

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

AUGUST 21, 2022



BE LOVED.
BE KIND.
BE YOU.

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.

example for living, and we do our best to follow his lead. Even so, there have been times when we have hurt others rather than healed, or our faith became a matter of repetition rather than of creative mercy. Forgive us, we pray, and help us forgive ourselves and one another. We want to work with you, establishing a compassionate world in the name and Spirit of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Words of Assurance

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

The children are invited forward for a time of enrichment.

Afterward, they may proceed to Sunday School classes, or return to their seats.

THE WORD SHARED

From the Epistles

Galatians 2:16, 19-20

tr. Denoon

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus

trad. arr. H. T. Burleigh

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Jesus Saves"

Rev. Denoon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

a new translation

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts that we absorb from another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

L. F. Benson

No. 51, *New Century Hymnal*

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Voluntary on "Praise be to God"

Robert Lind

During the Postlude, we encourage you to greet those around you safely, or to remain at your seat to enjoy the music until it has ended. In the spirit of diversity, please be attentive to the possibility that one who is seated may be meditating. When you are ready, please enjoy refreshments in Memorial Hall.

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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.



Wi-Fi Info

Wi-Fi: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3

Password for all: firstchurch.

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).

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.

Ice Cream Social Today after Worship!

Following worship today we will have our annual **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** in Memorial Hall. Parish Life Ministry has supplied the ice cream. Join us for some cool refreshments and fellowship.

Caring Parade Sign Up — August 28th at 2pm

The Caring Parade is quickly approaching! Please sign up to drive at:

<https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-drivers> or to be a “parade buddy” at

<https://tinyurl.com/parade-buddies> for a homebound church member. This event is heavily dependent on volunteers, so **we need your help to make it happen!**

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 & Becky Scott
- People with mental illnesses, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

“Freeing Jesus” Sermon Series and 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 invites us to liberate Jesus & free ourselves when it comes to the ever-compelling & yet often-elusive figure at the center of Christian faith."

Dave will preach 7 sermons that cover the different ways of perceiving Jesus that Bass describes: Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, Presence, and Universal Jesus. **Please pick up your book from Halley or Dave.** We will also be hosting discussions of the book and sermons during Coffee Hour, Sundays, August 7 - September 18.

FCCWG Swag

Show your FCCWG pride by wearing a t-shirt with our logo! You'll be encouraged to wear this shirt when volunteering for events such as the First Saturday drive-thru collections and the Vehicle Fair.

Shirts will be offered in Men's sizes XS-3X and Women's sizes S-3X.

Not sure what size you need? No problem! You can view the t-shirts after worship the next couple of weeks, A member of First Friends will be available to help you. (*The shirts look like they run a little small.*) There will be an order form available in the Narthex. Shirts will be sold for \$15. If you didn't sign up, contact Debbie at admin@firstchurchwg.org once you know what size you would need.

Wish Upon a Cloud: Funding Off-Budget Projects

We are seeking to purchase two 85" Smart TVs for the sanctuary, to enhance our worship experience. These TVs will project relevant images and information during worship services, and can be used for other events in the sanctuary. The cost for these are approximately \$2,800.00. You can donate as little or as much as you like! See the Wish Upon a Cloud display board for more information.

Wish Upon a Cloud gives us the opportunity to purchase items that are not in our budget. For more information, grab a form off the board in the Narthex, or visit the Wish Upon a Cloud page (<https://firstchurchwg.org/donate/wuac/>) on our website.

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

- Get trained to help North St. Louis City residents obtain photo ID (<https://ashreifoundation.org/event/photoidtrain-aug/>) in order to vote in November! "Join the Ashrei Foundation in a community-based effort to ensure all eligible residents in North St. Louis City are able to obtain a valid Missouri photo identification card." *This in-person training is free!*
- Sign up to be notified when there's a need for GOTV postcards at <https://tinyurl.com/moms-gotv>.
- Reach out to a candidate for state representative or state senator and help them canvass – ***it's not just federal offices that matter!***
- We are working with the local group "Churches Together for Justice" to get out the vote before the general election. STAY TUNED!

The Peace & Justice Team meets on the 4th Monday of each month. Plan to join us this Monday, August 22nd at 7pm on Zoom at:

<https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-peace-justice>.

**First Church is collecting all kinds of period supplies to donate to the
St Louis Alliance for Period Supplies**

Period poverty - or the lack of access to an adequate supply of menstrual products - is an indignity experienced by More than 1 in 5 low-income women in St. Louis report facing this problem every month.

What is Needed

**light tampons • regular tampons • super tampons • super-plus tampons
liners • regular pads • super pads • overnight pads • poise pads • menstrual cups
disks • underwear • first period kits • misc.**

Please leave donations in the box in the Narthex. You may also send a check directly to St. Louis Area Diaper Bank at:

6141 Etzel Ave. | Saint Louis, MO 63110

Please put **Alliance for Period Supplies** on the memo line.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Welnick.

World Peace Concert – A Celebration of Peace, Love & Harmony

Webster Groves Garden Café "Backstage"

Saturday, September 10 from 6 PM to 9 PM Under the Stars

The Following 9 Outstanding Performers will each Play a 20 Minute Set

Perfect Strangers • Northbound Train • Whiskey Club Band • Home Remedy
Mass Eclectic • Catching the Westbound • John Culver Wilson • Posey Lulu • Will Soll

Free and Open to the Community

Food and Beverages will be Available for Sale in the Café

Come and Give Peace a Chance!

What's Going on at First Church

Sunday, August 21

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship/Ice Cream Social

11:20 AM "Freeing Jesus" Discussion— Inglis Room

Monday, August 22

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301B & 301G

7:00 PM Peace & Justice Team

Tuesday, August 23

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 24

~~**9:30 AM** NO Yoga—Inglis Room~~

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Sunday, August 28

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM "Freeing Jesus" Discussion – Inglis Room

2:00 PM Caring Parade



10 West Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-0475
www.FirstChurchWG.org

Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach
JWMusbach@gmail.com

Pastor – Rev. David A. Denoon
DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org

Pastoral Assistant – Halley Kim
Halley.Kim@FirstChurchWG.org

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi
Admin@FirstChurchWG.org

Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke
Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus
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

Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry
Webster University – Rev. Dr. Laurel Hayes
laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I
lesrhs@sbcglobal.net

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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YouTube

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

