

Weekly Newsletter

MARCH 7, 2024



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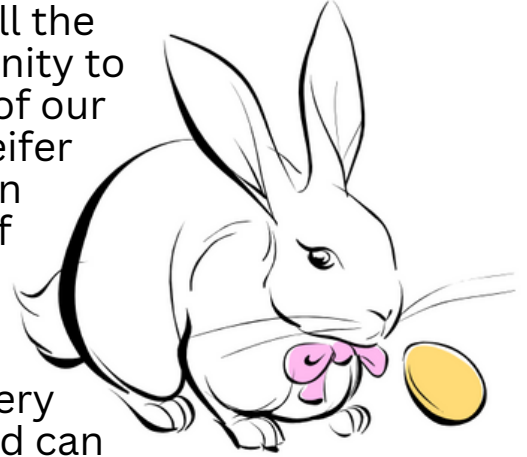
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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Celebrating Easter

Instead of relying on the Easter Bunny to do all the egg deliveries this Easter, we have an opportunity to hop in! This year, we will be sharing a portion of our Easter Offering to purchase chicks through Heifer International for hungry families where protein is difficult to obtain. One egg offers 6 grams of protein, a necessity for a growing child.



Twenty Dollars will fund the gift of a flock of chicks. And what a great gift! Chickens need very little space, so families with small plots of land can welcome the chickens as well as leaving some of their land for garden space. Chickens also help farm production by eating insects, removing weeds, and providing fertilizer. And every chicken has the potential to produce 200 eggs each year!

When a family receives a flock of chicks from Heifer International, they automatically become small business entrepreneurs. They are guided in how to care for the chickens, and in the marketing of the extra eggs, chicks, manure, and older chickens. Not only are their own children receiving greatly needed protein every day, necessary for brain development, but their sales or exchange provide the buying power necessary to pay for school tuition and books, medicines, food, and clothing.

Another of the really admirable parts of the Heifer International model is that recipients of the chicks are required to share future generations of chicks with their neighbors, and pass on the care training they have received. Sharing these gifts with their neighbors has the potential of eventually increasing the wellness of an entire community.

Friends, as we celebrate the Risen Christ this Easter, give generously through your Easter Gift so we can share the opportunity for hope and new life with our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world. Just \$20 could make a significant difference for an entire family; \$100 could change a neighborhood; \$300 a whole village!

Grace & peace +

PASTOR SHARON



Meet Your Church Leaders Series IV



DEREK REDMORE
FINANCE CHAIR

Greetings Church,

I grew up a Methodist in rural England only 20 miles from the birthplace of John Wesley. My parents and grand parents were all active Methodist church members. Upon arrival in St. Louis, I became a member at Grace UMC and later Webster Hills, then Manchester, and around 1978, Webster United Methodist (formerly First UMC of Webster Groves). In 1998, I relocated to Tucson, AZ and when Carolyn joined me in 2003, we became members of First United Methodist in Tucson. In 2014 we moved back to St. Louis and rejoined Webster UM.

I have had the opportunity to serve in various positions and in several churches. Included were teaching junior high and senior high Sunday School, leading social concerns at Manchester and Webster. More recently in Tucson I chaired the Trustees and then very reluctantly the Finance Committee. The Pastor twisted my arm. The experience as Finance chair exceeded my expectations so that, when asked to serve here as Finance Chair, I did not hesitate to say yes. I have now held the position of Finance Chair since 2019. I am happy to continue serving in this capacity.

BLESSINGS,
DEREK REDMORE

PRAYER CONCERNS

Paul Bollinger and Family (Carolyn Redmore); Amanda (Sandy Reesor); Paule Smith Family (Joyce Simpson); Kathleen (Katie Renkins); Joanne Kanawurf & Marian Junge (Marcia Kennon); Stacy Ponder; our country's leaders; world peace; and for meaningful gun control laws.



Thank you

*Bev's daughter,
Jennifer Messey
writes,
"Thank you for
the Love."*

CHAPEL AT BETHESDA DILWORTH, SUNDAY, MARCH 17

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). 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 bring residents in wheelchairs to service 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. By 3:30 pm we have finished returning residents to their rooms. We're providing the chapel service on Sunday, March 17. 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, TrebleCross1980@gmail.com or #314-781-9923 (home, no texts).

CLIMATE CHANGE - PART 4

REASONS FOR OPTIMISM?



