



April 16, 2020

God is Where You Are.

Pastor, Rev. Sharon Kichline
Assistant Pastor, Joshua Krakos
Music Ministry, Lamar Fitzgerald
Youth Ministry, Pastor Paige Foster
Children's Ministry, Trish Sorenson
Secretary, Holly Graham

pastorsharon@websterum.org
assistantpastor@websterum.org
directormusic@websterum.org
directoryouth@websterum.org
directorchildren@websterum.org
secretary@websterum.org

314-961-4133

Facebook.com/WebsterUnitedMethodist/
<https://websterunitedmethodist.org/>



Easter 2020

*Pinwheels for picking and an
Easter Bunny delivering Cheer to
the children of our congregation!*

*Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen Indeed!*



...a note from Pastor Sharon

Let's Get Together!

Easter Sunday marked the 4th Sunday that we have been united while apart. It's been a challenging adjustment for everybody. And while the experts and politicians haggle over when we can safely leave the shelter of our homes and head back to public spaces, we are missing each other.

So let's get together! I'm starting to get the hang of Zooming, and am so pleased at how easy it can be. So when Pastor Josh asked if I would lead a small group, I jumped in the puddle to play.

Beginning next Tuesday, April 21st, at 7:30p, I'm hosting a group to discuss Harold S. Kushner's book, [When Bad Things Happen to Good People](#). (Yes, I was originally planning Wednesday evenings, but realized that the Chancel Choir maybe hosting a Zoom gathering during their regular choir rehearsal time.)

It's been around near 40 years, but its theology is still solid. And it promises to help us address the issue of theodicy, the question of where God is in our suffering. For many, that's become a pretty pertinent question as the death rate for the COVID-19 virus continues to grow, as do furloughed employees, mounting bills, and our communal stress.

If you would like to join me, text/email/call me and give me your email address. 15 minutes before we are to meet, I will send you the link to your email account. Your response is merely to click on it at 7:30p, and follow the prompts.

You can purchase a book for less than \$10 at Cokesbury.com, but you can still join us if you elect not to get one. I'll provide a synopsis weekly, and lob some questions for discussion.

I hope you can join me!

Pastor Sharon
314/566-0332
pastorsharon@websterum.org



Global United Methodist virtual choir brings Easter anthem

Apr 10, 2020

Watch our worldwide Easter choir!

We may be apart this Easter Sunday, but we can still worship and celebrate together!

Watch as more than 300 United Methodists from around the world join together for a very special virtual choir anthem, [Charles Wesley's "Christ the Lord is Risen Today."](#)

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Happy Easter from The People of The United Methodist Church!

This video, produced by Discipleship Ministries and United Methodist Communications, was posted Friday, April 10, 2020.

https://www.umc.org/en/content/global-united-methodist-virtual-choir-brings-easter-anthem?utm_source=umnw&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=members&utm_content=choir04/13/2020&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVdVNVIUbGhNbUU1WkRRMiIsInQiOiJHditXck0yNFFCNWxDNOVBXC81NDhuWVM1a25xaHVhc2ZqOEZkYmR5bHZna3hYQnkraEp1Rnd4RW9uMmlHSjdEWVI4QVc3MFwvTUVMefBjaktRaWN5emNPWlwvR0thM0E1SFBqa1FldldUSThLajNVMUs4S0pHZUtMWTJmckd6QTVjYyJ9



Epworth Children and Family Services

As many of you know Epworth serves children, youth and families in the St. Louis area and is associated with the United Methodist Church as one of our National Mission Institutes. The population they serve includes youth in our community who are homeless or at risk and the agency does so in a variety of ways including

residential housing, emergency shelters, and outreach to homeless youth. Epworth is certainly an essential business at all times but especially in this time of the pandemic and they need our assistance.

Of course, the first thing that would help is financial support. Many of you already do this but if you can do more it would be most appreciated. Also, if you generally give at the end of the year and could move that support up to the present it would be great. Donations can be made through Webster UM by designating your gift to Epworth in the memo line or by giving online available on our webpage. Click GIVE” in the top header and then select “Epworth Children and Family Services”, as the fund to which you would like to donate.

