

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves

United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

SUNDAY AFTER SIMCHAT TORAH



Jewish Musicians by David Schneuer

We respond to God's call by welcoming everyone regardless of ability, age, ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or socio-economic background.

To proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ, we affirm that all may share in the full life, ministry, fellowship, responsibilities and blessing of our congregation.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates that worshipers are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

Please, take advantage of the Friendship Pad (black booklet at one end of your pew), to let us know you were here, filling in blanks as completely as you wish.

If you would like a personal joy or concern read aloud and you are at home, you may text 314-858-6710, or fill out a prayer card, found in the pew box.

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME

Joan Musbach, *Announcer*

PRELUDE

Hey Fever

Klezundheit!

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Leader; **People**)

from Psalm 119

Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk according to the Torah of God;

Happy are they who observe God's decrees and who seek God with all their hearts.

We want to be firm in keeping God's statutes.

Let us give thanks with upright hearts for we are learning the just ordinances of the Holy One.

*RAISING THE COVENANT (Unison)

Covenant of 1977

We who are called of God into this Christian community covenant together: to seek to know the will of God, to experience the joy and struggle of discipleship, to proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ, and to work for peace and justice among all people. We trust God's promise of grace and forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our trials and rejoicing.

*GATHERING HYMN

Simchas Torah Song

Klezundheit!

Refrain.

Oy, oy, oy, oy, oy
Fraylek kinder oat asoy
Rendlek fallen fun dee zek
Fraylek on ah nek.

***PRAYER OF APPROACH (Unison)**

God of word and wonder, we hear you still speaking through familiar promises and new inspiration. This has caused us to reflect that, at times, we have disregarded your commandments and expectations and followed our own advice, leaving pain or hardship in our wake, or failing to change what ought to have been corrected. Remind us here and now of promises you have made, afar and past, which still apply and offer hope. By your grace, forgive our missteps, and cause us to dance in your light. Then, in this place and in this time we will rejoice in your truth, thankful for your Word. Amen.

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

The children are invited forward for a time of enrichment.

Afterward, they may proceed to Kids' Church, or return to their seats.

THE WORD SHARED

Joan Musbach

From the Prophets

Jeremiah 31:31-34 New Revised Standard Version, ad.

“The days are surely coming,” says the HOLY ONE, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their spouse,” says the HOLY ONE.

“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the HOLY ONE: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the HOLY ONE,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” says the HOLY ONE; “for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.”

From the Epistles

2 Timothy 3:14-17

NRSV

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

From the Gospels

Matthew 5:17-19

The Scholars' Version*

[Jesus said,] “Don’t imagine that I have come to annul the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to annul but to fulfill. I swear to you, before the world disappears, not one iota, not one serif, will disappear from the

Law, until it's all over. Whoever ignores one of the most trivial of these regulations, and teaches others to do so, will be called trivial in Heaven's domain. But whoever acts on (these regulations) and teaches (others to do so), will be called great in Heaven's domain."

Response.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* Funk, Robert W. & Hoover, Roy W. *The Five Gospels*. New York: McMillan. 1993.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY "*Progressive Christian Primer, Part 8: Why and How to Read the Bible*" Rev. David Denoon,
Pastor

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Share Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS

Invitation

Offertory Music

Mark's Hora

Klezundheit!

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

Bless our gifts, O God, as we present them to others for the good of your will, the manifestation of your Word, and the repairing of your world. Amen.

***HYMN OF PARTING**

Ale Brider

Klezundheit!

Refrain.

Oy!

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Klezmaniacs

Klezundheit!

Thank you to our guests in person and our friends online, for joining us for worship. A special thanks to Klezundheit! for providing us a joyful feast of music and singing and dancing.

If you are worshiping here in the sanctuary, please plan to stay for Coffee Fellowship, which will be served in the Memorial Hall at the south end of the building. Used busy boxes may be left on the table next to the coat room, for restoring before their next use.

