

April 15, 2021



Each of us is a thread in another's tapestry. Our lives are woven together for a reason.

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

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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

One Down, One to Go

Joel and I got our first vaccine shots today. It was actually thrilling.

The reality of what we were participating in was not lost on us as we walked through the host of check points that progressed to the inoculation center. When you look at the history of other major vaccine breakthroughs, the rapid development of a safe, highly effective COVID-19 vaccine, much less multiple ones, in less than one year is an astonishing feat of modern medicine. Vaccines have been developed for smallpox, typhoid fever, yellow fever, polio, anthrax, measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, and shingles. But their development took many years, even centuries for some, to bring to the public.

Not only did scientists develop the strategy and drugs quickly, their work resulted in vaccines that work at an almost unprecedented level of effectiveness, with side effects similar to most other vaccines (on average, you may get aches and fever that last up to 36 hours). This is a grand slam homerun in the World Series of vaccines that one rarely witnesses in a lifetime.

The evidence collected so far tells us that getting a vaccine will make it less likely for us to contract the COVID-19 virus. If for some reason we do get the virus, the vaccine working in our bodies will keep us from getting seriously ill...the kind that takes you to a hospital and perhaps puts you on a ventilator. Getting vaccinated also may protect people around you, particularly those at greater risk for severe illness from COVID-19. It is a win-win.

Now, to be clear, our vigilance cannot stop after getting our vaccination. We will be able to gather indoors without masks with other people who are fully vaccinated. But the science/health community is still learning how vaccines will affect the spread of COVID-19. So until we have more answers (which will happen over time), we must continue to take precautions in public places, like wearing our masks, maintaining 6-foot distances, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and washing our hands thoroughly and often.

I believe this is how we do it, friends. This is how we triumph over a pandemic that has already killed over 2 million people worldwide. It requires using all the tools we have available for as long as it takes, and sharing them with others. I

encourage you to talk with your doctor about concerns you have about getting your vaccination.

I have a very grateful heart today for the diligence of those who developed these miraculous vaccines, and for the wonder of God working through it all.

Grace and peace+
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).

Collection times are 9-12, 12-3, and 3-6 each of the four Saturdays in April.

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.)

Thanks for volunteering for the April Food collection Saturdays. The shifts are now all filled. However, there will be another drive in June, so please consider volunteering then. More information later.

