



# COVENANT NEWS

The Newsletter of the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves

## Moderator's Corner



The season is changing and as we head into October, we find our focus shifting to the financial needs of the church. The initial challenge we face is to come up with a realistic and workable budget. Much work has been done to determine the expenses and needs of our church for the upcoming year. This is a difficult task as our expenses exceed our income and the difference must be met with monies from the endowment. As you know, this is not a fiscally

sound method of meeting our operating budget, but one that is necessary. Last year the Strategic Planning Committee was tasked with looking at how our church facility can best be used to maximize "use of church" income. This work continues and shows great promise for the future. The professionals we have conferred with say that whatever actions we take won't have a financial impact on our income for two years. That means we need to continue to use our endowment as an investment in our future with the payback occurring down the road when our plans are finalized and implemented. Our final plan will include growing the endowment fund and stabilizing our budget. This is challenging but something that can be done!

Another key element of our income involves pledges and gifts. The Stewardship Campaign will begin shortly, and we hope that everyone invested in First Congregational Church, both spiritually and financially, takes a hard look at maximizing their pledges to the level they can handle. In addition to pledges, there will be offerings in Adult Education that will show how you can benefit your church family through sound Estate Planning. See page 9 to learn about these opportunities.

Despite the great efforts that have been made to provide a budget that meets every need, there are some things that are desired and needed, but not covered in the budget. It is proposed that, by working with the Three Ministries and the Professional Staff, a list of such items can be developed for the 2020 Budget year and designated as Special Budget Projects. This list would be compiled with the idea that individuals (or groups, or families) may decide to cover the cost of a specific item. Each time an item is paid for, that item would be removed from the list and designated "achieved." One idea for visibility would be to post index cards on a bulletin board for each designated item along with the cost of that item. These items can range from big-ticket items such as flooring and piano repair, to smaller items such as lighting fixtures in Sample Chapel or the Kishlar Room. When an item is covered, a checkmark is placed on the card either with or without the donor's name. Under this proposal, if you have a suggestion for something you would like to see added to the list, you can submit it to the appropriate Ministry or the Office for consideration.

We have much work to do in this next year, but I am excited that there is a plan that will help us accomplish the task. This plan is doable because of the accomplished and committed people that we have working on it. If you haven't done so already, I hope you will become part of our effort in both developing and implementing this plan. We are a very special congregation with a very special mission before us.

Together in Christ,  
Mark Edwards, Moderator

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## Worship Notes For October 2019

*This schedule is subject to change, as need may arise.*

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

10:00 AM — **Feast of Francis of Assisi; “Blessing of the Animals.”** All nature sings and shouts with us with God’s praise, as we celebrate our animal companions and ask blessings to be upon them. This delightful annual gathering in the Jubilee Garden includes church members and other worshipers, dogs and cats and birds and reptiles (on leashes or in carriers) and some who are represented with photos or objects.

6:00 PM — **Saturday Night Light: The Jazz of Preaching**, led by Youth Minister Erick Falconer and the SNL Band in the Jubilee Garden. With music made by young people and a message designed for all, this is a spirited, sacred time! Each month, we explore the life and thinking of a different “Jazz Apostle.” Watch your weekly eNews and Selected Upcoming Events circular in your Sunday worship bulletin for more information.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 9:55 AM — *Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost; World Communion Sunday; Sacrament of Christ’s Table; “Neighbors in Need” Special Offering.* Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-6. The fourth in our series, **“So, What’s Your Story?”** this worship service will focus on the Parable of the Mustard Seed and what to do with a faith that moves mountains... or at least a mulberry tree.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 9:55 AM — *Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Laity Sunday.* Scriptures: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Luke 17:11-19. Four church members answer the question, **“So, What’s Your Story?”** talking about experiences at First Church which have shaped their spiritual lives and their thinking.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 9:55 AM — *First Sunday of Our Invitation to Commitment: “The Way – of Mercy, Gratitude, Truth, Resurrection.”* Scriptures: Ephesians 2:17-22. Pastor Tracey Harris, Student Minister and Director of Christian Education, begins a sermon series on the meanings of a very important term in the New Testament – *oikos*, which means “home” or “household.” The words, ecumenism, ecology, and economy are all rooted in this Greek word. ***There’s No Place Like Home*** is the name of the series. Her subject is ***“Ecumenism: At Home Together.”***

