

THE BEACON

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



SEPTEMBER 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

September 4, 2024

Dear St. Luke's Family & Friends,

If you haven't noticed, we have hit the ground running on a new season here at St. Luke's. There is a lot of which you will want to take note in the days ahead. This coming Sunday, September 8, we will host our annual "Goodies with Grands" Sunday School kickoff following worship – if you are planning to attend, let us know right away. The following Sunday, September 15, will be our 2nd annual St. Luke's Fish Fry. You can find more information on this event in this very newsletter, but don't forget the change in time for worship; on September 15, we will worship at 10:00am and Sunday School and Confirmation classes will not meet that Sunday.

I hope you will be with us throughout the month of September as I share a sermon series called "Living a Life of Worth." This past Sunday I shared from the first chapter of the Epistle of James about each of us taking a hard look into our spiritual mirrors and being willing to ask, "What do I see?" Here is what is coming in the Sundays ahead:

September 8: "The Body of Christ," Ephesians :15-23 – Living a Life of Worth, pt. 2
September 15: "Everything," Mark 8:27-38 – Living a Life of Worth, pt. 3
September 22: "Real Life," James 2:1-17 – Living a Life of Worth, pt. 4

On the final Sunday of the September, I'll share a special sermon on the story of Esther. Don't forget – if you must miss a Sunday or cannot be with us in person, our services are available to both live stream and watch later on our St. Luke's YouTube channel.

Finally, on Thursday, September 12, I will begin my Fall mid-week Bible study on Jesus' parables, which I am calling "Gospel Parables." We will explore the background, setting, and message of each of these powerful stories as we consider what Jesus says to us even today. This study will meet for seven weeks on Thursday evenings via Zoom, ending on October 24. If you are interested in participating, let our office know so we can send you the necessary link. Not comfortable on Zoom alone? Find a partner and Zoom together!

I almost forgot to mention the September 21st all-church workday and the Festival of Sharing ministry, sponsored by our Women's Circle; information about each of these may be found on the pages ahead. Wow – there's quite a bit happening in the month of September, and before we know it, we will be at the Chicken Dinner, and then into our holiday schedule. Mark your calendars and let the church office know if you have any questions.

See everyone on Sunday!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Hill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

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.

August 20, Church Council Minutes

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

At 6:30 pm Warren Stuckmeyer called the meeting to order. Reverend Hill said the opening prayer.

Reports

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

Old Business

Fish Fry – Sarah Saputo is working on a flyer. All plans are completed.

Storm Door for Parsonage – Dwight Kraus is working on that project.

Down Spouts – Dwight Kraus is working on that project.

Rally day – everyone on council is to bring prepackaged baked goods

New Business

Pastor's new bible study will begin on Thursday September 12, 2024 at 6:30 on Zoom. Anyone interested, please let Pastor Hill know.

Membership changes

Deaths – none

Births – none

Membership – none

Open/Close schedule

September 15- Gary Hartmann

September 22 – Garry Kraus

September 29 – Don Dankel

Gary Hartmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Linda Schrepel. All were in favor and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting September 17, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT

July

General Giving	\$10,724
Expenses (Operational)	\$15,730
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$5,006)

YTD 2024

General Giving	\$108,204
Expenses	\$128,541
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$20,337)

We are very grateful for the continued support of all who give to the ministry of our church. It is only through the faithful stewardship of our people that we are able to be the church God has called us to be in this community.

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.

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

September-October-November-December Kay Moss & Tim Hollerbach

We are looking for more volunteers to read the scripture on Sunday mornings. If you would like to sign up, there is a sheet on the table in the narthex.

A big Thank You to Gail Lents for creating a new white altar vestment. We are lucky to have such talented and generous members.

Visitor Care: Judy reports there were 36 visitors in June and 37 in July.

Confirmation Class: Letters are prepped and ready to be mailed to two potential confirmation aged children in our congregation.

Baptisms: None at this time but there are two that will come in the future.

