

St. Charles Presbyterian Church
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September 2023
Volume 1, Issue 4



September Newsletter

Back-to-School and Back-to-Sunday School

School is already in session and Labor Day will be here soon and that means Spiritual Formation classes will be starting for our church community. There are classes for everyone and they will begin Sept. 10 and start at 9:30 am. It has always been a priority for our church to build one another up through spiritual formation and that tradition continues. Let's encourage one another through the study of God's word. We have new and exciting classes to offer this year. Read on for more information:

Adult Spiritual Formation Class-The Present Word

- This Bible Study for adults focuses on a specific theme each quarter and the fall study, *God's Law is Love*, takes New Testament texts and shows how they reinterpret the significance of Mosaic law for those who love Christ and respond in faith. The study will be facilitated by Kenda Carey and Bev Butler and will meet in AC-A in the church office area. Please join us at 9:30! **All are welcome!**

Children & Youth Classes

- Classes begin at 9:30 so don't miss out on this opportunity for your children to learn about God's love for them and the world and to connect with one another and their teachers.

Prime Time will be back!

- Prime Time will start on October 4th, 5:30-7:30, and run for 6 weeks. This is a beloved program for kids of all ages that is run by faithful volunteers. Look for additional information and registration forms soon.

Youth Group

- Youth Group will be on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 5-7 pm, starting on September 17th. Margaret Osborn and Josh Wilson are excited to connect with youth from 6th grade through high school.

Don't miss out on the different ways to connect with one another and with God while strengthening our faith!



But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33

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September 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 4: Labor Day, Church Office closed

September 5: Book Club, 1:00 pm,
Java with Jesus area

September 10: Spiritual Formation classes start, 9:30

September 13: PEO, 12:30-3:00 pm, Java with Jesus area

September 17: MOD Pizza Fundraiser, all day

September 20: Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am, Bob Evans

September 21: Session & Deacon's Meetings, 7:00 pm, (AC & b)

WEEKLY:

Spiritual Formation classes (starting Sept. 10), 9:30 am

Worship, 10:30 am

Tinkers, Tuesdays at 8:00 am, meet at the church

AA Groups: Tuesdays, 6:00 pm; Saturdays, 10:00 am; both groups meet in the parlor

September



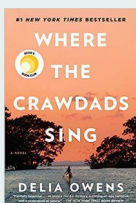
"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."

-F. Scott Fitzgerald



Book Club for September:

Where the Crawdads Sing by
Delia Owens



Join in the discussion on Sept. 5th at 1:00 in the Java with Jesus area. Don't miss out on this excellent book! Contact Sally Stumberg if you have any questions, (314) 580-6424.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Amy Wilson

5 Allan Andres

7 Beverly Butler

8 Brian Niederschmidt

9 Karen Ziesmer

10 Conner McMaken

13 Christiana Manyanye

17 Ken Beckham

17 Wyatt Kelly

18 Leo Kalips

21 Jessica Allison

22 Gerard LeDoux

23 Jack Ferry

23 Dave Brakeman

29 Nancy Simpson

30 Tara Riley



September
BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all of our beloved members born this month! May the coming year bring you joy and peace knowing the Lord loves you and your church family does too!

Lunch Bunch for September:



Bob Evans, 1998 Zumbahl Dr., meet at 11:30 am. Don't miss out on good food, fun, and fellowship!

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

hope grows here

A luncheon event benefiting the children of PCHAS

October 26, 2023
12:00 pm

Location
Piazza Messina
5535 State Highway N
Cottleville, MO 63304

RSVP
Rev. Christi Tennyson
314.497.6296
christi.tennyson@pchas.org

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services™

Everyone is welcome at the 2023 Hope Grows Here Luncheon benefiting the children and families in PCHAS care. Our church has supported PCHAS through the years and their annual luncheon is an uplifting and informative event. For more information visit their website at pchas.org/news-and-events.



