



Newsletter

August 7, 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Psalm 122:1 ceb

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let's go to the LORD's house!"*

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

In worship last Sunday I mentioned a new partner who will be joining us in our building starting in September. If that word "partner" seems odd to you, let me explain what I mean. In my mindset/heartset, anyone who uses our building, and is not a member of Webster UM (yet), is a partner with us in ministry to our community. We already have a number of these: Camp Invention, Square Dancers, Webster University Community Music School...to name a few. All of these groups bless our building with a bit of revenue, but MORE IMPORTANTLY, they bless our faith community by reminding the larger community that we are here, and that we want THEM here, too.

This is just your reminder that the building is NOT OURS, it is GOD's. So as you come in and out of the building, you might see faces you do not know, and should greet them with the radical hospitality of a follower of Jesus. He, of course, called us to go above and beyond to serve others (i.e. go two miles, when you are asked to go just one). By doing this, we hope the larger community comes to the feeling expressed above in Psalm 122. How might our community and faith change if everyone rejoiced to be with us in God's house? Another way you can also explore that notion is by inviting someone to join us at church this Sunday. I hope to see you all there.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Margo Petracek; Janet & Ray Iggulden; Clyde Gilker; my father and my friend Ali (Andrea Zepeda); Terri Samples and the family & friends of Zayne Schiller (Connie Kroenung); Pat Delf & Mariann Ruffle & Carolyn Lange (Marcia Kennon); Erin Rising (Nicole Sarich Rising's sister-in-law); summer travelers; our church and Chiphongo UMC (our Covenant Church in Mozambique); those rebuilding after the May 16th tornado in St. Louis; and the people of Gaza.

The MOUNTAIN SERVICE



SCHEDULE *August*



@themountainsservice

THIS WEEK

**Worship
Service**
With Communion
**Thursday,
August 7, 2025**

 Fellowship Hall

Thursday, August 14 at 7:30pm
Group Discussion - Space Room

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

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

Strengthen Your Faith With Intentional Prayer



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

Sunday, August 10th, 6:30 p.m.
in the Space Room.

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



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.

WELCOME BACK BUFFET



Hello wonderful bakers, and those willing to purchase delicious goodies!

As we have in previous years, we want to welcome back and celebrate our neighbors who teach and work at Avery School down the road. We will be delivering the goods Thursday morning, August 14th so we need your wonderful dishes by 8:15 am that morning.

If it's a delicious casserole, please have it hot and ready to go at that time. Other items can be labeled and delivered to the kitchen and/or fridge ahead of time.

NOTE: Please let us know if any items have nuts in them.

We could also use additional person or two to help with preparing, delivering, and serving the buffet.

Let us know in the connection card this Sunday, August 10th, if you are able to prepare a dish and/or help serve. Thank you so much, and our Avery friends will thank you too!

Sincerely, Beth Gewinner and Pastor Glen



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

Successful Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross set a goal for us to have 30 appointments, and they were very happy with our results of 29 donors with 25 products (units) collected. Donors included folks from our congregation, neighbors, and friends who came on July 22nd, ready to roll up their sleeves.

Thanks to Cavin, who created notices and posted them electronically, and to those who took and distributed/posted flyers. Thanks to Denny and Barb Sarich and Carolyn Redmore for working the reception/check-in station and the canteen (donor recovery) station. And a huge thanks to those who came to donate!!

Blood collected by the American Red Cross helps millions of patients in over 2,500 hospitals and other facilities across the country. Blood drives provide 84% of blood donations.

We will be scheduling another blood drive. How can you help?

Grab & Go BBQ

Friday, September 5, 5:00-7:00pm

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