



Newsletter

August 14, 2025



PASTOR

Rev. Glen Connoley

pastorglen@websterum.org

Lamar Fitzgerald

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
directormusic@websterum.org

Amanda Furbee

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
directoryouth@websterum.org
directorchildren@websterum.org

Cavin Clive

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
admin.communications@websterum.org

Linda Guth Stangl

OFFICE MANAGER
secretary@websterum.org

Chloe Ward

STUDENT PASTOR
wardchloeann@gmail.com

Website

www.websterunitedmethodist.org

Phone

314-961-4133

Social Media



[Webster United Methodist](https://www.facebook.com/websterunitedmethodist)



[@websterunitedmethodist](https://www.instagram.com/websterunitedmethodist)



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Proverbs 4:7 ceb

7 *The beginning of wisdom:*

Get wisdom!

Get understanding before anything else.

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

I wanted to remind everyone that THIS coming Sunday is when we will bless backpacks and bags in worship. Make sure you bring your backpack and/or bag as we pray over the shift into this season. We will also talk on Sunday about faithful habits, both those that will be good for our schedules, as well as those that will be good for our faith journey. Sometimes we convince ourselves that Jesus' life was so different from ours, that he was better at being human than we could ever dream to be. But one of the ways Jesus kept himself rooted and strengthened in his faith was through forming habits and routines where he *practiced* living his faith.

If you know someone who could use a brushing up, or a new start, on their faithful habits, invite them to join us at church this Sunday. I hope to see you all there.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Cindy Andrews; Margo Petracek; Janet & Ray Iggulden; Clyde Gilker; the Halle Family & Aunt Judy (Jennie Dent); Jim Pemberton (Cindy Andrews); Terri Samples and the family & friends of Zayne Schiller (Connie Kroenung); Pat Delf, Mariann Ruffle, Ruth Hille, Alta Kopetzky, & Carolyn Lange (Marcia Kennon); Clive Samson (Cavin Clive); the joy of expectant parents and health of new babies; and students & teachers returning to school.

The MOUNTAIN SERVICE



SCHEDULE *August*



@themountainsservice

THIS WEEK

Group Discussion

Thursday,
August 14, 2025

📍 Space Room

Thursday, August 21 at 7:30pm
Group Discussion - Space Room

Thursday, August 28 at 7:30pm
Student Engagement Event (location TBD)

Thursday, September 4 at 7:30pm
Worship Service with Communion

WEBSTER UNITED METHODIST & MAPLEWOOD UMC
PRESENT



September Small Group

Sunday evenings,
Sep 7-28 at 7 pm

Discussion
around living
into LGBTQIA+
inclusion

- God's answer is always love.
- In God's kingdom there is room for everyone.
- Difference and diversity are invitations to understanding.
- God gathers the marginalized and outcast.

WEEK 1 AND 3:
Webster United Methodist
Address: 600 N Bompert Ave,
Webster Groves, MO 63119

WEEK 2 AND 4:
Maplewood UMC
Address: 7409 Flora Ave,
Maplewood, MO 63143

For more information or to register, **Call 314-961-4133**



New Church Management Platform

Over the past several months you may have heard the term church management platform. Church Council approved purchasing a church management program that will modernize and streamline many of the church software applications which are outdated and no longer supported. While this is a very practical and necessary step, it is also a huge opportunity for our church to appeal to and be more visible to those searching for a faith community. It will update our website and keep it current; it will provide easy access to our worship service and events through a mobile app designed for our needs.

What does this mean for members?

An all-in-one church management platform will make it easier to stay in touch with what is going on within the church and with events in the broader faith community, through our website and a mobile phone app created for Webster United Methodist. It will provide easier access to Giving, Small Group secure communication, and to our Livestream (online worship), with greater security and reliability for those viewing our livestream.

How will it support our Pastor, Employees and Volunteers?

Pastor Glen, employees, volunteers and future volunteers will be able to access their administration tools from home, i.e. they won't be bound to the church office computer. Information will be web-based and accessible from a variety of devices. The administration tools will be easier to use, more secure, and won't require in-depth knowledge of computer systems. This will not only make it easier for volunteers to perform their functions, it will eliminate many tasks that are currently redundant and require valuable volunteer hours. It will, in short, be much more efficient. Communications within our faith community and externally will be more timely, effective, and secure.

