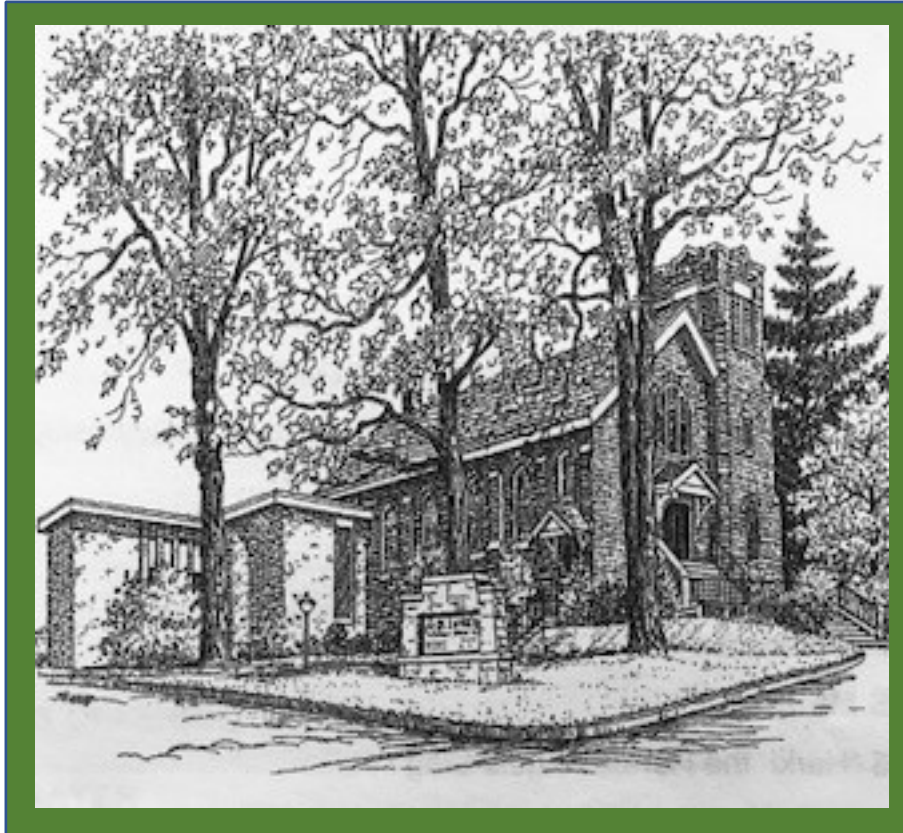


THE BEACON

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



June 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

June 2, 2025

St. Luke's Friends and Family,

What a busy time it has been at St. Luke's recently. We've had the opportunity to celebrate our teachers and Sunday School participants, observe Confirmation, and recognize our recent graduates – and this has only been the last three weeks! This coming Sunday, I bring my Eastertide sermon series, "Easter Surprise," to a close with "We Never See It Coming," as we celebrate Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit together. I hope you will join us this Sunday; and remember to wear something red 😊.

Through the remainder of the Summer I will share stand-alone sermons as I prepare my next sermon series for this Fall. As busy as I know Summer can be for all our families, I hope you plan to worship with us when you are in town. In recent days, as so many in our church family have experienced health repercussions and even life transitions, we have been reminded how treasured the time to gather together for worship truly is. I'm pleased to share that Rev. Damien Lake, our association conference minister for the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ, will be our guest and bringing the message on Sunday, July 6.

Finally, I hope you will be in prayer for our Board of Christian Education and all our VBS volunteers as they prepare to guide and teach our children for a wonderful week once more. This year our VBS theme is "Road Trip: On the Go with God!" VBS will be July 7 through July 11; and we look forward to our VBS children sharing in worship on Sunday, July 13. It is not too late to volunteer by contacting our church office or our VBS director, Sarah Saputo. Are your children pre-registered for VBS? It is a huge help to our VBS for our children to register in the weeks ahead. Registrations forms, and our digital QR code, are available in the church narthex or by contacting our church office.

See everyone Sunday!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James", with a stylized, flowing script.

