

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Still Speaking

December 2021/January 2022

Sunday

Worship

10:00am.

Recorded services are available via Facebook.

Worship at St. Luke's

It has been a blessing to see so many people in the building as things start to get back to normal. If you have any questions about the safety protocols that we are following to keep everyone safe, please contact the church office.

Our worship services begin at 10:00 AM on Sundays. If you would prefer to participate virtually, you can join us on our St. Luke's United Church of Christ Facebook page at 10am on Sunday mornings so that we can still worship together. If you have any difficulty accessing the virtual worship services, please contact the church office.

Office Hours

9:30am-12:30pm

Monday—Friday

Weekly Updates

Keep an eye on our St. Luke's United Church of Christ Facebook page and our weekly emails to keep up to date on what's happening in our congregation. If you are not subscribed to the weekly emails and would like to get on the list, please contact the church office.

St. Luke's Staff

Ministers

All members

Pastor

Rev. Karen Barth

Music Director

Neva Polley Scott

Accountant

Cindy Scroggins

Custodians

Carole Watson

Council President

Barney Harting

Church Administrator

Alecia Simonis

Loaves and Fishes

St. Luke's next date to serve Loaves and Fishes is January 8. We will need 4-6 people to prepare and serve lunches. Please contact Steve Shetter or Carol Higdon if you are able to help.

Young Adults Mission and Ministry

The Young Adults Mission and Ministry group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM at various locations. Please contact Amelia Blankenkemper at ablankenbeker1@gmail.com for the location or any questions. When meeting downstairs at St. Luke's, please use the back parking lot entrance.

Church Donations

Thank you to all of you have sent in your pledges and donations to St. Luke's recently. As you continue to support St. Luke's mission of being a caring presence in Southern Indiana, please consider giving online by going to the link on our website at www.stlukes.cc. Or, you can mail your tithes and offerings to the church at 329 Walnut St. Jeffersonville, IN 47130.

Dear Congregation Members and Friends of St. Luke's,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! November 28 was the beginning of our new liturgical year. Advent is the first season of this new year, followed by the Christmas season which begins on December 25. The Christmas season lasts 12 days. Then we enter into the season of Epiphany on January 6 which lasts until Transfiguration Sunday, this year on February 27. During this whole time, we celebrate the coming of the light into the world and all that means. This year our Advent theme is "Bearing Good Fruit" and each week we will lift up readings and prayers to focus on the good news that is coming to us.

We celebrate Advent, anticipating the coming of Christ as the babe, the embodiment of innocence and love. Each week in worship we light the Advent Candle that symbolizes one of the principles upon which our faith is founded.

November 28 we light the Candle of Hope—Christ is our Hope in this world.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

December 5 we light the Candle of Peace—The Prince of Peace is coming to us.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. John 14:7

December 12 we light the Candle of Joy—Jesus is the joy of our salvation.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23

December 19 we light the Candle of Love—Jesus is the embodiment of love.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3:16

This Advent we enter a new time at St. Luke's as we **hopefully** move forward together to live into and spread the Gospel message. We can rest in the **peace** of Christ, even those of us who are grieving can know the **peace** of Christ that passes understanding. We **rejoice** that Christ has brought us to this time and place where we can **love** one another as Jesus as loved us.

Happy Holy Days to each of you.

God's peace and grace be with you.

Pastor Karen



**St. Luke's United Church of Christ Music Ministry
December 2021**

Choir Rehearsal Schedule
Wednesdays 7-8 pm - Sanctuary

December 1
December 8
No Rehearsal December 15
December 22

Handbell Choir Rehearsal Schedule
Wednesdays 6-7 pm - Director Bev Hurlbut

December 1
December 8
December 15

Virtual Children's Christmas Program

Children and Youth are invited to make a video that will be compiled into a virtual service that will be broadcasted in a watch party on St. Luke's Facebook page. Videos need to be submitted by December 12th. If you would like to be recorded at church, please stay after church on the 12th and we can record you then. Please see Kaitlyn Maloney or Neva Scott for information on how to upload your video.

Children's Chimes and Songs

Children will have a special part in our December 19th service. And, we hear that we may have some cookies and a visitor from the North Pole following the service! Children are invited to a special rehearsal on Saturday, December 18th 11 am to 12:30 pm. We will meet in the Sanctuary and learn a song on the chimes and sing a few Christmas carols. Pizza will be provided.

Advent Reflections

Advent reflection materials have been created specially for your use at home this Advent Season. The packet contains reflections for each week of advent as well as daily reflections. Each week's reflections will be emailed on Sunday mornings. If you would like a copy of the full packet, please contact the church office.

Welcome, Emily Carle!

Welcome to Emily Carle, our new ministry leader for Young Adult Ministry and Mission. Emily brings a richness of experience and perspective to her passion for ministry. Emily will be with us about 15 hours/month to help shape our young adult ministry. We are so pleased that she is joining us. Amelia Blankenkemper and Pastor Karen have already had very rewarding meetings with Emily and she has begun meeting with the Tuesday evening group. We look forward to our walk in the Spirit with her. Welcome Emily!

