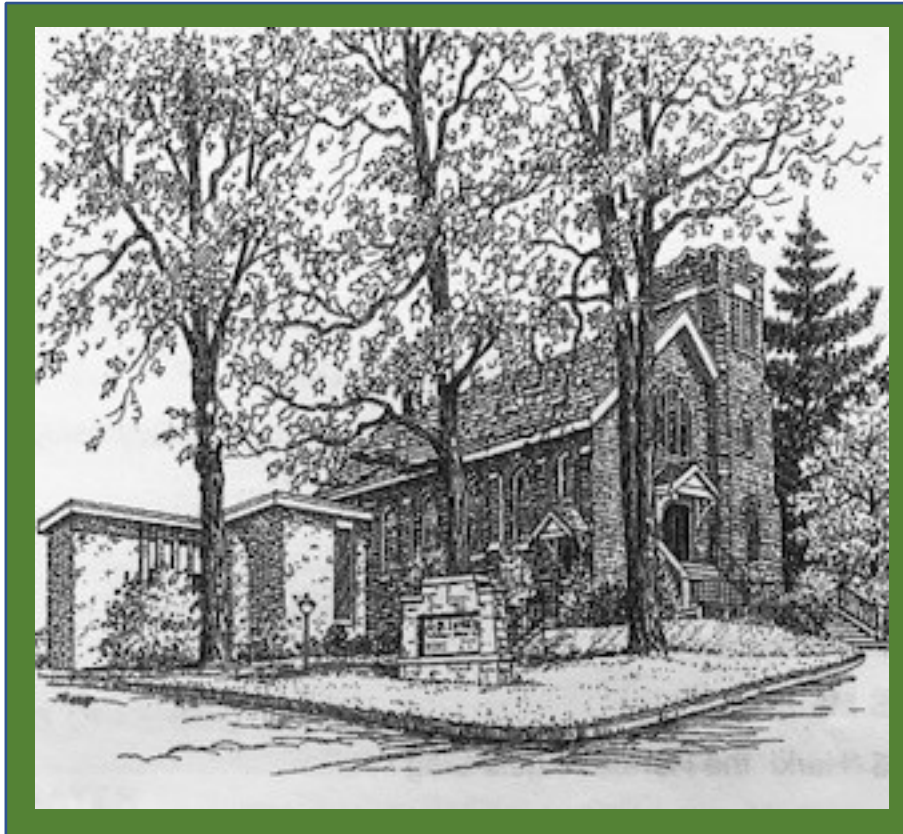


THE BEACON

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



MARCH 2025

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

March 5, 2025

St. Luke's Family and Friends,

This week we enter one of my favorite times of the year. The word Lent simply means "Spring," but for Christian faith communities, Lent sets apart a time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter to come. Yesterday, as I shared on the Transfiguration mountaintop experience in worship, we looked toward Lent and what this time might mean for us both communally and individually. I hope you are ready to watch, listen, follow, and pray with me on this journey toward the cross once more.

We begin with Ash Wednesday this week, at 7:00pm on March 5th. We will gather for a time of contemplative worship as we consider our own mortality once more. Remember, everyone is invited to my Wednesday morning bible study during this season, too, as we explore the highs and lows of the kingship of David from 2 Samuel each Wednesday at 11:00am. Also, for all those who have signed up, we will travel to St. Martin United Church of Christ in High Ridge on Thursday, March 13th, for our annual Lenten Luncheon among the UCC churches of Jefferson County.

Finally, I begin my Lenten sermon series this coming Sunday, March 9th. I'm calling this series "The Journey" as we move through the gospel passages toward Jerusalem and the cross. Here is preview of what is to come:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| ○ "The Journey...into the Desert" | Luke 4:1-13 | March 9 |
| ○ "The Journey...Past All Obstacles" | Luke 13:31-35 | March 16 |
| ○ "The Journey...Beyond Easy Answers" | Luke 13:1-9 | March 23 |
| ○ "The Journey...to Grace" | Luke 15:1-2, 11-32 | March 30 |
| ○ "The Journey...to Gratitude" | John 12:1-8 | April 6 |
| ○ "The Journey...to the Cross" | Luke 19:28-40, 23:32-38 | April 13 |

Instead of giving something up or taking on a new task, let's commit to this journey together during our Lenten season. See you on Sunday!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Pastor James

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

President Warren Stuckmeyer	Vice President Dane Kraus	Secretary Yvonne Davis	Co-Treasurers David Pippin/Don Dankel
Financial Secretary Jess McLard	BOE Rep. Gary Hartmann	BOCE Rep. Kathy Porter	Building/Grounds Garry Kraus
Endowment Don Dankel	Pastor Rev. James Hill Jr.		

February 20, 2025, Church Council Minutes

In attendance – Warren Stuckmeyer, Don Dankel, Yvonne Davis, Garry Kraus, Jess McLard, Dane Kraus and Reverend Hill.

