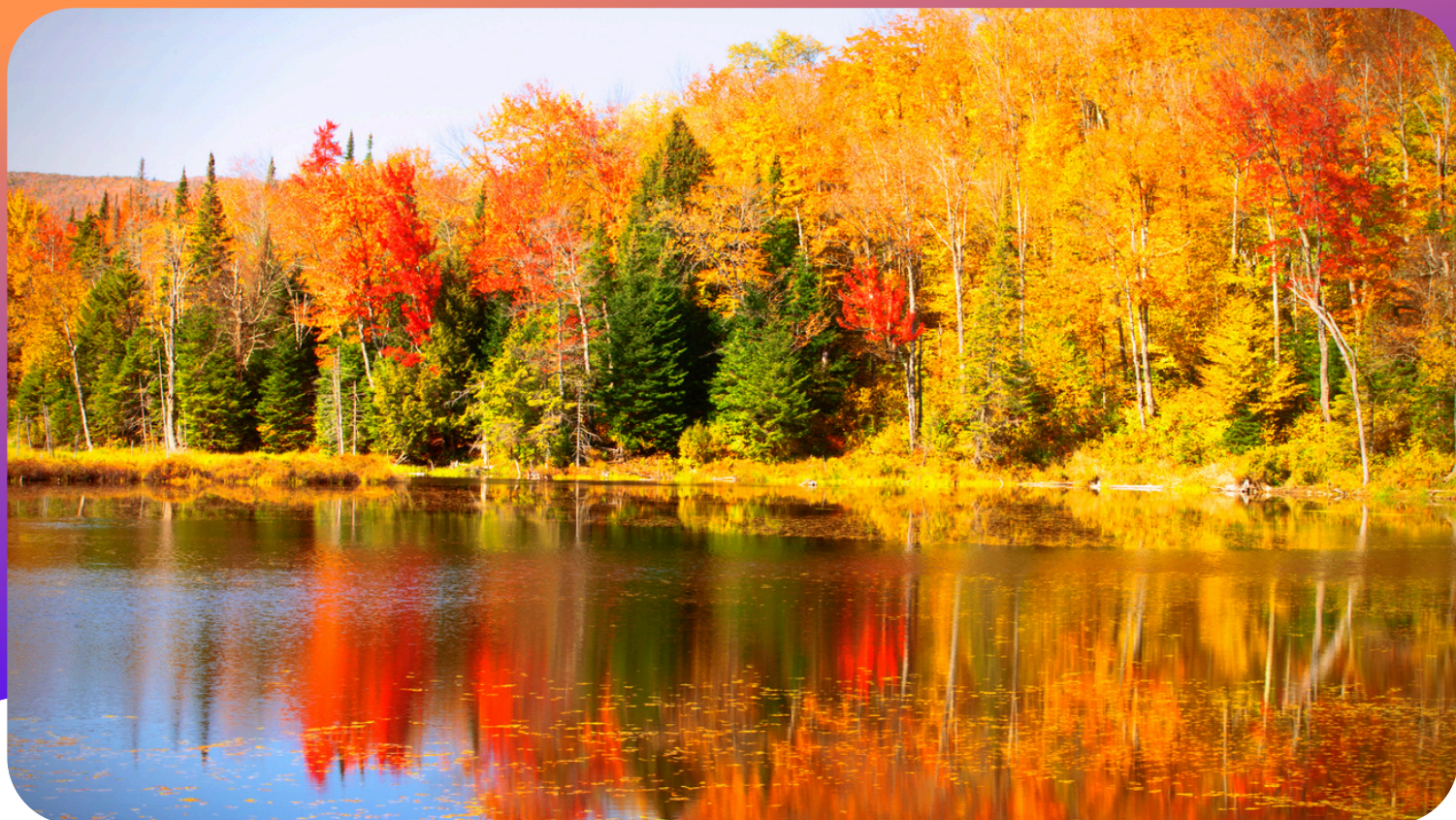


Weekly Newsletter

OCTOBER 17, 2024



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 ceb

16 Isn't the cup of blessing that we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Isn't the loaf of bread that we break a sharing in the body of Christ? **17** Since there is one loaf of bread, we who are many are one body, because we all share the one loaf of bread.

