

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Still Speaking

June/July 2021

Sunday

Worship

10:00am.

Recorded services are available via Facebook.

Worship at St. Luke's

We have begun worshipping in person again! It has been a blessing to see so many people in the building. If you have any questions about the safety protocols that we are following to keep everyone safe, please contact the church office.

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 Happenings

As we begin to open up the church, more events will be happening in the building. There will also be occasional check-ins via Zoom.

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

Eunice Oakes

Council President

Barney Harting

Church Administrator

Alecia Simonis

Children's Church

We will be starting Children's Church back up on June 6th. We are looking for someone to be the nursery attendant, when young children attend the weekly service. If you are interested in helping, please contact Shelly Watson at shelly.watson@twc.com or 502-548-1526 to fill out a background check.

Loaves and Fishes

St. Luke's next date to serve Loaves and Fishes is July 17. We will need 4-6 people to prepare and serve lunches. Please contact Steve Shetter if you are able to help.

Church Donations

Thank you to all of you have sent in your pledges and donations to St. Luke's over the past weeks. 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.

Pastor's Letter

Greetings to you all in the name of our Teacher, Savior and Word, Jesus Christ. I am so grateful for each and every one of you at St. Luke's. A little over three months into my time here, I am getting to know more of you and I am thoroughly enjoying participating in the life of the church.

In many ways, I experienced myself being lifted in the Spirited whirlwind of beginning with you in the Lent and Easter Season, resuming in-person worship and the slight disorientation that comes with participating in a new environment. But the whirlwind has set me down gently and I am glad to find myself at home here at St. Luke's.

As summer approaches, there are so many good things happening here that I can't begin to describe them fully. To name a few:

- We have resumed our children's ministry with Family Music Night and on June 6 we will be offering Children's Church during worship. Our campers are getting ready to attend Faith Journeys camp at Merom Camp in mid-June. And in July we will hold Vacation Bible School for children. Our theme this year is Discovery at Adventure Island. Look for more on this elsewhere in the newsletter.
- Our mission and evangelism committee is developing an outreach plan for young adults and we hope to offer young adult worship time this summer.
- A feasibility work group is being formed to look at our use of the side-lot and bring recommendations to the council.
- The Elders are meeting and providing pastoral support to me and to those in need in our congregation.
- Leaders have stepped forward to attend to the Spiritual Life components of worship and prayer.
- And a blessing indeed, we received a \$1075 sustainability grant from the Indiana-Kentucky Conference to fund our Vacation Bible School and resumption of Bible Study/Sunday School for both adults and children.
- June 3-5 in our Indiana-Kentucky Annual Gathering and July 11-18 is the United Church of Christ General Synod 33. Look for more on these in the newsletter as well.

Lot's of good things are happening here at St. Luke's! And. . . as we come out of the pandemic we are still taking stock of how we have been impacted by this past year and where we stand as a congregation. To that end, here in the newsletter you will find, and in the next weekly email there will be a link to a congregational resource questionnaire. We want to know how you are doing, what your needs are and how you are willing and able to participate here at St. Luke's. So please take a few moments to fill out this important questionnaire and return it to us.

As we head into our summer months, I urge you to attend to your Sabbath needs for worship and resting in God's presence. That is one focus you can bring to your vacation times to make them truly meaningful. But also, you can give yourself a vacation each week by attending worship here whether in-person or on Facebook. The church is here to attend to your spiritual needs. This summer, let yourself be a part of this care and celebration.

I am graced to be serving you in Christ's name.
Peace and grace be with you.

Pastor Karen

Council President's Letter

Greetings to Everyone,

I wanted to give you a little news from the past and hopefully some better news for the future at St. Luke's on our humble little corner in Jeffersonville.

First there has been a lot happening at St. Luke's in the past couple of months, and if you haven't been by then you should stop in and see, especially on Sunday now that we are back to in person services on Sundays. I would like to tip my hat to John Scott and his Tech Team, for the hard work, training, and continued service they are providing by putting the service on Facebook each and every week. Please thank them all when you see them.