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

REPORTS:

Pastors report – Reverend Hill went over his Vacation time. He will be out of the country July 3-11, 2025. He will be in town for the Service on July 13. After the service he will go to Kansas City for the rest of the General Synod meetings.

May 18th will be teacher appreciation day.

Confirmation is May 25, 2025

Building & Grounds – There is a leak in the parsonage. We will need to check for damage. The rolled roof on the addition is starting to deteriorate and will need to be replaced.

Cemetery report – Meeting Monday February 24, 2025

Endowment Committee – Approved \$500 for new office computer.

Check to Building and Grounds \$355.74

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

OLD Business

Insurance renewal – Approved the renewal that had the higher limits

NEW Business

None.

MEMBERSHIP

Deaths – none

Births – none

Membership – none

Open/Close schedule

March 16 – Garry Kraus

March 23 – Warren Stuckmeyer

March 30 – Don Dankel

Don Dankel made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Yvonne Davis. All were in favor and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting March 18, 2025 at 6:30 pm

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
Chrissy Kraus, Visitor Care
Judy Duro, Ushers
Pastor James Hill

Kay Moss, Worship
Michelle Perry, Secretary
Tim Hollerbach, Member
Gary Hartmann, Council Rep.

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:30 pm

COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR 2025

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • January-February-March-April | Michelle Perry & Julie Hartmann |
| • May-June-July-August | Kay Moss & Tim Hollerbach |
| • September-October-November-December | Judy Duro & Chrissy Kraus |

MINUTES (January 14, 2025): Motion made by Tim Hollerbach to accept the minutes as written, Judy Duro seconded and the minutes were approved by the Board of Elders.

REPORTS:

Worship: Tim reports worship is going well.

Ushers: Going great. Brenda Day gave her information regarding scheduling ushers to Judy Duro. A new list will be coming out soon.

Communion: Items for communion were purchased for upcoming dates. Fresh supply of bread was placed in the freezer for the pastor for his visits to homebound members.

Visitor Care: There were 7 visitors in January.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Confirmation Class: Going good, they will be helping with the Sausage Dinner. A couple of field trips are upcoming in March, lessons going well. Confirmation tentatively set for May 25th.
- Baptisms: The parents of Ellen Stilwill, Shelby and Kyle Stilwill, have requested her to be baptized, scheduled on March 23, 2025.
- Weddings: One scheduled for Friday, May 30th with rehearsal May 29.
- Funerals: Joan Thurman, January 6, 2025.
- New Member: No new members at this time. In the January minutes, the Pastor made a suggestion: when we get a prayer request, Elders send a card to the person or family. Elders

agreed and the Pastor will coordinate. Prior to this meeting, Brenda Day reminded us that Minerva Ainsley currently is already doing this for the church. We will continue to have Minerva continue this practice, as we appreciate her doing this for the church.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Lenten Mission (2024 Annie's Hope)
2. Sausage Dinner 2/16/25 10:00 a.m. service.
3. 2025 updated calendar
4. Winter Food Drive, scheduled for Feb. 23 to April 27th. Chrissy has offered to make a flyer.
5. Annual Meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reorganizing the Board of Elders. The only changes will be Judy Duro will take over the Ushers and Chrissy Kraus will do the visitors.

Elder's 2025 Board Members and Position

Julie Hartmann, Chairperson

Chrissy Kraus, Visitor Care

Judy Duro, Ushers

Tim Hollerbach, Member (helps with Worship)

Kay Moss, Worship

Michelle Perry, Secretary

Gary Hartmann, Council Representative

2. Ash Wednesday, March 5th, service will be at 7 PM, Review Calendar. Added the installation of Board Members to the Calendar.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Ash Wednesday, March 5th, service time 7pm. There will be no communion since we just had it on the previous Sunday. Parament color should be changed to purple before the service.
2. Good Friday, April 18th and Easter Sunday April 20th, both services will have communion.
3. Pastor reports he will ramp up the Archive/ Library prep in the next month.
4. Pastor's next Bible study begins on February 26 and will last 7 weeks. Study will be on King David's from 2 Samuel.
5. The Lenten Luncheon is March 13, and will be hosted by the Women's Fellowship of St Martins's UCC, High Ridge.
6. Minerva Ainsley has requested the different Board Members for 2025 be listed in the Beacon.
7. Minerva has also requested when receiving new members to put in the Beacon their contact numbers, that would include phone number and address.
8. Bible on the Altar be changed weekly to match the Scripture reading that week.
9. Reminder when setting up communion; Wine goes on the Right, Bread on the Left.
10. Lenten Mission Envelopes will need to be added to the bulletins 3 weeks prior to Easter. March 30, April 6, and April 13.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 6:30 pm

