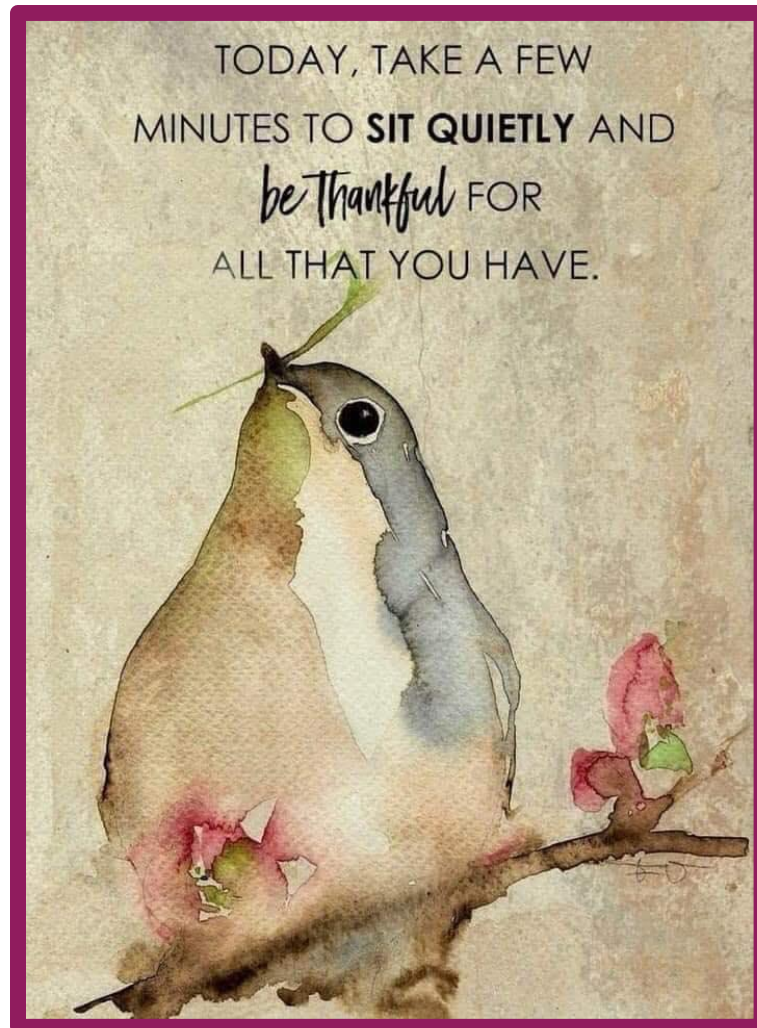


September 17, 2020




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](mailto:pastorsharon@websterum.org)  
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[directormusic@websterum.org](mailto:directormusic@websterum.org)  
[directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org)  
[directorchildren@websterum.org](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org)  
[secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)

314-961-4133

<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!

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](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)) so we can respect social distancing of groups.

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.

Bring your lawn chair and mask and join us at our in-person worship with The Mountain Service every Thursday evening on our parking lot at 7:30p!



...a message from Pastor Sharon

The  
Mountain Service



## Come To Worship!

What does it mean to you to be in worship with our church faith family? I can tell you how it makes me feel. I get excited and expectant. I look forward every week to seeing all of your faces, and some new ones! It makes my heart sing to see our children in worship with us, learning and growing in Jesus. My spirit tingles with anticipation because I'm expecting the Holy Spirit to be there and something new and beautiful might break loose.

It has been six months since we have worshipped in-person together as a community of faith in our Sanctuary. I miss you all, and I have heard from many of you how much you miss worshipping together. It hurts to be apart!

