

Newsletter

October 16, 2025



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WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Matthew 15:27-28 (ceb)

27 She said, "Yes, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters' table."

28 Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith. It will be just as you wish." And right then her daughter was healed.

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

You all know me well enough by now to know that I want to keep challenging us in our faith and our journey towards holiness through Christ. In that, I light up when I find a new (to me) theological concept that leads me to rethink things I was already sure of.

One of the concepts that has strengthened my beliefs in the past few years comes out of Womanist Theology. Womanist Theology, if you don't know, is theology particularly shaped and practiced by African American women, born from their experience of life and faith and God. The concept that I have come to greatly treasure (especially given my passion for space sharing in the church) is that new understandings and experiences of God come out of the lived experience of the community. This says to me that when we allow our community to become new (through the God who is making all things new), we will also get a new and broadened experience of God. We'll talk more about this in November, as we explore together Dr. Wilda Gafney's book *Womanist Midrash*, which will also set the stage for a powerful book study to start the new year, but more on that later.

If you know anyone who desires to broaden their understanding and experience of God, invite them to church in November. If you know someone who might like to hear a different perspective on a Sunday, invite them THIS SUNDAY, when Chloe Ward will be bringing us the message, and I hope to see you all there.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

Margo Petracek; Cindy Andrews; Allison (Margo Petracek); Sharon Wersching; Matt (nephew of Katie Renkins & Dan Pike); Peg & Jerry Chulick and Skip Reynolds (Jo Ann Claywell); Matthew (Linda Austin's great-grandson); Jennifer Guyer (Beth Anderson); severely disabled people in the USA; our neighbors who are targets of ICE; federal workers; and all those in fear -- in war, in famine, everywhere.



OCTOBER 12, 2025

Dear Webster United Methodist Family and Friends,

Joan and I recently attended the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood Kansas, which is the largest United Methodist Church in the United States.

As we walked into the church, I saw a sign painted on the wall that was a reality check for me.



This positive message was a reminder that I have so much for which to be grateful, the greatest of which is my family. In a very few words this sign conveyed an internal message to me and to all who viewed it.

High on my "Grateful List", is my faith family that I look forward to seeing each Sunday and serving with, as we help others in our community. Several partner non-profits have mentioned that our church is very mission-focused and, although it is not large, it achieves a greater proportional impact than many larger churches.

As you fill out your Commitment Card, please join Joan and me in pledging prayers, presence, service, and witness. If possible, join us in increasing your financial gifts to further support our mission and service to our community and beyond.

Thank you for considering how you can support and strengthen our "impact".

In Christ, **Gordon**

Laila Allegre
Co-Chair

Roger McCurly
Co-Chair

Gordon Ballam
Finance Chair

Glen Connoley
Pastor, WUM

Trunk or Treat
October 25, 3:30pm - 5:30pm
600 N Bompert Ave, Webster Groves, MO 63119 (Parking Lot)

HARVESTING HOPE FOR MISSIONS



**Chili Dinner
& Auction**



NOVEMBER 1, 2025

- A fundraiser for missions organizations including Epworth, InExcelsis, Lifewise STL, Webster-Rock Hill Ministries, & more
- Tickets \$10/adult, \$5/child 5-10, under 5 free Available. From Missions Team members or online at websterunitedmethodist.org

5pm - Silent Auction & Appetizers

6pm - Chili Dinner

7pm - Live Auction

Share your harvest!
Donate live auction items & silent auction baskets. Contact nunes.lydia@gmail.com to donate.



**Every Thursday
at 7:30pm**

THIS WEEK

**OCT
16**

**Group
Discussion**

📍 SPACE ROOM

UPCOMING

**OCT
23**

**Group Discussion
@ Space Room**

**OCT
30**

**Group Discussion
@ Space Room**

**NOV
6**

**Worship Service
@ Fellowship Hall**

 [villageofgracestl](https://www.instagram.com/villageofgracestl)

MESSAGE FROM THE SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Fairview doors are to be used as an emergency exit only, not for entering or normal exiting. Recently, the doors were found to be unlatched. Please do not use these doors for ANYTHING other than an emergency exit. The doors do not latch correctly and have to be pushed from the outside in order to shut correctly.



