



Weekly Newsletter

FEBRUARY 20, 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Psalm 100:1-3 ceb

1 Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth! 2 Serve the Lord with celebration! Come before him with shouts of joy! 3 Know that the Lord is God— and made us; we belong to God. We are God's people, the sheep of God's own pasture.

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

I hope you have been staying warm and safe all this week and this coming weekend. My family's plan, while this weather is so brutal, is to skip out of town. (Ha ha) Seriously, we will be celebrating my 50th birthday this coming weekend in Naples, Florida. From what I can tell it will be about 15 degrees as we fly out of St Louis, and mid-70s when we arrive in Fort Myers.

Of course, I will not miss this weather. But I will miss being in worship with you all on Sunday. I will also miss hearing Chloe Ward, who leads our Mountain Service, as she brings a great word from the Lord on Sunday morning. I pray you have a wonderful worship and Communion together. I will bless the elements with each of you on my heart before I depart this week.

Then, the following Sunday, March 2nd, we will have one more message from our "Faith in Our Feed" series before we move into Lent with our Ash Wednesday Service on March 5th. I look forward to my first powerful Lenten experience with you all at Webster UM. Make sure you invite someone who might need to hear from God in this powerful season, with all its emotions, as we head towards Easter/Resurrection Sunday.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marleen Anderson; Marie and her mother (Carolyn Redmore); Pat Delf, Alta Kopetzky, Ann Shadowen, & Karen Rabe (Marcia Kennon); Peter Schüren & Janice Pauken (Debbie Lund); Doug (Jeremy Henson); inExcelsis Mobile Shower program for the homeless; people looking for work or starting a new job; federal civil servants; and immigrants, refugees, those who need help with resettlement and those helping with those efforts.



NEW STUDY

The Seekers

The Seekers Sunday School class (meets in the classroom due east of the Sanctuary) has started a new study of C. S. Lewis's classic text, *The Screwtape Letters*. Originally published in 1942, this novel is a series of letters from Screwtape, an underling of the Devil, to his nephew, Wormwood, instructing him in ways to lead humans away from God. Reading this satire is in fact instruction in the deliberate practice of the Christian faith.

If you are interested, please join us. Books are available online or at the Webster Groves Public Library.

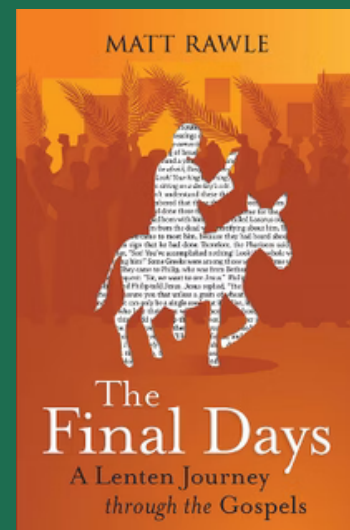
We will take a break from *Screwtape* to join the Lenten study in Fellowship Hall, March 9 – April 13.

COMING MARCH 9

Lenten Study

“THE FINAL DAYS”

By Matt Rawle





The **MOUNTAIN SERVICE**

For the whole month of February, in honor of Black History Month, we'll be looking at *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby, which tells "the truth about the American church's complicity in racism." We will be looking at church history in the United States as it relates to racism, injustice, and the fight for liberation.

SCHEDULE *February*

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

"The Girl With The Louding Voice"

Do you like to read? United Women In Faith has a list of recommended readings that promote missions, leadership, etc. This reading program helps keep you informed in many areas.

"The Girl With the Louding Voice" by Abi Daré is a good read. This novel describes a 14 year-old girl in Nigeria who longs to get an education so she can find her "Louding Voice" and speak up for herself. While she is working as a maid, several people help her. You can get the book at your local library. It qualifies in the Missions category.

Look for more information about the UWF Book Club in next week's newsletter.

Carol Gilker
Reading Coordinator



HOW ABOUT JOINING A VOLUNTEER-IN-MISSION WORK TEAM FORMING FOR MAY?



Midwest Mission near Springfield, IL has become our favorite place to serve others, and we are beginning to recruit another group for a work week with space for 8-9 people in the dorm.