But here's the thing...we ARE still worshipping in-person together! Every Thursday evening at 7:30p, The Mountain Service has been creating worship for us and our neighbors on the church parking lot. Everybody brings a lawn chair and mask, and we seat ourselves at least 6 feet part. We celebrate joys and concerns, pray, receive a Biblical teaching, scripture and a relevant message. The Mountain Service Band plays both contemporary songs and classic hymns. By the end of the hour, we are worshipping under the stars together. The Holy Spirit shows up and there is always something beautiful breaking open.

Friends, I cannot say when we are going to be able to worship together in the Sanctuary. But I can invite you to join us right now on the parking lot with Jesus, for he promised, *"When two or more are gathered in my name, there I will be among them."* (Matthew 18:20)

Grace and peace be with you+

# The Mountain Service



*Pastor Sharon*





## How do you read your WUM newsletter?

We will be re-formatting our newsletter soon, and need to know what format is the easiest for your viewing pleasure! Let me know, [Secretary@websterum.org](mailto:Secretary@websterum.org) if you read on your phone, desktop, notebook... Or is there another device that you use? Please let us know so we can keep that in mind with our redesign!

Thanks!  
Holly



## Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts (MICA)

Hello.

My church's Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts (MICA) has received a Vital Worship Grant from the Lilly Endowment through the Calvin Institute of Worship at Calvin University. The result is a series of webinars, *Journey through Creation: Earth, Art and Faith... Alive!*

This series of webinars stresses the importance of environmental stewardship as part of our Christian calling. I encourage you to extend this invitation to members of your congregations to attend the first in the series – “Our Story as Earth’s Story” – Saturday, September 26 at 7:00PM. This Spirit-filled, renewing opportunity is an event that participants will find empowering and energizing.

More information is available [from our website](#). Registration materials will be available soon for download.

Peace.

**Rev. David A. Denoon**

Pastor

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves

United Church of Christ

10 West Lockwood Avenue

Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

[www.FirstChurchWG.org](http://www.FirstChurchWG.org)

Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud - @FirstChurchWG

Office (314) 962-0475, ext. 11

Mobile (314) 458-6055

Fax (314) 962-2838

“Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.”



## **From "Standing Against Racism" to "Working for Equity" In Webster Groves**

Who: Concerned Webster Groves citizens with support of Alliance for Interracial Dignity

What: A community vigil of concerned Webster Groves citizens

When: September 25, 2020 5:30-7:00 PM

Where: TBA, with social distancing and wearing of masks

Why Now?

Recently, white supremacist graffiti targeted Barbre Park and sister churches along Lockwood who were holding Friday vigils calling for racial justice. The September 25 gathering is a proactive community-wide response to take ownership of improving equity in Webster Groves: learning about what work is underway in Webster Groves; how regular people can find their place in influencing further change; ending with a half hour vigil along Lockwood.

Pray for the vigil and plan to participate.

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



## Special WUM Offering for US Weather Disasters

**The news is bad for people, trees, and wildlife** in Oregon and California. Wildfires are sweeping out of control through thousands and thousands of acres of forest, consuming the homes of all living things. The skies are grey with smoke. But the United Methodist Committee on Relief has already begun to respond.

**Last month, Hurricane Laura ravaged coastal communities** in the path of the storm's heavy winds and rain in Louisiana and Texas. Even as I type this, Hurricane Sally is smashing into the coasts of Florida and Alabama. UMCOR will be there too, guiding the initial assessments, forming Emergency Response Teams, and coordinating delivery of supplies and PPE.

**Relief efforts for the widespread damage** caused by the mighty high-wind storm, or "derecho," in Iowa and Illinois have been organized by UMCOR-trained conference disaster response coordinators. Emergency response teams have been deployed and UMCOR is in communication with the impacted conferences. A solidarity grant has been awarded to the Iowa Conference.

**UMCOR and its partners are responding** to disasters in the United States every day, providing funding to meet immediate needs and continuing to work with conferences in the days and months to come. Please join us in prayer for the affected areas and consider giving to UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response to support these efforts. 100% of our gift will directly support UMCOR and its partners in the work of alleviating human suffering and advancing hope and healing.