Is there extra cost?

Yes, the annual cost is slightly greater than what we pay now to maintain our website and the various other systems used. This additional cost to unify several church software systems into a single synchronized platform has been accepted by our Church Council. And, there will be a one-time cost of approximately \$2,500 to customize this church management system for our needs and to provide training to current employees and volunteers.

Can I help with this investment?

Yes! We invite you to support this step forward by donating to help cover this one-time cost. Please Pray about what you can contribute toward making our church more inviting to those seeking a faith family.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Book Club

On September 10th, ten people met to discuss "The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row". It was thought-provoking, making us want to work for justice in our judicial system. Katie Renkins, our leader for this one, showed us an interview Oprah did with Ray Hinton (the author) when he was finally released from death row after 30 years. The book shows Ray's amazing evolution from hating "everyone who did this to him" to becoming a friend and advisor to other death row inmates and the guards.

Our next book is "The Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. It pairs women such as Sarah and Hagar or Mary and Martha, contrasting their stories and how they relate to each other. We will meet on September 14th with a few of the book club folks reporting on some of the lesser-known pairings. Get a book from Carol Gilker, or get it online or on audio from the library. All are welcome.

Carol Gilker
United Women in Faith Reading Resources



Save the date!

Welcome Neighbor STL's International Supper Club returns to Webster Hills on Saturday, 8/23. The feast begins at 11:30 a.m. in the CLC's Great Hall.

A limited number of \$40 tickets are available. Order yours today!

<https://bit.ly/4mlmNUG>



Don't forget! WUM will also offer a Welcome Neighbor family-cooked lunch for carry-out on Saturday, September 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m (page 7).

Faith In Action For You



Friends,

These days it is so natural to feel helpless when confronted with the many developments in our world. Natural disasters like our May 16th tornado combine with inequities in our society to create truly complex problems that it will take all of us working together to address. Political developments, war in distant places, immigrants from those places who need our help—all these things are happening at an unprecedented pace. It's hard to know what to do, but we still have the desire to do something!

I wanted to share an incredible resource with you. The General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church provides a newsletter full of insights into social justice issues, inspiring stories, and actionable steps to make a difference in our churches, communities, country and the world. It's a meaningful way to stay informed and connected to efforts for justice and peace that are driven by our United Methodist Social Principles.

If you'd like to join this community, you can sign up here:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/what-you-can-do/subscribe>

or sign up on the Connection Card on Sunday.

Debbie Lund, for the Justice Team



Come and Learn More!

Our CEO, Scott Walker, will kick off the evening with a welcoming message. Enjoy drinks and snacks as you visit interactive stations. You'll connect with our dedicated staff and see how our transformative programs help individuals and families move beyond crisis and out of poverty for good.

LifeWise StL
1321 South 11th St.
St. Louis, MO 63104
www.lifewisestl.org



RSVP: eventslifewisestl.org or scan the QR code

Grab & Go BBQ

Friday, September 5, 5 - 7pm

Grace Episcopal Church Parking Lot
514 E. Argonne, Kirkwood, MO 63122

BBQ meals to go with all of your favorite sides will be available for curbside pickup



Tickets on sale now, \$20/each
go to shepherdscenter-wk.org for online sales or scan the QR code below with the camera on your smartphone



All proceeds benefit the Shepherd's Center's essential services for older adults – medical transportation, simple home repair, seasonal yard cleanup, lifelong learning & fitness programs, tech support and more.

To purchase tickets, please contact Gordon Ballam

WELCOME NEIGHBOR STL

AFGHAN DRIVE THRU



\$40
PER MEAL

**CLICK HERE
TO ORDER**



**SEPTEMBER 6, 2025
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**



WEBSTER UNITED METHODIST

600 N BOMPART AVE, WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119



COMING SOON!

**WUM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
PRESENTS**

WILD WEDNESDAY

WILD ABOUT DANCING

**Our first Wild Wednesday of the school year
will be held on**

**SEPTEMBER 10
5:30 - 7PM**

**Put on your dancing shoes and be prepared to dance
the night away. You are encouraged to bring a friend.**

Dinner and dessert will be provided!

Children 4 years old through 6th grade are invited to join us.
Please register your children or ask for more information
by emailing directorchildren@websterum.org or call 314-961-4133
and leave a message.

**600 N BOMPART AVE,
WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119**

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.