Our worship has ended. Let our service begin.

~~~~~

Sunday worship each week is shared in person for those who wish to attend and streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10:00am ([bit.ly/FCCWG-YT](https://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT)).

***Please wear a mask in the Sanctuary and in the halls. Masking and distancing are optional in Memorial Hall.***

**Thank you to this Week's Hospitality Team**

Jacquie Bryant, Liu Lin Theo, Rosemary Hensley, Tom Waltz, Sharon Love, and Carolyn Woodsmall

**Thank you to Klezundheit! Members**

Robert Herman, Mastermind and Director

Flute/Piccolo - Andrea Clark | Clarinet - Jeff Collins

Alto Sax - Hannah W. | Trumpet - Tom Bruce

Trombone - Bob Miller

Violins - Matt Pickart, Jane Price, Lauren Buchsbaum, John Samet

Bass - Jennifer Husky | Drums - Gene Raucher | Piano - Jocelyn Rugaber

**Adult Ed Opportunity**

**Today at 11:15 am – Memorial Hall**

The Rev. Derek Bastian, new Executive Director of Webster Rock Hill Ministries, will update us on the status and upcoming events at the Ministries. First Church has had a productive, mutually enjoyable and fulfilling relationship with the Ministries for several decades now, so this should be a very interesting and welcome update.

**Thank you from the Laurel Hayes and Bill Barrett**

Dear FCC friends,

Thank you so much for helping to keep us afloat during a challenging period. We so appreciate the help in weeding the garden, moving laundry baskets, and getting to a doctor's appointment. The meals people brought not only made life easier, but they were a comforting reminder that we are not alone. We were very touched that several people drove a long way to bring us food. As Laurel had not been a member of FCC very long before the pandemic, we've enjoyed meeting some helpers and getting to know others better. We look forward to rejoining you in worship once Laurel can walk again. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings,  
Laurel Hayes and Bill Barrett

**Electronic Device Users**

If you wish to access our wi-fi, our network connections are: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3. The password for each is firstchurch.

**The Rose on the Table in the Sanctuary**

is in celebration of Macie John Saavedra, born on September 20.

Daughter of Celia Rudolph Saavedra and Eric Saavedra and granddaughter of Nancy Rudolph.

## **Finding Your Way at First Church**

**The Nursery:** The Nursery is attended today. The Nursery is located through the double doors at the end of the Narthex (foyer), turn left. Nursery/Toddler Room is on your right (Dutch doors).

**Restrooms:** Family restrooms are located to the right of the Narthex (foyer) as you go to the Library (look for the blue library banner) and to the left of the Narthex just before the double doors.

## **We Hold in Our Prayers**

- Our residents in assisted living and skilled care – Sharon Beal, Shirley Chase, Joyce Berger, Paul Davis, Margery Gable, Charles Griffith, Bill & Shirley Moore
- Nancy Isringhaus-Duvall's upcoming surgery
- All people who are living with dementia, their families, and their caregivers – Bob Buerk and others
- People we love who are living with cancer – Bill Barrett, Margaret Gustafson, Peter McHugh
- Health concerns in the Hayes family
- All those the world regards as disabled – especially David & Becky Scott
- People with mental illnesses, as well as the people who love and care for them
- People who are alone or ill due to Covid-19
- Those whose employment and businesses are at risk
- First responders and their loved ones
- For our governmental leaders, and for healing for our country and all its people
- Peace with justice

## **Wonder and Wander**

**New webinar discussion began on September 23 at 8:00 pm**

**The topic for September 30 will be “Scripture and You”**

“Wonder and Wander” is a new webinar-style gathering for spiritual misfits and anyone interested in exploring faith beyond borders that no longer work for them. Join Dave Denoon, Halley Kim, Merrimon Boyd, and special guests on Thursdays at 8:00 pm starting September 23 on Zoom for a fun and enlightening conversation about reimagining faith. Use the following url / link to register: <https://bit.ly/JehovahJive>

If you miss one of the webinars, you can find them on our YouTube channel at: [bit.ly/FCCWG-YT](https://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT)

## **Dine for Mental Health on September 28**

On September 28, Katie's Pizza & Pasta Osteria is giving Care and Counseling 100% of the profit! Order some delicious food at the Rock Hill location (9568 Manchester Road) and you'll help provide high quality, affordable mental health services to those in our community. No special mention required. Learn more at [www.careandcounseling.org](http://www.careandcounseling.org).

## **Lady Elect Kicks Off the '21-'22 Season with a Potluck Meeting!**

**Tuesday, September 28 at 6:30 PM in Memorial Hall**

**Bring you favorite salad, side, entree, or dessert**

***All are welcome!***

Voluntary yearly dues of \$20 may be paid to Judy Borutta at the meeting.