Second, there are items that are essential to the work of the Drop-In Center and the Street Outreach. On Monday, I spoke with Jenn Deaton and she expressed that they are having difficulty getting enough of certain items including meals to give out on the streets and to serve at the Drop-In Center. Her wish list includes:

- Packaged Meals - Placed in zip-lock bags and containing items that do not require refrigeration. Things to include might be: easy-open canned meats esp chicken or dried meats, a fruit cup, cookies, energy or granola bars, crackers with cheese or peanut butter, fork, napkin.
- Washcloths
- Women's Underwear - any style - sizes 6 or 7
- Men's Underwear - boxer briefs combo - sizes medium or large
- Hand Sanitizer - small bottles for the homeless and bigger ones for the facility
- Meals for the center - They serve about 30 individuals per day (Monday thru Friday). Currently sandwiches are preferred because it is easier to keep everyone from contamination. This is where you can double your good works. Tuesday I went to our Old Orchard Subway and purchased 30 sandwiches. Not only was the restaurant helped but so were the youth. The owner even threw in some extra to help contribute to the youth.
- Fruit cups

If you can donate these things please bring them to our elevator lobby. If you would rather donate money for someone to shop make your check out to Webster UM and in the memo line put Epworth Items.

Last and most important is to pray. The folks at Epworth are working hard to keep everyone safe and it is stressful. Research studies show that prayer helps people. So let us pray for all involved.

Linda Guth-Stangl



The Upper Room Devotional

The Upper Room is a devotional magazine published in Nashville which presents a daily Bible passage, a personal story usually by lay writers, a prayer, and a thought for the day. We generally have copies available to interested persons in our church. Our May-June copies have arrived. If you generally enjoy using The Upper Room, please contact Linda Guth Stangl at 314-753-4292 by voice or text or e-mail her at linda-guth-stangl@live.com and she will make sure a copy gets to you.

If you have never tried this devotional magazine and/or prefer electronic media you can enjoy a free 30-day trial. You can have it sent to your e-mail or smart phone every morning. See www.upperroom.org/welcome to order this.



...a note from Assistant Pastor Paige

Hello church! I hope the newsletter finds you well again this week. I hope you are continuing to attend you self and spiritual needs as you need best.

Our youth group has moved to an online format these days. We will be gathering Sunday nights at 6:00 on Zoom!!! We will also be doing a Bible Study via The Holy Bible App. It is called "Kickstarting a Conversation with God". I invite you all to at least download the app and explore the plans that are available. They offer a wide diversity of topics and lengths.

For iPhones go to the App Store and search 'bible'. Once you find the icon with a brown cover and a red bookmark, download it for free!

For Androids go to:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sirma.mobile.bible.android&hl=en_US

Happy reading & learning!!!! Blessings, soap and water, Paige



Hi Webster United Methodist,

Wanted to thank you guys so much for dropping the bunny and the lawn spinner off yesterday! It was a nice surprise and Elizabeth loved the gifts.



We'd also like to thank you guys for the soft blocks we were given way back in Christmas, we don't know who, but someone passed them to Jon and they have become one of Elizabeth's favorite toys.

Thanks again!

- Melodie Wong





Native American Ministries Sunday April 26

The United Methodist special offering Sunday on April 26, funds urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries, and Native American ministries Annual Conference.

More than 100 years ago, God planted a Methodist presence in Standish, Michigan, and the Saganing Indian Mission began. Recently, however, the congregation disbanded. In hopes of reviving the ministry, a pastor was provided for one year, but an active congregation did not result. Today, the Detroit Annual Conference Committee on Native American Ministries is implementing a vision for the Saganing Indian Church site, a ministry with the Saginaw-Chippewa tribe.

The Native American Ministries offering provides funding for such projects. Recently, Volunteers in Mission brought a team to repair the roof and interior damage. The Committee will maintain the refurbished property and work in development.

“We’re looking to offer a meeting place, both for the community and for the conference,” a committee member said. “We can provide a gathering place of peace and harmony.”

Please prayerfully consider giving to this special offering on Sunday, April 26. You may give online at our website by clicking the “GIVE” button on the menu bar, at the top of the front page.

Thank you very much,
Jan McCurley, Risk-Taking Missions Chair





Hello Church,

Below I am to include a written tutorial on how best to join a zoom call in my experience. Please utilize zoom to join some small groups in the future!

Blessings,
Pastor Joshua

How to Join the Zoom Call

Most times in attending a zoom call, the host will send you an email invitation with a link to the zoom meeting. All you should do is click on the link provided in the email.

There is a meeting ID and password below that. You should not need this if you just click on the link. All you need to do is join the call by clicking on the URL and following the prompts that zoom gives you from there.

