

September 2019

The Visitor



Sunday, September 1:
Purchase with a Purpose

Monday, September 2:
Labor Day; Church Office Closed

Saturday, September 7:
No Saturday Worship

Sunday, September 8:
One Worship Service at 10 AM;
Celebration Sunday;
Ice Cream Social 3—6 PM

Sunday, September 15:
Pyansky Egg Demonstration and Lunch
at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room

Sunday, September 22:
Community Meal from 4—5:30
in the Social Hall

Tuesday, September 24:
Marine Auxiliary hosting a Blood Drive
from 3—7 PM

Sunday, September 29:
Blessing of the Pets worship & picnic
at 11 AM at the St. Lucas pavilion

St. Lucas UCC **Promise Statement:**

St. Lucas UCC members,
united in Christ and led by
the Holy Spirit, strive to live
faithfully, grow spiritually
and serve lovingly all of
God's creations.



St. Lucas UCC **Mission Statement:**

St. Lucas UCC unites
Christians in the worship of God and
affirms life-long Christian
education, faithful discipleship and
caring service in God's name.

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All Hands on Deck

A big THANK YOU to all of those who have already generously pledged to our All Hands On Deck campaign! As of August 28th, we have 28 people who have pledged a total of \$64,595.00!

WE are calling for ALL HANDS ON DECK to ensure St. Lucas UCC can continue Christ's work into 2020 and beyond...Please consider making a pledge to give to the General Fund ABOVE AND BEYOND your normal giving for the remainder of 2019.

Brochures are available in the Welcome Center.
Or, visit: www.stlucasucc.org/allhandsondeck

Nominating Committee Volunteers

As you know it takes all of us to come together to be a successful church and be the hands and feet of Christ. Church Council is actively looking for volunteers to assist with the nominating process for specific church committees for the 2020 calendar year and beyond:

- Church Council
- Cemetery Board
- Preschool Board
- Lay Delegates
- Perpetual Endowment Trust

If you would like to learn more, be part of the nominating process, or volunteer for any of the following committees, please contact Russ Cottle, Barb Beck, Debbie Ball, Cynthia Rosfeld, Jill Meyer or Gregg Heutel. You can also reach out to Church Council at council@stlucasucc.org.

Adult Ed

Join us on Sundays at 10:10 AM on September 15, 22 and 29 for Creeds and Councils led by Adam Ployd, Assistant Professor of Church History and Historical Theology, Eden Seminary.

Description: What is a creed? Why did councils write them? Is this how theology went wrong? Come find out! We'll discuss the earliest uses of creeds in scripture and in baptismal rituals, the emergence of "ecumenical" creeds developed by councils to settle conflict, and some creeds whose origin we don't really know. We might find that creeds, though stifling at first glance, might be freeing and helpful to the individual life of faith.



Stewardship Update from August 8, 2019 by Don Lang

Hello folks! School has started...where has our summer gone? As of the end of July, the St. Lucas General Fund revenue for the year is \$543,035 for the year. Expenses over that same period were \$548,545, resulting in a negative balance of -\$5,511. Another financial instrument we look at is our Cash Asset Account. As you recall, a few years ago, we received a significant gift from the Ann Goddard estate which has helped tide us over the last year and a half. When we started the year on January 1st, we had \$276,594 in the Cash Asset Account and as of July month end close, we stood at \$285,809, a positive of \$9,215 dollars for the year. Part of this is due to no longer paying for a Sr. Minister, and having only a part-time assistant minister, as well as, a \$19,792 Perpetual Endowment payment to our general fund. So, if you can't make it to church please mail in your offerings to Pam Russo so we can continue to support the church, the community, and our congregation. Also, don't forget our All Hands On Deck campaign and your gifts to the general fund. If you have any questions always feel free to reach out. My cell phone is 314-807-4551 or email me at delang2@sbcglobal.net. Let's all try to build a healthy positive financial picture for the church. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Donald Lang, D.Sc.
Financial Secretary

Cool, Safe & Dry Update from August 8, 2019 by Don Lang

Hello folks! It's August, and school has started for the kids and grandkids. Really...Really. We continue to make slow, steady progress on our capital campaign. To date, we have collected \$733,644 in donations, we have \$8,542 in pledges for years 2019-2020 and we have a \$100,000-dollar loan from the Rott foundation (\$79,098 remaining to be paid back,) which is not included in the donations number above. As we may all remember, our overall goal for the 5-year, 5-phase projects is now \$855,000.

