



# Newsletter

August 21, 2025



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# A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

## **2 Peter 3:17-18**

**17** Therefore, dear friends, since you have been warned in advance, be on guard so that you aren't led off course into the error of sinful people, and lose your own safe position.

**18** Instead, grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

To him belongs glory now and forever. Amen.

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

This week, on Sunday, I'll wrap up the series on our shift back to the school/work year, which most of us (in the Webster Groves School District) have already lived into this past Monday with the return of our students to school. The main theme of this series has been to keep our faith, and maturing in that faith, at the center of our schedules even as they become more hectic; even as "the world is trying to steal your time."

I am working with several people at Webster UM to revamp our Intentional Faith Development and to offer a variety of shorter-term small group offerings that can grow faith and mature disciples. I encourage you to watch out for these opportunities, and commit some time—even if it is just a few weeks—to keeping your faith a priority. Let's continue to love, grow, and serve together.

If you know someone who could use this kind of community in their life, 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; Richard Paul (Cathy's husband); Esther DeSantis (Jesse Hebisen's sister); Linda Emery & Jerry Chulick (Jo Ann Claywell); Clive Samson (Cavin Clive); Judy France (Ernie's mother); the Halle Family (Jennie Dent); Jim Pemberton (Cindy Andrews' brother-in-law); Mariann Ruffle & Ruth Hille (Marcia Kennon); those suffering from Parkinson's; peace in Ukraine & Gaza; wise decisions by world leaders; the joy of expectant parents & health of new babies; and students & teachers returning to school.

*Sympathy To...*

Janet Iggulden, daughters Ellen and Carrie and their families, and extended family and friends upon the death of husband and father, Ray Iggulden, Tuesday, August 19, 2025. Family will gather at Jefferson Barracks to lay his ashes to rest at a time yet to be determined with the help of Bopp Chapel.

# *The* MOUNTAIN SERVICE



## SCHEDULE *August*



@themountainsservice

### THIS WEEK

## Group Discussion

Thursday,  
August 21, 2025

📍 Space Room

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

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

Thursday, September 11 at 7:30pm  
**Group Discussion - Space Room**

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).**

# 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](https://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



How Trans Kids Are Surviving Hate and Finding Joy in a Turbulent Era

**Author Nico Lang and Atem Richardson  
In Conversation**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 4:00PM  
LEFT BANK BOOKS  
399 N. EUCLID AVE.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108**

**Presented in Partnership With PROMO Missouri  
and PFLAG St. Louis**

Click [HERE](#) for more details about the author and the book.





# TRIVIA NIGHT



SCAN ME  
TO REGISTER

FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 26TH  
@ 6:30PM

111 S GEYER RD  
KIRKWOOD, MO 63122

**JACK: 636-399-3083**

[INFO@INEXCELSISLOVE.ORG](mailto:INFO@INEXCELSISLOVE.ORG)

## 2025 InExCelsis Wishlist

- Underwear (Men size M up)-New
- Underwear (Women All sizes)-New
- Bra (all sizes)-New
- Sports Bra (all sizes)-New
- Jeans (30x30 and Up)- New or gently used
- Deodorants (regular sizes)\*\*\*
- Sweatpants-New or gently used
- Leggings- New or gently used
- Blankets
- Towels & washcloth (New for Mobile Hygiene)
- Backpack
- Sleeping bags
- Laundry detergent
- Fast food gift cards
- First Aid kits
- Paper plates and cups
- Canned goods
- Snacks

- Water & other soft drinks
- Cleaning supplies
- Flashlight
- Shoes

### DIGNITY ON WHEELS (MOBILE SHOWER) NEEDS

- Drink/ Snacks
- Belts
- Socks
- Hair brushes
- Shampoo & Conditioner (regular)
- Towels (new)\*

### CASE MANAGEMENT NEEDS (CARE TEAM)

- Laptop (new or gently used)
- iPad (New or gently used )
- Christian Literature



# 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!

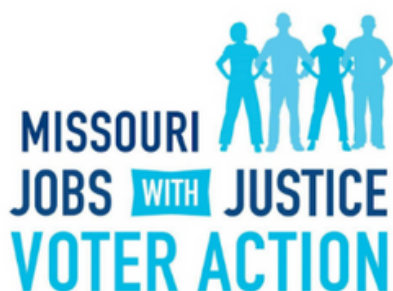
I wanted to share an incredible resource with you. The General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church provides a newsletter full of insights into social justice issues, inspiring stories, and actionable steps to make a difference in our churches, communities, country and the world. 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



## Opportunity For Activism

**PLEASE CLICK THE LINK HERE**

**to register for the mass meeting taking place  
in St. Louis, and for more details.**



**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](mailto:directorchildren@websterum.org) or call 314-961-4133  
and leave a message.

The LifeWise StL  
Board of Directors  
cordially invites you to a

**HAPPY  
HOUR**

Thursday, August 21  
5:30 - 7:30pm

**LifeWise StL**  
Life Skills for Better Futures

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](http://www.lifewisestl.org)



**RSVP: [eventslifewisestl.org](http://eventslifewisestl.org) or scan the QR code**