If you have not downloaded zoom, the zoom will prompt you to download it on to your computer. This extension of zoom makes it much easier for you to join zoom calls, but it is not required to join the meeting. I recommend you download the extension, it does not take long.

Once you join the call make sure you connect with video so we can see you. Then the next thing will be to connect to the audio once you are in the zoom. That will be at your toolbar of the zoom window. Use "Internet Audio"

Then everything should be set for us to start the class. If you have trouble joining the class here are some FAQs and troubleshooting fixes.

If you only have your phone to do this meeting, you can still join us. Just access the email from your phone and follow the instructions I have above. If this is what you are going to do, please download the zoom app before the meeting. You will be able to see us and talk just like the viewers on their computers.

If for some reason you cannot hear us or we hear you once you are in the zoom please check the following: your camera does not have a red line through it, your audio is not muted on the app or your computer, and your audio is connected using the instructions I provided earlier.

If you cannot access the video at all, you can call into the zoom using the number provided in the email. I would only do this as a last resort because you will not be able to see us.

Thank you for everyone who was able to make it to the learning session for zoom on Friday. Below is the link for the video that Gordon has mentioned he would share. Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help with zoom!

I missed you all on Easter, Christ has risen!
Pastor Joshua

For more training, see https://zoom.us/rec/play/ucYoIumtq243G9fAswSDUPArW9W-eKis1Cga8_EPmk7mAnFQMAevZ7IQZefBr9eLpOtBNxuUZZ4WFxrQ?continueMode=true



NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled
spring is not cancelled
love is not cancelled
relationships are not cancelled
reading is not cancelled
naps are not cancelled
devotion is not cancelled
music is not cancelled
dancing is not cancelled
imagination is not cancelled
kindness is not cancelled
conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled



#keeplookingup
SimpleStencils.com



...a note from Assistant Pastor Josh

Hello all,

I am writing to spread the news that I will be starting a new zoom Sunday school to try and still gather us together in small groups to develop our faith and theology further.

I invite you to join me starting **THIS Sunday at 9am on zoom** for a small group over the theology of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. I will bring passages of his theology and connecting it to scripture and United Methodist doctrine and facilitating dialogue.

Everyone is invited, all I need in order to get you in the class **is for you to email me back and let me know you are interested in attending the class!**

I hope we have a good turnout for our first meeting on Sunday. Please email me back if you are interested, and please feel free to forward to people you believe would be interested!

Blessings,
Joshua



...a note from Children's Director, Miss S

Hope y'all had a wonderful Easter Weekend! Please join our newest Facebook group "Webster United Methodist: Children, Youth, and Families" for videos, resources, activities, and stories throughout each week. Also, look out for weekly emails from me with a children's bulletin. If you would like to be added to the email listing for that, please contact me at directorchildren@websterum.org. Stay healthy!

Trish Sorenson



We Are Sad

This past Sunday was Easter, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Because we know *that* we believe that **Edward Emery** went to join his late wife Dorothy and his Savior Jesus on April 12, 2020. I don't know where Ed & Dot met; but they came from a Methodist Church in Evansville, Indiana, with two of their four children, to join our church on September 8, 1957. Rev. Ray Trotter was welcoming many young families in those days so Mary, Jim, Eric, and Richard were in large Sunday School classes. By the early 1970's Ed and Dot were Family Life Coordinators and had started holding spring and fall Family Camps for our church families at Blue Mountain (the Missouri East Conference's most rustic campground). Every year they would trim the large evergreens at their Brentwood home the day before Hanging of the Green. That's when all ages would come the afternoon of the first Sunday of Advent to decorate every space in the church, share in a potluck dinner, and watch or participate in the children's

Christmas program. The Emerys made the preparations and the church families enjoyed the events. Jesus told us he went to prepare a place for us. Ed's room was ready when he got there.

Pastor Sharon will officiate at a graveside service for Ed on Friday, April 17. A memorial service will be later, when we can gather together to celebrate his life. In the meantime, please share your memories and sympathy with the family in care of his daughter Mary Watson, 983 Imperial Point, Manchester, MO 63021.

While writing this on April 15, 2020, I learned of a death this morning of one of those young adults that Ray Trotter brought into the church. Ed Emery had his 94th birthday in January. **Dale Dill** was just a young whipper-snapper when he turned 86 the same month. Dale and his late wife Paula joined on December 6, 1959. She preceded him in death on January 14, 1978, after giving birth to their three daughters, Debbie, Linda, and Laura. Dale always had a heart for missions. In 1975, while chairing the Work Area on Missions, Dale & Paula started the Lord's Acre Dinner and Auction, a tradition that continues today. In the fall he would cut trees from his Christmas tree farm and donate to Kingdom House. The Valentine Project would be appropriate now. They gave out cake mixes at worship for families to bake and take to a neighbor.

