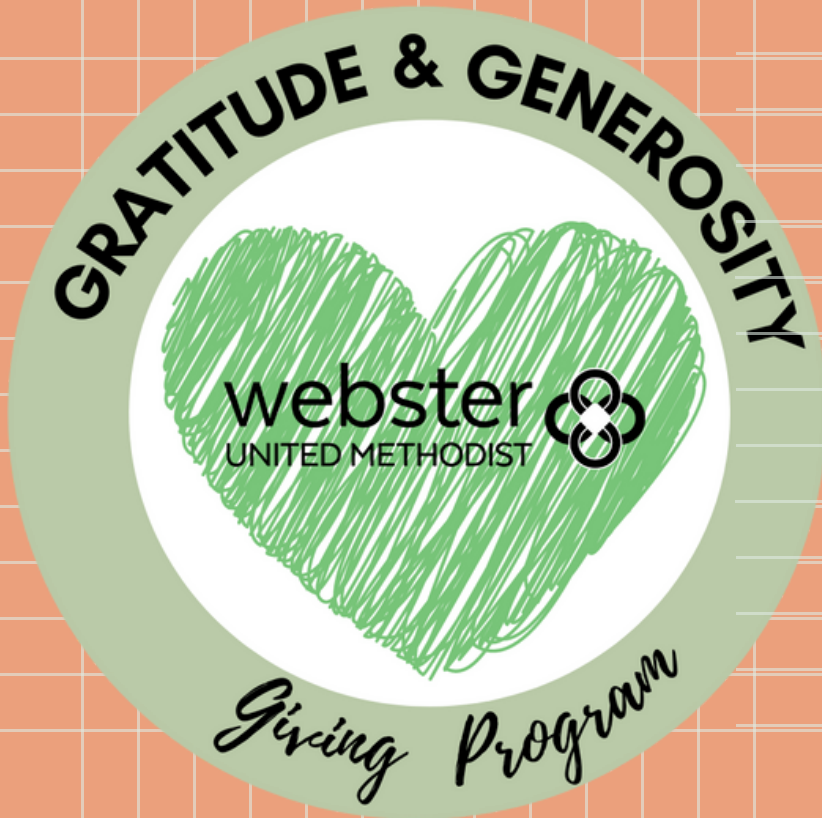


SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

webster
UNITED METHODIST

Weekly Newsletter



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A Message from Our Pastor

GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY ARE A YEAR-ROUND EVENT!

Dear Church,

October is the month we address our personal giving as disciples of Jesus Christ. This formal conversation happens just one month out of the year, but the reality is that disciples, by their very nature, recognize with gratitude the gifts of God that we enjoy, and share them with the world every day.

Beginning on Sunday, October 9th, we will be celebrating the joy that comes through Gratitude and Generosity, the hallmarks of our church since its early beginnings. In the United Methodist tradition, we identify the basics of discipleship as the offering of our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

As part of nurturing faith in others, we are working to encourage every person of our faith family (all those who claim this church as their church home) to participate in our Gratitude and Generosity Program. We are stewards of those things entrusted to us, inherited by us, and earned by us. We serve and were made in the image of a generous Creator.

Jesus said, "Giving not getting is the way. Giving begets Generosity."— Luke 6:38 from "The Message"

Please join us in making our 2023 goals a reality:

- 1) The return of commitments representing 100 individuals (adults, youth, and children), and
- 2) Monetary pledges totaling \$300,000.

Our Commitment Sunday will be November 6th. On that special Sunday, all will be invited to participate in a Celebration Worship where we will bring our commitments to the altar, followed by an all-church meal to celebrate God's extraordinary generosity.

Our church is so important to us and in the lives of so many. During October, please prayerfully consider the information shared each week. Consider moving toward the Biblical standard of tithing (10%) by challenging yourselves to increase your giving an additional 1% of your income. Through your generosity, we will continue our many ministries of love, outreach, justice, mission, nurture, and compassion. Together, we can share the generosity of God with so many others.



In Christ,
Pastor Sharon



REMINDER: LITTLE LENDING LIBRARY NEEDS BOOKS

WUM hosts a little lending library at the corner of our parking lot at North Bompert Avenue and Greeley Avenue. Over the summer, I slowly emptied my box of children's books, placing the colorful titles on the lower shelves for little hands to grab. It has been fun to see the literature for children disappear so quickly!

If you are ready to part with some of your children's books, drop them in the church office or place them directly into the Little Lending Library. Middle school chapter books are also desirable.