Emily Carle (she/hers) is a first year Master of Divinity student at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and a Member in Discernment with the UCC. She is originally from Central Connecticut, and she received her BA in Religion and Sociology from Mount Holyoke College in Western Massachusetts in May 2021. She has served in youth ministry, street ministry, and urban ministry in CT, MA, and Detroit, MI. Emily volunteers on the UCC's Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, the World Student Christian Federation-US leadership team, and the admin team for the non-profit organization Women in Youth Ministry. She enjoys trying new vegetarian recipes, watching sitcoms, and crocheting. Emily is excited to get to know the St. Luke's community, be part of the ministries here, and have some fun!

Missions & Growth Update

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a Special Mission Offering that congregations have been supporting for over 100 years. The offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards. Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks. The Christmas Fund Offering will be collected on December 12 and 19. If you would like to contribute to this offering, you can write a check or make a payment through Vanco, designating your offering for the Christmas fund.

Our Penny Wars for the Merom Pool was a great success! The deadline for donations has passed, but we don't have a final tally yet. As of November 21, we have collected \$3,903.31 towards repairs to the swimming pool at Merom. Thank you for your generosity!

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship meets on second Wednesday of every month. The next meeting will be December 8, 2021 at noon. Please bring a sack lunch and drink and meet us in Watson Hall. All women are invited to lift our spirits, share ideas and enjoy fellowship.

"Oh, What Fun!"



Join us on Sunday, December 19th after worship for a fun time of fellowship, food and a very "special guest". Please bring your favorite Christmas Cookies, Candies or Bread to share. We will provide drinks of Christmas Punch, Hot Cocoa, and maybe a cup of Wassail.

Faith & Fellowship Update

We are so excited to get back to some sort of normalcy at St. Luke's. We have missed our time gathering after church, socializing and enjoying our fellowship time over cookies and coffee. During the months of December and January we will begin having cookies and coffee during Fellowship time. If you are a person that likes to bake (or buy) we could use a couple dozen cookies each week. We would like to keep it simple each week and save our feasting for special occasions. We know how much we like to gather and eat so that will be planned for a future date.

BUT on December 19 we are encouraging everyone to bring in their favorite Christmas cookies/candies to share during Fellowship time AND Santa will make an appearance following the worship service on the 19th.

If you have a Sunday you would like to provide some cookies (2doz) Please let us know.

The following people have agreed to help with Fellowship Time during the coming year so please feel free to talk to them about a Sunday that will best fit your schedule... Beth Maloney, Kate Chaney, Doris Trinkle, and Faye Harting. I am so happy and lucky to be working alongside these beautiful ladies during 2022.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Bev Hurlbut
Faith and Fellowship



Children and Youth Ministry

Come join us for Sunday School! We will meet every other Sunday after the Children's Sermon.

Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting was held Sunday, November 21. Pastor Karen was approved as the Settled (permanent) Pastor of St. Luke's United Church of Christ. In addition to that wonderful news, the 2022 Council was selected, as well as two new Elders.

2022 Council

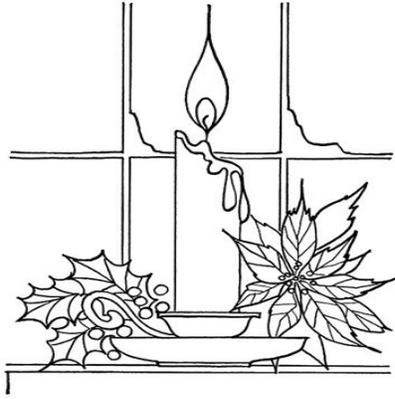
President—Barney Harting
Vice President—David Blankenkober
Secretary—JoEllen Blankenkober
Financial Secretary—William Watson
Treasurer—Peggy Hardaway

New Elders

Faith Steele
Linda Reinstedler

2022 Leadership Teams

Personnel Committee
Jack Vissing, Chair
Karen Spencer, Vice-Chair
Finance & Property Committee
Mike Campbell, Chair
Bill Maloney, Vice-Chair
Fellowship & Faith Formation Committee
Bev Hurlbut, Chair
Beth Maloney, Vice-Chair
Spiritual Life Committee
Carol Higdon, Chair
Linda Reinstedler, Vice-Chair
Mission & Evangelism Committee
Kate Chaney, Chair
Janet Turner, Vice-Chair



*Bethany United Church of Christ
cordially invites you to a*

*“Longest Night” Service
Sunday, December 19, 2021
5:00 PM*

“Longest Night” is a simple service of solace, hope, and peace especially for those who have suffered loss or those simply seeking “peace” during a hectic time of year. Whether you are grieving the loss of a loved one, are concerned about a loved one far from home, or share in a sense of “community” grief for all our common losses, you are welcome at this service of Scripture, hymns, and candle-lighting. The service will be followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship in our Community Room.