Another thing, I think everyone knows but if you have not been watching services regularly or coming to the church, then you know that Rev. Karen Barth is serving us as our new Pastor at St. Luke's. She has really taken the bull by the horns and is moving St. Luke's on a solid pathway again.

Last thing about the past couple of months at St. Luke's. Sausage Supper, wow what an undertaking. I would personally like to thank Dibbs and his leadership and all those that participated in making this event successful. Please tip your hats to them, this was a major undertaking, they started to plan for a "normal" sit down service but then shifted as the pandemic was not where we all had hoped, but we did it as a church and were successful.

Now for a bit of the reading of the crystal ball for the next couple of months. As we progress into the summer months, I know that there are lots of activities, some which we did not get to do last year. But as we continue to see the cases of Covid decrease and the vaccinations increase, things are looking very good. I know a couple of teams are looking at some events for children, young adults, and all congregants. Should be an exciting summer.

As the pandemic moves its course downward, we are also looking to get ourselves back to a "normal", for the time being we will continue wearing masks in service but hopefully that will be an optional thing in the near future, and we can return to seeing everyone's smiling faces again.

Peace to All,
Barney Harting

Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to help with the following:

- To form a feasibility workgroup to help determine the best use of the side lot.
- Someone to chair the Spiritual Life team.
- Someone to chair the Faith & Fellowship (Hospitality) team.
- People to serve as Ushers and Liturgists for our Sunday Services.

If you are interested in helping out with any of these, please talk to Pastor Karen, or call the church office.



St. Luke's Music Ministry

Sing to the LORD a new song!
Sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD! Bless his name!
Share the news of his saving work every single day!
Declare God's glory among the nations;
Declare his wondrous works among all people because the LORD is great
and so worthy of praise.

Psalm 96:1-4 Common English Bible

Thank You!

Thank you to all the musicians who have shared musical talents as we made music for our worship services in creative ways as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. You rose to the challenges of virtual worship and worshipping in-person with safety protocols in effect. Thank you to all those who have and continue to worship with us at home, singing and humming along – worshipping in new ways. You are all greatly appreciated!!

Music Updates

Family Music Night held two sessions this Spring. We sang music, ate good food, and made fun crafts (tie dye shirts/masks & slime!). Thank you to Kate, John, Pastor Karen, and Shelly Watson for all your work in making this possible. Stay tuned for additional events that are in the planning stages.

For our worship service musicians, we continue to schedule musicians to lead our music from the choir loft this Summer. As restrictions decrease, we will evaluate our safety protocols and increase capacity as is recommended and approved as part of the church's overall safety plan in the pandemic. In person attendance is increasing and it is great to have the opportunity to be back together for worship.

As a related note, the musicians who share each Sunday work very diligently to select, prepare, and share music during the service. Positive feedback and encouragement are greatly appreciated. The moments following the service are not opportunities for negative feedback. If you have negative feedback that you believe is serious enough to warrant your sharing, Pastor Karen is available to hear your concerns.

The **Strengthen the Church** offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations were collected on May 23. If you would still like to donate, you can do so through ucc.org, or you can include your donation with your regular contribution.

As we come out of the pandemic we are taking stock of how we have been impacted by this past year and where we stand as a congregation. To aid in this effort, please take the time to fill out and return this questionnaire and mail it back to St. Luke's UCC, 329 Walnut St. Jeffersonville, IN 47130. The link to this questionnaire can also be found in the weekly email.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Address _____

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| art | homemaking | gardening | landscaping | reading |
| writing | athletic | gaming | computer | cooking |
| baking | electronic | photography | planning | music |
| listening | helping | | | |

6. What are you passionate about? (Circle any that apply and add your own.)

Sports	literature	movies	spiritual practice	nature
music	social justice	learning	education	children
youth	senior adults			

7. How much time are you willing to commit to your participation at St. Luke's? (circle all that apply)

A. Worship and Study

An hour for Sunday worship

Sunday School

Weekday Evening

Young Adult Saturday Worship

B. Volunteering

1 hour/month

2 hours/month

3 hours/month

1 hour/week

2 hours/week

More than 2 hours/week

8. Are there any specific teams, committees, or activities that you would like to volunteer with?

9. What would make your experience at St. Luke's better?

10. What do you like most about St. Luke's?

Sausage Supper 2021

Who says you can't teach old dogs new tricks??? Well, this year of COVID was a bother to some, very troubling for many and even catastrophic for many. For the Sausage Supper Committee that was formed in December, we were filled with enthusiasm and great ideas, but in reality, we didn't have a clue what to expect.

