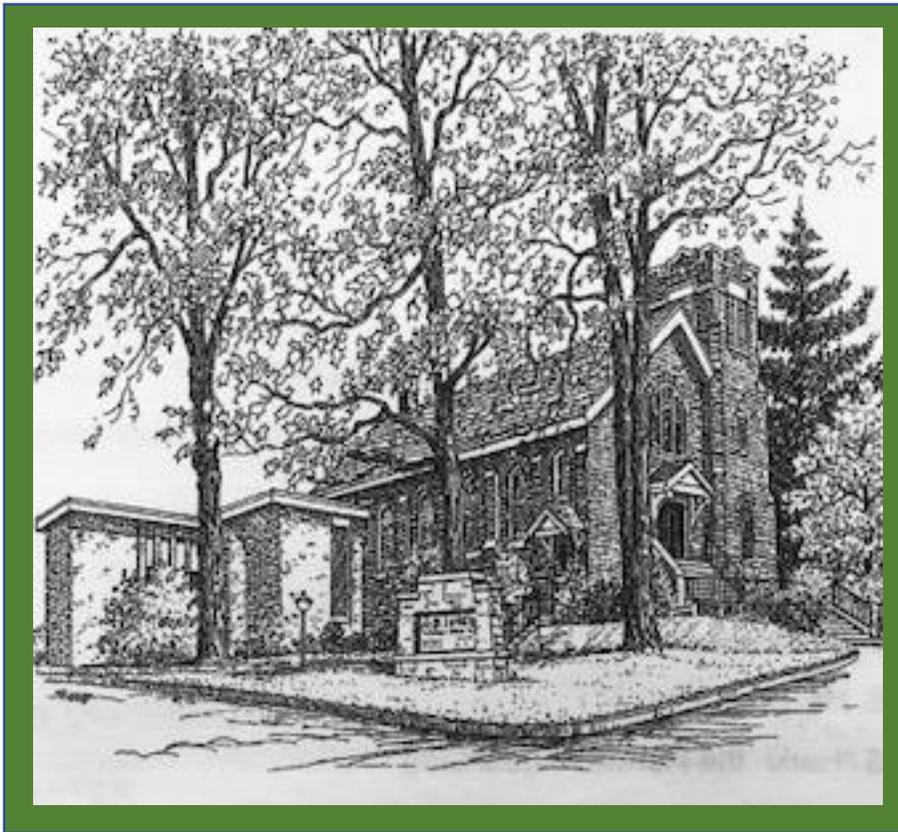


THE BEACON

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



SEPTEMBER 2021

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

Happy September St. Luke's Families,

Hopefully everyone is starting to settle in with Fall Schedules and getting back in the groove after a great Summer. I know our Sunday School teachers are ready to go now that we had a wonderful Rally Day! It was so nice to see all the kids attend Church and Rally Day.

With the Covid numbers for the Delta Variant continuing to go up, the Church Council addressed how to handle this ongoing situation. After speaking with the Board of Elders, we decided to conduct an All-Board meeting to take votes. It has been important to me to collaborate on these things since we all make up our Church Family. We all have different opinions on how to navigate life these days and we all try to respect everyone's individual circumstances. With that being said, the consensus of our collaborative votes was to recommend masks for all while we are in the Red Zone. This is a recommendation by all boards. We all recommend and request also that if you are ill in any way, please join us for worship via Zoom; if you have been in contact with church or any church members and happen to test positive for Covid, please contact a member of Church Council or Tricia in the Church Office. Your information will be kept confidential, but we would like to attempt to contract trace, if needed.

I would like to thank Chrissy and Dwight Kraus for their hard work and efforts they put into an event recently. On August 21st, they had an event at church with our "Hope Squad". The "Hope Squad" is Chrissy's class, and it was extended to last year's Confirmation kids. This group of kiddos asked what they can do to lend a helping hand around our community, so Chrissy and Dwight jumped on the opportunity and had the kids start making items to sell for a fundraiser. I know Kaylin had a great time being a part of it and Emma can't wait for the next event so she will be able to participate.