For more information or directions to the church, contact:

Rev. Ann Houlette

Bethany United Church of Christ

10400 Old Preston Highway 40229

502-969-6829 bethanyucclou@gmail.com

SILENT AUCTION

It's time to begin gathering items for the Silent Auction that will be held during the Sausage Supper in January. Some items that can be used in baskets are: Gift cards, Baking, Baby items, Cooking, Golf, Gardening, Kids games, Adult games, Evening out, Pamper yourself.

If you know of a company or organization that will donate an item, coupons or gift cards, please reach to them and ask for a donation. I'll be glad to provide you with a donation letter.

Check weekly news for updates.

Thank you in advance,

Bev Hurlbut

December Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|------------------|
| 1st | Drew Ellis | 19th | Rachel Byars |
| | Bud Jenkins | 22nd | Beth Maloney |
| 3rd | Marvin Bliss | 24th | Emily Cotner |
| 4th | Atlas Phan | | Mary Beth |
| 6th | Becky Haxton | | Woehrle |
| 9th | Steve Lopp | 25th | Jimmy Hardaway |
| 11th | Jacob Harting | | Steve Hensley |
| 13th | Erica Jefferson | | Rosie Sorrell |
| 16th | Peggy Hardaway | 26th | Savannah Spencer |
| | Todd | 28th | Bill Maloney |
| | Willenborg, Jr. | 30th | Kaitlyn Maloney |
| 18th | Keith Spencer | | |

January Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|----------------|
| 1st | Gary Steedly | 22nd | Harrison Eades |
| 4th | Ken Turner | 24th | Willie Watson |
| 10th | Catie Lu Sorrell | 25th | Butch Trinkle |
| 11th | Dibbs Harting | 26th | Linda Stirr |
| 12th | Elizabeth Vissing | 27th | Peggy Enteman |
| 14th | Marian Rider | | Carol Maloney |
| 16th | Timothy Bonner | 28th | Barbara Wilson |
| 18th | Faye Eades | 31st | Larry Coe |
| 19th | Lonnie Burns | | |

December Anniversaries

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 11th | Derek & Jennifer Ellis |
| 23rd | Steve & Angela Hensley |

January Anniversaries

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 21st | Michael and Lois Bliss |
|------|------------------------|

Please let the church office know if we have missed listing any birthdays or anniversaries.

December Loaves and Fishes

| |
|---------------------------|
| December 4—St. John Paul |
| December 11—Wall St. UMC |
| December 18—Cook Memorial |
| December 25—St. Augustine |

January Loaves and Fishes

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| January 1—First Christian |
| January 8—St. Luke's |
| January 15—Larry & Lyda Abell Group |
| January 22—St. Augustine |
| January 29—JHS Anchor Club |

The Book of Golden Memories list is now available in its entirety on the St. Luke's website at www.stlukes.cc.

St. Luke's Calendar December 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| | | | 1 Bell Choir 6 PM Choir 7 PM | 2 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 3 | 4 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 5 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM | 6 | 7 NA 7 PM Young Adults Group 7:30 PM | 8 Women's Fellowship 12 PM Bell Choir 6PM Choir 7 PM | 9 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 10 | 11 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 12 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM | 13 Finance & Property Meeting 6 PM | 14 Preschool 9:00 AM Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM NA 7:30 PM | 15 Bell Choir 6 PM Choir 7 PM | 16 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 17 | 18 Children's Chimes 11 AM Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 19 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Longest Night Service 5 PM | 20 | 21 Preschool 9:00 AM NA 7:30 PM | 22 Bell Choir 6 PM Choir 7 PM | 23 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 24 Church Office Closed Candlelight Service 7 PM | 25 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 26 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM | 27 | 28 Preschool 9:00 AM NA 7:30 PM | 29 Bell Choir 6 PM Choir 7 PM | 30 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 31 Church Office Closed | |

St. Luke's Calendar January 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------|---|--|---|--|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 2 Worship 10 AM | 3 | 4 NA 7 PM Young Adults Group 7:30 PM | 5 Choir 7 PM | 6 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 7 | 8 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 9 Worship 10 AM | 10 Finance & Property Meeting 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes Steering Committee 6:00 PM | 11 NA 7 PM Young Adults Group 7:30 PM | 12 Women's Fellowship 12 PM Choir 7 PM | 13 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 14 | 15 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 16 Worship 10 AM | 17 | 18 Preschool 9:00 AM Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM NA 7:30 PM | 19 Choir 7 PM | 20 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 21 | 22 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |
| 23/30 Worship 10 AM | 24/31 | 25 NA 7 PM Young Adults Group 7:30 PM | 26 Choir 7 PM | 27 Walking Group at Perrin Park 8:30 AM | 28 | 29 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM |

**ST. LUKE'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

329 Walnut St.
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Phone: 812-282-3383
Email: stlukesucc@hotmail.com
Website: stlukes.cc



*A friendly
family of
faith*

Follow us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/stlukesjeff

**No matter who you are
Or where you are
On life's journey,
*You're welcome here.***