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 9:55 AM — *Second Sunday of Our Invitation to Commitment: “The Way – of Mercy, Gratitude, Truth, Resurrection;” Reformation/Reconciliation Sunday.* Scriptures: Ephesians 2:17-22. **The Oikos Ensemble and Logos Readers** join us for another jazzy service. Rev. Cliff Aerie, director of our Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts (MICA), fresh from the 2019 edition of *Earth Walk* adds his thoughts to the sermon series, ***There’s No Place Like Home.*** ***“Ecology: The Earth Our Home”*** will be his theme.

## Blessing Of The Animals Jubilee Garden - Saturday, October 5 At 10:00 am

We will gather again near the annual observance of the Feast Day of Francis of Assisi, to celebrate our animal companions and all of creation. Attendance is not limited to church members, and all creatures great and small are welcome to attend with their human friends. Domestic animals who come need to be either on a leash or in a carrier; those unable to attend may be represented with photographs or other images.

The worship service includes prayers and songs, with blessings by Pastor Dave Denoon. In case of rain, we will gather in Memorial Hall, just behind the Jubilee Garden.



## Tracey's Blessings - A Very Busy October



The theme for the Sunday School Year is *“So, What’s Your Story?”* We study many stories from the Bible during our class time in Sunday School, but we also need to tell our stories of faith. Children need to hear your story about your faith and this congregation of people, First Congregational Church of Webster Groves. Adults should ask children to tell their stories as well. Children often have powerful stories of faith. A quote from Mirabai Starr speaks to the value of stories: *“Our stories are one of the richest gifts we have to offer the world because, in telling our story, everyone finds a place at the table.”* Make room at your table for the sharing of faith stories.

Plan to be a part of church events during October so you can expand your stories and make new ones.

### Upcoming Events

**Blessing of the Animals — Saturday October 5, at 10:00 am in the Jubilee Garden.** Bring your pet or their picture and receive a blessing!

**All Church Weenie Roast and Halloween Celebration — Friday, October 18, at 6:30 pm** – We will start off in the Jubilee Garden. Hot dogs and s’mores will be provided. Please bring a finger food and a chair. Games and fun are also provided! **Please email Tracey at [tracey.harris@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:tracey.harris@firstchurchwg.org)** to let her know you are coming! All ages and families, including families of one, are most welcome!!!

Please be sure to read the other upcoming church events in the rest of The Covenant News.

Peace,  
Tracey DCE and Student Pastor

## Youth Choir Fall Kickoff!



We are always thinking of new and imaginative ways to incorporate the youth in Sunday Worship services. The Youth Choir is a wonderful way for youth to play an active role in Sunday Worship. This October we will begin our Youth Choir rehearsals. All youth twelve years old and older are invited to participate. This season our focus will be on contemporary Christian songs as well as Praise & Worship songs that the entire congregation will learn and sing together during Sunday Morning worship services when the Youth Choir sings.

Please contact Dr. Erick Falconer (Pastor Erick) to sign your child up for the Youth Choir at First Church at [erick.falconer@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:erick.falconer@FirstChurchWG.org)

## From The Music Director



It is fall which, to a musician, means the end of the summer season and the beginning of the “regular” season. A time for renewal. As I settle into the new season, my first full season as your Music Director, I encounter administrative challenges along with the weekly musical challenges. For the beginning of the new season I have been very happy with my choir and bell ringers in the Sunday services! But we should have more participation in our music program by our congregants.

