



July 30, 2020

Vote!

Tuesday, August 4th

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

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

Please join our Online 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.



A Word from Pastor Sharon...

“Jesus Loves Me, This I Know...”

I have great Vacation Bible School memories. When I was a little girl, I remember learning about how much Jesus loved me through music, stories, games, and those messy projects that sometimes involved glitter.

I did not question why, or when, or how Jesus loved me...I was just happy to know that he did. And knowing that, brought me a deep comfort that has stuck with me always. Jesus loves me...and he loves you. In 12 years of schooling, 4 years of college, and 4 years of seminary, that’s the most important thing I think I ever learned anywhere, and I learned it at Vacation Bible School.

I also met new people, and they became my friends. We laughed, and learned, and shared lots of ice cream. The church grown-ups took care of me, and made me feel special. Church was a happy, safe, and adventurous place to go.

Webster United Methodist has offered this kind of loving and adventurous experience for a long, long time. But this year’s Vacation Bible School must be different. The children cannot physically gather at a prescribed time like they have

in the past. But what we've discovered since March is that there are still lots of kids walking past our church every day with their friends and parents. So there are children to love.

This year, our brilliant Children's Ministry Team will be reaching out to our neighbors and our church children by creating a complete VBS in a bag for delivery or the picking up. The theme, "Creating Community from a Distance", is timely and offers Bible stories, crafts, and activities that we hope will help empower their agency to be community-builders.

What I hope the kids remember most of their time together is that Jesus loves them for ever and always.

Invite your family and friends to swing by the church and pick up a bag hanging on the Ted Tree out front on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of next week.

"Jesus Loves YOU, this I know; for the Bible told me so."

Pastor Sharon



Hello, Church,

Here is a safe volunteer opportunity for those of you who would like to participate in a Hands in Mission service event for Lifewise. It will take the place of the 2019 Backpacks & BBQ event about 12 of us helped with last August. There is a choice of several different shift times and days during the week of Mon., Aug 10-Sat. Aug15. Please read the info below from Dan Richter, Dir. of Volunteer Engagement & Service learning. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to the SignUp.com and sign up. Then, please let me know (janis.mccurley@gmail.com OR text at 314-378-5504) so I can have a record of participants. Roger and I hope to sign up for a Friday Aug. 14 shift at LifeWise where we will organize the backpacks & shoes into family groups.

If you have any questions or need more info about the safety procedures, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks, Jan McCurley, Chair Risk-Taking Missions

***Mission Invitation from Dan Richter,
Director of Volunteer Engagement and Service Learning at LifeWise:***

I hope that this message finds you well, having enjoyed a nice - albeit hot - weekend. I wanted to send you a brief message today based on the fact that, within the past year, you have either volunteered at our Holiday Market or Back to School Event. We are preparing for our 2020 Back to School event and the time has come to put the word out regarding volunteer opportunities surrounding this year's event.

Needless to say, COVID-19 has changed the way that this event will look in 2020. We have altered the event so that students still get the materials that they will need but we do so in a manner that preserves the health and safety of our participants, volunteers, and staff. To that end, you'll note that the opportunities associated with this event look different than past Back to School events and Holiday Markets. Still, we need your help in order to pull this off!

On August 10th, we will set up space at Guardian Angel Settlement Association so that, on August 11th, we can stuff backpacks according to grade level. On August 14th, we'll organize backpacks and shoes into family units at LifeWise STL so that, on August 15th, we can give those out to LifeWise STL families via curbside pick up. Please feel free to access our online signup, which includes additional details, via the below instructions.

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online SignUp and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming SignUps.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/go/MYHQdnk>*
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.*
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.*

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually



A JOYFUL RESULT AND A CHALLENGE: A UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UPDATE

Thanks to Linda Guth Stangl's engagement with the Youth Drop In Center as an Epworth Children & Family Services Board and Auxiliary member, United Methodist Women learned of the need beginning mid-March for 30 cold lunches each weekday. An invitation was circulated to UMW membership and the congregation to "sign up" to meet this need. To quote Jenn Deaton, Drop In Center lead staff member, the response was "Awesome." So awesome that we have been able to cover all open lunch dates in May, June and July, as well as, provide some Street Bags. Over a dozen persons contributed cash (\$515), shopped for food, made sandwiches and/or cookies, and delivered the lunches. Any number of others placed fruit cups and snacks in the Epworth box at church. Any unspent donations will be used to meet needs in August. To all, a huge THANK YOU!

Until mid-March, robust, customary UMW connections took place at the local, district, and conference level. Since mid-March face to face meetings were cancelled. The connections have been quieter and largely dependent on person to person contact via email and phone. Of note we met our 1st & 2nd quarter Pledge to Missions (\$875 each) and the Leadership Team authorized immediate payment of donations (\$600) to four local agencies.

At this point, I note two challenges. One is fulfillment of UMW 3rd and 4th quarter mission pledges (each \$875) and receipt of free will offerings. Recent news has emphasized the disproportionate pandemic impact on women and children here and around the world. Women and children are a primary focus of UMW mission grants and programs. Join me in fulfilling our commitment. Pledges and offerings can be mailed to treasurer, Lettie Morse (411 Forest Green Dr., 63119).