Please bring your own wine glass.

RSVP to Laura Cooper or Judy Borutta

## **Fresh Pecans Coming Soon!**

This year, the profit made from the sale of our wonderful, fresh pecans will go towards our Second Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Party in the Jubilee Garden. Please email Debbie in the office and let her know how many bags you would like her to save for you. *More information to follow.*

## **How to Donate to First Congregational Church**

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex.

Send a check made out to FCCWG at:

First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

10 W. Lockwood Ave.

Webster Groves, MO 63119

or visit the Donate page on our website at: <http://firstchurchwg.org/donate>  
to make an electronic contribution

## **Aid for Afghan Refugees**

The Benevolence Committee and concerned members of the Congregation are combining efforts for the benefit of Afghan refugees. You are encouraged to provide assistance also – financial, material, and voluntary aid. We will be working with the International Institute of St. Louis. This is a developing program. Please watch your weekly eNews and bulletins where information will be posted about how you can help.

## **Relief for Haiti**

It is difficult to imagine where to begin to help Haiti, but Church World Service - the mission partner we support through One Great Hour of Sharing and the CROP Walk - is intervening with supplies and personnel.

If you would like to contribute to CWS relief efforts, please consider a gift. You can give directly through their website - <https://cwsglobal.org/donate/haiti-2021>. Or you can send a check payable to:

First Congregational Church

10 W. Lockwood Ave.

Webster Groves, MO 63119

Include the word “**Haiti**” in the memo line.

## **Meal-A-Month September Shopping List**

*(Please leave donations in boxes in Narthex)*

Beef Stew • Canned Carrots (low or no salt) • Canned Fruit in own juices • Cornbread Mix (no eggs)  
Powdered Milk • Shelf Stable Milk • Soy Milk • Toothbrushes • Tooth Paste • Dental Floss

## **This Week at First Congregational Church**

### **Sunday, September 26**

9:00 AM Nursery Care Available - Preschool Room

10:00 AM Worship - Sanctuary

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship - Memorial Hall

11:05 AM Dementia Support Group

### **Monday, September 27**

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301B - Memorial Hall

### **Tuesday, September 28**

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

7:00 PM Lady Elect – Memorial Hall

### **Wednesday, September 29**

9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

### **Thursday, September 30**

6:15 PM Canterbury Bells Practice - Sanctuary

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301G - Parlor

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice - Sanctuary

8:00 PM "Wonder and Wander" webinar - Zoom

(<https://bit.ly/JehovahJive>)

### **Friday, October 1**

6:00 PM Vigil for Black Lives - East Parking Lot

### **Saturday, October 2**

7:00 PM Drag Queen Bingo fundraiser for Gateway  
ONA - Zoom

## September Birthdays

Laura Cooper 3rd  
Bob Moody 4th  
Bob Borutta 5th  
Doug Miller 6th  
Jeff McCoy 7th  
Megan Miller 13th  
Nancy Rudolph 13th  
Chip Isringhaus 14th

Annie Warner 16th  
Jacob Getz 18th  
James Jaeger 18th  
Sarah McHugh 18th  
Mark Cereghino 20th  
Debbie Tolstoi 20th  
Elaine Coe 22nd  
Jane Porchey 24th

BJ Kaul 25th  
Philip Roush 25th  
Kedra Tolson 26th  
Janice Aerie 28th  
Jennifer Gomez 28th  
Lynn Hoganson 28th  
Beatrice Byrne 29th  
Herb Niemeyer 30th

---

## NEIGHBORS IN NEED, OCTOBER 3

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.

In 2021, Neighbors in Need “Unfailing Love” offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities. 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 provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

We will receive the NIN offering on October 3, 2021, as part of our World Communion Sunday observance. If you would like to make a donation in advance, please go to the Donate page of our website (<https://FirstChurchWG.org/donate>) and find “Neighbors in Need” in the drop down menu, or send a check payable to the church with “NIN” written in the memo line.

## A Tiny House Aims to Provide Big Solutions for South Carolina LGBTQ Community

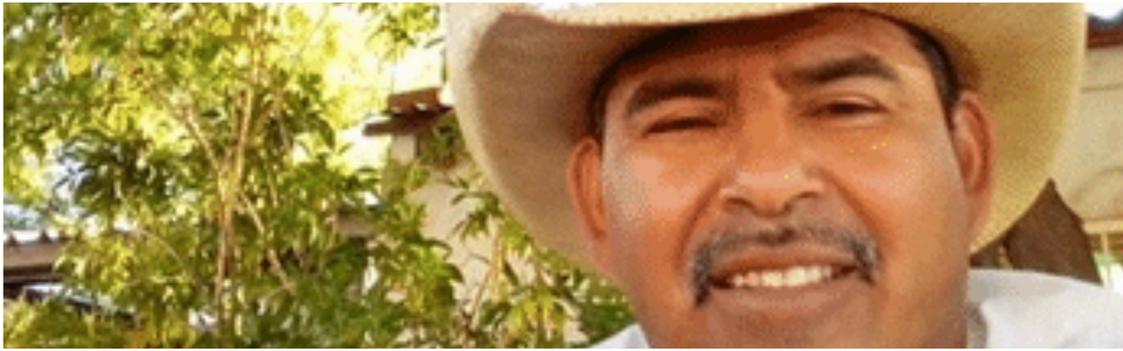
by Bentley deBardelaben-Phillips | published on Jul 27, 2021



When LGBTQ individuals near the campus of Clemson University, in the areas of upstate South Carolina unexpectedly find themselves without a home or a place to feel safe, Peace Congregational United Church of Christ will be ready to meet them.

Congregation members and the Clemson community are working side-by-side in the design and construction of a tiny house, a mobile residency for a person in the LGBTQ community who is no longer welcome at home. The \$20,000 project is in progress with the help of a \$10,000 Grasstop Grant

