

WEEKLY
Newsletter

MAY 15, 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Matthew 6:33 ceb

33 *Instead, desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

Once again, as a culture, we are winding down the school year. Within the next few weeks, most students will be out for summer breaks and family schedules will ease up a bit for leisure time. I hope you take full advantage of that shift in life, where the days are longer, the weather warmer, and the obligations, at least somewhat, less. Jesus emphasized rest as a good thing for those who are weary.

This same season, for faith communities, often means that we see less of people at church. As families vacation and travel, and life slides into a more relaxed approach to the day, I just wanted to encourage you, in the tone of the series we have been exploring, to keep your relationship with God, and your journey to holiness as one of the things you continue to focus on throughout the summer. I believe it is okay, and even encouraged, for us to relax a bit in our commitments over the summer months (my own family will be camping over Memorial Day Weekend). But if we check out altogether, we're more likely to stalemate or even backslide in our faith journey. Remember, accountability is crucial.

One other thought, since everyone else's schedule is often more relaxed, summer is the perfect time to invite a friend or neighbor to church. I hope to see you and a guest on Sunday morning.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marcia Kennon; Margo Petracek; Bev Mesey; Reesor/Stuart Family; Kyle Becker & family (Jon Copeland); David (Grumkes' friend); Randy Hughes (Peg Chulick's nephew); Tomie (Beth Anderson); Patrick Akins (Julie Puckett); Lane Wilson; Bev Mesey; Garold & Louise Henson (Jo Ann Claywell); Doug (Jeremy Henson's brother); Tim Wedekind (Carol's son); Marian Ruffle & Pat Delf (Marcia Kennon); Peter Schüren, Mark Gudde, & Janice Pauken (Debbie Lund); Carol and all who are being deported illegally (Cindy Andrews); mothers and children in Gaza, Ukraine, and other war-torn countries; our UMC leaders; and Pope Leo XIV.



HELP OUR VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION COLLECT CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR & BABY ITEMS

The Team has learned from Midwest Mission's "Current Needs" list that several items they need for kits are in short supply.

We are collecting:

- children's panties, child sizes 10-14
- infants' onesies & sleepers or gowns, 0-6 mo. sizes.

We will deliver the collected items to Midwest Mission when we do our volunteer service there May 26-30.

Deadline: May 25, 2025

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!
THE V.I.M. TEAM

The MOUNTAIN SERVICE

SCHEDULE
May

Thursdays, May 15, 22, & 29

Small Group @ 7:30pm - Space Room
Topic: Gender & God Language.



Churches Together For Justice

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

Ten congregations from Webster Groves and nearby municipalities (Kirkwood, Richmond Hts) have been meeting for about 5 years to advance peace and justice in our geographic area. Carolyn Redmore and Pastor Glen have been regularly participating in these meetings, and the Justice Team has supported various efforts spearheaded by CTJ. Perhaps there is an issue that weighs on your heart and calls you to take action. There is much that deserves our attention and this is a path to engage with the larger community.



CTJ meets every Wednesday [1st Wed is usually in person, 2nd–4th/5th Weds via Zoom]. Zoom meetings provide a forum to review peace and justice related opportunities, such as:

- Help for Afghani families
- Photo ID clinics
- Legislative issues
- Upcoming vigils
- Get-Out-The-Vote activities
- Gun safety discussions
- Protests and other related events

In-person meetings (usually 1st Wednesdays) serve to tackle a major issue in greater depth with the intent of significantly improving the situation. These are called Cluster Meetings. The current cluster effort involves in-depth investigations regarding how we can help increase affordable housing in Webster Groves and nearby areas. These meetings are generating an exciting set of actions.

If you are interested in hearing about or getting more involved in these CTJ activities, please contact Kevin Prange (the 'CTJ coordinator') at katekev@sbcglobal.net, and he will include you in our email list, and from there you can choose where and when you might want to participate. You can also reach out to Doug Miller (dokmille@gmail.com) or Clark Hotaling (clarkhotaling61@gmail.com) if you want to discuss this further before signing up for CTJ communications. And, of course, you can contact Pastor Glen or Carolyn Redmore with any questions.

