January and February 2024 Newsletter

St Luke's STL

A United Methodist Church

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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A Letter from the Pastor

Let me start by wishing you a Happy New Year! I'm excited about the plans God has for St. Luke's in 2024. I believe God is leading us forward in a new chapter of ministry that will connect new people to this church and guide us out into the world to minister as Christ's hands and feet.

I've been blessed in the first six months as your appointed pastor. You've welcomed my family and I into your lives. I'm grateful to be your pastor. I want to make sure as we begin this new year together that you know some basics about my schedule.

My workdays are Sunday through Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays are off days. I am happy to meet with you in the office or for coffee/lunch during my office hours Monday through Thursday. While I do accept walk-ins, I encourage you to schedule an appointment to ensure I'm available, since there are times when I may be out on an appointment, in a meeting, or working remotely.

That brings me to my next topic. If you'd like me to visit you or a loved one, please contact me.

You can make appointments by calling the church office or my church cell phone, texting my church cell phone, or emailing me.

Finally, my wife, Pam, and I have enjoyed living in the parsonage as our primary home. It makes my job convenient, and we appreciate how great the church has been about respecting our privacy.

Again, I'm grateful to be blessed to be the pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church. I can't wait to find out what God has in store for us in 2024.

Happy New Year,

Mike Gillen

Grief Luncheon by Jean Bailey

January 8th's Grief Luncheon will be at Rizzo's on Lemay Ferry at noon.

February 5th's Grief Luncheon will be at Rich and Charlie's at noon.

Please join us for some good times. Any questions, call Jean at 314-660-2912.

Piecemakers by Karen Anderson

Piecemakers will be starting meeting again on January 10. We will meet every Wednesday 9AM in the Gospel Café. Our project for the months of January and February will be New baby gift bags for Feed My People and Lifewise. We are making 20 bags providing each new baby with a quilt/floor mat/coverlet, sensory cloth, and burp towels. If you would like to contribute to our gifts we will also be needing pacifiers (0-3month), diapers (size 1), diaper cream, baby wash or shampoo, small toy, bottle brushes, and onesies/outfits/ sleepers (size 3/6month).

FISH FRY (IMPORTANT DATES) by Karen Anderson

Organizational meeting, **JANUARY 10**, 6:30 PM, in the parlor. Please plan to attend to learn about any changes from last year and offer suggestions for making the operation run smoother. We will discuss the jobs that are needed during the week as well on Friday nights. Volunteer Sign-up sheets will be available after the meeting. If you worked in the past, please let us know if you will be helping this year. This meeting is being organized by Tammy Caldwell and Karen Anderson, but we need several persons to take the lead for each area. Mike V. will be helping again this year, but we need to start to work some new people into the mix.

FEBRUARY 16: First fish fry of 2024! 4:30 - 7 PM

INVITABLE EVENTS

- SUNDAY WORSHIP at 10AM
- SEW N'SEWS Mondays, 9AM Fellowship Hall
- PIECEMAKERS QUILTING AND PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Wednesdays, 9-11 AM, Fellowship Hall

• **RE-SELL-IT SHOPPE** Thursdays, 9:30 - 3:30 PM Saturdays, 10 AM - 2 PM

Saturdays, 10 AM - 2 PM Parkhurst Gym

• FISH FRY (COMING SOON)

Fridays, 4:30-7 PM, Starting February 16th In the Parkhurst Gym

Monthly

GRIEF SUPPORT LUNCHEON

Jan 8th—12 Noon at Rizzo's

Feb 5th—12 Noon at Rich and Charlie's

Have you invited anyone to St. Luke's lately?

ST. LUKE'S FIRST SQUARE DANCE SHINDIG



Saturday, February 3rd, 2024 from 7-10 PM in the St. Luke's Parkhurst Gym

Grab your pardner and join us for a fun night! \$15 a ticket (see Betty Fasoldt or Suzi Wilhelm)

Y'all will have a barrel of fun!

UMM Spotlight by John Newman

ONLY JESUS

"I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." – JOHN 12:46

"I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." – C.S. Lewis

The St. Luke's UMM is starting the 2024 year and the officers are as follows; Joe Schneringer – President, Steve Wilhelms – Vice President, Randy Donaldson – Treasurer, and John Newman – Secretary. We are planning new events for **2024** and would like any input from our fellow church men, so please mark your calendar to attend our meetings.