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

I'll mention this a few more times in service on Sunday mornings, but I wanted to make sure you were all invited to the November 5th Election Night Communion Service at 7pm in the Chapel at Eden Seminary. If you haven't heard about this yet, it is being organized by Maplewood UMC, Unity UMC, and Webster UM, along with other churches and believers outside our denomination. In this time of division—particularly as that day focuses us on division—we wanted to bring people together and remind them of our unity in the body. All are welcome, so tell your friends and neighbors to join you!

Come and be filled with grace and love and united in community at a time when our country and culture might need it most.


Also, a reminder that we will have Communion at 10a in the third floor chapel this Sunday. Join us, that you might be filled with God's grace. Blessings on your week, and invite a friend next Sunday.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

GO TO THE POLLS,
THEN COME TO THE TABLE.

**ELECTION
NIGHT
COMMUNION**



Tuesday, November 5, 7:00 p.m.
Eden Theological Seminary Chapel
475 East Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves

Hosted by
Maplewood - Unity - Webster
United Methodist Churches

PRAYER CONCERNS

Steve Johnson (Donna Johnson's son); Ron Boelloeni; Bev Mese; Dianne Wallace; Tatyana Demidovich & Marion Svendrowski (Andrea Zepeda); Pat Delf & Alta Kopetzky (Marcia Kennon); Layla Kolley (Amanda Furbee's daughter); Joyce Simpson's brother and cousin who live in Naples FL; Ryan (Linda Guth Stangl); Sarah (Beth Anderson); Margaret Christensen; Seira Stuart; Cherie Howell & Steve Haertling (friend & brother of Joyce Simpson); Randy Turman and Jack Armitage (Lettie Morse); USA elections; hurricane recovery; and world peace.



Dear Friends

I would like to thank you for your financial support this year. I am happy to report our giving is on track to meet the expected levels of giving forecast in our budget. Your generous support allows us to continue to make a difference in the lives of our faith community, in the lives of the community in which we live, and in the world around us.

Thank you for your support during this year of transition. We welcomed new staff members, a new Director for Children's and Youth Ministries, Amanda Furbee, and our new pastor, Rev. Glen Connoley. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped in the transitional period. The much-needed renovation of the parsonage was met with overwhelming support from volunteers, both through their work and financial contributions. And our programs and ministries continued with enthusiasm and success.

As I look to 2025, we need to continue building on the energy within our faith community.

The Gratitude and Generosity Giving Program is the time when we ask our faith family to prayerfully consider their financial commitment to the church for the upcoming year.

For John Wesley, giving was a means of expressing generosity rooted in gratitude for God's generosity and a means of fulfilling the great commandment to love God and neighbor.

As Christians we are invited to share in God's divine life and mission of giving.

Our goal this year is to have returned commitment cards representing 110 individuals (adults, youth, and children) and to raise our level of giving by 10%. Both are significant increases over the previous year.

There are several reasons for a 10% increase in giving. Most importantly, we need to compensate our employees fairly and to invest in our future if we are to grow our faith community and expand services to our communities. Secondly, we lost a significant amount of rental income when we transitioned the parsonage from a rental to the home for Pastor Glen and his family. And thirdly, as with all organizations, our operational expenses continue to increase.

As I write this letter, I am confident we can achieve both these goals in the next 30 days. Please prayerfully consider how you might pledge your support next year. If you are able, please join my wife Joan and me by increasing your giving so our church family can meet our goals.

Gordon Ballam, Chair of Finance



CALL TO ACTION FOR RAISE THE WAGE/EARNED PAID LEAVE: ON THE NOVEMBER 5 BALLOT as PROPOSITION A.

Last year we joined the Healthy Family Initiative Campaign in collecting signatures from registered voters to be able to vote to change Missouri law:

- to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in increments over 2025 & 2026 and thereafter adjusting it based on changes in the Consumer Price Index beginning in 2027.
- to require employers to provide one hour of paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked up to a total of 40 hours.
- to provide oversight and enforcement by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.
- exempted are governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and education institutions.

From the Justice Team



Social Toolkit

Thank you for helping get out the word about Proposition A. Please use our issue-specific posts below to post your own message to your followers to show support.

