



Weekly Newsletter

JUNE 20, 2024



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Time to say Goodbye

Friends,

It has been an amazing journey with you these last 13 years, but now it comes to an end. June 23rd will be my "Goodbye Sunday", and I hope you will come to help me celebrate with you. One last time, we will share at Jesus' Table of Grace, and there will be an Order of Farewell and Blessing that we will offer each other. A traditional potluck will follow worship; I'm hoping for pie. I think it will be a healthy and lovely way to part.

Next week, Barb Sarich, your Lay Leader, will be sharing more about your new pastor, Rev. Glen Connoley. Just as I am, he is saying goodbye to his church in Kansas City these last few weeks of June, and is preparing to join you on July 1st. I hope you will make an extra effort to attend worship on his first Sunday, July 7th, welcoming Pastor Glen and his family to the church. He is amazing, and I think you will love him. He will be your new pastor, so in the future, please do not ask me to marry or bury you. (I will be obliged to say no).

For me, I have accepted a part-time position as pastor of a little white-steeple church out near the Village of Innsbrook Lake Community, off Highway 70. They have a bell in their tower, with a rope hanging from it. Each Sunday, someone pulls on the rope to ring the bell, bringing the people to Sunday worship. It is so reminiscent of my country home church of northern Missouri that it feels like Joel and I will be coming full circle.

In fact in that little country church of my childhood, we always closed our worship with a song of parting. I found myself humming it the other day. Sing with me (at least in your head) these words as we prepare to part:

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds
John Fawcett, 1782

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart and hope to meet again.

Joined in heart. That sounds nice, I think. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor. It has been an amazing adventure!

May God bless you and keep you,

Grace & peace +

PASTOR SHARON

PRAYER CONCERNS



Jenny Watts; Seira Stuart; Margo Petracek; Bev Mesey; Dianne & Ron Wallace; Steve Holland (Julie Puckett's brother); Frank (Katie Renkins' son); Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund's friend); Andrew Kennon (Marcia Kennon's son); Alta Kopetzky (Marcia Kennon's friend); world leaders; the homeless; and those grieving.



REPORT FROM
GENERAL CONFERENCE

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

*Join us as we honor the years
of service and dedication of our beloved
Pastor Sharon Kichline
with a retirement BBQ celebration*

June 23rd

After service in the Fellowship Hall. We would love the contribution of sides and desserts.

To leave a personal note of appreciation, please visit the online Kudosboard: Click [HERE](#), and add your message to the collective well-wishes for a future filled with blessings and joy.

If you are able to contribute to the potluck, or have any questions, please let us know by contacting Julia Ward at juliaharalson@gmail.com or 206-799-6441.

Webster United Methodist Presents

VBS 2024



FRIDAY, JUNE 28

5PM-7:30PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

9AM-3PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

10:30AM-1PM

We will make new friends and have fun as we explore timeless Bible stories that demonstrate how people trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name! Parents are encouraged to join us on Sunday for our 10:30 am worship service including a special performance by our Camp Firelight campers and lunch in the Fellowship Hall after service!

Sign Up

Please Email
directorchildren@websterum.org
or fill out the Google Form below!!
Click [Here](#)

**Ages,
4 - 12**



THE 1904 WORLD'S FAIR

It's time for the Senior Cruisers to take another adventure. This time we will go to The Missouri History Museum to learn more about the 1904 World's Fair. Mike Turax, president of the 1904 World's Fair Society, will share little-known stories about the Fair's construction, its exhibits and buildings, the famed Observation Wheel, and what happened when the Fair ended.

This program is Tuesday, July 9th at 11:00 in the Lee Auditorium. We will gather at Church by 9:30 to carpool. We hope to arrive by 10:00 to walk around and view many other pictures and displays at the new 1904 World's Fair exhibit before going to the Lee Auditorium to hear the presentation. Afterwards, we will eat lunch in The Key Bistro at the museum. If you have questions, please contact Marcia Kennon at 314-914-3871.