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.		

May 20th, 2025, Church Council Minutes

In attendance: Warren Stuckmeyer, Don Dankel, Yvonne Davis, Garry Kraus, Gary Hartmann, and Reverend Hill.

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

REPORTS

Pastor's Report: Pastor James will be on vacation July 3-11th. He will perform Sunday service on July 13, then depart to a conference in Kansas City. Yvonne Davis made a motion for the church to pay for the registration and mileage to the meeting. Garry Kraus seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

Building & Grounds Report: The toilet in the Bride's bathroom has been repaired. New downspouts have been put on the parsonage.

Endowment Report: A check has been written to cover the cost of a new computer in the office.

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

OLD BUSINESS

- The council proposed by-law change meeting is set for June 8, 2025. The date will be in the May Beacon and announced in church.

NEW BUSINESS

- Warren Stuckmeyer will call the insurance company to file claim for hail damage on the buildings.
- Garry Kraus made a motion to place an ad on indeed.com for 1 month regarding new secretary. Don Dankel seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.
- Warren will complete an exit interview with Stephanie Morlan. Her last day is Friday, June 13, 2025.

Membership changes

Deaths: none

Births: none

Membership: none

Open/Close schedule

June 15 – Garry Kraus

June 22 – Yvonne Davis

June 29 – Don Dankel

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

Next Meeting June 17th, 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

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday May 13th, 2025

Julie Hartmann, Chairperson
Chrissy Kraus, Visitor Care
Michelle Perry, Secretary Judy Duro, Ushers
Pastor James Hill

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

CALL TO ORDER : Julie called the meeting to order at 6:44pm

PRAYER: Paster Hill opened the meeting with a prayer

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: Motion made by Kay Moss to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Julie, minutes approved by the BOE.

REPORTS:

- Worship: Going good. Pastor reported streaming error May 4th service. He assessed, but could not determine issue. Question raised regarding time to open church. Pastor felt 8am was early enough. Parament will remain white until Pentecost, then change to red on Pentecost Sunday.
- Ushers: Going great.
- Communion: On Confirmation Sunday, May 25th, only confirmands will receive communion.
- Visitor Care: No new visitors

MEMBERSHIP:

- Confirmation class: Confirmands will receive their own communion cup. Pastor reports all is ready.
- Baptisms: Justin and Courtney Stuckmeyer have requested to have their baby son, Kohen Stuckmeyer baptized on June 15th.
- Weddings: One scheduled May 30th with the rehearsal May29th. Pastor Hill will not be officiating this wedding, the Mother of the Bride will officiate. Brenda Day will be the wedding coordinator and Tara Hill will be helping as well.
- Funerals: none at the time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Finalize Palm Sunday
2. Finalize Good Friday

3. Finalize Easter Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Graduate Sunday: June 1st, need new graduate information by the week of the 18th. Cake and pastries to follow service.
2. Pastor's Vacation: Pastor James is on vacation from July 3 – July 11, returning July 13. Damien Lake will be our guest minister and provide communion. Elders to cover funeral notices during this time.
3. Christmas Day Service: Discuss possibility of two Christmas Eve services with members.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Strengthen the Church is June 8th
2. Pastor James would like to THANK OUR CONGREGATION MEMBERS who have reached out and helped other members in their time of need.
3. A special All Church meeting has been scheduled by the Church Council following the June 8th service regarding a vote on a by-law change.

Motion made to adjourn by Judy Duro, seconded by Kay Moss. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: June 10, 2025

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

6:30pm

May 6, 2025

*Angie Logan - Chairperson

*Sarah Saputo - Sunday School Supt. & VBS

*Shelbey Stilwill

*Emily Dulle

*present

*Greg McLard - Secretary

Kathy Porter - Church Council Liaison

*Connie Stuckmeyer

*Pastor James Hill

OPENING PRAYER - 6:40 pm - Pastor James led us in prayer.

MINUTES - Approved - Angie made motion, Connie 2nd.