### Chancel Choir

For those of you who sing (or would like to sing better), our choir would welcome a few more members. We rehearse on Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:45 on a regular basis. One plus of singing in my choir, is that every rehearsal begins with a “mini” group voice

lesson focusing on a vocal challenge to come that night or next week. I have also offered free voice lessons to members of the choir for which I usually charge \$50 per lesson: what a bargain! Contact me or just show up on Thursday to contribute your talent.

### Canterbury Bells

For those of you who think that your music skills do not support you singing in the choir, the Canterbury Bells may be just the thing for you! I think the members of the bell choir are enjoying my exploration of the many ways to ring meaningfully in worship. The only prerequisite for being successful in this choir is to know your right hand from your left hand and the ability to count to four! If you are curious about how this works, contact me or come to bell rehearsal on Thursdays from 6:15 to 7:15. We can always use a few more ding-a-lings!

### Music Committee

If none of these options suit you or your schedule just yet, there is another way to serve our music program. Please consider joining the Music Committee. The Music Committee advises the Music Director on a variety of matters and serves as my eyes and ears in the congregation alerting me to opportunities to improve our offerings as well as offering new ideas to enhance worship. This committee meets infrequently and so is not a large commitment of time. Please consider contributing a little of your time to fill out this committee by talking to John Paci, Chairman.

### Piano Repair

It may not be noticed by all that our piano in the sanctuary is in great need of about \$7,000 of unexpected work. The piano is tuned regularly but it should be “regulated” on a regular basis. This has not been done for quite some time. The touch is uneven: every one of its 88 keys falls a different distance as one plays. The hammers are very worn which contributes to a harsh quality in the piano’s sound. Some notes continue to sound after they are struck because of chronic mechanical misalignment.

The root causes of these problems have grown so serious that no inexpensive fix will alleviate the problem. The mechanical action of the piano needs to be replaced so that with proper, regular maintenance the instrument will continue to be cherished for a long time to come. Please consider contributing some of your treasure to putting the piano right again so that our space offers radical pianistic hospitality to our guest musicians.

Thanks to you all for caring so deeply about music and its ministry here at First Church.

Leon Burke, Organist and Music Director



A Sacred Concert Celebrating  
Mother Earth

Friday, October 25th

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves at 7:30 PM

NASA states: “Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists agree that climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities, and most of the leading scientific organizations worldwide have issued public statements endorsing this position.” For more information see [www.climate.nasa.gov](http://www.climate.nasa.gov).

Former Vice President Al Gore has said, “The warnings about global warming have been extremely clear for a long time. We are facing a global climate crisis. It is deepening. We are entering a period of consequences.”

It’s easy to claim science as fake news, or bury our heads in the sand, or even throw our hands up in despair bemoaning that’s there’s nothing that I can do. But one person can make a difference. Consider Greta Thunberg, a 16 year-old young person from Sweden, who has rallied youth from around the world to demand that our political leaders be more proactive in dealing with the reality of climate change.

What can you do? One simple thing to do is to come to “*Earth Walk: A Celebration of God’s Creation*” on Friday evening, 7:30 PM, October 25, at our church. It will be a time of artistic inspiration blending jazz, dance and poetic reflection. The Oikos Ensemble will be joined by the Skystone Conservatory Dance Ensemble and the Logos Readers. We will share earth stories celebrating the beauty of Mother Earth and the challenges of climate change facing our global community.

After the concert we will be sharing resources and ideas for personal involvement as we face this global crisis. Please join us and bring your friends for an entertaining and enlightening evening. Jane Goodall has said, “You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

Join us for “Earth Walk”—enjoy the music, dance, poetry and learn how you can make a difference.