Our January meeting will be on Saturday January 27, 2024 in the Parkhurst multipurpose room at 8:00 AM for Breakfast with a short meeting to follow at 9:00 PM.

At our December meeting we planned out some of our 2024 calendar with the following highlights;

February 24th - SLU Basketball Game at 2:00 PM (all are invited),

April 6th – Trivia Night

April 27^{th -} Family Fishing Fair at Suson Park,

June 2nd – Grizzlies Baseball Game 5:30 PM,

June 18th – Father's Day Appreciation,

Please mark your calendars.

SUNDAY SCHOOL





Join us before and after the church service for Sunday School!

We have five classes to offer:

Children ages 5 thru 11 meet in room 220 on the second floor of the Parkhurst building at 9 AM.

Youth ages 12 thru 18 meet in the Youth Room also on the second floor of the Parkhurst building at 9 AM.

Three adult classes -

The Seekers meet in room 215/217 at 9 AM.

The Open Door Class meets in the Parlor (room 211) after the service.

Stirring The Pot meets downstairs in the Gospel Café after the service.

COMMUNION STEWARDS NEEDED! by Shari Scott

Thank you to those who have stepped forward to serve as communion stewards. We still need a few more people to add to our list. So, If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, please consider being a communion steward. We need two people each month to assist Dr. Mike with serving communion on the First Sunday of the month. Ideally, if we have 12 volunteers, you would help with communion two times per year. If you are interested in volunteering or need more information, please contact Shari Scott at the church office. She will also have a sign up sheet available in the welcome center.

United Women in Faith

Faith - Action - Sisterhood

Our first meeting of the New Year - 2024 - will be on <u>Monday, January 8, 2024</u> at 7:00 p.m. We will have a light dinner before the meeting of sandwiches at

6:00 p.m. in the Gospel Café. The United Methodist Men have decided to meet at a different time so they won't be joining us. After the meal we will gather upstairs for our program and meeting in the Open Door classroom across from the office area at 7:00 p.m. The program will be presented by Deb Lampe and will include the Pledge Service.

The next meeting will be on <u>Monday, February 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.</u> with the program being our "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial". Some sort of meal will be at 6:00 p.m. in the Gospel Café. More details later.

We would love for any women of the church and their friends to join us at these times. So Ladies, invite your friends to join you for an evening of friendship and devotions.

Looking forward to March we will be having our *United Women in Faith Sunday* on Sunday, March 3, **2024.** At this service we will do our <u>Annual Candleburning</u>. Please look for the forms and information in the Welcome Center to give a donation in honor of or in memory of someone. All money received goes to the Missions of the United Women in Faith around the World.

Sandy Newman, President UMW

February Monthly Mission "Souper Bowl" Soup

Drive

For the month of February we will be collecting cans of soup! These will be donated to Feed My People for their pantry. The **big day** for bringing the cans in will be Super Bowl Sunday -February 11, 2024. But they can be brought to the welcome center throughout the whole month. We will have boxes for you to place cans in to support vour favorite teams in either the American Football Conference or the National Football Conference. So let's get in the game for Super Bowl LVIII with soup! I wonder who will win?

Give-A-Meal-A-Month For Feed My People

(Bring donations to the Collection Room off of Fellowship Hall)

January

Main Menu

Boxed Whole Grain Pasta (Penne, Spaghetti, etc.) Canned Tomato or Pasta Sauce Any Canned Vegetable Any Canned Fruit/Applesauce Powdered Milk or Soy Milk, (shelf stable) All Purpose Flour, Sugar

Additional Items -

Cold Cereal or Oatmeal Sugar Free or Low Sugar Juices (plastic bottles) Peanut Butter, Jelly, Mac'n Cheese

Toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, soap, Shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, razors





4

5	JANUARY 2024	2024	
	Sun	Mon	Tue
	All are welcome at Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month		
		NEW YEARS DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:30AM AA Meeting
			100M 00 Meeting

