

May 14, 2020



When the storm hits,
we have to learn how to dance
in the rain...



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/>



Even though we cannot gather inside for worship, a group of volunteers has been working to keep the outside of our church a *welcoming presence to all!* Here are some photos from the past several weeks of springtime at Webster United Methodist!





A Note from Pastor Sharon...

A Warm Heart

On May 24th, 1738, John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, felt something remarkable happening to him as he attended a worship service in London. He later wrote in his journal:

*“In the evening, I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate-Street...and I felt my **heart strangely warmed**. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation: and an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins, even mine...”*

Together with his many brothers and sisters, John Wesley has been involved in church his whole life. His father was an Anglican priest in the Church of England, and his mother, a strong, caring Christian whose stalwart faith greatly influenced her 10 surviving children. John studied at Christ Church College in Oxford, and at the age of 25, was ordained as a priest in the Church. But it wasn't until that evening on May 24th that he experienced the power of God's Holy Spirit stirring within him, affirming God's love for him as a beloved child of God. It was that movement of God's Spirit that propelled his ministry to re-vitalize the church with greater zeal and dedication that ultimately led to the development of the Methodist movement in Britain and America.

This month, on May 24th, we will celebrate the 282nd year since John wrote about the occasion of his warm heart. Maybe you have your own heart-warming experience. I'd sure love to hear about it. Or maybe you are still waiting.

God's Spirit can move anyone at anytime, under any circumstance. But it seems that when we place ourselves in service to others, it increases the probability of experiencing God's stirring in our souls. To some it feels like the flutter of butterfly wings, and to other's, like being hit with a flying brick (in a nice way). But most certainly, it leaves the recipient amazed and craving another encounter.

So I invite you to find a way to serve others with your gifts and graces. Even under the shelter-in-place order, we can cook a meal for someone, make a phone call, bring in the trash cans for a neighbor, or shop for someone who is part of the high-risk populace. Give of yourself. And while you're busy, and least expecting it, may the Spirit stir your soul, and your heart be strangely warmed.

Grace and peace+
Pastor Sharon



To clean up your face mask economically and with a nod to the environment,

whatever it is (disposable surgical type mask or DIY, fabric) all you have to do is:

- put a glass of water in a large pan
- bring the water to a boil
- hang the mask onto the handle of a wooden spoon and wave over the pan in the steam cloud for 15 to 30 seconds.

This makes it possible to reuse the mask quickly after drying.

In addition, for fabric masks, it is a much more rational and practical protocol (speed, water and energy consumption) than washing at for 30 minutes by machine, to achieve the same efficiency of destruction. It's less restrictive, less destructive to the mask (and at least 500 times more economical in water and energy).



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gifts of home-cooked meals and food-delivery gift cards while I have been receiving cancer-related treatments. All of your help keeping my family fed since December and doing other things for us has been very appreciated. As my journey through illness continues, I hope that you will keep us and my medical team in your prayers.

Kristen Kremer



Each week on the WUM Children's Facebook page, I have been posting videos on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of an activity. Here are this week's activities.

Monday: Craft- Painters Tape Pictures

Wednesday: Story- Chapter 4 of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Friday: Cooking- Healthy Ice Cream

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/708071979728500/?ref=bookmarks>

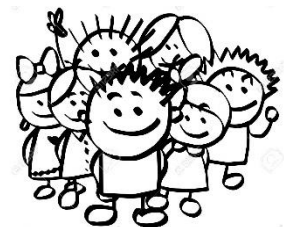
I also invite you to post your fun suggestions too!

Thanks,

Trish Sorenson,

Director of Children's Ministry

directorchildren@websterum.org



Sharing!

What are you doing while at home? Let us know! It would be fun to share what you have learned and what projects you have done. Did you start a quilt? Did you learn a new recipe? Did you clean out a closet? (I cleaned out a shed this week and found all sorts of goodies!) Did you finish a project? Or did you start a project? Accomplishments will be published every week in the Newsletter. Send a sentence or send a paragraph with a photo or two! Please send to secretary@websterum.org by Monday for inclusion of that week's newsletter. Thanks! We are looking forward to connecting with you and hearing from you all summer long! And it only will be interesting if you all participate!



Carol Gilker

I'm using this time to practice piano, which I hadn't done in years. Trying to relearn things I could play when I was 13. Some I think I play from "muscle memory". And playing from books given to me by Alice Dunn. Would love to play a couple for someone besides Clyde.

