

Weekly Newsletter

MARCH 21, 2024



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

New Small Group Experience: Adult Faith Tour, April 12-13

As do all Protestant faiths, The United Methodist Church stands on the shoulders of our ancient Jewish and Catholic mothers and fathers of faith. It has been our practice during Confirmation for our youngsters to visit different houses of worship to experience the traditions of these major world religions. This year, I am opening it up to adults who are interested in joining us.

Jesus was a Jew, raised in the Temple in Jerusalem and knowledgeable of the scriptures in the Torah. So it makes sense that we begin our exploration with the Jewish faith.

Friday evening, **April 12th, we will celebrate Shabbat Shalom worship at the Shaare Emeth Temple, located at 11645 Ladue Road, 63141.** Worship begins at 6:00pm. After the service, we will be joined by a docent who will give us a tour and answer our many questions. She will unroll one of their sacred scrolls, and allow us to view the hand lettered work written in Hebrew.

If you remember church history, the one and only church, the Catholic Church, split during the Great Schism, of 1054 into the Roman Catholic Church centered in Rome, and the Eastern Orthodox Church, of Constantinople.

On Saturday morning, **April 13th, we will visit The Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, located at 4431 Lindell Blvd, 63108,** and participate in 8:00am Mass. After worship, we will take a self-guided tour to study the beauty of the mosaics that cover the walls and ceilings, get a close up view of the many small chapels and the magnificent altar. Our confirmands are always interested in learning about what happens in the darkness of the confessional.

Finally, at **10:30am, we will tour the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, located at 4967 Forest Park Ave. 63108,** to learn about their traditions, some familiar, and many very different. Father Michael will be our host.

We will lunch in the Central West End, to share our reflections and compare and contrast our experiences with our own worship at Webster United Methodist. Confirmands will be with Amanda Furbee, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, and me. Adults will join together at other tables and be on their own. We are generally back at the church by 2pm.

Studying other faiths helps us understand our own so much better, and gives us a deeper appreciation of our connectedness. Sign up to join this excursion on the Blue Connection Card at church.

Grace & peace +

PASTOR SHARON



Meet Your Church Leaders Series VI



STAN RICHERT
CHAIR, TRUSTEES



Greetings Church,

Leah and I, with our two young daughters, returned in late 1976 after two years plus in New Zealand where Leah and I both held faculty positions in higher education. We had been receiving Sunday editions of the Post-Dispatch for several months and selected Webster Groves as our new home community. We very soon joined the First United Methodist Church of Webster Groves and have treasured our church for the last 46 years. We feel blessed to be part of this church.

My career at Ralston Purina included responsibility for our pilot scale meat processing facility and later as President of our Ashford Condominium Board for 10 years. Both experiences help our Trustees, deal with maintenance budgets, work with contractors, comply with regulations, etc. I feel my interest in keeping facilities operational dates all the way back to my days on our family dairy farm in Wisconsin.

Our Trustees are responsible for keeping our buildings and equipment in good order. Of course we are constrained by budget as the Church has to decide how our money is best spent. Consequently, we have to make decisions on how to allocate our part. We strive to be guided by our Vision and Mission statements, namely making new disciples for Jesus Christ.

Beyond the physical aspects of maintaining our church building and grounds, and the parsonage, Trustees are responsible for our financial well-being, i.e. insurance protection, compliance with regulations and holding adequate reserves.

This church, and I'm sure many others are blessed by members who do their best in "taking matters into their own hands". In our case it is the Tuesday Crew who dedicate Tuesday mornings to keeping our facilities in the best shape possible. We also have a very good time and invite anyone with similar interests to join us.

I hope you now have the impression that I enjoy my position as Chair of Trustees. I feel blessed by this opportunity to serve (and continue to learn).

BLESSINGS,
STAN RICHERT



PRAYER CONCERNS

Merv Wright; Bev Mesey; Ron & Dianne Wallace; Kathleen (Katie Renkins); Marian Junge & Lana (Marcia Kennon); Jonah (Steve & Jan Hanson's grandson); and those who suffered damage from the recent storms.