Sunday of every month	NEW YEARS DAY-OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:30AM AA Meeting	C-11AM Discomakers and	4 9:30AM-3:30PM Re-Sell-It	5 10AM AA Meeting
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7 9AM Sunday School 10AM Worship Service 11:15AM Fellowship 11:15AM Sunday School 4:30-6:30PM Basketball	 9AM Sew and Sew's 10:30AM AA Meeting 12pm Grief Luncheon 5:30-9:30PM Cheerleaders 6-9PM UMM/UWF 7:30PM AA Meeting 	 9 8.30AM AA Meeting 10AM AA Meeting 5.30PM AA Meeting 6.30PM Choir Practice 7.30PM AA Meeting 8PM Handbells Practice 	10 9-11AM Piecemakers and Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30-9:30PM Karate 6PM AA Bookstudy 6:30PM Fish Fry Prep	11 9:30AM-3:30PM Re-Sell-It Shoppe 5:30-9:30 PM Cheerleaders 6PM Praise Band 7PM AI anon Meeting 7PM Building Team	12 10AM AA Meeting 7PM AA Meeting
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FEBRUARY 2024

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Thu Fri Sat	Tue Wed	Mon	Sun All are welcome at Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month





It's hard to believe that we are beginning a new year. We are praying that 2024 brings Comfort, Health, and Belief. May your New Year be filled with Love, Hope, Joy and Peace.

We hope to resume in-person visits with our homebound, nursing home, and hospitalized members. These folks (who are primarily older adults and their caregivers) often feel forgotten or ignored.

With everything going on in our community, country, and the world, it's up to us to find a way to bring the church to those that are unable to be with us in person. As we start this new year, please reach out and connect with them by phone, cards or letters so they will know you are thinking of them and praying for them. Even though many are worshipping with us online, that personal touch by one of their church family calling them or sending a card or letter adds that little extra reminder that they haven't been forgotten.

There are two birthdays among our homebound friends in January and February. Big Happy Birthday wishes go out to David Kaufmann on January 28th and Betty Cullen on February 10th. Please reach out to David and Betty by phone or send them a birthday card on their special day.

An updated list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and birthdates of all of our homebound friends is available by stopping by or calling the church office. Please use the list to keep in contact with them. And, don't forget to keep our entire St. Luke's family, in your hearts by including them in your daily prayers.

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PRAYER LIST

Brenda Dale Jackie England Family of Ron Main Family of Harding Twyman Brittany Kerperien Freya Koch Gilda Lahrman Lloyd Nelson Charlie Smith Debbie Tate Renee Wiegers

Challie Allison Judy Appel Judy Aubuchon Matais Avalos Janet Berkley William Bone Tom Diekhaus Linda Durker Coleen Eggemeyer Geoffrey Fasoldt Shawn Feddersen Bridget Fischer Ashley Halker Althea Hart Tippie Heimos Richard Icenhower Connie Laramie

Dennis Ledgerwood Caroline Lewis

JANUARY & FEBRUARY'S BIRTHDAYS

1/1 —Reedie Nelson	2/4 —Ben Daniels
1/4 —Chris Ode	2/4 —Matt Daniels
1/5 –Joshua Seegers	2/4 —Maggie Rothe
1/8 —Anna Rothe	2/5—Emily Seegers
1/8 —Nick Schmidt	2/6 —Jamie Caldwell
1/10 —Griff Caldwell	2/7 —Madison Follmer
1/10 —Wendy Whalen	2/8 —Sharon Fink
1/11 —Marian Godfrey	2/8 —Barb Main
1/13—Gene McLeod	2/9 —Mary Henson
1/13 —Grace Schmidt	2/10—Betty Cullen
1/14—Chris Mehigh	2/10 —Chris LaPlant
1/16—Sally Dehner	2/12—Cindy Schneringe
1/17 —Nicholas Genthon	2/13—Denise Daniel
1/17 –John Schmidt	2/15—Karen Tynes
1/18 —Brittainy McClure	2/16—Randy Donaldson
1/18—Eugenia McCormack	2/18—Cheryl Rothe
1/18 —Amanda Wyatt	2/20—Karen Donner
1/19 —Charles Cowie	2/20—Scott Feddersen
1/19 —Pam Gillen	2/20 —Deb Lampe
1/20 —Aimee Clark	2/20—Steven Skaggs
1/20—Corine McLeod	2/21—Jeanel Rushing
1/28 —Linda Driskell	2/22—Judy Merritt
1/28—Trevor Gillen	2/23—Richard Mehigh
1/28 —David Kaufman	2/24—Carter Loesekam
1/30 —Dale Aubuchon	2/25—Brooke Kerperien
1/30—Bill Jones	2/25—Anne Thomas
2/1 —Nicki Kerperien	2/26—Brent Jones
2/1 —Barb Skaggs	2/27—Claire Anderson
2/2 —Karen Anderson	

