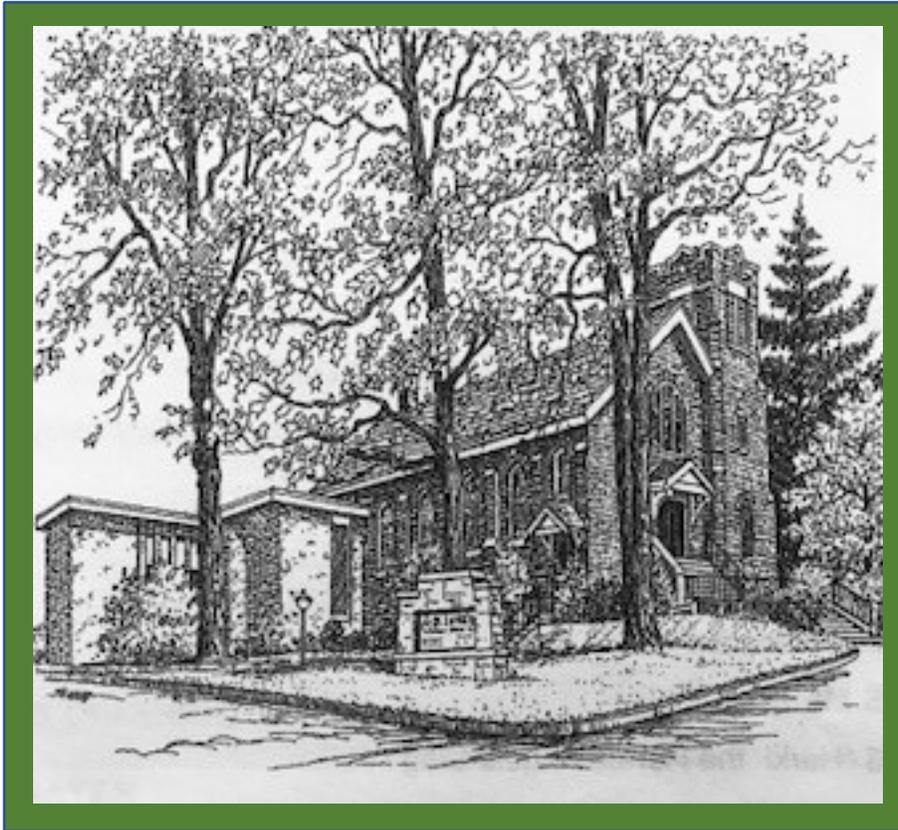


THE BEACON

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



JANUARY 2024

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

Dear St. Luke's Friends & Family,

Happy New Year!

While the liturgical year begins with Advent, we all know the secular new year is upon us. This means a month or two of writing the wrong date on our checks and of thinking to ourselves, "how can it be 2024 already?" January is also a very important time of the year in the life of our church.

First, we have the privilege of celebrating the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, January 14, during our morning worship. I hope you will plan to be with us for this special time in the life of two of our church families. That same Sunday, following worship, we will be removing decorations from the sanctuary and throughout the facility. While it can be sad to see the Christmas season fade from view, we also know many hands make light work and we can have everything safely stored away quite quickly.

Second, on Sunday, January 21, we will gather for our annual meeting at 2:00pm. Come hear important reports from our boards and committees, and be part of our planning for the new year. Additionally, we will be electing new representatives on each of our boards. Everyone, especially active members, are encouraged to attend. Important seasons in the life of our church, such as our annual Sausage Dinner and the observance of Lent, are right around the corner.

Finally, I wanted to share about my plans for the upcoming Lenten season. We will gather for worship on Ash Wednesday, at 7:00pm in the church sanctuary. Beginning the next day and continuing each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during Lent, I will be sharing daily devotional thoughts via live streams and videos on our church Facebook page. I will share more about this opportunity to join me as we journey toward the cross together in next month's newsletters and our Sunday morning announcements.

Please continue to contact the church office if you or your family would like to schedule a time for me to stop by and visit. I've enjoyed meeting many in our church family and I hope you are feeling as "at home" with me as our family already feels at home here at St. Luke's.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hill", written in a cursive style.

