

# Sowers of St. Luke's

St Luke's United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, IN

June 2018

Visit us online at: [www.stlukesumc.com/serve/on-site/](http://www.stlukesumc.com/serve/on-site/)

## Heat is here...

### Suddenly summer!

**B**ack when the weather was still really cool we had a meeting on April 10th. Carolyn presented the plans and quote for the replacement of trellis in the garden, as well as the new plantings in that area. Then Sue McKee gave a well-researched and illustrated presentation on principles and ideas to create effective container plantings.

On April 21 nine Sowers celebrated Earth Day (it's a holiday!) thanks to Joyce's arrangements at the Market District.

Our Spring Plant Sale was a big success, bringing in over \$1,000.00. Many thanks go to all who contributed plants, helped set up and price on Saturday and sold between services on May 20. Nan brought our poster board that had been shuffled around to various offices with administrative changes. It has not been updated since Diane did this many years ago. So if you have some more recent, good pictures of the garden or our activities please contact her to see about using to update.

On May 21st Carolyn, Sue McKee, Nan and I met with Mary Hach, the staff contact for Sowers. She requested that she be contacted first; before Deleath for publicity or Buffy for room requests. We discussed obtaining our endowment money at length, due to delays encountered in getting money to pay for the latest upgrades to the garden - see next paragraph. We/Nan are still working on the documentation needed to obtain the yearly interest accrued as well as determine a timeframe/direction for getting the request to and then a check from the endowment. We also did a tour of the garden and entrance 16 to coordinate who would be doing what. We also asked for help with our presence on the website, as well as doing a write up for the ministry catalog.

Next time you see Nan be sure to compliment her on her patience and persistence in getting the information on how Sowers is to interact with the

endowment. It is no longer a simple request to the endowment committee; now it's a special form to be processed by others, in particular order. She is working on a detailed summary of how it is supposed to work, that we can keep on file for future requests. However, as noted above, there does not appear to be a formal process regarding communication to Sowers, which we would like to get resolved.



Other gardeners have been busy. Brandt has restocked the herb area and it is really lush this year. Diane S. has volunteered to do the summer change out on the urns out front. Sue McKee had her gardener remove large, dead viburnum at the corner of entrance 16. Nancy has agreed to coordinate gardening dates, on 5/31 she, Pat, and I started pulling the sea oats spread, and weeding. Diane R. is continuing to work on our website, to see what we can get on there. Chris (with Nan's help) has answered the request for participation in the Middle School Mayhem event coming up June 25th. She indicates their time will be spent on herbs in the garden. Please note that she will be sending an email soon to request food for their session.

Carolyn report: as most of you probably know by now, she had hip replacement surgery 5/22, and is doing well. As of 5/31 she reports that it is good to have people come to visit, but they are now managing food wise. She has also made arrangements for the mulching to be done in the next couple of weeks.

Coming Soon:

\*\*Tuesday, June 19th, gardening starts at 9:00 a.m. Just thinking how nice it would be if some who can no longer garden would show up a little later with cold drinks (and maybe cookies!) to spend a little time socializing...

\*\*Saturday, June 23rd, Zionsville Garden Tour is from 10 am to 4 pm. Our own Gloria B.'s daughter (Tracy Phillips) has a five acre garden that will be one of seven featured gardens in the town of Zionsville. Surrounding

a 100 year old house, she describes the grounds as "park like" and very welcoming. Tickets available at \$15.00 advance per person at: [Sullivanmunce.org](http://Sullivanmunce.org).

Keep cool and keep watering!! Gail



## From the Gardener...

**F**rom 5/22/2018: The last newsletter detailed the new lattice and shrubs; that project is now complete. The new wall has red cedar columns rather than the pine used before and the lattice panels can be replaced when needed. The old wall lasted more than 25 years and this one could be maintained even longer. Like the first wall we will let it age naturally, no finish. They took the old wall in to use as a pattern as we liked the design. Somehow, the new one turned out to be 10 or 12 inches higher which makes it higher than the brick wall by the dumpster. Maybe a 12 inch cherub statue sitting on the brick wall would bridge the gap in height between the brick wall and our lattice wall, just an idea.