FUNDRAISER EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Join in the fun and good pizza on Sunday, September 17, 2023, to support the St. Charles Presbyterian Church for the Charlotte O'Brien Scholarship Fund at Lindenwood University. This event will run **all day** at the First Capitol Drive location directly across from Lindenwood. We will receive 20% of fundraiser sales. You can participate by ordering online using the code MODGIVES20 or in person when you mention the event at checkout. The flyer will be available in the Narthex starting Sunday, Sept. 3rd. This fundraiser was a success in the past, so let's show our support once again!

Charlotte O'Brien was a faithful church member who loved participating in the music ministry and felt drawn to include the use of Lindenwood music students as a way to include them in our church community. Supporting this fundraiser is a wonderful way to contribute to her memory and begin to build a deeper relationship with Lindenwood while supporting both the students there and building our music ministry here at SCPC. Details for how the funds will be distributed will be forthcoming as the fund grows. For any questions, please see Pastor Ronnie or Margaret Cook. Thank you!

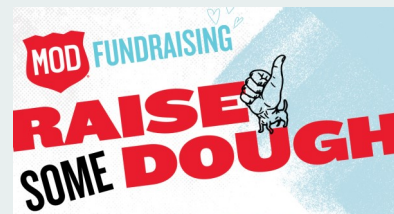
FESTIVAL OF THE LITTLE HILLS 2023 UPDATE

After making 2,400 ice cream sandwiches, we sold around 80% at the festival. With the extreme heat on Sunday, the festival closed early but we were able to sell more the following Sunday at our Founder's Day potluck lunch. **Thanks to everyone** who helped in ways both big and small and especially to **Scott Carey and Margaret Osborn**.

If you or your organization would like to buy a bundle of sandwiches, we are happy to sell them at a discounted price. Please contact the church office, 636 946-4467, to make arrangements.

FYI: New Law in MO

As of Aug. 28, there is a new law in effect stating that you cannot hold your phone and communicate on it while driving. You can use a hands-free device such as Bluetooth, but you cannot hold the phone and talk or text while driving.





DEACON'S AUGUST MISSION OFFERING: FZE FOOD PANTRY



Deacons mission focus for the month of August was the Snack Shack for Ft. Zumwalt East. Thank you for your generosity to their students through the purchase of snacks and monetary donations on August 27th. The funds collected will be used to buy energy snacks for the students to meet their most important needs first; therefore, providing what they need to be present for instructional learning, social/emotional learning and self-control. You can continue to support them this year by purchasing snacks from the list that is provided each week in the bulletin. The

following list is the most updated one:

Suggested Snacks:

Ramen bowls
Mac 'n' cheese bowls
Individual chip bags
Granola bars
Breakfast bars
Pop Tarts
Peanut Butter crackers
Cheese crackers
Popcorn
Capri-Sun
Kool-Aid Jammers

FISH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER:

Shampoo/Conditioner	Canned tomatoes
Boxed Mashed Potatoes	Canned pasta
Canned pears	Rice
Canned meats (such as Spam & Corned Beef Hash, Stew)	Tuna & Hamburger Helper
	Pancake Mix

THANK YOU NOTE FROM A FISH VOLUNTEER:

We, the volunteers at FISH, are so very grateful for your support. Your donations, along with those of individuals are the "lifeblood" of this organization. This generosity has enabled us to help 860 people from Jan. to June with food, clothing, linens, and kitchen utensils.

Our "thrift" store is supported by donations. Sales help to buy meat, dairy products, and bread for the pantry. It also purchases pillows, underwear, socks, and fills any other gaping needs. Of course, monetary donations are always welcomed.

Your church has donated 285 items in the past 6 months. Our families are so appreciative of their filled grocery carts. Bless you for helping us do this for them.

Now, good news: Leslie has completed her treatments and is looking forward to being actively involved in FISH activities. She knows God had a hand in her recovery.*

Hopefully, the next 6 months will bring more good news, coupled with many blessings and peace for all.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay, a FISH volunteer

*Leslie Niebruegge is the Director of FISH, and has been on our prayer list.



BEGINS
WITH
EACH
OF US.

