

August 13, 2020



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/>

My Dear Friends,

Your WUM Newsletter has arrived!

Yes, we are continuing to publish the newsletter through home isolation.

I am working from home and I can access the church email from here! *So please, keep on writing and sending your information so that I can keep the calendar up to date and the newsletter current.* I love  hearing from you!

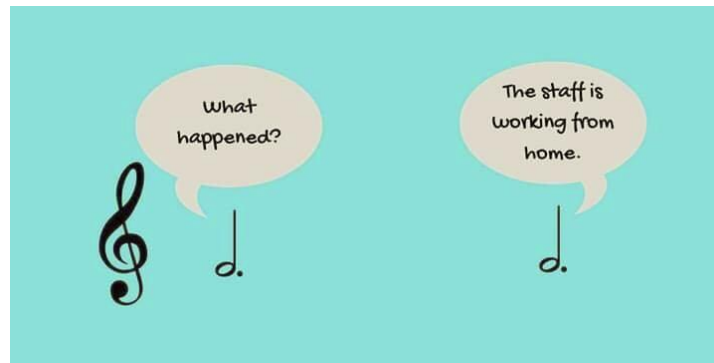
It is imperative that if you are planning on **scheduling a gathering**, whether outside in the parking lot, or anywhere in the building, that you let me know (secretary@websterum.org) due to social distancing. We welcome you, but we still need to keep a distance between groups by scheduling on the calendar. Please remember that everyone needs to wear a mask and sanitize all surfaces where you meet (before and after your meeting)! We will be sure to leave products for you to use in your areas.

Also, please email either Pastor Sharon or me your prayer concerns and thanksgivings. We publish our current prayer list every week as always. It is good to keep our church family connected.

Stay home and stay well,

Holly

PS: You can also keep connected by joining “Prayers with Pastor”, at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WebsterUnitedMethodist> . We also will continue to worship together through Facebook on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm and on Sunday mornings at 10:30am



...a message from Pastor Sharon

INVITATION

It hasn't happened for a while, but I remember the pleasure of receiving an invitation in the mail to a wedding. It made us smile. It's affirming to receive an invitation. It tells us that our company is desired. Something special is about to happen, and someone wants to share it with us. It feels good.

Invitations to church go by another name: Evangelism. The "E-word" usually scares folks. But it's just an invitation like any other.

I bet you know someone whose life is not exactly perfect, and could use a rock to hang onto. Someone who has suffered a loss this year, or is anxious for the future? Someone who is new on your block? Who could be made more whole by coming to know the Light of the World: your sister, your brother, your neighbor, the people you work with, the parents of your kids' best friend? Your own parents? The people you like to hang with on the weekends?

You might wonder, how can I invite someone to church when our church is closed for COVID-19?

You are right...we are not worshipping together in the sanctuary of our building, but we are still worshipping! Thursday evenings at 7:30p on the parking lot, and Sunday mornings through facebook and our website! These are easy opportunities to share with another...you just have to find a way into the conversation that offers you the opportunity.

Now I took a semester-long class in seminary about evangelism, as was required by our United Methodist curriculum. But after all that book learn'in, I discovered that it is really just about caring for another person. While it is not rocket science, it does help if we practice finding that way into the conversation.

In our next sermon series, beginning August 23rd, I will be sharing my own personal E:101 plan with you, my nearest and dearest friends.

Do we have to talk? Couldn't we just hope?

You can hope all you want, but there is no other more effective way of guiding people into a relationship of faith than personal invitation. For some, this may be their first visit to church, or back to church after an extended interruption. For many, it could be the first step on their new life journey of faith.

Don't worry about offending. Invitations are affirming. They may say no. But they may say yes. Whatever they say, they will know that you thought enough of them to ask for their company. It feels good. I promise.

Grace and peace+
Pastor Sharon



Dear Church,
Thank you for opening your arms and welcoming me into your church family.

Unfortunately 2020 has been an interesting ride, thus my departure has come quicker than expected. At this time, God has led me down a path to move back home to Wisconsin in order to be closer to my family.

I am though extremely appreciative of all the help and support I have received during my time at Webster United Methodist. Special shout-out to Linda Guth-Stangl for being my right hand woman over the past few months.



Go Brewers & Packers!

Best,
Trish Sorenson



Some of you may have noticed that our Reconciling Rainbow Flag has been torn by the winds. It has been removed, pending replacement.

-Pastor Sharon



...an Invitation from Assistant Pastor Josh

Hello Church,

It has been quite some time since last I spoke with you all. During my time with the Marines, I was able to reflect about the coming season, and how to continue to develop new ministries for our church. One of the ministries I would like to announce to you all is called "**Forming Faith**". This will be a small group bible study that will meet weekly and will go through the very first things to know about reading the Bible, as well as, understanding scripture, and the historical context of the Bible. I am designing this class for folks who are wanting to dive more deeply into scripture but do not necessarily know where to start. We will have a special emphasis on folks who did not grow up in the church, or new to our congregation.

Although my main focus is Young Adult Ministries, I will be opening this group to **all ages and all people**. There is no pre-requisite to be in this class and it will be accessible to folks 9 years of age, to 90! We will be meeting through zoom, but the time and date has not yet been determined. I am going to gather a list of everyone who wants to be involved and work out the best time from there. If you are interested please email or text me!

Blessings, Joshua



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



Youth News!—from Pastor Paige

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!**



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!

Thank you all who helped with the Vacation Bible School bags on the Ted Tree!
It was a super success!

Thanks,
directorchildren@websterum.org



Our Prayer Concerns: Darlene (Vicki Hoyer); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Henry Copeland (Jon Copeland); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid / Bev Mese); 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); Ryanlyn Mathis; Praise for rain and cooler weather; Teachers as they prepare many plans for an uncertain autumn semester; 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