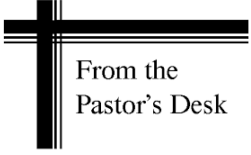


# The Crier

August 2020

St. Philip's United Church of Christ



## Evidence based action needed

St. Louis County is not seeing a rise in deaths from Covid 19 (as I write this article on July 15, 2020) like many states and the United States as a whole are experiencing. This is likely because most people here have been practicing the evidence based actions needed to keep us safer and healthier.

Dr. Alex Garza of the St. Louis Pandemic Taskforce tells us that the best way to continue to see this good news is to reduce the amount of the virus that is circulating in our community. And the best way (in light of the lifting of the shelter-in-place order) to accomplish that is for people here to practice the evidence based actions of: wearing a mask, remaining 6 ft. distant from other people, frequent handwashing, sanitizing high touch surfaces, not participating in congested gatherings of people, and other similar behaviors.

As of this writing, the **Average Positivity Rate, Past Week** as reported by the St. Louis County Health Department is 3.9% here, (<https://stlcorona.com/resources/covid-19-statistics1/>) while Texas, Arizona and Florida are seeing 17%, 19% and 25% respectively (<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/testing/testing-positivity>).

The bible often shows God's heart for vulnerable people. In a parable, Jesus imagined a banquet:

***"Then Jesus said to his host...When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."***

*(Luke 14:14 NIV)*

Widespread participation in the above listed evidence based best practices have helped us in our area to avoid many deaths, many severe illnesses and the consequences of those including economic consequences. Let's please continue these important practices (as I believe Jesus would) for the health and safety of all of us and each of us.

Pastor Mike Krewson



# St. Philip's Mission Statement

*St. Philip's United Church of Christ is a loving  
Christian community believing in  
Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit*



## St. Philip's Vision Statement

**Our  
Vision  
Statement**

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,  
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,  
Eyes to see the needs of others,  
Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.

## August Birthdays

Happy Birthday to our members who will be celebrating a birthday in August.

The following words will be heard on the 1st Sunday of each month....

*"Happy Birthday to You!,  
Happy Birthday to You!,  
Happy Birthday Everybody!,  
and God Bless you!"*

Jackie Thurmond	1	Connie Caldwell	22
Ken Holdener	1	Debbie Hudson	24
Terri Karcher	2	Wally Knoll	28
Leetah Nickel	8	Harry Headley	30
Peggi Werner	11	Joe Williams	30
Chris Armistead	15	Judy York	31
Megan Comstock	16		
Tammy Knoll	18		
Hilda Leonard	19		



Contact the Pastor



Feel free to call Pastor Mike anytime:

Cell (618) 789-2203

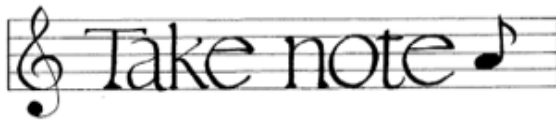
Office (314) 843-5100

or email

[pastormike@stphilipsucc.com](mailto:pastormike@stphilipsucc.com)



Paul Harvey  
Judy Hickman  
Russ Hickman  
Harry Jennings  
Pam Kelly  
Walter Knoll  
Bud Leonard  
Brian Malin  
Ben Metz  
Marilyn Milne  
Jered Nagle  
Alice Noland  
Janet Remmers  
Dottie Vinyard  
Paula Williams



## Choir Rehearsals

### We will notify you when Rehearsals resume

The Choir rehearses the Anthem and Hymns for the upcoming Sunday worship service, however, are not meeting in person at this time. New members are always welcome. There is no audition – anyone with a love for music and a desire to sing is invited to join. Rehearsal lasts usually about an hour and we always have fun! Contact Mike Orzel, our Music Director, for more information.

## LITURGISTS - Virtual Readers



The liturgist reads the scriptures during worship. **We will provide the reader with the scriptures, and instructions on how to read virtually, via email** several days prior to the service allowing you time to become comfortable in reading to the congregation.

