

St. Luke's United Church of Christ

Still Speaking

August and September 2023

**Sunday
Worship**
10:00am.

**Adult
Sunday School**
11:30am.

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, 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

Sarah Poole

Grant Oakes

Council President

Kate Chaney

Church Administrator

Alecia Simonis

Upcoming Events

Church events and gatherings will be posted on the St. Luke's United Church of Christ Facebook Page, including morning worship, Sunday School, and Young Adults activities. You can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/stlukesjeff>. Whether you take part of something weekly or you have a one time event please reach out to Matthew Mudd mecmudd@gmail.com to have it added to our events page.

Loaves and Fishes

St. Luke's next date to serve Loaves and Fishes is September 2. We will need 4-6 people to prepare and serve lunches. Please contact Carol Higdon 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 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.

Pastoral Letter

Dear Church Family and Friends,

This fall for us at Saint Luke's we are looking forward to some sweet times. In August, as school has resumed, we are celebrating our children with Youth Sunday and Blessing of the Backpacks on August 6. In August worship we will be focusing on our stained glass windows and the teachings that they impart.

In September we will celebrate a month-long homecoming with varied events. Please invite everyone you know to come to church in person and celebrate with us. Look at the Homecoming Invitation in this newsletter for more information.

Also in September, Minister Emily Carle returns to us for nine months as Youth and Young Adult Pastor. During her time with us, Emily will be ensuring Christian Education and monthly youth activities for middle- and high schoolers. She will also resume her Young Adults activities. In her time with us, Emily will be cooperating with other church members to assume leadership roles for youth and young adults. Therefore, when she moves to her next calling, after her seminary graduation in May of 2024, our youth and young adult missions will be on solid footing.

As I write this letter, Japa and I are awaiting his stress test at Norton Hospital Dupont. Yesterday morning he experienced chest pain. After talking with his cardiology nurse, we called 911 when his pain returned and intensified. We were so relieved to find out from EMS and at the hospital that he was not having a heart attack. Thanks be to God for all the professionals who have been treating him (and me) with such care and concern. From first responders-firefighters and EMTs to doctors, nurses, aides of the ER, to the floor nurses, CNAs, hospitalists and cardiologists, respiratory, nuclear medicine, transfer, dietary, and housekeeping folks, I am grateful and amazed to contemplate all the people that are caring for my husband.

As I think of our church family, I think of those that have survived medical crises and those that have not. Believing in the next realm and having had a glimpse of it, I know that on the other side of death, there is something infinitely more wonderful than what we know here. But this life has been given to us to live as fully and lovingly as we can while we are here.

So let us treat each other with as much love and respect as we can muster at any given time. Let us practice forgiveness for ourselves and others when we fall short of acting with lovingkindness. As we participate in St. Luke's fall activities and worship, let us celebrate the sweetness and poignancy of every minute of our God-given lives, praising God and giving glory to the Great I AM in all that we do.

I am grateful to be yours in Christ as I hope for you the knowledge of all peace and grace that flows through the Holy Spirit from our loving God, our Father, our Mother, our Redeemer, our Brother.

Pastor Karen



St. Luke's Music Ministry August/September 2023



Kick Off 2023/2024 Music Season

The choir had a nice break from Wednesday rehearsals for the Summer. We have enjoyed duets, solos, Carol Johnson at the organ, and lots of beautiful music. As Summer moves along and we get ready to transition into Fall, our regular music activities are ready to kick off! If you are wondering if there is a place for you – the answer is yes! Whether you are a novice or an expert, we want you to join in the music fun. Music is for everyone and all are welcome.

Wednesday Music Schedule

*6 pm Family Music Night (All Ages Music and Craft Fun)
7 pm Choir Rehearsal*

August 2023

August 16
August 23
August 30

September 2023

September 6
September 13
September 20
September 27

Sunday Worship Music

The choir leads our worship music each Sunday. We warm up at 9:30. The service begins at 10 am. Come join us! Singers and instrumentalists welcome!

August 6, 13, 20, 27
September 3, 10, 17, 24



Homecoming

September is Homecoming Month

In September we will celebrate a month-long homecoming. Please invite everyone you know to come to church in person and celebrate with us.

- On **September 2** we will host Loaves and Fishes to kick off the Labor Day Weekend. Plan to be here for that not only to serve but to join in fellowship with our guests and each other.
- **September 10** is our Sanctuary Rededication Celebration. Indiana-Kentucky Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott will preach. We will place our donor plaque for the sanctuary and rename our multi-purpose room the Woehrle/ Neidenberger Room in honor of a major giving family.
- **September 17** is our Annual Picnic. We will move worship to Perrin Park for the day and highlight our September worship theme of caring for God's creation.
- **September 23** the Relay for Life walk will be held at the Big 4 Bridge at 4:00 PM. St Luke's will have a team and would love for everyone to join us and come walk around for the evening. More details can be found in the Fellowship article.
- And of course, **September 30** is our annual Oktoberfest celebration with all the expected fun from 4-7, enhanced this year by St. Augustine's evening of The Crashers and continuing the Oktoberfest celebration in their parking lot.