The second challenge is figuring out how to gather in community again. The title I chose for a recent communication to the UMW membership was, "A Time of Transition." Unbeknown to me at the time was a bible study on this very topic by Rev. Matt Miofsky in the July/August UMW Response magazine. Miofsky says that transition is "about what is happening...with people as they experience

change...it requires effort, care, and intentionality." We can choose to enter into and make a transition or resist it. I pray our resolve as United Methodist Women is to enter into and make this transition.

Carolyn Redmore
President, United Methodist Women



Here is some additional information about absentee and mail-in voting.

Absentee Satellite Voting Sites

Absentee ballots may be returned and/or notarized at any location prior to Election Day.

South County Government Center
Keller Plaza
4554 Lemay Ferry Rd
St. Louis, Missouri 63129

St. Louis County Library
Mid-County Branch
7821 Maryland Ave
Clayton, Missouri 63105

West County Government Center
74 Clarkson Wilson Centre
Chesterfield, Missouri 63017

North County Recreation Complex
2577 Redman Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

Board of Elections
725 Northwest Plaza
St. Ann, Missouri 63074

(Ballots may be returned to the BOE on Election Day)

For additional information, please call
314-615-1800 or email
boecabsentee@stlouisco.com.

Hours:
Monday – Friday, July 23 – July 31,
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 25 and August 1,
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
August 3, 2020, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



A Call for Systemic Change:

Vote "Yes" August 4 for Medicaid Expansion

A year ago, many of us at church signed the petition circulated by the Social Justice Team to place Medicaid Expansion on a 2020 Missouri ballot as Amendment 2 to the Missouri Constitution. That step succeeded. The next step is voting "Yes" on August 4 for Amendment 2. It's on the backside of my absentee ballot. If you vote in person, it is probably at the end of the ballot.

Our bishop, our pastor, lay leaders, newspaper editors, columnists and many more have spoken out passionately and eloquently about justice inequities post killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Some, but not most of us, have marched in the street protesting. One mantra is the need for systemic change.

Over the past few years, I became convinced that, while I don't march, I could do a better job of paying attention to what and who I vote on that impact's quality of life and good governance. One outcome: I worked to put Medicaid Expansion on the ballot and next week will mail in my absentee ballot.

Simply put, Medicaid Expansion will:

- expand access to healthcare to communities all over the state
- keep our rural hospitals open
- bring our federal tax dollars home
- save us all money

Furthermore, passage contributes to building bridges between urban and rural communities. It also corrects the refusal over the past 10 years of our legislature to allow a Medicaid Expansion bill on the floor, much less to debate it. The result? Missouri is just one of 13 states that has not expanded Medicaid.

A correction: I did march July 9 in front of the church for expanding Medicaid, along with Mary Taylor, Katie Renkins, and Dan Pike. A second march in front of church occurs Wednesday, July 29, 5-6 p.m. Join us or come by and pick up a sign to put in your front yard. And VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT 2.

Carolyn Redmore, Chair of Justice Team



[St. Louis County Board of Elections](#)



We are currently seeking individuals to assist in protecting the safety of St. Louis County voters and election staff by working as **Door Monitors on August 4, 2020.**

Individuals working as Door Monitors will be stationed at the entrance of each of our 199 polling places and will be distributing face masks to individuals who do not have a mask prior to entering the building. The Board of Elections is requiring that all voters and poll workers wear a mask inside all polling locations, as mandated by St. Louis County. Any voter who cannot wear a mask has the opportunity to vote curbside at all polling places or at the Board of Elections office, 725 Northwest Plaza Dr. in St. Ann.

Door Monitors will receive \$125 in compensation for working 6AM-7PM. You may bring your own lawn chair, snacks, etc.

We are actively seeking those interested in performing this vital task on Election Day. If interested, please call (314) 615-1815. ⁽¹⁾



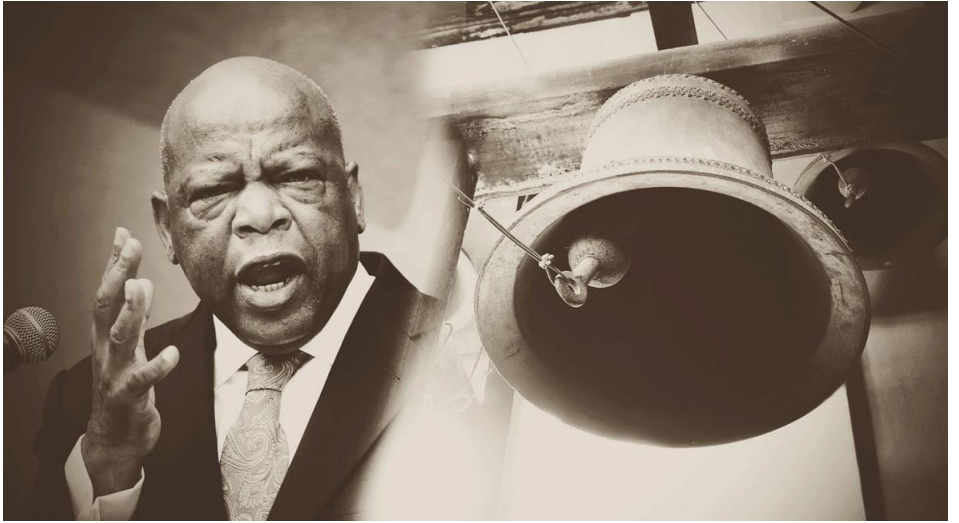
Buy Your School Supplies to Share with the Children!