Next Week: Carolyn Redmore!



Hey, it's May! Are you missing your **Upper Room**? Our May/June Upper Rooms are in the Elevator Foyer. If you are not getting out, contact Linda Guth Stangl, at linda-guth-stangl@live.com, or 314-753-4292



MUSICAL RELIEF!



As we all continue to find new ways to live and enjoy life, I wanted to share events to offer you and the ones you love a bit of musical relief!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5AxkUe03GM> Dead and Company, One More Saturday Night February 24, 2018, New Orleans, LA. Lay back and listen anytime.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyUZh_Cbw6Q **Adam Ben Ezra – Awesome upright bass / percussion solo.** This video is dedicated to the channel of Adam Ben Ezra, is an Israeli bassist. His style is not only unique and entertaining, but also virtuous with a good portion of humor. Besides that, he has an amazing sense for good quality video and sound recording. The tune is a new original composition by Adam Ben Ezra called "Can't Stop Running", dedicated to BassTheWorld.com fans. Take a minute and listen to this wonderful music. Click the link anytime.

Friday, May 15 - 17: Andrew Lloyd Webber's YouTube channel, *The Shows Must Go On*, continues its programming this Friday, May 15 with **Cats**. The show will stream at 1 p.m., and the recording will remain accessible for 48 hours.

Friday, May 15: Miley Cyrus is scheduled to perform her song "The Climb" during Facebook and Instagram's Celebrate the Class of 2020 event in honor of graduating seniors who have had their commencement ceremonies canceled because of the pandemic. The ceremony will also feature words of wisdom from Lil Nas X, Awkwafina and others, as well as a commencement speech by Oprah Winfrey. It begins at 1:00 p.m. CST and can be streamed on Facebook.

Saturday, May 16: Roberta Flack, a prolific singer, songwriter and musician, is notable for her contributions to jazz, soul, and folk music. Due to health issues, Flack has been absent from the music scene for over a decade. In a rare appearance, the songstress will be hosting a live listening party of her greatest hits

on Rhino's YouTube page beginning at 2:00 p.m. The event will also serve as a benefit for ***Feed the Children***.

Monday, May 18: Jon Bon Jovi, Dolly Parton, Meryl Streep, and other big names are set to perform for "***A Night of Covenant House Stars***," a live stream concert benefiting the Covenant House charity. The show begins at 8:00 p.m., and can be found on the new streaming service Broadway On Demand. Membership and viewing is free until further notice.

Thursday, May 21: Blake Shelton, Gwen Stefani, OneRepublic, Ellie Goulding, Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers, Sam Smith, James Taylor, Meghan Trainor and *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical's* Adrienne Warren are all set to perform for this year's Red Nose Day Special, which begins at 8 p.m. on NBC.

Lamar Fitzgerald,
Director of Music



The Ted Tree

During our time of isolation and closure because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, there have been several times when Pastor Sharon has used the tree near the bench in front of our church as a place of cheerful or inspiring activities. Some of you that walk by have read the sign and know the story that the Chancel Choir placed the tree in memory of Ted Hoyer on May 26, 2006. So when Pastor Sharon refers to it as The Ted Tree you know what she is talking about. Many of our long-time members know the rest of the story but this is written for those of you who never knew Ted Hoyer.

Ted lived to be 57 years old and with Vicki raised 3 wonderful children and was absolutely delighting in being a loving papa to 7 grandchildren (now there are 9). The memorial service drew over 400 people and Randy Thomas noted "How could such a quiet man have such a big impact". The big impact happened because Ted was a loving, funny, creative, musically talented, protective, generous man; involved in community and church activities; and a compassionate, good listener who came to the aid of those in need. I can't recall Ted ever attending a Bible study (although maybe he did) but I did witness him live his faith. Ted would

be the first to tell you that he was not perfect and then he would laugh and tell you Vickie would also say he isn't perfect. (We know none of us are perfect yet by John Wesley's urging we should be moving on to perfection.) Ted never preached a sermon to my knowledge. However, when Ted picked up a guitar in church services and ESPECIALLY when he took his trombone and played the most heart-felt version of "God Be with You till We Meet Again" the moment became a spiritually-moving statement from a quiet man. I could go on and on but I hope that these words give you a glimpse into the Ted who has a tree named after him.

