

September 30, 2021



*“For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.”*
(Eccl 3:1)

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Assistant Pastor, Joshua Krakos
Music Ministry, Lamar Fitzgerald
Youth Ministry, Pastor Paige Foster
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...a message from Pastor Sharon

Showing Up

It's that time of year when your pastor starts talking about stewardship. Many folks would probably have a tough time telling you exactly what that is, but might connect it with their financial pledge to the church. Our financial pledge, our planned giving, is part of that big word, "stewardship." But only one part.

Stewardship is the thoughtful investment or use of money, time, and ability that we offer back to God. In biblical times, a steward supervised a household or an estate. Today, as God's children, we deem God the source of all we have. We seek to hold it in trust for God and desire to be "good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10a)

The five resources that we talk a lot about stewarding in the United Methodist Church are our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. These are the resources we pledge to help support the church when we become a member. These are the resources that those who are not members, but part of our faith family, participate in to the extent that their faith speaks to their hearts. These are the resources that keep the church going.

What we're really talking about here is generosity, one of the fruits of the spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **generosity**, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control--Galatians 5:22-3), and it makes my heart warm when I practice it. Generosity is the willingness to give away part of ourselves to others "just because." Just because they need it. Just because we have enough to share. But especially because we follow a poor, itinerant preacher who gave away his life just because of his love for us.

This year, the Stewardship Season begins Sunday, October 3rd, and Pastor Paige is chairing the team. It will run for 3 Sundays, and our theme is about "Showing Up". God "shows up" for us, and we in turn "show up" for others. On Sunday, October 17th, we will celebrate our Commitment Sunday by bringing our pledge cards relating to our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the altar during worship.

All for the Glory of God,

Pastor Sharon



World Communion Special Offering Sunday is October 3

The first Sunday in October supports World Communion Scholarships, Ethnic Scholarships, and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program.

Adolphe Lumuna Kimanwa, a community developer for more than 20 years in the Democratic Republic of Congo, is using his degree in development planning and economic management to fight poverty and inequality and to establish food security and water sanitation. His scholarship will allow him to complete a master's degree in economic policy and development management at the United Nations Africa Institute in Dakar, Senegal. An active United Methodist, he will return to his home country to focus on socioeconomic policies, strategies, and politics for church self-reliance and Christian well-being.

I hope you will support this special offering prayerfully and generously. Select "World Communion Special Offering" under the GIVE button on our website, place your special offering in the offering plate during the October 3 in-person worship service, or mail your check to the church.

Thank you,
Jan McCurley, Risk-Taking Mission Chair



Special UMCOR Offering Thank You!

To date, we have received \$1955 to assist displaced persons through our United Methodist Committee on Relief. These funds will be used to bring support to those displaced by political conflict, flooding, fires, earthquakes, and hurricanes that have swept through our country and the world in the last few months.

Thank you, Church!

Pastor Sharon





Mission Through Music Success – Thank You!



Music lovers filled the pews of the WUM sanctuary this past Friday for an evening of beautiful piano music featuring Carol Gilker. The program opened with several well-known classical pieces, including *Clair du Lune*, *Liebestraum*, and *Golliwog's Cakewalk*. After a brief intermission, the audience was invited to sing along with Carol and guest soloists on favorites like *Danny Boy*, *Down from His Glory*, and *It Is No Secret*. The performance marked the return of our Mission through Music Concert Series. The event raised \$1135, and all proceeds will be donated to the International Institute of St. Louis to help refugees from Afghanistan.



Trunk or Treat 2021

Bring your scariest ghost, goblins, and other creatures to our spookiest event of the year, our annual Trunk or Treat on **October 24th from 6-8pm!** We celebrate the holiday as a church community, but this is also one of our biggest community outreach events. With activities for the whole family, we can bring in many other lovers of candy, spooks, and all things Halloween. This event would normally consist of the outdoor trunk or treat and an indoor haunted house, but COVID has helped us learn to be flexible. So instead, this year we will be completely outside. As an act of hospitality, all church volunteers will need to be masked.

With around 15 trunks full of candy, the youngest can show off their costumes and get a treat. Right around the corner, there will be a haunted walkway run by

the youth full of spooks and surprises. We will also serve hotdogs and drinks for the whole family.

We will need volunteers to host trunks, donate candy, and help with set up and tear down. If you have any interest in any of these, please email directorchildren@websterum.org or directoryouth@websterum.org, or talk to Pastor Sharon, Pastor Paige, or Shae at church. Sign-ups will also be made available on the Sunday Blue Connection Card.

We look forward to another great Halloween!
Shae



Check Out the September edition of The Missouri Methodists to find our own Rev. Gene and Lettie Morse included in a feature entitled “Hitting the Roads, NOMADS live Mission in Motion”! <https://www.moumethodist.org/magazine>



WUM Newsletter Deadline

All articles and submissions sent to secretary@websterum.org by Mondays at 10a will be included in that week’s newsletter.