JANUARY & FEBRUARY'S WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/1—Patrick and Keely Jacks
- 1/8—Dale and Judy Aubuchon
- **1/17**—Michael and Mary Vennemann
- 1/24—Jim and Linda Driskell
- 2/8—Dennis and Nicki Kerperien
- 2/14—Ted and Pam Fournier
- 2/15—Bill and Michele Jones
- 2/28-Dan and Cheryl Rothe

PRAYER WARRIORS



We are looking for individuals or

couples to staff the Prayer Room on a rotating basis on Sundays. You would be in the Prayer Room for 15 minutes before and 10 Minutes after the Worship service. If you would be interested in being a Prayer Warrior, please contact Shari Scott.

Ink Cartridges

Have old ink cartridges you need to dispose of? St. Luke's recycles them! Bring your used



ink cartridges to St. Luke's and leave them in the collection room. We will gather them and then ship them off. All proceeds help the missions of the church!

VITAL STATISTICS St. Luke's 2023:

Average Worship Attendance 76 On Campus

39 Online Engagements

STEWARDSHIP GOALS:

2023 Apportionment Goals for Missions Goal= \$46,386 Paid YTD= \$28,000

2023 Breakthrough Building Fund

Goal= \$458,136 Loan Balance Paid YTD= \$26,874 Principle Paid YTD= \$21,672 Interest

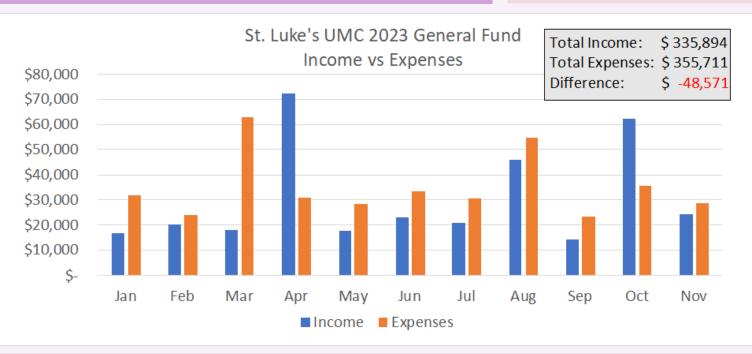
DARTBALL

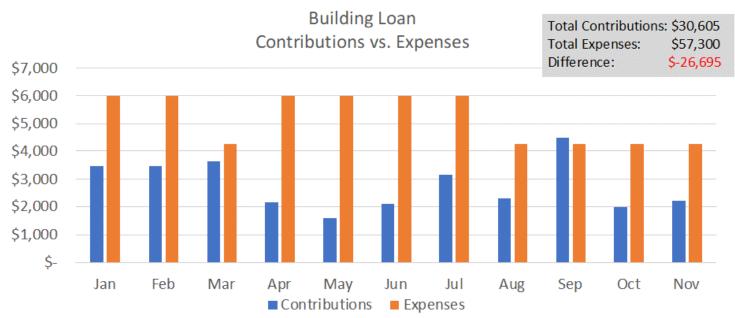
It's Dartball season!

Come support the St. Luke's Dartball team this season in the Parkhurst Gym for our home games. Doors open at 7:30 PM.

There is no admission fee!

- January 23rd
- January 30th
- February 13th





2024: Your year for abundant living by Pam Jones

Many Christians think of "stewardship" only in financial terms, but money is only one of the gifts God entrusts us with – and it's usually the one we value <u>less than</u> our gifts of time, relationships, faith and health.

Make 2024 your year for holistic stewardship - and abundant living – by taking steps to care better for ALL the gifts God entrusts to us, including our finances. Here are tips.