Sympathy To...

- Merv Wright and family on the February 28th death of his wife Alma after an earlier car accident.
- Family of Cliff Holmes who died January 30th after a fall and stroke.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Scholarships are available for students who will graduate from high school this year. Seniors expecting to attend any institution of higher education are encouraged to apply. Application forms are available in the church office and must be returned by May 4th . Applicants must be a member of Webster United Methodist and participating in some church activities. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Lund at 314-599-2952 or email Lundgerman@gmail.com.

This is also a good time to consider making a donation to the Memorial or Scholarship Fund. Donations may be designated for scholarships or other church projects in memory or in honor of loved ones—such as a graduating senior.

Lettie Morse,
Chair, Scholarship Committee



MARCH 17, 2024

THIS PAST SUNDAY, WEBSTER UNITED METHODIST REAFFIRMED OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR PUBLIC, INTENTIONAL AND EXPLICIT WELCOME TO OUR LGBTQIA+ SIBLINGS.

WE CELEBRATE THEIR GIFTS, GRACES, AND PRESENCE AMONG OUR FAMILY OF FAITH. WE CONTINUE TO ADD MORE RIBBONS TO OUR RECONCILING WEAVING, REPRESENTING ALL THOSE WHO JOIN IN THIS WELCOME.





New Pastor

Pastor Glen Connoley



Pastor Glen is beginning his twelfth year as a United Methodist pastor. He received his Bachelor's degree in English from University of Missouri - Kansas City; his Masters of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary; and is working on his doctorate from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

Pastor Glen has a gift for bringing various people and organizations together around the work of uniting, strengthening, and serving communities. He loves the Cardinals and Blues, reading, and camping with his family. He and Cathy have been married for 26 years, and have 3 wonderful daughters, Anna, Elise, and Joan; and a cat named Scout.

PRAYER VIGIL

MARCH 28, FROM 3PM

**PLEASE SIGN UP AT CHURCH
ON SUNDAY OR CALL THE
CHURCH OFFICE,
314-961-4133.**

Holy Week 2024



PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 24TH

10:30am - Traditional Worship Service

MAUNDY THURSDAY - MARCH 28TH

6:00pm - Potluck Dinner at Unity United Methodist Church

7:00pm - Worship Service

*Easter
Sunday*

MARCH 31ST

Easter Breakfast

9:00am - 10:15am

Easter Service

10:30am

Easter Egg Hunt

Following Service





Treats for the Easter Bunny to Hide

WE NEED LOTS OF INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED EASTER CANDY, STICKERS, AND SMALL TRINKETS TO STUFF IN EGGS FOR THE EASTER EGG HUNT SCHEDULED AFTER WORSHIP ON MARCH 31ST . CAN YOU BRING SOME?

PLEASE PLACE YOUR GOODIES IN THE BASKET IN THE ELEVATOR FOYER BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH .

ORDER YOUR

Easter Flowers

Order envelopes for assorted
spring flowers will be available

this Sunday

March 24

Cost - \$8/Each



LOOKING FOR EASTER RIBBON DANCERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP!

We are forming an Easter Parade of Ribbon Dancers, aged 4 years-6th grade, to perform on Easter morning, March 31st. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday afternoon, March 30th. Sign up by contacting Pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@websterum.org or through the Blue Connection Card.

WHERE ART SERVES THE WORLD: AN AFTERNOON WITH INTERNATIONALLY-NOTED ST. LOUIS SCULPTOR DON WIEGAND.

Wednesday, April 10, Noon – 2:00 PM at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center in Frontenac.

Doors open at 11:30 AM; box lunch & drinks served at noon. Cost: \$50 individual ticket; \$275 table of 6; livestream \$15 per household.

Purchase tickets at MERCYCENTERSTL.ORG

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to secretary@websterum.org by Monday at 5pm to be in that week's newsletter.