

Weekly Newsletter



webster
UNITED METHODIST
LOVE. GROW. SERVE.

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A Message from Our Lay Leader

These are difficult days, and the polarization that seems to consume our society has even worked its way into some of our church relations. The coming General Conference in Minneapolis (8/29-9/6) will attempt to discuss and settle the question of how we in the church are to relate to our LGBTQ siblings and the degree to which all members are accepted in all aspects of church life. Many of us are distressed at our dilemma, wondering how in the world we got here, and deploring the idea of a forceful separation from those in the Church who disagree with our idea of how to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

In the formative years of Methodism, John Wesley never claimed that church members had to agree on everything, only that they must agree on fundamentals and essentials. I wonder if he would have seen our present disagreement as falling into that grouping.

One thing that has always made the United Methodist Church my church was the "BIG TENT" nature of the denomination. I have loved being surrounded by people who saw the world differently than me, who openly discussed those differences with me, and who never tried to prove that they were right (and that I was wrong). These people saw our disagreement as an opportunity to learn and grow, not as a contest to be won or lost. Are those people still here? I sincerely hope so.

Deane Looney

Lay Leader

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIVING STONES

This program is for children, 4-years-old to 6th grade, to learn about God and is held during worship (10:30 am - 11:30 am). Each Sunday, parents bring their children to Fellowship Hall to check in. The program will be indoors, and children will remain distanced, but masks are required. There will be games, stories, snacks, and prayer. We look forward to seeing you every Sunday!

WILD WEDNESDAY! - FEBRUARY 16TH



February's theme is love! From 5:30 to 7 our children will be in Fellowship Hall writing Valentine's Day cards and letters to caregivers at a children's hospital in Saint Louis.

Register [here](#) and if you have questions, please contact Shae at directorchildren@websterum.org.

The church and our neighbors are invited to participate too! Leave your correspondence in the purple basket in the elevator lobby.

Shae Parsons



JOIN THESE BIBLE/BOOK STUDIES!



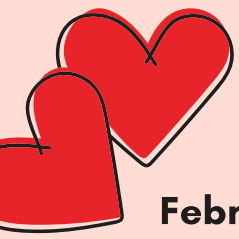
Opportunities to Participate Virtually

FORMING FAITH BIBLE STUDY - WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30 PM

Sign up now on our [website](#), or email assistantpastor@websterum.org for a Zoom Link.

THE KING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS - SUNDAYS @ 8:45 AM

If you are interested, please contact Earl Jones at aemjjones@att.net.



YOUTH MINISTRY

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 13 – Valentine's Eve!! We will do an old-school Valentine's exchange! We will have Valentine's box decoration time and then share our little cards and candies!! Bring a box and a set of Valentine's. I will have various art supplies for you to decorate your box.

February 20 – Tie-Dye night!! We will tie-dye shirts, so if you plan to come, let me know what size you'd like. Also, we may try the bleach dying that is so popular these days. I will have both black and white t-shirts!

February 27 – With hope & faith we will bring back ZOMBIE TAG! After working up a sweat, we will sit down to chat about our summer Mission Trip!

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

Youth Ministry meets on Sundays from 5:30-7:30 pm!

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to connect with Pastor Paige



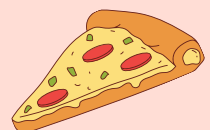
YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

Hello, church! It is that time again! The youth are looking forward to engaging in a summer mission trip. To do so, we are starting a TJ's Fundraiser this week. We are available from now until Feb 27, 2022, to take your favorite pizza and cookie orders. The youth will be able to accept cash or checks made out to Webster UM with 'Youth Fundraiser' in the memo line. Donations can also be made through online giving. Click the GIVE tab on the top right of our website or choose the GIVE option on your phone, and follow the "[Give Now](#)" link.

Your support is key in helping us deepen our relationship with Christ in different communities. Once the forms are turned in, we will let you know the delivery date, likely around March 13. We appreciate your gifts and your prayers as we continue to organize and plan a life-changing mission experience for our youth!!

Blessings,

Paige Foster & the Youth of Webster UM



FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

CHECK OUT THESE THREE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OFFERINGS

Book Discussion – *Barracoön: The Story of the Last “Black Cargo”* by Zora Neale Hurston (In-Person)

Friday, February 11, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Free: Call (314)395-0988 to join the discussion

Barracoön: The Story of the Last “Black Cargo” is a non-fiction work based on Hurston's interviews in 1927 with Cudjoe Lewis, the last presumed living survivor of the Middle Passage. Barracoön is the February selection for the Shepherd Center's monthly book group. A limited number of books are available to borrow from the Shepherd's Center office.