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Angie Logan, Chairperson

Greg McLard, Secretary

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

Kathy Porter, Church Council Liaison
Connie Stuckmeyer
Pastor James Hill

February 4, 2025 (January 14, 2025 – rescheduled due to snow)

REPORTS

- 1) Sunday School - Average of 12 kids each Sunday.
- 2) Church Council - **Kathy - Sausage dinner coming up. Discussed building issues. Started list.**
- 3) Confirmation - James - Ready to volunteer at Dinner. 2 excursions - March 2nd - Mass at Basilica. March 7th - Shabbath at Synagog. April 13th - Palms Sunday Breakfast - Confirmand families need help with breakfast.
- 4) Budget BOCE \$2,500 VBS \$1,000
- 5) Missions -
 - a. 1st Quarter: School Lunches
 - b. 2nd Quarter: Helping Hands and Horses
 - c. 3rd Quarter: Brendan's Backpack
 - d. 4th Quarter: Food driveFood drive - St. Joseph's Food pantry and Brendan's Backpack

OLD BUSINESS

- Christmas Program
 - Christmas Acts of Kindness Experiment
 - Total number of kids - 18 kids including readers.
- Christmas Program Bags - Candy Canes, ornaments, Hershey bars, peanuts, gum, oranges, stickers.
- Food Drive Reward Pizza Party
 - More than enough snacks
 - 13 kids in attendance
 - Movie was 'The Star'

NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Meeting items
2. Annual Event planning and Date:

3/2/25	Green Eggs and Ham pancake breakfast
4/12/25	Palm Cross Making and Easter Egg Hunt
4/13/25	Palm Sunday Breakfast
5/18/25	Promotion Sunday / Teacher Appreciation
5/25/25	Confirmation Sunday
6/1/25	Graduate Recognition (Not BOCE event)
7/7 - 7/11	VBS
7/13/25	Kids sing in Church - VBS

8/24/25	Rally Day
9/7/25	Goodies with Grands (Grandparents Day)
12/6/25	Santa's Breakfast
12/21/25	Christmas Program / Cookie reception

4. Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast (plan for 80)

5. Officers for 2025

Chairperson - Angie
Secretary - Greg
VBS - Sarah
Missions - Connie

Open/Close schedule:

March 9, 2025 - Emily Dulle

April 13, 2025 - Sarah Saputo

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 7, 2025 at 6:30 pm

WOMEN'S CIRCLE UPDATES

Women's Circle February Meeting: There were seventeen (17) women and Pastor Hill who met on February 6, 2025. Michelle Perry called the meeting to order with a welcome, an opening prayer by Pastor Hill, announcements, and joys and concerns. The minutes and treasure's reports were read and approved. Business was conducted as follows:

- Final arrangements for the sausage dinner were reviewed.
- Pastor Hill has acquired a second credit card square for the Women's Circle to use in which the Circle will pay the \$79.00 fee.
- Easter Lilies will be sold for the Easter Season. Order forms should be coming out in the bulletin and Beacon soon.
- There will be a Palm Sunday Bake and Bakeless sale on Sunday, April 13 before and after the church service.
- Some of the Women's Circle ladies will be helping with the Palm Sunday breakfast that is hosted by the confirmation class since there are only two this year.
- The Lenten Luncheon will be hosted by St. Martin's in High Ridge on Thursday, April 13 (rsvp's are requested).
- A check for \$150.00 will be sent to the JC Rescue Mission as the February mission.

The next Women's Circle meeting will be on March 6, at 11:30 am. We welcome any and all women of St. Luke's church to join us in fellowship and the missions of our church and community.

Gail Heckenberg, Secretary

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*	Bob Johnson*	Lee Nations	Sharlene Schlereth
Kyle McPhedren*	Jeff Timeus*	Alan Bess*	Mike Burcham*
Sandy Fischer*	Jim Forsyth*	Lauren Watkins*	Bob Heitert*
Glenda Dickemann O'Tool	Kathy Porter	Keith Morris	Brenda Farson
Cindy (Held) Donaldson	Burnell Raebel	David and Pam Belleville	Ken Eckert
Betty McLard	Bob Schrepel	Vicki Kramme Carpenter	Linda White *
Family of Shirley Pursley	Family of Joan Thurman	Family of Loren Stuckmeyer	
Family of Don Gruenewald*			

Our Military Personnel

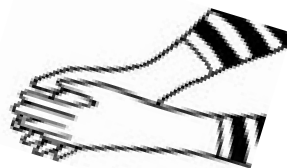
Christopher Kettler*	Samuel Lowry	Alec Schrepel*	Eric Watkins*
Isaak Hartung*	Susan Bablowitz*	Brian Randolph*	

PLEASE NOTE: We will be updating relaunching our prayer list beginning Sunday, March 9. If you would like to add or keep a person on our prayer list, please contact our church office by email or phone at stlukesimperial@gmail.com or (636) 948-3545. Thanks!