Children and Youth

August 6 is Youth Sunday! Youth of all ages are invited to participate in the presentation of worship on this Sunday. If you plan to be there, please email Emily Cotner (emilykay1224@gmail.com) or shoot her a text. 812-987-5056.

Blessing of the Backpacks is set for August 6 during worship. If you are a student or educator, bring your bag to church with you so we can send you back to school with a blessing, love, and encouragement for the school year.

Keep your eyes and ears open for an announcement about Trunk or Treat in October.



Pastor's Report on General Synod 34
June 30-July 4, 2023

This year, the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ had the honor and the challenge of hosting General Synod 34 (GS34).

Along with planning by national staff, the Conference provided volunteer and staff support to make the Synod happen. Additionally, you as the conference created over 850 prayer shawls and raised over \$79,000.00 to make Synod a success. Our Kyana Association Moderator, Samantha Barrett was a major influence as she co-chaired the local arrangements committee, ensured, through her dad, John, shuttle services for volunteers, and, along with Rev. Ken Rose of St. Marks, provided care and programming for all the 68 UCC youth at Synod.

Every two years (every three years starting in 2025 per the delegates' change of the UCC by-laws) delegates from throughout the United Church of Christ gather to do the work of representing the United Church of Christ to the larger world. Through the passage of resolutions that are brought by churches to the synod for consideration, by amending national bylaws, by receiving reports, and by electing national officers the delegate body represents all of us.

Along with the business of the church, the Synod is enlivened by worship opportunities, by the vendor's area that boasts all kinds of adjunct ministries and support for ministers and ministries, by special meals where different issues pertinent to church life are highlighted, and by the keynote address.

This year's keynote address was delivered by the eloquent Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber who called us to four areas of discipleship, especially focusing on forgiveness of self and others.

Worship and devotions punctuated each day. Our beloved Emily Carle contributed to the planning process for the morning devotions.

The delegate body considered 2 prudential resolutions and 14 resolutions of witness, passing all but 1 of them after much work to create amendments to the resolutions that would best reflect the overall ethos of the United Church of Christ.

Prudential resolutions establish "policies, institut(e) or revis(e) structure or procedures, and authoriz(e) programs within the wider Church." GS34 passed both prudential resolutions.

Because of United Church of Christ polity, resolutions of witness are not binding on any individual or particular church setting such as local churches, associations, or conferences. Rather, resolutions of witness ask each setting to consider the deliberations and affirmation of the delegate body. Each setting is then asked to consider our covenantal response to the resolutions of witness.

To review the resolutions please go to this link: <https://generalsynod.org/proposed-resolutions>. Here you can see the original resolution and the resolution as amended. After

vigorous debate on many of them, the only resolution that failed to pass was the one calling for churches and individuals to move to a plant-based diet. In our weekly emails and future newsletters, I will highlight the resolutions of witness and contemplate how we at St. Luke’s might respond to them.

As you review the resolutions, please let me know your response to them. If we have enough people interested, we could even form a response team that could bring recommendations to our council for how we might live into some of these resolutions.

The United Church of Christ continues to be a spearhead for looking at and leading on social justice issues and many of the resolutions reflect that. We at the local church level are challenged by these resolutions to consider our own calling and ability to enact God’s call to justice wherever possible. With our move to General Synod happening every three years, it is my hope that our ability to respond will move at a more manageable pace and we can truly live into our UCC covenant and motto—that we may all be one.

Thank you for entrusting to me the responsibility of General Synod 34 witness and participation. I look forward to how the work of GS34 can enliven our congregation in the next two years.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Karen Barth

Benevolence Fund Distributions

St. Luke’s has a Benevolence Fund that we distribute quarterly. We send contributions to causes as specified, and any unspecified funds are distributed evenly between The Center for Lay Ministries and the UCC Our Church’s Wider Mission fund. Thanks to the generosity of the St. Luke’s congregation, we have given financial support to many causes near and dear to our hearts so far this year. Our first quarter distributions totaled \$2,569.80. Our second quarter distributions totaled \$3,215.16.

