



W E E K L Y
Newsletter

MARCH 13, 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Matthew 24:1-2 ceb

1 Now Jesus left the temple and was going away. His disciples came to point out to him the temple buildings. **2** He responded, "Do you see all these things? I assure that no stone will be left on another. Everything will be demolished."

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

Last weekend, my family, and a few others from Webster UM, went to listen to Rev. Nadia Bolz Weber, a former Lutheran pastor known for her deconstructing of traditional faith, and occasional "inappropriate language" in sharing Jesus in her life. She was encouraging and uplifting and it was a blessing.

She also reminded us of the verses above, which I have quoted often in my career as I've tried to remind congregations that even our church structures aren't meant to be eternal. The mantra we often tell ourselves, that the church is the people, not the building, should be what we present to the world. Yet, because of our cultural and historical shaping through capitalism, we often steward our finances with the opposite priorities. It will be more and more crucial for the church to live into Jesus' message of loving people over spaces in the coming decade. Nadia's words reminded me once again of this. She also reminded us through this scripture that even when it seems like those in power might be cruel, uncaring, even dangerous, it's good to remember they will not be eternal either. Consider how the Lord might help us to shift our own hearts and thinking in this matter.

And invite someone to join you at church this Sunday—at 9am for chapter two of our book study, or 10:30 for worship—as we continue to seek what *Messiah* means, this time in Scripture. Hope to see you and a guest on Sunday!

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marleen Anderson; Bev Mesey; Reesor/Stuart Family; Pat Delf, Ann Shadaween, Pat Hencker, Katie Weiss (Marcia Kennon); Justin Herden (Bob Pallia); Teri Samples (Connie Kroenung); Peter Schüren & Janice Pauken (Debbie Lund); Marie and her mother (Carolyn Redmore); Doug (Jeremy Henson); our government workers; and the people of Ukraine & Gaza

VOLUNTEER-IN-MISSION WORK TEAM



DEADLINE APPROACHING SOON & DAY TRIP ADDED

DATES May 26th - Friday, May 30th

To give people just a taste of the place and the work, we have reserved volunteer shifts just for the day for 4 people on Thursday, May 29, working 8:30-11:30am & 12:30-4:00pm.

This group will carpool, and the cost for materials/supplies is \$16 per person. A couple of the spots are already filled, so contact Jan if you're interested in this 1-day outreach.

**ONE
SPOT
OPEN**

➤ **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 is our work?**

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 15.



UMCOR SUNDAY SPECIAL OFFERING

MARCH 30TH, 2025



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 30th 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/>



Strengthen your faith with INTENTIONAL PRAYER



WUM is beginning a prayer group that will meet the second Sunday of the month. We will have our first meeting on March 16th (oops! a 3rd Sunday, but usually we'll meet on the 2nd Sunday!) at 6:45 p.m. in the Space Room (Education Building, sanctuary level by the elevator).

Please come for a time of being present to God as we pray in a small group setting.

Email Linda Shantz at lindawshantz@gmail.com with questions.

SAVE THE DATE!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



JUNE 27
5 TO 7:30PM

JUNE 28
9 AM TO 3 PM

*Join Us for Fun and Learning based on Joshua 1:9!
Watch for more information coming soon.*

LET'S GO
ADVENTURE



GATEWAY TO A NEW LIFE

gatewaytoanewlifefilm.com



FREE FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION ABOUT IMMIGRATION IN THE STL COMMUNITY

MARCH 19 7-8:30PM

**WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
45 WEST LOCKWOOD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63119**

**SPONSORED BY
CHURCHES TOGETHER
FOR JUSTICE**



UWF Book Club Renewed!

Our first gathering will be April 6th, focusing on reading books from the United Women in Faith reading list. The books usually describe mission work, leadership, nurturing, social action, or spiritual growth. The first book is The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Dare. Books are available from local libraries (both Webster Groves and county or city branches). The plan will be to bring your lunch to church and meet after worship on one Sunday every two months.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Carol Gilker at 314.799.5896 or via email at carol10gilks@yahoo.com.



The

MOUNTAIN SERVICE

SCHEDULE
March

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room
The Color of Compromise

Thursday, March 20, 2025

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room
The Color of Compromise

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room
Devotional

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



**BINGO
WITH MUSIC
INSTEAD OF
NUMBERS!**

**ALL ERAS
ALL GENRES
ALL AGES**



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



SHEPHERD'S CENTER FUNDRAISER

*inspiring older adults
through enrichment,
volunteerism &
community connection*



WUM YOUTH GROUP PRESENTS



TRIVIA NIGHT

APRIL 5, 7- 10 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

\$30 PER TICKET / \$200 FOR A TABLE OF 8

TO BENEFIT OUR MISSION TRIP TO MICHIGAN THIS SUMMER!

Theme: Roadtrip

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.