelsey L. Schwent

Samuel Lowry
Eric Watkins

Alec Schrepel*



03/04 Jeanette Wilson
03/05 Brayden Burcham
Meaghan Frank
Kurt Olsen
03/11 Stephanie Rose
03/13 Tessa Rebsamen
03/16 Della Kramme
03/17 Larissa Dolan
03/18 Stephanie Narup
03/19 Dawn Amsden
03/20 Jolene Perry

03/21 Jill Scherer
03/23 Jaidyn Russell
03/24 Joseph Bogowith
03/25 Ed Ziegelmeier
03/26 Betty Acre
Kaylin Hollerbach
Aline Rogers
03/27 Ashley Restivo
03/28 Andrew Riordan
03/29 Vivian Vishino
03/30 Kayla Bailey
Timothy Stockwell

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

- March 18, 2022, Feed My People is hosting their first 2022 virtual event... "Throwback Trivia Night". Virtual "doors" will open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more details visit FMP website at www.Feed-My-People.org/special-events-info. Or contact James at jamesB@fmpstl.org or 314-631-4900 x 312.
- April 9, 2022, Comtrea is hosting a "Designer Bag Bingo Spring Celebration". Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. at Villa Antonia Winery (3660 Linhorst Rd, Hillsboro MO). There will be ten rounds of Bingo, raffle items, 50/50. Food will be available for purchase and Cash Bar available (no outside food or drink allowed). Tickets are \$35 per person and additional bingo cards can be purchased for 1/\$10 or 3/\$25. This event is sponsored by Villa Antonia Winery and Meramec Arnold Elks Bingo and proceeds will benefit Mary's House of Hope, A Safe Place. If you wish to attend, you can mail check payable to COMTREA/MHOH Attn: Fundraising 227 East Main Street, Festus MO 63028. You can also register at www.comtrea.org/events or call or email Kim Elbl at 636-232-2339 / kelbl@comtrea.org
- April 23, 2022, A Safe Place is hosting a fundraiser "Garden Party" at 5:00 P.M. at the Corpus Christi Center (6020 Old Antonia Rd, 63052). Dinner, Open Bar, Music by Butch Wax & the Hollywoods, Live Auction, Silent Mobile Auction, Dancing, 50/50, & Raffles! \$100 per ticket. www.comtrea.org/events/garden-party