So here is where we stand...we have funded the first-phase projects which are complete. We are now fully funded for the second-phase project, the back parking lot, at \$250,000. If you have been to church lately, (and I hope you have,) you may have noticed that the Building and Grounds Committee has laid the asphalt on the back part of the parking lot and just in time. Last week, Sunday's services needed the resurfaced parking lot because church was packed to hear our terrific young men and young women tell us about their mission trip! I hope you all could attend because it was a beautiful, positive, uplifting service. Thank you, mission students, for your service. A few things are left to be finished on the parking lot and we can put a great big checkmark on this project. The third project, the Education Building HVAC, with a goal of \$78,000, crossed the line at the end of 2018 and is now also 100% funded. The Building and Grounds Committee has started working on the detailed specifications for this project. To top this off, the fourth phase, the Social Hall ceiling and floor, with a goal of \$50,000, is now 81% funded. Great progress all around the church everyone!

If you would like to give to the campaign, simply put your donation in an envelope and identify that you would like it to go to the Cool, Safe and Dry Campaign. Also, if you made a pledge for 2018 and 2019, and didn't get around to making your donation, we would welcome your commitment in 2019. All these efforts will go a long way in revitalizing our church. Thank you to all of you who have given and those who plan to give. We appreciate everyone's gifts. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Donald Lang, D.Sc.
Cool, Safe, and Dry Committee

Weekends at St. Lucas UCC

Saturday

5:00 p.m.

Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

Sunday

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Child Care, Birth-age 2

Room 232

9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

Church School,
ages 3-5th Grade

Social Hall/Classrooms

Middle School Discussion

Sanctuary/Youth Room

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

coffee, juice, milk & donuts!

Social Hall

11:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

Sanctuary



Sept. Benevolence: Oikos Karanga Siagi

OKS Inc. is partnering with Oikos-Household of Faith to employ adult orphans from their program to manufacture and deliver peanut butter based supplement to malnourished children.

O – stands for the Greek word "oikos" which means family

K – stands for the Kiswahili word "karanga" which means peanut

S – stands for the Kiswahili word "siagi" which means butter

Oikos Karanga Siagi = Family Peanut Butter

What is it?

Peanut butter based ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) is an energy dense edible paste that is stable and contamination resistant at room temperature. A simple bakery mixer is used to combine powdered sugar, powdered milk, vitamins & minerals, vegetable oil, and peanut butter. This is then packaged into individual daily usage containers.

Why these ingredients?

Due to their susceptibility to illness, hospitalized children in crowded pediatric wards are likely to acquire a life threatening infection before attempts at returning them to good nutritional health are effective. Peanut butter based RUTF is calorically dense and stable at room temperature with a shelf life of up to 2 years. This enables caregivers to treat children at home and avoid further exposure to infections. Studies in other areas of Africa have shown success rates of 90% in restoring these children to typical weight-to-height ratios in an average treatment time of 8-12 weeks.

The People of the City of Oyugis

- 350,000 inhabitants in the district
- 77% live below the poverty level
- 1 in 8 is an orphan under the age of 17
- 74,000 are less than 4 years of age
- 67% of these children are food deficient

The production of RUTF benefits the whole community malnourished children who receive the supplemental food young adult orphans from Oikos: Household of Faith who will be employed while also being encouraged to finish school local peanut farmers who sell their peanuts to us.

Join us in church on September 15th to learn more about this organization from Dr. Marty Schmidt. Contributing to the General Fund will support Oikos!

Women's Fellowship Kickoff Meeting

Dear Women's Fellowship Ladies,

Welcome back! We are happy to have a wonderful year planned. This is the beginning of a joyful celebration of the 130th year of Women's Fellowship at St. Lucas. The March gathering will be our formal 130th anniversary celebration, but we will be thinking of this great achievement all year.

Our first meeting will offer music by the Jumping Fleas and a program "A Woman's Look at St. Lucas UCC" given by Joy Dressel. Women always have been an important part of the success of St. Lucas and we will continue to do our part. Remember all are welcome, bring a friend.

As in the past and much enjoyed...we will start our year with a salad luncheon. So bring your favorite salad to share and we will all be anxiously lining up at the table!

