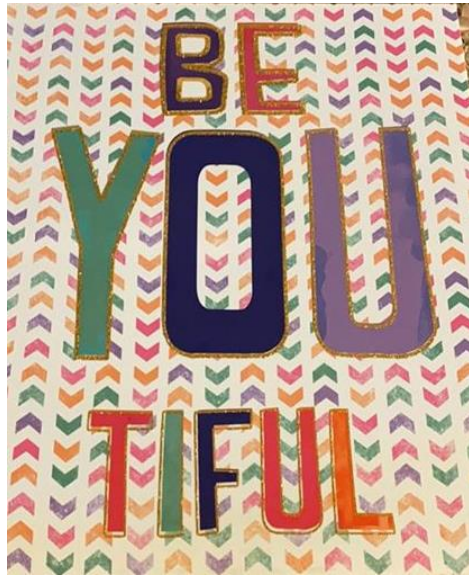


August 27, 2020




Pastor, Rev. Sharon Kichline
Assistant Pastor, Joshua Krakos
Music Ministry, Lamar Fitzgerald
Youth Ministry, Pastor Paige Foster
Children's Ministry, Shaeleigh Parsons
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,

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!

If you plan on doing anything anywhere in the church building, including the office, sanctuary, Fellowship Hall or any other room, you need to schedule a time that will be entered onto the calendar so that people do not cross paths. We are trying to keep our building safe for those that need to get things done. 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 inform the office (secretary@websterum.org) due to social distancing.

We welcome you, but we still need to keep a distance between people and 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

Greetings, Church!

As I write this note, kids in our community have begun their in-home instructions on their tablets and laptops, some older students have headed off to college campuses, and teachers are working with online lesson plans on overwhelmed technological platforms.

My prayers go up for all our students, teachers, administrators, and parents as they grapple with new ways of teaching and learning.

Some good things that comes of at-home learning is that you get to wear your comfy clothes every day, you don't have to raise your hand to go to the bathroom, and school bullies and snotty cliques aren't lurking around the corner from your locker or in the lunchroom. On the other hand, I am especially sensitive of the students who are lonely and isolated at home, maybe even in danger, and really need social interaction for their mental wellness. Let's continue to hold them all in our prayers.

Last year, the church collected fun supplies and goodies to send our away-from-home college scholars. We're going to do it again, and this year, our youth group will be putting together these Care Packages. If you would like to add something yummy (must be pre-packaged), useful, or funny to their packages, drop it in the box marked COLLEGE GOODIES in the elevator foyer by September 15th.

If you have a college student living away from home, please send their name and address to secretary@websterum.org.

Learning is so important for all of us. It keeps the brain from atrophying as it builds new neurological pathways that help us stay on our toes. I challenge us all to be engaged in some kind of learning. Here's a few current offerings at the church:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>
The Space Class	Church Lot,	Sunday mornings at 8am,	Jesse Hebisen
The Discovery Class	Church Lot,	Sunday mornings at 9am,	Loyd and Linda Schantz
The King Class	On-line	Sunday mornings at 9am,	Earl Jones
White Fragility Study	Church Lot,	Wednesday evenings at 7pm	Pastor Sharon
Beginning Bible Study	On-line	TBD	Pastor Josh

Stay sharp!

Pastor Sharon



Our NEW Director of Children's Ministries!

Hello Webster UM! My name is Shaeleigh Parsons and I am your new Director of Children's Ministries!

A little about me: I've been attending

Manchester UMC for the majority of my life. Ever

since 6th grade I knew that I wanted to be very involved in church, taking on many different leadership positions throughout the years. I have also been very involved in Irish dancing. I have been doing it competitively for the past 12 years and teaching it for about 4 years. Being involved in these activities showed me just how much I love to work with kids and that I love to spread the good news of God! I am also currently a student at Webster University, working on a major in Human Rights with minors in both Graphic Design and Religious Studies.

Some random fun facts about me: I have one sister, Jaedyn, who is a year older than me. I also have a miniature pincher puppy named Ellie who is the cutest dog ever if you ask me. 😊 In my free time I love to watch Netflix or a good movie. I am a huge Marvel fan and my favorite superhero is either Captain Marvel or Black Widow!

Keep an eye out on this Facebook group for all upcoming events and activities. I am super excited to get to know all of you, even if it's just virtually for now.



United Methodists Stand Against Racism

The tipping point for broad and clear protest against racism was the killing of George Floyd in Minnesota on May 25.

