

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Still Speaking

February and March 2023

Sunday

Worship

10:00am.

Recorded services are available via Facebook.

Worship at St. Luke's

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 or have any questions about the safety protocols that we are following to keep everyone safe, please contact the church office.

The Adult Sunday School class meets at 11:30 AM following Worship.

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 and

Sarah Poole

Council President

Kate Chaney

Church Administrator

Alecia Simonis

Sausage Supper

Our annual Sausage Supper is coming up on February 24. The easiest way to get the word out about this wonderful event is to go to the St. Luke's Facebook page and RSVP and share the event.

Young Adults Mission and Ministry

The Young Adults are beginning a Bible Study on the Book of Revelation. Pastor Karen will be leading while Emily is away. We meet Mondays at 8:15 pm both in-person in the St. Luke's basement and on Zoom: <https://mtholyoke.zoom.us/j/8645951635>. Please email Emily at emilyecarle@gmail.com to get the study guide PDFs. Schedule for January: 1/16: chapters 1-2, 1/23: 3-4. 1/30: 5-6. Further chapters will be announced in St. Luke's communications and in the Young Adult group chat.

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.

February/March 2023 Pastoral Letter

Dear Members and Friends of St. Luke's United Church of Christ,

As I look at the calendar, I contemplate that we are once again approaching our Season of Lent, the time when we delve deeply into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

As the bulbs are sprouting and pushing new shoots up through the ground, we see the possibility of new life. As we prepare for the reality of Christ entering the grave, we also know the hope of the resurrection—the possibility of new life in Christ.

As I have been preaching over the past several weeks, Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection is ongoing revelation. I believe the reality of Christ with us is a truth we can never fully grasp but one which we can keep walking more deeply into throughout our lives.

Each stage of our life presents us with special opportunities and abilities to know God in a very special way.

As children we have an openness to God's presence unobstructed by worldly cares and responsibilities. It is very important for our development that this openness be protected by the adults around us.

As youth and into young adulthood we have the energy of exploration and the sense of possibility that makes walking with Christ a joy and an adventure. That is probably why Jesus called so many of his apostles from among this age group.

As we accept the responsibilities of our late 20's and 30's we develop compassion that allows us to see our own and others limitations and practice acceptance and forgiveness.

In our middle age we learn perseverance and endurance; we can see more clearly the life-long nature of our walk of faith and appreciate the deepening nature of this walk.

As we dwell in our elder years, we have the opportunity for reflection and contemplation in a way we didn't in our more active years. This truly becomes the time to know God more fully.

Of course, this outline is no definite template and there is overlap of experience throughout our lifetimes. But hopefully, what we gain as we move forward in life is the ability to carry forward the wisdom we have gained in each previous stage of walking with God. Ultimately, we have to come to God as little children so we are always called to return to the openness we knew as little ones. This Lent, let us spend time reflecting on where we are in our faith journey and let us help each other in our walk.

"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully even as I have been fully known. And now, faith, hope, and love abide, and the greatest of these is love."

1 Corinthians 13:12-13

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you as you journey,
Pastor Karen



St. Luke's United Church of Christ Music Ministry February/March 2023

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Wednesdays 7-8 pm – Sanctuary

February 1

February 8

February 15

February 22 Ash Wednesday Service @ First Christian

March 1

March 8

March 15

March 22

March 29 *No Rehearsal*

Family Music Night Schedule

Wednesdays 6-7

February 8

February 15

February 22 *No FMN Activities*

March 1

March 8

March 22

March 29 *No FMN Activities*

Upcoming Special Dates

March 22 – Ash Wednesday

April 2 – Palm Sunday

April 9 – Easter

Ash Wednesday Service

Each year, St. Luke's and First Christian come together for a joint Ash Wednesday service. This year, the service will take place at First Christian (3209 Middle Road, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130). The choirs of both churches will come together to share music as part of the service.

Psalm 100:2-5

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

*Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.*

Know that the LORD is God.

*It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;*

give thanks to him and praise his name.

*For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.*

A Note from Our Council President

The church council had its January meeting last night with several new members who have brought much vitality to guide us through 2023. We discussed items that were started in 2022 and new items to be implemented in 2023.