Thank you,
Pastor Sharon

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LIVING STONES

This program is for children, 4-years-old to 6th grade, and is held during worship (10:30-11:30 am). Each Sunday in worship, the children will be called forward for a blessing and then will go to the Discovery Room to learn about God. There will be games, stories, snacks, and prayer. We look forward to seeing you!

DISCOVERY ROOM & CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Discovery Room provides activities for children from 9-10 am while their parents are attending adult Sunday school classes. Children will be given the option of participating in the children's choir during that time. The arrival time for the Discovery Room is 9 am and children should be picked up by 10 am.



THE NEXT WILD WEDNESDAY!

OCTOBER 26TH @ 5:30-7 PM

Join us in Fellowship Hall for an evening of fun! The theme will be Halloween! Please contact Shae if you are interesting in serving as an adult volunteer.

Email directorchildren@websterum.org
to connect with Shae.



YOUTH MINISTRY

October 2nd - Halloween Brainstorming/Sorting! Join us for taco night and going through Halloween decorations in preparation for our haunted walk that we will host on October 30th. Bring a friend!!!!

October 9th - Pumpkin Painting & Carving! We'll have chili and then spend our time painting and carving pumpkins. Pumpkins will be provided!

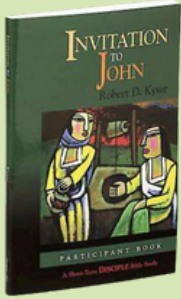
Youth Ministry meets on Sundays from 5:30-7:30 pm!

Contact directoryouth@websterum.org to
connect with Pastor Paige.



CLASS REMINDERS

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY OF JOHN



Sundays at 12-2 pm in the Zoom Conference Room

- From October 2nd - December 18th
- You will attend classes in person and be encouraged to come to them all (the content builds upon itself each week).

Note: Class will not meet Sunday, October 16th due to our 125+ Anniversary celebration.

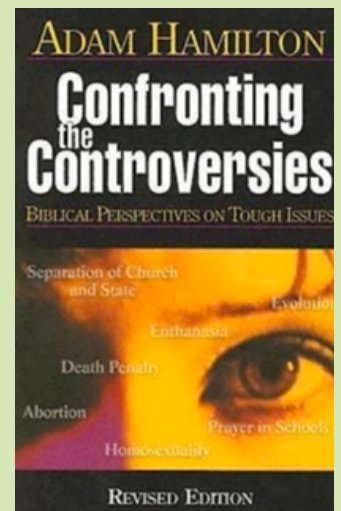
Contact Pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@websterum.org with any questions and/or if you could not make the introductory meeting but are still interested in attending the regularly scheduled classes.

NEW BOOK FOR THE SEEKERS CLASS

This class, led by Deane Looney, is changing their book study to *Confronting The Controversies: Biblical Perspectives on Tough Issues* by Adam Hamilton.

This group meets Sundays at 9 am in the classroom next to the Zoom Conference Room.

Please feel invited to join.



ETHICAL MISSIONS

Meets in the Zoom Conference room starting at 5 pm through October 10th.

- This is a hybrid class (you may attend in person or through Zoom).
- Contact Pastor Josh at assistantpastor@websterum.org if you are interested in attending.

TOWER GROVE PRIDE STL RECONCILING METHODISTS BOOTH



The United Methodist booth at Tower Grove Pride was a success! You could feel the love and joy in the air! Even puppies joined in on the fun. Thank you to the organizers of the booth and their volunteers, and to all who stopped by!



SPECIAL OFFERING FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday is celebrated on October 2nd, 2022. Without your generosity, this ministry cannot be achieved! Your gifts support students of various racial and ethnic backgrounds to achieve their educational goals while transforming communities.

Fifty percent of the offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. Thirty-five percent supports scholarships for undergraduate students. Fifteen percent funds in-service training programs. Please give generously!

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

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP! - CROP HUNGER WALK

The annual Crop Walk, organized by Eden Seminary, is **Sunday, October 2nd**, beginning at 4 pm. WUM will host a water station in front of our church. There are many ways to volunteer: participate in the walk itself, raising money for those who are food insecure; donate to support a walker; or help host the water station.

Contact [Helen Fuller](#) for more information on how you can help.



UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH FALL BRUNCH

Mark your calendars & plan to attend!



SATURDAY, OCT. 22ND @ 10 AM

Guest Speaker - Jenn Deaton

Epworth Drop-In Center for Homeless and At-Risk Youth



CELEBRATING 125+ YEARS!

Webster United Methodist will be marking our 125+ Anniversary as a church family with service and celebration!

