

# Welcome!

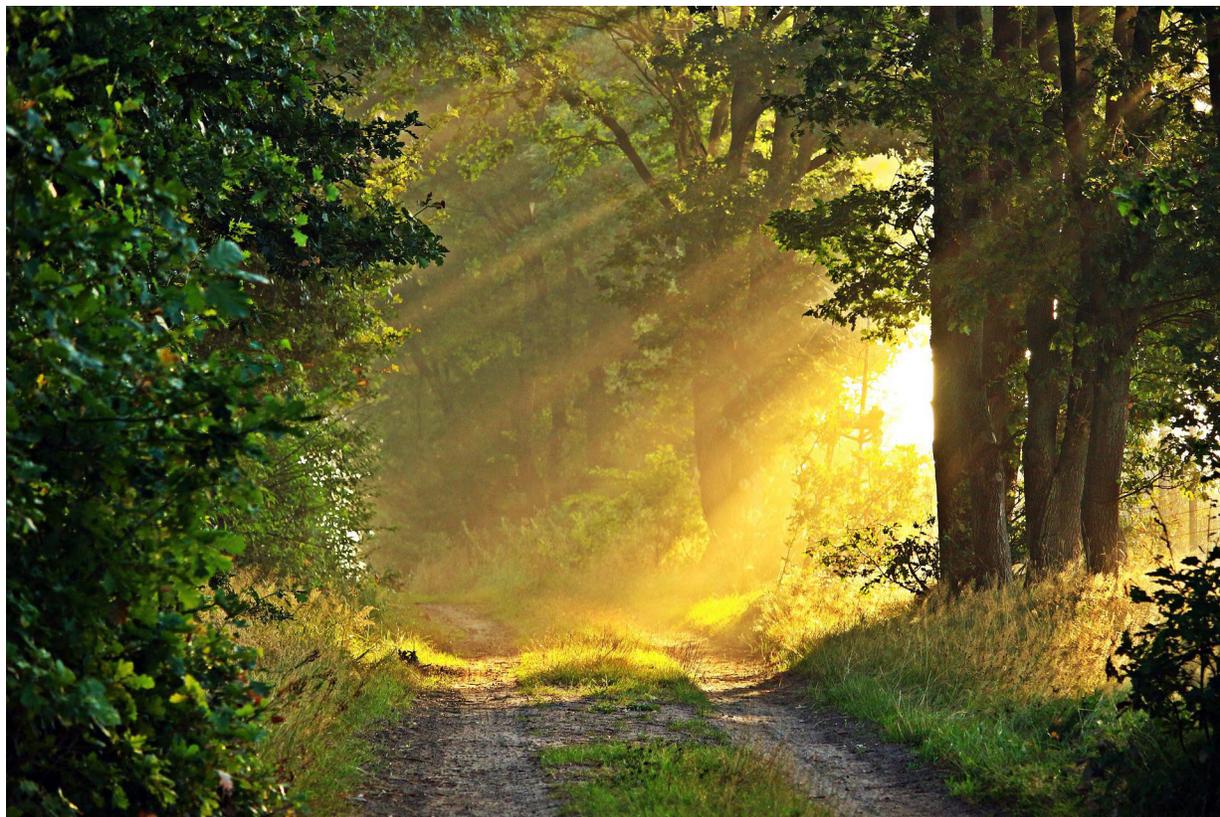
First Congregational Church of Webster Groves  
United Church of Christ



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

JULY 17, 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*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 the Congregation standing, in body or in spirit.*

**PRELUDE** *All Glory Be to God on High* Johann Pachelbel

**WELCOME** Jane Porchey, *Liturgist*

**TOLLING OF THE BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

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

**Leader:** Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light for my path.

**People:** **By your words I can see where I am going, they throw a beam of light on my dark path. We gather to hear the words of life. We leave this place to shine a light on the paths of others and to speak wonderful words of life.**

*\*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**

*Sing Them Over Again to Me*

No. 319

*New Century Hymnal*

**RITUAL OF APPROACH**

*We Share Our Stories Before God*

*Silence for Personal Confession*

*Prayer of Confession* (Unison)

**God, you know our struggles. At times, many things seem impossible to bear, yet we find that we learn from them and even grow. Personal struggles often become pathways to help others in need. You even recycle our mistakes or regrets into transformative assets that we take on our journeys. We feel your presence in those times and feel gratitude for that. We pray that we are given opportunities to walk with each other in difficult times, and the insight to recognize the redemptive potential in our trials. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

**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**

*From the Prophets*

Amos 8:1-12

Pew Bible, p. 840

*Response.*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

*When You Walk Through a Storm* Rodgers and Hammerstein

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

*"Words of Life"*

Rev. Sue Leary

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We Lift Our Joys and Concerns* (text 314-858-6710)

*Prayer of the Day*

*Prayer of Our Savior* (Unison)

**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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.**

**\*PARTING HYMN**

*Jesus the Light of the World*

No. 160

**OPPORTUNITIES ARISING**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Hymn to Joy*

Beethoven arr. John Carter

*New Century Hymnal*

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

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex. Send a check made payable to FCCWG at:

First Congregational Church

10 W. Lockwood Ave. | Webster Groves, MO 63119

Visit <http://firstchurchwg.org/donate> to make an electronic contribution or scan the QR code at right.



**Would you like to serve as a Liturgist in an upcoming worship service**, and to tell a story of your own during the Ritual of Approach? If so, please take advantage of a signup sheet in the Church Office (on a wall-mounted clipboard) or online at <https://bit.ly/FCCWG-Liturgist>.)