The sanctuary renovation has started as can be witnessed by the removal of pews in the back. We hope all will be finished by Easter, but that may not happen.

Our Children and Youth team has great things planned for the new year.

Barney Harting, head planner for Sausage Supper, is making arrangements to bring everything back inside for dine-in eating pleasure. The basket auction is back. This means we will need more workers. Please let Barney or the church office know what day(s) you can help out: Wednesday, February 22 through Friday 24. Missions team leader Matt Mudd is getting yard signs ready and needs to know who is willing to put them in yards.

Faith and Fellowship leader Bev Hurlbut is counting on church members to help with after-worship service fellowship time. Please be willing to agree to bring something (desserts, fruit, vegetables) when she reaches out to you.

I look forward to serving as council president for the coming year and will listen to anyone who has ideas about making St. Luke's the church that God calls us to be.

Kate Chaney

Notes about the Pew Renovation

Some of the pews are already out of the sanctuary and being refurbished. As of the end of 2022, we had over \$60,000 in pledges and \$53,278 of that has been given already. We need about \$80,000 to do this project. Thanks to all that have pledged and given. And if you can give and have not given or pledged yet, please do that soon.

An idea that may help some: If you are at the age that you receive a Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA, you can give part or all of your RMD amount to the church TAX FREE. Check with your financial advisor.

For those that may be wanting to give but are short on resources with inflation, etc., consider giving up some nonessential spending for lent and give that to the pew fund. Every gift helps.

With the renovation of the pews and the new carpet, our sanctuary will be more inviting for many years. Thanks again to those that have already given and/or pledged.

The Building and Finance Committee

Sausage Supper 2023

It is that time of year again so mark your calendars for February 24, 2023. Time for us to make the sausage and fish, potato salad, au gratin potatoes and more. This year we hope to have a record year as we will be back to as normal as we can make it. We will have the dining room open for lunch and supper, deliveries for lunch, carry out, country store and we will have the silent auction back.

In the next week or so, I will be reaching out to get people lined up for making, cooking, cleaning, working, donating, and a plethora of other things to make sure we make this year our year to show Jeffersonville we are back in action and ready to serve our community to the fullest.

Now is the time to spread that word, I know that Matt Mudd has put information out on Facebook for all those on that platform. The easiest and probably the best way to help right now is to share that information on your profile, send it direct to friends and family.

I hope to see all those smiling faces of St. Luke's on the 24th and prior to make this year amazing for the sausage supper.

In Peace,
Barney Harting
Chair of Sausage Supper



Tara's Garden 2023: Bringing Spring

Tara's Garden 2023: Bringing Spring will be held Saturday, March 11 in Watson Fellowship Hall at St. Luke's beginning at 4 pm. Please join us for birthday cake, entertainment, fellowship and a silent auction to raise funds for good causes in memory of Tara Rose Willenborg.

Proceeds from this event are shared with three charities: Southern Indiana Animal Rescue, The Tara Willenborg Scholarship Fund which covers GED test fees for Clark County 16- and 17-year olds and St. Luke's for care of the memorial garden dedicated to Tara.

All are invited!

A Note from Our Student Pastor

I have missed everyone over my Christmas and January break! As many of you know, I am in Israel and Palestine for 2 weeks in January, and I am looking forward to sharing my experiences with you all. I am returning to my student pastorship in February, with 2/19, 3/12, and 4/23 penciled in as Sundays that I will be preaching.

Warmly,
Emily Carle, Student Pastor

Online Giving

We think it would be helpful to give an overview of how to use our online giving website.

When you go to our website, stlukes.cc, there is a “Make a Donation” button in the upper right hand corner. Click on this and it will take you to the St. Luke’s UCC giving page. If you have not yet created an account, go to the “Sign up” choice in the upper right-hand corner. Once you have signed up or logged in you can make your choices for giving.

Below are the categories to which you can give. For regular pledges, one suggestion is to give 80% to the general fund, 10 % to benevolences and 10% to the building fund. On the site, you must designate a dollar amount to a category. Choose the frequency of that amount (once, weekly, monthly, etc.) and place it in the basket. You then do the same thing for the next category. Then in the basket when you check out you will see each individual amount. You can give with a credit card or from your bank account. In addition to regularly scheduled giving you can give for special occasions anytime you want to. When you give online you will receive email acknowledgement of your total donation as well as quarterly and year-end statements.

