

May 20, 2021



***Drive by Reception, May 23, 1:30 to 2pm***

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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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.

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](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)



## WUM Newsletter Deadline

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.



## ...a message from Pastor Sharon

### WEAR YOUR RED!

*“When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit...”*  
Acts 2:1-4

At the Pentecost experience described in the New Testament, the promised Holy Spirit came swooping down to rest upon the Christian community like dancing flames of fire. Wind and fire! My imagination conjures up a vibrant, even somewhat dangerous picture. I see a whipping wind blowing hats off and chairs over, coupled with the strangely exuberant, even ecstatic, expressions on the faces of Jesus’ followers as their souls were filled by God’s mighty Spirit.

In the church, we often come dressed in **RED** to be reminded of the fire that the Spirit brings with her when she sets a place blazing.

This year, Pentecost Sunday falls on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We call it the church’s birthday, because it is the day when Jesus’ anxious followers were transformed into a BOLD community of faith, forged by the arrival of the Holy Spirit, and commissioned to take the gospel of Jesus Christ out into the world. The Church was born!

Pentecost Sunday also marks the Sunday we return to in-building worship. After nearly 15 months apart, we will be able to gather once again under the same roof and sing our praises. What a perfect opportunity for the Spirit to show up and set some sparks ablaze!

Please read the following information so you will know what to expect.

Come and catch the Spirit unleashed! And wear your **RED**!

Grace and peace+  
Pastor Sharon

## Coming Back to In-Building Worship

Here's what you need to know about being a part of the in-building worship experience.

- **We will be using a reservation system** for those who wish to attend in-person Sunday Worship. Currently, we must limit our capacity, so make your reservation between Sunday noon and Friday noon before the Sunday of worship.
- **There are three ways to make your reservation:**
  - **Sign up on our website,**  
<https://websterunitedmethodist.org/register-for-in-person-sunday-worship/>
  - **Call the Church Office** at 314-961-4133 and leave your message.
  - **Contact the Secretary** at [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)
- **The doors to the building will not open until 10am.** If you arrive earlier, please wait in your car or outside the building. This is because we are still preparing all the technical aspects of streaming the service online concurrently with our live worship.
- **At 10:00am, the doors will swing open** and you are invited to enter the building either through the Elevator Foyer Entrance or the Upper Bompert Entrance (the one with the steps). We will NOT be using the ramp entrance for Sunday Worship.
- **Please put on your mask.**
- **Upon entering the building,** an Usher/Greeter will escort you to your seat in the Sanctuary. It may not be (actually it probably won't be) the seat you usually sit in. Please be flexible with us. We are seating folks from the front to the back systematically in order to reduce unnecessary exposure of passing people in the aisles.
- **If you are using the Elevator** to access the Sanctuary, you will be seated in an area that is most convenient to the Elevator again after the service concludes.
- **Wave your greetings to others,** but do not get up and move about the space.
- **You may sing,** though the hymnals have been removed. You will receive a sheet of lyrics for worship.

- **In time, all bulletin information** will be projected through Power Point on the wall. For now, just relax and allow us to guide you through the worship experience.
- **When passing the peace**, you will be invited to nod and wave to others from your seat.
- **An Usher/Greeter will release your pew** at the end of the Worship service, just like at a wedding. Please go when dismissed, rather than waiting to speak with others. Once outside, you can chat with your old friends out on the sidewalk or parking lot.

Grace and peace+  
Pastor Sharon



## **WE NEED YOU!**

Can you smile behind your mask and joyfully welcome people into our church sanctuary for worship?

Yes? Then we need your help as an Usher/Greeter as we prepare to return to in-building worship on May 23<sup>rd</sup>!

We need extra Ushesr/Greeters to

- Hold the door open for folks to enter at two entrances.
- Welcome them to worship with a bright and cheery “Good Morning!”
- Seat folks, just like in a wedding, and release them row by row at the end of the service.
- Offer a song sheet, and a mask if they are not wearing one.
- And thank them, as they leave, for having been in worship with us that morning.

We will have an Usher/Greeter training at **10:00am on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

If this sounds like something you could do, contact Stacy Ponder at [slsponder@yahoo..](mailto:slsponder@yahoo..)





**Drive By Graduation Reception**

**'21 Celebrate Our Seniors!**

**Sunday, May 23, 1:30 - 2:00p**

**WUM Parking Lot**

**600 N Bompert, Webster Groves**



**Please drive by on Sunday, May 23rd between  
1:30 and 2p, and offer your congratulation to our  
2021 High School Seniors!**

**Cards/gifts can be dropped off at that time.**

**Please plan to stay in your vehicle and wear a mask.**

We Congratulate our 2021 Graduates! Well done!

High School:

- Lily Nunes
- Rachel Krakos
- Caroline Christensen

University:

- Jessica Clones
- Amber Kelso
- Scott Leeker



## Shop With Scrip - Order being place Monday May 24th -

With graduations, holiday weekends and summer travel upon us, it is time to place another shop with scrip order. **I will place the order on May 24th before noon** and should have the cards by Friday May 28th.

To look at all the retailers available, go to [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) and scroll down to click on "see more brands" to search all possibilities. My graduation go-to-gift is an Amazon or Target gift card. Restaurants, home improvement, travel!! Hotels and airlines, gas stations too. Take a few minutes to think what is coming up in your lives and let me know if there are any cards you want or need.