Also, be sure to check out the listing of events being planned by the Board of Christian Education (BOCE). They have been working incredibly hard on many upcoming events. I believe next up is ...Goodies with Grands on Sunday, September 12th.

With everyone's schedules getting back to more normal, I personally have had some changes. I've given my girls the "ok" to go back to their dance classes full time and Kaylin has added in Pointe. Emma is also participating in middle school cross country in addition to her dance classes. She has now phased out of the cross-country group I coached. My girls are growing up faster than I want them too. We are also growing our Architecture firm. All these things are great but take up much of my time. That being said, something has to give. Unfortunately, my family has to come first, therefore I can no longer serve as your Church Council President. Barb Allen will be stepping up from her VP role and I will be moving to VP for now. As always, we are looking for added members to join Church Council. I know I only had a few months remaining and would never leave them without assistance. I'm just no longer able to make any meetings in person. The last five years serving on Council has been an amazing experience, learning more about each one of you and learning more about our church. This has been an incredibly challenging couple of years, and I do wish I was able to finish my time as your Council President, but I will still be around to help in any way that I can. I do hope to serve again, when my kids are grown, and our businesses are at a stable place. I want to thank all of you for helping me along the way these past five years.

I know my faith, love and appreciation have grown serving alongside all of you!

Becky Hollerbach

Church Council

President
Barb Allen

Vice President
Becky Hollerbach

Secretary
Angela Otto

Treasurer / Endowment
Sandra Arnold

Fin. Secretary
Linda Schrepel

BOE Rep.
Gary Hartmann

BOCE Rep.
Kathy Porter

Building & Grounds
Dwight Kraus

Burgess Cemetery
Warren Stuckmeyer

Interim Pastor
Rev, Joshua Pittman

Meeting Highlights from August 2021

Pastor: Pastor will be on vacation Sunday, December 26th through January 1st. Kathy Porter will be our Guest Pastor on Sunday, December 26th

Financial: Sandy Arnold provided a spreadsheet to help better understand the Treasurer's report and monthly financials. The accounts were reviewed. Sandy is organizing the "funds" setup in the accounting system.

Building and Grounds Committee: The security camera install has been completed. The dusk to dawn light is being replaced. The road was graded again. Suggestion to have a building "sponsor" for each building use because recently building light have been left on and the thermostat was left at 60 degrees in Fellowship Hall.

Endowment Committee: Meeting held August 2nd. Matt from UCF is attending the September 2nd meeting to speak with the group. Council has been invited to join the meeting.

Search Committee: First meeting held on Monday, August 2nd. Michelle Perry was elected Chairperson, Lisa Stuckmeyer Co-Chairperson and Jess McLard Secretary. They held a second meeting August 12th and another August 24th with Rev. Damien Lake in attendance. Don Dankel will be attending Council meetings to update on the Search Committee's progress.

Funeral / Wedding Procedures: Board of Elders requested to move funeral services back to funeral homes and not host any in the Sanctuary. We will continue to monitor the COVID situation when we need to for both funerals and luncheons. Tammy Glaus is the contact person for funeral luncheons. She will contact one of the three groups when necessary. At this time, no food is being prepared, volunteers are only serving. They are looking into having 2-3 options available to call and order food to be delivered.

All Board Meeting: There was an All-Board meeting on August 8th to discuss Bylaw revisions proposed by Board of Elders and Board of Christian Education. Both revisions were approved, and the Bylaws will be updated in the Church Office.

Upcoming Events: Women's Guild is planning the chicken dinner to be take out only this year and pre-orders due to the influx of food and paper products.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 21st, 2021 @ 6:30