**Write your check to Webster United Methodist, and add UMCOR in the memo line.** We will collect through September and send in our offering on October 1<sup>st</sup>. You can also go to our website at [websterunitedmethodist.org](http://websterunitedmethodist.org), and click on Giving to find this offering opportunity.



## HOLLY'S HOURS

Beginning September 17<sup>th</sup>, Church Secretary Holly will be maintaining new office hours.

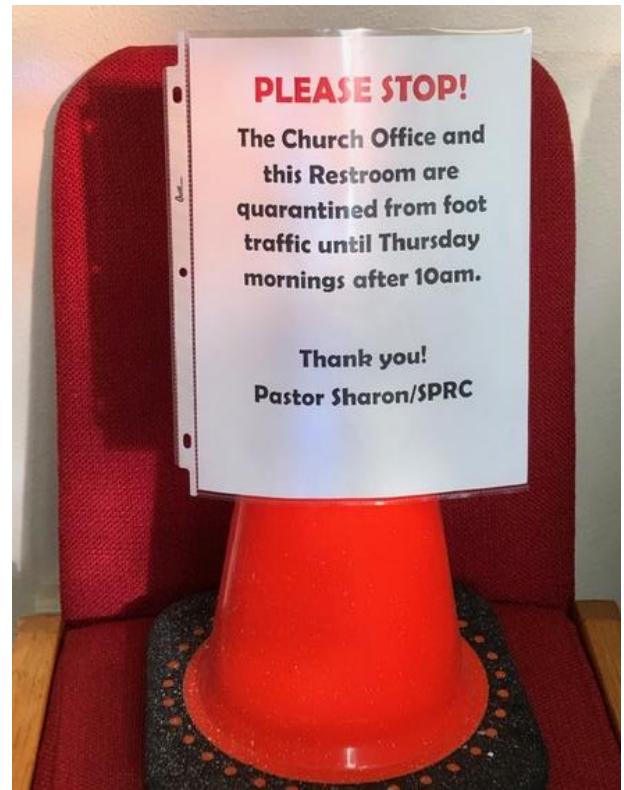
**The office will be closed to everyone from Wednesday 6p to Thursday 10a.**

In order to protect our staff, there will be no foot traffic in the church office during those hours.

Of course, Holly will continue to work remotely from home. Contact her at [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) with your questions, articles, and space requests.

**As a reminder, masks and appropriate social distancing is absolutely necessary for all visits to the church building.**

Thank you! -Pastor Sharon/SPRC



## WUM Newsletter Deadline

We welcome news of your ministries! We are starting to get back to some normal routines at the church, which includes the publication of our newsletter. All articles and submissions sent to [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) by **Mondays at 10a** will be included in that week's newsletter. Please make every effort to meet this deadline. Thank you! –Pastor Sharon





## Welcome to Korean Faith Community

We welcome the University Bible Fellowship, a Korean faith community, to our parking lot for a small worship service each Sunday from 10:30a-1:30p. This is a lovely opportunity to share our resources with a faith community who does not have an outside space for worship. Should you see Pastor Choi and his gathering, please make them feel welcome.

-Pastor Sharon



## Dear Friends of Webster-Rock Hill Ministries,

We write to you today to share that our long-time Executive Director Ed Johnson announced his retirement at our September Board of Directors meeting. We are grateful for Ed's faithful service and his commitment. He has made our community more compassionate and secure for many people.

From the turbulent times of the Great Recession to a global pandemic, Ed has rooted his leadership in faith and been committed to serving the needs of those encountering challenges in their lives. Throughout his 13-year tenure, he has been a hands-on leader. You were as likely to find him hauling food pantry donations as speaking to a congregation about the programs of WRHM. Our office volunteers are devoted to him for his support of their work and his fellowship. We are grateful for the many partnerships he created and maintained from the Webster Groves School District to the Old Newsboys Association.

The WRHM Executive Committee and Crisis Task Force are working to ensure that essential services are maintained during this time. We expect to engage transitional leadership to allow for a period of internal reflection and stakeholder engagement before beginning a search for a permanent executive director.

Ed has chosen to take his remaining vacation to conclude his time with us and will no longer be in the office. We are working to ensure we can continue to meet the needs of our clients. If you have questions, you may contact Reverend Jeff Moore at 314-330-8994 or [jeffmoore@wgcc.org](mailto:jeffmoore@wgcc.org).

Thank you for your continued support of WRHM. Please join us in wishing Ed and his family well as he retires.

Sincerely,

Reverend Jeff Moore  
Chair, WRHM Board of Directors



## Re-Home Cats

The time has come to find new homes for Bill Wisbrock's three precious cats as Bill is no longer able to care for them. He believes them to be 18, 22, and 22 years old. They are incredibly sweet and quiet and would do best if they could be re-homed together into a quiet home.

If you are able to open your heart for one or more of these precious kitties, please contact me this week if possible.

Grace and peace+  
Pastor Sharon



## Next Book Study:

***UNAFRAID, Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times,***  
by Adam Hamilton

Before our world was turned upside down by COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, our church had begun a new Bubble Class, facilitated by Gilbert Jones. At the time, it seemed like the perfect study to prepare us for a year that promised denominational upheaval. Now, six-months into a world pandemic, a new wave of civil unrest, tornados/wildfires/and hurricanes, and an exceedingly acrimonious political race, we have even greater need to find wisdom about our fears.

Fear is a complex emotion. Sometimes it saves us. More often it robs us of the life we want. It wreaks havoc on our relationships and communities. It leads us into making bad decisions. It hold us back from the very pursuits that promise fulfillment and joy.

**Beginning Wednesday, September 30, from 7:00p-8:15p**, we will reboot this study, beginning with the first chapter, via ZOOM. Please contact the church office at [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) to sign up, and let us know if you need a book.



## **Epworth Children and Family Services - Food Pantry**

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 continues to be very grateful for our church's financial donations, meals, and other items given so that they can feed and care for their clients. Something that was expanded because of the pandemic and at the request of the NAACP was the food pantry at the Normandy location. Previously, it provided food for the youth who came to the Drop-In Center but the needs in the community have become so great that the expansion was very important. **They are in need of any of the typical pantry items such as canned fruits and vegetables, cereals, canned meats or other protein items, pasta or rice type food, etc. Another need is bottled water.**

If you are able to donate these things please bring them to our elevator lobby and place them in or near the Epworth boxes or contact [linda-guth-stangl@live.com](mailto:linda-guth-stangl@live.com) for a way to transport the items. 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".

Please call me if you have any questions. Thank you.  
Linda Guth Stangl, member of the Epworth Board of Directors



## **Goodie Boxes for our College Students**

The church is gathering goodies to send to our college students! If you would like to contribute a packaged edible or fun item, drop your goodie into the box in the Elevator Foyer.

If you know a college student to whom we could send a box, please contact the church office at [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) with the name and address.

Our youth will be assembling these Care Boxes in October.

-Pastor Sharon



## **Young Adult Ministries (YAMs) Update:**

From Pastor Josh, Director of Young Adult Ministries

Hello Church! I would like to start to update you all on what the YAMs have been doing in these past couples of months. Ever since October of 2018, we have been providing ministry to folks aged 18-35. Since then, the Holy Spirit has moved in ways that are absolutely unexplainable. I am happy to say that we are now been told by NextGen ministries through the Missouri Annual Conference that Webster UM YAMs is the second-largest young adult ministry in the state of Missouri!

I have been continually blessed with a great team of leaders that are named "CALL". This group has been meeting to create and design different ministry opportunities for every type of Young Adult. Since the pandemic has started, YAMs have just increased our ministries offering online and hybrid-based small groups.

Since the Covid-19 Pandemic has started, the Young Adults have created 15 new ministries, having at least 40 different Young Adults participating and we recently

opened some of our small groups up to the whole church. We were able to provide small groups for 25 other community members who fell outside of our 18-35 age range.

I am going to continue to provide updates for you all on a regular basis and also update you on the classes that are available to you all. I think now more than ever it is so important for us to stay in community, and you can do that through a YAM small group! Please email me if you have any questions!



## Youth News!—from Pastor Paige

I hope you all enjoyed your Labor Day Weekend. For most, that is the last lake day of the season, but not for the Youth Group!! The Kichline's are letting us come hang out at their lake cabin on **September 19<sup>th</sup>!!!**

For this awesome event we will take some extra special precautions they are;

- Masks are required when on land and not eating.
- In the water you must be at least 6ft away from anyone not in your family
- We will have individually wrapped snacks and drinks for lunch
- Dinner will be making your own foil packs
- Joel will be offering tubing & boat rides to 2 youth at a time. All will be masked on the boat.
- There will be gallons upon gallons of hand sanitizer available, also the Kichline's have sinks and soap!



### Things to Bring:

- MASK (maybe two, in case one gets wet)
- Towel
- Water Bottle
- Old Tennis Shoes that can get messy (an absolute!)
- Change of clothes for the ride back
- Fishing Pole & tackle (optional)
- SunScreen
- Bogspray
- Side Dish/snack to share, (individually wrapped)

If you plan to come to the lake, **please let me know by September 15<sup>th</sup>!!**  
Also, parents, mark your calendars for **September 17<sup>th</sup> for a zoom planning meeting at 6:00p** for October and November!!

Peace & blessings,  
Paige Foster

### Check out the September YOUTH Calendar!

- **Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>**-Lake Day at the Kichline Cabin-We will head down to the Kichline Cabin to enjoy an afternoon floating, tubing, and catching some rays. Bring a friend!
- **Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>**-TBD-With parent approval a youth classic will return.
- **Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>**-Mini Youth Mission: Deer Creek Clean Up -Hopefully we will be joining the Maplewood group to do some local clean up. Lunch and worship together to follow on the parking lot. Bring a friend!!

Blessings, soap & water,  
Pastor Paige  
[directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org)





**Children's Info!** I will be posting a challenge for the kids to complete on our facebook page. 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!

Look for a Wild Wednesday/ Children's Choir blacktop event coming soon!

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](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org)



**Sympathy to:** Roy Day, Debbie Lund, and Meagan and Haley Day on the passing of Roy's 95-year-old mother, Ruth Day, on September 11.

**Our Prayer Concerns:** Lorraine Bemis; Doris Thomas, (Randy Thomas); Gayle Fields; Kristen Kremer; Traci Stuart, Richard (Beth Anderson); Skip Reynolds (John and Sharon Wersching); Ruth Day, Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); Gayle Fields; Todd (Gordon Ballam); Jacque (Linda Austin); Sherry Dodd, Mia (Paula Murphy); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Henry Copeland (Jon Copeland); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid); Ron and Dianne Wallace; Darlene Hyry, Henry Hoyer (Vicki Hoyer); 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; Ariana (Jan Hanson); Stuart / Reesor family; Sally Cobb; Libbi Pacatte; those quarantined in close quarters; Amanda and Caleb Sawyer (Debbie Brooks daughter and husband); Sherry Bryan; John and Carolyn Denison in Lake Charles, LA (Carolyn Redmore's brother and sister in law); Ryanlyn Mathis; Health and Healing for COVID patients; Our country's future; Students and Teachers; people suffering through natural disasters; 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](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)
- Contact one of our pastors:
  - Pastor Josh at [assistantpastor@websterum.org](mailto:assistantpastor@websterum.org)
  - Pastor Paige at [directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org)
  - Pastor Sharon at [Pastorsharon@websterum.org](mailto:Pastorsharon@websterum.org)