

Sowers of St. Luke's

St Luke's United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, IN

March 2019

Visit us online at: www.stlukesumc.com/outreach/on-site/

From Our Leader...

Before our April 27th meeting, you will receive a copy of a proposed revision of our organization. Please read it carefully as we will be discussing and voting on its points.

The revision states more clearly the responsibilities and duties of executive officers and chairmen. You will notice that some new duties are grouped under various chairs. More than one person could be asked to help the chairman carry out these jobs. We are also emphasizing budgets for each chair.

Our treasurer has set a suggested budget for the Sowers, so that we spend wisely and contribute to our endowment when we have extra monies. This is crucial to our existence as a self-sustaining group.

Again, please be ready to discuss questions, and be prepared to vote on its acceptance. Thank you.

Sue McKee

Summary of "Plant Regrets"

Saturday, Feb. 2, ten Sowers met in the parlor. Chris Hammock introduced master gardener Nancy Snively. Her topic was "Plant Regrets". She passed out a sheet of common invasive plants that we would want to avoid or keep in controlled growing areas. Our most common regrets included not having a plan of what to plant, plants that got too big for their area, and not getting information on care and growth patterns for the plants we chose. We enjoyed our social time and the refreshments brought by Gloria Barron.

Barb Krahl

More about Plant Regrets...

Nancy Snively, began the discussion. We've all had them—those beautiful looking or sounding starts that we were sure would add the right touch to our garden.

Then, disaster strikes! They take over, crowd out other plants, persist even after digging them out or dousing them with Round-Up. There were also ideas and suggestions for control IF you cannot resist that pretty plant. Nancy presented some definitions of aggressive and invasive plants and then we discussed a list of the worst perpetrators. Take a look at her list and beware!



Anemone Autumn Clematis Bishop's Goutweed (Snow on the Mountain) Bamboo Bugleweed (Ajuga) Day Lilies Hops Ivy Lamb's Ear Lily of the Valley Loosestrife Mint Morning Glory Oregano Periwinkle (Vinca Minor) Star of Bethlehem Tansy Wintercreeper (Euonymus).

Nancy brought interesting brochures from the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society. Look in the Sowers box for a copy.

Welcome to Sally Sandman and Steve Clements. We hope you enjoyed the program and look forward to seeing you again.

Summary of Pinterest Workshop

Eleven Sowers met on March 9 to learn about using the internet for the social platform called Pinterest. Our expert, Dee McConville, had a detailed print out to guide us, and used the large screen in the parlor for us to follow along as she took us step by step through how to actually do it! Dee also guided those who brought laptops on how to create a free account, look for topics, create a "board", and how to "pin" something we wanted to keep to that board. We are hoping to use this to get new ideas for things we can make for the bazaar. Maybe we'll find ideas for gardening, growing, and who knows what else! Extra copies of Dee's handout are available in the Sowers mailbox at church.

Also, Gloria brought more delightful treats for us to enjoy. That helped with our concentration.

Barb Krahl

Treasurer Report...

Details on our finances and a budget will be presented at our next meeting.

Nan Schulte

From the Gardener ...

March Garden Notes

Did you notice the beautiful winter urns Sherry Clark did for us again this year? Unfortunately the birch logs and branches were firmly frozen when she tried to remove them in February. Last week with some extra help from her family the urns got cleaned and ready for spring flowers.

What would you like to see happen in the garden this year? The 'locked door policy' has decreased the number of visitors into the garden. More people notice the garden from inside looking out so I would like to address enhancing the view from the north west passage and office. Maybe the old yews could be

replaced with something low. And in the same area, the euonymus climbing the brick wall could be replaced with better-behaved and more interesting vines? Would the slow growing climbing hydrangea and clematis be a possibility? We need a budget first and time for ideas to be discussed.

We need an individual who would like to look after the espaliered pears. Matt Russell has done a great job; he wanted the experience of working with espaliered trees and has done it for more than several years. We want to find a male or female who could work independently and would enjoy maintaining the trees about three times a year. Let me know if you can suggest an individual who would like to serve the church in this way.

The medicinal and kitchen herb bed will be revamped this spring. Brandt Carter designed the bed and has helped maintain it over the years. She also does the fairy garden pot that is so popular with our preschool visitors. There is always something to sniff or touch in the herb bed. We will configure a slightly lower mound and keep the natural stones for interest and for plants to tumble over. With the help of some extra volunteers we can accomplish this when we finally get gardening weather.