While solar and wind energy generation continues to grow, carbon-based generation still dominates. Thus, reducing the use of electricity can lower the amounts of carbon dioxide spewed into the atmosphere. One very promising development that can reduce the demand for heating and cooling are paints used to coat buildings. Buildings in the US utilize 40% of the energy consumption. These specially formulated relatively inexpensive white coatings reflect sunlight and almost eliminate undesirable solar heating of buildings.

A second promising development is cold water washing. At least two of the major laundry detergent makers have effective products. These were demonstrated by the effective washing of the uniforms of the Super Bowl finalists in 2022. Switching from hot to cold water laundry reduces energy use by about 90%. P&G estimates that a typical household would save about \$150 per year by switching to cold water.

A technology further from implementation is being invested in by Dow. Nuclear energy has been suggested as a path to reducing carbon dioxide generation. Dow Chemical in conjunction with a company developing modular nuclear reactors is planning to power a major plant in Seadrift, Texas that would reduce the annual CO² emissions by 440,000 metric tons per year. The two companies are making significant investment and receiving major support from the Department of Energy. With success Dow plans to convert more of its manufacturing facilities.

Summary. Technology is providing us with ways to halt the increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and possibly initiate a reduction. In order for this to happen, implementation needs to occur without delay and involve all major stakeholders. Nevertheless, I am still optimistic.

[My major source of information is Chemical & Engineering News, a weekly news magazine of the American Chemical Society].

Derek Redmore

WILD ABOUT JESUS!



WILD WEDNESDAY

MARCH 13,
5:30- 7 PM

JOIN US AS WE TRAVEL
THROUGH TIME TO TAKE A
LOOK AT THE EVENTS OF
HOLY WEEK AND LEARN
MORE ABOUT JESUS!

Children 4 years old through 6th grade are invited to join us for dinner, games, and learning. Please register your children or ask for more information by emailing directorchildren@websterum.org or call 314-961-4133 and leave a message.

LIFEWISE STL ANNOUNCES SPRING BLING FROM ROOTS TO WINGS" BRUNCH & AUCTION

Tickets are now available for the LifeWise annual spring fundraiser, Spring Bling, to be held Saturday, April 13, 9:30 AM-1 PM at Missouri Athletic Club, 405 Washington Ave., St. Louis, 63102. Attendees will enjoy a delicious brunch as well as a silent auction featuring jewelry, handbags, beautiful accessories, and unique gift sets.

For more information and to register, go to WWW.LIFEWISESTL.ORG or call 314-260-6369.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH WINTER GATHERING

On February 24th, Fellowship Hall was filled with good food, fellowship, and lots of conversation about the value of literacy and libraries for all! Twenty six United Women in Faith members met to enjoy a delicious brunch and make our annual pledges to support local missions plus hundreds of missions around the world that serve women and children. If you are curious to find out where these missions are located, check out the UWF bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. UWF members who missed this meeting are invited to contact Lettie Morse to make your annual pledge to help support our missions.

Following brunch and the pledge service, Ellen Moses spoke to us about the Right to Read Coalition. The statewide Right to Read Coalition supports Missouri's libraries to remain an open, accessible resource for books and other materials available free of charge to the public. Membership in the coalition is open to organizations and individuals who support the coalition's purpose. The Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church is a member. After hearing Ms. Moses's presentation, our United Women in Faith unit voted to become a member, and several individuals signed on as well. If you are interested in becoming a member, click on this link [HERE](#).



For the ingathering on February 24th, we were asked to bring books to donate to Hodgen School. This photo shows some of the 43 books donated. In addition, we had \$350 donated to buy more books. After conferring with the Instructional Coach at Hodgen, books that she selected have been purchased and will be delivered soon. Thank you to all who donated books or money for this project. The teachers and students at Hodgen School are very grateful!

United Women in Faith: We believe love in action can change the world!



UMCOR SUNDAY SPECIAL OFFERING

MARCH 10TH, 2024



Through the UMCOR Sunday Special Offering, local churches underwrite all the operational costs of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need.

These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

Special donation envelopes will be available at the March 10th worship service. Please designate UMCOR on the memo line of your check to the church. Thanks for your support of these life-changing ministries. You can also donate via our website under the GIVE tab. <https://websterunitedmethodist.org/give-2-2/>



REMINDER

Don't forget to move your clocks forwards Saturday Evening.

The hospitality committee and the Staff Parish Relations Committee are planning a celebration party for Pastor Sharon, and we are having an initial planning meeting on March 10th directly after the church service.

If you cannot attend the meeting, but want to be involved in the planning, or have any ideas, please email juliaharalson@gmail.com or call/text 206-799-6441

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.