

Weekly Newsletter



Palm Sunday

APRIL 10TH

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A Message from Our Pastor

BREAKING OUR LENT

This feels like the loooooongest Lenten Season ever, doesn't it? Maybe like two years!?! But the chance to discover new life is right around the corner! I'm inviting you to join us in preparing your heart for it. Just like breakfast "breaks our fasting," Holy Week breaks the Lenten Season.

Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday at 10:30 am on April 10th** with palms. Once again, we will re-enact the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem with the waving of palms, and the opening of our hearts to receive Him.

Our **Maundy Thursday celebration** will be led by our Mountain Service Band at 7:30 pm in their original worship space, Fellowship Hall. Join us for a dramatic worship service of candlelight, music, and scripture. Holy Communion will be shared.

We will enjoy a hot **Easter breakfast** together once again from 9:00 am - 10:15 am on April 17th! Bring your guests to join us in Fellowship Hall for homemade breakfast casserole, fresh fruit, hot coffee/tea, and juice.

In-Person Easter Worship will be at 10:30 am on April 17th in our beautiful Sanctuary. Worship will include traditional music, Holy Communion, a children's story with gifts, and the tradition of our **flower cross**. Bring your posey for the Cross if you have one, and someone who needs to feel the joy of new life!

Fresh flowers will also be available at the doors to the Sanctuary. Masking will be optional. Childcare will be available in our nursery.

Online Traditional Easter Worship will be launched also at 10:30 am on Easter morning. Enjoy the celebration of the Risen Christ from the comfort and convenience of any location. You can find it on our website at websterunitedmethodist.org or on [Facebook](#).

I am looking forward to the end of this long-drawn-out season of darkness!
The Light of Life is coming! It is time to celebrate!



Grace and peace,
Pastor Sharon

OUR 2022 EASTER CELEBRATIONS



10:30 am - Traditional Worship Service

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of Holy Week. We will remember and celebrate Christ's arrival in Jerusalem with palm branches.



7:30 pm - Join us for Community-Centered Worship

Led by The Mountain Service Band to remember Christ's Last Supper and His journey to the Cross. We will share in prayer, music, and communion. Join in-person or online.



10:30 am - Traditional Service

Led by the Chancel Choir and an atmosphere of love, inclusion, and hope. Bring your friends and family as we create our flower cross together and gather to share Holy Communion at the Table of Grace. Childcare will be provided. Please join in-person or online.

11:45 am - Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Join us in Fellowship Hall to begin our traditional Easter Egg Hunt prepared by our youth.

Celebrate Easter with us as we imagine the New Jerusalem, where justice reigns.

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 in worship, the children will be called forward for a blessing and then will go to the Discovery Room. Children will wear masks. There will be games, stories, snacks, and prayer. We look forward to seeing you every Sunday!

WILD WEDNESDAY! - APRIL 13TH @ 5:30 PM

Our theme will be Easter, of course! Sign up [here](#).

If you would like to volunteer, bring food, or cook food for any of these or future events, please email me at directorchildren@websterum.org.

I would love your help!

Shae Parsons



YOUTH MINISTRY

April 10 - We will enjoy a night of bowling! The church will provide dinner at the alley. If you'd like to enjoy the small selection of arcade games, bring your own money.

April 17 - The Youth will be hosting the annual Easter egg hunt! Breakfast will be available starting at 9 am. If you can, be at the church by 9 am to get some food and be prepared to hide eggs before church begins at 10:30!!

If you are available that evening, we will enjoy a Webster neighborhood bike ride! Bring a helmet and your favorite set of wheels and we will hit the road together for some exercise and a nice ride to get some kind of snack! I'll provide a quick pizza dinner before we hit the streets.

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



Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to connect with Pastor Paige





REMAINING ITEMS NEEDED FOR EASTER BREAKFAST

Many volunteers responded to bake Easter casseroles and signed up for the clean-up crew! Thank you!

If you would like to help, but do not bake, **we still need fresh fruit and bottles of fruit juice.** Keep an eye out for the Connection Card on Sunday to sign up or email secretary@websterum.org.



REMINDER: LENTEN BAG CHALLENGE

Up until Easter (April 17th) our challenge is to fill a full-sized yard bag with items from our closet or dresser drawers. It's simple: every day of Lent, one item from your closet goes into the bag. At the end of Lent, take a selfie with your bag and post it on your Facebook page (or send your picture to secretary@websterum.org & we'll post it on the Church's Facebook page) with the explanation of the Closet Challenge. Then take your clothing to your favorite ministry for those in need (LifeWise StL & Salvation Army are two examples).



WE HAVE THE RESULTS FOR "GROCERY BAG" MONTH!

We are blessed as a church to have such a generous community! When we set a goal of 800 items for LifeWise, I held my breath. That's a lot of food & household products! Remarkably, we were very close to our goal for the month of March... 785 food & household items. Many thanks to Deane Looney, Pastor Sharon, and Missions Co-chair, Joel Kichline, for hauling this bounty to LifeWise. It took all three of them to make it downtown in one trip. Our sincere thanks to everyone who donated!