Board of Elders

Chairperson
Jess McLard

Secretary
Bob Schrepel

Church Council Rep.
Gary Hartmann

Worship
Kay Moss

Visitor Care
Michelle Perry

Ushers
Brenda Day

Nursery
Julie Hartmann

Interim Pastor
Rev, Joshua Pittman

Highlight: from August 2021

Membership: It is the responsibility of the Elders to maintain the church membership roll with the approval of Church Council. At the August 8th congregational meeting it was approved to change Church Bylaw, Article 3 to better define the requirements for a member to be “in good and regular standing”. This change was done to facilitate Elder’s requirement to determine an accurate membership roll for the Church Search Committee to use in the church profile which defines who St. Luke’s is and will greatly influence who we get as the next permanent pastor. It has been decided that our church roll is much larger than what it should be, is not accurate and needs to be reduced to a more realistic and accurate size. Elders has reached out to some other church members to help and formed a “Membership Task Force” that will take a first look at creating the proposed accurate membership roll. The task force Chairperson is Kay Moss. After a review by the Task Force, this “first cut” of a membership roll will be forwarded to the Board of Elders. Elders will take this “first cut” and closely coordinate with the Church Council Financial Secretary to establish a fair and accurate membership list and then submit to Church Council for approval. The plan is to have two lists. One list will be Church Members “in good and regular standing” and will be the official membership list. The second list is what formally was called “inactive members” and these individuals are who want to be associated with St. Luke’s. This second list could be called “Friends of St. Luke’s” or some other name, but the word “member” will not be used in the name of the list or attached to any individual names on the list but will allow individuals to be associated with St. Luke’s. Hopefully this will do away with the terms “active member” and “inactive member”. Per Rev. Lake, the UCC considers “active member” and “inactive member” as members when coming up with a church membership roll. This can sway the numbers for compensation.

Worship: Things continue to go well. Discussion regarding how to best capture attendance for those joining Worship Service on Sunday via ZOOM.

Confirmation Class: Will start new class on Sept 12th, Pastor Josh researching the program to use.

Baptism: Leighton Gillman was baptized on Sunday, August 22.

Funerals: At this time, it is preferred that all funeral services be held at a funeral home.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 24th Outdoor Movie Night Everyone bring own chairs and snacks.
- Nov. 7th Totenfest Sunday, open to anyone who lost a family member
- Nov. 24th NO Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service this year.
- Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Worship Service @ 7p.m. with communion
- Dec. 25th NO Christmas Day Worship Service.
- Dec. 26th Guest Pastor for Sunday Worship Service (Pastor Pittman will be out of town)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 14th, 2021 @ 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

Highlight: from August 2021

Sunday School: Classes will remain divided as before for 2021 Sunday School (i.e.: ages 2-5, K-3rd grade and 4-7 grades). Curriculum is being ordered and Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 12th from 10am – 10:45am following Worship Service.

St. Luke's Youth Hope Squad: The 4th – 7th grade students have formed a youth group Their hope is to put help into action for our local community and church. We encourage everyone to drop by the class across from the bridal room for an update on their current mission. Chris Kraus will provide information regarding activities outside the normal class to both parents and the Church Council for approval.

Voyagers / Youth Group: Kathy Porter placed a call to Cindy Burke regarding attending BOCE's September meeting to discuss ways to generate youth involvement.

Quarterly Mission: BOCE's 3rd quarter mission, Brenden's Backpack continues through September.

Teacher Appreciation/ Rally Day/All Church Picnic: Sunday School teacher appreciation will be included in the activities on Rally Day 8/29/21. Dessert will be provided to celebrate our teachers. Working organizing outdoor games and prizes for Rally Day. Food menu for the All-Church Picnic was determined and will be ordered or picked up. Food will be served around 10:30am right after Worship Service.

Food Drive: Start saving your can goods...BOCE will be hosting their annual 4th quarter food drive beginning in October through December.

Calendar of Events

Sept. 12:	"Goodies with Grands" (Grandparents Day)
Oct. 24:	Trunk or Treat
Oct. 31:	Chicken Dinner (carryout only this year)
Nov. 13:	Hayride/Bonfire
Dec. 4:	Santa's breakfast (Gary Cronin will be contacted)
Dec. 19:	Christmas Program / Cookie Reception (makeup date Jan 9 th)
Feb 5, 2022:	Bingo Night
Mar.13, 2022:	Green Eggs and Ham Pancake Breakfast

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

"Thank You"

The Board of Christian Education would like to welcome back our Sunday School staff for another year. We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to each of you for your dedication to the children at St. Luke's. You play a very important role in the Christian education of our children.