3rd Annual



WEBSTER GROVES COMMUNITY DOG WALK

Start: Old Orchard Gazebo Park
8 a.m.

Saturday, May 24th

No Registration Needed

After an easy walk return to Old Orchard Gazebo Park, and enjoy FREE Starbucks (beverages for humans, “pup cups” for dogs) together. There will be an opportunity to sign a first-step resident petition in support of a dedicated dog park in Webster Groves.



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES UPDATE

Greetings Church!

We have had an exciting few months in our children and youth ministries and I wanted to share what we have been up to! In Living Stones, we are currently learning about the virtue of kindness. We are gearing up for our final Wild Wednesday with the theme of "Love Your Neighbor" during which we will be collecting items for Midwest Mission's "current needs" list. Next up..... VBS, our Road Trip adventure where we set out "On the Go with God"!!!!

In youth group, we are prepping for our upcoming mission trip this summer! We are traveling to Muskegon, Michigan and working with an organization called Experience Mission to help local foster families. We were able to raise over 2K at our recent trivia night fundraiser and we are so thankful for everyone who came out to support us!

We are still in need of a male chaperone to join us on our upcoming trip July 6th - 12th. If you or someone you know can help, please reach out! Prayers are also welcome. We have ten youth committed and registered to join us this summer. What a blessing!

Amanda Furbee

CONTRIBUTE TO FREESTYLE POOL PASSES



**2025
FREESTYLE
POOL PASS**

**FUNDRAISER EXTENDED
TO MAY 12
ONLY \$3,335 TO GO!
GOAL \$15,000**

**BENNY GORDON JR.
"I'D LIKE TO MAKE A JOYFUL
NOISE IN THIS COMMUNITY"**

**DONATE TO INCREASE ACCESS TO THE
WEBSTER GROVES COMMUNITY POOL**

- **Online:** bit.ly/wgfreestyle for Paypal
- **Check:** Payable to Webster Rock Hill Ministries, "Freestyle Pass Fund" in the memo line
Mail/deliver to WRHM at 111 East Waymire
Webster Groves, 63119

Webster Groves School District • City of Webster Groves • Webster Rock Hill Ministries
Questions: freestyleswimpass@gmail.com

Area organizations including the Alliance for Interracial Dignity created the Freestyle program to ensure that kids who go to school together can swim together in summer, regardless of financial means. The Freestyle Program provides day passes only to individuals with financial need who attend the Webster Groves School District or reside in one of the district's communities (Webster Groves, Glendale, Rock Hill, Shrewsbury, or Warson Woods).

Patrons from outside our local communities or Webster Groves School District will not be eligible for the Freestyle Pass, but will continue to be welcomed at the Webster Groves Water Park for the non-resident daily fee, which will be set at \$15/day at the soon-to-open newly constructed water park.



GOLF TOURNAMENT & DINNER AUCTION

MONDAY, JUNE 2
FOREST HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

No, you do not have to be a golfer! Most folks who support the work of LifeWise just register for the dinner/auction.

Event proceeds fund the agency's literacy-focused youth programs that provide children in St. Louis with social-emotional support, academic enrichment, life skills, and job readiness.

This is the most important fund raiser of the year for LifeWise, and they are counting on our support. The social hour begins at 4:30, followed by entertainment and a lively auction.

FIND MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER AT
WWW.LIFEWISESTL.ORG



