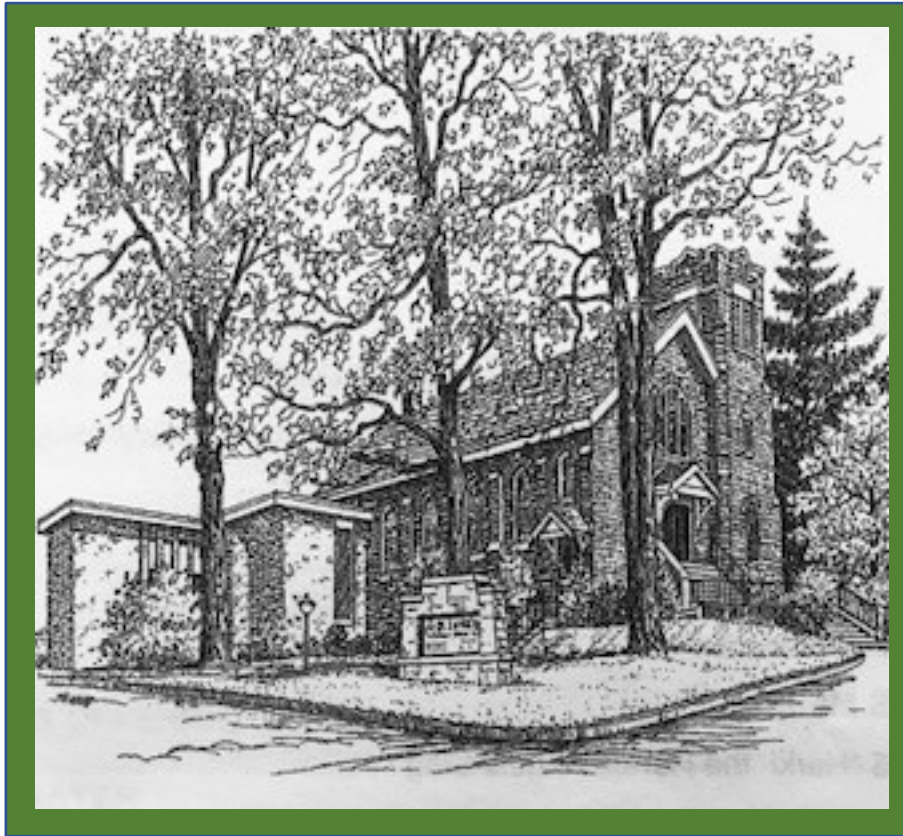


THE BEACON

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



MARCH 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 Family & Friends,

As we enter March together, I hope you find yourself as excited as I am for the Easter celebration at the end! Between these bookend days we will continue our journey through Lent and a variety of Spring celebrations. Read your *Beacon* carefully this month so you won't miss any opportunity. Here's a few highlights:

Green Eggs & Ham Breakfast: Join our Sunday School on Sunday, March 3, as we celebrate both the birthday of Dr. Seuss and the upcoming St. Patrick's Day holiday with a green-themed breakfast following worship!

Women's Circle Lenten Worship & Lunch: Join us as we welcome ladies from our sister UCC churches throughout Jefferson County on Thursday, March 7, at 11:00AM.

Easter Egg Hunt & Palm Crosses: On Saturday, March 23, St. Luke's will host our annual Easter Egg Hunt for our children. Come join the festivities and learn how to make our palm crosses for Palm Sunday, as well.

Palm Sunday Breakfast: Our Confirmation families will be hosting a breakfast for our church family on Palm Sunday, March 24. Watch your weekly bulletin for more information!

Holy Week Worship: Make plans to worship with us on Palm Sunday (March 24), Good Friday Tenebrae (March 29), and Easter morning (March 31). My online Lenten devotionals will continue through Good Friday as well.

Finally, I wanted to provide an update on the ongoing discussion regarding our Sunday morning worship time. Our Church Council, Board of Christian Education, and Board of Elders met together at an all-board meeting on Tuesday, February 27. At this meeting, we discussed at length the positives and negatives of a variety of schedule options; those gathered spoke of our desire to truly do what was best for our church moving forward. The consensus coming out of that meeting is that we should not change our worship schedule. Therefore, the Church Council will not be bringing any recommendation to the church for action at this time.

However, I would still like to provide an opportunity for any in our church family, members or visitors, to ask questions and share your thoughts. We will have a townhall style discussion on Sunday, April 28, and everyone is welcome. In addition, we definitely want to make it as easy as possible for any person to attend our worship. If you or someone you know would find assistance or transportation helpful in attending worship, please reach out to me or our church office.

This continues to be an exciting time in the life of our church and I find I'm getting to know our families more and more every day. Would you like to schedule a time for me to stop by or call? Contact the church office or me by phone or email. I would love to schedule a time.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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.

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

At 6:40 pm Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order. Pastor Hill said the opening prayer.