REPORTS

1. Sunday School
 - a. No class lately due to Palm Sunday (10 kids sang in service), Easter, Movie
 - b. Summer schedule starts in June
 - c. August 24th is Rally Day
 - d. September 14th will go back to regular schedule.
2. Church Council
 - a. James discussed graduate recognition Sunday. June 1st will be recognition Sunday for graduates.
3. Confirmation
 - a. Confirmands ready and all items received for Confirmation Sunday.
4. Budget BOCE \$2,500 VBS \$1,000
5. Missions (Sunday School offering and any additional donations)

- a. Lunch balances - Antonia Elementary - 1st Quarter.
- b. 2nd quarter - Helping Hands and Horses

OLD BUSINESS

1. Open Close Church Schedule:
 - a. May 11, 2025 – Greg McLard
 - b. June 8, 2025 – Connie Stuckmeyer
 - c. July 13, 2025 - Emily Dulle
 - d. August 10, 2025 - Shelby Stilwill
2. April 12, 2025 Easter egg hunt and Palm Crosses.
 - a. 31 kids, 40 adults in attendance, 700 eggs
 - b. Palms - remember to keep enough palms for Sunday School kids to bring them into Church.
 - c. Trainers for the crosses - Seivings helped again this year.
 - d. Easter bunny - Zach Schneider was the bunny. He was a very good Easter Bunny and enjoyed performing. He should be asked every year from now on to be the Bunny.
 - e. Set up picture backdrop - perfect as always - thank you Sarah!
 - f. Crafts and Snacks - fun and all enjoyed.
3. Palm Sunday/ Confirmand Breakfast April 13, 2025
 - a. Attendance - 100+ came to eat
 - b. Food/menu – Denise and Garry Kraus did a great job with menu sign up.
4. Movie w/ Sunday school - May 4th.
 - a. 10 kids, 14 adults – Discussion to improve turnout

NEW BUSINESS

1. Confirmation - May 25th.
 - a. Robes – Ordered.
 - b. Confirmation Certificates – Thank you, Betty McLard, for Calligraphy.
 - c. Carnations – Connie to order 1 week prior.
 - d. Pendant necklace – received. These are in the office.
 - e. Small communion glass – received.
2. Promotion Sunday & Teacher's appreciation – May 18th
 - a. Each class gets certificate
 - b. Connie has Bible for this year. *need 1 Bible
 - c. Sarah requested that BOCE ensure certificates get to Teachers 1 week before 5/18/25 at minimum.
 - d. Teachers are acknowledged and given gift of appreciation.
 - e. Cake and coffee hour.
3. VBS: Theme = ROAD TRIP!!
 - a. All vendors have same issue: no piano music - only guitar chords (more options being considered). No curriculum ordered.
 - b. Teachers - Jamie Schneider will teach 4 & 5 year olds.
 - c. Volunteers - TBD
 - d. Registration - TBD
 - e. Decorations - TBD
 - f. Music - TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

5/18/25 - Promotion Sunday / Teacher Appreciation
 5/25/25- Confirmation Sunday

GM motion to adjourn. Connie 2nd.

Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting 6/3/2025 6:30pm

WOMEN'S CIRCLE UPDATES

Women's Circle May Meeting

There were fifteen women who gathered for the May meeting. Gai Heckenberg did a devotion on "Soul Care", and offering was taken. The minutes and treasure's report were approved, There were 100 hanging baskets purchased for sale for a fundraiser (all sold). The May mission is Annie's Hope in the amount of \$150. Final arrangements and report for the outing to Arthur, IL was reviewed with seven seats available. Tammy Glause reported there 27 Easter lilies were purchased and two palms were donated by the Women's Circle for the altar area. The Palm Sunday bake sale went well, and proceeds will be determined later. The next meeting will be eating out at Smokin Pie in Desoto at 6:30 pm. There will be no meeting in July. Any and all women of the church are invited to join us for our meetings on the first Thursday of each month. It's a great opportunity to get involved in the work we do for our church and our community as well as join in fellowship.

In Christ we serve,
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!