If you are interested in serving as a liturgist, please let Tammy, the Office, or Pastor know and indicate the method of receiving the readings.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Tammy Knoll



July 26, 2020

Dear Fellow Church Members,

We continue to have 12-20 attend our services in person. Due to the new restrictions, we are limited to having 46 people at church. According to Facebook data approximately 60 are viewing our service throughout the week. Several are tuning in by Zoom which allows people to call in. Donations have continued to be coming in. Thanks to all for supporting our church.

Day care was closed last week until 7/29 due to one of the staff testing COVID positive. We will continue to err on the cautious side as we have a vulnerable population.

This week has seen a rise in our rolling week positivity average. We can continue to have in person service as long as this stays below 10%. Currently today's level is at 8.8%. It has been above 7% all week. Pastor and I follow this closely. I will send out an email, post on Facebook and call those that I know do not do the computer if in person service is canceled. Everyone that attends has been so good with these mitigation procedures. Thank you so much. Remember we will be on Zoom or Facebook if not in church.

Stay safe, stay well, keep 6 ft. apart and wear that mask. Also wash those hands frequently.

Blessings,  
Pam Henson

### **NEW PROCEDURES FOR ONLINE WORSHIP**

Andrea Tukin has updated the Sunday School, LOGOS, and Sunday worship meetings. Zoom now requires you to have a password or waiting room to get into the meeting room. This is to prevent others in joining for purposes other than the above mentioned. Andrea has enabled a "waiting room" so when people join the meeting they will need to wait until she "lets them in". The steps below to join us have not changed - - join us as you have been, and you will be let in by Andrea.

As usual, you may join us on Facebook live every Sunday at 9:30 AM for worship. If you would like to join us on Zoom by phone or video call, you may join us at the phone number or link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81955205641>

By Phone: (312) 626 6799 and enter the Meeting ID: 819 5520 5641

### **CONFERENCE CALL BIBLE STUDY MONDAYS in AUGUST 10:00am**

Each week on Monday at 10:00am you are invited to Bible Study and conversation. You may join online (Zoom) or by phone. Call any of the numbers below ahead of time for help in joining.

We will study scriptures for the next Sunday, and check in with each other. You don't have to read ahead.

Pastor Mike Krewson 618-789-2203 or 314-843-5100

Pam Henson 314-521-3663

Please consider joining us to keep in touch with other members.

## Graduate Recognition Sunday - August 2



Congratulations to our 2020 graduates! Pastor Mike will be recognizing our graduates from the pulpit on August 2, 2020. If you or your family are unable to attend this service, please tune in to our Facebook virtual service.

**Emma Gottschlich** – Graduated from Cor Jesu Academy in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Natalie Gottschlich** – Graduated from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee with a Bachelor's degree in Physics.

**Jordan Lewis** – Graduated from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri with a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science and a Minor in Biology.

**Abbey Metz** – Graduated from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas with a Bachelor's degree in Public Health.

**Ben Metz** – Graduated from Oakville Senior High in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Kaitlyn Nottelmann** – Graduated from Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing.

**Congratulations to all our graduates and their families!**

## ALOHA SUNDAY - AUGUST 9

We are having an Aloha Sunday on August 9, 2020! The literal translation of "aloha" is "presence of breath" or "the breath of life". Aloha is a way of treating each other with love and respect. It means mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with no obligation in return.



So get into the spirit of "aloha" on August 9 by wearing a Hawaiian shirt. Don't have one? No problem - any flowered or bright colored shirt will work! If you have a lei, wear that too! If not, we are happy to provide you with a lei. There will be a box of leis at church this Sunday and we are asking you to choose a lei to wear, but not to return it to the box. Please take it home with you. We cannot recycle the leis at this time. Not attending church services yet? No problem! We invite you to wear a Hawaiian shirt at home and be part of the spirit of Aloha!

Outreach Ministry has not met since the shut-down, so we have no new projects.