Here is the distribution of the second quarter funds:

\$	10.00	Easter Fund
\$	40.00	Lenten Fund
\$	50.00	Miscellaneous Benevolences
\$	165.00	Strengthen the Church
\$	90.00	Center for Lay Ministries
\$	100.00	Neighbors in Need
\$	80.00	One Great Hour of Sharing
\$	120.00	General Synod
\$	409.76	Crusade for Children
\$	200.00	Relay for Life





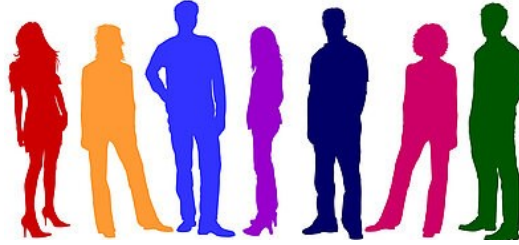
Greetings and Blessing to all, it is that time again to dust off your dirndls and lederhosen for another year with St. Luke's Oktoberfest celebration. Mark your calendars, spread the word, and bring a friend, on September 30, 2023, we are planning on a bigger celebration than before.

This year's Oktoberfest is hopefully going to be bigger and better than last year's; we will have the Oom-pah band playing German favorites, great Oktoberfest beers on tap in the Bier Tent. Then let's talk about all that great food that we will be serving, homemade bratwurst and knockwurst, homemade German Potato salad, sauerkraut, and more. It is time to start getting yourself ready and spreading the word to all your neighbors, friends, and family. We will need some help and will have plenty of opportunities to help with planning, preparing, serving, cleaning up, and most importantly providing a superb Oktoberfest experience for Downtown Jeffersonville.

The other part of Oktoberfest will be that we are collaborating with St. Augustine to basically take up the whole block and be festive after dark. They will have some things for sale, but their big event will be they have the Crashers coming to play at 730. We will have our Bier Tent open for those who don't want to be in front of the stage but still want to listen.

Danke und auf wiedersehen fur jetzt,

Barney Harting



Young Adults Mission and Ministry

St. Luke's Young Adult Ministry and Mission group will meet at 6:00 PM on Mondays. The group participates in a variety of activities, including, bible study, book study, litter pickup, bowling, attending baseball games, and board games. The group is open to all young adults ages 18-35. You don't have to be a member of St. Luke's to participate or have any Bible experience. All young adults are welcome. Please contact young adult leader JP Schill, at (828) 785-2831, or Matt Mudd at mecmudd@gmail.com with any questions or would like to be included in the Young Adults group text.

A Note from the Council President

Summer may be winding down, but things around St. Luke's are going into high gear. Please read all the articles submitted by our committees in this newsletter to find out what is happening, from children's activities to food experiences to Oktoberfest.

September has been dubbed Homecoming Month at St. Luke's because exciting things are happening that we hope will bring many people, especially those family members who have been absent for a while, back to reunite with those we see regularly. Two of the events are the dedication of the newly refurbished sanctuary and the renaming of the multipurpose room to the Woehrle Room.

Please continue to keep St. Luke's in your mind and heart so that our church can do God's work here on earth, especially in Jeffersonville and Clark County.



WE GIVE TO HELP CHANGE LIVES

As we come upon the time of Stewardship, where we pledge to help support the works of St. Luke's financially, it is a good time to look at how St. Luke's changes lives through the generosity of the community.

What are some of the examples of how we do this at St. Luke's? St. Luke's provides the place and the leadership for the Loaves and Fishes program - a community program where people that need a meal on Saturday can come and be fed. We are one of the founding churches for a food pantry, Center for Lay Ministries, and we still support CLM with money and needed items. We provide a place for Narcotics Anonymous to meet and help people overcome addiction. The Cub and Boy Scouts have been meeting at our church for the last few years. Our children and young adults have financial help available to help pay for church camp, and our confirmands have a program that can help pay for their higher education.

On a broader stage, we also support Relay for Life, Crusade for Children, Our World Christian Mission, One Great Hour of Sharing, and more. These are life-changing and life-saving missions. Your giving allows St. Luke's to help change lives in our church, in Jeffersonville, and in the world. St. Luke's has been changing lives since 1860. Help us continue to be a life-changing, giving, Christian church.

Fellowship

We have a lot of fellowship opportunities planned for the next few months. If you would like to help out, or if you have ideas for things we can do as a congregation, please contact Bev Hurlbut.

Dessert Auction! During the month of September we will be collecting for Relay for Life! We will kick it off with a Dessert Auction, following the service on August 27th. Bring your favorite dessert in a GIVE AWAY container and let's raise some money!!!

Church Picnic - Outdoor Worship and the church picnic will be held at Perrin Park on September 17th with Worship beginning at 10:00 am. Meat will be provided so bring a side dish and a chair. We will be in the smaller shelter by the playground.

