

JANUARY 26, 2023

webster  
UNITED METHODIST

## Weekly Newsletter



### All-Church Bible Study - "Forgiveness"

Bubble Study from Feb. 26th - April 2nd

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## *A Message from Our Pastor*

ALL-CHURCH BIBLE STUDY - "FORGIVENESS"

*Bubble Study from Feb. 26th - April 2nd*

**Fresh from a host of holiday gatherings** with family and friends, it might be a good time to talk about forgiveness. Many relationship dynamics can be a little complicated. Renewed relationships at the holidays can stir up old rivalries, poke at unhealed wounds, and aggravate un-reconciled feelings.

**Learning to ask and grant forgiveness** is necessary in our lives because of an inescapable fact of human nature: we are bound to hurt each other, sometimes on purpose and sometimes unintentionally. If we are to live grace-filled lives, if we are ever to fully know freedom and joy, then we have to learn how to practice forgiveness.

**But forgiving others and humbly asking** for forgiveness are also central disciplines for Christian believers. Lent, a time to reflect on our Christian journey, is an appropriate time to deepen our understanding and practice of forgiveness.

**During our 6-week Lenten study,** we will gather at 9 am each Sunday from February 26th - April 2nd in Fellowship Hall, after choosing our donuts and filling our coffee cups. At round tables (bubbles), we will explore what the Bible has to say about forgiveness, why we would bother with the difficult work involved, and the dynamics of seeking resolution with others, ourselves, and with God. For some, this will not be an easy conversation. But it will offer a place to begin a journey toward healing and wholeness, and release from the pain that has the power to hold us hostage.

### **Whom do you know**

- who bears emotional wounds that do not seem to heal?
- who is angry with God for the way things turned out?
- who does not seem to be able to forgive themselves for a lousy choice? or
- who wrestles with a bad ending to a relationship?

**Whom do you know who needs** to hear a word about forgiveness? Invite them to think about working it out in a safe place among people who care.

**Sign-ups begin this Sunday** through the Blue Connection Card during 10:30 am worship. You can also call the Church Office at (314)961-4133. Our facilitators will be Deane Looney and Jesse Hebisen.



**Grace and peace+**

*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!



## YOUTH MINISTRY

It takes all of us in this church family to support our youth. Every adult who is Safe Gatherings certified is invited to volunteer as a leader or co-leader for one of the dates ahead. If you are willing to serve as an adult volunteer to take over a certain date or assist with youth group, please email Pastor Sharon at [pastorsharon@websterum.org](mailto:pastorsharon@websterum.org). The tasks include planning the dinner, games, mission activities, and outings.

## TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR

**January 29th - Game Night!** Join us for a fun night of games and pick up your candle & pizza fundraiser order forms.

**February 5th - Trip to the Art Museum!** Our current plan is to have lunch together after worship and then go together in the early afternoon. The Pallia's have a new fryer and are planning on making something yummy!

**February 12th - Service Project!** Volunteer for our community collection of socks and underwear to donate to LifeWise StL.

## SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH

Sunday, January 29th is Human Relations Day, the first of the six special collection Sundays across United Methodist Churches. We join other United Methodist congregations to collectively support neighborhood ministries. These ministries focus on community development, community advocacy, reaching at-risk youth, and easing the transition of formerly incarcerated individuals. Your gift truly makes a difference in the lives of those living on the margins of society.

Special donation envelopes will be available in the church pews at the January 29th worship service, or you can designate "Human Relations" on the memo line of your check to Webster United Methodist. You may also choose to donate online through our website giving page by clicking **HERE** and giving to "UM Human Relations Day 2023".

Thanks for your support of these life-changing ministries.

**Joel Kichline**



## LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!

We split the congregation in half by last name.

Please place your order online as follows:

**A-M last names purchase from Sarah at:**

<https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/sarah290829>

**N-Z last names purchase from Vivienne at:**

<https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/vivienne855166>



# Announcements from the Community

## LAY EDUCATION CLASSES OFFERED BY THE MISSOURI CONFERENCE



There are several lay education classes being offered throughout the conference over the next few months, including Ministry of All Believers (formerly the Basic Course).

That course, along with the Christian Leadership and Visioning course, are being offered in person in both Columbia, MO, and Kirksville, MO at various dates and times.

For more information on these classes, as well as other classes being offered throughout the conference, please click [HERE](#).



### NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to [secretary@websterum.org](mailto: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](mailto:admin.communications@websterum.org) to schedule all usage!

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Cindy Andrews; Margaret Christensen; Family and friends of Gene Morse; Family and friends of Gordon Shull; Becca Stevens; Connie Kroenung's mother, Mary Gumerman; Mary Hoffman (Mary Taylor); Nick (Megan Gesse); John Pike, Dan & Katie's brother; Johnathan Zigman (Connie Kroenung); Carol Carinci (Debbie Lund); and People of Ukraine.

## CONDOLENCES

**Sympathy to Kim Shirar, former student pastor, and her family on the loss of her mother Carolyn Foley.**

Cards may be sent to Maplewood UMC,  
7409 Flora Ave, Saint Louis, MO 63143.