Here’s a Small Sample of the Lord’s Acre Donation Incentives For 2021

Some folks are hard at work crafting or creating incentive awards for this year’s non-event Mission fund raiser, Lord’s Acre, to be held November 6-26. Below is a glimpse of a few of those newest items. More to come in the following weeks.

Thanks,
Jan McCurley, Risk-Taking Mission Chair



Chili Dinner for 6
Donation: \$150
Helen Fuller



Custom-Designed Children's Birthday
Cakes

Donation: \$50
Maggie Milford



2021 WUM YOUTH

Fall is here!!!! Come hang out at Webster United Methodist. Most evenings will include activities outside and precautions to keep us safe. Keep up the good work! We have been able to stay healthy because of our diligence!!

*** October Calendar ***

October 3-Now that it's getting darker sooner...the ZOMBIES ARE OUT! Join us for the WUM youth favorite of Zombie Tag! We will share in some pizza and then play!!!

October 10-We will put on a scary-ish movie while we go through what decorations we want to use for our trunk-or-treat set-up.

October 17-Fall Youth Day!! After church we will gather downstairs for some lunch! After lunch we will do some Trunk or Treat preparation. Around 2 or so we will walk up to the farm stand on Big Bend and grab some pumpkins to carve! (if you've got a wagon we could borrow, that'd be great!) AND THEN...at 4 we will head out to Fright Fest at Six Flags! **RSVP by Oct 13** telling me if you need a ticket, or you have a season pass! I'll provide the lunch & some Steak & Shake after the park. We will leave the park at 8:00. Pick up will be at the church around 9:15.

October 24-We will host our neighborhood favorite Trunk or Treat event. Come to the church at 2:30 so we can set up all our hard work! The Trunk or Treat event will begin at 6:00 and finish at 8:00. We will tear down as much as possible before it gets too late. Bring a spooky friend!

October 31-It's HALLOWEEN! Enjoy the evening & be safe. P.S. bring me some candy.

****ALL EVENTS WITHIN THE CHURCH REQUIRE A MASK! ****

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



Children's Ministries

Living Stones!

Living Stones program is for children aged 4 years old to 6th grade and is held during worship (10:30a-11:30a). Each Sunday, parents bring their children to the parking lot to check-in. The whole program will be outside, and children will remain distanced, but will not be required to be masked. There will be games, stories, snacks, and prayer. If there is inclement weather, the program will be moved into the Fellowship Hall with masks and physical distancing. If you have any questions, please contact me at directorchildren@websterum.org.

We look forward to seeing you every Sunday!
- Shae Parsons, Director of Children's Ministry





Medical Equipment Donation Drive for Our Community October 9th, 9 AM through 2 PM

Do you have medical equipment that is not being used?
Are you willing to volunteer for the Collection?

St. Louis HELP receives donations of new and used home medical items, refurbishes/cleans the equipment, and then loans equipment to anyone in need for free. They will only accept donations of manual wheelchairs, shower chairs, tub transfer benches, canes/crutches/walkers, Rollators (seated walkers), grab bars, elevated toilet seats, portable commodes, lift chairs, seating cushions/back supports, folding ramps, diapers/ bed pads and Invacare brand-only electric hospital beds. Please donate these items only.

Clean your attic, garage or basement and make a tax-deductible donation of your medical equipment. From Webster UM the closest drop-off location is Webster Groves City Hall (4 East Lockwood 63119). If that is not convenient for you see the webpage www.stlhelp.org for all 7 sites.

They also need volunteers at each site to collect equipment and in Olivette to help unload the trucks. Scheduling is flexible – you can let them know what time you would like to help. Please help them spread the word to your friends.

For more information, please contact St. Louis HELP (314) 240-0796 – www.stlhelp.org .



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

As more of us have received one of the COVID-19 vaccines, our community has been opening. Our church, while staying on the cautious side, has begun to review our earlier safety protocols and loosen some of them.

The current requirements are:

- 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



Sympathy to: Family and Friends of Rodney LaRue, who died September 27, 2021. He was the brother of Mike LaRue (former member).

Our Prayer Concerns: Carolyn Redmore; Szydowski/Kopp Family; Michele Sue Williams (nee Shumate-Keller); Haley Day; Kate Grumke & Kyle Pyatt; Lane Wilson (Michelle Hostmeyer); Kathy (Clay Grumke); Debbie (Beth Anderson); Stuart/Reesor family; Dane Wilson (grandson of Vicki Phillips); Toni McCoy; Linda Redmore; Kalesh/Kremer/Simpson family; Mark Kremer; for all to be vaccinated in our community, state, county, & world.

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



Our calendar <https://websterunitedmethodist.org/calendar/>

It is important for us to schedule different individuals, times, and places in our church building...**Be sure to email the office to schedule ALL usage!**

secretary@websterum.org