

June 10, 2021

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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/>



...a message from Pastor Sharon

We are Connected

First, the Background (skip down three paragraphs if you know how we are organized): The United Methodist Church is organized as a global connectional system. That means that all United Methodist Churches are sister churches, like outposts, belonging to one central organization: THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Every four years, representatives from all over the world gather and make decisions about our doctrine and practices. We call that General Conference (GC).

Also, every four years, Jurisdictional Conference (JC) meets to elect new bishops and appoint them to their conferences. Pastor Josh Krakos serves as one of the Missouri delegates to JC.

In the United States, the church is further subdivided into 59 geographical conferences. Our church is one of those 59, the Missouri Conference (AC), and once a year, all clergy and lay representatives sent by each church gather to refresh our connection, learn about what we are doing all over the world, the country, and the state, and make decisions about programming, spending, and new candidates for ministry. We call this our Annual Conference, and Missouri Bishop Robert Farr will preside.

This year, because of COVID concerns, the Missouri Annual Conference has chosen to meet online once again, as we did last year. There will be a small gathering of leaders in Springfield, Missouri, who will lead us through the work of the AC. The rest of us, Clergy and Lay Representatives, will be glued to our laptops and cellphones this weekend from Saturday at 10am through Sunday at 3:00pm. Your elected representative with voting privileges is Paula Murphy.

One of the most important legislative pieces that we will consider this year is re-districting within the state, reducing the number of districts from nine to five beginning July 1, 2022. The intention is to right-size the administrative superstructure due to declining trends in The United Methodist Church and in

preparation for those churches opting to leave the connection over disagreements relating to human sexuality.

“Realigning districts and staffing has the potential to reduce a significant amount from the Conference budget in the coming years,” Bishop Farr said. “It also better positions the Conference structure as a new reality sets in post-pandemic and once the General Conference decides the disaffiliation process and protocol from The United Methodist Church.”

Please pray for the Missouri Conference and its work this weekend. Pray also for The United Methodist Church as we struggle to birth a new and more inclusive connection.

Grace and peace+
Pastor Sharon



Annual Conference 2021 Offering for Migrants and Refugees

Our theme this year at annual Conference is Abundant Mind, Body, and Spirit. One of the offerings being taken at Annual Conference is in support of migrants and refugees living and working in our state. Let me tell you a little about it.

Part of living abundantly means sharing God’s gifts with others, including Missouri’s migrant and seasonal farmworkers and refugees resettled within our state. Monies shared during this offering will be distributed among two Methodist-heritage agencies supporting the work of refugee and migrant communities, Della Lamb and LifeWise STL, and with the Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy offering, send in your check to WUM, and mark “Migrants” on the memo section. Or Click GIVE on our website to give online or follow the link, [“Annual Conference Support for Refugees and Migrant Workers”](#) and click GIVE NOW

---Pastor Sharon



The online GIVE opportunity.

Have you tried “GIVE” on the church website yet? This online option provides an alternative to check writing for making donations to the church budget and other giving opportunities. It can be especially convenient when you are not able to be in the church. The online site can be used for occasional giving or can be used for regularly scheduled donations such as a weekly or monthly pledge payment. This option can also provide you with a summary of your online giving.

When you click on GIVE on the front page of our website (websterunitedmethodist.org) you are directed to the GIVE page where you click, “Give Now”. Next, you are asked to input the amount you wish to donate (no need to login). Next, choose where the donation should go, General Budget (pledge), Loaves & Fishes, or other options such as Special Offerings. Next your name and address and email address are requested so that you can receive an acknowledgement of your gift. To make the payment you are offered the option to use a credit card or your bank account. Finally, you can choose to cover the fee charged by the service. This amounts to about 3% for a credit card and 1% for use of a bank account. For example, if you make \$50 donation on your credit card the fee will be about \$1.80. If you choose to cover the fee the church receives \$50, if not the church receives \$48.20. [Your giving statement will show either \$51.80 or \$50]. Your donation is almost immediately acknowledged with an email from our Pastor.

The online giving option is provided for your convenience and is already used by a number of our members. You may wish to give it a try; it’s as easy as shopping online.

Derek Redmore, Finance Committee Chair



Camp Invention – Plenty of Opportunities!