Weddings: None

Funerals: Cecil McLard passed on June 25, 2024. Funeral luncheon followed.

Pastor Hill is finishing up the final task for his installation. The UCC committee will suggest the date with a reception or a meal to follow provided by the congregation. There will be guests from the Conference, other Clergy and Pastor Hill's family members. Pastor expects it will be sometime in the fall. Gary Hartmann suggested something be written up for the Leader about Pastor Hill and his installation along with a picture of the church.

NEXT MEETING: September 10, 2024

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

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

Greg McLard, Secretary
Kathy Porter, Church Council Liaison
Connie Stuckmeyer
Pastor James Hill

No Sunday School in August.

Missions: Next quarter is Brenden's Backpack.

Vacation Bible School – VBS: Children registered 45, Volunteers 39. Donations totaling \$440.74. ½ will go to a mission and ½ will go towards Sunday School “fun stuff”.

<u>Upcoming Events:</u>	09/08/24	Goodies with Grands (Grandparents Day)
	10/27/24	Chicken Dinner
	12/7/24	Santa's Breakfast
	12/22/24	Christmas Program – Cookie Reception

<u>Open & Close Schedule:</u>	August 11, 2024	Greg McLard
	September 8, 2024	Sarah Saputo
	October 13, 2024	Angie Logan

Next Meeting 09/03/24 @ 6:30pm

WOMEN'S CIRCLE HIGHLIGHTS

Women's Circle August 1, 2024 Meeting

There were twelve ladies and Pastor Hill who attended the meeting. Prayer concerns and joys were shared. A short devotion was read referencing Ephesians 4: 20-24. Minutes and treasure reports were approved. Business included: *Two mission donations are being sent in the amount of \$150.00 each. July was to Ronald McDonald House and August is going to Unleashing Potential. *Discussion on a bid received for work to be done on garden areas around the church. Some fall sprucing up will be on the docket. *It was decided to do personal hygiene kits for Festival of Sharing again this year. A list of items along with a 2 gallon ziploc bag is available for collection through September. The hygiene kits are due back to the collection box at the back of church no later than October 6th so delivery can be made on October 12. *The Chicken Dinner will be in planning stages through September and October and the dinner will be held on Sunday, October 27th. *There was some discussion to provide another banner for the church sanctuary. Pastor Hill will help select a design that may be used for multiple seasons of the church.

The next Women's Circle meeting will be on Thursday, September 5, at 6:30 pm. We welcome any and all women of St Luke's church to join us in fellowship and the missions of our church and community.

.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!

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS.....
(*DENOTES NON-MEMBER, NAMES IN BOLD ARE NEWLY ADDED)

Robert Perry*	Loren Stuckmeyer	Bob Johnson*	Lee Nations
Sharlene Schlereth	Kyle McPhedren*	Jeff Timeus*	Alan Bess*
Mike Burcham*	Sandy Fischer*	Jim Forsyth*	Lauren Watkins*
Bob Heitert*	Nichole Godi*	Kathy Porter	Harvey Hegemann*
Jamie Gray*	Jane Kraus*	Keith Morris	Cindy (Held) Donaldson
Mike Seymour	Paul Schneider	Al Jay Kraus	Carolyn Kraus
Family of Cecil McLard	Family of Paul Seitz	Belt Family	Brenda Farson
Barb Lovera	Family of Joan Haefner	David Belleville	Michele Day
Farson Family	Glenda Dickemann O'Tool		

Our Military Personnel

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

FALL BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON

Pastor James will begin a new mid-week Bible study called "Gospel Parables" on Thursday, September 12, at 6:30pm. This Bible study will meet each Thursday evening for seven weeks via Zoom. Watch for more information in your September church Beacon.

