

Weekly Newsletter

VOTING FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE



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A Message from Our Pastor

VOTING FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

(From *Ministry Matters*, an online newsletter)

"Over the next week, all Christians who are registered to vote in the United States would do well to keep in mind this nugget of wisdom from John Wesley that has been making the rounds on the Internet:

'I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election, and advised them,

1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy;
2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against; And,
3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side.'

A lot of quotes attributed to Wesley do not actually originate with the 18th-century Anglican preacher and founder of the Methodist movement. But this one does. Wesley wrote it in his journal on October 6, 1774 in reference to the British Parliamentary elections held in the fall of that year.

With Wesley's quote in mind, here are a few ways you can prepare for the next season of elections:

- Spend time in prayer, not only reflecting on whom you should vote for but also asking God to guide your words, attitudes, and actions toward those with whom you disagree.
- Reflect on the candidates you will be voting for. Are these candidates 'most worthy?' If so, why? How has your faith informed your decisions?
- Think about the candidates you won't be voting for. Reflect on these candidates' good qualities and reasons why other people consider them 'most worthy.' Don't assume the worst about opposing candidates and their supporters.
- Resist any urges to write nasty, anonymous comments about opposing candidates on the Internet. And, if your candidate loses, don't write ridiculous things like, 'This is the end of America as we know it' or accuse the winning party of cheating.

- Pray for the well-being of the nation and the world, regardless of which candidates emerge victorious.
- Remember that your president, governor, senator, congressperson, state representatives, etc. represent you, regardless of whether you voted for them. Let these people know what issues matter to you and why. Work with these elected officials for the benefit of all people, and particularly those whom Jesus called the "least of these."

Now, this is me talking (Pastor Sharon). The bottom line is that Jesus was not a Democrat, and he was not a Republican. Jesus was all about relationships. Jesus had the interests of others at the top of his priorities. Jesus was about integrity and justice. And Jesus was about healing. If your candidate is not voted into office, or (most especially) if (s)he is, practice graciousness.

Remember that there will most likely be a need for healing. Invite Christ to initiate that healing, and be a part of it as well.



Let the people say... Amen,
Pastor Sharon



"HOLY FUNNIES" FOR BULLETIN BOARD

I began to open my Bulletin Board next to my office to "holy" funnies last Sunday.

Bring yours, and share them with your church family!

Pastor Sharon



Click [here](#) for image source and credit.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIVING STONES

Living Stones is now on summer break. Our 10:30 am service will feature a Children's Story. 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

July 31st - Tie Dye Night! Come and bring your creativity to design some new shirts or shorts for your closet!

August 7th - Movie Night! Enjoy an evening with friends in the Youth Room watching a movie. Plenty of snacks will be provided.

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

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to
connect with Pastor Paige



Thank you, Youth Mission Trip Team, for sharing your experiences with us last Sunday!



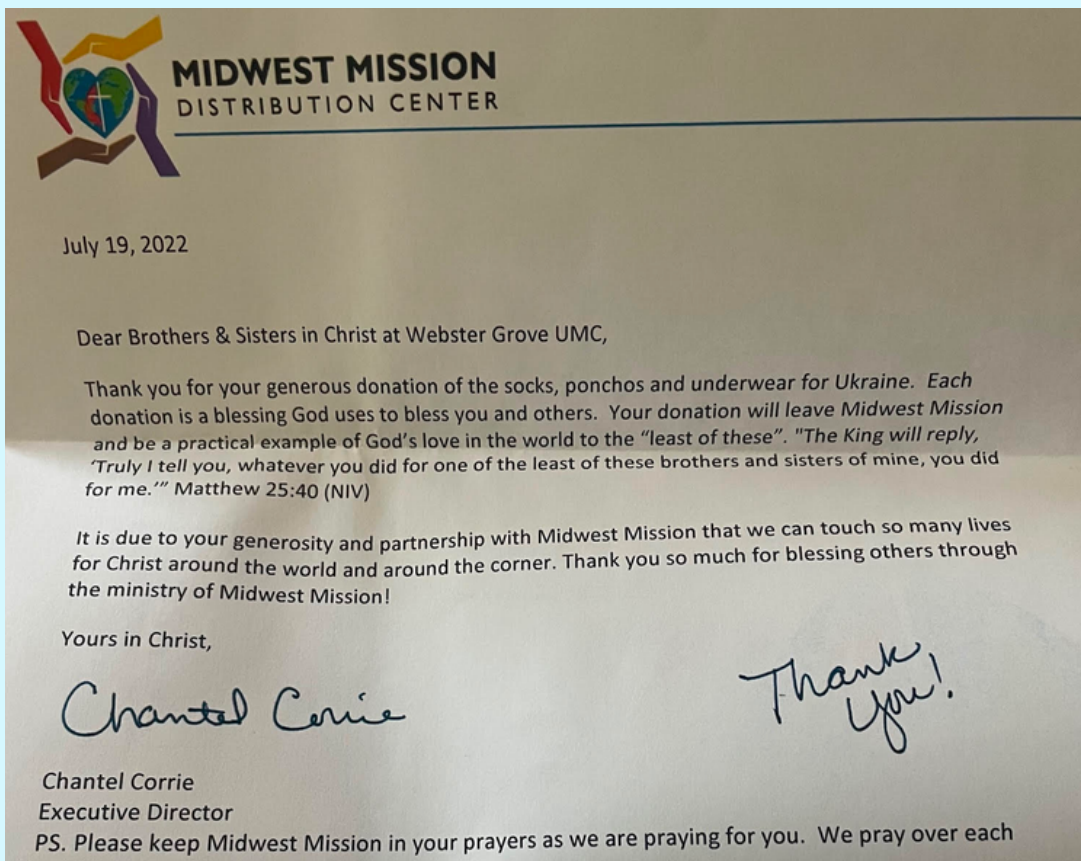
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED ITEMS FOR UKRAINE!

