

# THE OUTLOOK

**St. Luke's United Church of Christ**  
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**Rev. E. Paul Emily, Pastor**  
**Nanette Moore,**  
**Administrative Assistant &**  
**Director of Christian Education**  
**Margie Foley, Organist/Pianist**  
**Matthew Bennett, Conductor**  
**David Lyon & Ralph Koch,**  
**Pastor Emeriti**

May 15, 2020

## A Note from the Council

St. Luke's Members and Friends,

On Thursday, May 7, 2020, the Church Council discussed when and how to re-open St. Luke's for Sunday worship. We discussed the Missouri Mid-South Conference guidelines for re-opening and how those could work for our congregation. We also discussed the risks and safety aspects of re-opening. For example, should the church provide masks once we open, or restrict singing, or change participation in communion while still following social distancing guidelines. With these guidelines in mind, we are working to develop our own "St. Luke's Re-Opening Guidelines". These guidelines will be ready and distributed to members before we re-open.

We settled on a tentative date of July 1<sup>st</sup> for re-opening, with the possibility of changing that date if circumstances dictate. The council wants to be able to follow any county/city/state/national orders. These orders so far have come with restrictions on the number of people in attendance, which we have also considered. We are hopeful that by July 1<sup>st</sup> there will be enough information on the virus and on social distancing that we will be more comfortable in re-opening St. Luke's. The bottom line is the safety of our members and guests.

In the meantime, St. Luke's will continue to operate as it has been for the last few months. The worship service will still be available through several options, and we are planning a few "virtual" summer activities for adults and children alike. Any necessary meetings will continue to be done virtually, and the church will be considered closed until July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Council has decided to hold the Annual Budget Meeting via Zoom on June 28 immediately after the service. Nanette will send out a link for the Zoom meeting and provide instructions for connecting. For those of you who have not participated in a Zoom meeting, you will find that it is really quite simple and fun to be a part of. Once you have logged in, Jodie will help everyone through the meeting. Should you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to ask any of the Council members. We are there to help!

We understand that St. Luke's is important to all of you and it is difficult to be physically apart from the church and the friends we hold so dear. But we must be careful and not put anyone at risk. St. Luke's has continued to have a strong membership through this crisis and the Council is very thankful. We are so blessed to have wonderful staff and volunteers who give their time and effort into keeping St. Luke's up and running (well!). We pray that everyone stays safe until then.

God Bless!

St. Luke's Church Council

Jodie Puhr      Karen Zuiderof  
Julie Sehart    Kathy Lowry  
Marita Ray, Memorial Fund Advisor  
Paul Emily, Pastor

Dan O'Neill  
Larry Franciscato

Phil Parrino  
Crystal Todd

Sharon Follas

May it be understood that any pictures/videos taken during any church event may be used for promotion.  
If you are not in agreement with this notify the church office.

Outlooks are being published on an as needed basis. Please contact the church office if you need something published.

# What's Happening?

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING

June 28th, Noon

This congregational meeting will be held on **Zoom** and start at **noon**.

Participation of members is necessary to vote on the annual budget. Closer to the meeting time, an email and/or letter will be sent with instructions on how to get on the zoom call.



## SUMMER FUN

Online Summer Fun activities are being planned for the kids.

The activities will be

Thursday, June 25th at 10 AM. and July 23rd at 10 AM.

More information will be posted in the Facebook Group "Children's Garden"

and sent by email. If you have children and are not a member of Children's Garden, please contact the church office.

All activities will take place ONLINE.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of St. Luke's. If you wish to make a donation, there are several options available while services are being held online only:

1. **Check** mailed to church office at 727 N. Main, Independence, MO 64050
2. **Internet donation** – you may now donate from a secure site by clicking on the Give Now button.
3. **Electronic funds transfer** – your offering can be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account. To sign up, contact the church office or fill out the form online. After completing the form, contact the church office [stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org](mailto:stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org) for more information.
4. **GivePlus mobile giving app** - download the free app on Google Play or the App Store. Enter St. Luke's United Church of Christ as the church name or tap "Find Churches Near Me". Select St. Luke's United Church of Christ and tap Give Now.
5. **Text** the word **GIVE** to 816-312-5053 and you will be directed to a secure site for giving.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship forms are now available online (in the menu under Forms/Scholarship Forms) or in the church office.