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Lauren Belt
 Fletcher McLard
 Jordyn Davis
 Roni Davis
 Morgan Belt
 Jessa Davis
 Wyl Belt



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 Ziegelmeyer	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		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A message from Karen Geary...

*Dear Church Family,
Burnell Raebel and his family would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards during my hospital stay and while recovering at home. Also, for taking care of organizing and delivering a sausage dinner. Visitors are welcome, but we ask that you call first.
Thanks again!!*

*Burnell Raebel and Family
314-210-1040*

A NOTE FROM TERESA KRAUS

A big Shout Out/Thank You to all who helped out with making the Sausage Dinner happen. It was a great success! What a great team we all come together to make. A special thank you to my dining room team, what a crazy day after a "Full Moon" IYKYK :)
Thank you again, Teresa

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

Pastor James' weekly bible study continues Wednesdays through April 9, at 11:00am in Fellowship Hall. We are exploring 2 Samuel and King David in a study Pastor James is calling "Kings & Kingdoms." No reservations are needed – plan to join us each week!

LENTEN LUNCHEON IN HIGH RIDGE THURSDAY, MARCH 13

The Women's Fellowship at St. Martin's United Church of Christ will be hosting this year's Lenten Luncheon on Thursday, March 13, at 10:00am. This event will include a brief time of worship and a wonderful fellowship meal. ***For those who have signed up and wish to carpool to High Ridge, we will meet in the St. Luke's parking lot at 9:30am on March 13.***

SAUSAGE DINNER

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped make the 2025 Sausage Dinner such a success! We sold approximately 498 dinners, 170 pounds of pre order sausage, 27 piggies, and 75+ pounds of sausage the day of the dinner. St. Luke's you are awesome! Thank you! Thank you! Thank You!

EASTER LILIES will be available for those wishing to purchase in honor or in memory of loved ones. More information with pricing will be available soon.

Members are encouraged to contact a Council member, the church office, or drop a note in the collection plate regarding any noticed/needed projects or maintenance around the church.

MARCH

5 th	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am Ash Wednesday worship – 7:00pm
6 th	Women's Circle – 11:30am
9 th	First Sunday in Lent
11 th	Board of Elder's Meeting – 6:30pm
12 th	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am
13 th	Lenten Luncheon, St. Martin's UCC, High Ridge – 10:00am
18 th	Church Council Meeting – 6:30pm
19 th	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am
26 th	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am

APRIL

2 nd	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am
3 rd	Women's Circle Meeting
8 th	Board of Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.
9 th	Pastor's Bible Study – 11:00am
13 th	Palm Sunday – Bake & Bakeless Sale before and after Worship
15 th	Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 p.m.
18 th	Good Friday
20 th	Easter Sunday
22 nd	Church Council Meeting 6:30
27 th	Board of Elder's Winter Food Drive Ends

MAY

6 th	Board of Christian Education Meeting – 6:30pm
13 th	Board of Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
18 th	Promotion Sunday Teacher Appreciation
20 th	Church Council Meeting – 6:30pm
25 th	Confirmation Sunday
29 th	Wedding Rehearsal Reservation
30 th	Wedding Reservation

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."

MOTHER TERESA

WINTER Food Drive

*2/23
through
4/27*

THE BOARD OF ELDERS IS ASKING
FOR YOUR HELP IN DONATING
UN-EXPIRED, NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD ITEMS FOR OUR WINTER FOOD
DRIVE. PLEASE FIND THE BOXES IN
THE SANCTUARY ENTRANCES
& THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.
THANK YOU!

Easter egg hunt

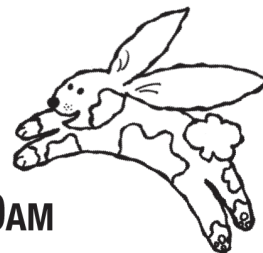


PLEASE JOIN US AT ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. • 6610 ST. LUKE'S CHURCH RD. • IMPERIAL, MO 63052



WHEN

SATURDAY, April 12th: activities begin at 9:30AM
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15AM



WHAT

- Refreshments
- Craft Stations
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Visit from the Easter Bunny!!

HOPPY EASTER!



STUFF TO BRING

**Please bring your
Easter basket or a bag
to collect eggs.**

**Please bring your
camera for pictures
with the Easter Bunny**

**Please bring your
Friends!**



WHERE

**St. Luke's Fellowship Hall
& Outside (weather permitting)**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

*Palm
Sunday*



*Hosanna
to the
King!*

BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 13th

Hosted by the Confirmation Class & Their Families

Worship Service at 9am

Breakfast at 10am in the Fellowship Hall



Breakfast Casseroles
Biscuits & Gravy
Pastries and More