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



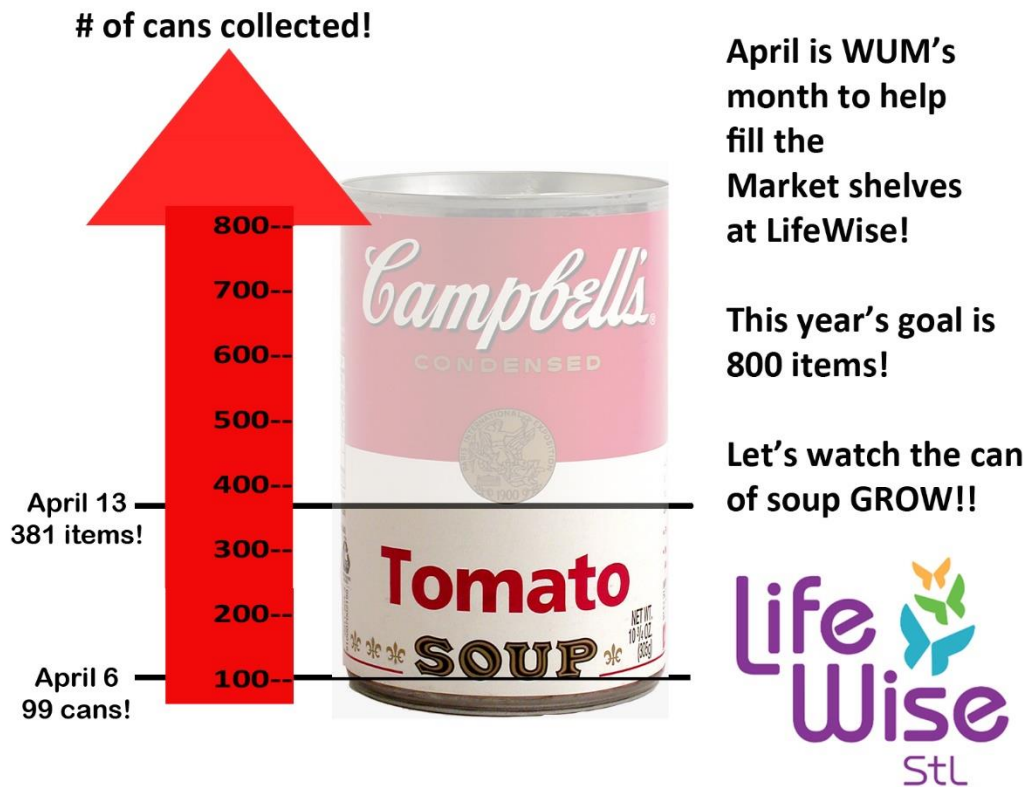


Thanks to everyone donating to the LifeWise Drive, and thank you to all the shift volunteers for Food Drive Saturday #2 , a blustery, rainy Saturday! Our total this week was 282 items, plus some cash. We had 3 donors from the neighborhood in the morning, one of the most charming pictured here.

Katie Renkins got pretty chilly during the afternoon shift, so she borrowed some of her brother, Dan Pike's clothes from his car trunk (see picture).

Thanks,
The Risk-Taking Missions Team





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

SEE YOU SATURDAY, 9a-6p!!



Native American Ministries Sunday 2021 is April 18

The United Methodist special offering for Native American Ministries is Sunday, April 18 this year. On this day, we honor the unique and beautiful contributions of Native Americans by giving to a special fund set aside for seminary students and for congregations that are finding authentic ways to minister to their communities.

United Methodist Native American seminary students and congregations are empowered to develop new ways of doing church that honor the creative expression of the culture, and they are enabled to form new ministry partnerships and coalitions. Please join us in generously supporting these efforts on April 18. Together, we can make a lasting impact. Thank You!

Jan McCurley, Risk-Taking Missions



**Friends, there are still Easter
pinwheels** available at the church for those who
would like to take one home!





2021 SUMMER

This upcoming summer is going to be 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 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.**



Parents!

Story Time is coming up-

Our next story time will be April 18th at 2pm. We will be reading "I Am Jazz!" by Jazz Jennings. This one will remain on zoom, but I am hoping to move these to outdoor events shortly. To sign up, click this

link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944A9AE2EA0FF2-childrens1>



Our Prayer Concerns: The family of Patrick Claywell; Stacy Balafas; John Heddell (friend of the McCurleys); Joan Chellis, Linda (Lane Prather); 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 Petrcek); 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 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

We Are Sad

that we can't sit and swap stories with **Pat Claywell** who died Sunday, April 11, 2021; but we are joyful that, after 24 years, he is free of Parkinson's. Pat has lots of stories; most involve his McKinley High School sweetheart, Jo Ann, whom he married six months after graduation in 1959. There are stories of their children, Mike and Tracy. Thirty-five years' worth of stories of the teens he taught English and drivers ed and coached football, baseball, and wrestling in Jerseyville, Illinois. Their story connects with our church after they moved back to St. Louis to be here for their parents. They joined our church family on May 11, 2008, and joined a Sunday School class. We heard the story of great-granddaughter Jara and prayed for her. They're grateful she's now a thriving ten-year-old. After 81 years on earth, Pat is now resting in the arms of Jesus. He'll have stories to tell us when we get there.

Visitation will be 4-8 pm, Monday, April 19, and funeral will be 10 am, Tuesday, April 20. Both will be held at Michel Funeral Home, 5930 Southwest Avenue (just east of Hampton Ave), St. Louis, MO 63139. At www.michelfh.com I saw a picture of a large chapel and they only serve one family at a time so there is room for social distancing. Masks are required.

-Beth Anderson, Membership Secretary