We will have mulch put down soon. If you look up, you will notice the last two original dogwoods are looking very stressed as well as the cypress on the corner. We will be watching and planning for what comes next.

Next week I will have a right hip replacement and be walker bound for a while. I will mention that one of

our regular gardeners, Sharon Fischer, fell while on her dream trip to Japan last month. She has a nasty break on her foot and will be unable to bear weight on it at least till the end of June. She is getting around her house on a scooter. She so misses going outside, especially with all the spring blooms. Sharon has always helped water and often has helped plant the urns out front. The last of May or first of June, Diane Stone will replace the pansies with summer flowers in the front urns. She planted and maintained the urns a number of years ago and her help is again appreciated. Pat Reed, Diane, and Jim and I will water and maintain over the summer. Nancy Snively who has worked with us in the garden for three years or more has volunteered to schedule work sessions and keep up with the care while I am recovering. She is a regular volunteer in the Herb Society herb garden at White River Gardens, and for even greater horticulture experience is grounds chairman for her condo neighborhood.

Last week Nancy planted nearly 50 annual plants in the garden. Look for pink /red celosia, variegated coleus, white cosmos, pink/orange zinnias, and blue salvia. By the birdbath we have new alba (white) and blue campanula perennials. There are a lot of little larkspur seedlings to fill in between the lavender and the campanula. The campanula will fill the space in a few years so if we don't like the larkspur they won't be permanent.

Brandt Carter replanted the fairy garden pot; she told me she hosted a fairy garden party at her house again this year. Brandt added annual herbs to the raised herb bed; the raised bed looks best as the plants spill over the wall as the summer progresses. The preschool kids come out daily and sometimes with a sheet of pictures of things to look for in the garden. Their teacher may gather herb leaves and they all scramble to feel and smell. Chris Hammock and Nan Schulte will lead a session for middle school kids during Camp Luke. Chris found just the right lesson plan that introduces the joys of gardening and with hands on activities using herbs.

And the earliest volunteer this season surely was Matt Russell who trimmed the espaliered trees the Saturday before Easter. Interesting that the one on the south wall where there is less sun had by far the most blooms.

There is a bag of clean pint size canning jars in the closet. They are there for anyone who can use them.

We are often leaving the closet door firmly closed but unlocked. The key is where it always is and sometimes you may be able to open the door if it has

been locked. This is not good but waiting for help from inside to get the key to work has kept people from doing what they came to do. Kelly Scott our maintenance person has worked several times with locksmiths and determined the repair will have to be budgeted.

Carolyn Curry, 5/22/2018



### Treasurer Report...

Checking account balance as of 5/29/18: \$2,267.26  
 Endowment balance as of 31 Dec 2017: \$25,866.00  
 Interest earnings used from endowment: \$2,178.14  
 Spring Plant Sale Income: \$1,036.00

Garden Renovation Spring 2018 Total \$5,990.61  
 Paid by Sowers: \$3,000.00  
 Paid by St Luke's: 2,990.61

Anticipated expenses in immediate future  
 Mulching garden  
 Seasonal planting in urns  
 Spring sprinkler maintenance

Nan Schlulte, 5/29/2018

### 2018 Directory...

It is being mailed to those who don't already have it. I was able to give to several on Sunday after plant sale. There will be extras in the Sowers box at church.

### About the News

he Sowers are mentioned on the church website: [www.stlukesumc.com](http://www.stlukesumc.com), click on **SERVE**, then **ON SITE**, then scroll down to the Sowers. It is a 'blurb' about who we are within the church with a link to our newsletter. All with email addresses will receive the newsletter as an email attachment.

### Team Leaders

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