Congratulations



Abigail Jordan Bailey – University of Missouri School of Geography

Abigail graduated from the University of Missouri School of Geography in December 2024. She is pursuing a Master's Degree in Geography with anticipated graduation in December 2025. She is the daughter of Angela Logan.

Kaylin Hollerbach – Seckman High School

Kaylin is graduating from Seckman High School with Magna Cum Laude honors. She was a member of National Honor Society Leadership, participated in Beta Club and Yearbook, and received the A+ Academic Scholarship.

Julie Howard – St. Louis Community College

Julie has recently graduated from St. Louis Community College with an Associate Degree in Nursing (RN). She is Abe Kraus' fiancé and Dwight and Chrissy Kraus' future daughter-in-law.

Jessica McLard – Western Governors University

Jessica will graduate from WGU with a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction in August.

William Michel – Missouri Technical College

Congratulations to William C. Michel for graduating Summa Cum Laude from State Technical College of Missouri in Linn, MO. William will begin his career with Craftsmen Industries, Inc. in St. Charles, Missouri. He is the grandson of Gail Heckenberg.

Aiden Rebsamen – Seckman High School

Aiden is graduating from Seckman High School with Cum Laude honors. He is a 4-year member of the Seckman Cross Country and Track teams. He is a Beta Member of the National Honor Society and received the A+ Academic Scholarship. He plans to attend Jefferson College then transfer to Missouri S&T, majoring in Aerospace Engineering. Aiden is the son of Toby and Angie Rebsamen and the grandson of Cliff and Jane Rebsamen.

Elizabeth Madison Skaggs – Festus High School

Elizabeth is graduating Magna Cum Laude from Festus Senior High School. She will be attending East Central Community College on a volleyball and A+ Academic scholarships. She is the daughter of Randall and Holly Skaggs, granddaughter of Kevin and Earleen Stockwell and great-granddaughter of Marlyn Palmer.

Logan Sproull – Liberty High School Wentzville School District

Logan is graduating from Liberty High School and will be attending Central Methodist University with a 50% Athletic Scholarship. He is the grandnephew of David and Pam Belleville.

Nathan Steven Sproull – Perdue University

Nathan is graduating from Perdue University with a Bachelor's of Science majoring in Chemical Engineering and minoring in Chemistry and Biochemistry. He is the grandnephew of David and Pam Belleville.

Jacob Stuckmeyer – Iowa State University

Jacob graduated from Iowa State University with a Master's of Science-Seed Technology and Business. He is employed at Bayer in the Crop Science Division of the Agriculture Department.

Joseph Stuckmeyer – University of Missouri School of Science and Technology

Joseph graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Missouri School of Science and Technology in Rolla. He received Bachelor's of Chemical Engineering with an emphasis in Biochemical Engineering. He will begin his career in June as Chemical Process Engineer with Mississippi Lime Company.

Justin Stuckmeyer – Ameren Missouri Apprenticeship

Justin completed a 3-year apprenticeship program through Ameren Missouri, earning Substation Electrical Mechanic certification.

Lyla Wall – Parkway South High School and St. Louis Community College

Lyla will graduate from Parkway South High School and St. Louis Community College with an Associate Degree. She will be attending St. Louis University Pre-Law on scholarship. She is the granddaughter of Bob and Linda Schrepel.

Samantha Weatherholt – Herculaneum High School

Samantha graduated from Herculaneum High School. She is the granddaughter of Michael and Barbara Allen.



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

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

Robert Perry*
Sharlene Schlereth
Brenda Farson
David and Pam Belleville
Vicki Kramme Carpenter
Ollie Stuckmeyer
Family of Clark Nolen*
Family of Bradley Lilliech*

Bob Johnson*
Alan Bess*
Burnell Raebel
Al Kraus*
Doris Stephenson*
Emily Crawford
Richard Livengood*
Garry Kraus

Lee Nations
Mike Burcham*
Mark Pursley*
Sharon Kaplan*
Joyce Kraus
Gina Montgomery*
Juliet Gilmore*
Minerva Ainsley

