

LOVE
GROW
SERVE

webster
UNITED METHODIST



May 11, 2023



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Honoring the Women in our Lives

Mother's Day is the official holiday to honor our mothers.

Certainly Jesus loved and honored his mother, using nearly his last breath while hanging on the cross to ensure her care. To his disciple John, he said, *"Here is your mother"*. To his mother, Jesus declared, *"Behold, your son."* From that point forward, Mary lived in John's home. Out of love for his mother, Jesus ensured her care and security in a culture where an unattached woman would surely become destitute.

There have been women in my life who have loved and supported me, my mother and grandmother most especially so. The women of my church prayed for me, invited me to participate, encouraged my gifts, and celebrated me as I was growing up. These women brought food, watched my baby, and did the wash for my family when my mother lay dying. They loved me with a mother's heart. Most are now gone, but I remember them and honor them by paying it forward.

I imagine you know women who have given you life too, physically or emotionally. You don't have to wait for this one day a year to express appreciation, but certainly this Sunday, they would be honored and feel your love through a connection with them. Call them on the phone. Write them a letter, or if you've forgotten how to use a pencil, text or email these special women of your life. Show up for a short visit. Cards, candy, and flowers are nice, but give them the gift of your time, and they will be over the moon.

Grace and peace+

Pastor Sharon

Note: I will be traveling to Minneapolis to attend the Festival of Homiletics from May 15-18. The Festival is a gathering of 2000 or so clergy folk, looking for fresh inspiration and to recharge our spiritual batteries. The week will be filled with amazing preachers, teachers, and musicians. We hear about 20 hours of sermons and workshops in 4 days. Perhaps this is not your cup of tea, but for those of us used to always "working" in worship, connecting with the Holy Spirit uninterrupted is bliss. The theme this year is entitled "Preaching Hope for a Weary World." Thank you, Church, for supporting my continued education.

Mother's Day Tribute

This poem was written by our very own Beverly Mesey for a local newspaper about 30 years ago. A mother's love lasts forever!

Mama

Mama is what I call her,
and have for 50 years.
She's always been there for me,
through happiness and tears.
She never had an awful lot
but what she had she shared,
with four of us, her children,
her love was never spared.
Now 26 more share her life,
12 grand and 14 great.
And Mama's love has touched us all.
We thank God every day.

Can You Push a Wheelchair?



Every other month volunteers from WUM help Pastor Sharon provide a thirty-minute worship service for the residents of skilled nursing facility **Bethesda Dilworth** (9645 Big Bend Road in Kirkwood). **We will be providing the chapel service on Sunday, May 21st.** At **2:00 PM** volunteers gather in the chapel on the second floor to receive assignments from Chaplain Michael Tooley, and then disperse to rooms to escort wheelchair-bound residents who wish to attend. The half-hour service begins at 2:30. At BD we have the reputation of singing a lot because we begin singing beforehand. We finish returning residents to their rooms by **3:30PM**. If you would like to volunteer this month, have questions, or wish to be added to the e-list of volunteers for future dates, please contact Beth Anderson, #314-781-9923 (landline, no texts) or TrebleCross1980@gmail.com.

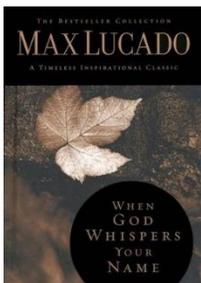
Living Stones Children's Ministry

Living Stones program is for **children aged 4 years old to 6th grade** and is held during worship (10:30AM-11:30AM). We have games, stories, snacks, and prayer. If you have any questions, please contact Shae Parsons at directorchildren@websterum.org.



Join us from 5:30-7:00 PM on May 17th for our last Wild Wednesday of the school year! We will celebrate the end of the school year with some fun water games, so bring a towel and a change of clothes! This will also be an opportunity to say goodbye to Director Shae before she moves away. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944A9AE2EA0FF2-maywild>

New Book Study—*When God Whispers Your Name*



The King Sunday School Class will begin a new study on *May 21st*. We will be reading and discussing Max Lucado's book titled ***When God Whispers Your Name***. There's a whisper echoing - do you hear it? Somewhere between the pages of this book and the pages of your heart, God whispers your name. Find that hard to believe? To imagine that the One who made it all keeps your name in His heart and on His lips? Well, He does know your name. In fact, your name is written on the hand of God (Isaiah 49:16). So, come join us on May 21st and each Sunday thereafter. We meet at the south end of Fellowship Hall near the stage. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Prayer Concerns

Prayers for: Meagan Day; Adam Mallette and family (Beth Gewinner and Joel Kichline); Katie (Cindy Andrews); Kathy Augustin (Marcia Kennon); Anne Brown and family (Debbie Lund); Jenny Watts; Eva Johnson (Jenny Watts); Brian and Bill Haub (JoAnn Claywell); Johnathan Zigman (Connie Kroenung); Stuart/Reesor family; Margaret Christensen; world leaders; and improved gun-control laws in the United States

Sympathy to: Family & friends of Linda Sell Gurney



Join us for a day on the green **Monday, June 5th at Forest Hills Country Club**. Event proceeds fund our literacy-focused youth programming that provides children in St. Louis with social-emotional support, academic enrichment, life skills, and job readiness.

Individual Golfer: \$325 **Foursome:** \$1,300

Dinner Registration:

Includes Dinner Auction with open bar (beer & wine) and cash bar (liquor)

Individual Ticket: \$85 **Table of 8:** \$680

For questions on registration, please contact Amanda Andrews, Event Manager, at aandrews@lifewisestl.org or 314-260-6369.

WUM Youth Ministry

May 14th, Mother's Day, No Meeting

Farewell Reception & Potluck Dinner

Our church will be saying farewell to **Pastor Josh Krakos** and **Children's Director Shae Parsons** on **May 21st**. We will gather in Fellowship Hall following worship for a potluck meal (bring a dish to share) and a card shower of good wishes. *Please plan to join us!*