SEPTEMBER 3-OCTOBER 1, 2023



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

YOU ARE WITH ME

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks
to do good,
Yours are the hands,
with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth
but yours.

~Teresa of Avila

The Peace & Global Witness Offering offers light to those in the shadows and guides us all into the ways of peace. We come together to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. 25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community. This year, St. Charles High School and the Success Campus will receive this portion of the offering. 25% of this Offering goes to our mid council to join with other congregations to support peacemaking work in our region. The remaining 50% of this Offering supports the work being done by Presbyterians across the globe. For more information, look for bulletin inserts in the weeks to come or visit pcusa.org. This Offering will be taken on Oct. 1st, World Communion Sunday.

ST CHARLES HIGH SCHOOL & SUCCESS CAMPUS

St. Charles Presbyterian Church has supported our local high school for many years, and currently works with the counseling staff to support students in need of school supplies, clothing, snacks, and monthly notes of encouragement for their most vulnerable students. In recent years, we have supported their Success Campus, as well.



The Success Campus was started in 1987 with grant money and was created specifically for students who had fallen behind in credits, or simply worked better in a small environment. They originally supported students from Orchard Farms, Francis Howell, and Ft. Zumwalt, who each went on to start their own programs based on the model of Success Campus. Currently, they have 80 students enrolled, spending half or full days at their location across from the high school. Our H2O Committee has supported them as well through the years with small treats at Halloween, a hot cocoa bar during finals week before winter break, an end-of-the year treat, and snacks and other supplies throughout the year. SCHS and Success Campus are very appreciative of our help and grateful for our working relationship of care for all of their students, and especially the most at risk ones. Thank you for your generosity to them!



HEARTS AND HANDS TO OTHERS

...in our Community,
nation, and world

“Not all of us can do
great things, but we can
do small things with
great love.”

Mother Teresa



“Truly I tell you, just as
you did it to one of the
least of these, you did it
to me.”

Matt. 25:40



Investment &
Loan
Program Inc.

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

Matthew 7:24-27
NRSVA

An Investment Opportunity

Our church has a building loan, also called a mortgage, with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP). This organization operates much like a savings and loan company where individuals and organizations can invest their money and get paid interest in return. Then PILP turns around and uses this money to make building loans to churches. SCPC got such a loan from PILP to fund the construction of our building addition and elevator.

So PILP offers investments to the public to help generate the funds it can then lend to churches. Did you know that you can invest your own money with PILP? Several individual members of SCPC are already doing this. And a portion of the SCPC Legacy Fund is also invested at PILP. These investments work like certificates of deposits (CD's) in that they are for a fixed length of time and they pay a fixed rate of interest. Terms available are as short as 6 months and as long as 5 years. At the time of this writing, PILP has a special offering of a 15 month note that is paying a 3.4% annual yield when the interest is reinvested.

There is a \$500 minimum if you want to invest in one of PILP's notes. You can chose to have the interest paid out to you quarterly or you can have it reinvested to earn a higher, compounded interest rate. The money you invest is your money and will always be your money, just like any other certificate of deposit investment you might make. When the investment term is over, the money is returned to you, or you can roll it over into a new investment if you want.

By investing in PILP, you are helping the church in two ways. First, you will help PILP make loans available to other churches for their building needs. Second, you will help SCPC get the best possible interest rate and thereby reduce the interest cost on our building loan. That's why whenever you make an investment with PILP you are asked if you would like to support a particular church so it can get the best interest rate on its loan.

If are interested in investing with PILP or have any questions about their program, please ask a member of the Stewardship, Budget & Finance Committee and we'll be glad to help you.

Dave Brakeman, Howard Seeds, and Larry Simpson



Update from the Pastor Transition Task Force

Late last year, Rev. Ronnie gave a gift to St. Charles Presbyterian Church when he announced that he'd be retiring sometime in the second half of 2024. The gift is NOT that he's leaving us! Rather, he has given us the gift of time to better prepare for the transition to a new pastor. As many of you know because you have lived through this transition process before, it can be very involved and takes quite a bit of time. So it is indeed a remarkable gift that pastor Ronnie has given us. Many pastors will not announce their leaving until just before it happens and this usually forces their church into a long period with an interim pastor. Please join us in thanking Ronnie for his wisdom and his caring for our church in this important way, as well as throughout all of his ministry among us.

