

Weekly Newsletter



LIVE WITH
pride

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A Message from your Annual Conference Representative

MISSOURI ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

We are back from the first (IN-PERSON) Annual Conference in three years. I appreciated the opportunity to represent Webster UMC, allowing Paula Murphy, our regular lay member, to see her brother who was visiting from Australia. I was struck, as I always have been, by how important and meaningful these sessions are for appointed clergy, who will see old friends and colleagues they may not have seen since the last Annual Conference. I was also proud to again witness the Ordination Ceremony wherein new clergy are formally certified as UMC pastors and sent out to preach the Word and serve the churches of Missouri. It is always a moving ceremony as family and friends get to participate and lay hands on the new ministers and a thrill for me to see their dedication and hard work recognized and rewarded. The business of the Conference went smoothly. (Even if all voting was done on cell phones. No more raising of hands or standing. Who knew?)

There was no discussion of the potential split in the denomination nor of the scheduled 2024 General Conference. The only oblique reference came in a forceful and articulate talk by our Bishop imploring all of us to acknowledge the differences of opinion within our ranks and to recognize that one who thinks differently on a topic is not our enemy; that disagreements and differences of opinion have always been present in our faith; and that they make the finding of a middle ground that all can support to some degree absolutely essential. He urged patience, listening, and empathy. It was a very effective moment.

The finances of the Annual Conference are in good shape. Minimum salaries were raised slightly, and the costs for insurance, retirement contributions, etc. were upped a little bit. These changes were needed as inflationary pressures were acknowledged.

It was reported that in 2020 and 2021, the Missouri Conference has given \$1.3 million for projects in Mozambique, and drilled 87 new water wells, with 52 more wells planned for 2022. The Conference has given \$930,000 through Advance Special Giving, and \$125,000 to agencies, including LifeWise and Epworth Children and Family Services in our area.

The number of Districts was reduced from 9 to 5. Some churches have also been closed, several have disaffiliated and three are challenging the Discipline requirement on financial terms that allow them to keep church property.

Trustees reported on the negotiated agreement between the Boy Scouts of America and the Church at large. There will be no financial impact on local budgets as a result of this agreement.

The budget was presented and approved. Nominations were presented and approved, and appointments were fixed. I am pleased to report that Pastor Sharon will be with us for another year.

The Annual Conference is a major part of our connection, with important discussions and decisions taking place over the days of the meeting. It was an honor for me to represent our church, and I appreciated the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Deane Looney



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIVING STONES

Living Stones is now on summer break. Our 10:30 am service will feature a Children's Story led by Rev. Sharon Kichline. We will resume this program in the fall at the beginning of the school year.

Contact directorchildren@websterum.org
to connect with Shae.



YOUTH MINISTRY

June 26: Disc Golf at Watson Trail Park! We will meet at the park to try our hands at disc golf! I'll provide the discs, but no promises that I will have any helpful hints. If you have friends who play or would like to play, bring them along for the fun! I'll bring some pizzas for a picnic beforehand.

Fourth of July weekend: NO YOUTH! Enjoy celebrating the holiday weekend with friends & family.



Affiliated Announcements



WUM CAR WASH

Saturday, June 25th @ 8 - 11:30 am

Come get your car washed at the Webster Groves Masonic Lodge and **support the youth as they venture to Kentucky for their upcoming mission trip.** Cash donations are appreciated!

12 E Lockwood Ave
St. Louis, MO 63119

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

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to
connect with Pastor Paige

CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH

June is Pride month, and we will be celebrating it in worship this Sunday by blessing our new rainbow flag. Webster United Methodist became a Reconciling Congregation in 2014, voting to rewrite our welcoming invitation by explicitly including members of the LGBTQIA+ community. We adopted the following statement and continue to post it on our website:

"We welcome into the full life of our church people of every race, ethnicity, social or economic status, age, faith history, physical or mental ability, family configuration, sexual orientation and gender identity. We believe that through diversity, our community of faith will flourish as we commit ourselves to spread love, justice and hope in the world."

In our statement, we are proclaiming that this church will be a safe place to live out one's faith; that this church will celebrate all couples' anniversaries (not just some) and will include all and nurture all, even as we depend on their faithfulness to love us back. Together, we will be more whole, representing the brilliance of God's diversity, in a way that we could not do when any part is missing.

Supporting the Pride movement is about justice, acceptance, appreciation, and inclusion. This is who we are. I look forward to seeing you Sunday!

Pastor Sharon



HELP FOR UKRAINE

June 26th through July 10th
8:00 am – 8:00 pm daily



On behalf of Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Webster United Methodist is collecting NEW items for donation to Ukraine. Look for the blue container with the Ukrainian flag any day between 8 am and 8 pm in our church parking lot to drop off your donation of NEW men's socks, adult underwear (any size), and rain ponchos.

Thank you,
Cindy Andrews

JOIN RANDY & LOUISE THOMAS TO CELEBRATE THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY!



FRIDAY, JULY 1ST @ 5 - 8 PM

Join us where it all began 50 years ago, Fellowship Hall of Webster United Methodist Church, to celebrate Randy and Louise's 50th wedding anniversary. The open house will include appetizers, music, and a chance to socialize with everyone from over the years.

Bring your smiles and memories to share. In lieu of gifts and cards, Randy and Louise are collecting non-perishable donations for the LifeWise Food Pantry.