Pastor Joshua Pittman

Kayla Bailey

Connie Stuckmeyer

Brenda Farson

Chrissy Kraus

Jess McLard

Sarah Saputo

Amanda Davis

Julie Hartmann

Andrea Johnson

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES – September 12, 2021 @ 10 – 10:45 a.m.

Church Office

I wanted to take a moment and say THANK YOU to everyone for continuing to pray for my family.

The words "thank you" do not begin to express my gratitude for all the emails, calls, texts, mailed cards and gifts that we have received. The kindness shown to us is amazing and so appreciated. We have been faced with some very unexpected health hurdles for our youngest son, Logan who will be twelve on October 5th. One health issue led to another, and his next surgery is currently scheduled on Friday, September 10th at Cardinal Glennon.

I would also like to thank Church Council for providing the opportunity to manage the Church Office remotely from my home at this time to care for and be available for the needs of my family.

The office phone has been forwarded to my cell, like it was for many months in 2020. I am always happy to help in any way I can and have my phone nearby so I can reply to emails, texts and calls in a timely manner.

I feel blessed to be a part of the St. Luke's "family".

Tricia Heckstetter, Church Secretary

Building & Grounds

Thank you...

- **Cliff Rebsamen...**for replacing the bulb in the light above the cross on the east side of the building and adapting that fixture to accept a modern style bulb and for helping diagnose the issue with the dusk to dawn light above the Fellowship entry door.
- **To all those that ...** keep up with weed control on the property.
- **To all those ...** for the ongoing TLC given to the Burgess Cemetery.
- **To all those that...** do so many little things that need to be done around the Church to keep it in great shape.

Thanks to All,

- Dwight Kraus, Building and Grounds

2021 Projects ...

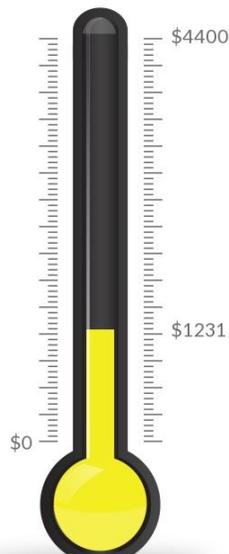
This year we have been blessed to make renovations and upgrades to the Church...here is a synopsis of the projects completed, underway and upcoming.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Sanctuary lighting | Total Project Cost \$5318.66 | Donation Total: \$5318.66 |
| <i>WE DID IT! (Raised \$281.34 over costs, moved that money to HVAC fund per CC Mtg 8/16/21)</i> | | |
| 2) Sanctuary HVAC | Total Project Cost \$4400. | Donations to Date: \$1231.34 |
| 3) Security System | Total Project Cost \$2967.50 | Donations to Date: \$0 |
| 4) Road/Parking Lot | Total Project Cost \$13,634.83 | Donations Total: \$10,000 |
| <i>The remaining \$3634.83 will be paid from the B&G Expense Fund.</i> | | |

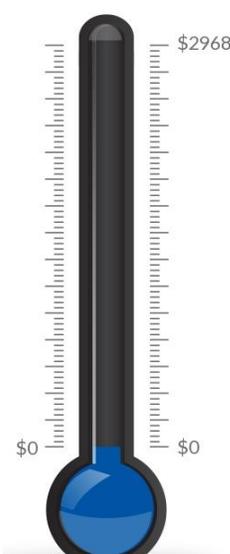
THANK YOU to everyone that has contributed to the project funds.



Sanctuary Lighting



Sanctuary HVAC



Security System



Road/Parking Lot

Women's Guild

A group of nine ladies met on August 5th at 11:00 a.m. for a special meeting regarding the Chicken Dinner. Four different companies had been contacted for information: Sysco, Kuna, Karsch's and Herrell's. At this time, the prices for the chicken could not be determined and the weight of the chickens would be 3 pounds or more. The price of the fry oil has quadrupled, and the paper prices has doubled or more. We hope to include beets, as they are a favorite of many (if we can purchase them sliced, not diced). Methods of taking orders and filling them were discussed. It was noted that there is only one person listed as a food service sanitization handler. There must be more, so we are requesting people to take the test. We also discussed Funeral Luncheon committees. Currently, they are only serving the families and guests. Tammy Glaus volunteered to be the contact person for the Pastor to notify if a luncheon is requested. She will determine which committee is the one that will be serving and notify them. More volunteers are always welcome.