Hastags To Use

- #PaidSickDays
- #RaiseTheWage

Use the link below to download the image to post on social media.

Click [Here](#) for Link.

“

When your child is sick you do **whatever you can for them...**”

But for **1 in 3** Missouri families without paid sick days, that can mean losing a paycheck.



VOTE YES ON PROP A



Look how the church is being a good steward of our planet!

In an effort to reduce our energy consumption as well as the waste we produce, the Trustees of the church have been making changes over the years to the church facility. Look what they've done for us and the planet:

- replaced worn-out systems with higher efficiency systems (A/C)
- replaced old toilets with low-water flush toilets (remodeled men's room off Fellowship Hall)
- replaced all light bulbs with LED light bulbs (which produce less heat and use much less energy)
- installed "bypass ballast" bulbs (thus keeping the old ballast for the fluorescent bulbs out of landfills)
- installed programmable thermostats that automatically reset after overrides (so that when spaces are not in use, we are not unnecessarily heating/cooling them)
- installed motion sensors for lights wherever possible (so that lights turn themselves off when spaces are unused)
- installed motion sensor faucets (women's restroom off Fellowship Hall) so that water doesn't run after the user is finished

Additionally, the church

- recycles paper, aluminum cans and items not sold at the rummage sale
- recycles scrap metal, electronics and motors
- reuses plastic containers
- recycled old fluorescent lightbulbs as recommended
- plants native pollinator-friendly plants on the grounds (with more to come!)

Every effort, no matter how small, contributes to the health of our planet!

With thanks from the Justice Team



Where will you find hope? *Join us for a faith discussion.*



The Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews, a PC(USA) pastor for 50 years on the East Coast and in the Midwest and moderator of the PC(USA) 215th General Assembly.



The Rev. Dr. Clint McCann, the Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Theological Seminary and leading Psalms scholar.



Dr. David Kimball, professor and chair of the Political Science Department at the University of Missouri - St. Louis and nationally recognized scholar focusing on

elections, political parties, and public opinion.



The Rev. Isaac Wanyoike, a parish minister, clerk and moderator of Presbytery in various parishes and presbyteries in Kenya and currently a chaplain at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.



moderated by

The Rev. Dr. Edward Thompson, ordained by the Presbytery of Edinburgh and served in Scotland before moving to the States and serving churches in Kansas City and Naples.

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church

45 W. Lockwood, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Refreshments following in Fellowship Hall.

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 26, 4 - 6PM

FREE CANDY
HOTDOGS &
MORE!!!



Address:

600 N Bompert Ave, Webster Groves, MO 63119
(Parking Lot)

The **MOUNTAIN SERVICE**



SCHEDULE
October

Thursday, October 17, 2024

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, October 31, 2024

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

WEBSTER  ROCK HILL
M I N I S T R I E S

Webster Rock Hill Ministries is again hoping to distribute the trimmings for Thanksgiving dinner to their clients.

On Sunday, the 20th, we will have shopping bags with the list of requested items. These will be handed out at the service to those who would like to participate. They should be returned to the church by November 10th, and we will see they are delivered to the Ministry in time for Thanksgiving.



FALL PROGRAMS **AT MERCY CENTER**

MCRC Remembers Memorial Service

Monday, November 4 at 7 pm, Mercy Conference and Retreat Center will gather for a special memorial service to pray for our faithful departed. When you honor the life of your loved one by making a gift to MCRC in any amount, a luminary bearing the name of the deceased, will be displayed in our chapel during this service. This is a free event, held both in-person and live-streamed. Register by noon on October 31 at www.mercycenterstl.org.

Dream Whispering: Introduction to the Language of Dreams led by Noeli Lytton at Mercy Center

Sunday, Oct. 27, 1:30-4:30 pm, cost \$50. Dreams are dynamic images and symbols as guidance for your life. Are dreams also Divine Wisdom directly attuned to your soul's growth? Registration and information at www.mercycenterstl.org by Friday, October 18.

Foundations of Mindfulness led by Coke Hennessy at Mercy Center

Four Wednesday mornings, Oct. 30-Nov 20, 9-11 am, cost \$120. Explore the practices and benefits of mindfulness while gaining support and resources to enhance your daily practice. Registration and information at www.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.