## Treasurer's Report - Results as of or through August 31:

	2019	2018	Year to Date Budget	Change to Prior Year	Change to Budget
Income				Higher/(Lower) Income	
Pledges and Gifts	\$ 246,591	\$ 237,175	\$ 235,333	\$ 9,416	\$ 11,258
Transfer from Endowment	80,000	60,000	112,667	20,000	(32,667)
Benevolence	22,953	21,452	10,000	1,501	12,953
Use of Space and Miscellaneous Income	44,296	40,764	41,120	3,532	3,176
Interest Income	15,731	11,854	8,667	3,877	7,064
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>409,571</b>	<b>371,245</b>	<b>407,787</b>	<b>38,326</b>	<b>1,784</b>
Expenses				(Higher)/Lower Expense	
Human Resources Expense	\$ 276,549	\$ 270,478	\$ 265,276	(6,071)	(11,273)
Facilities and Finance Expense	\$ 99,749	\$ 118,836	\$ 103,567	19,087	3,818
Benevolence Expense	\$ 32,014	\$ 27,209	\$ 21,667	(4,805)	(10,347)
Christian Education Ministry Expense	\$ 1,921	\$ 2,888	\$ 3,334	967	1,413
Parish Life Ministry Expense	\$ 4,265	\$ 7,072	\$ 6,667	2,807	2,402
Executive Ministry Expense	\$ 2,507	\$ 4,924	\$ 4,875	2,417	2,368
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>417,005</b>	<b>431,407</b>	<b>405,386</b>	<b>14,402</b>	<b>(11,620)</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ (7,434)</b>	<b>\$ (60,162)</b>	<b>\$ 2,401</b>	<b>\$ (23,924)</b>	<b>\$ (9,835)</b>

### Statement of Financial Position

	2019	2018	Variance
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 166,500	\$ 158,804	\$ 7,696
Property and equipment	32,113	33,571	(1,458)
Minister housing long term receivable	242,429	245,909	(3,480)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 441,042</b>	<b>\$ 438,284</b>	<b>\$ 2,758</b>
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 14,738	\$ 11,794	\$ 2,944
Long term liabilities, Minister Housing	241,767	246,074	(4,307)
Designated funds for:			
Community Infrastructure *	33,323	28,489	4,835
Environment	29,352	24,323	5,030
Music, Arts and Worship	28,092	24,602	3,491
Youth and Education	31,456	24,897	6,560
Restricted funds for:			
Churchyard	34,093	30,846	3,247
Building Maintenance	68,890	67,885	1,005
Unrestricted Net Assets	(40,670)	(20,625)	(20,045)
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 441,042</b>	<b>\$ 438,284</b>	<b>\$ 2,758</b>

\* **Community infrastructure** is defined as facilities, programs, and social networks that aims to improve people's quality of life .

#### Items to note:

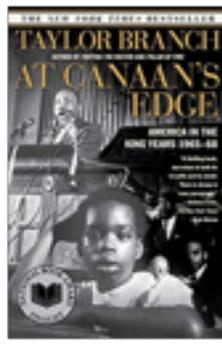
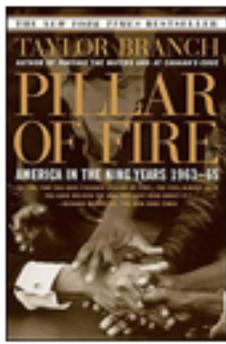
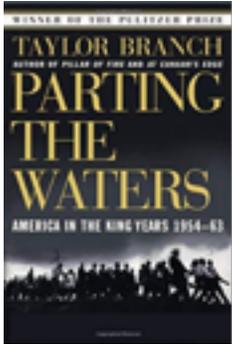
- The church continues to transfer an amount less than budgeted from the Endowment and will continue to do so as long as able/other revenue covers expenses
- An increase in health insurance costs shows in the human resources expense line of the statement of activities
- Last year, significant facilities repairs and replacement were done to the heating and cooling units

If you have any other questions or want further detail, please let me know.

