

July 8, 2021

I will love the Lord...



...all the days of my life.

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Youth Ministry, Pastor Paige Foster  
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## Hello again!

I am in the process of moving my work day back into the church office. I will be in the building on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8a to Noon**. If I have missed your contribution to the newsletter this week, please let me know! (You know how sometimes things get misplaced when moving!) I will be sure to add it next week.

I look forward to seeing all of you again! -Holly



## **...a message from Pastor Sharon**

*"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."  
(Matthew 18:20)*

### The Circle

Joel and I have just returned from the Stockwell Family Reunion, held this year at our little lake cabin at Lake Timberline off highway 67 South. We've been preparing for it for months, rebuilding the eroded beach, laying new gravel on the steep driveway, and chopping back the weeds where the ticks like to hang out.

I have cleaned and scrubbed and cooked. Up went the patriotic swags on all the deck railings, and our dogs were prepped to welcome.

Finally, family arrived. Not all at once...but Thursday through Sunday, more family clusters joined the party. Not everyone could come, but we thrilled as we kept expanding, as signified by the growing pile of wet sandy shoes outside the cabin door. We shared hugs, stories, laughter, and lots of food. The circle at the meal blessing grew so big that for everyone to be included, it had to weave through the kitchen, living room, and up into the loft. It was sublime.

Like most other gatherings, we had opted to cancel our family reunion last year because of the threat of COVID-19. Since that time, two of my three brothers have had some pretty serious brushes with their finitude. The rest of us "elders" have just discovered new aches and pains, our children have taken on new life challenges, and the grands are a foot taller.

How sweet it was to sit in the shade with a cold ice tea and catch up while watching the little ones searching for shiny rocks or the bigger kids cannonballing off the deck down below. Doing life together is eminently more satisfying than doing it separately.

It's pretty much that way with church family too. We can participate in the service on Facebook or on our website. It is good to be connected, albeit through cyberspace. But it is when we gather together in person that we feel the healing and strengthening that comes from doing life together.

Many of our church family have returned to in-building worship. Many have not. Like our recent family reunion, we celebrate with those who are with us, yet miss

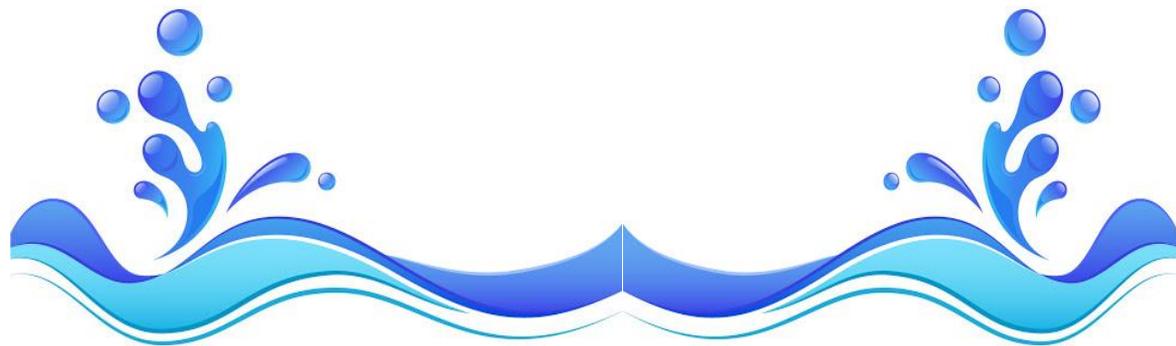
those who are not. As our post pandemic recovery unfolds, I pray that there will be more and more of the church family returning to our circle of blessing. We have prepared for you with love, and look forward to being together soon.

Grace and peace+

*Pastor Sharon*



**SATURDAY, July 10th-** come to the WUM parking lot and get your car washed!!! Youth will be washing cars from 9:30-12:30 to raise funds for our mission trip to Louisville, KY!! We'd love to see you; tell a friend!!



# Webster Groves Family & Friends

invites you to join us on the 1st Annual

## “Steeplechase” Walk

7:30 am, Saturday, July 10

starting & ending at Old Community Baptist Church  
238 W. Kirkham.

This event requests your donations to help WGF&F fund its annual college scholarship program for need-assisted students distinguished in community service.

