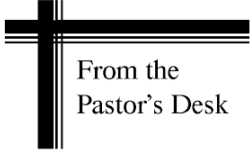


The Crier

November 2020

St. Philip's United Church of Christ



From the
Pastor's Desk

When Jesus was asked: "What is the Greatest Commandment", the religious authorities wanted to trick him. 'Commandments' was not the topic he chose, but when asked, his answer was love. (Matthew 22:34-40)

Brene Brown, in her book, *Daring Greatly*, defined love, outlined various masks that keep people from it and reported results from her research into overcoming them.

Her research shows that we all experience shame in life's harder moments. She interviewed hundreds of wholehearted people asking what it takes to live a full loving, wholehearted life.

She thought each kind of shame would have its own path - to taking off the mask, being real and becoming open to love. She found instead - all the masks come off when people embrace the idea that they are enough.

Enough, Brown reports, is the opposite of scarcity. When we operate out of the mind of scarcity, shame and disengagement become our habits of living. Believing that we're enough - is what makes it possible to take off the armor. It gives us permission to take off the mask. With that sense of 'I am Enough' comes an embrace of worthiness, boundaries and engagement with others.

The thought: "I am enough" opens us to the struggle between Worthiness vs. shame. The thought: "I've had enough" opens us to setting Boundaries instead of comparing ourselves. The thought: "It is enough to show up, take risks and let myself be seen" opens us to engage with people instead of withdrawing.

Jesus' answer to the question of which is the greatest commandment is to love God and love people as we love ourselves. Brene' Brown's reporting on her interviews has convinced me that love of self is an important key to obeying these commandments. And her book *Daring Greatly* (Penguin Random House) is a wonderful toolkit toward living a wholehearted and faithful life.

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/310307/daring-greatly-by-brene-brown/>

Sincerely:

Rev. Mike Krewson, Pastor



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.

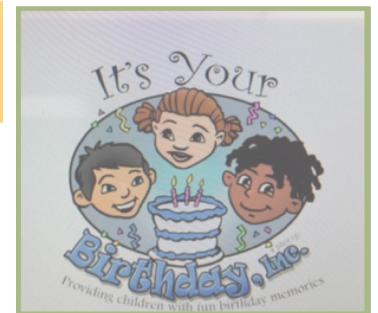
November Birthdays

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

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!”*

Olivia Witte	1
Scott Remmers	3
Amy Balzer	8
De'Ana Holdener	9
Blaise Azzara IV	15
Sarah Bobmeyer	15
Jan Freese	15
Brigitte Mittler	23
Shirley Jennings	28
Jamie York Schubert	30



Contact the Pastor



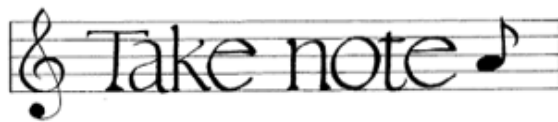
Feel free to call Pastor Mike anytime:

Cell (618) 789-2203

Office (314) 843-5100

or email

pastormike@stphilipsucc.com



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.



Paul Harvey

Judy Hickman

Russ Hickman

Harry Jennings

Pam Kelly

Gail Knoll

Walter Knoll

Bob Leber

Bud Leonard

Brian Malin

Ben Metz

Marilyn Milne

Jered Nagle

Alice Noland

Janet Remmers

Dottie Vinyard

Paula Williams

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



Daylight Saving time

will end at

2:00am on

Sunday, November 1

Set clocks back 1 hour
before you go to bed

MEMORIAL SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Memorial Sunday, November 22, 2020, is a day for us to remember all of our loved ones, family and friends, who have passed on during the year. Names and prayers will be lifted up and candles will be lit for each loved one who has died the past year.

Please give the name of your loved ones to Carol, our church secretary, so that they may be honored and remembered on Memorial Sunday. Call church and leave a message or email her at admin@stphilipsucc.com.

IN-PERSON and VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

In-person Sunday school will again be held in the Gathering Space. For those of you who would still like to join us virtually, I am going to be presenting the lesson to you all via Zoom after church. You can join us at about 10:30am. It will be the same link we have been using:

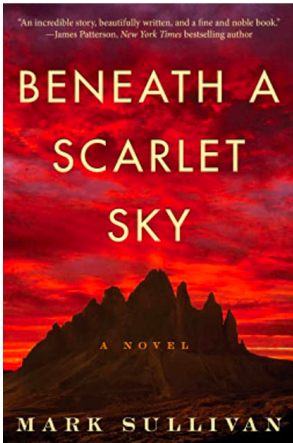
<https://zoom.us/j/95497955422>

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns! Hope to see you in-person or virtually on Sunday!

Peace and love,
Andrea



Sunday, November 8
11:30am



We will discuss our October selection, Beneath a Scarlet Sky, on the second Sunday of November. The meeting will be virtual, and you can attend in several ways. If you use zoom, let Pam Henson know, and she will send you an invitation, if she has not already done so. If you would like to attend by calling in by phone, that is also a possibility, and seems to work well.

Upcoming selections include: A Man Called Ove, The Girl Who Wrote in Silk, and Angels Walking. The virtual meeting format works well, and we always have a good time. Consider joining us!