The dates are Monday, May 26th – Friday, May 30th 2025. Some people from last year's team are eager to return, but there are plenty of spaces open to join. The lodging is very spacious and comfortable; the work shifts have morning and afternoon breaks as well as a long lunch break, and the day is over between 3:30 and 4:00 PM. We always meet plenty of friendly people and enjoy relaxing evenings with our teammates. It is definitely a break from routine and quite enriching. Talk to some of us who have participated in the past if you are thinking about this new experience. (Lettie Morse, Katie Renkins, JoAnn Claywell, Alison McCurley, Linda Guth Stangl, Ellen Hendrickson, Jan McCurley, Gordon Ballam, Joan Ballam, Roger McCurley, Dan Pike, Cindy Andrews, Sandy Reesor, or Mary Taylor).



***DATES: DEPART ON MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY AFTERNOON,
MAY 26—RETURN FRI. AFTER LUNCH, MAY 30**

*What is Midwest Mission? It is a United Methodist-affiliated disaster relief facility providing disaster relief kits, school desks, educational & medical supplies, etc., locally, nationally, and internationally.

* What work will we do? There is something for every ability—packing kits, sewing school bags, building & refinishing school desks, repairing bicycles and sewing machines, organizing materials, unloading items, filling shipping containers, etc.(sit-down jobs are always available).

*Where do we stay? The dormitory has multiple 2-4 person bedrooms (we use only lower bunks, 2 to a room) as well as a spacious living room/dining area and a large, well-equipped kitchen.

*Cost: will be determined based on number of people going, but it will be minimal for dormitory lodging and supplies, plus food & gas expenses. Financial aid can be available if needed.

If you are interested in joining the team, call Jan McCurley at 314-781-3969 (h) text or call 314- 378-5504(c) or email janis.mccurley@gmail.com, no later than March 1.



LifeWise StL

Spring Bling

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**Missouri Athletic Club at
405 Washington Avenue**

TICKETS: \$75/INDIVIDUAL (TABLE OF EIGHT)

Contact Jan McCurley at janis.mccurley@gmail.com if interested in attending or for more information. Reservations and payment (cash or checks payable to Lifewise StL) are needed by Monday, March 10th.

MERCY CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER

A Circle of Trust Retreat given by facilitators from the Center for Courage and Renewal, will be offered at Mercy Center in Frontenac on Saturday, March 15, 7:30 am–7:30 pm. Cost \$150.

The noted author Parker Palmer adapted and developed these Circle of Trust retreats based on his experience in the Quaker tradition. These retreats help us listen to the wisdom of our inner teacher or soul, honor each person's identity and integrity, and renew our courageous spirit as we journey toward personal and societal wholeness.

For more information and to register visit our website: mercycenterstl.org



More From The Safety Committee

As we get closer to spring (thankfully), flu season is doing something a bit unusual. Normally, flu peaks earlier in the winter and then declines. This year, however, we are having a second peak right now, and we're seeing a rise in infections and hospitalizations. The CDC estimates there have been about 13,000 deaths from influenza this season.

There are a number of steps we can take to decrease the impact of this increase in flu cases. It's not too late to get a flu shot if you haven't already done so. No need for a second vaccination if you have already gotten one. Stay at home if you have symptoms that you could pass onto others. Wash your hands with soap and water frequently during the day, especially after you get home from trips outside home. Wear a mask if you want added protection. Hydrate well. Adequate fluids can help with symptoms.

Let's help decrease the spread of flu and other viral illnesses by doing what we can to protect each other.

The Fairview doors are to be used as an emergency exit only, not for entering or normal exiting. Recently, the doors were found to be unlatched. Please do not use these doors for ANYTHING other than an emergency exit. The doors do not latch correctly and have to be pushed from the outside in order to shut correctly.

This is a safety issue. If these doors are open, even though this exit has camera monitors, unwanted "guests" could gain entry. Also, proximity to the nursery has to be considered.

**Thanks,
Tom Pacatte, Safety Committee**



Rock and Roll Bingo

Rock & Roll Bingo

Sunday, March 16, 2:00-4:00
doors open at 1:30

Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens
8749 Watson Rd., 63119

\$25/person, \$200/table of 8

- Included: 10 rounds of BINGO, popcorn, pretzels, soft drinks, and great prizes!
- Guests welcome to bring their own table snacks. **No alcohol is allowed on the premises.**

More Fun - Costume Contest!

Dress as your favorite music era, genre, artist or band and win a prize! (optional)

Reserve Your Spot Today!

Go to www.shepherdscenter-wk.org

Call 314-395-0988

Or scan the QR code



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INSTEAD OF
NUMBERS!**

**ALL ERAS
ALL GENRES
ALL AGES**



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