Also as has been our custom, we will be continuing our collection of personal hygiene items, bathroom tissue and feminine products as well.

Come join the celebration as we thank our Lord for all our gifts. Mark your calendar for September 4 at 11 AM.

Did You Know? An Update from the Diversity Team

Open and Affirming is the way many in the United Church of Christ (UCC) declare welcome and inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), same gender loving (SGL) persons into the full life and ministry of the church.

The message of love and compassion, justice and peace are at the very core of the life and ministry of Jesus. Open and Affirming (ONA) ministries and resources are rooted in that Gospel message. The testimonies of these ministries proclaim the truth of God's power to transform cultures of hate and violence into communities of healing and reconciliation. They give witness to God's continuing testament and how the gifts of God are being liberated for service in the world.

The first national UCC body to affirm civil rights for LGBT people did so in 1969. The Council for Christian Social Action, a predecessor body to Justice and Witness Ministries adopted the "Resolution on Homosexuals and the Law." In 1972, the UCC ordained the first openly gay person into ministry, the Rev. William R. Johnson. In 1985, the UCC's General Synod declared itself to be "open and affirming" and called upon all settings of the church to become similarly poised to welcome LGBT persons as full members of the church.

Although not everyone in the UCC is of the same mind concerning human sexuality, the Open and Affirming movement for full inclusion of LGBT persons continues to spread throughout all aspects of our denomination's life and witness. The values that shape the ministry and witness of UCC are:

- Continuing testament
- Extravagant welcome
- Changing lives

*https://www.ucc.org/lgbt_about

ST. LUCAS UCC'S *Ice Cream Social*

IS BACK ON CELEBRATION SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 8, 2019; 3 - 6 PM

COME CELEBRATE!

During our worship service on Celebration Sunday weekend, we'll kick-off our educational & fellowship program year. Then, we'll return on Sunday afternoon for food, fellowship and FUN!

Join us for a cupcake walk, pony rides, family games, and much more! Tickets are on sale Sunday mornings beginning August 18th. (They will also be available in the church office, at the event entrance and online.)

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Sign up to donate cupcakes on the Welcome Center bulletin board! You can pick up cupcake holders at the ticket sale table beginning August 18th. Bring your cupcakes to the church the morning of September 8th.

Day of event volunteers are needed to help with set-up and take down. We also need volunteers to help us at various stations for 1/2 hour shifts during the event. Sign up on the Welcome Center bulletin board.



**TED
DREWES**
FROZEN CUSTARD

\$8 Adults
\$5 for Kids 3-12
Under 3 are free!
(Includes food and
games/activities)



**WE ARE
THE CHURCH**
ST. LUCAS UCC

*Transforming lives
as the hands and feet of Christ*

QUESTIONS? WILLING TO VOLUNTEER?

Reach out to Lauren Hoggatt at laurenhoggatt@gmail.com.

DON'T FORGET YOUR LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS!

Bible Study for Parents of Youth and Young Adult Children

When our children have reached their Confirmations and then beyond, there is a shifting of gears in family faith life. At their Baptisms, before they could do so for themselves, we took vows on their behalf. Now, as young people, they are "confirming" those vows, the ones we made. It's a changing of the guard. Their faith life becomes their own, their discipleship path too as they go forth on mission trips and away to school and establish their own households. And as their role changes, so too does ours. How will we parent these emerging young church members? Christians, now of their own profession.

Join us on Thursdays at 7 PM in the South Narthex starting on September 5th for Bible Study with Rev. Kelly Archer.

Questions? Contact Rev. Kelly at karcher@stlucasucc.org.

20 Somethings Group

Hey there! We're looking to develop a 20 Somethings group. We know how hard it can be to feel connected to a faith community in your 20s. Promise. It's hard to find a community post-college and pre-family (or maybe with a young one!). Please complete the interest survey below to help us create a group that better fits your lifestyle, needs, and ultimately you.

<http://bit.ly/stlucas20>

Egg Demonstration

During September St. Lucas is sharing the "Simple Gifts" sent to us by God. We have many talented members who are sharing their gifts through visual arts, music, and language. Please join us for a rare opportunity to explore a rare art form- pysanka. A pysanka is a Ukrainian Easter egg, decorated with traditional Ukrainian folk designs using a wax-resist method. The word pysanka comes from the verb pysanka, "to write" or "to inscribe", as the designs are not painted on, but written with beeswax.