Celebrating Black Artists – Online Art History

Presented by Betsy Solomon, MA, Art Historian and Executive Director, Shepherd's Center

Fridays, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm CT

\$12/3-week session To register [CLICK HERE](#)

February 11 – Duncanson & Bannister: Two African American Painters

February 18 – Harlem Renaissance and the Visual Arts

February 25 – Horace Pippin: American, Modern

Summer of Soul – Film Screening & Discussion (In-Person)

Friday, February 25, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Free/registration required: [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

In his acclaimed debut as a filmmaker, Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson presents a powerful and transporting documentary—part music film, part historical record created around an epic event that celebrated Black history, culture and fashion. In 1969 The Harlem Cultural Festival was filmed in Mount Morris Park (now Marcus Garvey Park). The footage was largely forgotten—until now. Summer of Soul shines a light on the importance of history to our spiritual well-being and stands as a testament to the healing power of music during times of unrest, both past and present. The feature includes concert performances by Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone, Sly & the Family Stone, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Mahalia Jackson, B.B. King, The 5th Dimension, and more. SPACE IS LIMITED – NO WALK-INS

**WUM Justice Team, the Shepherd's Center Board Members,
Pastor Sharon, & Stan Richert**



Alliance for Interracial Dignity

February 17, 2022 • 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Composing the Douglass Diaspora

Walter Lathen and Willie Akins
Teachers of Excellence

with local history buff Kita Quinn

via Zoom
<https://bit.ly/AIDfeb2022>

For more information, email:
Hello@AllianceForInterracialDignity.org



Join the Alliance for Interracial Dignity to explore how Douglass School gave North Webster a leading role in the St. Louis African American community, cultivating rich connections across the metro region through kinship, employment, education -- and MUSIC!

Register [here](#).



COMMUNITY BOOK STUDY UPDATE

THREE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

The Sum of Us by Heather McGhee

1. Morning Zoom discussion, Thursdays, February 10th & 17th, @ 11 a.m.
To join, contact host Deanna Jent (deannajent@gmail.com).
2. Read the book on your own. Available at libraries; order from The Novel Neighbor or Left Bank Books.
3. Listen to Heather McGhee's Ted Talk or the book chat with Heather McGhee and Trevor Noah on the Daily Show.

A sample review: "A vital, urgent, stirring beautifully written book... a compassionate road map out of our present troubled moment."
George Saunders, author of *Lincoln in the Bardo*

The Justice Team is pleased to start 2022 ministry with this opportunity.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Call for Lenten Devotional Writers for 2022

When joining the United Methodist Church, we state that we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayer, presence, gifts, service, and witness. That last one makes many of us nervous but basically is asking us to tell a part of our story and how God has helped or inspired us. It is an encouragement to others and helps all of us grow in faith. That is our intent as we embark on compiling devotions to be used during Lent.

You may gravitate toward writing and be excited by this endeavor, or you may think “they aren’t talking to me.” But we are talking to you! We know that everyone has a story to tell, and we know that this church family is full of faithful folks who are encouragers. That is what this is all about.

Writers will be given guidelines and samples of devotions. We will discuss with you how to start, if you feel you need help. If you want assistance, please contact us by February 18th. Since Lent begins on March 2nd, the deadline for submissions is February 25th.

The Intentional Faith Development Committee thanks those who have already volunteered. Again on Sunday, the Connection Card will have an opportunity for you to sign up or to seek more information. If you have questions or need assistance, contact Linda Guth Stangl at linda-guth-stangl@live.com.



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to secretary@websterum.org and admin.communications@websterum.org

by Mondays at 10 am to be in that week’s newsletter.

CHURCH SPACE RESERVATIONS

It is important that the church calendar is accurate and up to date, showing which groups are using church spaces and when. If you want to schedule a space for your group, check the calendar and send your request to admin.communications@websterum.org to schedule all usage!

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Paige Solomon, Johnathan Ziggler (Connie Kroenung); Carol Carinci (Debbie Lund); Tim Mosier & family (Kris Maly); Ted Stockwell, brother of Pastor Sharon Kichline; Marilyn, sister of Ellen Hendrickson (Cindy Andrews); for our planet; and for all to be vaccinated.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the Boelloeni family as they mourn the death of Benji Shelton, mother of Nan Boelloeni, who passed away on February 5th. Information about the arrangements to come.

Prayers & thanksgivings will remain in the newsletter for two weeks.

To have your prayer requests included, please contact us using the:

*Connection Card ([online](#) or in-person)

*Prayer Requests (on our [website](#))

*Email secretary@websterum.org

*Contact one of our pastors



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The current requirements are:

- Worshippers are welcome to choose their own seats in the sanctuary.
- Please maintain appropriate physical distancing.
- 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 not required.

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

-Pastor Sharon and Tom Pacatte (Chair of Safety Team)