Rev. James Hill

Minister

CHURCH COUNCIL

President Warren Stuckmeyer	Vice President Dave Pippin	Secretary Yvonne Davis	Treasurer Dave Pippin Don Dankel
Fin. Secretary Linda Schrepel	BOE Rep. Gary Hartmann	BOCE Rep. Kathy Porter	Bldg. & Grounds Garry Kraus
Burgess Cemetery/Endowment Don Dankel		Pastor Rev. James Hill Jr.	

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Church Council Minutes 12/19/2023

Attendants: Warren Struckmeyer, Linda Schrepel, David Pippin, Don Dankel, Garry Kraus, Kathy Porter, Gary Hartmann and Pastor Hill, Greg McLard

Meeting called to order by Warren Stuckmeyer at 6:35. Pastor Hill gave the opening prayer.

Greg McLard gave a report on the new swing set. Priced to be \$8895.00 which includes installation and warranty. A motion was made by David Pippin and seconded by Don Dankel to bring the approval to the congregation.

Pastors Report – We will have two baptisms: Callie Glaus and Elizabeth Meyer on January 14, 2024. Pastor will start minor changes to the worship service. Confirmation is going good.

Board of Elders – Kim Griffin is to be moved from inactive to active. Linda Schrepel made a motion to approve the move and the baptisms, Gary Hartmann seconded.

Gary Hartmann made a motion to approve all reports as given, Kathy Porter seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Thithey.com is working good.

Cameras for the sanctuary have been installed.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 proposed budget was completed and approved.

David Pippin made a motion to approve building use for the Sausage dinner on February 18, 2024. Garry Kraus seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Linda Schrepel discussed the dinner proceeds, council made a recommendation.

Births – none

Deaths – Dorris Kettler

Membership – none

Open/close schedule

January 21 – Garry Kraus

January 28 – Don Dankel

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT

November

General Giving	\$15,648.00
Expenses (Operational)	\$13,970.62
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$2,881.69

YTD 2023

General Giving	\$133,827.93
Expenses (Moving)	\$15,069.77
Expenses (Operational)	\$171,252.04
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$(52,493.88)

The Church Council is asking everyone to do their part to offset the above deficit. Thank you for your support. This is your Church.

BOARD OF ELDERS HIGHLIGHTS

Chairperson Julie Hartmann	Secretary Judy Duro	Church Council Rep. Gary Hartmann	Worship Kay Moss	Mentor Jess McLard
Visitor Care Michelle Perry	Ushers Brenda Day	Nursery Julie Hartmann	Pastor Rev, James Hill Jr.	

Christmas decorations will be taken down January 14th, following church service.

Elder's would like to thank everyone who participated in Hanging of the Greens. The process seemed to run smoothly and everyone enjoyed the fellowship time together along with the hot chocolate provided by Chris Kraus and all the Sunday school students. We also would like to give a special thank you to the outside crew organized by Lorna and Lou Meyer for outside decorations, also for providing the fresh wreaths and for ordering and placing poinsettias in the Sanctuary. Thank you to the Woman's Guild for purchasing the poinsettias.

Many thanks to Gail Lents for making the adjustments to the banners for the new Advent Wreath and to Don Dankel for assembling the wreath structure.

ENDOWMENT

Endowment has funds available. Any duly elected or appointed Board, Council or Church Committee (not individuals) are eligible to apply. Applications are available upon request from the Church Office.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Chairperson

Angie Logan

Secretary

Greg McLard

Church Council Rep.

Kathy Porter

Elected Members

Connie Stuckmeyer

Shelbey Stilwill

Chrissy Kraus

Superintendent

Sarah Saputo

VBS

Sarah Saputo

Rev. James Hill

Santa's Breakfast - Attendance - 21 kids, 25 adults

New Playground – Finalizing the details. To include 2 swings, 2 slides and 1 glider.

