

Weekly Newsletter



SCJ 2022 Bishop Assignments

Image Source: <https://www.scjumc.org/>

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A Message from Our Assistant Pastor

A REFLECTION ON THE 2022 UMC JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

Dear Church,

John Wesley wrote that conferencing is a method of grace. When I was elected by the Missouri Annual Conference in 2019 to be a voting delegate in the Jurisdictional Conference, I was hesitant about this. Now, I couldn't agree more.

From November 1st–November 5th I was in Houston, TX at the South Central Jurisdictional Conference. The Annual Conferences that make up that delegation are Arkansas, North Texas, Central Texas, Rio Texas, Texas, Northwest Texas, Louisiana, Great Plains, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oklahoma Indian Missionary, and of course the great Annual Conference of Missouri. During these packed five days, our job as a voting body was to put new petitions and resolutions forward, approve a series of reports from the quadrennium (which is now six years because of COVID-19), and most importantly elect three new bishops for the jurisdiction. Also, a number of smaller committees met to discuss drawing lines of annual conferences, appointing bishops, etc.

Over the last three years, the Missouri delegation has been meeting monthly (except during the height of the pandemic) and engaging spiritually about how best to carry out this ministry through conferencing. One of the things important to note about this delegation is that over 50% of us were new to this role. This means that new eyes and ears will be brought to the work of this legislative body. Considering all of this, we made history in a number of ways. Our main job as a jurisdiction was to elect three bishops to replace the three bishops who were retiring. The process for the election of bishops

gives each voting delegate three votes per ballot. Now, that might seem like a lot, but every ordained elder in the jurisdiction is eligible to vote for bishops. Only 60% of the entire body of the jurisdiction is required to elect a bishop, but it sometimes takes several rounds of voting to achieve that number. In the first ballot, we elected all three bishops! This has never been done in United Methodist history. Not only did we elect all three bishops on the first ballot, but we elected the first Black woman in the jurisdiction and the first Native American Bishop in the United Methodist Church!

All three of the bishops are highly qualified and are great leaders for the future of our church. I am inspired for the future of the United Methodist Church, and I can't be prouder to call myself a United Methodist right now. We are making great strides in our church for the betterment of all people, but especially those who have been disenfranchised by the church in the past. In particular, all three Bishops are LGBTQIA+ affirming clergy and support a change in the Book of Discipline regarding same-sex marriage and openly LGBTQIA+ clergy.

To share what I have learned, I am leading a small group on Tuesdays in the month of November from 6:30-7:30 pm, in person (Space Room) and via Zoom. Please contact me if you would like the Zoom link. I hope to see you there! My heart is so incredibly full. I am thankful for the blessing it has been to represent you and the Missouri conference at the jurisdiction, and I look forward to sharing what I can with you. Please ask questions if you have any!



Best,

Joshua Krakos

Assistant Pastor

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!

NEXT WILD WEDNESDAY! - NOVEMBER 16TH @ 5:30-7:30 PM

Join us for our November Wild Wednesday! This month we will celebrate Thanksgiving and learn about why it is important to give thanks. Dinner included!



Email directorchildrenwebsterum.org
to connect with Shae.



YOUTH MINISTRY

November 13th - Creating Our Own Golf Putting Course! We will gather at the church to build our own 4-6 hole putting course. Bring any material you think would be helpful like paper towel tubes or PVC scraps. We'll be creative and have a good time! If someone has some putters to bring, please do!

November 20th - Potluck Family Meal! Invite your friends and family to come to an old-school potluck. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. I'll provide a ham and a turkey! RSVP with which foods you are bringing so we don't have 500 macaronis (Although, I wouldn't be too upset).

Contact directoryouthwebsterum.org to
connect with Pastor Paige.





LORD'S ACRE 2022



A bountiful harvest of goodwill, good works, and good cooks resulted in Webster United Methodist fulfilling many of its mission commitments to various agencies in the St. Louis area and beyond. As you may know, a lot of preparation goes into an event like this. We want to thank all those who contributed numerous hours of time and energy to make this event a success. From preparation, ticket sales, cooking, and set-up through to clean-up we had a wonderful team. Thanks to Helen Fuller, Jan McCurley, Alison McCurley, Ellen Hendrickson, Cindy Andrew, Katie Renkins, Dan Pike, Louise and Randy Thomas, Stan Richert, Jesse Hebisen, Jackie Richert, Linda Guth Stangl, Gordon and Joan Ballam, Margaret Skouby, Roger McCurley, Dennis Fuller and any others who pitched in generously when and where needed. Chili, cornbread, and slaw were big hits, along with the many desserts. Extra funds were raised with the chili we had left over. Please forgive me if I have omitted your name as it is not meant to diminish your contribution and impact.

Over \$6,000 was raised Saturday evening from the generosity of all, including members of our church, families, and friends.

A big shout out to Rod Cooper our auctioneer since 1975!

Joel Kichline (Missions Team Co-chair)

FLOOD BUCKETS DELIVERED TO MMDC



The UMCOR Cleaning Kits (Flood Buckets) we assembled on October 15th from supplies donated by all of you were delivered to Midwest Mission Distribution Center this past week. MMDC is located just a few miles from the home of Ellen Hendrickson's son, so she took the buckets on the way to visit his family.

