

The Crier

January 2022

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

From the
Pastor's Desk

A popular young music artist's performance included the phone number for the U.S. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255 along with positive messages of hope and recovery including the phrase: "I want you to be alive". It told the story of a person in crisis who considered suicide but then called the 800 number instead and experienced help and relief. It became a hit. Then he performed it at a Music Award Show: more than 430 million people watched. Calls to the Lifeline surged by 50%! 245 fewer people committed suicide (5.5% decrease). Clearly what is performed and heard and seen - matters.

A young member of St. Philip's UCC recently reported her surprise, as she enters her career in education, to learn that the prevalence of mental illness is so alarmingly high. Perhaps our surprise shows that people don't admit when they struggle because there is still a stigma.

Bible Gospel author John wrote that:

"God so loved the world that he sent Jesus"

And that:

"Jesus came that we might have life abundantly."

Even in the days Jesus walked the earth in physical form, it seems, people needed to be encouraged. It's O.K. to let other people know when your feelings get complicated. It's a good action to ask for help.

I'm glad the stigma is decreasing. Let's all strive to continue to decrease it, to encourage each other, save lives and enjoy them even more. If you need to talk to someone, you may call me 24/7. See my contact info on page 3 of this newsletter. Also, you can call the hotline:

1-800-273-8255

Or contact the Crisis Text Line by texting TALK to 741741.

You can also contact the St. Louis chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention:

<https://afsp.org/chapter/missouri>

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.

January Birthdays

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

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!"*

Joel Knoll	1		
Charles Zikes	2		
Walter Knoll	3		
John Mikusch	3	Jeff Stevenson	18
Carl Schillinger	4	Jane Eason	19
Libby Coleman	6	Jeremy Decker	22
Caylie Jean Armistead	7	Marilyn Eason	23
Emily Coleman	8	Lois Decker	28
Paula Williams	9	Beth Hickman	29
Andrew Knoll	12	Joyce Brand	31
Hannah Schillinger	17		
Robin Knoll	17		



Contact the Pastor



Feel free to call Pastor Mike anytime:

Cell (618) 789-2203

Office (314) 843-5100

or email

pastormike@stphilipsucc.com



Judy Hickman

Russ Hickman

Deb Hudson

Harry Jennings

Pam Kelly

Brian Malin

Marilyn Milne

Jered Nagle

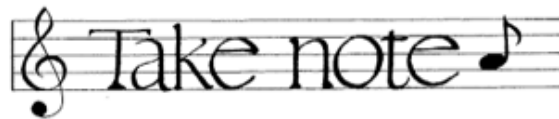
Janet Remmers

Wendy Remmers

Paul Shrout

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 (in-person worship)

The Liturgist reads the scriptures during worship. We will provide the reader with the scriptures via email or USPS mail 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, see the **GOLD** signup sheet on the bulletin board, or let Tammy, the Office, or Pastor know and indicate the method of receiving the readings.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tammy Knoll



OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS

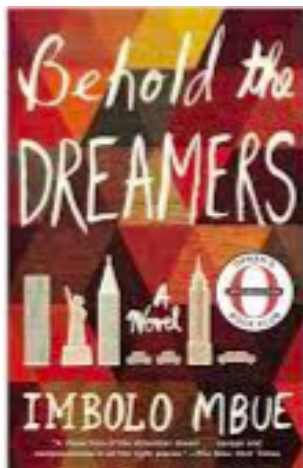
We purchased five \$50 gift cards for our "Adopted" family at Feed My People. We collected \$125 over the cost of the gift cards, a box of chocolates and a greeting card. That amount any any more contributions received will be sent to Feed My People to help our family pay down utility bills. The cap and Mitten tree looked wonderful, and items will go to Caroline Mission.



Thanks, St. Philip's, for your generosity! We have no new projects planned at this time.

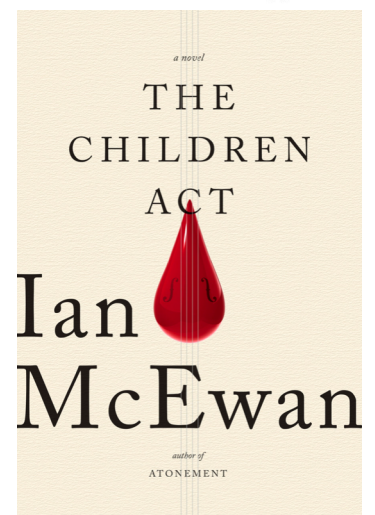
Outreach Ministry

Sunday
January 16
10:15am



We will meet after church on January 16 to discuss Behold the Dreamers. As usual, we will share a potluck lunch and have a good time! Our next selection is The Children's Act by Ian McEwan a short novel in which a judge's ruling decides the fate of a teenage boy in ways she never intended or imagined.

Consider joining book club. Books are checked out in a "kit" from the St Louis County Library, and are available at church. It's not necessary to have read the book to attend the meeting! We are always looking for new members.