Open Close Church Schedule :

January 14, 2024 Shelbey

February 11 2024 Angela

March 10, 2024 Sarah

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Fletcher McLard

Maybree Saputo

Mariella Saputo

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

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

Family of Ian Dunlap*

Megan Nuelle

Bob Johnson*

Dave Sheffer*

Paul Seitz

Trevor Dulle*

Mandy Hopen*

James Gray Jr.*

Pam & Dave Belleville

Jane Rebsamen

Harvey Hegemann*

Robert Perry*

Kay Carter

Lee Nations

Dianna Johnson*

Betty Acre

Wayne Kramer Jr.*

Alan Bess*

Kathryn Morris*

Family of Norvill Kraus

Sandy Fischer*

Loren Stuckmeyer

Landon Lambert

Sharlene Schlereth

Kyle McPhedren*

Family of Della Kramme

Jeff Timeus*

Mike Burcham*

Glenda Dickemann O'Tool

Lauren Watkins*

Jim Forsythe*

Our Military Personnel

Shawn Farson*

Alec Schrepel*

Isaak Hartung*

Christopher Kettler*

Kelsey L. Schwent*

Susan Bablowitz

Samuel Lowry

Eric Watkins*

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
Cecil McLard	1/13	Zach Schneider	1/30
Benjamin Lowry	1/13	Teresa Kraus	1/31
Patricia Sieving	1/13		

2023 GIFT DRIVE

St. Luke's has, once again, successfully completed our annual toy/gift drive. We made the Christmas season brighter for four families from one of our area schools. The packages were beautifully wrapped which will bring many smiles on Christmas morning. Additionally, the drive to assist foster families netted one-hundred twenty-eight items. Clothing, toys, craft materials, books, games, and miscellaneous items were donated. It's very gratifying to work with such kind and generous people who are so willing to give of themselves to help others.

Merry Christmas to everyone at St. Luke's!

Brenda and Don

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped decorate the Church. It looks beautiful!!

To Dwight for fixing the stove and faucet in the church's kitchen.

To Gary Hartmann for repairing & replacing the garage lights.

To the Women's Circle for making all the cookie plates and delivering them.

To Greg McLard and Pastor James for installing a new camera and sound system. It has made viewing the service so much better.

To Brenda Day for donating the new Advent Wreath in memory of Bethany Day.

To Lorna Meyer for purchasing the fresh wreaths and for ordering the poinsettias and for coming in to water them. They are beautiful!

Thank you Women's Circle for purchasing the poinsettias.

To Cliff for sanding and staining the bottom portion of the liturgist podium that had water damage.

To Gail Lents for making the adjustments to the banners for the new Advent Wreath and to Don Dankel for assembling the wreath structure.

PASTOR JAMES' NEW NUMBER

Pastor James has a new phone number: (314) 756-1176. The older number will still work but only for a short while.

GIVING ONLINE

Did you know that you can now make contributions to the church online, via electronic check or with your debit or credit card? Simply go to the church website at www.stlukesuccimperial.org, click on the link for online giving, and follow the instructions. Questions? Contact our church office today!

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held on January 21, 2024. Please get your reports in to the office by January 12, 2024

RECYCLE FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Don't throw away your old or broken holiday lights – donate them instead! Thanks to Didion Orf Recycling, your old lights can be turned into a monetary donation to RMHC. You can recycle holiday lights, extension cords, PC towers, network gear, cell phones, laptops, power adapters, chargers, or office phones. For more information visit rmhcstl.com/recycle.

JANUARY

14th Elizabeth Lynn Meyer & Callie Drew Glaus Baptism
21st Annual Meeting 2 pm

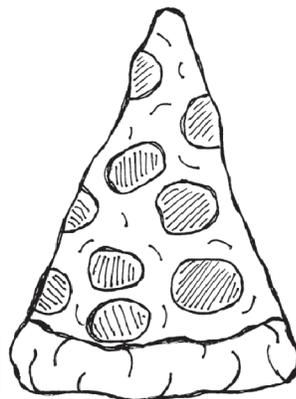
FEBRUARY

4th Pizza, Popcorn & Movie Reward Party 9am-11:30am
11th Transfiguration Sunday
18th Sausage Dinner

REWARD PARTY 2/4/24

PLEASE JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FUN!
SUNDAY MORNING • FELLOWSHIP HALL • 9 TO 11:30AM

PIZZA



POPCORN

MOVIE

BRING A FRIEND!
Bring a pillow & blanket

SUPERVISED BY THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



9AM to 11:30AM