

May 25, 2023



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## Pentecost Spirit!



*"When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit..."*

Acts 2:1-4

At the Pentecost experience described in the New Testament, the promised Holy Spirit came swooping down to rest upon the Christian community like dancing flames of fire. Wind and fire! My imagination conjures up a vibrant, even somewhat dangerous picture. I see a whipping wind blowing hats off and chairs over, coupled with the strangely exuberant, even ecstatic, expressions on the faces of Jesus' followers as their souls were filled by God's mighty Spirit.

In the church, we often come dressed in **RED** to be reminded of the fire that the Spirit brings with her when she sets a place blazing.

This year, Pentecost Sunday falls on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We call it the church's birthday, because it is the day when Jesus' anxious followers were transformed into a bold community of faith, forged by the arrival of the Holy Spirit, and commissioned to take the gospel of Jesus Christ out into the world. The Church was born!

I once felt the movement of the Holy Spirit in a most profound way. She filled my heart and soul so full that I thought I was going to burst. Better be careful what you wish for. This Pentecost power expanded my comfort zone multiple times, and rather than gently opening doors for me, kicked them down!

Come Sunday, and I'll tell you about it. And wear your **RED**!

Grace and peace+  
Pastor Sharon

## Youth Ministry News

Last Sunday, youth enjoyed **ice block sledding** down Rocket Park Hill! This was followed up with a visit to **Ted Drewes** for some concrete and ice cream delights. Yum! 😊



This Sunday is **Memorial Day weekend**, so there will be **no youth meeting** this week. *Enjoy the weekend with your family!*

## Nurses for Newborns Collection

In the month of May, the youth ask you and the community to join them collecting supplies for **Nurses for Newborns**. A **collection bucket** is located in the **downstairs foyer** near the entrance. A list of items being requested is attached to the bucket. You can also go to: <https://nursesfornewborns.org/missouri/mo-wishlist/>

## Youth Car Wash June 10th

The Youth Car Wash **Fundraiser** for their **Milwaukee Mission Trip** is **Saturday, June 10th from 9:00 AM -2:00 PM at the Masonic Lodge** off Lockwood next door to Webster Groves City Hall and police department. The youth welcome your **donations for the car wash!**

## Father's Day Photos



We will feature a slide show of photos of fathers of church family members during worship on **Father's Day, June 18<sup>th</sup>**. To include your fathers, please send photos along with your father's first name to Cindy Andrews [cyndrews@gmail.com](mailto:cyndrews@gmail.com) by Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have provided a photo in recent years, it is not necessary to send a new one. *To check to see if Cindy has one of your father from previous years, please include his first name when emailing her. (Slides are in alphabetical order by first names.)*





## **Fundraiser for Shepherds Center**

**Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00—7:00 PM**

**Webster Groves Christian Church Parking Lot**

1320 Lockwood Ave.

Glendale, MO 63122

BBQ meals to go with all of your favorite sides will be available for curbside pickup. Tickets (\$20 each) can be purchased from Stan Richert or Pastor Sharon OR purchased online <https://shepherdscenter-wk.org/home/grab-and-go/>

*All proceeds benefit the Shepherd Center's essential services for older adults – medical transportation, grocery delivery and more.*

## **Blessing and Sending Forth of Josh Krakos & Shae Parsons on Sunday, May 21, 2023**



## Living Stones on Summer Break



Living Stones will be on summer break starting May 28th. Our 10:30 AM worship service will feature a Children's Story led by Pastor Sharon. We also have **activity bags in the entryway near the upper Bompert door** for children to use during church service. We will resume the Living Stones program in the fall at the beginning of the school year. *If you need help finding the activity bags, one of the ushers will be happy to help you.*



## Vacation Bible School

We are so excited for this year's **Vacation Bible School!** Children ages 4-12 are welcome to join us as we learn to be vital members of our community. VBS will run **Friday June 23rd from 5pm-8pm, Saturday June 24th 9am-1pm, and Sunday June 25th during our 10:30am service** with lunch following. There will be a meal provided each day.