Board of Elders – We had 33 visitors in January. Some are thinking about joining. Jess McLard made a motion to remove the 3 Daly's to inactive membership. Gary Hartmann seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

Promotion Sunday has been moved to May 5th 2024, so it does not interfere with Confirmation Sunday.

Elders would like to have a room dedicated to historical and important documents. This will be discussed at the All-Boards meeting.

Building and Grounds – the paddle fan above the choir has been replaced.

The road needs to be rocked and grated.

The organ still has a key that is not working properly.

Swing Set – has been ordered.

Doors – are being made.

Technology Team – They have a few members but would like to have more. They will be working on the audio issues for weekly streaming.

Update from UCF – Warren Stuckmeyer and David Pippin listened to this meeting.

Items to be discussed at the All-Board meeting. Will be on the agenda.

Membership changes

Deaths – Tom Arnold

Births – none

Membership – 3 Daly's taken off active roster.

Open/Close schedule

March 17 – Yvonne Davis

March 24 – Jess McLard

March 31 Easter Sunday – Don Dankel

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.

The Board of Elders Mission will be Annie's Hope, The Center for Grieving Kids. Any child or teen, between the ages of 3 and 18, and their families who are grieving a death. All programs are offered at NO cost to grieving families. Every penny is raised every year from individuals, foundations, corporations, community efforts and fundraisers. All donations of all sizes are greatly appreciated. There are several programs and services that include family support, school support and education, Camp Courage, Teen retreats, Social events, and a Community Resource Library. If you would like additional information, please contact Michelle Perry. The Board of Elders will distribute envelopes on March 10, 17 and 24th for this Mission.

BOE food drive is currently running from February 4th- March 24th. The food pantry suggested a need for dried beans, rice, cereal and canned meat but will happily take all donations. There will be collection boxes located at both entrances of the church and down in the fellowship hall.

BOE would like to thank Lorna Meyer, Brenda Day and Michelle Perry for organizing the Christmas decorations into new plastic containers to help make the Hanging of the Greens easier for the next Advent season. In addition, Tammy Glaus who will be creating beautiful new outdoor wreaths and Kevin Stockwell for building a new box for the Christmas tree. BOE would also like to thank all who stayed to help take down the Christmas decorations and place them back into storage. Many helping hands make for easier work!

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Angie Logan, Chairperson
Sarah Saputo, Sunday School Superintendent & VBS
Shelbey Stillwil
Emily Dulle

Greg McLard, Secretary
Kathy Porter, Church Council Liaison
Connie Stuckmeyer

The next Bible Study series will be on Thursday evenings after Easter.

Missions: 1st – School lunches
 2nd – TBD
 3rd – Brendan's Backpack
 4th – Food Drive

Reward Party attendance 16 kids + 5 Confirmation kids.

Kevin Stockwell and Dane Kraus removed the old playground set. Purchased the new set 02/02/24. \$8,806 6-8 weeks till delivery.

Funds earned and donated for Sunday School (kids & teachers) have been used for many events.

Goodbye to Chrissy – Welcome Emily.

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

Jillian Davis	Wyl Belt	Fletcher McLard
Roni Belt	Jordyn Davis	Jessa Davis
Morgan Belt	Henry Perry	Lauren Belt

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS....

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

Family of Ian Dunlap*	Robert Perry*	Loren Stuckmeyer
Megan Nuelle	Landon Lambert	Bob Johnson*
Lee Nations	Sharlene Schlereth	Dave Sheffer*
Dianna Johnson*	Kyle McPhedren*	Paul Seitz
Trevor Dulle*	Wayne Kramer Jr.*	Jeff Timeus*
Mandy Hopen*	Alan Bess*	Mike Burcham*
James Gray Jr.*	Kathryn Morris*	Sandy Fischer*
Jim Forsythe*	Lauren Watkins*	Bob Heitert*
Glenda Dickemann O'Tool	Nichole Godi*	Harvey Hegemann*
Jean Seymour	Gail Heckenberg	Dwight Kraus
Vicky (Ebersohl) Loucks*	Kathy Porter	Jane Kraus*
Ken Eckert		

Our Military Personnel

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

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

Could you or someone you know benefit from a transportation assist on Sunday morning? Would you be able to help provide transportation? Several members of our church family have shared their willingness to help by providing a ride to and from church on Sunday morning. If you or someone you know would find this helpful, please contact our church office or reach out to Pastor James. In addition, if you would like to be added to our lives of drivers providing assistance, let us know!