If you would like to learn about the smart phone app available to order electronic cards as you need them, contact me.

Paula Murphy  
text or call 314.698.6398  
email [pmathome@yahoo.com](mailto:pmathome@yahoo.com)



## Love Your Neighbor: Exploring Our Biases to Create Better Relationships

June 8, 15, 22 7:00 pm Church Parking Lot

Join us for an exploration of biases and how they influence our relationships with each other. Come ready to reflect, discuss, and consider new ways of thinking about ourselves and our relationships.

*A Justice Team offering developed and led by Lisa Miller and Jan Hanson*

*To register: contact Carolyn Redmore at [cdredmore@aol.com](mailto:cdredmore@aol.com) or 314-249-8215*





## Two Dates to Sign Up for ZOOM Safe Sanctuary Training!

Saturday Morning, June 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-10:15am

OR

Wednesday , June 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:15pm



**All those** who would like to work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults in our church family in a leadership role or as a helper needs to take this annual training and be certified. Please contact Louise Thomas at [louisethomas1@gmail.com](mailto:louisethomas1@gmail.com) to sign up for your preferred date.



## JUSTICE NOTES: PEACE WITH JUSTICE OFFERING SUNDAY, MAY 23

This offering, funds proclamation of the good news through support of ministries of the General Board of Church and Society (GBSC) and our annual conferences. Two examples: In 2019, the reading mentoring program at Hodgen Elementary in St. Louis (in which several of our members participated as mentors), was supported by a Gateway Central District Social Justice grant made possible by the Peace with Justice Offering. This month the GBSC is supporting the Asian



American Pacific Island Heritage Month which has touched me deeply. And I pray touches you, too.

While living in Tucson, Arizona, I learned from my (Asian American) Bishop Hoshibata that during WW II, a Japanese internment camp was located just southwest of Tucson on Tohono O'Odham Nation land, in spite of that nation's opposition to the internment camp. He visited the ruins of that site and thanked Tohono O'Odham leaders for their stand against the internment. Bishop Hoshibata was an active leader of the Church & Society's board.

I was reminded of this piece of my experience reading an email from Susan Henry-Crow, General Secretary of the United Methodist Church's General Board of Church and Society, on May being AAPI Heritage Month. She began by highlighting the diversity and multiple ways these citizens have enriched our churches and community, then moved on to reflect on the sobering reality of historic and recent acts of violence and hatred that have resulted in death and injury of AAIP persons. She quoted the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists: "These acts of hatred are neither sporadic nor haphazard. They reflect a larger systemic trend of anti-Asian American animosity brought on during the COVID-19 pandemic." She commended the U.S. Senate for passing the anti-Asian hate crimes bill by an overwhelming majority of 94-1. This bill seeks to address the drastic increase in hate crimes towards people of Asian descent in the U.S. during the pandemic. She calls us to contact our Representative, urging passage of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act. She concluded: "Together, we can bring about a more just and peaceful world where all God's children are valued, safe, and loved."

([gbcsc@umcjustice.org/news&stories/standinginsolidaritywiththeAAIPcommunity](mailto:gbcsc@umcjustice.org/news&stories/standinginsolidaritywiththeAAIPcommunity)).

You may give online or by check/memo line Peace with Justice Offering (mailed in or placed in the offering basket at church). Join me in a 2nd action step of calling your U.S. House Representative in support of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act.

Peace and Justice  
Carolyn Redmore  
Justice Team Facilitator



## Volunteers needed to assist streaming Sunday Worship

COVID has changed the way individuals attend worship and as a result, many churches will continue to offer online worship along with their in-person worship. We, too, plan to continue our Online Worship when we return to in-person worship. To be able to offer the flexibility of watching our worship from anywhere, or at any time during the week, we need volunteers willing to learn the exciting frontier of live streaming videos.

If you have an interest in learning new skills and assisting with streaming, please contact Gordon Ballam at [gcballam@gmail.com](mailto:gcballam@gmail.com). You do not need previous experience, although you need to be comfortable using computers and learning different types of computer software programs.



### 2021 SUMMER

Be sure to email [directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org) to be a part of the fun!!!

# May 2021

## WUM YOUTH Calendar

### May 23-Mission Trip Update!

Join me on Zoom at 5:30 to talk about our upcoming Mission experience this summer!

### May 30-Memorial Day Weekend-TBD



I am so excited to announce this year's VBS! The title is Compassion Camp: Changing the World with Lovingkindness.

It will focus on learning about compassion through lovingkindness, and how we can be more compassionate, Christ-filled people. There will be a mix of online and outdoor in-person events throughout June 14th-18th. The in-person events are not necessary for the curriculum, but will be a lot of fun for whoever is comfortable joining!

Please use this link to register by June 4th. This initial registration is for VBS as a whole. There will be additional registration for the in-person events later.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vacation-bible-school-compassion-camp-tickets-155849212189>





**Our Prayer Concerns:** Sandra Hoffmann; Caitlyn Kremer; Ron Boelloeni; Atlas and Ruth (Vicki Hoyer); Barb Stuart (Traci Stuart); 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 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 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](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) or contact one of our pastors:
  - Pastor Sharon at [pastorsharon@websterum.org](mailto:pastorsharon@websterum.org)
  - Pastor Josh at [assistantpastor@websterum.org](mailto:assistantpastor@websterum.org)
  - Pastor Paige at [directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org)