We met at least every two weeks (ZOOM meetings at that. Talk about old dogs and new tricks....) and changed our plans every two weeks. As April 23rd approached the harsh reality set in and we realized inside dining was not an option and plan B was born; all carry outs and deliveries – quite a dramatic change from 83 years of tradition.

The food preparation was a piece of cake as the seasoned pros all stepped up and did their thing without missing a beat. I say this partly in jest as it was a monumental task that they made look easy, but there were a lot of tired old bones at the end of the day. Now we had all this wonderful food, and were staring into the unknown; how do we get it to the hungry masses?

And then what some might say a miracle occurred. Our incredible 20 somethings stepped up and took over the packing, sorting, and compiling hundreds of meals going in all directions at once. I left the kitchen to see if we could get this chaos organized only to find everything humming along like a hive full of bees. Anyone concerned about the future of St. Luke's, just needed to see the next great leaders of our congregation bring their wits, wisdom and certainly vitality to the task.

When we established the budget for Sausage Supper last fall, we were very confident the COVID dilemma would be pretty much passed. Even when we decided to move the date to April and just do deliveries and drive through carry-outs, we were planning on serving about 1,000 meals. Unfortunately, that didn't occur. It may have been our regular customers didn't realize the date change or it could have been several competing events. It certainly didn't help having the surrounding streets under construction. Whatever the cause, we had a ton of food left over including over 400 pounds of sausage. Fortunately, we were able to sell most but more importantly, all of it went to good use.

The bottom line was that we only served 625 meals which is clearly the lowest in memory. Our budget for this year was a very ambitious \$20,825 and our actual total income was only \$13,500. But as I've said numerous times, the income is great and a good measuring stick. However, Sausage Supper is so much more than about the money. The fellowship, dedication, community involvement, and the joy of a job well done mean so much more. So in my humble opinion, after nearly 50 years of helping however I can, I think we hit a home run!

Five years ago, in a thank you note to the congregation I closed with the following: *"While this is truly a heartfelt thank you to the many, many members and friends of St. Luke's that make our long standing celebration possible, it is also a pointed reminder that the average age of the core staff responsible for the preparation of the supper is well over 75 years. If we hope to continue to grow, improve and even sustain this memorable tradition, a new generation is going to have to grab the reins. Is it now time for you to step up and be counted?"* If we learned nothing else from this year's experience, I believe our fine young folks have shown that they are willing, able and eager to step up to the task. Thanks be to God.

Dibbs Harting

There is still time to register for **Faith Journeys Camp at Merom**. Camp is being spread out a little this year to allow groups a little more space. Junior High (grades 7-9) camp is June 12-15, Senior High (grades 10-12) camp is June 15-18, Genesis (grades 3-6) camp is June 18-21. More information can be found at merom.org.

Scholarship applications for the Fall semester need to be turned in by June 15. You will need to fill out the application and agreement to receive the scholarship. Digital copies of these forms are available in the weekly email posted at stlukes.cc/weekly-email. If you would prefer, you can contact the church office for a copy of these documents or if you have any questions.

Our **Indiana-Kentucky Conference Annual Gathering**, "*From Sackcloth to Joy*", is coming up June 3-5. This event is virtual, and if we have several people from the church attend this event, we can have some additional group discussion. You can register for this event at <http://ikcucc.org/events/ikc-2021-virtual-annual-gathering>. Please see Pastor Karen for more information.

The **United Church of Christ General Synod 33**, "*Rooted in Love*" is July 11-18. This is the bi-annual gathering of the whole church with many inspiring workshops and worship opportunities. This is also a virtual event, and if we have several people from the church attend, we can have some additional group discussion. You can learn more and register at <https://www.generalsynod.org>.