On January 2, 1980, Dale and Monsanto co-worker Linda were married and Dale became the father of another daughter, Cheryl. Continuing an interest in missions, they gave a large donation to help our church build a well for Chiphongo UMC, our covenant church in Mozambique. The memorial service will be delayed, of course; but you may express your sympathy to Linda and family by using the address in the white directory. We may not be able to celebrate Dale's life here on earth; but they are definitely celebrating in heaven.

Beth Anderson, Membership Secretary
#314-781-9923,
membership@websterum.org

Our Prayer Concerns

Everett Clark (Karen Clark's grandson; Lucy Kroenung; Cindy Burke (Carol Gilker); Ariana (Jan Hanson); Val (Nephew of Lois Brodt); Heather and Amanda (Karen Clark); Traci Stuart and family; Sally Cobb; Brent and Alison McCurley (Jan McCurley), Libbi Pacatte; Becca Stevens and family (Cindy Andrews); Kate Fuller, Sherry Montford, and all ER personnel; the Emergency Dept at Barnes Hospital (Helen Fuller), those quarantined in close quarters, Kate Stewart; Amanda and Caleb Sawyer (Debbie Brooks daughter and husband); Phil Bryan and Emily Moroney (Sherry Bryan husband and granddaughter); Ginger (Alma and Merv Wright's daughter); Barb Sarich; John and Carolyn Denison (Carolyn Redmore's brother and sister in law); Diane and Ron Wallace; Matthew Francis (Lisa Carswell's son); Ryanlyn Mathis; Rachel Krakos; people of Nashville and tornado area; medical personnel caring for the sick; those infected with virus; for workers who bring us food; for those caring for small children, doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, and other healthcare providers

And from our outside Prayer Box: "Please pray for the people with the coronavirus."



<https://www.thissideofheavenblog.com/blog/how-the-virus-stole-easter>

How the Virus Stole Easter, by Kristi Bothur

'Twas late in '19 when the virus began,
Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.
People were sick, hospitals full,
Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.

As winter gave way to the promise of spring,
The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.
People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.
They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and cleaned.

April approached and churches were closed.
“There won’t be an Easter,” the world supposed.
“There won’t be church services, and egg hunts are out.
No reason for new dresses when we can’t go about.”

Holy Week started, as bleak as the rest.
The world was focused on masks and on tests.
“Easter can’t happen this year,” they proclaimed.
“Online and at home, it just won’t be the same.”
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the days came and went.
The virus pressed on; it just would not relent.

The world woke Sunday and nothing had changed.
The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.
“Pooh pooh to the saints,” the world was grumbling.
“They’re finding out now that no Easter is coming.
“They’re just waking up! I know just what they’ll do!
Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,
And then all the saints will all cry boo-hoo.

“That noise,” said the world, “would be something to hear.”
So it paused and the world put a hand to its ear.
And it did hear a sound coming through all the skies.
It started down low, then it started to rise.

But the sound wasn’t depressed.
Why, this sound was triumphant!
It couldn’t be so!
But it grew with abundance!

The world stared around, popping its eyes.
Then it shook! What it saw was a shocking surprise!
Each saint in each nation, the tall and the small,
Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!
It hadn’t stopped Easter from coming! It came!
Somehow or other, it came just the same!

And the world with its life quite stuck in quarantine
Stood puzzling and puzzling.

“Just how can it be?”

“It came without bonnets, it came without bunnies,
It came without egg hunts, cantatas, or money.”

Then the world thought of something it hadn't before.

“Maybe Easter,” it thought, “doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Easter, perhaps, means a little bit more.”

And what happened then?

Well....the story's not done.

What will YOU do?

Will you share with that one

Or two or more people needing hope in this night?

Will you share of the source of your life in this fight?

The churches are empty - but so is the tomb,
And Jesus is Victor over death, doom, and gloom.
So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,
As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.

May the world see hope when it looks at God's people.
May the world see the Church is not a building or steeple.
May the world find Faith in Jesus' death and resurrection,
May the world find Joy in a time of dejection.
May 2020 be known as the year of survival,
But not only that -
Let it start a revival.