Helen Fuller (Risk-Taking Mission Co-Chair)

YOUTH V. GOV: A FILM OF HOPE IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The climate crisis is daunting for many of us, especially as it becomes more visible in natural disasters (tornadoes, wildfires, flooding, unheard-of rain events, etc.). How can we, as individuals, even begin to make a difference? How do I drive less and still get where I need to be? How do I use less plastic when nearly everything I buy to eat is packaged in it? How do I support those whose jobs are endangered as we shift to “green” energy sources to save our planet?

One way to start to get a grip on this problem is to see what other people are doing.

Interfaith Power & Light has made the film *Youth v Gov* available to us as a church community, and we will view it on Friday, April 22nd, starting at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Check out the trailer [here](#).

Mark the date to see what the leaders of tomorrow are doing today to guide us through this maze of difficulties that we all face. Our youth will lead the discussion following the film. If you are interested in attending, RSVP on the connection card or send an email to secretary@websterum.org. If you have questions, you may contact any member of the Justice Team or Debbie Lund at lundgerman@gmail.com.

Creation Care Task Force



"PLAN(T) AHEAD FOR ECO-JUSTICE"

There are so many things each of us can do to be good stewards of the world God blessed us with. Gear up for springtime and the upcoming Faith Climate Action Week (April 22 - May 1, 2022) by exploring these great resources in our community!

Online orders placed between March 26 - April 10 for the Missouri Botanical Garden [Pollinator Plant Sale](#) will be available for pickup on April 15 - 17. In-person shopping and sales take place during Pollinator Fair Days on April 23 and 24 from 10 am - 4 pm. The Metropolitan Congregations United has an ongoing environmental justice effort focused on monitoring the air quality in St. Louis neighborhoods. They always need volunteers. See if this is a place where you can make a difference. [Beth Gutzler](#) is the Environmental Justice Coordinator at MCU. Contact her for more information on how you can help.

Debbie Lund (Creation Care Task Force)

AN UPDATE FROM THE SAFETY TEAM

Dear Church,

Because COVID infection numbers and hospitalizations are at an all-time low, we are lifting the mask requirement for activities, including worship, in our church building. Effective April 17th, masks will be optional. Thank you all for your faithfulness to safe gatherings!

Pastor Sharon and the Safety Team



WEBSTER UM WOMEN SUPPORT LIFEWISE StL

Several women from Webster United Methodist enjoyed brunch and musical entertainment at the LifeWise StL Spring Bling. What a delightful way to impact women and families in our community. Keep an eye out for ladies who are sporting the "bling" they successfully won from the auction!

Joan Ballam (Webster United Methodist Women)





United Methodist Women invite everyone to join us in donating to our **2022 Lenten Mission** observance. This year we come together around the theme of "**Love, Justice, and Service: Answering the Call.**" This year's offering will support the vital and vibrant ministry of deaconesses and home missionaries, consecrated laity who have dedicated the entirety of their lives to vocations of love, justice, and service. These vocations include social work, education, healthcare, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, anti-racism efforts, firefighting, legal justice, and more.

We welcome you to pray, learn, and offer your gifts as we come together as one in spirit and in faith on behalf of women, children, and youth across the globe.

To contribute to our Lenten Mission project, send your checks, payable to Webster UM Women, to UMW treasurer, Lettie Morse (you can check your directory for her address), OR put them in Lettie's mailbox (Treasurer) in the church office. Please write Lenten Mission on the memo line. Thank you in advance for stepping out in faith to bring the love of Christ into our world through your prayers and selfless giving.

Cindy Andrews (Webster UMW)



UMW SPRING GATHERING & CRAFT SALE

SAVE THE DATE! - SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH

Time: TBD

Program Focus: Climate Justice

Craft Sale will include potholders, microwave bowl cozies, pillows, doll clothes, decorative bags & boxes, tooth fairy pillows, placemats, & more!

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Margaret Christensen; Marilyn Wolf; Gerry Carson; Mark Kremer; the Stuart/Reesor family; Traci's father, Lou; Cindy Foshee's brother, Mary, Linda (Cindy Foshee); Shupp Family (Paula Murphy); Carol and Jason Wright (Bev Mesey); Pam (Traci Stuart); Bill Haub (Jo Ann Claywell); Kathy Linss (Beth Gewinner); Ellen Smith (Marcia Kennon); Marilyn Cline (Cindy Andrews); for the people of Ukraine; for all to be vaccinated; and for world leaders.

CONDOLENCES

Sympathy to Gene & Lettie Morse and family on the loss of his 102-year-old aunt in February and his cousin in March.



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

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

by Monday at 10 am to be in that week's newsletter.

CHURCH SPACE RESERVATIONS

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!



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

- Worshippers are welcome to choose their own seats in the Sanctuary.
- Masks are now optional within our building.

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