If you have questions please email [directorchildren@websterum.org](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org) or leave a message at the church office 314-961-4133. We will let you know when a link for registration is ready.

We hope you will join us!

## Save the Date: Juneteenth Celebration



**Juneteenth** commemorates the day (June 19, 1865) when 2000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas, and announced that 250,000 enslaved people were free by executive decree, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

**Save the date for the City of Webster Groves Juneteenth Celebration.** This year's celebration will be held in **Ivory Crockett Park on Thursday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m.** *The Red & Black Brass Band will perform.* More information is coming soon!

Check out the City of Webster Groves weekly e-newsletter for updates and other opportunities to support the community. You can subscribe to have it delivered to your inbox by visiting <https://www.webstergrovesmo.gov/> and clicking on the *Stay Informed* button.

Everyone  
is  
welcome!

**wear  
orange**

Family  
Friendly

we can  
**end gun  
violence**

[wearorange.org](http://wearorange.org)

# National Wear Orange Day

Remember  
and honor  
victims of  
gun violence

# Gun Violence Awareness And Prevention March

**Sunday, June 4th  
12pm, Rain or Shine**

Start:

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church  
45 West Lockwood Ave.

End:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
9 South Bompart Ave.

Wear orange  
or a Moms  
Demand Action  
shirt

Light  
refreshments  
at Emmanuel

## Prayers, Speakers, Information

**\* Be inspired \* Take action**

Organized by Churches Together for Justice: Christ Lutheran Church,  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church, First Congregational Church,  
Peace United Church of Christ, Webster Groves Presbyterian Church

## **Freestyle Pool Passes—what are they and why should we support them?**

Founded in 2021, the Freestyle [Pool] Pass program is a joint effort of the Webster Groves School District, the City of Webster Groves, the Alliance for Interracial Dignity, and Webster Rock Hill Ministries.

The Freestyle Pass removes barriers to the community swimming pool by providing free daily swim passes for individuals and families that require financial assistance. Thanks to the generosity of this community, 944 pool passes were used last summer! This program, initiated by the Alliance for Interracial Dignity, is an expression of community healing in response to our local history of discrimination.

For many years, our municipality denied the use of the community swimming pool to African Americans; additionally, for decades after the pool was integrated, policy maintained that non-residents could only use the pool with a resident "sponsor." That policy was rooted in exclusion, and while it was thankfully revised in 2021, Webster Groves hopes to demonstrate accountability for past wrongs by working to expand inclusion to water safety and swim instruction opportunities.

Freestyle Passes depend on private donations, with fundraising taking place every other year. This is a fundraising year. The hope is to expand the Freestyle Pass program to include a limited number of scholarships providing free water safety and swim classes to those who have a financial barrier to participating. The fundraising goal is \$8,500 for pool passes, with funds raised above and beyond that to be dedicated to "Gordon Grants," swim instruction scholarships named for Benny Gordon, Jr. Benny Gordon, an African American, was the lead activist who worked to integrate the Webster pool in the 1950s. He did so not knowing how to swim.

We can help keep it going! Checks can be made payable to WRHM, memo line "Freestyle Pass Fund", and mailed or brought to 111 East Waymire, Webster Groves, 63119. You may also donate online at <http://bit.ly/wgfreestyle>. Questions? Message [freestyleswimpass@gmail.com](mailto:freestyleswimpass@gmail.com).

## **Prayer Concerns**



Carol Carinci (Debbie Lund); Joanne (Marcia Kennon); Carol Wright (Bev Mesey); Adam Mallette and family (Beth Gewinner); Eli Stuart; Meagan Day; Margaret Christensen; Becca Stevens; the Stuart/Reesor Family; Katie (Cindy Andrews); for improved gun control laws