I think Ted would be happy that his tree follows in his footsteps to cheer and lift others. I also know that he would be humbled to be remembered and extremely proud of his family and who they are today. So, when you see names around the church, realize that there is a story behind each one and that they left a deep and positive impression on those who knew them. My prayer is that each of us is being led by the example of Jesus Christ to do the same.

Linda Guth Stangl



Hands in Mission Activities Cancelled for Now

It is with disappointment that I must cancel the first Hands in Mission activity for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were scheduled to work on Saturday, May 9 for Food Outreach's Cook & Pack, so we will reschedule that work at a later time when things return to normal. And, although we did not have a date yet determined for June, I will also not schedule a Clean Stream with the Boy Scouts for this summer. As things progress, I'll determine whether it is advisable to schedule the mid-August school supply shopping for Lifewise, Backpacks & BBQ, that we helped with last summer.

Blessings and peace,
Jan McCurley, Chairperson of Risk-Taking Missions



Attention High School Seniors! Scholarships Available

Scholarships are available for students who will be graduating from high school this year. Seniors expecting to attend any institution of higher education are encouraged to apply. Application forms are available by contacting Lettie Morse by email at emorse01@earthlink.net and must be returned by May 22th. Applicants must be a member of Webster United Methodist and participating in some church activities.



This is also a good time to consider making a donation to the Memorial or Scholarship Fund. Donations may be designated for scholarships or other church projects in memory or in honor of loved ones-such as a graduating senior.

Lettie Morse, Chair, Scholarship Committee



New Zoom Class Forming!

Hello Church,

I will be leading a new short-term online class called **Women in Faith every Thursday at 4:30pm - starting Thursday, May 14th!** This class will be a discussion-based class influenced by the “We Pray with Her: Encouragement for Women Who Lead” devotional book, the CEB Women’s Bible, and our own experiences with faith. We will explore broader concepts of spirituality within and beyond the typical sphere of Christianity and how we view ourselves within that, and also reflect on matriarchal and feminine figures in the Bible.

This class is open for all ages and genders to participate! Each session will be an independent topic, so if you’re not able to participate every week, no worries. Reach out if you have any questions, I’d love to hear from you. **To participate, drop me an email.** Hope to see you next Thursday!

Josephine Phillips phillips.josi@gmail.com



Request from Pastor Jose for La Trinidad Families

Our district has received a call for help from Pastor Jose of La Trinidad United Methodist Church, our Hispanic ministry worshipping in south St. Louis County. Many of their families are in acute financial distress, having lost their jobs or been furloughed. The church is seeking support to help meet the demand for food.

WUM will be providing a financial gift from our Loaves and Fishes fund. If you would like to send a gift as well, make your check out to WUM, and add La Trinidad in the memo section.



Sympathy to Sherry Bryan on the passing of her husband, Phil.

Sympathy to Toni McCoy on the passing of her husband, Bob.

Sympathy to the friends and family of Anita Bledsoe.

Our Prayer Concerns: George and Norena Badway (Toni Miceli's parents); Jo Ann and Pat Claywell; Joyce and Scott Simpson family; Sophia (Anna Schwind); Jacque (Linda Austin); Earl Emert and Roger Johnston (sons-in-law of Jean Major); Lucy Kroenung; Ariana (Jan Hanson); Val (Nephew of Lois Brodt); Everett, Thomas, Heather and Amanda (Karen Clark); Stuart / Reesor family; Sally Cobb;

Brent and Alison McCurley (Jan McCurley), Libbi Pacatte; Becca Stevens and family (Cindy Andrews); Kate Fuller, Sherry Montford, the Emergency Dept at Barnes Hospital (Helen Fuller), those quarantined in close quarters; Amanda and Caleb Sawyer (Debbie Brooks daughter and husband); Sherry Bryan; Ginger (Alma and Merv Wright's daughter); John and Carolyn Denison (Carolyn Redmore's brother and sister in law); Diane and Ron Wallace; Matthew Francis (Lisa Carswell's son); Ryanlyn Mathis; people suffering through natural disasters; 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", and "Please pray for my family."



Please join our On Line Worship
Thursdays at 7:30pm
and Sundays at 10:30 am,
on Facebook at Webster United Methodist,
or our website at websterunitedmethodist.org

You are also invited to join "Prayers with Pastor Sharon",
at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays on Facebook or on this page within
our Facebook window.