

August 5, 2021

Do all the good you can In all the ways you can For all the people you can For as long as you can



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https://websterunitedmethodist.org/



Hello again!

I am in the process of moving my workday 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.

(Please wear a mask in our building and always Social Distance)

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





...a message from Pastor Sharon

Growing Little Disciples

When I was a little girl, I went to my older cousin Fern's Sunday school class at my country church. In her class, she told us stories about Jesus' great love for children. We played games, drew pictures, shaking glitter all over everything, and giggled a lot. I remember feeling loved and safe.

I graduated to my Aunt Marjorie's Sunday school class when I was a little older. She drilled us on the books of the Bible and memorizing the 23rd Psalm. She didn't tolerate any nonsense. We learned about the Jesus who walked among the people, healing and teaching about God, and doing crazy amazing miracles. We created costumes and backdrops to put on plays of our favorite stories, and took turns being Jesus (a girl Jesus was pretty edgy back then).

Next was Winnie Hargadine's class, a short little English lady who loved cats, and hardly knew what to do with wild boys. There we started to apply the stories of Jesus to the difficult choices and events of our lives, when the boys weren't shooting spitballs at each other. It was there in that little "upper room", that I began to integrate my faith with the choices I was making in life.

None of my teachers in my early years had been trained in teaching, or were clergy folk. But every teacher was a blessing, and taught me something about my worth in God's eyes, the glorious gift of God's grace, and my own agency to effect change in a world that needed healing.

Being a teacher or helper with children is a privilege and has long lasting results. Teachers are critical in the growing of little budding disciples. Someone plants a seed of faith, and it takes many hands to water and nurture those seeds.

Our faith family needs some additional teachers and helpers for our Children's Ministry this fall, beginning September 12th. Our teaching ministry, Living Stones, is a pull-out program from Worship, and so teachers and helpers will miss most of worship for the Sundays that they serve. I recognize this is a hardship, but it is also a sacred sacrifice in order to be part of the growing season of a child's faith journey.



Please pray about participating in this beautiful ministry, and be open to the Spirit's leading. Shae Parsons (at directorchildren@websterum.org) would love to hear from you and answer your questions.

Grace and peace+
Pastor Sharon



Community Gardens as Community Empowerment

Community gardens are a crucial social justice epicenter that is "growing" in our city. Under the leadership of Pastor Josh Krakos our church has connected with this initiative. The Justice Team invites you to join us on August 22, immediately following worship, when Pastor Josh will lead a guided discussion about community gardens and the one our church is currently working at called "One for the Crow." After a light lunch and discussion, an option will be to head down to the garden to observe the location firsthand. Everything at the garden is ADA accessible. Feel free to join us for whatever you have time for.

Due to current Covid-19 uptick, discussion with Pastor Josh will be outside at church. Exact location TBD.

For lunch, bring your own sandwich and drink. The Justice Team will provide fruit and a dessert.

One for the Crow is located in south city (3701 Pennsylvania Ave., 63118 at Winnebago, west of Jefferson 5-6 blocks).

Sign up on the Connection Card or call Carolyn Redmore: 314-249-8215





Webster Rock Hill Ministry Grocery and Back-to-School Give-a-way!

Saturday, August 14th

111 Waymire Ave, Webster Groves, MO 63119 From 10am to Noon (or while supplies last)

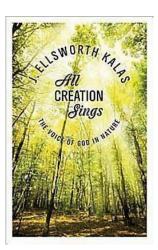
Diapers for Adults and Children will also be available for give-a-way.



New Book for the King Class Sunday School

The King Sunday School Class has started a new study. We meet each Sunday, via the Zoom platform, at 8:45 am for about one hour.

Our new book is "All Creation Sings" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. The author writes "I pray that this little book will help us look beyond nature's wonders to the God of creation - and then, with gratitude, to treat nature with the reverent sense of stewardship that God intended us humans to employ." If you would like to attend these weekly Sunday sessions, please contact Earl Jones at 636-305-0779.