Our bishop, our pastor, and many others spoke in righteous anger, aptly summarized by the banner now anchored outside our church: United Methodists Stand Against Racism. At Webster United Methodist relevant book discussions are underway. The two I am aware of: *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo (2018) and *Holding Up Your Corner* by F. Willis Johnson (2017). Sermons, displaying the banner, and reading/discussing timely books are needed icebreakers in relation to facing anew the long standing and ongoing realities of racism.



A critical question concludes *White Fragility*: "Where Do We Go From Here?" More pointedly, how do we move forward with actions that work in specific ways to change the lived experiences of people of color and work to change our unwitting contributions to those experiences. I call each of us to reflect on what we might do. I want to hear from you. I also want to know if you are willing to join a task force to explore how we might work together on change.

I have a quiet lifelong passion for equity and justice fueled upon my return six years ago to St. Louis by the death of Michael Brown and the protests that followed. From my participation in community conversations (mostly listening),

I have some stories to tell. I believe some of you have stories to tell, also, of how you became aware or more aware of racial inequity. How can you/do you tell those stories? A suggestion: Let's tell them in coming issues of this newsletter.

Telling our stories cannot substitute for actions in the here and now, but they can prime us for how we might be ready for new actions.

Carolyn Redmore
Chairperson, Justice Team
cdredmore@aol.com; 314-249-8215



Youth News!—from Pastor Paige

This Thursday: Stations in the Youth Room!

Great way to start of the new school year. We'll be moving from prayer station to station in a safe way, and sending letters of support to our friend, Danielle. Bring your mask, your appetite, and a friend. 5:30p-7:00p.

Rescheduled: Lake Day: Part 2! September 9th. We'll be 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.

Blessings, soap & water,
Paige



Each week

on the WUM Children's Facebook page, I will be posting a challenge for the kids to complete. Keep an eye out for those, as well as other updates and activities.

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

Since I can't meet you guys in person, I set up a form for the kids to fill out so that I can get to know them. This can also be found in the Facebook group!

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or don't have access to Facebook, feel free to shoot me an email.

Thanks,
Shaeleigh Parsons
directorchildren@websterum.org



Dear Everyone,

As many of you know, I am on the Board of Directors for the Shepherd's Center. Some of the essential services the Shepherd's Center offers include: transportation to medical appointments, grocery delivery, simple home repair, and programs (including virtual) that help to abate feelings of isolation felt by so many senior citizens – especially now. Every year the Shepherd's Center serves over 1200 older adults in our immediate communities.

Every year the Shepherd's Center hosts several fundraising events. Because of COVID-19 we are down to one – Grab & Go BBQ on Friday, September 11 from 5:00-7:30. We need your support.

Enjoy some great BBQ, maybe win a GIANT TV, support the important work of the Shepherd's Center.

Many thanks,

Stan Richert

Questions? Contact Stan at shrichert@earthlink.net

Shepherd's Center on the Move
Grab & Go BBQ

Friday, September 11, 5:00-7:30
Webster Groves Christian Church Parking Lot
1320 W. Lockwood Ave., Glendale, 63122

BBQ meals to go with all of your favorite sides will be available for curbside pickup
(tickets to the cancelled Chef Showcase event in April can be presented for BBQ to go)

Tickets on sale now, \$20/each
go to www.shepherdscenter-wk.org for online sales

All proceeds benefit the Shepherd Center's essential services for older adults – medical transportation, grocery delivery and more.





Our Prayer Concerns: Ruth Day (Debbie Lund); Gayle Fields (Cindy Andrews); Todd (Gordon Ballam); Jacque (Linda Austin); Tom Bennet, Kelly and Jeff Whittemore, Sherry Dodd, Mia (Paula Murphy); Darlene (Vicki Hoyer); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Henry Copeland (Jon Copeland); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid / Bev Mesey); Ron and Dianne Wallace; Tom and Greg (Connie Kroenung); Mallory (Paula Murphy); Darlene Hyry (Vicki Hoyer); Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); Victor Browning (Janet Iggulden); Andrew Kennon and family, Amanda Kohlfeld (Marcia Kennon); 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; Earl Emert and Roger Johnston (sons-in-law of Jean Major); Lucy Kroenung; Ariana (Jan Hanson); 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; Health and Healing for COVID patients; Our country's future; Students and 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
- Contact one of our pastors:
 - Pastor Josh at assistantpastor@websterum.org
 - Pastor Paige at directoryouth@websterum.org
 - Pastor Sharon at Pastorsharon@websterum.org