NEW MEMBER MAGGIE STEVENS



On October 5th, Maggie Stevens became a member of Webster United Methodist. For this long-time member it seems like an ending to a Hallmark movie. Maggie's husband Ned Stevens grew up in this church. Marguerite Rose Milford grew up in the Roman Catholic faith. She graduated from nursing school at St. Louis University in 2014. Maggie had already signed her first contract to start her RN career as a traveling nurse and was leaving St. Louis in three months when she met Ned. Their three-and-a-half-year long-distance relationship blossomed while she lived in Austin for two years, followed by Phoenix, Charleston, Chattanooga, and New York.

She returned to St. Louis and is now working from home for BJC as a Transplant Coordinator for liver transplant patients. Maggie and Ned were married in February, 2022. Having worshiped with Ned at WUM over the years, Maggie became a familiar face when they joined the choir in January, 2024. In December that year she was a very realistic (i.e. pregnant) Mary in March to the Manger. Virginia Rose was born in March, 2025. Thus begins the Hallmark sequel. Welcome to this branch of Christianity, Maggie!

EAT PIZZA RAISE DOUGH

OCTOBER 21, 4 - 9PM

Mention this Giveback Night when dining in or ordering carryout and up to 20% of sales will be donated to CROP Hunger Walk. Online orders must mention "GBN" in the Order notes.

112 E LOCKWOOD AVE, WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119



DEWEY'S  PIZZA

CONTACT: 314-961-1000

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH BOOK CLUB

Our next club meeting is after church on October 19 in the Space/Zoom Room. We will review the book "After the Last Border: Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America" by Jessica Goudeau. This is such a current topic that we invite you to come listen, even if you haven't read the book.

Carol Gilker
Reading Resources, UW in Faith

If you live to sing, come share your voice
in the 4th annual



Webster Sings

The only singing talent show exclusively
for our community's amateur singers

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EARLY PRACTICE SESSION - OCT. 26, 3-5PM

COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL,
LOWER-LEVEL ROOM 10 @ WEBSTER UNIVERSITY

REHEARSAL - NOV. 7, 7-9PM

COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL,
CONCERT HALL @ WEBSTER UNIVERSITY

TALENT SHOW - NOV. 8, 7-9PM

This is a FREE live music event and open to the
entire community.

COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL, CONCERT HALL
@ WEBSTER UNIVERSITY

If you are interested, please email Dave Buck at dave@buckstl.com or text him at 314-952-0910 by noon, October 25, and provide your name, age, your one or two song selections, and if you will be providing sheet music for our piano accompanist, or singing to a track or a cappella.

MERCY CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER'S UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 19, 1:30-4:30PM

**AT MERCY CENTER, FRONTENAC
2039 NORTH GEYER ROAD,
ST. LOUIS, MO 63131**

Dream Dynamics: Archetypes and Narratives, a workshop led by Noeli Lytton who has been practicing dreamwork in classes and groups for over three decades. Led by the Divine voice in our dreams, we can reclaim agency and wholeness. Bring 1 or 2 of your current dreams written down for study.
Cost: \$50. Register by Oct, 15.

NOV. 9, 1:00-4:00PM

**AT MERCY CENTER, FRONTENAC
2039 NORTH GEYER ROAD,
ST. LOUIS, MO**

"The Questions of Jesus" is a presentation by Rev. David Malek, at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center. Rev. Dave is rector of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Florissant and holds a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Aquinas Institute of Theology.
Cost: \$25. Register by November 6.

**Register at
www.mercycenterstl.org**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All articles and submissions must be sent to secretary@websterum.org by Monday at 5pm to be in that week's newsletter.