UPDATE on COVID-19 PROTOCOL

As more of us have become inoculated with one of the COVID-19 vaccines, our community has been opening up quickly this summer. Our church, while staying on the conserving and cautious side, has begun to review our earlier safety protocols, and loosened many of the requirements, as follows:

- Worshippers are welcome to choose their own seats in the sanctuary. The
 ushers are no longer seating and releasing people from the pews.
- We are asking folks entering to maintain appropriate physical distancing, and on exiting, not to congregate in the aisles, but talk outside the building instead.
- Because of the virulence of the Delta variant, and out of a desire to protect others, including children who have not yet been vaccinated, we need to keep our masks on throughout worship.
- Reservations are no longer required. There is room for you!

Thank you all for your continued support of our church family.

-Pastor Sharon and Tom Pacatte, Chair of Safety Team



WUM Youth Group

Hello Church,

First, a big thank you! Thank you for supporting the youth ministry with your prayers, goodie bags, and participation in our fundraisers!







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 <u>directoryouth@websterum.org</u> to connect with Pastor Paige.

Aug 8-Stations! We will do some back-to-school stations in preparation for the upcoming school year! See you at 5:30p.

Aug 14-Kichline Cabin Lake Day! Let's meet at the church at 9:30a to caravan to the Kichline cabin! Bring a swim suit, towel, fishing goodies, old tennis shoes, and a friend! Oh, and sunscreen!!!!!!!!! We will leave the cabin around 7 and return to the church around 8 for pick up!

Aug 22-Breakfast for dinner/kids cook night! Kiddos will whip up some pancakes, bacon/sausage & eggs! We'll eat and play some card games!!! Be there at 5:30p to start cooking!

Aug 29-Water Balloons & Ice Cream! Bring a towel & clothes you can get wet in. We'll chat about the first couple of weeks of school!! See you at 5:30p with your towel! Bring a friend too!!

ALL youth events require masks while inside the building





Community Garden Day

On August 9th from 4-6pm, we will be collaborating with our community garden at Eden for a children's night at the garden! We will hear all about how community gardens impact our

community and church, and get our hands dirty doing some work. Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944A9AE2EA0FF2-childrens2

Living Stones Logo Contest

As we get closer to starting up our Living Stones ministry again, we are in need of a new logo! Anyone under the age of 13 is invited to enter their logo design. They will be put to a vote, and the winner will become the new logo! The only requirements are that the words "Living Stones" and "Webster United Methodist" are included. All designs should be sent to directorchildren@websterum.org by August 31st.

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers for different aspects of the children's ministry. We are looking for Sunday School teachers, substitutes, and helpers for our one-off events. If you have any interest, please email directorchildren@websterum.org. We can accommodate any scheduling needs and availability.

Justice Storytime

Join us on August 21st for another storytime! This month we will be reading "My Three Best Friends and Me, Zulay" by Cari Best. We will learn about disability rights and play some fun games! We will meet out on the parking lot. Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944A9AE2EA0FF2-justice





Our Prayer Concerns: Mia; Doug Hurt & family (Paula & Jim Murphy); Annie & Duke (Cindy Andrews); Amanda Kennon Kohlfeld (Marcia Kennon); for all to be vaccinated in our community, state, country, and world!; PJ Petracek (Margo Petracek); Paulette Carr (Helen Fuller); Tracy Claywell Williams (Jo Ann Claywell); Joesephyne, Ralph Haertling (Joyce Simpson)

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 <u>secretary@websterum.org</u> or contact one of our pastors:
 - o Pastor Sharon at pastor Sharon at pastor Sharon at pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@websterum.org
 - Pastor Josh at assistantpastor@websterum.org
 - o Pastor Paige at 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 ALL usage! secretary@websterum.org

WUM Newsletter Deadline

All articles and submissions sent to <u>secretary@websterum.org</u> by **Mondays at 10a** will be included in that week's newsletter.