Katherine Wind Alexander is the creator of amazing works of art called pysanka. We are blessed with her offer to conduct a seminar on the process and see her display of these eggs. She will join us on **Sunday, September 15th. We will gather at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room for a free will offering lunch followed at noon by the presentation.** In order to plan the correct amount of food, please sign up in the welcome center or online at: <http://bit.ly/stlucaseggdemo>

Join us for our September Series

This September, our Sermon Series will celebrate the Gifts of the Spirit; Gifts from God, for God. We will be showcasing the many talents of our congregation! See you in worship!





BLESSING OF THE PETS

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 11 AM - 1 PM
AT THE PAVILION AT ST. LUCAS UCC***

Bring a lawn chair and join us for Blessing of the Pets! We will have a blessing and then a free picnic will follow.


Each pet that is blessed will receive a blessing tag and certificate.

We will have many special guests that day, including:

 St. Louis Country K-9 Team

 Stray Rescue

 Dr. Laura E. Kee DVM


 The St. Louis Bulldog Rescue

 Needy Paws Rescue

 The Senior Dog Project

 The Humane Society of Missouri

 Gateway 4 Paws

 The Criminal Justice Ministries

Tell your family and friends. Everyone is welcome - Two legged, four legged and even those with fins!**

* In case of inclement weather, the blessing will be held in the church Social Hall.

** Safety is first. Please bring your pet properly restrained on a leash or lead, in a cage or kennel.

Caring Ministry Update by Rev. Kelly Archer

Are You Away from Weekly Worship?

Our Caring Ministry committee would love to help you stay connected to your church, even when you are no longer able to be present. Please contact Pastor Kelly (314 814-6119) if you would like to:

- Receive the Sunday Sermons on DVD through the mail
- Receive a Care Partner from the Congregation for regular visits and phone calls
- Receive Homebound Communion from a member of the pastoral staff

Are You NOT Away from Weekly Worship?

Caring for one another is what we do. It's how our hands and feet are transformed into the hands and feet of Christ. Please consider sharing the gift that is you with a fellow church member who is no longer able to be active in our common life together. Contact Pastor Kelly (314 814-6119) if you would like to:

- Make someones day simply by stopping by or calling to saying hello
- Model Christian discipleship for your children and grandchildren
- Love your neighbor as yourself

Parts of St. Lucas We'd Like to Forget by the Heritage Committee

Conflict and serious financial issues. These are not the kinds of things that get more than a brief mention in a church anniversary booklet. They happen though. When St. Lucas' sanctuary was first built, it was standard in this area to have an outhouse away from the building. Later, when indoor plumbing came into the area, it was added to the parsonage next door, but not to the church building itself. The idea of adding a bathroom to the church building was controversial. It would cost a lot of money and it's distasteful! It's not appropriate to respond to "the call of nature" in the Lord's House! We can chuckle about that controversy now, but we have had other difficult times through the years that will never seem the least bit humorous.

In the late 1970's, we had a senior minister and an associate minister that both had strengths and supporters within the congregation, but could not seem to work together. It was a difficult time, and both ministers were eventually simultaneously asked to resign. Some members left the church due to their discontent. Unity did not return quickly and another controversy surfaced. The senior minister search committee presented its choice of pastor to call and the pastor was rejected. St. Lucas' next called senior minister served well for a number of years and our membership grew.

In the early 1990's, our senior minister was found to be ill and went on fully paid sick leave for an entire year. We had to hire and pay for an interim senior minister for that same year. We heard frequent pleas from that interim minister about the need for the congregation to contribute more money in order to keep the church afloat. Some people left St. Lucas. Our next called senior minister was Gary Clark, a UCC minister who had been serving in Florida. Many of you remember him and loved having him as our Senior Pastor. Gary brought a positive spirit and attracted a large number of new members while he served St. Lucas.

St. Lucas' history shows us that sometimes we have stormy times and it seems as if our boat is sinking. At other times, the seas have been calmer and we have been able to focus on our purpose of working together as brothers and sisters in Christ to serve the Lord. We are experiencing a time with choppy waters now. We need to have faith and take care of our brothers and sisters as we aim our boat towards calmer seas so we can more fully focus on serving the Lord together.

Joy Dressel, *Heritage Committee*

COUNCIL CORNER

Catch up on all the Church Council News from the past month...