from UCC Justice and Witness Ministries. The first occupant could be ready to find refuge there in January.



## Hope Station Nogales to Provide Reverse Sanctuary to Deportees in Mexico

by Bentley deBardelaben-Phillips | published on Jul 27, 2021

A United Church of Christ sanctuary church offering immigrants refuge in the Arizona borderlands will soon be offering a place of hospitality, support and hope on the Mexican side of the border for people who find themselves deported from the United States. The Shadow Rock UCC Sanctuary Action Team and the Rev. Ken Heintzelman, in an extension of the spirit and intent of their ministry of sanctuary in Phoenix, are in the process of establishing Hope Station Nogales, in Sonora, Mexico.

The thought is Hope Station, which was funded in part by a \$10,000 grant from Neighbors in Need, can be a place of transition, a place where people who are deported but have family in the U.S. can find a meal, safe lodging and assistance.

## Houston Teens Learn Wage Activism from Working Adults Like Them

by Bentley deBardelaben-Phillips | published on Jul 27, 2021

This summer, with a grant from the United Church of Christ's Neighbors in Need offering, 24 high school students from an economically challenged Houston neighborhood learned about activism and carried out a local campaign for a \$15 minimum-wage law.

The idea came from the basic insight that many Houston residents find it hard to make ends meet, especially workers in fast-food and other service industries. The Rev. Darnell Fennell serves some of those people in both his callings. He is pastor of Just Love Church, affiliated with the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He also teaches high school social studies.



With a background in community organizing, Fennell knows people don't have to sit still for economic injustice. He knows the wider UCC feels the same, as seen in statements such as a 2017 General Synod resolution, "A More Just Economy: \$15 Minimum Wage, Living Wages and Job Creation." So he sought the NIN grant to introduce young people to local activists in the national Fight for \$15 wage campaign and involve them in learning by doing.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING  
**COALITION**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



# 2ND ANNUAL DRAG QUEEN BINGO

**AllianceQ**  
Disciples of LGBTQ+ Alliance

TO BENEFIT THE  
OPEN & AFFIRMING  
COALITION OF THE  
UNITED CHURCH OF  
CHRIST

HOSTED BY  
GATEWAY O.N.A

FREE WILL OFFERING ALSO  
AVAILABLE FOR THE OPEN &  
AFFIRMING COALITION OF THE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST &  
ALLIANCEQ OF THE CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



## OCTOBER 2, 2021

6:30-8:30PM CST

\$25.00 Registration Fee

Register by September 28, 2021 at :

<http://www.gatewayona.com/bingo-fundraiser-2021.html>

Each registrant will receive 5 Bingo Cards via email. Drag Queen Bingo will be conducted via Zoom. Each person will need a unique email address per registration.

For Addition Information, contact Melissa at [mhattman@att.net](mailto:mhattman@att.net) or call 314-443-4277

MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDARS!



2nd Annual

## PORCHFEST

webster groves mo

A FUN, WALKABLE LIVE MUSIC EVENT  
NORTH WEBSTER NEIGHBORHOOD  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 1 - 5 PM



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314-962-0475  
[www.FirstChurchWG.org](http://www.FirstChurchWG.org)

## Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach  
[JWMusbach@gmail.com](mailto:JWMusbach@gmail.com)

Pastor – Rev. David A. Denoon  
[DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org)

Pastoral Assistant – Halley Kim  
[Halley.Kim@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Halley.Kim@FirstChurchWG.org)

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi  
[Admin@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Admin@FirstChurchWG.org)

Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke  
[Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org)

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus  
[cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org)

Custodian – Darrell Lakies

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity  
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie  
[cliff.aerie@gmail.com](mailto:cliff.aerie@gmail.com)

Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
Webster University – Rev. Laurel Hayes  
[laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net)

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing  
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I  
[lesrhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lesrhs@sbcglobal.net)

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

## Follow us on

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/FirstChurchWG/](http://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchWG/)

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchwg/>

YouTube

<http://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT>