Questions? Call Barbara Barnes 314-843-4157

CONFERENCE CALL BIBLE STUDY MONDAYS in NOVEMBER 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 314-520-3663

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

**Celebrate our Collaboration with Habitat For Humanity:
A Message from Keith Karau,
Coordinator of the St. Louis UCC ministry with Habitat For Humanity**



Approximately 20 St. Louis UCC congregations have come together over the last 25 years on an affordable housing ministry by working with Habitat for Humanity/St. Louis. St. Philip's is one of those congregations! Through the UCC group's collaboration with Habitat, we have supported more than 30 families to move from sub-standard living quarters into a home they own. Our affordable housing ministry gives them a hand up, not a hand out. This mission work helps people who otherwise might fall through the cracks. These families have the means to pay a modest mortgage, so they are not destitute. We provide a needed helping hand. Our mission is to enable affordable housing and stabilize neighborhoods, one home at a time. Thanks be to God and all the people who have participated in this ministry.

Over these 25 years, our local UCC congregations have volunteered over 4,500 days of labor and over \$800,000 in donations. That's a substantial ministry and, again, St. Philip's has supported this effort financially and with volunteers. As part of this milestone year (when we won't be able to volunteer) we have a challenge target of donating \$50,000 in financial support to Habitat -- a \$5,000 increase over our \$45,000 annual donation from recent years. **We are asking members of your congregation to please help us reach our goal by making an individual donation earmarked for Habitat.** Terri Karcher will provide information to you on how to make that donation.

Habitat/St. Louis continues to build houses this year without the assistance of volunteers. Costs of building materials have increased substantially and they are working around shortages of key building materials. But it's commitment to St. Louis has not diminished during the pandemic. This is a ministry worthy of our ongoing support!

From Terri Karcher:

I hope you will consider a donation to Habitat... checks should be payable to "St. Philip's UCC" and included with your regular offering OR you can combine your donation into one check with your regular offering to St. Philip's (just include a note so that Kathy Shelton knows how to split your offering). Either way, your donation will then appear on your St. Philip's giving statement. Please make donations **by December 10th**. Thanks in advance for your support!

YAY!!! CELEBRATE!



I am so excited that I get to see you all SOON! We will be starting back to LOGOS on **Wednesday, November 4**. I hope you all can join. Please also read my note at the bottom about the STL county positivity rate and what it will mean for LOGOS. **This is what I need from you:**

- 1) Email me to let me know if you will be participating and how many will be attending dinner.
(Contact Andrea if you need the Procedures or Registration Form emailed to you)
- 2) Read the [PROCEDURES](#) we will be following. You will need to sign that you've read and will abide by them on the registration form.
- 3) Fill out the [REGISTRATION FORM](#) and bring it with you on November 4.
- 4) **Sign up** to help disinfect afterward. We will need parents to help with this as we are trying to limit the number of people we have in the room and many of our volunteers will not be participating due to their age/COVID-19. We must do this to be able to use the space.

We will be able to start LOGOS on November 4th as long as Saint Louis County Positive Case numbers stay below 10%. If the rate is 10% the week of November 4, we will begin VIRTUALLY. In the event that we have begun LOGOS and the Saint Louis County Positivity Rate goes above 10% and remains there for 3 days, we will go to virtual LOGOS and then the LOGOS team will meet to reassess our plans.

I can't wait to see you all!
Thank you so much,
Andrea



Neighbors in Need

If you have not yet contributed to Neighbors in Need, consider doing so. It is one of our 5 for 5 annual charitable programs through the UCC and helps with new church start-ups and social outreach programs to underserved communities.

Advent Program

Our Advent program will be adoption of a family through Feed My People. Due to Covid, there will be no food baskets or donations of gift items for family members. Instead, they are requesting cash donations for the purchase of gift cards for family members. Outreach Ministry has chosen to sponsor a family of 4-6 people, and we will be assigned a family in the middle of November. The suggested amount for a family this size is \$250.

We will start collecting contributions on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, the first Sunday in Advent, November 30. To contribute, please give cash contributions to the Outreach Committee, or send checks to Kathy Shelton, with Advent program on the subject line. If we collect more than \$250 we will contribute to the fund that helps people pay down their utility bills.

In honor of tradition, we will again have our little "Charlie Brown" Christmas tree, and decorate it with scarves, mittens, and warm hats that will go to the needy. Thanks in advance for your generosity in these difficult times.

Outreach Ministry

September 2020 General Fund Summary

Receipts

Weekly Offering	8,033.85	
Grocery Cards	15.64	
Early Childhood Center	<u>9,500.00</u>	
Total		17,549.49

Expenses

Spiritual Life Ministry	43.00	
Financial Ministry	2,511.48	
Outreach Ministry	250.00	
Church Property Ministry	5,553.18	
Personnel	<u>10,791.39</u>	
Total	19,149.05	<u>19,149.05</u>

September Deficit (1,599.56)

Previous Balance 14,406.24


September 30 Balance 12,806.68
=====

September Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	4,795.08
Building Fund Offering	662.75
Capital Improvement Fund	(417.00)
Loan Payments Rott Foundation	<u>(460.00)</u>
September Ending Balance	4,580.83 =====

2020 Food Pantry Total Distributions

Isaiah 58 Ministries	2,045.00
Feed My People	<u>2,045.00</u>
Total for 2020	4,090.00 =====

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) 10:30 Sunday School online	2 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg 7:00 Church Council Zoom Meeting	3	4 5:00 LOGOS	5	6	7
8 9:30 Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) 10:30 Sunday School online 11:30 Book Club Virtual Mtg	9 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	10	11 5:00 LOGOS	12	13	14
15 9:30 Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) 10:30 Sunday School online	16 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	17 Memorial Sunday Names Due	18 5:00 LOGOS	19	20	21
22 Memorial Sunday 9:30 Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) 10:30 Sunday School online	23 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	24 December CRIER Articles Due	25	26 	27	28
29 9:30 Sunday Worship Livestream on Facebook or Zoom Fellowship Online (following worship) 10:30 Sunday School online	30 10:00 Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	November				