Thanks, Jennifer Jones – Treasurer

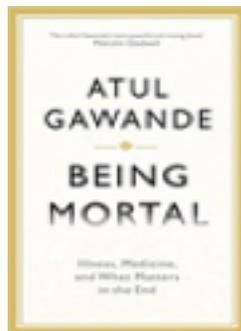
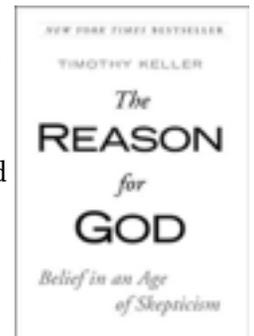
## Holiday Library ✓ It Out

Thanks to Joan Musbach and Charlie Brader who recently donated several books to the Church Library. A few have been highlighted below.



Pulitzer Prize winner Taylor Branch gives an account of the American Civil Rights Movement in this trilogy. It is a masterpiece of storytelling on American race, violence, and democracy. In this magisterial account of the civil rights movement Martin Luther King, Jr., earned a place next to James Madison and Abraham Lincoln in the pantheon of American history.

How could a loving God send people to hell? Why does he allow suffering? Can one religion be “right” and the others “wrong”? Responding to the questions of open skeptics and ardent believers, Timothy Keller, in *The Reason for God* draws from literature, philosophy, reason, and real-life conversations to explain how faith in a Christian God is a soundly rational belief.



Medicine in modern times, has transformed the dangers of childbirth, injury, and disease from harrowing to manageable. But when it comes to the inescapable realities of aging and death, what medicine can do often runs counter to what it should. Gawande, reveals the suffering this dynamic has produced. Nursing homes, devoted above all to safety, battle with residents over the food they are allowed to eat and the choices they are allowed to make. Doctors, uncomfortable discussing patients' anxieties about death, fall back on false hopes and treatments that are actually shortening lives instead of improving them. Honest, and humane, *Being Mortal* shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life-all the way to the very end. Many have said this book is a must read.

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## Annual Fall Hygiene Drive

Parish Life is hosting our annual personal hygiene drive on October 13th, 20th and 27th. Please bring personal care items for adults, infants or children. There will be a box in the Church foyer for you to place your donations.

***Please give generously!***

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## Ongoing Period Supply Collection

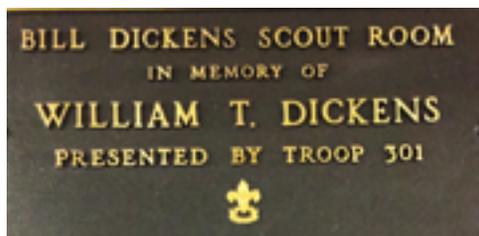
Practicing Our Faith is sponsoring a separate and ongoing collection of period supplies to benefit the St. Louis Alliance for Period Supplies. There is a box available in the narthex for donated items. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Chris von Weise.

Suggested Items for Period Supplies Donations

Pads • Tampons • Menstrual Cups • Liners • Wipes • Pain-relief medication  
 Resealable plastic bags • Cosmetic bags • Underwear • Chocolate

## Did You Know...?

There are rooms on either side of **Sample Chapel** used for **Sunday School classes**, by community groups and for a wide variety of programs. Today some of the space houses our Center for Counseling & Healing. There is an old plaque honoring Laura Inglis, and a plaque in memory of John W. Brandt 1905-1940. John was a member of our church for only one year. It is written, "That had he lived no one can predict the imprint his personality might have made upon our endeavors to further the work of the Kingdom." A Brandt Memorial fund was established, by his mother, in his memory. The funds were used for new equipment for the kitchen, office, teaching equipment and to buy a ledger for membership records. For the Renovation 2000 effort Sunday school room updating, funds were given in celebration of children by the Phil Roush Family, in memory of Edward and Adele Seele, in memory of Gregory A. Courtney by Marjorie S. Courtney, by Jennifer Christy (now Jones) & Susan Hunt.