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOSH

Dear Church,

I often feel that when I do not regularly worship with all of you my schedule is thrown off. Granted, we find ourselves doing this most during the summer. I am writing to let you know where I am going this summer and why you won't see me as often.

I am on my way back to the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota to do our two-week exchange program with my nonprofit "Bridge Builders STL." As many of you know, I have been doing intercultural competency work with Webster University and the Sioux Y in the Lakota Nation for almost 10 years now! For those who don't know, in partnership with the Lakota nation in South Dakota, I lead a cultural exchange program for young folks between the ages of 16 and 25. The focus is a two-way exchange that is mutually beneficial for young folks from St. Louis and South Dakota. Three of the young adults joining me on this trip are Shaeleigh Parsons, our Children's Director, Alexis Maly, and Kaelin Triggs the newest singer at the Mountain Service. We will be spending one week in Dupree, SD, and one week in St. Louis. If this is something you are interested in learning more about and possibly supporting, please let me know!

Following that program, I will be gone for quite some time with the United States Marine Corps. I just hit my five-year mark in the United States Marine Corps Reserves and will be attending my first field operation as a Sergeant. I am very excited about the opportunity to lead other Marines in a new way and engage in one of the largest operations I have had in my five years! I will return sometime in August.

In the meantime, I encourage you all to consider joining us at the Mountain Service. Julia Haralson and Chloe Ward will be leading the Mountain Service in my absence. They will be alternating who does the sermons and our worship band will still be leading the service. We meet in Fellowship Hall every Thursday at 7:30 pm. I am very excited to see what new life they can bring to the service with new eyes and leadership inspired by the Holy Spirit.

I will still be available through my email. It might just take me a little longer to respond. I will keep you all in my prayers and I look forward to sharing pictures of my travels!

Blessings,

Pastor Joshua Krakos

Assistant Pastor, Webster United Methodist

Announcements from the Community

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!

WEBSTER  ROCK HILL
MINISTRIES

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!

MARCH IN THE WEBSTER GROVES JULY 4TH COMMUNITY DAYS PARADE!

WITH THE ALLIANCE FOR INTERRACIAL DIGNITY

Churches Together for Justice, the STL Area Voter Protection Coalition, and other like-minded organizations are putting together a parade float and group of walkers to highlight the importance of voting. The main banner will say "Justice is Always on the Ballot." We are looking for volunteers to carry the Alliance for Interracial Dignity banner and hand out candy and voting information.

For more information email hello@allianceforinterculturaldignity.org



EPWORTH GOLF TOURNAMENT



Support a great cause and have fun on a beautiful golf course!

Sign up for a team of four **[HERE!](#)**

Check-in begins at 8:30 am and the tournament starts at 10 am.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Elementary School Supplies

- Backpack
- Lunchbag
- 2 Pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil Box or Pencil Pouch
- Pencil Sharpener
- Pens
- Colored Pencils
- Highlighters
- 12 inch Ruler
- 5 inch Blunt Tip or Point Tip Scissors
- Gluestick
- 4 oz. Glue
- Wide Ruled 1 Subject Notebook
- Composition Notebook
- Loose Leaf Filler Paper Wide Rule
- Folders
- 3 Ring Binder or Zipper Binder
- Crayons
- Markers
- Watercolor Paint
- Ruled Index Cards
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer

Middle School Supplies

- Backpack
- Lunchbag
- #2 Pencils
- Eraser
- Pencil Sharpener
- Pens
- Highlighters
- Markers
- 12 inch Ruler
- Tape
- Scissors
- USB Flash Drive
- TI Calculator
- Ruled Index Cards
- Folders
- One Subject Spiral Notebooks
- Composition Notebook
- Loose Leaf Filler Paper Wide Rule
- 3 Ring Binder or Zipper Binder
- Tabbed Dividers
- Stapler
- Weekly Planner
- Hand Sanitizer

High School Supplies

- Backpack
- 3-ring binder
- Pocket folders
- Notebook Dividers
- Colored pencils
- No. 2 pencils
- Erasers
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil case
- Pens
- Highlighters
- Markers
- Lined notebook paper
- Graph paper
- Spiral notebooks
- Computer printer paper
- Flash drive
- Glue stick
- Hand sanitizer
- Organizer/planner
- Paper clips
- Scissors
- Stapler
- 3-hole punch



We are collecting supplies together for all three of the main agencies we support until July 22nd!

****More information to come****

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

The Redmore Family; For Success of the Bridge Builder Exchange Trip; Kathy Capawana; Margaret Christensen; Gayle Fields; Cindy Andrews; Margo Petracek; Kathy Augustin (Marcia Kennon); Carol Wright (Bev Mesey); Amanda Kohlfeld, Marcia Kennon's daughter; for those who've recently buried friends; for Congress to pass meaningful gun control laws; for the people of Ukraine; and for all to be vaccinated.

CONDOLENCES

Sympathy to the friends and family of Linda Redmore who died on June 14, 2022, and especially to her husband, Chris, and in-laws, Derek and Carolyn.

Celebration of Linda's Life: Monday, June 27 at noon

Baer Funeral & Memorial Center-Cave Springs
3950 W. Clay Street
St. Charles, MO 63301

Visitation will be held at 11:00 that same morning, and an interment at Oak Hill Cemetery will follow the service.



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!