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

### **Wi-Fi Info**

Wi-Fi: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3.

Password: firstchurch.

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

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

**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, Joyce Berger, Paul Davis, Margery Gable, Shirley Moore
- All people who are living with dementia, their families, and their caregivers
- People we love who are living with cancer – Margaret Gustafson
- Leo Gomez
- David and Becky Scott
- People with mental illnesses, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

### **Last Benevolence Event!**

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/benevolence-2022>

**Summer Garden Party, Saturday, August 12, 6:00PM.** Rosemary Hensley's annual backyard gathering, with flowers and refreshments that make the "dog days of summer" cheerful. Donation: \$30 per person.

### **"Freeing Jesus" Sermon Series Book Study**

What does it mean to know Jesus? Is the Jesus you know today different than the Jesus you knew years ago? Does Jesus evolve alongside us? "*Freeing Jesus*," the newest book by Diana Butler Bass, invites us to liberate Jesus and free ourselves when it comes to the ever-compelling and yet often-elusive figure at the center of Christian faith."

Halley will kick off a sermon series on Diana Butler Bass' newest book "Freeing Jesus" on July 31st. After her introduction, Dave will preach 7 sermons that cover the different ways of perceiving Jesus in Bass' memoir: Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, Presence, and Universal Jesus. We will be purchasing books for those who would like to read along during our series and enrich their spiritual experience. We will also be hosting discussions of the book and sermons during Coffee Hour. If you would like First Church to purchase a copy for you, please email Halley at [halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org)

### **Red Cross Blood Drive – August 6th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**\*\*We need volunteers for this event! There will be two shifts for the blood drive. Please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/red-cross-blood-drive> to help!\*\***

- Blood donation saves lives. It helps accident & burn victims, those undergoing heart surgery & organ transplants, & cancer patients. Someone needs blood every 2 seconds in the US.
- If you are at least 110lbs, in decently good health, & are at least 16 years old, *you can donate!*
- A Red Cross representative will join us during Coffee Hour on the 24th to answer your questions about donating blood.

The blood drive will be held in Memorial Hall. Walk-ins are welcome, but online registration is preferred. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/8-6-red-cross> to sign up. (Make sure to click on our listing.)

For additional information please contact Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim at First Church by calling (314) 962-0475 ex 12 or by emailing [halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org).

### **School Supply Drive for WRHM**

**August 6th from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (concurrent with blood drive)**

We are pleased to partner with Webster Rock Hill Ministries once again, this time by providing school supplies for their Back-to-School Backpack Program.

In the weeks leading up to the start of school, WRHM distributes backpacks to students in need of school supplies. These backpacks are filled with grade-level appropriate materials, including notebooks, paper, pencils, pens, crayons, three-ring binders, and much more. Students in advanced classes may also receive calculators or other course specific material. During the school year, WRHM has supplies available to replenish any needed materials.

This will be a drive-thru style event. They encourage donors to turn into the parking lot from Lockwood Ave., drop off their items to church volunteers, and then exit by turning on to Elm Ave.

**\*\* We need volunteers for this event too! Please use the same Sign Up Genius link as above: <https://tinyurl.com/red-cross-blood-drive> to sign up and help out! \*\***

### **Medical Leave**

Pastor Dave Denoon will be on medical leave, July 14-31. For pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim at 314-962-0475, ext. 12.

## Time to pitch in to help our church community!

- Pastor Dave is having hip surgery on July 15th and will be on medical leave through August 1st. Please sign up at <https://www.carecalendar.org/logon/304955> to bring the Denoon family a meal during his recovery! (Use code 7327 to access the site.)
- Gavin Barrett, Laurel Hayes' son, is moving into a new college dorm and he needs 1-2 helpers to lift & carry boxes. This move needs to occur between Monday, July 25th and Wednesday, July 27th. Email Halley at [halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org) if you can help Gavin!

## The Peace and Justice team says, **OUTRAGED? Get ENGAGED!**

- Sign up to promote Yes for WG Schools (Prop S) (<https://www.yesforwgschools.com/>) at Hudson Elementary (<https://tinyurl.com/props-hudson>) or Givens Elementary (<https://tinyurl.com/props-given>) for the August 2nd Primary.
- DONATE to abortion funds (<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fundabortionnow>) to keep services accessible and affordable to as many people as possible.
- LISTEN to “Abortion: Family Meeting on Four Things To Do Next,” a podcast episode on “We Can Do Hard Things.” (<http://wecandohardthingspodcast.com/>)
- SIGN this petition at (<https://tinyurl.com/yj2xfkda>) to send to your elected officials to demand Congress enact federal abortion protections.
- SHARE your story at the ACLU website, (<https://tinyurl.com/share-story>) either of having an abortion, being denied an abortion, or being an activist or healthcare provider.
- The Peace and Justice team is working on opportunities for you to help "get out the vote" (registering new voters, driving people to the polls, etc). STAY TUNED!

**The Peace and Justice team meets monthly, on the fourth Monday. Join them for their next gathering, Monday, July 25, at 7:00pm on Zoom. Email Pastor Dave at [ddenoon@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:ddenoon@firstchurchwg.org) or Halley Kim at [halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org) for the meeting ID.**

## What's Going on at First Church This Week

### Sunday, July 17

**Worship led by Rev. Sue Leary**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

### Sunday, July 24

**Worship led by Rev. Cliff Aerie with the Oikos Ensemble**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

### Wednesday, July 20

**9:30 AM** Yoga - Inglis Room

**6:00 PM** Bridge Club - Inglis Room



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)

Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
Webster University – Rev. Dr. 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.*

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YouTube

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