**The Dickens Room**, located on the lower level of the Education Building, is now used for meetings and includes a storage area for Scout supplies. It has been reported that Troop 301 had bonfires in this space which originally had a dirt floor! The troop, long sponsored by the church, took part in the Education Building Dedication in October of 1956. Scout Troop 301 installed in the room a bronze plate as a tribute to William Dickens who had been active in scouting programs and the church in the mid-1990s. His name appears on a Boy Scout Application For Charter Form for Troop 301 in the late 1960s. His son W.

Thomas Dickens III became an Eagle Scout in 1971.

Kay Roush, Historian

## October Birthdays

**Kathy Weyhrich**  
**Linda Smith**  
**Lynn Stewart**  
**Patrick Byrne**  
**Ian Didriksen**  
**Jean Shoulberg**  
**Rod Cooper**

**October 3**  
**October 5**  
**October 5**  
**October 7**  
**October 7**  
**October 8**  
**October 10**

**Barney Kitchen**  
**Marilyn Claggett**  
**Judy James**  
**Pete Grace**  
**Carol Mallette**  
**Mark Lauenstein**  
**Dave Denoon**

**October 11**  
**October 18**  
**October 19**  
**October 24**  
**October 26**  
**October 30**  
**October 30**

## SAGE Explores the Great Explorer, Daniel Boone Tuesday, October 15

All are welcome for the SAGE trip to Defiance, Missouri, to visit the historic Daniel Boone home. Although we usually associate Daniel Boone with Kentucky, he lived the last years of his life with other Boone family members in St. Charles County; died and was buried there. He lived in the home of his youngest son, Nathan. This home has been restored and is part of a collection of historic buildings dating from about the same period of time.

We will carpool from the church, meeting at 10:15. We will have lunch at Chandler Hill Winery before our guided tour of the Boone home at 1:30. Tickets for the Boone tour are \$6.00 per person.

*Please sign up in the office so we will know how many reservations will be needed for the restaurant and the tour.*

### Pre-Tour Exploration "Daniel Boone Before Defiance" Sunday, October 13, 3:00 pm - Inglis Room

The focus at the Daniel Boone Historic Home in Defiance is on the Boone's years in Missouri. But Daniel Boone's historic importance was established well before he moved to St. Charles County. As a preview of the SAGE tour of the Boone site at Defiance, Joan Musbach will present a program, "Daniel Boone Before Defiance" for anyone interested in the life of this important early American frontiersman. Although unlike Davy Crockett, there is no folklore that "he kilt him a b'ar when he was only three," it is documented that Boone killed ninety-nine bears in one hunting season! Bear bacon was a major source of food for people on the frontier. Come learn other interesting stories of his life west of the Appalachians.

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## Adult Education Opportunities in October

### Is My Charitable Giving Tax-Wise? Presented by Mark Cereghino & Jenny Jones October 13 - Memorial Hall

Please join us for a presentation by **Mark Cereghino**, CLU, ChFC, and **Jennifer Jones**, CPA, CGMA, who will discuss how to make your charitable gifts tax-wise. With the increase in the standard deduction under the new 2018 tax law, some church members might think they are losing a deduction for their pledge, but there are a number of approved ways to get that deduction back for many of us.

Mark has been a Financial Planner with New York Life for 34 years. Jenny is a CPA and currently is part of the executive team at RubinBrown LLP, a certified public accounting and professional consulting firm. Together, they will give you some simple and easy-to-understand ideas that could improve your tax bill as you continue to make your pledge. Four specific tax-wise strategies for you to consider for your Annual Pledge will be explained.

Mark, who has been the volunteer chair of Legacy Giving for Channel 9 for 11 years, will also share some simple ideas on how to include the church in your estate plan. At least five tax-wise legacy planning strategies will be addressed. Most importantly, the discussion will be clear and understandable.

Throughout the presentation, Mark and Jennifer will address any questions that you might have on these important topics.