QUILTERS SEEK NEW MEMBERS

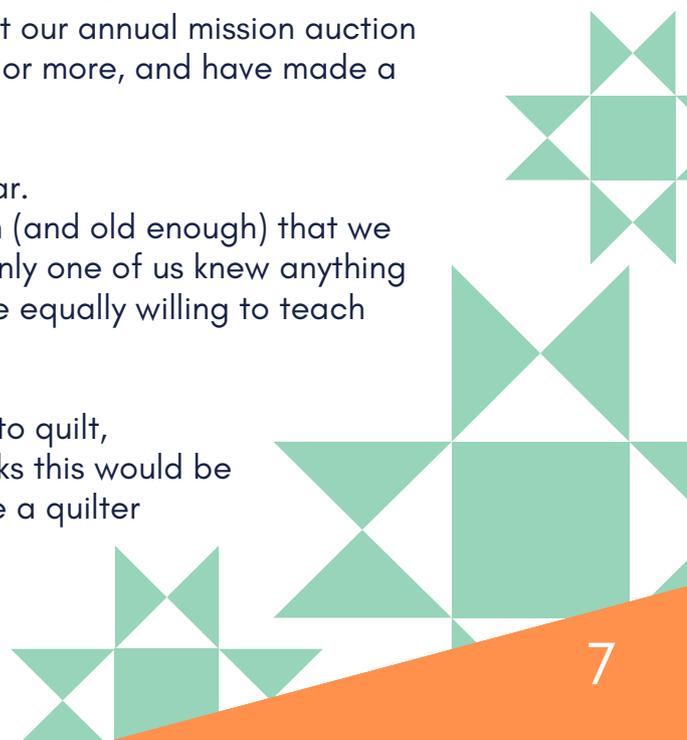
Would you like to learn to quilt and enjoy fellowship with other quilters?

The quilting group has been an integral part of Webster United Methodist's mission for more than four decades. The quilts produced have sold at our annual mission auction (Lord's Acre, now Harvesting Hope For Missions) for \$600 or more, and have made a significant contribution to our church's outreach.

Like many groups, the membership varies from year to year. We are now at a tipping point. Our group is small enough (and old enough) that we might have to disband. At one time we had 12 quilters. Only one of us knew anything about hand quilting, and she taught the rest of us. We are equally willing to teach anyone who wants to join us.

Our group meets Tuesday mornings in the church nursery to quilt, and we enjoy lunch together afterward. Anyone who thinks this would be a worthwhile way to give to others is welcome to become a quilter for missions.

Call or text Leah Richert with questions at 314.974.6875.





Silent Summer Directed Retreat

BE STILL
AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.

Step away from the busyness of life and enter the deep well of stillness and silence. Give yourself the gift of time away from the everyday to listen for the still, small voice of God. Group contemplative practices and individual Spiritual Direction will be offered daily. You are free to choose what best aligns with your needs during these sacred silent days.

Two possible retreat options:

6 full days for \$700

Saturday, July 12 arriving 9:00am through Thursday, July 17 at 4pm

4 full days for \$425

Saturday, July 12 arriving 9:00am through Tuesday, July 15 at 4pm

This is an all inclusive retreat with private bedroom and bath.
All meals are included.

Spiritual Directors:

Sr. Agnes Brueggen, RSM

Kathleen Davis

Sr. Charlotte Flarlong, SSND

Sr. Madeleine Lane, SSND

Marian Love

Rita O'Dea

Sr. Miriam Wesselmann, SSND

Sr. Danielle Witt, SSND

Register on our website: www.mercycenterstl.org

MERCY CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

2039 NORTH GEYER ROAD - SAINT LOUIS, MO 63131 - 314-966-4686 - MERCYCENTERSTL.ORG



WEBSTER  ROCK HILL

M I N I S T R I E S

TRIVIA NIGHT

\$30 Donation per person

Form a table of 8 or join with others!

Bring your own snacks, beer, wine or soft drinks.

Heads/Tails

50/50 Raffle

Mulligans

Attendance Prizes

Prizes To Winning Team

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH 2025

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEBSTER
GROVES**

10 West Lockwood Ave. 63119

Doors open at 6:15pm

Game begins 7:00pm

To Register: Call WRHM office 314-961-5082 or

Email: wrrhm@wrrhm.org

Please bring dry and/canned goods to stock WRHM shelves



United Women in Faith

Book Club

This Sunday!

May 18th after worship we will meet in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your snack or lunch to enjoy as Louise Thomas leads us in a discussion about "A Right Worthy Woman". We look forward to seeing you!

*Carol Gilker
United Women in Faith
Secretary of Resources and Reading Program*



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.