WUM will again host a collection in our parking lot from **11am-1:00pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning on August 3-13.** Just drive up to the canopy and persons with gloves and masks will take the supplies out of your backseat or trunk. Lists of supplies will be posted on our website at websterunitedmethodist.org, and found in hardcopy in a realtor box in the church front yard by this Saturday. Supplies will be shared with the local ministries of Epworth and Family Services and Webster Rock Hill Ministries, and our urban ministry partner, LifeWise, in St. Louis City.



Last week, we lost a hero.

Congressman John Lewis passed away on Friday. He was 80. The son of sharecroppers, a Civil Rights icon, and a moral compass for America, John Lewis encouraged a whole new generation of us to get into "good trouble."



July 30, Lewis will be laid to rest. During the funeral, in partnership with the Lewis family and office, **houses of worship across the country will ring their bells at 11am ET for 80 seconds, one second for each year of Lewis's life. In lieu of bells at Webster UM, pause for 80 seconds of prayer.**

The Justice Team



National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA



MUSICAL RELIEF! –from Lamar Fitzgerald



Family is like music; some high notes, some low notes, but always a beautiful song. We want to celebrate your family and your songs this August! Take some time to reflect on how music has enhanced

your life and shaped your family thus far. What songs hold special meaning and why? Is there a song that offered hope and peace during a difficult time? What hymn or praise song has become a family favorite? Does your family have a theme song? After choosing a song, grab your cell phone and record your family offering their own unique rendition. Be creative and have fun!

Please include a brief introduction advising the title and why the song is special to your family. Your recordings will be shared during future online worship services. Email submissions to fitzgerald.lamar@wgcloud.org.



Youth News!—from Pastor Paige

August 2- We are headed to the lake!!! We are leaving from the church in a caravan at 10AM! The Kroenung's are hosting us at their lake. Bring suite and cover up, lake shoes, towel, sunscreen, and a friend! Let us know if you're coming! directoryouth@websterum.org

August 6- Cereal for dinner night!!! There will be an assortment of cereals and probably play some games. We will finish up with a Nooma devotional.

August 13- Lets pack school supply bags and lunches for kids here in St. Louis. Bring a friend and a bottle of hand sanitizer or a pack of crayons!!! We'll wrap up with ice cream!!!!

August 20- Back to School Stations. Come and reflect before school starts.

August 29- Lake Day: Part 2! We're heading to the Kichline cabin at Lake Timberline by Bonne Terre, MO. Meet at church at 10am with your suite and cover up, towel, lake shoes, sunscreen, and a friend! We need to know in advance if you're coming, so contact directoryouth@websterum.org.

REMEMBER:

Masks and physical distancing will be required!
Be sure to remind your friends when you invite them!



VBS-In-a-Bag starts the week of August 3rd.



VBS-in-a-bag starts the week of August 3rd. Stop by church on the 3rd, 5th, and 7th to pick up your daily bag of goodies. This years theme is “Creating Community from a Distance.” Each bag will include: the theme of the day, bible passage, craft, and activity- all able to be done in a socially distanced format. We hope you’ll stop by that week. If you are outside the St. Louis area and would like a VBS bag delivered please call Linda Guth-Stangl at (314)753-4292. ⁽¹⁾

Each week on the WUM Children’s Facebook page, I have been posting videos on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of an activity. Follow this link for this week’s activities.

<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



Our Prayer Concerns: Darlene (Vicki Hoyer); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Henry Copeland (Jon Copeland); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid / Bev Mesity); Ron and Dianne Wallace; Tom and Greg (Connie Kroenung); Wanda, Mark Kailbourn, (Cindy Andrews); Mallory (Paula Murphy); Darlene Hyry (Vicki Hoyer); Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); Victor Browning (Janet Iggulden); Andrew Kennon and family, Amanda Kohlfeld (Marcia Kennon); Elaine Filsinger; Joe Krabbe and family; Mary Felden Peters; Jodi and Chris Medieta (Joel Kichline); George and Norena Badway (Toni Miceli's parents); Jo Ann and Pat Claywell; Joyce and Scott Simpson family; 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; Kate 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); Dianne and Ron Wallace; 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.

To have your prayer requests included, please contact us using the:

- Connection Card located on our website,
- Prayer Request form on our website,
- Email secretary@websterum.org
- Contact one of our pastors at:
 - pastorsharon@websterum.org
 - assistantpaster@websterum.org
 - directoryouth@websterum.org
- Drop your prayer request in the outside box next to the ramp door.