## Meaningful Life: Let's Have the Conversation!

Carla Baum, Memorial Hall  
October 20, 2019 - 11:30 to 12:30

Complete an Advance Directive? Isn't that only for older people? I'm healthy. It isn't that important until I get sick. After all, I am sure my family will know what I want.

Such myths keep us from taking a critical step to make our wishes known and honored for our end-of-life decisions. Have you taken the time to put your end-of-life wishes in writing and shared them with your loved ones?

Let's Have the Conversation will provide an overview about making our wishes known and how to begin the process. Each participant will have the opportunity to access the resources of Meaningful Life to complete their Advance Directives. They are encouraged to share their wishes with their key audiences either during this session or subsequently.

Carla Baum, Founder, Principal and Advocate for End-of-Life Conversations, provides resources to educate and support individuals as they consider their end-of-life decisions, complete an Advance Directive, and share with those they respect and love.

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## Organ & Tissue Donation: Love in Action

Rev. Anthony McPherson, Memorial Hall  
October 27, 2019 - 11:30 to 12:30

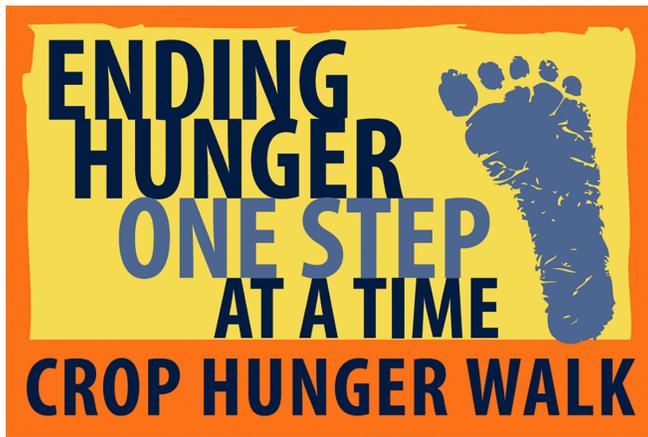
Loving and giving are key actions that bear testimony to a religious life. There are numerous biblical texts that teach the blessedness of giving. Jesus' being the greatest example, who gave His life so that we may receive eternal life (a quality of life) through Him; He chose to sustain life. What better way to emulate this truth in the physical realm than by becoming an organ or tissue donor?

Mid-America Transplant is committed to spreading awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation to increase positive feelings towards donation.

This presentation explores the life-saving and enhancing power of donation and transplantation, by discussing:

- Why organ donation is important
- The number of people waiting
- How organs are allocated
- Some common myths

Rev. Anthony McPherson is a graduate of Eden Theological Seminary and the pastor of Parks Chapel A.M.E. Church in Webster Groves, along with being a Community Engagement Specialist focusing on faith-based outreach for Mid-America Transplant. Rev. McPherson first became connected to organ donation in 2011, after a church member was placed on the wait list.



The 2019 St. Louis CROP Hunger Walk and Concert will be on Sunday, October 6th at Eden Seminary, 475 E. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves. While most of the money raised with the Walk goes to ministries of Church World Service, 25% of each donation is given to local ministries, including Operation Food Search, Circle of Concern, and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Check-in at 4:30 pm, Walk at 5:00 (1-mile and 3-mile routes), and Concert at 7:00 PM. The Holy Crepe Food Truck will also be onsite, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

Register to walk, or sponsor a walker, at the First Church Team Page online at <https://tinyurl.com/y4e72sdy>

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*Eden Seminary presents the 8th annual*

# Festival *of* Psalms

## A Table of Justice and Generosity

Singing serious praise and lament with our hungry world

**Wehrli Chapel at Eden Seminary**  
**Sunday, October 6th 7pm**

Free admission. All are welcome.

Please bring a canned/boxed food donation for local food pantries.  
A CROP Walk offering will be received to end local and global hunger.

Hosted by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan and Clint McCann.