**Donations can be made on our website:** [www.wgfamilyandfriends.org](http://www.wgfamilyandfriends.org).

It’s a family-friendly 2.3-mile route through the North Webster neighborhood that connects and celebrates seven historic North Webster churches:

**Old Community Baptist Church**

**Blackwell Chapel AME Zion**

**Unity United Methodist Church**

**Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ**

**Nazarene Baptist Church**

**Parks AME Chapel**

**First Baptist Church of Webster Groves**



## Film Screening and Discussion - July 21 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

The film, “On the Other Side of the Hill”, reminds me of the saying that the grass is greener on the other side of the fence. That’s only true because you aren’t standing on the other side of the fence. Which leads me to the other advice-as-adage: walk a mile in someone else’s shoes and you will think differently about anything. This short (30-minute) documentary will give us a chance to look at the challenges of the climate crisis and how rural Oregon residents are trying to address it.

The film is made available to us by [Interfaith Power & Light](http://Interfaith Power & Light), an ecumenical faith-based non-profit that seeks to find ways of being good stewards of the planet God created. They write:

The film is a hopeful, inspiring look at local leaders on the ground in rural America who are leading climate action in their communities. But it is also about coming together, finding common ground and new climate frameworks, and shining a light on rural voices as we envision a path forward.

I hope you'll be able to join in the viewing and discussion in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 21, at 7 p.m. We will plan to be socially distanced and unvaccinated persons should wear a mask.

Debbie Lund  
For the Justice Team



## Food/Hygiene Drive

The first week of our Food/Hygiene Drive to benefit Webster Rock Hill Ministries successfully brought in **240 items** with lots of hardy volunteers braving our extreme heat.

We filled 2 cars with donations for WRHM on Tues. June 15, totaling **424 items**.

New Executive Director Derrick Bastion met us with multiple shopping carts and asked that we please convey to the church how grateful they are.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Thanks to all those volunteering and donating, and please continue to give your time and donations.

Jan McCurley & the Mission Team



**HELLO CHURCH!** Our youth group is going on a mission trip to Louisville, KY July 18-23 and we hope you will encourage us along the way!



We know you'll all be praying for us and sending us well wishes, but this year we'll be doing something new! **You, as a part of the Webster UM family, can 'sponsor' a youth or adult mission trip participant!**

Sponsors are expected to pack a small bag of goodies for their sponsoree. No larger than a brown paper bag--one for every day (5). Bags will need to be delivered to the elevator foyer by 8:00pm July 16.

You can fill these bags with treats, snacks, sunscreen, Chapstick, deodorant, sunglasses, silly string, bouncy balls, beef jerky, Gatorade, juice boxes, etc. We hope you will add notes of encouragement or prayer and hints about who you are if you wish to remain anonymous.

Your sponsoree will open one bag per day! Having done this in the past, I can tell you that waking up to a sponsor bag is amazing!

Be on the lookout for a memo on this week's Connection Card! Please check YES!

I hope you'll take this adventure with us!

Blessings,  
Paige





## July 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](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org) to connect with Pastor Paige.

**July 10-** come to the WUM parking lot and get your car washed!!! Youth will be washing cars from 9:30-12:30 to raise funds for our mission trip to Louisville, KY!! We'd love to see you, tell a friend!!

**July 10 (evening)-**Drive-in night with Connie & Joel; waiting to be confirmed!!!

**July 16-**Mission Trip sponsor bags are due in the elevator entry!

**July 18-23-**8th grade and up youth participants will be serving the community in Louisville on a mission trip!

**July 25-**Movie Night!!! Let's watch *The Blind Side*!! I'll provide all kinds of snacks.





**Our Prayer Concerns:** Ruth; Felicity (Vicki Hoyer); Olivia Nelson and Dora! (our dog) (Debbie Lund); Paulette Carr (Helen Fuller); Brian (friend of Sharon Tash); Barb Sarich, Stacy Balafas, Paulette Carr (Helen Fuller); James and Pam Day, Peter Schüren, Brett Nelson (Debbie Lund); Johnny Denson (Carolyn Redmore); Joanie AuBuchon (Joel Kichline);

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](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)



**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.