Schedule of Events:

Service Saturday, Oct. 15th

8 to 8:30 am - Light breakfast
8:30 to 9 am - Volunteer Send-off
9 to 11:30 am - Service Opportunities
(click [here](#) for more info about the Deer Creek Clean-Up and click [here](#) for the Flood Kits shopping list.

Celebration Sunday, Oct. 16th

9 am - Adult Sunday School Classes
10 am - Fellowship Time
10:30 am - Worship Service with Bishop Farr (Living Stones for children)
After worship - Potluck in Fellowship Hall

125+ ANNIVERSARY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

UMCOR FLOOD KIT SUPPLIES

Item Collection: Place your donations in blue buckets found at every entrance to the church between 9/25-10/14. Click [here](#) for the shopping list!



Monetary Donations: You may donate online [here](#) or donate by check made out to Webster United Methodist with "UMCOR Flood Kits" in the memo line between 9/25-10/9.

JOIN A DEER CREEK CLEAN-UP TEAM

Contact Joel Kichline [here](#) with participants' names so that he can create work groups in advance and save time that morning.

Lord's Acre 2022

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

5 pm - Silent Auction & Country Store

5:45 pm - Dinner followed by Live Auction

The long-held harvest-time tradition of landowners or farmers setting aside a portion of their harvest for their church is known as the "Lord's Acre." This has been our tradition at Webster United Methodist for more than 45 years. While our "harvest" may not be measured in bushels of grain, it is a reaping of our hard work, a sharing of things we make, of things we own, our gifts, talents, our creativity, and whatever we have. Our church willingly shares a portion of our harvest through the Lord's Acre dinner and auction.



In a break with our own tradition, we have changed the dinner menu this year. We will be serving 3 kinds of chili (beef, chicken, and vegetarian chili) with cornbread and all the toppings. Seconds are encouraged. Of course, the desserts will not change.

It works like this... Meal tickets will be on sale for our delicious chili dinner prepared by church volunteers (adults \$15 and children {4-12 years} \$5). Doors open at 5 pm on Sat. Nov. 5th with appetizers served during the Silent Auction which will be open for bidding. The Country Store will also be open for shopping. The Country Store sells a variety of donated homemade goods. This year's Silent Auction will have a nice selection of items, including special things for kids and families (such as snack baskets, kids' sports equipment, craft baskets, or gift certificates). The Silent Auction closes after dinner, and the Country Store remains open for the entire evening. After dinner, a live auction with selected items takes place. Among the live auction items, we can expect some lovely handmade quilts, wood-crafted pieces, and famous pies from some of our best cooks. Childcare will be available if needed.

The success of the Lord's Acre event, however, depends on generous donations from our church family, homemade goods, hand-crafted items, services, event tickets, theme dinners, and other items. Please consider what you or a group can give for this event. Suggested dates for bringing in donations of non-food items are October 30th through Nov. 4th. For questions, please contact Helen Fuller [here](#) or Joel Kichline.

The proceeds from the event will benefit women, children, and families served by local ministries like LifeWise StL, Epworth Children and Family Services, and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Announcements from the Community

STL HELP MEDICAL SUPPLY DRIVE - OCT. 8TH

For more than 14 years, the STL nonprofit St. Louis HELP has been providing free medical equipment to anyone who needs it. The closest donation drop-off location is Webster Groves City Hall. Visit their website [here](#) for more information and/or sign up to volunteer.



STL LOOK UP & LIVE
Public Meeting

9 | october | 2022 | Centennial Christian Church
3 pm - 4:30 pm | 4950 Fountain Avenue, 63113

JOIN US TO DIRECTLY ENGAGE OUR TOP LEVEL OFFICIALS IN FACING OUR LOCAL REALITIES

"Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced." -James Baldwin

www.mcustl.com

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER
OR VISIT: <https://bit.ly/MCULookUpLive>

METROPOLITAN CONGREGATIONS UNITED

Join MCU Leaders (In-person) at this public meeting to speak to elected officials about our social justices issues.

Click [here](#) or the image above to register.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Margaret Christensen; Stuart/Reesor Family; Margo Petracek; Morgan Murphy; Cindy Andrews; Mary Gumerman and Shelly Vivirito (Connie Kroenung); Jennifer and Kate (Vicki Hoyer); prayers for the start of Chris Redmore's new job; Carol Carinci (Debbie Lund); for the congregation and the celebration of 125+ years; for all those affected by hurricanes and typhoons in our warming world; for the people of Ukraine and Puerto Rico.



**NEWSLETTER
ARTICLE
DEADLINE**

All articles and submissions must be sent to secretary@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!