THE SEEKERS NEW STUDY GUIDE

The Seekers Sunday School Class begins a new study this Sunday, the 23rd of June: Sinning like a Christian, by retired Bishop William H. Willimon. The book is a fresh look at the "Seven Deadly Sins." We'd love to have you join us as we continue to search for better ways to overcome life's challenges.



Dear Church,
 Thank you once again for supporting our V.I. M. Team 's work in May as well as your donations to our lotion/cleaner collection. As you can see, Midwest Mission has made great use of all!



SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT
around the world and around the corner



Your supplies were shipped on our 17th shipment of the year. This container went to Guatemala on June 13th, 2024!

Midwest Mission disbursed Home Care Kits, Personal Dignity Kits, disinfecting wipes and logo bags.

The container weighed 15,296 lbs. and its value was \$48,328.

This was an Angels of Hope shipment sent through our partner Food For The Poor (FFTP). The Angels of Hope Program serves children's homes and orphanages in 10 Latin American and Caribbean countries. Because of your donations, they have the supplies they need to live a hope-filled, healthy life.

Thank you to all our donors and mission volunteers who purchased and assembled these essential kits that show God's love in a practical way. Every kit assembled at Midwest Mission is made by a volunteer. Without your dedication, we would not be able to continue to help others.



Home Care Kits and Personal Dignity Kits Assembled By:

- Buhlet Group- Pratt, KS
- First UMC- Cedar Falls, IA
- First UMC- Cedar Groves, IN
- Grace UMC- Lansing, MI
- Great Lakes Team
- Knoxville UMC- Knoxville, IL
- St. Joseph UMC- St. Joseph, IL
- Webster UMC- Webster Groves, MO
- WI VIM

Personal Dignity Kits Donated By:

- Laurel UMC- Springfield, IL

Thanks so much for sending hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner.



WE ARE MOVING THIS SUMMER!

We are happy to announce that the Shepherd's Center will be moving into a new office/classroom suite in Webster Groves Presbyterian Church this summer! (45 W. Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119)

Many of you may have heard that Webster Groves Christian Church will be selling their building and property. The Church is not dissolving, they will be continuing their important ministries in a new location. The Shepherd's Center is very grateful to WGCC for the past 5 years of in-house partnership and 25 years as a founding sponsoring congregation. We look forward to continuing the relationship in the future.

ALL of our programs and services will continue with Webster Groves Presbyterian Church as a new home base beginning in August. We look forward to having a dedicated classroom space just for Shepherd's Center programs, volunteer meetings, etc.

The target move timeframe to relocate the Shepherd's Center to Webster Groves Presbyterian Church is early August. Please watch your email for details in the months ahead.

If you have any questions about our center relocation, please email shepctr@shepherdscenter-wk.org or call 314-395-0988.

MERCY CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER

Care for the Caregiver is a workshop at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center Saturday, August 3, 8:30-3:30. Cost \$30; lunch included. Register by July 26 at mercycenterstl.org The workshop will focus on exploring support for persons caring for those with dementia. Presenters will include a gerontologist and a licensed social worker, both with expertise in dementia; a mindfulness teacher certified in dementia care; and a representative of an organization that works with families of persons with dementia. Ample resources will be provided.

A Summer Silent Directed Retreat will be held in July at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center. This silent retreat allows you to withdraw from the busyness of life and reflect on and deepen your relationship with God. You will meet with a spiritual director each day to accompany you through these graced days of silence and contemplation. Two possible options:

- 6 days, \$700, Monday, July 8 arriving 9am through Saturday, July 13 at 4 pm
- 4 days, \$425, Monday, July 8 arriving 9 am through Thursday, July 11 at 4 pm



THE 4th ANNUAL EPWORTH

DUCK DERBY

YOU ADOPT THE DUCKS, WE RACE
THE DUCKS, YOU WIN CASH PRIZES

CARNIVAL
GAMES

FOOD
TRUCKS

CASH
PRIZES

Saturday, June 22
11am-2pm

Epworth Webster Groves
110 N. Elm Avenue

epworth.org/duckderby





The Mountain Service

PRESENTS



PRIDE MONTH

SERMON SERIES

COME JOIN US!
EVERY THURSDAY
AT 7:30PM IN JUNE

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.