A NOTE FROM TERESA KRAUS

I would like to thank each & everyone of you who was "Team Teresa" in helping in the fellowship hall during the Sausage Dinner. The dinner could not be a success without your help. God bless you all. With a grateful Heart, Teresa

A NOTE FROM GAIL HECKENBERG

To my church family, I want to extend a heartfelt Thank You for all the prayers, cards, calls and texts for healing after my recent knee replacements. I do believe that prayers are working and healing is coming along nicely. With sincere gratitude, Gail

A NOTE FROM DWIGHT KRAUS

I want to thank my St. Luke's family for all the prayers, concerns, and well wishes over the past couple weeks regarding my shoulder surgery and recovery. My Church family has always been there for me when I needed it the most. Hopefully I can provide the same for them when they need it. Dwight

SAUSAGE DINNER

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped make the Sausage Dinner such a success! We sold approximately 540 dinners, 190+ pounds of pre order sausage, numerous piggies, donated meals to the firehouse, ambulance district, and the Safe House. St. Luke's you are awesome! Thank you! Thank you! Thank You!

BOE FOOD DRIVE

The Board of Elders (BOE) food drive is currently running from February 4th – March 24th. **Please place your food donations in the containers at either entry to the Church or the box in the Fellowship Hall.** The food pantry suggested a need for dried beans, rice, cereal and canned meat but will happily take all donations. Thanks! Kay Moss

CHLOE JACOB

Congratulations to Chloe Jacob for being named a Distinguished Student Leader by the Missouri Association of Student Councils. Chloe was also selected to the Academic All State Volleyball Team.

THANK YOU

To Kevin Stockwell and Dane Kraus for removing the old playset.

PASTOR JAMES' NEW NUMBER

Pastor James has a new phone number: (314) 756-1176.

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 MINUTES

The minutes to the Annual Meeting are available. If you are interested, there are copies in the Church office or you can request a pdf to be emailed.

KATHY PORTER

Anyone that wants to visit or send something to Kathy while she is in rehab, here is the info: Delmar Garden Chesterfield, Room 703, 14855 N Outer Forty Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017

THOMAS "EDDY" ARNOLD

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at the age of 79. Beloved husband of Sandra J. Arnold (nee Atkins) for 31 years; Loving father of Andrea (Jerry) Cox, Cynthia (Randy) Johnston, Tom (JiYun) Arnold, Jr., Alison Arnold, Rebecca (Christopher) Doggett and "Dad" to Steven (Lane) Bryant; Adored grandfather of Danielle (Dan) & Ashley, Lynn (Preston), Sophie & Hannah, Joshua & Benjamin, Chloe & Hawkins and Blaire; Dearest brother of Virginia Welch, Linda (Rex) Foltz and the late Barb Williams and Bob "Bubba" (Louise) Arnold; Dear brother-in-law of Mike Atkins, Theresa (late Bob) Allen and Jenny (Greg) Watz; Cherished son of the late Thomas Earl and Doris Marie Arnold; Dear son-in-law of Fran Atkins and Jack (Betty) Atkins, Jr.; and a dear uncle, cousin and friend to many.

Tom grew up in Ottawa, Kansas, then moved to St. Louis, working at Anheuser-Busch for 34 years and retiring in 1999.

Tom enjoyed all things racing, motorcycles, boating, skydiving, bungee jumping, was a long time member of the Honda Gold Wing Road Riders Association, and a humble veteran of the United States Army. More importantly, Tom loved his family and adored his grandkids.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jeanette Wilson	3/4	Joseph Bogowith	3/24
Kurt Olsen	3/5	Connor Cathcart	3/25
Brayden Burcham	3/5	James Cathcart	3/25
Gale Dickemann Cross	3/10	Ed Ziegelmeier	3/25
Stephanie Rose	3/11	Betty Acre	3/26
Tessa Rebsamen	3/13	Aline Rogers	3/26
Larissa Dolan	3/17	Kaylin Hollerbach	3/26
Stephanie Narup	3/18	Ashley Restivo	3/27
Dawn Amsden	3/19	Jackson Faulkner	3/28
Jolene Perry	3/20	Andrew Riordan	3/28
Jill Scherer	3/21	Kayla Bailey	3/30
Jaidyn Russell	3/23		

MARCH

3 rd	Green Eggs & Ham Pancake Breakfast
5 TH	BOCE 6:30 p.m.
7 th	Women's Circle Lenten Worship & Lunch
12 TH	BOE 6:30 p.m.
19 TH	COUNCIL 6:30 p.m.
23 rd	Palm Cross Making & Easter Egg Hunt
24 th	Palm Sunday Breakfast & Bake Sale
25 th	Who's on the Ark and Why Did it Bark? Puppet Show
29 TH	Good Friday
31 st	Easter Sunday

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Your Cordially Invited:

Women's Lenten Luncheon

Thursday March 7th @ 11 am

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

6610 St. Luke's Church Road

Imperial MO 63052

RSVP by : February 26th

Gail Heckenberg 314-630-2248

Sherry Pippin 314-805-6051

Pam—Church Office 636-948-3545

Please join us for devotion, communion, and fellowship!!!

All women of the church and the ministers too!!

**ST.
LUKE'S**

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

MARCH

3

Green Eggs and Ham



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Please join us for
Breakfast at 10:30am
in the fellowship hall

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's a BEAR!!**