

The Crier

December 2022

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

*"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." --Isaiah 43:19*

Greetings St. Philip's UCC!

I am so excited to join with you on this new adventure in ministry together! Through us, indeed, God is doing something new—something different, something we've never done before! As this new thing—this new partnership, this new covenant, this new expression of ministry—springs forth, we will learn and grow together. Because this is uncharted territory for us all, we have faith that God will, indeed, make a way through the wilderness. We have hope that rivers of new life will flow through the parched places we've called deserts. We will lean in to joy and grace, watching and listening for the guidance of the Spirit.

Full disclosure: I don't know how this is all going to work. I've never served two churches half-time. I've never recorded a video of a sermon to be shown during a worship service for which I wasn't physically present. It's a lot of new. And yet, I believe this is where God is leading our churches, St. Philip's UCC and St. John UCC. God is doing a new thing in our midst—with us and through us! At times, it may feel like a wilderness—but God is making a way for us, God will provide flowing streams of life-giving water where we need it most—in our driest desert days.

Advent is the very beginning of a new liturgical year—a new year in the life of the church. We're watching and waiting with hope and expectation, as we anticipate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us. A tiny babe born into an unlikely family who would grow up to change the world by sharing God's love and grace with reckless abandon—that was certainly a new thing God did. And, from eons before the birth of Christ, to eons thereafter, God continues to do all kinds of unexpected, unlikely, and unusual new things.

May this season of expectation fill us with hope, not only as we approach the manger, but as we pay attention to all the new things God might be up to around us, and through us, and within us. May the joy of the celebration of the birth of Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us, spill over into the rest of the year ahead as we imagine together what new thing God might be making a way for us through the wilderness toward.

With joy and expectation, and prayers for each of you,
Pastor Laura

lmignerone@gmail.com

314-452-0785 (call/text)

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.

December Birthdays

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

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!"*

Linda Kotthoff	5
Kim Tangeman	7
Sarah Witte	9
Carla Moran	11
Robyn Mikusch	15
Devin Coleman	21
Missy Ruffino	21
Chloe Armistead	24
Karen Nickel	26
Katie Eason	28
Ashley Henson	30
Scott Stevenson	30



Contact the Pastor



Feel free to contact Pastor Laura anytime:

Cell (314) 452-0785

Office (314) 843-5100

or email

lmignerone@gmail.com



Gail Avery

Grace Heady

Pam Kelly

Marilyn Milne

Jered Nagle

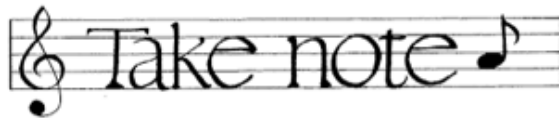
Shirley Nottelmann

Janet Remmers

Paul Shrout

Lily Swanson

Paula Williams



Choir Rehearsals - Meeting dates

December 4 and 18 after Worship

The Choir rehearses the Anthem and Hymns for the upcoming Sunday worship service. 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.

PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Thank you for bringing your used Canon and HP cartridges to church for recycling. Please continue to put them in the collection box in the entry space.

Also, we no longer recycle plastic lids. Please don't bring them to church but do continue to recycle them appropriately. All the little things, done by a lot of people, do make a difference!

WORSHIP LISTENING DEVICES

Listening devices used during worship are now available in the Admin Assistant Office. You can find them as you walk in the door to the right.



For
unto
you is
born this
day in the
city of David
a Savior, which
is Christ the Lord
Luke
2:11

Welcome Pastor Laura



This Sunday would be a good time to come back to church if you haven't been here for awhile. It will be the first Sunday for everyone to meet Pastor Laura and welcome her to our church. After service we will have a meet and greet time. If you would like to bring a little something for us to put out for everyone to snack on, that would be great. Hoping to see you on Sunday!



Please wear your name tag during worship.
Thank you!

ST. PHILIP'S - YOUNG ADULT AND FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

We would like to invite families and/or young adults to the following event. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Tukin at 314-566-8633 or andreatukin@gmail.com

Wild Lights @ St. Louis Zoo:

Saturday, December 17. Official details to come, but tentatively planning to meet at 4:30pm @ South Entrance. For more info and to [RSVP CLICK HERE](#). Tickets can be purchased here [Link to buy tickets](#).



Lunch Bunch

The December Lunch Bunch will be at Sandy's on **Wednesday, December 14 at noon**.

For lunch we're having potluck so bring a dish you would like to share. No need to indicate your type of dish - just sign up your name on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board or let Sandy know you're coming.



As usual, we'll eat, visit and play the much cherished (?) rob your neighbor game. Be sure to bring a wrapped white elephant present! Hope to see you then!

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to those who donated candy toward the Christmas bags the kids put together for Isaiah 58 Ministries. We hope they make the season brighter for those in need. As always, thank you for your generosity! You're the best!

Love,
The LOGOS Families



Christmas Poinsettias

Back again this year are beautiful poinsettia plants in your choice of red or pink, and mums in either white or yellow.

The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary on Saturday, December 24 during the Christmas Eve service. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Eve service.

The cost is \$11.00 each plant.

Make check payable to 'Walter Knoll Florist'

Name _____

Quantity Color

_____ Red Poinsettia

_____ Pink Poinsettia

_____ White Mum

_____ Yellow Mum

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

You can drop your order form and payment in the offering plate or give to Carol O'Shea in the church office **by Tuesday, December 13th**.