Featuring music by Eden Seminary Choir • Webster United Methodist choir • Eliza Lynn • Mike Atty  
Christopher Grundy • Lisa Pettis • Jacob Nault • Peace UCC Chancel choir • Wendy Bruner  
Will Soll • Camille Pruvost • Wendy Reynolds • Paul Vasile • Kristen Leslie

# Inquirer's Class

On Sunday, October 20 at 2:00PM, Pastor Dave Denoon and the Parish Life Ministry will host an Inquirers Class for newcomers (and those who have been around a while), to learn more about First Church, our beliefs, history, and denomination.

Those who attend this 90-minute session will be encouraged to consider joining the church on Sunday, November 17, or on a later date.



## Neighbors in Need



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects

whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

### **Our Faith, Our Voice, Our Vote**

“Don’t burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don’t quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.”

- Romans 12:12 MSG

In 2018, the Neighbors in Need special mission offering and grant pool committee examined the ways in which it could spotlight, the UCC identity and missional initiative: 3 Great Loves campaign, LOVE OF NEIGHBOR. Emmaus United Church of Christ, in Vienna, Virginia, applied and received a \$3,500 NIN grant to aid them to work for justice within their community.

***We will be collecting on October 6, but will continue to accept donations.***

# October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 AM Willing Workers 2:00 PM Communications Team 6:30 PM Pastoral Relations	2 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing	3 10:00 AM FAITH: Continuing the Search 6:15 PM Canterbury Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	4	5 10:00 AM Worship: Blessing of the Animals 6:00 PM Saturday Night Light: The Jazz of Preaching
6 – <i>Sacrament of Christ's Table</i> <i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>Neighbors in Need Offering</i> 9:00 AM Brown Baggers 9:55 AM Worship 9:55 AM Youth in Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:05 AM Congregational Meeting: Budget 2020 11:20 AM Budget Celebration Luncheon 5:00 PM CROP Walk 7:00 PM Eden Festival of Psalms	7 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	8 9:30 AM Willing Workers 11:00 AM Mary Martha Guild 11:30 AM Devine Diners 6:30 PM Practicing Our Faith	9 9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 6:00 PM Christian Ed. Task Force Planning	10 10:00 AM FAITH: Continuing the Search 6:15 PM Canterbury Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	11	12
13 – <i>Laity Sunday</i> Begin Stewardship Appeal 9:55 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Adult Ed: Cereghino & Jones - Tax-Wise Charitable Giving	14 Columbus Day 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Three Ministries	15 9:00 AM Endowment Counselors Meeting 9:30 AM Willing Workers 7:00 PM Boy Scout Leaders	16 9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 7:00 PM Healing Touch Practice	17 10:00 AM FAITH: Continuing the Search 6:15 PM Canterbury Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	18 6:00 PM Fall Festival with Dinner & A Movie	19
20 9:55 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Adult Ed: Advance Directives	21 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Executive Ministry	22 9:30 AM Willing Workers 7:00 PM Lady Elect	23 9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing	24 8:30 AM Journeymen 10:00 AM FAITH: Continuing the Search 6:15 PM Canterbury Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	25 5:00 PM Room at the Inn 7:30 PM Earth Walk Concert	26
27 Reformation Sunday 9:55 AM Worship 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Adult Ed – Organ and Tissue Donation: Love in Action	28 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	29 9:30 AM Willing Workers	30 9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene 1:00 PM Center for Counseling and Healing	31 10:00 AM FAITH: Continuing the Search		



**FIRST  
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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.



**October Meal-A-Month  
Shopping List**

Canned Chicken & Dumplings (low salt)  
Canned Green Vegetable  
(low or no salt)  
Canned Fruit in own juices  
Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk  
Whole Wheat Flour, Peanut Butter  
Real Fruit Jelly, Dried Fruits

**Missing Someone?**

Have you been missing someone for a while from worship  
and other church events?

Please, let Pastor Dave Denoon or Parish Life Chair know.  
Either will be happy to follow up for you.