We encourage St. Philips members to continue to contribute to our Food Pantry Fund, which benefits Feed My People and Isaiah 58 Food Pantry, a UCC sponsored organization. There are hungry people in our community, and the food pantries continue to be a major source of food for many.

Contributions should be specified for the food Pantry Fund and sent to Kathy Shelton, 10754 Gail Court, St. Louis, MO, 63123.



## LOGOS Summer Program

Our last summer session will be held on August 5. You can request the link to join from me. We have had a great turnout for each LOGOS session. The kids loved staying connected and checking in with each other about their summers.

Please contact Andrea Tukin at (314) 566-8633 or [andreatukin@gmail.com](mailto:andreatukin@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Date	Activity	Supplies Needed
August 5- 6-7 PM	Bible lesson & Games	



Book Club has not met since the shut-down. I would like to hear from book club members about: if we should consider trying to meet, using the Gathering Space or MPR, and social distancing, if OK'd by council. I do not believe that we could share food at this time. The library has reopened, and I could order books as in the past. Please let me know what you think.

During the shutdown, I have been ordering books at the library for pick up, and reading e-books through HOOPLA and LIBBY, online services. I read the books on my Ipad and it has worked out pretty well for me. For those with Ipads or Kindle, I highly recommend using this service.

I am currently reading a series of mysteries written by Laura Penny, which are set in a charming little village in Quebec. The characters carry over from book to book, but it is not necessary to read them in order. I have found this series a great distraction in these troubled times.

Other e-books I have read include The Alice Network by Kate Quinn, about women spies in World War I. I highly recommend reading this book and hope that Book Club can meet to discuss it someday. I also recently read The Only Woman in the Room, by Marie Benedict, the story of Heddy Lamar, who was a teenage stage actor in pre-war Austria, and married to an upper level government official. Heddy was also a spy for the Allies and played an important role in inventing a system to keep radar communications from being intercepted by the Germans. I would enjoy phone calls from book Club members to discuss our future as a group.

Keep Reading!

Barbara



Gateway Homeless Shelter has an ongoing need for furniture donations for families leaving the shelter for permanent housing.



Items needed include: beds and mattresses, kitchen and dining room sets, and living room furniture.

If you have items that you no longer need, let me know and I will relay the information to Gateway staff, so that pickup can be arranged.

Barbara Barnes

## June 2020 General Fund Summary

### Receipts

Weekly Offering	7,923.60	
Grocery Cards	50.32	
Early Childhood Center	9,500.00	
Easter	<u>30.00</u>	
Total		17,503.92

### Expenses

Financial Ministry	2,176.12	
Church Property Ministry	4,173.61	
Personnel	<u>10,933.02</u>	
Total	17,282.75	<u>17,282.75</u>

June Surplus	221.17
Previous Balance	<u>13,465.11</u>
June 30 Balance	13,686.28
	=====

## June Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	4,270.33
Building Fund Offering	1,386.00
Capital Improvement Fund	(417.00)
Loan Payments Rott Foundation	<u>(460.00)</u>
June Ending Balance	4,779.33
	=====

## June Foundation Repair Fund

Beginning Balance	713.00
Loan repayment to Continuity Fund	(900.00)
Foundation Repair Fund Offering	<u>191.00</u>
Current Balance	4.00
	=====

Remaining balance of Foundation	
Repair Loan from Continuity Fund	\$ 2,344.00



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>AUGUST</b>						
<b>2 Graduate Recognition</b> <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) <b>10:15</b> Sunday School Online	<b>3</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg <b>7:00</b> Online Church Council Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>6:00</b> ECC Board Meeting	<b>5</b> <b>6:00</b> LOGOS Zoom Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Aloha Sunday</b> <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) <b>10:15</b> Sunday School Online	<b>10</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) <b>10:15</b> Sunday School Online	<b>17</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) <b>10:15</b> Sunday School Online	<b>24</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	<b>25</b> September CRIER Articles due	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>