Council Corner Update for July 25, 2019

Council met on Tuesday July 23, 2019. Several congregation members spoke, others observed. If you wish to bring something before a council meeting, please contact us at our email address, council@stlucasucc.org, and provide a brief description of your topic. If you wish to observe, please feel free remembering that space is often limited.

Jim Bundy represented the Memorial Committee stating that the money and plans for the sanctuary railings were in place and will be completed in the near future. Paul Litzsinger offered to coordinate a separate effort to obtain donations to support accelerated hiring of an Intentional Interim minister. Debbie Ball reported on a mold issue in several Preschool rooms and the efforts to abate the mold before start of preschool classes in August.

Council reviewed the results of the recent Town Hall and agreed that it was beneficial to the congregation. We are planning future town hall meetings on a range of subjects. The next meeting is in planning and will be announced soon.

The new Stewardship Campaign is underway and has received pledges. Please pledge and help us move toward our goal of obtaining an interim Senior Minister in the near future.

A Nominating Committee has been formed to name congregants to run for all open voted positions in the church. If you are approached by the committee, please give careful consideration to serving on council, a committee, or as a representative to the denomination. The election of the open positions will be held during the November Congregational meeting.

A Governance Committee is being formed to revive the Policies and Procedures documentation of the church. Current documentation of policies and procedures is insufficient to support coherent church operations. This committee will begin to remedy this situation.

Acting upon a council decision, the Temporary Personnel Committee developed a job offer that would have resulted in our two current members of clergy serving in a formal Co-Pastor relationship. This

effort did not achieve its goal and is no longer being pursued.

Acting upon another council decision, the Temporary Personnel Committee developed a modified Minister of Congregational Life Call Agreement to offer full-time employment to Kelly Archer in her current position. This effort is in progress with a targeted effective date of August 1, 2019.

Council is committed to increasing our efforts to obtain a senior minister (interim or settled) as soon as possible. This will require reviewing potential candidates as we work to improve our finances by numerous means. Obtaining the proper senior minister is essential for the future of our church.

Thanks for your support,
Randy Jurgensen, *Council President*

Council Corner Update for August 1, 2019

The Council has made some decisions that may seem unsound to people who have not been closely involved. We believe these decisions are for the good of the church, and for the good of our current clergy.

Rev. Herron retiring in February caused Council to begin looking into solutions for a vacant Senior Pastor position. In January, Council heard of the benefits of hiring an Intentional Interim Minister. During that meeting, a vote was called to immediately start the search and hiring of an Intentional Interim. We interviewed several candidates for this position. We found a candidate that seemed perfect. We worked to define a contract with that candidate. When it became apparent, on June 5th, that our candidate was not willing to join us until we were in a better financial situation, we suspended our active search. We focused on internal finances and near-term clergy dilemmas.

During that same time, we were finalizing the part-time Minister of Congregational Life (MOCL) Call Agreement with Rev. Kelly Archer. That was finalized on May 20th, 2019. This summer, we were facing the Leave Of Absence for Rev. Eric Moeller, and had Rev. Kelly as a part-time pastor. The outlook for obtaining a pastor willing to cover the six weeks of Leave Of Absence was not good. These facts lead us to look for a near-term solution. An offer of full-time MOCL seemed a reasonable solution in early June. At that time, Rev. Kelly was in negotiations with several other churches for part-time pastor positions. Council decided to approach Rev. Kelly and ask her if she would be interested in a full-time position with St Lucas. Of course she was.

Council voted, at our June meeting, to offer Rev. Kelly the full-time MOCL position. At the same time, a decision was made to attempt to form a Co-Pastor arrangement. Council also voted to disband the Church and Ministry committee. These three votes made for a very difficult situation. A Temporary Personnel Committee (TPC) was formed and began efforts to design a Co-Pastor arrangement. That effort was unsuccessful. The TPC then fell back to offering Rev. Kelly the full-time MOCL position. That effort is still in work today. Rev. Eric is serving in his current full-time position and is expected back by the end of August.

Hiring Rev. Kelly full-time does divert funds from immediately hiring an Intentional Interim minister. Restructuring and improving our funding is essential to obtaining an Intentional Interim Minister, but will take an unknown amount of time. The trade-off was for near-term stability over the questionable long-term funding.

continued on next page...