Thank you to all who donated money and cleaning supplies and assembled the buckets; to the Tuesday Crew who loaded the fifteen buckets into Ellen's car; and to Ellen for delivery. MMDC keeps a stockpile of Flood Buckets in their warehouse to send in response to disasters. With the recent hurricanes, the need was greater than their supply. Thank you Webster United Methodist!

Cindy Andrews



CAN YOU PUSH A WHEELCHAIR?

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH



Every other month volunteers from WUM help Pastor Sharon provide a thirty-minute worship service for the residents of the skilled nursing facility Bethesda Dilworth (9645 Big Bend Road in Kirkwood). At 2:00 pm volunteers gather in the chapel on the second floor to receive assignments from Chaplain Michael Tooley, and then disperse to floors 1, 2, & 3 to escort those 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 have questions, would like to volunteer this month, or wish to be added to the e-list of volunteers for future dates, please contact Beth Anderson, (314)781-9923 (home) or treblecross1980@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE



GIVE THANKS
Community
Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 22
at 6:00 pm
at Christ Lutheran (Selma & Lockwood)

We invite you to bring food staples & willing hearts.



Supporting indigenous ministries

Giving thanks to God, we honor and support the Food Ministry at Emmanuel, asking everyone to bring a food item for the pantry.

A love offering also will be taken to send to the Firewood for Elders program at the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota.

We will gather at Christ Lutheran Church (1 Selma Ave, Webster Groves).

This service is presented by Christ Lutheran Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Peace UCC Church of Webster Groves, Webster United Methodist, and Webster Groves Presbyterian Church.

Want to Get Involved?

1. Attend, and bring a friend!
2. Contribute food goods and/or make a financial offering to the Firewood for Elders program (cereals, oatmeal, any kind of canned beans, tomato sauce, any soups, mac and cheese, dry pasta and/or pasta mixes, rice mixes, peanut butter and jelly, canned chicken, canned Chef Boyardee-type pasta, and canned chili).
3. Take a role in the evening
 - Sing with the choir! Ask your church's choir director for details, or contact Diane Drollinger, Director of Choirs at Christ Lutheran at dianedrollinger@gmail.com
 - Greet worshippers and hand out bulletins
 - Bring a sweet or savory treat to share
 - Help with cleaning up the space after the event—Many hands make light work!

Contact Pastor Meagan at (314)962-6012 or email pastor@christwg.org with questions or to sign up to help!

WEBSTER-ROCK HILL MINISTRIES' CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

For many years, individuals and groups within our church have participated in the Adopt-A-Family programs at Webster-Rock Hill Ministries (WRHM). It is now two weeks past the application deadline for personal contact at Christmas with a participating family. Late application may be possible by calling WRHM's office at 314-961-5082 and identifying yourself or your group as coming from Webster United Methodist.

Alternatively, individuals or groups may participate by direct donation in the form of gift cards or checks made out to Webster-Rock Hill Ministries with "donation for Adopt-A-Family" written on the check's memo line. Online donations are also possible on the homepage of WRHM's website, www.wrhm.org/holiday_programs.

Mailing either gift cards or checks can be risky, so hand delivery to WRHM's office (111 East Waymire Ave., Webster Groves) is recommended. The office is open daily from 9 am until noon. There is usually ample parking on the street or in WRHM's lot. Suggested guidelines for giving include \$25 per person for a holiday meal plus \$25 per person for each individual Christmas gift. All donations for this program are due by Friday, December 2. Please call Mary Taylor, our church's representative to WRHM, if you have questions or need assistance in participating.



UWF CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

Craft Circle Sale opens at 10:45 am

Lunch will be served at 11:30 am

Following lunch, The Shepherd's Center Executive Director

Betsy Solomon will present

Divine Subjects: Images of Angels in Paintings

Cost: \$10

Sign up on the Connection Card during
Sunday worship or call Joan Ballam.



Announcements from the Community



BBSTL NEWS

BBSTL Charity Concert

Hello everyone!

We are formally inviting you to our **Bridge Builders STL Charity Concert** this **Sunday, November 13th**, at The Focal Point! There will be live entertainment, drinks, and merchandise available for purchase. We are thrilled to work with the talents of Irish musicians Kevin Buckley, Dan Lowery, and Eimear Arkins and Irish dancers from the St. Louis Irish Dance Company. All proceeds will benefit future exchange programs.

As many of you know, our exchange trips are the heart and soul of BBSTL, and funding will provide more young individuals with the opportunity to attend. At the concert, there will be a special video presentation of alums of the 2022 program speaking about their experiences.

Tickets are now available for purchase online:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bridge-builders-stls-charity-concert-tickets-432066902737>

Doors will open at 6:15. Please come early to enjoy some drinks and good conversation!

It is sure to be a fun night and we hope to see you there!



**Sunday, November
13, 2022**

Doors open 6:15

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

The Focal Point

**2720 Sutton
Boulevard, St. Louis,
MO 63143**

Tickets:

**\$15 General
Admission**

**\$10 Student
Admission**

**\$50 VIP (Preferred
Seating,
Merchandise)**

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Family and Friends of Gayle Fields; Ely and Paityon; Margaret Christensen; Jo Ann Claywell; Becca Stevens; Kathy Linss (Beth Gewinner); Susan Smith (Marcia Kennon); Jen Ward (Connie Kroenung); Past, present, and future students and teachers of Central VPA; Our community and our health; Community-minded efforts toward gun regulation; People of Ukraine; and people affected by recent hurricanes.



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!