Scholarship applicants must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be an active member of St. Luke's.
2. Be a high school graduate with at least a 2.0 GPA.
3. If a new applicant, provide evidence of acceptance to an accredited college, university, business school, and vocational or technical school. **Repeat applicants should provide proof of enrollment (i.e. course schedule, etc) for the upcoming academic year.**
4. Maintain a GPA to remain in good academic standing.

The deadline to apply is **June 15th**. If you have any questions please contact Phil Parrino.

## AUDIO SERMONS BY PHONE

Prayer, special music, scripture and sermon are available on a audio recording and can be listened to by calling a tollfree number. For details and when you are ready to listen, call Jeff Ray at 816-719-6299.





The family of Mike Odell  
 Jerry & Judie Brunner  
 Carl & Rhonda Smart  
 Michael Angell  
 Coeanna Obermeyer  
 Jason Smart  
 Wes Darneal  
 Alberta Franciskato  
 Peace for our World

Rick Kelly & family  
 Harold & Winnie Gertz  
 Sharon Franciskato  
 John Duvall  
 Vic Monteleone  
 Julie Filbeck  
 Jimmy Todd  
 Faith Wildschuetz

Paula McKinney  
 Frank Rohlfing  
 Trent Reifstak  
 Stacie Burks  
 Chelsea Arnold  
 Brandon Borgman  
 Jim Dillie  
 Burdette Obermeyer

Mike Lowry  
 Jim Lucas  
 Karen Puhr  
 Wini Baker  
 Evelyn Fifield  
 Rebecca Ash



**MASKS AVAILABLE**

There are masks available to anyone that needs one at St. Luke's! Thanks to Jane Morman, Pat Boeger, and the ABC Quilters for making these available. They are on a clothes line under the canopy by the east entrance.



Our Sympathy is extended to Rick Kelly and family upon the death of his mom on May 10, 2020



Our Sympathy is extended to the family of Mike Odell who died on April 28, 2020

The Memorial Committee recommended & the Council approved the following allocation from the Church Mission Fund for 2020.

- \$500 - Emmaus Home
- \$500 - Blue Springs Terrace Pastor's Home
- \$1,000 - Community Services League
- \$600 - I Share (Utility Assistance CSL)
- \$500 - Indep. School District Caring for Kids fund
- \$500 - ICAN
- \$500 - IBCC Micah Ministry
- \$800 - Steppingstone
- \$400 - Habitat for Humanity
- \$600 - Faith Wildschuetz
- \$5,900



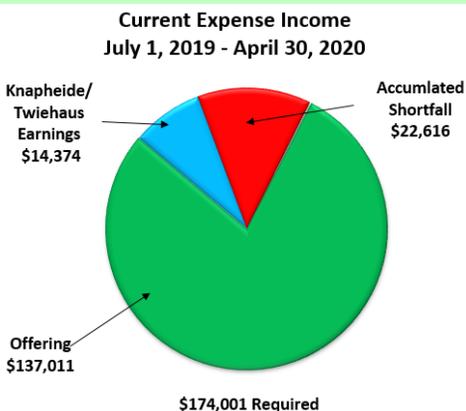
Even though the building is closed, things still break. In February, the flush valve for the urinal in the men's restroom failed and had to be replaced. Cost - \$468.00.

In mid-March, a leak in the floor heating system in the Educational building was discovered and had to be repaired. We took up carpet, chiseled out some concrete, and fixed the copper pipe. Cost \$785.00.

Both of these expenses were paid out the Memorial Fund for Church Improvement. We are so fortunate to have these funds available for such emergencies.

In April, half of the hanging lights in the Sanctuary stopped working. The dimmer for these lights is divided into two sections, and one of the dimmer sections failed. This device is more than 30 years old and cannot be repaired. However, we were able to reactivate an abandoned system that was used to turn the lights on and off to control these lights. So now, half of the lights are controlled by switching and half are still controlled by the dimmer. Cost - \$303.00

This expense was taken from the Building Maintenance line item in our budget.



Through April, our Current Expense offerings including Sunday School totaled \$136,527. The Knapheide/Twiehaus Fund contributed an additional \$14,374 toward our Current Expenses. These contributions resulted in a shortfall of \$22,616 when compared to our budgeted Current Expenses. This is an

improvement of about \$3,000 since last month. We celebrate that and appreciate and thank you for your continuing to support St. Luke's.