Master Gardeners are encouraged to promote community gardens. Nancy Snively and I are active in

the association; besides sharing education with groups and friends we help to earn money that is then made available to beautify area public gardens. To supplement our Sower's yearly earnings we applied for and received a \$350 grant this month. Since we did not have a project firmed up when we applied for the grant, I asked for money for perennials and annuals for the garden and for the urns out front.

In summary, let me know your ideas for garden activities. There will be a clean up day in a couple of weeks. Notices come usually by email two or three days before the event.

(We work when there is one to two hours of planting, weeding, and clipping to do and when the weather forecast looks good. I will send notices several days ahead and ask you to respond only if you can come. It is very helpful in making the job list and assembling tools to know how many are coming.) Those who do not wish to receive work day announcements can let me know.

Carolyn Curry

Programs for 2019...

Sat. April 13, Parlor 1:00-3:00

Have you noticed those stones etched with Bible verses scattered throughout the Sowers' Garden? Come to a program and discussion led by Brandt Carter, one of our own herb experts, on Luke, the doctor and grower of medicinal herbs. She will highlight the many places in the Bible where Luke uses herbs for healing. Bring your Bibles to help with the activities!

Sat. April 27, Parlor 9:00 – 12 noon

There will be short business meeting – going over newly written chairman responsibilities (which will be emailed in advance for your review). At 10am, Jeff Peek will be explaining to us about the endowment fund and the Sowers money in it. This session is the one that had to be rescheduled from Jan. If you have any questions, send to Nan in advance.

Sat. May 18 1:00

Welcome Spring Luncheon for our members & friends. Joyce Wozniak is planning this at a restaurant. More details to follow.



Leaders for 2019

President	Sue McKee	253-9757 smckee@gmail.com
Vice President	Diane Rice	252-2612 ladydi7560@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Nan Schulte	466-1468 nanogram@att.net
Scribe	Barb Krahl	846-4730 bckrahl@hotmail.com
Programs	Gloria Barron	844-2989
News Editor	Chris Hammock	605-5926 mcmhammock@gmail.com

Gardener	Carolyn Curry	313-7990 carolyn.curry@gmail.com
Spring and Fall Plant Sale	Carolyn Curry	313-7990 carolyn.curry@gmail.com

Bazaar **???? (how about you?)**

Hospitality	Sharon Fischer	251-3440 sharonkayfischer@yahoo.com
Care Chaplain	Sue Meyer	816-0185 s-meyer@att.net

Member News...

Brandt Carter has an exhibit of her artwork on display at the Orchard Park Church, 1605 East 106th Street. Stop by until the end of March to view her portraits of dogs! Visit her website at: Brandtcarterartist.com

About the News...

The Sowers are part of the church website but the exact URL has changed: www.stlukesumc.com, click on **OUTREACH**, 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 most recent newsletter.

All with email addresses will receive the newsletter as a .pdf attachment.

THE SOWERS
of
St. Luke's United Methodist Church

MISSION:

- to tend the Sowers garden at St. Luke's
- to learn more about plants, especially herbs
- to join together in fellowship for the above

With many working hands and dedication, we all cultivate our skills in gardening and harvest much knowledge from our programs, field trips, the May and September plant sales, and the Fall bazaar. You will get as much out of our organization as you are willing to put into it.

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone who will uphold the above and do the following:

1. Contribute \$5.00 annually. Only the e-version of the news is available to those on non-paying inactive status.
2. Assist in garden maintenance:
 - March - May clean-up, dividing, pruning, fertilizing, and planting
 - June - October maintenance, weeding, etc.
3. Participate in one of the Sowers committees.
4. Participate in our planned programs, assisting as needed.
5. Assist with plant sales and/or bazaar that support the expenses of maintaining the garden.

YES! I want to be a member of *The Sowers of St. Luke's*. I agree to the service commitments outlined above.

The annual directory will include paid-up members as of **May 1**. To include your name in this year's directory, return the form below and your \$5.00 check payable to The Sowers to:

Diane Rice
 7560 Sycamore Grove Ct
 Indianapolis, IN 46260-3388

OR you can leave it in the Sowers box in the church office Communications Center.

I will print news myself from our website. To go green, check here _____

Returning members: IF no changes OR corrections since last year, check here _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Home phone _____ Birth date (not year!) _____

Work or cell phone _____ Email _____

Comments: