

April 1, 2021

Join us for Easter Worship

April 4th...Outside

**6:45am SonRise at
Eden Theological Seminary**

**10am Refreshments at
Webster United Methodist**

**10:30am Worship with
Mountain Service Band
and Communion
Children's Story and Gifts**

Masks Required! All Invited!

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

<https://websterunitedmethodist.org/>



Extending Building Closure

After conferring with the leadership of the Safety Team, Trustees, and our Lay Leader, we have agreed to the prudence of continuing to keep the church building closed to groups. We will continue to monitor pandemic statistics, and reassess monthly.

As before, individuals who have a task to perform may still come into the church as long as they follow all COVID protective procedures, including masking, handwashing, and physical distancing.

Thanks all, Pastor Sharon

Every week, the office is closed to everyone from Wednesday 6p to Thursday 10a. Thank you! -Pastor Sharon & SPRC



Our calendar <https://websterunitedmethodist.org/calendar/> is important for us to schedule different individuals, times and places in our church building...Be sure to email Holly in the office to schedule usage!
secretary@websterum.org



WUM Newsletter Deadline

All articles and submissions sent to secretary@websterum.org by **Mondays at 10a** will be included in that week's newsletter. Thank you! –Pastor Sharon



...a message from Pastor Sharon

Our Flower Cross is one of the loveliest traditions of our church. The cross is roughhewn, standing 8 or 9 feet tall, covered with chicken wire. Yeah, I know...chicken wire. It's hard to imagine the potential, but just wait and hear me out.

On Good Friday, it would normally be veiled in black, the color of mourning, standing in the center of the nave in the Sanctuary as a stark reminder of the death of Jesus at Golgotha one very bad Friday long ago. It is a witness of our faith, a totem of the gospel story, a sermon about the sin of humanity.

But it doesn't stay empty and forlorn forever.

On Easter morning, everyone coming to our in-person open-air Easter Service will be invited to add a spring flower to our ratty, chicken wire-draped cross. By the time we've all added our flowers, this scratchy, ugly ancient instrument of torture will bloom right before our eyes with delicate new life! And I pray, so will our hearts. That is something to see...and share.

After a year of persistent worry and grief, whom do you know who needs to experience the beauty of new life?

Not everyone has heard the story of the Resurrected Jesus, or heard the promise that God can restore our lives, too. Not everyone has experienced the power stirring within their soul by the ethereal Holy Spirit, who whispers, entices, and invites our hearts to bend toward God. Not everyone has been invited by someone they trust to join the celebration.

Let this be the year that you bring them to witness the blooming cross, and to join in the celebration of new life in the Resurrected Christ!

There will be fellowship with refreshments (also open air) at 10a, and we will safely celebrate the ancient ritual of Holy Communion together, saying those familiar words that draw us closer to God and to each other. Masks are required.

Have to travel Sunday morning? Come to our in-person open-air SonRise Service at Eden Theological Seminary at 6:45a (right off Bompart Ave). We'll celebrate the rising of the sun and the "rising of the Son" with acoustic music and hot beverages. Bring your lawn chair and mask.

Neither of these options work for you? Invite your guest to join you online for our traditional Easter Service at 10:30a at websterunitedmethodist.org or our Facebook page.

This may be the year that your guest experiences an awakening to God working in their life. But if you do not invite them, who will?

With expectant joy,

Pastor Sharon 



First Hands in Mission Opportunity for 2021

Risk-Taking Missions will run a food drive for LifeWise during the month of April, beginning April 1 when food can be dropped off in the collection basket marked “LIFEWISE” in the elevator lobby. Our goal is 800 items (please see the shopping list below).

Each Saturday in April---April 3, 10, 17, or 24--- we need volunteers to staff our collection table set up on the parking lot from 9 AM-6PM. This presence will allow not only church folks but also the neighborhood to contribute to our food collection.

Shift times are 9-12, 12-3, and 3-6 each of the four Saturdays. We'll have the awning over the table to protect volunteers & donations from sun or light rain. (In the case of bad weather, we will move volunteers & the table to the elevator lobby.) Please sign up to volunteer for one or more shifts by contacting Jan McCurley, 314-378-5504 (c), 314-781-3969 (h) or Janis.mccurley@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Thanks from the Missions Team!
Jan McCurley, Chair of Risk-Taking Missions

of cans collected!

March is WUM's month to help fill the Market shelves at LifeWise!

This year's goal is 800 items!

Let's watch the can of soup GROW!!

Suggested Donations for LifeWise Grocery Collection

Dry Goods

almond butter, cashew butter
 canned tomatoes
 canned tuna
 cereal
 dried beans – black ,pinto, lentils
 flour
 grits
 oatmeal
 olive oil
 pasta – whole wheat, regular
 peanut butter
 rice – brown or white
 spices
 sugar

Frozen

chicken breasts
 fish filets
 ground beef
 ground chicken
 ground turkey

Fruits & Vegetables

fresh, frozen

Perishables

almond milk
 butter
 cheese
 coconut milk, soy milk
 eggs
 yogurt
grocery store gift cards



We're so excited to be one of the charities chosen for **Ameren Missouri's Power Play Goals for Kids with the St. Louis Blues** contest!

Every time the Blues score a power play goal during the 2021 regular season, Ameren Missouri will donate \$500 to a local kids' charity to help kids achieve their goals. At the end of the season, the charity that gets the most votes will win the total donation!

Voting is easy . . .

1. Head over to AmerenMissouri.com/Blues
2. Click "Vote Now."
3. Scroll to the bottom and click "Terms and Conditions."
4. Scroll and click "Return to Voting" to access the voting form.
5. Enter your first name, last name and email. Select LifeWise and agree to terms and conditions.

Be sure to come back and vote for LifeWise every day in March! We really appreciate your support!





United Methodist Women invite everyone to join us in donating to our annual **Lenten Mission** observance. This year we come together around the theme ***She Leads: Empowering Women to Make a Difference***. We welcome you to pray, learn, and offer your gifts that will make a real change in the lives of women, children, and youth around the world. This week we highlight two projects funded by United Methodist Women worldwide.

Red Bird Mission

Red Bird Mission, in the mountains of southeastern Kentucky, began as a small school for children in the area in 1921 and shortly thereafter, health care became part of the mission. Currently, the mission operates Red Bird Christian School, Red Bird Clinic, a preschool at two different sites in the county, a clothing & thrift shop, a farmer's market, and services for senior citizens. With this year's donations from UMW, the Mission will seek to re-establish vocational technical education to expand training and workforce-ready certification offerings to Red Bird High School students—helping those whose livelihood was based on fossil fuel production transition to new areas of work, including in the energy sector.

Gum Moon

Founded in 1868, **Gum Moon Residence Hall & The Asian Women's Resource Center** were established to address the unmet needs of women and children in geographic and social transition. Located in the heart of San Francisco's Chinatown, Gum Moon originally served women & children from the Chinatown community, but has since helped women of all cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Throughout the years, Gum Moon's services & history have adapted to the ever-changing needs of the Asian Immigrant Community of the San Francisco Bay Area. Today, there are women of all backgrounds living in the Residence Hall, where they participate in various programs to learn professional & general life skills.

To contribute to our Lenten Mission project, send your checks, payable to Webster UM Women, to UMW treasurer, Alice Dunn, 291 Caroline, Kirkwood, MO 63122. Please write Lenten Mission on the memo line. If you prefer, you can donate online using the Give tab on the church website and choose Lenten Mission—United Methodist Women. Thank you in advance for stepping out in faith to bring the love of Christ into a hurting world through your prayers and selfless giving.



2021 SUMMER

This upcoming summer is going packed full of youth fun! We are in the midst of designing a Mission Experience, planning fun & community-based youth activities, and getting to know each other better.

We will spend some afternoons helping in the new community gardens. Some evenings we may spend playing with water balloons or other games!



Be sure to email directoryouth@websterum.org to be a part of the fun!!!

April Youth Calendars 2021

****On Zoom unless noted****

April 4-NO YOUTH

Join the church for a morning Son-Rise service, but enjoy your Easter evening with your family!

April 11-Mission Trip Brainstorm

Come with ideas of work you'd like to do, activities you'd like, and places within 4 hours of St. Louis! **See you at 5:30.**

April 18- WILD COOKING

WILD COOKING! We will be given an ingredient list and then we will brainstorm to come up with a dish to make together!! This will be fun, **be ready to be creative in the kitchen at 5:30**

April 25-WEBSTER GROVES BIKE RIDE

Bring a bike and helmet. I will talk to Joel if you need to borrow one! We will venture out to get some fresh air & exercise & probably some ice cream!! **We will hit the road at 5:30 from the WUM parking lot.**





Children's Easter Egg Photo Scavenger Hunt

Join me for a COVID-friendly Easter Egg Hunt! Clues will be available to pickup starting at noon on March 28th. You will then have a week to go take pictures with the eggs around the community with your family. On Easter morning, prizes will be available to be picked up from 10-10:30 during our doughnut/coffee hour before our 10:30 outdoor Easter service! You can then bring a chair and stay for the worship, or just come play with us beforehand.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944A9AE2EA0FF2-easter>

Shaeleigh Parsons
Director of Children's Ministry
(she/her/hers)



Our Prayer Concerns: Joan Chellis, Linda (Lane Prather); Emily Terrell (Lettie Morse); George P (John Reed): Glen Gottshall (Sharon Vreeland); Joyce Simpson; Graves (Dan Pike); Lemasters/Daniels families (Lynne Wehrman); Ann Rittenbaum, Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); Morgan (Margo Petracek); Ron and Carol Wright (Bev Mesey); Jacque (Linda Austin); Lorraine Bemis; Doris Thomas, (Randy Thomas); Kristen Kremer; Skip Reynolds (John and Sharon Wersching);

Gayle Fields; Todd (Gordon Ballam); Sherry Dodd, Mia (Paula Murphy); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid); 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; those quarantined in close quarters; Sherry Bryan; 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 healthcare providers.

Prayers will remain on the prayer list until we are notified to remove them.

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

- Connection Card or Prayer Requests on our website
- Email secretary@websterum.org
 - Or contact one of our pastors:
 - Pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@websterum.org
 - Pastor Josh at assistantpastor@websterum.org
 - Pastor Paige at directoryouth@websterum.org