Kathy Porter
Bob Schrepel
Joan Flesh*
Eddie Lowry
Jana Kramme
Kay Olsen
Marlyn Palmer

Our Military Personnel

Christopher Kettler*
Susan Bablowitz*

Samuel Lowry
Brian Randolph

Eric Watkins*

Isaak Hartung*

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Fletcher McLard

Marietta Saputo

Maybree Saputo



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jennifer Cano	6/1	Michelle Perry	6/14
Jackie Craig	6/3	Charles Mize	6/14
Janet Mize	6/3	Margaret Richards	6/15
Marianne Gaertner	6/4	Clifford Rebsamen	6/18
Matthew Perry	6/4	Henry Perry	6/19
Susan Hartmann	6/6	Henry Lowry	6/21
David Stark Jr.	6/6	Benjamin Glaus	6/21
Michael Price	6/6	Janet Knopp	6/22
Elaine Alexander	6/7	Emily Michel	6/22
Elizabeth Kundert	6/7	Logan Narup	6/22
Alice Kohler	6/9	Bonnie Sproull	6/25
Betty McLard	6/10	Edith Dulle	6/25
Serina Hoehn	6/10	Julie Jordan	6/27
Jessica Cathcert	6/10	Julie Schimsa	6/27
Lora Eckert	6/12	Rebecca Arnold	6/29
Randy Carver	6/12	Jillian Davis	6/29
Landon Lambert	6/12	Landen Miller	6/30
Aurora Neislein	6/13		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Council is proposing a By-law change to Article 4, #1 and #2 at a Congregation meeting in June. Details will be available following the April Council meeting.

Original By-laws

Article 4: Congregational Meetings

1. The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held at the church property on the third Sunday of January of each year at the hour of 2:00 P.M.
2. Special meetings may be called by the Council or upon the written request of four percent (4%) of the voting members. The Council shall issue a call for such a meeting within two weeks after the request had been received. This meeting shall be held within thirty days after a written notice to each member in good standing is given of time, place and purpose of special congregational meetings.

Proposed changes to By-laws

Article 4: Congregational Meetings

1. The annual meeting of the congregation shall be held at the church property on the third Sunday of January of each year, after the church service at a time set by the Church Council 30 days in advance.
 2. Special meetings may be called by the Council or upon the written request of four percent (4%) of the voting members. The Council shall issue a call for such a meeting within two weeks after the request had been received. This meeting shall be held within thirty days after notification, electronic or written notice, to each member in good standing is given of time, place and purpose of special congregational meetings.
- Church Council is addressing the following projects and encourages the congregation to continue reporting any church maintenance concerns to a council member or the office.

Long Term Plans

New Doors
Sound system in Sanctuary
Carpeting in Sanctuary
All concrete sidewalks reworked
Handicap system-Fellowship Hall
New Roof Sanctuary (2-3 years)
Furnaces were replaced in 1996
Air conditioner units replaced as needed
Plaster in Church
Parsonage Roof

Maintenance

Replace Hanging Pendant lights in stairwells
Windows recalked
Repaint window frames & clean coverings
Paint porches
Oil Pews
Bookshelves in library
Parking Lot lights (warmer weather)
Boards replaced on Parsonage deck

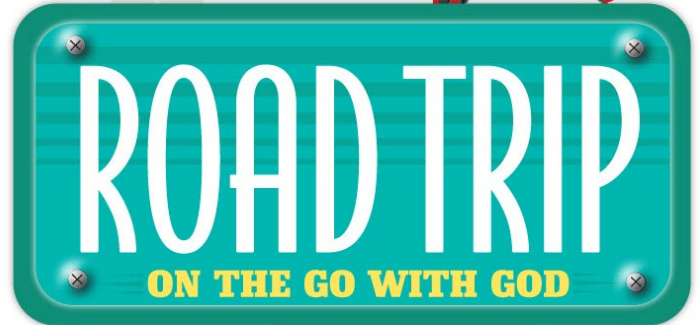
MAY

- 6th Board of Christian Ed. Mtg. – 6:30pm
- 13th Board of Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
- 18th Promotion Sunday
Teacher Appreciation
- 20th Church Council Meeting – 6:30pm
- 25th Confirmation Sunday

JUNE

- 3rd Board of Christian Ed. Mtg. – 6:30pm
- 8th Pentecost Sunday
Graduate Recognition
Special called congregational meeting
following worship
- 10th Board of Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
- 17th Church Council Meeting – 6:30pm

**GET READY FOR
TWISTS, TURNS
AND EXCITEMENT!**
St. Luke's VBS



JULY 7th - 11th
DAILY FROM 9AM TO 12 NOON.