ALL CHURCH WORK DAY

St. Luke's All Church Work Day will be on Saturday, September 21st starting at 8:00am. We will need volunteers and suggestions for tasks to be completed. Please see Dave Pippin, Garry Kraus, Kevin Stockwell and Dwight Kraus for more details.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

The Women's Circle will once again be participating in the FESTIVAL OF SHARING

FESTIVAL OF SHARING Personal Hygiene Pack

1 fluoride toothpaste, (6 oz. or more) 1 toothbrush in original, unopened 1 washcloth
1 hand towel
1 body wash (15-22 oz.)
1 deodorant
1 bottle skin lotion (sm. or travel size) 1 bottle shampoo (12-16 oz.)
2 disposable razors
1 comb or brush (Large)
Tighten lids and place all items in the
large zip-lock bag provided.

We are asking for your help in providing Personal Hygiene Kits through the month of September. The kit will be delivered on Saturday, October 12, 2024

Donation bags with a list of items may be found in the Narthex and on the piano at the handicap entrance. Completed bags may be returned to the same locations. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

The Women's Circle ----- Festival of Sharing notes of information:

As a cooperative response to hunger, poverty and injustice in Missouri and beyond, our hope is to support projects and programs that help our neighbors experience healthy and full lives.

Our efforts include providing funding and resource goods, sharing information on agency efforts in communities and praying for our collective work. When people of faith come together and share, we can make a positive and powerful difference.

This year we will be hosting seven regional events throughout September-October. These interfaith gatherings of resources connect the state of Missouri with a common goal: providing resources for our neighbors in need. Join us to experience the joy of sharing!

OVER 150 AGENCIES IN MISSOURI ARE APPROVED TO RECEIVE GOODS AND SERVICES THROUGH THE FESTIVAL OF SHARING.

Agencies we work with range from food pantries and clothes closets, to foster and adoption programs and anything in between! We look to partner with agencies who are ecumenical in who they serve and in how they are supported by their community.

SEPTEMBER

2 nd	Memorial Day
3 rd	BOCE Meeting
5 th	Women's Circle 6:30
8 th	Goodies With Grands
10 th	BOE Meeting 6:30
12 th	"Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study begins, 6:30pm, via Zoom
15 th	Second Annual Fish Fry – Worship at 10:00
17 th	COUNCIL Meeting 6:30
19 th	"Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom
21 st	All Church Work Day 8:00am
26 th	"Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom

OCTOBER

1st BOCE Meeting 6:30
3rd Women's Circle Meeting
"Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom
10th "Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom
8th BOE Meeting 6:30
15th COUNCIL Meeting 6:30
17th "Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom
24th "Gospel Parables" - Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30pm, via Zoom
27th Chicken Dinner – ***Worship at 10:00***

NOVEMBER

3rd Daylight Savings Ends
5th Election Day – BOCE Meeting 6:30
11th Veterans Day
12th BOE Meeting 6:30
19th COUNCIL Meeting 6:30
28th Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

3rd BOCE Meeting 6:30
7th Santa's Breakfast / Caroling
10th BOE Meeting 6:30
17th COUNCIL Meeting 6:30
22nd Christmas Program / Cookie Reception
24th Christmas Eve
25th Christmas Day
31st New Year's Eve

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Goodies with GRANDS

HONORING OUR GRANDPARENTS

Sunday, September 8, 2024

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Worship Service at 9am

Activities & Goodies from 10am to 11am

RSVP

Please let us know how many in your family are coming. Thank You!

Call/text Sarah: 314-315-5335



STARTING AT

\$15

PER PERSON

*Includes fish, hush
puppies, and 2 sides:
french fries, slaw, or
applesauce*

additional sides are \$2

Beverages: \$1

Dessert: \$2

**Dine-in or
Take out**

ST. LUKE'S U.C.C.

FISH FRY

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15TH
11-4



**FILL THE BOWL
BUY A FISH
\$10 A FISH
*TO HELP OFFSET THE COST***

**Enjoy
Every
Crunchy
Bite of It**

And he said to them,
"Follow me, and I will make you Fishers of Men"
Matthew 4:19

For any additional information please call : **636-948-3545**

STLUKESIMPERIAL@GMAIL.ORG