CONFERENCE CALL

BIBLE STUDY - MONDAYS in January 10:00am

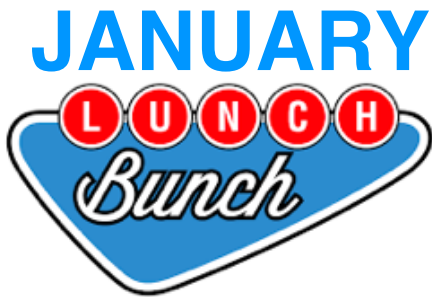
Each week on Monday at 10:00am you are invited to Bible Study and conversation. You may join online (Zoom) or by phone. Call any of the numbers below ahead of time for help in joining.

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.



We are having a luncheon,
You'll have such a blast,
As we ring in the New Year and
Say good-bye to the last!



Please join the Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at noon for the January gathering. We will meet at Helen Fitzgerald's in their Board Room at 3650 S. Lindbergh Blvd. 63127. Reserve a spot by signing up on the hall bulletin board sheet or contacting Mary Dykstra by Sunday, January 9th. All are welcome and encouraged to come. Hope to see you soon!

**'UN-DECKING THE HALLS'
JANUARY 9 AFTER WORSHIP**

Please join us immediately after church on January 9 to take down all of the Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary.

Thanks in advance for
your help.



WELCOME

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

On Sunday, **January 9th** we expect to have 5 new members: Missy Ruffino, Samuel & Holly Slavic, Paul Shrout and Art Kuhn. Plan to stay after worship to briefly welcome them.

**SALVAGING UNWANTED
CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Instead of recycling or throwing away your unwanted, used or new Christmas cards, I will again be collecting for craft projects.

You can dropoff your unwanted cards in the labeled boxes on the table just inside the church doors or in the church office.

Boxes will be out thru the middle of January, but you can dropoff cards in my office anytime.

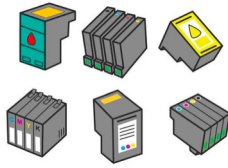
Thank you,
Carol O'Shea



Get Ready!

Get Set!

Save...



your used computer inkjet cartridges. Bring them to church and they'll be converted to cash for St. Philip's.

At the present time only Hewlett Packard and Canon cartridges are being accepted and they must be original inkjets – not generic, refilled, or damaged. What is accepted may change from time to time but these are the current requirements.

So please bring only Hewlett Packard or Canon as outlined above. It will keep the cartridges out of the landfill and earn cash for St. Philip's as well.

Look for the marked box in the Gathering Space.

Can you tell there's a tree under there?

Thank you to all who generously helped 'decorate' our Hat/Glove/Scarf tree this year. At the time of this publication there were 46 pairs of Gloves/Mittens, 14 Hats, 27 pairs of Socks, and 32 Scarves that will help keep people warm this winter. All items will be donated to Caroline Mission.

CONSIDER JOINING OUR ALTAR COMMITTEE TEAM



We are looking for a few more Altar Committee members. You can volunteer for 1 or 2 months out of the year or as a helper. It usually takes approximately 30-45 minutes a week or less. Tasks consist of getting the sanctuary ready for our Sunday worship service which includes:

- Changing the banner and paraments
- Replacing candles
- Checking pew supplies

For more information, please contact Patty Siewing at 314-974-4498.



November 2021 General Fund Summary

Receipts

Weekly Offering	8,951.00	
Grocery Cards	30.00	
Early Childhood Center	<u>9,500.00</u>	
Total		18,481.00

Expenses

Spiritual Life Ministry	71.40	
Financial Ministry	874.60	
Outreach Ministry	250.00	
Congregational Life Ministry	111.49	
Church Property Ministry	5,310.45	
Personnel	<u>11,587.79</u>	
Total		<u>18,205.73</u>

November Surplus	275.27
Previous Balance	<u>1,618.03</u>
November 30 Balance	<u>1,893.30</u> =====

November Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	5,227.46
Building Fund Offering	334.50
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>(417.00)</u>
November Ending Balance	<u>5,144.96</u> =====

November Improvements Offering Summary

Beginning Balance	2,726.37
November Improvement Expenses	(631.00)
November Offering	<u>154.00</u>
November Ending Balance	<u>2,249.37</u> =====

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY						
2 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook Stewardship Pledges Due 9:45 Sunday School In-person	3 10:00 Discussion Bible Study Conference Call/Zoom Mtg 4:30 ECC Board 7:00 Church Council Zoom Mtg	4	5	6	7	8
9 New Member Sunday 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person 10:30 'Undeck the Halls'	10 10:00 Discussion Bible Study Conference Call/Zoom Mtg	11	12 noon Lunch Bunch @ Helen Fitzgerald's	13	14	15
16 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person 10:15 Book Club Meeting	17 10:00 Discussion Bible Study Conference Call/Zoom Mtg	18	19	20	21	22
23 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	24 10:00 Discussion Bible Study Conference Call/Zoom Mtg	25	26 February CRIER Articles Due	27	28	29
30 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	31 10:00 Discussion Bible Study Conference Call/Zoom Mtg					