Lunch served at noon on Friday 7/11/25
All are welcome to attend!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP ON JULY 13TH
AT 9AM – KIDS WILL SING AND SHARE A STORY!

<https://missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval>



2025 Summer Camps

6/22 – 6/27/25 All Ages Camp #1 (grades 3-9)

6/22 – 6/27/25 High School Camp (grades 9-12)

6/29 – 7/3/25 Family Camp (all ages)

7/6 – 7/11/25 All Ages Camp #2 (grades 3-9)

7/13 – 7/18/25 All Ages Camp #3 (grades 3-9)

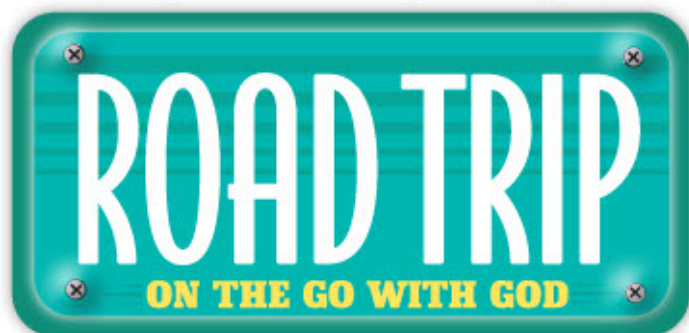
7/20 – 7/22/25 S.T.E.A.M. – Summer Camp (grades 3-9)

7/20 – 7/21/25 'And Me' – Summer Camp (all ages, adult guardian 21+)

8/3 – 8/8/25 Adventures in Community (ages 18+)

**GET READY FOR TWISTS, TURNS
AND EXCITEMENT WHILE WE
FIND STRENGTH IN GOD'S
PRESENCE AT ST. LUKE'S VBS!**

Kids ages 2 through 6th grade!



**EMBARK ON AN EXCITING
JOURNEY AT ST. LUKE'S U.C.C.
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 7th - 11th
DAILY FROM 9AM TO 12 NOON.**

**Kids will discover God's presence everywhere
as we explore new Bible stories, songs, crafts,
activities, games, food and FUN!**

Daily Themes:

- God is with us on the journey
- God is with us when we go off course
- God is with us when we're joyful
- God is with us when we're lonely
- God is with us near and far

**Lunch served at noon on Friday
7/11/25. All are welcome to attend!**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP ON
JULY 13TH AT 9AM AS THE KIDS WILL SING
AND SHARE A STORY!**

Food Donations for snack time are much appreciated. Some needed items are: peanut butter, cream cheese, little smokies, cheese cubes, pretzel sticks, cheese balls, Gala apples, grapes, Ranch dressing, vegetables, cookies, etc. **THANK YOU!**

ST. LUKE'S U.C.C.

VBS Registration Form

July 7-11 2025

Please Pre-Register by 7/1/25

NAME _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

PRIMARY PHONE _____

LAST SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED _____

AGE _____ CHILDREN MUST BE POTTY-TRAINED
OR ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

SPECIAL NEEDS/ALLERGIES/MEDICAL INFORMATION:

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

PHONE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

PHONE _____

Safety protocols will be encouraged. By allowing your child to participate in St. Luke's Vacation Bible School you are agreeing to not hold St. Luke's responsible for any injury or illness.

DATE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME _____

For questions please call
**St. Luke's U.C.C.
VBS Coordinator
at 314-315-5335**

6610 St. Luke's Church Rd.
Imperial, MO 63052