At this juncture, we will have Rev. Eric and Rev. Kelly working as two associate ministers in their current positions. They are expected to perform their duties as if there were a Senior Minister present. In lieu of a Senior Minister, they will report to the Church Council until a Senior Minister is called.

Rev. Kelly and Rev. Eric are talented individuals, but not trained in dealing with the conflict and division currently residing in our congregation. Therefore, an Intentional Interim Minister is still the goal of the Council. Finding a solution to our current financial situation is the next big thing. We need to dig deeper into our finances. Now is the time to bring all our resources to bear on the issue of hiring an Intentional Interim Minister before January 2020. We have the means to make this happen, if we can all put aside our grievances and work together toward this goal.

Mark 12:31 says “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.” Petitions for a vote of confidence are uncalled for and poison to our congregation. Taking sides behind one of our two clergy or showing disrespect to either is unhealthy for the congregation and unwelcomed by the Council. All members of the congregation need to provide Rev. Eric and Rev. Kelly complete support.

THEIR SUCCESS IS OUR SUCCESS!

Council Corner Update for August 8, 2019

Rev. Kelly Archer has accepted our offer for serving as full-time Minister Of Congregational Life. Please welcome her as she assumes her expanded opportunity to serve St. Lucas.

An updated employee manual is in the works for the non-clergy staff of St. Lucas. The goal is to have the draft manual ready for review by the staff in September and to have the new manual go into effect on January 1, 2020. (This manual does not pertain to Clergy as they are covered by other contractual agreements.)

Council is forming up a nominating committee to recruit new council members for the election held during our November Annual Meeting. Please contact us at council@stlucasucc.org for more information.

There seems to be some confusion on terms relating to ministerial positions in the UCC. This link to the UCC site provides clarification of the terms. It doesn't answer all your questions but will allow us to use common terms.

- <http://uccfiles.com/pdf/Vocabulary-Brochure.pdf>

Another online resource that might aid in understanding the need for, and actions of, an Intentional Interim Minister as provided via these two links:

- <https://healthychurch.org/interim-ministry/>
- <https://pastors.com/intentional-interim/>

Both provide some insight into the why and how of Intentional Interim Ministry.

Randy Jurgensen, *Council President*

Council Corner Update for August 15, 2019

This week Council received emails from several members who have contacted congregants asking their support for the hiring of an Intentional Interim Minister. A list of over 200 members was provided to support their email requests for Council to recommit to the rapid search and selection of an Intentional Interim Minister. The Council will take this topic up as the primary agenda item for our August 27th Council meeting. All interested members are invited to attend.

If you believe your name was incorrectly included in this list, or you believe you were overlooked and wish to add your name in support of hiring an Intentional Interim, please contact me at president@stlucasucc.org, and corrections will be made.

Additionally, if you wish to speak at the Council meeting on August 27th, you are required to contact me at least 24 hours in advance to be added to the agenda. We have limited time and slots available, so, if you wish to address the Council, please contact me at president@stlucasucc.org at your earliest convenience.

The 2020 church budget is currently being developed. The draft budget will be presented to council for approval soon.

The 2020 Employee Manual is in final draft form and will be discussed during the next Council meeting with the expectation that the final version will be published in September.

- Randy Jurgensen, *Council President*

Council Corner Update for August 22, 2019

Requests for council to recommit to the rapid search and selection of an Intentional Interim Minister will be discussed at the council meeting on August 27th. All interested members are invited to attend. If you wish to speak on this issue please contact Randy at president@stlucasucc.org and your name will be added to the agenda.

The 2020 church budget is currently being developed. The departure of Reverend Eric may cause some readjustment to prior calculations. The draft budget will be presented to council for approval soon.

The 2020 Employee manual is in final draft form and will be discussed during the next council meeting with the expectation that the final version will be published in September.

The Temporary Personnel Committee is working the details related to the departure of Reverend Eric. A departure plan will be presented to council on August 27th

News about Rev. Eric Moeller

Rev. Eric Moeller resigned on Tuesday, August 13th. His last weekend preaching and Release of Call at St. Lucas UCC will be on September 21-22. His last weekend in worship with us will be September 28-29.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

As the summer comes to an end, the children are back in school, and life slows down a bit, I would like to encourage all of our past and present Prayer Shawl members to pick up their knitting needles and/or crochet hooks and think again about how they too can bring God's comfort and love to those in need through the work of their hearts and hands. In the past, we have received so many positive and heartwarming responses from those who have received one of our Prayer Shawls and it's a wonderful feeling to know that the special talents that God has given us can be used to create such a warm and comforting symbol of His love in the form of a shawl.



