

# Weekly Newsletter



## LIFE ON A MISSION TEAM TO MMDC

### Our Staff

PASTOR, REV. SHARON KICHLINE

[pastorsharon@websterum.org](mailto:pastorsharon@websterum.org)

ASSISTANT PASTOR, JOSHUA KRAKOS

[assistantpastor@websterum.org](mailto:assistantpastor@websterum.org)

MUSIC MINISTRY, LAMAR FITZGERALD

[directormusic@websterum.org](mailto:directormusic@websterum.org)

YOUTH MINISTRY, PASTOR PAIGE FOSTER

[directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY, SHAELEIGH PARSONS

[directorchildren@websterum.org](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org)

COMMUNICATIONS & ADMIN COORDINATOR,  
HANNAH DIPPEL

[admin.communications@websterum.org](mailto:admin.communications@websterum.org)

SECRETARY

[secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org)

<https://websterunitedmethodist.org/>

(314) 961-4133

600 N Bompert Ave,  
Webster Groves, MO 63119

# *A Message from Our Pastor*

## LIFE ON A MISSION TEAM TO MMDC

I thought it might be fun to share a little about what life is like on a mission trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center.

Upon arrival, everybody was assigned a room, and we made up our beds. We enjoyed a fabulous meal of chili with cornbread topped with Fritos and cleaned up the mess in record time. It took six smart people to figure out how to make the coffee for the morning. We're on a roll. We enjoyed lovely cards of encouragement from members of our church this evening.

Sunday night: I am comfortably situated on the corner of a couch listening to my mission team buddies laughing about exercising early in the morning and who is going to be leading the pack. Well, it won't be me. I expect to be one of the night owls of the group.

Monday: First day of work today. The MMDC has committed to sending 48,000 fortified rice meals to Ukraine for emergency nutrition for those immigrating to Poland, as well as those staying behind to defend their cities. Each meal pack feeds a family of six. We've made these rice meals before at our church. All the components are laid out in an assembly line, and everyone takes a station. One scoop of dried veggies, another scoop of soy meal, and finally a scoop of rice are all added to the bag that already contains a packet of vitamins in it. They are weighed precisely and then heat sealed. 40 bags fill a box, and it takes 30 boxes to fill a pallet.

Dinner was a scrumptious chicken and broccoli casserole, awesome rolls, salad, and strawberry jello poke cake.

Evening devotions got us thinking about the blessings of our mothers.

Tuesday: So far, we have contributed in the last two days to a total of 13 pallets, which is 390 boxes, and this translates into 15,600 meal packets and will feed 93,600 people whose lives have been turned upside down by violence. When the bell is rung, we all stop our work and gather around each pallet to pray over it, covering each one in our love, then stretch-wrapped it for shipping.

We enjoyed a tasty dinner of lasagna, salad, and bread, with the choice of about seven different desserts. We're definitely going to have to walk tomorrow. Our evening devotion challenged us to listen for God's gentle whispers.

It's time to send this narrative to Hannah for the newsletter. Tomorrow and Thursday we will continue creating bags that will bring nutrition and blessings. It has been good. Very good. Maybe you will join us next year?



Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Sharon*



## NATIONAL NURSES DAY

At the end of the 19th century, Florence Nightingale founded modern nursing. Thanks to her strict use of hand-washing and hygiene practices while caring for wounded soldiers in the Crimean War, Nightingale and her helpers reduced the death rate from 42% to 2% – ushering in nursing as we know it today. On May 6, we recognize the important role nurses play in our lives by celebrating National Nurses Day. Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Because of you, we live in a healthier world.

# 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 may wear masks. There will be games, stories, snacks, and prayer. We look forward to seeing you every Sunday!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's Vacation Bible School will be June 6-10 and our theme is Food Truck Party. People who enjoy working with children are needed to carry out a variety of jobs, from playing games to preparing food. Sign up [here](#) or email [directorchildren@websterum.org](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org) to sign up!

**Shae Parsons**



# YOUTH MINISTRY

**May 8 (Mother's Day) - NO YOUTH**

**May 15** - Pastor Paige's Baby Shower

**May 22** - Stations and Mission Trip Meeting! We will gather for an end of semester stations evening. We will reflect on the past school year and look ahead to the upcoming summer.

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

Contact [directoryouth@websterum.org](mailto:directoryouth@websterum.org) to connect with Pastor Paige

# VOLUNTEER FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

There are two opportunities for volunteers to support our return to morning fellowship time.

1. **Donut pick-up** (at 8:30 am) from Webster Groves Schnucks: The order is pre-paid. All you have to do is pick it up and set them out in Fellowship Hall.
2. **Hot drink set-up**: Volunteer to prepare the hot water and coffee urns on Friday or Saturday and/or volunteer to plug them in before 8:30 am Sunday morning.

Email [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) to sign up!



## A CHANCE TO HELP MEND CREATION

### *The Garden at Eden*

If you'd like to check out the Garden at Eden Seminary, planned garden work times this week include:

**Friday, May 6, 5:30 - 7 pm**

**Saturday, May 7, 10 am - noon**

Heavy rains cancel the day's garden time.

If you'd like to receive the weekly email updates for planned gardening times at Eden, send an email to Kristen Leslie at [kleslie@eden.edu](mailto:kleslie@eden.edu).



## EPWORTH DUCK DERBY

### WHAT IS EPWORTH?

Epworth is a multiservice agency founded in 1864 that seeks to empower youth who have experienced trauma to realize their unique potential by meeting essential needs, cultivating resiliency, and building community. In 2021, we served over 13,000 individuals in the St. Louis area. You can learn more at [epworth.org](http://epworth.org).