Camp Invention, a program for children in kindergarten through 6th grade, is being held in our education facilities the week of June 14th to 18th. Here are some of the opportunities:

- More students are welcome. There are currently 56 registered but more can be included. For more info about the camp, go to <https://www.invent.org/programs/camp-invention>.
- Leaders in training (7th - 9th grades) are needed.
- Leadership Interns (10th grade and older) are also needed.
- Certified Teaching positions are available which include stipends. Teaching certificates are required.

Contact: [invent.org](http://www.invent.org) or terrirell@gmail.com for details.



Love Your Neighbor:

Exploring Our Biases to Create Better Relationships

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. We will meet on three separate Tuesdays, at 7 pm in the church parking lot. Bring a lawn chair and your smart phone.

Together we will:

June 15: Perform the online Harvard Implicit Association Test (IAT)

June 22: Create an individual action plan for one or two of our own biases

This conversation is an offering from the WUM Justice Team

To register: contact Carolyn Redmore at cdredmore@aol.com or 314-249-8215



Here's A Hands in Mission Opportunity for June

The Risk-Taking Mission & Service Team is organizing **a Webster Rock Hill Ministries Food & Hygiene Drive** for the month of June.

Bring urgently needed items to our donation site any of these days in June, or place them in the elevator lobby collection bins if you can't make a drop-off day. Currently the list of needs is the following, but it is subject to change if needs change.

- Toilet paper
- Hand soap and hand sanitizer
- Personal hygiene items (women's sanitary products, adult diapers, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)
- canned meats & canned vegetables
- dry food items (beans, rice, cereal, etc.)

Any questions? Please email Jan McCurley at Janis.mccurley@gmail.com or [call/text 314-378-5504](tel:314-378-5504)

Thank You!

Jan & the Mission Team



Wanted: Father's Day Pictures!

Father's Day is fast approaching and we are working on our 2021 Father's Day video that will be shown during our Sunday worship on June 20th. If you would like to have your dad or another man who has been a significant influence in your life included, scan and send your photo to Cindy Andrews at cyndrews@gmail.com. You do not need to send another photo if you sent one last year, as they will automatically be included. Cut off for including photos is Saturday June 12th.



June 2021 WUM YOUTH Calendar

ITS SUMMER!!!! Come hang out at Webster UM. Most evenings will include activities outside to keep us safe & precautious. Masks will be required whenever indoors or unless otherwise stated. Keep up the good work! We have been able to stay healthy because of our diligence!!

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to connect with Pastor Paige.

June 6-Swing Around Fun Town WAS FUN!!!!



June 13-Water Balloons & Ice Cream Sundae Bar

We will party on the parking lot kicking off summer with some water balloons! Bring a towel, clothes you can get wet in, and your favorite ice cream topping!!!! 5:30-7:30 with dinner provided.

June 20-Community Garden Day

We will join some of Josh's friends in their community garden. Plan to get a little dirty. I'll feed ya! See ya at 5:30

June 27-Yoga Night!

I'm in cahoots with a black-owned yoga studio! Hopefully they'll be able to come out and lead us in learning some stress & anxiety reducing techniques! 5:30 dinner time before yoga.



Children's Ministry



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

It will focus on learning about compassion through loving-kindness, 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 if possible. 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>




Room at the Inn
SAVE *the* DATE
August 23, 2021
Location: Old Hickory Golf Club, St. Peters, MO
 Save \$\$\$ by Registering Prior to June 15th
 Questions: Contact David Weber 314.209.9181 or visit roomstl.org/events

8th Annual Golf Tournament to Support Programs at Room at the Inn

Sponsorships are available



Our Prayer Concerns: Pam and James Day (Debbie Lund); Carol Burbon (Jo Ann Claywell); Barb (Traci Stuart); Johnny Denison (Carolyn Redmore); Alta Kopatsky and friend's dog Yogi, (Marcia Kennon); Gayle Fields (Cindy Andrews); Bev Mesey, Paulette Carr (Helen Fuller); Caitlyn Kremer; Ron Boelloeni; Atlas and Ruth (Vicki Hoyer); Barb Stuart (Traci Stuart); Stacy Balafas; John Heddell (friend of the McCurleys)

Prayers will remain on the prayer list for two weeks.

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



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 you wish to attend.**
- **There are three ways to make your reservation:**
 - **Sign up on our website, websterunitedmethodist.org.**
 - **Call the Church Office** at 314-961-4133 and leave your message.
 - **Contact the secretary** at 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



House Keeping News:

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.