

Weekly Newsletter



"When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven, there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 2:1-4

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A Message from Our Pastor

WEAR YOUR **RED!**

On the Day of Pentecost, the promised Holy Spirit came blowing down to rest upon the Christian community like dancing flames of fire. Wind and fire! My imagination conjures up a vibrant, even somewhat dangerous picture. I see a whipping wind blowing hats off and chairs over, coupled with the strangely exuberant, even ecstatic, expressions on the faces of Jesus' followers as their souls were filled by God's mighty Spirit.

In the church, we often come dressed in RED to be reminded of the fire that the Spirit brings with her when she sets a place ablaze.

This year, Pentecost Sunday falls on June 6th. We call it the church's birthday and we have been known to celebrate with birthday cake in the sanctuary. We will not be eating frosting this year but will be gathering to share Holy Communion at Christ's Table of Grace, a gift that I may never take for granted again after the long hiatus we experienced during the pandemic. On this Sunday, we will remember the day when Jesus' anxious followers were transformed into a BOLD community of faith, forged by the arrival of the Holy Spirit, and commissioned to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ out into the world. Indeed, the Church was born!

This Sunday will also be our official goodbye to our own Deanna Jent as we send her out in ministry. It's been my experience that this is often how the Spirit works, setting ablaze a fire in one person's heart, that then spreads to others when it has been stoked and encouraged. Come join us as we fan the embers in Deanna's heart to prepare her for her new ministry. **Come, Holy Spirit, Come!**

Remember to wear your **RED!**



Grace and peace+
Pastor Sharon

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIVING STONES

Children (ages 4- 6th grade) are invited to learn about God and their creation every Sunday during worship. We send them with a blessing to the Discovery Room at the beginning of the service, where they will experience games, stories, snacks and prayer. Children may wear masks.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's Vacation Bible School will be June 6-10 from 5 to 8 pm for children 4-12 years old. 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 to sign up!

Shae Parsons



YOUTH MINISTRY

June 4 - Deer Creek Clean-up! Join our church and some of those in the Boy Scout Troop to help clean up our local creek. Meet at the church at 8 am in your old clothes and sturdy shoes that can get dirty. There will be lunch at 11:30 am. If you need to contact him, you can reach him [here](#).

June 5 - Movie Night!

June 12 at 4:30-7 pm - RYZE Adventure Park! We will meet at the RYZE Adventure Park 12420 Grace Church Rd, Maryland Heights, MO 63043 at 4:30 to get suited up for our adventure. Please RSVP by June 10. Come try something new and be supported by your youth friends!

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

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to connect with Pastor Paige

ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS' CALL

GO ON THE OFFENSIVE TO STOP MASS SHOOTINGS

A dialogue about the Bishops' call that we learned about in last week's newsletter is underway within the Justice Team. It began with the suggestion to create a ribbon memorial on the Ted tree listing the names of those massacred in Uvalde accompanied by a signed statement stronger than "In Memory Of." Responses varied from "good idea" to "why now and not a week ago when ten mostly Black shoppers were gunned down in a grocery store in Buffalo" to "let's list names from both massacres plus a listing of major massacres over the past decade." As the leader of the Justice Team, I added that my vision was that a memorial now is a first step of mourning to be accompanied by action steps for change related to all gun violence.

The Council of Bishops calls us "to actively work to transform lives from violence to peace, elect officials who will not settle for inaction, and inject communities with the grace and love of Christ that will alter the course of our current behaviors." Last week, Derek and I attended an interview at the SL County Library with Eric Holder about his newly published book, *Our Unfinished March: The Violent Past and Imperiled Future of the Vote... A History, A Crisis, A Plan*. What stayed with me was his statement that we have to get it into our own minds that democracy is worth fighting for. This principle applies to going on the offensive to stop mass shootings (and, I would add, stop too many other deaths from guns). We can act now!

The U.S. House of Representatives has already passed a bill expanding gun regulation. Senators are beginning negotiations on legislation this week. Now is the time to contact Senators Roy Blunt & Josh Hawley to voice our strong support for strengthening gun regulation. Strategically, support for expanded background checks on gun purchases and red flag laws seem to be the most possible next steps. My prayer is that each of us will "get it in our minds" that it is worth taking action to curb gun violence.

Call Roy Blunt at (202) 224-5721 or visit
www.blunt.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-roy

Call Josh Hawley at (202) 224-6154 or visit
www.hawley.senate.gov/contact-senator-hawley

Carolyn Redmore with the Justice Team



UNDERSTANDING OUR APPORTIONMENTS



Each year Webster United Methodist pays apportionments which are set by our Missouri Annual Conference. One of the larger apportioned expenses is called **Connectional Ministries**. Why do we need Connectional Ministries? Because as United Methodists, we are a connectional church!

Rev. Kim Jenne serves as Director of Connectional Ministries for the Missouri Conference, and she has four staff members. Their job is to keep us in communication with the five jurisdictions and seven central conferences across the globe. That includes:

- the nine districts in Missouri
- 694 churches in Missouri
- 495 serving clergy
- 403 retired clergy
- Other United Methodist organizations such as Central Methodist University

Our Connectional Ministries team also engages in Safe Sanctuaries training and a variety of consulting services. This year's proposed budget for Connectional Ministries is slightly over \$1,000,000, which is a 15% decrease from the current budget.

The Finance Team



HANDS-IN-MISSION : DEER CREEK CLEAN-UP

JUNE 4TH - 8 AM TO NOON



Deer Creek is located about half of a mile from the church. Boy Scout Troop 303 and our youth group will join church members as the clean-up crew!