Hello Friends.

I would like to invite you to free Christmas Concerts presented by a choir that I sing with. We sing only Black Gospel music. About 50% of the choir is black and 50% white. Our goals are to make beautiful music and to promote racial and cultural harmony. I think you would enjoy hearing us sing! It is not necessary to reserve seats for the afternoon concerts. The Saturday evening concert includes 2 other groups and we expect a big crowd for that concert. Hope to see you in the audience!

Barbara Barnes

Community Gospel Choir Offers Three Opportunities to See us This Christmas

**SATURDAY, DEC. 3,
2 PM**

**KIRKWOOD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
201 W. Adams
Kirkwood, MO

**SUNDAY, DEC. 4
4 PM**

**BRIDGEWAY UNITED
ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
11950 Mark Twain Ln.
Bridgeton, MO

A GOSPEL CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Community Gospel Choir and special guests will present a selection of traditional Christmas spirituals and contemporary Gospel Christmas favorites sung by more than 50 glorious voices.

This concert is free. A free will offering will be taken.

**SATURDAY,
DEC 3
7 PM**
**KIRKWOOD UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**
201 W. Adams
Kirkwood, MO

A Concert Celebrating the Harmony of Differences



2011-2012 WOMEN'S
CHORALE Community Gospel Choir of St. Louis
The Uptown Singers
Join Us 12/3/22 7PM

OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS

Our cap, mitten, glove, and scarf tree is up and awaiting your contributions! Items collected will go to Caroline Mission, which has an Early Childhood Education program for infants to 5-year olds, and items for babies and children are especially appreciated. The families served also have older children and adults, so items of all sizes are needed.



We are again participating in the Feed My People "Adopt a Family Program". Our family members are Zemfira, 47 years old, Kasim, 52 years old, and their four children ages 14-24. We hope to collect funds to buy a \$50 gift card for each of them and a \$50 grocery card for a holiday meal. Contributions can be made in your offering envelope with "Adopt a Family" written on the memo line. Thanks ahead of time for your hospitality!

Ornament Tradition

It has been a St. Philip's tradition for many years for all those attending St. Philip's to bring an ornament from home to hang on our tree in the sanctuary. This is a simple way to celebrate the community of Christ.

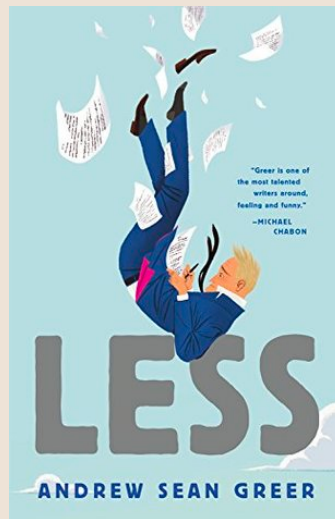
If you are new to St. Philip's, or haven't in the past, please consider doing so before or after church any time during Advent.



BOOK CLUB

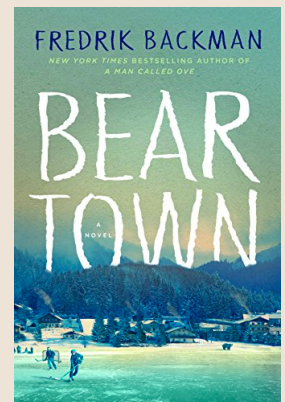


Sunday
December 18
10:15am



We will meet on December 18 after church to discuss 'Less' by Andrew Greer, and to share a potluck lunch. Books are checked out from the St Louis County Library in kit form, and can be picked up at church on December 18, or they can be delivered to your house on request.

Our next selection is Beartown by Fredrik Backman. We have enjoyed two of his previous books and expect to enjoy this one as well. Consider joining us, we always have a good time, and everyone is welcome, even those who have not read the book!



Available
December 18

October 2022 General Fund Summary

Receipts

Sunday Offering	7,262.50	
Grocery cards	15.00	
Interest Income	122.42	
MPR Rental	25.00	
Recycle Income	106.90	
Early Childhood Center	<u>9,500.00</u>	
Total		17,031.82

Expenses

Learning Ministry	942.47	
Financial Ministry	1,839.07	
Outreach Ministry	1,000.00	
Church Property Ministry	7,338.44	
Personnel	<u>4,212.46</u>	
Total		<u>15,332.44</u>

October Surplus	1,699.38
Previous Balance	<u>1,012.92</u>
October 31 Balance	2,712.30
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October Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	5,541.48
Building Fund Offering	401.00
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>(417.00)</u>
October Ending Balance	5,525.48
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October Improvements Offering Summary

Beginning Balance	1,727.37
October Offering	<u>260.00</u>
October Ending Balance	1,987.37
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER						
4 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	5 7:00 Church Council Zoom Mtg	6	7 5:30 LOGOS	8	9	10
11 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person	12	13 Poinsettia Orders Due	14 noon Lunch Bunch @ Sandy's 5:30 LOGOS	15	16	17 4:30 Family Wild Zoo Lights
18 9:30 Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 Sunday School In-person 10:15 Book Club Meeting	19	20 January CRIER Articles Due	21 NO LOGOS	22	23	24 8:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship & Baptism
25 No Worship Service	26	27	28 NO LOGOS	29	30	31