Our next meeting will be September 2, at 11:30 a.m. The meeting focus will be the Chicken Dinner. We would invite all who have ideas, suggestions, or concerns to come join us. There will be discussion on Funeral Luncheons and committees also.

Please come. We need all the help we can get!

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 2nd, 2021 @ 11:30 a.m.



LET'S CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER ...

9/1	Sherri Kempf-Hill	9/11	Barbara Allen	9/23	Cynthia Anthonies
9/2	Gary Hartmann		Ashley Perez	9/25	James Kraus
	Ed Magee	9/12	Laura Harris		Blakeli Nuelle
	Patricia Timeus	9/13	Gabe Schneider	9/26	Michael Davis
	Amy Warren	9/14	Ava Carver		Martin Miller
9/3	Megan Gillman		Gail Lents	9/27	Gwynne Elrod
9/4	Angela Farson	9/15	Samuel Lowry		Andrew Kohler
9/6	Jana Kramme		Jacob Stuckmeyer	9/28	Andrew Kraus
	Elmer Schaper		Kevin White		William Magee
9/7	Carla Bradley	9/17	Gerald Hollerbach	9/29	Payton Seitz
	Andrea Johnson		Caleb Russell	9/30	Chloe Jacob
	Peyton Nash	9/20	Stephanie Anthonies		Eric Kundert
	Debbie Stark	9/21	Michael Ferbet		Kay Olsen
	Samantha Stuckmeyer		Dean Stockwell		
9/8	Tobey Stuckmeyer	9/22	Alexis Klable		



PRAYER IS VITAL....

Every Sunday we list requests for prayers in our bulletin for a variety of people, from those celebrating the birth of a baby to prayers of sympathy for those mourning and encouragement for those undergoing medical treatment. Please be sure to notify the church office and/or Pastor Pittman by emailing or calling to provide the name of someone you would like included in prayer requests. Prayer Request slips are also available in the Sanctuary every Sunday. Also, as we try to keep the list current, please notify the church if someone you've asked to be added no longer needs to be on the list. stlukesimperial@gmail.com or (636) 948-3545



Bruce Acre*, June Balajka, William Brewer*, Tony & Brenda Carter*,
Justin Dixon*, Londyn Dixon*, Luella Gammons*, Betty Gruenewald, Logan Heckstetter*
Adam Hughes*, Doris Kettler, June Koenig*, Jim Kraus, Shirley Neun, Jim Ploesser*, Shawn Rodgers*,
Joyce Ruhland, Jean Seymour, Jeff Stephenson*, Loren Stuckmeyer, Donald Wendler*, Ron White, Lisa Young*

Our Military Personnel

Josh & Michelle Brewer*, Caleb Davidson*, Shawn Farson*, Christopher Kettler*,
Joseph Koch*, Samuel Lowry, Eric Oliver*, Kai Reyes*, Kelsey L. Schwent, Eric Watkins



2021 Totenfest

a family member or friend to join us on Sunday, November 7, 2021. You do not have to be a member of St. Luke's to be included in this Worship Service.

We would like to request that you submit a 3-4 sentence statement that will be read during service as well as a picture to be included in a slideshow of your lost loved one. These statements and pictures must be submitted to the Church Office by October 24th. This deadline provides time for us to prepare the slideshow, order flowers and prepare special memoriam for your loved one.

First Aid at St. Luke's AEDs

AED stands for Automatic Electronic Defibrillator and St. Luke's has two fully automatic AEDs. One is in the Narthex on the wall just to the right of the door leading into the "cry room" and the other is in Fellowship Hall on the wall on the right side of the door going to the hallway. Both are in white metal cabinets that have a window in the door so the AED can be plainly seen. Each AED has "Adult Pads" and "Child Pads" to use if a heart attack is suspected.

