

Weekly Newsletter



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A Message from Our Pastor

## NEW YEAR SERMON SERIES: "THE WALK"

As we move into a new year, it is customary for some of us to pause for a moment and take stock of how we are living our lives. Do we do the things we ought to do, and refrain from doing things we ought not to do? Are we living lives characterized by love, grace, and generosity? What does our life journey feel like? Is it joyful or joyless? Rather than choosing to travel side by side with Christ, do we sometimes wander away, seeking our own paths?

On Sunday, January 8th, we will begin a new sermon series, "The Walk," based on a recent book of the same title authored by Adam Hamilton. It is a simple guide for the Christian life, written for ordinary people whose faith is sometimes messy. It is written for those who wish to follow Jesus, to experience more of God in their lives, and to grow to become the people God wants them to be.

During the following six weeks, we will focus on the five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God, and taught through the New Testament. Each of these five practices is part of our daily journey with Jesus, and an essential part of growing together in the church.

I invite you to make it your New Year's resolution to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ by committing to attend all six of these Sundays, if you can, 1/8-2/12. I think your soul will be deeply blessed.



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!

#### SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT WILD WEDNESDAY!

January 18th @ 5:30 – 7 pm

#### Email directorchildren@websterum.org

to connect with Shae.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Before finishing up with us on Christmas Day, Pastor Paige put together a tentative calendar for the next couple of months. Until we find a new leader, we will be looking for leadership from the parents and youth with assistance from other adult volunteers.

It takes all of us in this church family to support our youth. Every adult who is Safe Gatherings certified is invited to help volunteer as a leader (or co-lead) 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 <u>pastorsharon@websterum.org</u> if you are interested. The tasks include planning the dinner, games, mission activities, and outings.

#### **TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR**

January 8th - Hot Chocolate Bar

January 15th - Breakfast for Dinner & Music Devotional

January 22nd - Service Project





African Prive-Thru Supper

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14TH @ 5 - 6 PM

WEBSTER UNITED METHODIST PARKING LOT - 600 N. BOMPART AVE.

## PURCHASE YOUR TICKET(S) <u>HERE</u>! \$35 per meal

\*Note: Tickets will not be sold at the door & must be ordered ahead of time through the WNSTL website.

## WHAT IS

## WELCOME NEIGHBOR STL?

• A non-profit organization located on Arsenal Street

• Employs immigrants to create meals using recipes from their homeland in a host kitchen.

• Creates opportunities to share knowledge and skills

• Provides an opportunity for us to get a glimpse of their culture

• Raises funds to set cooks on a path of greater independence & confidence in their new lives in America

### TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE DRIVE-THRU SUPPER...

- Our cooks will be from Burkina Faso & the Ivory Coast
- Meals from an African menu must be purchased online ahead of time
- Boxed meals are delivered to your car in the Webster United Methodist parking lot
- Money raised largely goes to the cooks, with some to WNSTL
- Leftover food goes back to the immigrant community
- A tip jar will be available to raise money for WUM's sister church in Mozambique

VOLUNTEER TO PLATE THE FOOD, CLEAN, & BE RUNNERS BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE AT (314)961–4133!

# CAN YOU PUSH A WHEELCHAIR?

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH



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 <u>treblecross1980@gmail.com</u>. You may also sign up on the Connection Card this coming Sunday.

# NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to <u>secretary@websterum.org</u> 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 <u>admin.communications@websterum.org</u>

to schedule all usage!

# OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Cindy Andrews; Gordon Shull and Family; Andrews, Stevens, and Christensen Families; Margaret Christensen; Pastor Sharon Kichline; Mark Kremer; Margo Petracek; Carol Carinci (Debbie Lund); Jim Geddes (Anonymous); Paulette Carr (Helen Fuller); Traci Stuart's Aunt Mary and her friend's mother; Betty Vitak's family (Marcia Kennon); and People of Ukraine.