The Center for Lay Ministries is in need of the following items: cereal, soup, granola bars, and hygiene products such as razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and deodorant. If you are able to donate, CLM is open at 213 E Maple St in Jeffersonville with drive-through donations 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. , or you can bring your items to the church office



Vacation Bible School and Family Music Nights at St. Luke's

Dates: Wednesday, July 14 and 21 from 6:30 PM—8:00 PM

and Sunday, July 18 and 25 from 11:15 AM—1:00 PM

With a closing program on July 25 at 1:00 PM

For children and youth in Kindergarten through 12th grade

Meals will be provided

Please Register:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Age & Grade: _____

Thank You!

- Doris Maloney would like to thank everyone that sent her cards for her birthday, and also thank everyone that was able to share in her birthday celebration after the church service.
- Thank you to the Indiana-Kentucky Conference for the Sustainability grant for \$1,075. that we will be using to grow and support Christian Education.
- Thank you to Becky Haxton for serving as Spiritual Life Chair.
- Thank you to Doris Trinkle for stepping up to help keep the altar beautiful.
- Thank you to Linda Reinstedler and Kerri Cline for lining up ushers for Sunday Services.
- Thank you to Carol Higdon and Kate Chaney for keeping the Prayer Chain informed of prayer requests from our church Family.

June Birthdays

2nd Kate Chaney
 4th Emily Abernathy
 15th Brandon Maloney
 17th Jennifer Reid
 21st Kirk Spencer
 22nd Leland Abernathy

June Anniversaries

8th Willie & Shelly Watson
 20th Charlie & Sandy Smith
 22nd Ken & Janet Turner
 27th Bud & Mary Ann Jenkins

July Birthdays

1 st	Lilly Feree		Braxton Poole
3 rd	Parker Hennegan	26 th	Martha Gilstrap
7 th	Joan Henderson	27 th	Tim Cheatham
18 th	Jason Smith	29 th	Chris Runyon
21 st	John Scott	30 th	Faith Steele
23 rd	Jennifer Ellis	31 st	Grant Oakes

July Anniversaries

9th Gary & Carol Maloney
 25th Lonnie & Susie Burns
 27th Dibbs & Faye Harting

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

June Loaves and Fishes

June 5	Larry and Lyda Abell Group
June 12	Wall St. UMC
June 19	St. Augustine
June 26	St. James

July Loaves and Fishes

July 3	First Baptist
July 10	Cook Memorial
July 17	St. Luke's
July 24	Faith Lutheran
July 31	St. John Paul

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

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> 7:00 PM	2	3	4	5 <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 11:30 AM
6 <i>Worship</i> 10:00 AM	7	8 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> 7:00 PM	9	10	11	12 <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 11:30 AM
13 <i>Worship</i> 10:00 AM	14 <i>Finance & Property</i> 6:00 PM	15 <i>Council Meeting</i> 6:00 PM <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> 7:00 PM	16	17	18	19 <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 11:30 AM
20 <i>Worship</i> 10:00 AM	21	22 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> 7:00 PM	23	24	25	26 <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 11:30 AM
27 <i>Worship, Camp Sunday, and Graduate Sunday</i> 10:00 AM	28	29 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> 7:00 PM	30			

St. Luke's Calendar

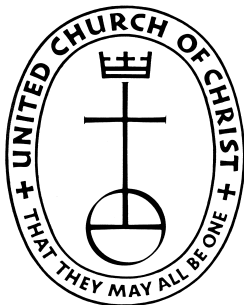
July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM
4 Worship 10:00 AM	5 Church Office Closed	6 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM	7	8	9	10 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM
11 Worship 10:00 AM Elders Meeting 11:30 AM	12 Finance & Property 6:00 PM	13 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM	14 Vacation Bible School 6:30 PM	15	16	17 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM
18 Worship 10:00 AM Vacation Bible School 11:15 AM	19	20 Church Council 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM	21 Vacation Bible School 6:30 PM	22	23	24 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM
25 Worship 10:00 AM Vacation Bible School 11:15 AM	26	27 Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 PM	28	29	30	31 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 AM

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

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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.***