The final tally of donations is:

- **179** pairs of men's socks
- **93** pairs of men's underwear
- **18** men's undershirts
- **12** pairs of women's underwear
- **10** ponchos

In addition to all who donated items, thank you to Ellen Hendrickson, Ron Boelloeni, Mary Taylor, Joan Ballam, & Helen Fuller for bringing the collection container out each morning & back in at night to tally the donations. Ellen & Eric Hendrickson delivered the bags of donations to Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Pawnee, IL. MMDC sent all of the donations to Ukraine on July 22nd.

Thank you again from Webster United Methodist Hands in Mission!



THANK YOU FOR DONATING THIS PAST TUESDAY!



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

LAST CHANCE TO DONATE!

At Webster United Methodist, we lend a hand by collecting and distributing school supplies to children through Webster Rock Hill Ministries, LifeWise StL, and Epworth Children and Family Services.

The collection ends this Saturday, July 30th and you can place your donations in the big blue bin outside the parking lot entrance. You will find the list of items needed below and in an outside brochure box.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful gifts!

Suggested Donations for WRHM and LifeWise StL include...



- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Backpacks | • Crayons | • Glue | • Pencil cases/pouches |
| • Tennis shoes | • Erasable pens | • Graph paper | • Pens - blue, black, red |
| • 3-ring binders | • Erasers | • Hand sanitizer | • #2 pencils |
| • Colored pencils | • Facial tissues | • Highlighters | • Rulers/Protractors |
| • Composition notebooks | • Folders - w/ & w/o prongs | • Journals | • Scissors - blunt, pointed |
| • Compasses | • Glue sticks | • Markers | • Scientific calculators |
| | | • Notebooks | • Disinfectant wipes |

Suggested Donations For Epworth include Backpacks.

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

SAFE GATHERINGS TRAINING (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SAFE SANCTUARY)

JULY 31ST @ 11:35 AM
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR 45 MINUTES

Greetings church family,

It is that time of the year again when we need to hold our yearly Safe Gatherings training. This is how we ensure that we provide our children, youth, and vulnerable adults a safe environment to Love, Grow, and Learn with Christ. This training is required for anyone who helps with any of our volunteer projects. This includes nearly all of our congregation at one time or another during the year. All church members are encouraged to join in this training. The more adults who are trained, the safer our environment.

During the Safe Sanctuary orientation meeting, you will be:

- Provided copies of and helped to understand Webster UM's "Policy and Guidelines Aimed at Keeping Safe our Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults"
- Educated about the problem of child abuse
- Informed of Missouri's laws for reporting child abuse and the appropriate steps to report an incident of child abuse

You will be required to complete:

- The "Volunteer Commitment Form." We need your social security number to complete the background screening.
- A "Worker Registration Form" to be filed with Missouri's Family Care Safety Registry. (Note: If you are already registered, this form will not be required. Those who were trained last year have already completed this form.)

If you have questions please contact Louise Thomas at 314-497-7508 or
louisethomas1@att.net.

THANK YOU MESSAGE FROM GATEWAY CENTRAL DISTRICT!



GATEWAY CENTRAL WE CELEBRATE THE MINISTRY OF

Webster United Methodist

for faithfully giving 100% of your
Gateway Central District apportionments for 2022
to support the district's ministries and mission in
making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

We give God thanks for your gracious generosity!

Rev. Robin Bell

District Superintendent

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down,
shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For
with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" Luke 6:38*

Announcements from the Community



Since 2012, LifeWise StL and Guardian Angel Settlement Association have hosted a back-to-school event for the community. They distribute new shoes, backpacks, and school supplies to the families each organization serves throughout the year. You can help kids prepare for the school year by volunteering at their annual event, held this year on August 12th at the Park Recreation Center.

Volunteers are needed the week leading up to the event to pre-package school supplies and set up the shop. On the day of the event, volunteers supervise supply tables, and help families choose backpacks, supplies, and shoes.

Sign up [here](#) to volunteer! Click [here](#) for more information on their website.



GARDEN OF EDEN PARTY

Eden Theological Seminary has received a grant from the Missouri United Methodist Foundation for the Eden Gleaning and Garden Project! Please join us (in person or via zoom) to celebrate and learn about the Eden Gleaning and Garden Project.

United Methodist Garden of Eden Party

Thursday, July 28 @ 4:00 pm CT

Finger-food and beverages

Park in the main parking lot and walk north behind the maintenance building.

RSVP: advancement@eden.edu

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Family and friends of Harry Fitzgerald, Lamar Fitzgerald's father; Cindy Andrews; Family and friends of Toni McCoy; Margaret Christensen; Mark Kremer; Laurie Furgerson, Beth Anderson's sister-in-law; Kathy Augustin (Marcia Kennon); Mary Gumerman, Connie Kroenung's mother; for aging parents; for the people of Ukraine; for world leaders; for the upcoming primary elections; and for safe summer travels for all.

THANKSGIVINGS

We welcomed Baby Nora Caroline Rose, daughter of Pastor Paige Foster and Justin, yesterday morning.

We give thanks for Nora's safe arrival.



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!