Fellowship: Supporting all our fellowship activities like fellowship time after worship and special meals.

General Fund: Called current fund in the weekly bulletin. Supporting our current operating fund including staff salaries, custodial care, scheduled building care and regular maintenance, office expenses, utilities, council, and ministry teams. This is our biggest budget category.

Building Fund: For Intermittent building and campus maintenance and needs like elevator, door repair, parking lot, ice machine, air filters, some painting and plaster work.

Memorial Fund: Money given in honor of those who have passed. If undesignated, this can be used for any need.

Mission Fund: Supporting outreach mission and growth of St. Luke’s.

Capital Campaign: Supporting capital improvement projects, currently the sanctuary update project.

Benevolences: Supporting Center for Lay Ministries, Our Church’s Wider Mission of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference or special designated giving to outside charities.

Other: For any other designated giving and can include donations to the ministry teams not already listed: Children and Youth, Spiritual Life, Personnel and also things like our Member Care Fund [formerly Member Benevolence], Staff Gifts, Flower Purchases, etc. The comment section lets you designate your donation.

If in making your online donation you have any questions or need to change categories, please call our church administrator and she will be of assistance.

February Birthdays

2nd Mary Arbuckle
 5th Carol Campbell
 Cathy Mabry
 6th Dolly Pangburn
 Love Phan
 Joey Watson
 9th Kelley Curran
 12th Kara Emly
 Karen Barth
 13th Harold Frame
 Kim Hensley
 Kelsey Mathes
 Marge Cenower
 Steffanie O'Neal
 22nd Emily Simms
 23rd Cindi Roberts

March Birthdays

1st Sarah Poole
 7th Mike Campbell
 8th Amy Kempf
 9th JoEllen Blankenbeker
 11th Amanda Flatt
 13th Jack Ellis
 14th Bowie Wimberly
 18th Todd Smith
 Colleen Willenborg
 Bruce Eby
 19th Pat Barrow
 William Cotner
 23rd Carolyn Cardwell
 Julie Thornberry
 25th Sandy Smith

February Anniversaries

14th Ken & Susan Heibert
 Steve & Linda Reinstedler
 Barney & Becky Harting
 Stephen Ruffra & Faith Steele

March Anniversaries

21st Charles & Sherry Stem

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

February Loaves and Fishes

February 4 ROTC
 February 11 Tri Kappa
 February 18 First Presbyterian
 February 25 First Baptist

March Loaves and Fishes

March 4 First Christian
 March 11 St. James
 March 18 Matthew 14 Ministries
 March 25 St. Augustine

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 February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Choir 7 PM			Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
5 Worship, Communion 10 AM Annual Meeting 11 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	6 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 8:15 PM	7 NA 7 PM	8 Women's Fellowship 12 PM Children & Youth 6 PM Choir 7 PM	9	10	11 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
12 Worship 10 AM Confirmation 11:30 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	13 Cub Scouts 6 PM Finance & Property 6:30 PM Young Adults 8:15 PM	14 NA 7 PM	15 Children & Youth 6 PM Choir 7 PM	16	17	18 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
19 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	20 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 8:15 PM	21 Church Council 6 PM NA 7 PM	22 Ash Wednesday Service at First Christian 7 PM	23	24 Sausage Supper 11 AM	25 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
26 Worship 10 AM Confirmation 11:30 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	27 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 8:15 PM Boy Scouts 4 PM	28 NA 7 PM				

St. Luke's Calendar March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Children & Youth 6 PM Choir 7 PM	2	3	4 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
5 Worship, Communion 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	6 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 8:15 PM	7 NA 7 PM	8 Women's Fellowship 12 PM Children & Youth 6 PM Choir 7 PM	9	10	11 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM Tara's Garden Fundraiser 4 PM
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**ST. LUKE'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Jeffersonville, IN 47130

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Website: stlukes.cc



*A friendly
family of
faith*

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