Ages 5-100 can join us. Age 101 if Gordon Shull joins us!

Work will count towards volunteer hours for Scouts and High School students.

Dress appropriately for getting dirty. Work gloves will be provided.

A meal will be provided at 11:30 a.m.

We will meet in the parking lot of Webster United Methodist church.

If you have questions, call **Joel Kichline (Risk-Taking Missions)**.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

Activities range from planting, watering, and weeding to minor carpentry and repair for all levels of work (from very active to work that can be done while sitting in a chair).

This week, community garden hours are:

Friday, June 3: 5 - 7 pm

Saturday, June 4: 9 am - noon

Email Kristen Leslie at kleslie@eden.edu and ask to be added to the mailing list.



PEACE WITH JUSTICE SPECIAL OFFERING



Photo by Keith Helfrich on Unsplash

Sunday, June 12th is a special UM Offering for Peace with Justice.

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference, and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict.

Last year, United Methodists gave \$328,463 towards ministries funded by the Peace with Justice Special Sunday offering. Half of the funds collected provide grants to local churches, districts, conferences, and other affiliated organizations that advocate for peace with justice. The other fifty percent of the offering remains in your annual conference to develop local peace with justice ministries and support a peace with justice coordinator. Please give as generously as you are able. Click [here](#) for more information.

Thank you,

Helen Fuller and Joel Kichline (Risk-Taking Missions Co-chairs)

FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE



We are piecing together a PowerPoint of pictures of the father figures in our lives who have been great influencers. It will be shown on Father's Day Sunday.

Please submit your photo, (if you haven't in the past, or you want to update it) to Cindy Andrews at cyndrews@gmail.com no later than **June 15th**. Include the first name of the person you wish to celebrate.



A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA JENT

Dear church family,

I wanted to let you all know that I successfully completed Local Pastor Licensing School and have been appointed to a quarter-time position at Webster Hills United Methodist as the Pastor of congregational care and visitation. I will continue to teach at Fontbonne. I will start attending worship at Webster Hills in June and will keep this congregation and its leaders in my prayers. I am so very grateful for all of the love, support, and prayers you have given me!

Deanna Jent



HELP SEND COVID VACCINES TO SIMBO ISLAND

To see more pictures, click [here](#). To donate quickly, go to our website or click [here](#).

If writing a check, please make it out to "WUM" and write "Simbo Island" on the memo line.

Thank you for helping our friend, Pastor Gideon Tuke.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Beth Anderson, #314-781-9923.



THANKS AGAIN, VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION 2022 TEAM!



Team members pictured: Dan Pike, Mary Taylor, JoAnn Claywell, Linda Guth Stangl, Ellen Hendrickson, Katie Renkins, Pastor Sharon, and Jan McCurley.

As I look back on the busy month of May, I want to recognize the fine work and loving support our V.I.M. team both gave and received during the workweek at Midwest Missions Distribution Center from May 1-5. During the week of May 23, the last shipment of the 48,000 promised Rice Meal packages left MMDC for Ukraine, so our team and our church can feel proud that we contributed substantially to that effort. Our assembly lines were fine-tuned by the end of that week, and there were a few sore backs, legs, and feet, but our team spirit was strong. One of our team members even worked with a still-healing injured wrist and never complained once!

My sincere thanks, also, to those who wrote kind, affirming notes to each one of us. We opened them right after we arrived at our lodging, and they were so meaningful as we carried out our work. Thank you to those of you in this congregation who have given money to MMDC's Ukraine Rice Meal commitment.

If you have a chance, I hope you will talk to one or more of our volunteers about his/her experience and think about reaching out to MMDC by volunteering even for a day in their Chatham, IL facility, or, better yet, think about and pray about joining our team in May of 2023.

Most Sincerely,
Jan McCurley



GOLF TOURNAMENT & DINNER AUCTION

Monday, June 6th At Forest Hills Country Club

Golf Ticket Pricing:

Individual golfer = \$325

A group of 4 = \$1,300

Dinner Pricing:

Individual ticket = \$85

Table of 8 = \$680

Register [here](#) or call (314)260-6369 to speak with Amanda Andrews with registration questions.



FUN FORE SHEPHERD'S CENTER FUNDRAISER

Friday, June 17th At Family Golf & Learning Center

Click [HERE](#) to reserve your spot!
Visit their website [here](#) for more information.



WEBSTER  **ROCK HILL**
M I N I S T R I E S

TRIVIA NIGHT

\$30 Donation per person

Form a table of 8 or join with others!
Bring your own snacks, beer, wine or soft drinks.

Heads/Tails	50/50 Raffle
Mulligans	Attendance Prizes

SILENT AUCTION

Friday, June 24th
Doors open at 6:15 pm
At First Congregational
Church of Webster Groves

Call their office at (314) 961-5082 to register!

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Margaret Christensen; Pat Claywell, Jo Ann's grandson; Mary Gumerman, Connie Kroenung's mother; Daniel Flier (Helen Fuller); Carol Wright (Bev Mesey); The Ratermann Family (Michelle Hostmeyer); Dave and Kathy, friend of Katie Renkins; Diana Nordlund, Debbie Lund's sister; for aging parents; for the people of Ukraine; for all to be vaccinated; for healthcare workers; for students finishing and beginning; for all of the babies and families without formula; and for improved gun control laws.

THANKSGIVING

Connie Kroenung is grateful to the volunteers at Safe Harbor for taking care of her mother.



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)