Relay for Life - Relay for Life will be held at the Big 4 Bridge on September 23 beginning at 4:00 PM. St Luke's will have a team and would love for everyone to join us and come walk around for the evening. If you would like to make a donation, we will have a collection at church, or you can donate online using Emily Cotner's page at <https://bit.ly/3Y6RK3P>. If you are survivor, we would like for you to sign up for the Survivor Parade. You can find more information at www.relayforlife.org/ClarkIN.

Opportunities to Help with Fundraising

We have two big fundraisers throughout the year: Oktoberfest in the Fall, and Sausage Supper in late winter or early spring. We can always use the congregation's help in ensuring the success of both of these fundraisers. Here are a couple of things you can help with :

Supporters for our Ad Booklets

Our Ad Booklets are an easy way to support the church. We sell ad space in our booklet ranging from \$50 for a 2"x4" ad to \$200 for a full-page color ad. The ad booklets are distributed with the meals we serve, so they reach a wide audience. If you or someone you know would like to put an ad in the booklet for Oktoberfest or Sausage Supper, please contact Barney Harting or the church office.

Auction Items for Sausage Supper

Sausage Supper seems so far away, but it's only 7 months. Please start looking for ON SALE items to use in auctions baskets for Sausage Supper. When a season/holiday ends there are always some very good deals. Also, start asking area businesses if they have any items they would like to donate.

August Birthdays

2nd	Porter Kempf	12th	Larry Enteman	22nd	Becky Harting
3rd	Shelly Watson		Kelly Khuri		Tracie Olivera
6th	Sherry Stem	13th	Sara Sharp	23rd	Molly Cotner
7th	Raelyn Cardwell	15th	Eden Kuhlenschmidt	24th	Derek Ellis
9th	David Blankenbeker	16th	Malisa Morlen		Japa Buckner
11th	Stiles Poole	19th	Becky Clements	30th	Janet Turner
					Dwight Lindsay

September Birthdays

1st	Bonnie Sidebottom	10th	Brandon Reid	17th	Savannah Yatalese
	Kennedy Cozzin	11th	Justin Tarter	19th	Angela Hensley
6th	Jodi Shetter	12th	Todd Willenborg	21st	Aaron Thornberry
7th	Stephen Reas		Natalie Mabry	22nd	Bentlee Tarter
	Dan Tucker	15th	Susie Burns	23rd	Barney Harting
8th	Linda Godsey		Susan Altis	25th	Richard Bratcher
9th	Bev Hurlbut		Elsie Kallbreier	26th	Eunice Oakes
	Carmon Cozzin	16th	Robert Tarter	28th	Sharon Thompson
			Mary Ann Jenkins		

August Anniversaries

3rd	Karen Barth & Japa Buckner
17th	Kirk & Winnie Spencer
18th	Jason & Emily Cotner
24th	Chris & Laura Runyon

September Anniversaries

28th	Brett & Faye Eades
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Please let the church office know if we have missed listing any birthdays or anniversaries.

August Loaves and Fishes

August 5	Larry & Lyda Abell Group
August 12	First Baptist
August 19	First Christian
August 26	St. Augustine

September Loaves and Fishes

September 2	St. Luke's
September 9	St. John Paul
September 16	Larry & Lyda Abell Group
September 23	First Presbyterian
September 30	Wall St. UMC

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

August 2023

STILL SPEAKING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NA 7 PM	2	3	4 Boy Scout Court of Honor 6 PM	5 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
6 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	7 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM	8 NA 7 PM	9	10	11	12 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
13 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	14 Cub Scouts 6 PM L & F Mfg. 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM Finance/Property 6:30 PM	15 Church Council 6 PM NA 7 PM	16 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	17	18	19 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
20 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	21 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM	22 NA 7 PM	23 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	24	25	26 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
27 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	28 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM	29 NA 7 PM	30 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	31		

St. Luke's Calendar

September 2023

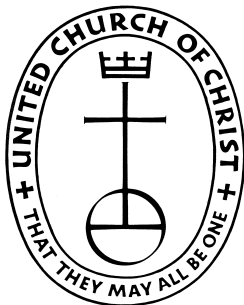
STILL SPEAKING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
3 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5 NA 7 PM	6 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	7	8	9 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
10 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Elders Mtg 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	11 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM Finance/Property 6:30 PM	12 NA 7 PM	13 Women's Fellowship 12 PM Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	14	15	16 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM
17 Outdoor Worship/ Church Picnic 10 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	18 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM	19 Church Council 6 PM NA 7 PM	20 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	21	22	23 Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM Relay for Life 4 PM
24 Worship 10 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Boy Scouts 4 PM	25 Cub Scouts 6 PM Young Adults 6 PM	26 NA 7 PM	27 Family Music 6 PM Choir 7 PM	28	29	30 Oktoberfest Loaves & Fishes 11:30 PM

**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.***