Health: Get a physical and ask your doctor to help you to form a strategy for better living. For most of us, the plan would include eating better, exercising more and practicing wellness.

Relationships: We not only share love and joy with family and friends, but also turn to and rely on them in times of trouble. Care for your relationships with honest and frequent communication, get-togethers and sharing. Renew and repair relationships that need it.

Time: Are you just mindlessly counting the hours and days? Take charge of your time by planning events and activities that enrich your life. Plan for health and relationships.

Faith: No matter where you are on your discipleship journey, all of us can draw closer to God and open ourselves more fully to the Holy Spirit. For 2024, commit to regular worship, prayer, Scripture reading, devotions, service and other faith practices.

Money: Get your finances in order. Consider the 10-10-80 plan, budgeting your income to save 10 percent, give away 10 percent, and living on 80 percent.

God has given us so much. Stewarding the most important aspects of our lives can bring us into the life of abundance that Jesus promises us.



May these words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Psalm 19:19

Our Prayer Room is always open.

You may use it to pray privately or there will be someone available to pray with you.

Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts. ~ Mother Teresa



2024 CHARGE CONFERENCE

St. Luke's will be attending the 2024 virtual charge conference. On January 6, 2024, at 2:00-3:00 pm.

Pam Jones and Dr. Mike Gillen will be the representatives for the meeting.

St. Luke's Christmas Wishlist

As you think about giving to St. Luke's UMC this holiday season, here's a Christmas Wish List you can contribute to. Designate in your check memo the specific Christmas Wish List item you'd like your offering to go toward. As as always, thank you for your generosity.

New tables for the Fellowship Hall (A total of 10).

\$100 per table

Replacement window for the parsonage kitchen.

\$500

New Media Booth equipment (Router and live streaming equipment).

\$1,000

Raise the Parsonage living room floor.

\$4,500

Final apportionment payment for 2023.

\$10,000

Five percent of St. Luke's total mortgage.

\$22,00

Renovate upstairs bathroom in the Parsonage.

\$35,000

Report on MODOT 231 Meeting

On November 27, 2023 At Hancock Place School District Offices By John Newman

Missouri Department of Transportation held a Fourth Public meeting for the planned modifications to Missouri Route 231 from Broadway at River Des Peres to Kingston then Telegraph ending at the side street Franru. This meeting was for the public to be made aware of the results of the previous meetings and to give their thoughts on the various final designs for the improvements that would be related to the project. Shaun Tooley, with MODOT, was one of the individuals in charge of the meeting. I attended as a representative for St. Luke's United Methodist Church, also in attendance were several representatives from businesses along the route as well as people living along the route.

As part of this meeting MODOT had several representatives to answer any questions from the public attendees on the various proposals being presented

Anyone can go on the MODOT website (www.modot.org or www.savemolives.com) or email Shaun Tooley at (Shaun.Tooley@modot.mo.gov) and leave comments for them to review in their determination of what will be part of this project.



SIMPLE. FAST. SECURE.

Want to donate to St. Luke's UMC? Use Tithe.ly! Tithe.ly can be accessed by heading to our church website, orclicking on the button provided in the weekly email blast, or downloading the

app in either Google Play Store or Apple iTunes. Tithe.ly will enable givers to either give a 1 time donation or create an account. Donors will be able to direct gifts to 5 designated areas, set-up weekly giving reminders and re-occurring gifts, receive instant emailed receipts, and track amounts given over the year!

ONLINE GIVING JUST GOT EASIER!

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2761 Telegraph Road St. Louis, MO 63125

Church Office: 314-892-5595

10AM Worship Service

Service is recorded and posted onto the St. Luke's Youtube page at 11:30 every Sunday.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mike Gillen Executive Assistant: Maya Quintana Treasurer: Cheryl Rothe Music Director: Tom Schmidt Minister of Worship: Rev. Bruce Walker Custodian: Mers-Goodwill

Email: office@stlukesumcmo.org





DECEMBER SERMON SERIES BY REV. DR. MIKE GILLEN: "Favorite Words"

1/07 All

1/14 Rely

1/21 Cross

1/28 Commands



DATED MATERIAL





Facebook.com/SaintLukesUMC



We want you to join in the conversation on Facebook!