### WHAT IS A DUCK DERBY?

A duck derby is a fundraiser where participants pay to adopt a rubber duck, we race it down a course, and the first three ducks to cross the finish line win a prize! This year, the Duck Derby will be held during a community event at our Webster Groves campus on Saturday, May 7th. Epworth's Duck Derby is the only one in STL!

Check out

[epworth.org/duckderby](http://epworth.org/duckderby) to

purchase your ducks or contact

Linda Guth Stangl (United Methodist Women) for more

information & to purchase ducks!

### PRIZES

**First Place:**

**\$1,500**

**Second Place:**

**\$1,000**

**Third Place:**

**\$500**

### Lone Duck

Number of Ducks

**1** 

Price: \$5.00

### Six Quack

Number of Ducks

**6** 

Price: \$25.00

### Quack Pack

Number of Ducks

**12** 

Price: \$50.00

### Flock of Ducks

Number of Ducks

**25** 

Price: \$100.00

# RESUMPTION OF SEEKERS' SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Seekers are happy to resume our in-person gatherings. Starting **May 8th**, we will study James W. Moore's book entitled *Do Your Best and Trust God for the Rest*. Moore talks about the idea that God doesn't expect us to be perfect. God simply asks us to be faithful, and God will do and be what we cannot. The author, through personal experience, shares the message, "God has the power to redeem! God can take our weaknesses, our foibles, our feeble efforts and redeem them and use them for good. God can take our defeats and turn them into victories!"

The class is led by Deane Looney. There will be no homework since we will read and discuss the chapters during class time. We meet on the second floor of the Education Building in the middle room (sign says Kindermusik but that is not indicative of our adult class). Please join us at 9 am Sundays. Everyone is welcome!



## WUM PROVIDES WORSHIP AT BETHESDA DILWORTH

On **Sunday, May 15, 2022**, our fully vaccinated and masked volunteers will return to Bethesda Dilworth (BD) to lead worship. Since returning in May of 2021, it has been a joy to worship again with the residents of this skilled nursing facility. Because we only provide the half-hour chapel service one Sunday every other month, changes occur. In March we worshipped in the dining hall, but this month we will be back in the chapel. At 2:00 pm volunteers gather in the chapel on the second floor to receive assignments from Chaplain Michael Tooley and then disperse to escort residents who use wheelchairs. The half-hour service begins at 2:30.

At BD we have the reputation of singing a lot because we begin singing beforehand. By 3:30 pm we have finished returning residents to their rooms. If you would like to volunteer this month or be added to the e-list of volunteers, please contact Beth Anderson, at #314-781-9923 or [TrebleCross1980@gmail.com](mailto:TrebleCross1980@gmail.com).

# BABY SHOWER FOR PASTOR PAIGE

*SUNDAY, MAY 15TH*



The WUM Youth Group is hosting a baby shower for Paige Foster, Director of Youth Ministries, on Sunday, May 15th from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Paige has created an online registry. If you'd like to view the items available follow this [link](#). Once you've found something you'd like to purchase, you may do so at your local Target or by ordering from Amazon.

Paige is grateful for the support of her church community!

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you plan to join us, please RSVP no later than May 8th. You may RSVP on the May 8th Sunday connection card or by emailing [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org).



## AFGHAN DRIVE-THRU SUPPER CLUB

*Saturday, May 21st @ 5-6 pm*

We will be hosting Welcome Neighbor STL which hires immigrants from other countries to create meals in a host kitchen using recipes from their homeland. Meals are boxed up and sold to those who have placed orders in advance through their website. The money raised goes to the cooks and WNSTL, and the leftover food goes to the immigrant community. Meals from Syria, Afghanistan, Morocco, Lebanon, Dubai, and African countries have been served. On the 21st, our cooks will be from Afghanistan. Purchase your tickets (\$30 per meal) through their website [here](#).

This is a drive-through event and you must purchase your tickets ahead of time via the website. At the time of writing this article, a time hasn't been set for the meal but we will know before next week. Meals usually sell out so purchase yours soon!

# LIFEWISE StL ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT & DINNER AUCTION



## All About the **Kids** GOLF TOURNAMENT & DINNER AUCTION

*Supporting Youth Literacy Programs*

**June 6, 2022**

Click [here](#) for more information on their website.

A green graphic featuring stylized illustrations of golf clubs and balls. A driver club is on the left, a wedge is in the center, and several golf balls are scattered around. The text is in white and dark green.

**JUNE 17, 2022**  
**4:00-8:00 PM**

**FAMILY GOLF &  
LEARNING CENTER**  
3717 TREE COURT  
INDUSTRIAL BLVD,  
63122

**FOOD - FRIENDS - FUN**

**MORE DETAILS TO  
COME**

**SHEPHERD'S  
CENTER EVENT**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Click [here](#) for their website.



## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Team; Deane Looney; Joyce Simpson; Gerry Carson; Mark Kremer; Clyde Gilker; Margaret Christensen; Jenny Watts; Obermeier family; Chris and Linda Redmore; Clare Wilson, mother of Olivia and Lane; Ordith & Richard, Margaret Skouby's parents; Diane Steenbergen, Gene Morse's sister; the family of Chris Murphy (Connie Kroenung); Grandpa Stuart (Seira Stuart); Barbara Behnke (Kris Maly); Carol Carinci and Olivia Nordlund (Debbie Lund); David Bekrend (Marcia Kennon); for the people of Ukraine; for all to be vaccinated; for parents; and for grandparents



### NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to [secretary@websterum.org](mailto:secretary@websterum.org) and [admin.communications@websterum.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.