In January of this year, the Session appointed a Pastor Transition Task Force (PTTF) to begin the work of discovering how best to use this gift. The PTTF first met with a recently retired pastor, who had been through a similar situation where their retirement plans were known well in advance, so we could learn about our options and opportunities.

Also in the Spring, we contacted the Stated Clerk of Presbytery, Rev. Joy Myers, to inform her of pastor Ronnie's stated intention for retirement and our desire to begin the process of calling a new pastor. This then led to a contact with the Moderator of the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry, Rev. Ellen Gurnon, since the COM will be our partner in this process.

One of the key steps in this process is for us as a congregation to complete a mission study. The Presbytery requires congregations to complete a mission study during pastor transitions to help congregations clarify their mission and purpose. The report that comes out of the study helps to define the needs for the future pastoral leadership. Even though a mission study and report are typically not completed until after a pastor resigns, we are planning to move forward with a mission discernment program in October. This program will involve every member of the congregation in a scripture-based process to answer the questions of "Who are we?" to set our historical context, "Where are we?" to establish our current context, and "Where do we believe God is calling us?" to reestablish our vision and mission.

At its regular August meeting the Session approved the program for our mission study and selected the dates for the congregational discernment process. We are blessed to have the assistance and expertise of our friend, the Rev. Dr. Bart Brenner, who brings to us a wealth of experience with discernment processes such as this. He is sharing the materials that he has developed over his career and will help lead us through the process. It is a three week program that will start on Sunday, October 1st, and end on Sunday, October 22nd. Contained within these three weeks is a two-week period of individual discernment through meditation on scripture passages. On the last Sunday, we will work together to assemble all the thoughts and ideas that emerged for each of us through this discernment process, and they will serve as the input for the Session's Study Team and its Mission Report. The Session will circulate a draft of the report for further input from the congregation before it is approved by the Session and eventually submitted to the Presbytery's COM. We look forward to all of us coming together to discern where God is calling us to go and who God is calling us to be as a church. We hope that every member of our congregation will participate and share their ideas and visions for the future of St. Charles Presbyterian Church. In the meantime, if you have questions about this process, please reach out to one of us on the Task Force or any member of Session.

Pastor Transition Task Force: Dave Brakeman, Travis McMaken, Angie Southard

“Here’s another way to put it:
 You’re here to be light, bringing
 out the God-colors in the world.
 God is not a secret to be kept.
 We’re going public with this, as
 public as a city on a hill. If I
 make you light-bearers, you
 don’t think I’m going to hide
 you under a bucket, do you? I’m
 putting you on a light stand.
 Now that I’ve put you there on a
 hilltop, on a light stand-shine!
 Keep open house; be generous
 with your lives. By opening up
 to others, you’ll prompt people
 to open up with God, this
 generous Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16
 The Message



Dear God,

As we send our children back to school, we pray for Your protection and guidance. Keep them safe from harm, both physically and emotionally. Help them to find friends who will support and encourage them. Give them wisdom as they face challenging situations. Help them to always remember that You are with them and that you love them, no matter what. In this way, they will find it easier to be your light to the world.

Amen

“Whoever you are, you are human. Wherever you are, you live in the world, which is just waiting for you to notice the holiness in it.”

Barbara Brown Taylor, An Altar in the World



St. Charles Presbyterian
 Church
 Founded 1818

Word Puzzles Brain Teasers

me right	<u> </u> read <u> </u>	o_er_t_o_	CHANCE
stefrankin	XQQQME	history history history	Arrest You're
settle	BIG BIG ignore ignore	\$O all all all all	COFFEE
time time	HEART	chair	chawhowhorge
NO NO RIGHT	1111	SITTING THE WORLD	ME 10NE11