An AED is needed when someone's heart has stopped, which means they have gone into "full cardiac arrest" and their heart needs an electrical shock to get it going again. People can have a "heart attack" without being in "full cardiac arrest" and all they require is CPR without the electrical shock. The problem is it takes trained medical personal to know exactly what is going on. The AED's we have do that for you.

If it is suspected that someone is having a heart attack because they have passed out and they have no detectable pulse: (1) Begin CPR; (2) Have someone call 911; (3) Send someone to get the AED; (4) Apply the AED. The AED will first analyze them and give loud audible directions to you. The directions are something like, "no shock required, start CPR", or "shock required, stand by, don't touch the patient, shocking, continue CPR". While you continue CPR the AED is continually analyzing the patient and informing you of what to do. This cycle continues until first responders arrive.

St. Luke's purchased our first AED in 2011 and the second one a year or so later from Marely, a local medical supplier and agent for Zoll Medical Corp. Each cost \$2,145 and thankfully we have never had to use them. The pads and the 10 batteries need to be changed every five years and sometimes a software upgrade is required. Marely is good at letting us know when the pads are coming due for change or software is upgrade is needed. Marely sends what we need, and Bob Schrepel has been maintaining the AED's.

St. Luke's also purchased a first aid kit and a first aid burn kit from Marely who helps us keep them stocked when needed. Both kits are in the kitchen.

Congratulations



AUGUST
SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Maybree Saputo

We hope you had fun learning about God's word and blessings.



- Sept 2** Women's Guild Meeting (11am Fellowship Hall) **Bring a sack lunch.*
- Sept 2** Endowment Meeting (6 p.m. Fellowship Hall – Guest Speaker)
- Sept 6** **OFFICE CLOSED – LABOR DAY**
- Sept 7** Board of Christian Education Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Sept 8** Pastoral Search Committee Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Sept 12** “Goodies with Grands” to celebrate Grandparents Day
- Sept 14** Board of Elders Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Sept 20** HARD Deadline to submit articles/announcements for Oct. Beacon.
- Sept 21** Church Council Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Sept 24** Outdoor Movie Night hosted by BOE **Bring lawn chair & your own snacks*
- Sept 28** Evening Circle Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Sept 29** Pastoral Search Committee Meeting (6:30pm Fellowship Hall)
- Oct 24** Trunk of Treat
- Oct 31** Chicken Dinner (carryout only this year)
- Nov 7** Totenfest Sunday
- Nov 13** Hayride/Bonfire
- Nov. 24** NO Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service this year.



SUNDAY SCHOOL – 3RD QUARTER MISSION

The Sunday School 3rd Quarter Mission will run through September. Sunday School will be collecting for Brenden’s Backpack.

Hunger can affect anyone, and hundreds of children in our area suffer every day. These can be children in your neighborhood, children that your child sits next to every day at school or children your child plays with at the park. These children do not look forward to the weekends and long school breaks because often they know that they may not have much to eat until they go back to school. School food programs only provide free breakfast and lunch during the week but many times these families struggle to put food on the table over the weekend.

Brenden’s Friday Backpacks began in 2011 with 4 children in a single school and has grown to a program that currently feeds over 1400 children in 68 schools throughout Jefferson County and in St. Francois County on a weekly basis during the school year. Every Friday, each child takes home a bag of single-serve, non-perishable, kid-friendly foods that can be easily prepared and last until the child returns to school the next week. The program is run entirely by volunteers and takes anonymous referrals directly from local schools.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Women’s Guild is collecting personal hygiene kits. There are plastic bags with the list of requested items placed in the Narthex for pickup. These bags will be collected both in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. We ask that the items have lids tightened and placed into the large Ziploc bags provided. Thank you.

PERSONAL HYGIENE PAK

- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- 1 fluoride toothpaste (6 oz or more)
- 1 toothbrush in original, unopened package
- 1 bath-size bar of soap
- 1 bottle shampoo (12-16 oz.)
- 1 deodorant
- 1 bottle skin lotion (12-16 oz.)
- 2 disposable razors
- 1 comb or brush

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!

SAVE THE DATE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Goodies with

★ **GRANDS**

HONORING OUR GRANDPARENTS

Sunday, September 12, 2021

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Worship Service at 9am

Activities & Goodies from 10am to 11am