Our next meeting will be Monday, September 2nd, and since the church will be closed for Labor Day, we invite you to join us at Bob Evans, at Lindbergh and 55, at 10 AM for a “meet and greet” to kick off the Fall season. If you have ever thought about joining our special group or just want to see what it is all about, we would love to see you! Please call me if you have any questions, 314-843-0143.

Hope to see you there.

Yours in Christ,
Diane Butler

Articles Due for the October Visitor

Articles for the October edition of The Visitor are due in the Church Office by 8 AM on September 10th. Weekend bulletin announcements are due by 12 PM (noon) on Mondays and email blast submissions are due by 12 PM (noon) on Wednesdays. Please email Megan at mligeti@stlucasucc.org AND Debbie at dheagle@stlucasucc.org when submitting articles.

Church Family Updates

Please contact Debbie in the Church Office at 314-884-6120 with your news to share, including the joys and concerns of our extended family. If you prefer, you may share your information via email to Debbie at dheagle@stlucasucc.org AND Megan at mligeti@stlucasucc.org.

Recently Hospitalized: Ruth Morris, Jonathan Lindner, Walt Fussner

Recent Deaths: Marge Moussette, Charlie Stockhausen, Robyn Byrd (daughter of Rev. Chuck Waddle), Venida Roesch

Purchase with a Purpose



Don't forget that purchase with a purpose is on Sunday, September 1st! We will have items available for sale in the Social Hall between services, including pot pies & berry pies from Lydia's House, bakery goods from Bridge Bread, and our UCC Fair Trade Coffee. We accept cash and checks. Please join us in supporting our ministry partners!

Quilt Tops Needed!

The quilters are now in a position to accept quilt tops for quilting and would be happy to quilt your precious tops. Contact Judy Maret at 314-716-3160 if you have some work for us!

Blood Drive

The Marine Auxiliary will be hosting a Blood Drive with the Red Cross on **Tuesday, September 24th from 3—7 PM.**

Meal of the Month

- Beef Stew
- Low Sodium or No Salt Canned Carrots
- Cornbread Mix
- Canned Fruit in Light Syrup or Own Juices
- Powdered Milk or Shelf Stable Boxed Milk or Soy Milk

Optional, but always appreciated:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Dental Floss

NOTE: These items are merely suggestions. Any food or personal hygiene items you wish to donate are very much appreciated.

Community Meal

Sunday, September 22nd at 4-5:30 PM

Community Meals are our way of serving the food insecure, the lonely and first responders in our community! We could use your help!

Email Pam Smith at smith.lpkk@gmail.com for more info!

Friday Lunch Bunch

Friday, September 27th at 11:30 AM
Restaurant TBD

Join the Friday Lunch Bunch! The Friday Lunch Bunch is a group of people who gather to eat lunch and share fellowship. We meet at a local restaurant, there is no planned program and the checks are prepared to be paid individually. If you would like to be part of this group, please add your name to the list on the Welcome Center bulletin board.

St. Lucas United Church of Christ
11735 Denny Road
St. Louis, MO 63126

Phone: 314-843-2100 - Fax: 314-843-4410
Website: www.stlucasucc.org

Rev. Eric Moeller, Minister of Education and Mission
emoeller@stlucasucc.org - 314-884-6117
For After Office Hour Emergencies - 928-607-6560

Rev. Kelly Archer, Minister of Congregational Life
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Preschool Phone: 314-884-6126

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The Staff at St. Lucas United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Moeller, Minister of Education and Mission

Rev. Kelly Archer, Minister of Congregational Life

Michele Ottinger, Director of Children's Ministries and All-Church Programming

Seth Carruthers, Director of Music

Kit Norton, Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Amy Bush, Assistant Coordinator of Youth Ministries

John Gross, Organist

David Kuhns, Saturday Evening Organist

Pam Russo, Business Manager

Debbie Heagle, Administrative Assistant

Megan Ligeti, Communications Coordinator

Amy Farfan Medina, A/V Coordinator

Lynda Klosterman, Preschool Director

Charlie Singler, Dennis Scherr & Gurgett Torres—Maintenance

The Visitor