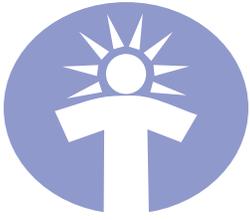
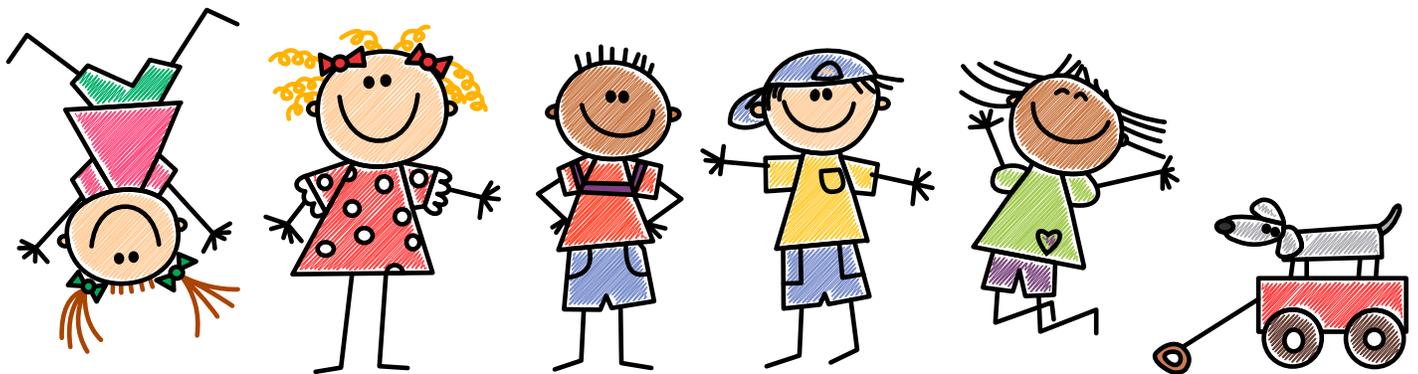


First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

OCTOBER 2, 2022
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
KIDS LEAD WORSHIP



*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 *Blue Boat Home* Peter Mayer

TOLLING OF THE BELL Gabe Cohen

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES Phoebe Kim

WELCOME / CALL TO WORSHIP *A Church for All* Gayle Pitman
Led by Trina Hill & Ruby Cohen

Sunday waking, day is breaking,

Let's go to our church for all!

Church bells ringing, joyful noises, choir singing, laughing voices,

Candles glowing, banners flowing,

Come enter our church for all!

Weary and healthy, neat and messy, poor and wealthy, plain and dressy,

All embracing, Spirit gracing,

Each one at our church for all!

Bodies wiggling, mommies reading, children giggling, daddies pleading,

Toddlers flailing, babies WAILING:

There's room at our church for all!

Hands receiving, hands connecting, hearts believing, hearts accepting,

Feel the Spirit, can you hear it?

It's here at our church for all!

***RAISING THE COVENANT (Unison)** *Covenant of 1977*
Led by Elyse Von Weise

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** *The Greatest Commandment* Porter's Gate

Part A: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind,
and love your neighbor as yourself. (twice)

Part B: Let us be known, let us be known, by the way we love. (twice)

All: Love, love, love, the greatest commandment is love. (twice)

RITUAL OF APPROACH Rev. David Denoon, Liturgist
Story

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God who guides us into true knowledge, we ask you to forgive us, because it has not been unusual for us to underestimate each other or to be bothered by others who do not behave or learn the same way that we do. Help us to accept each other and to love one another in all our variety, as you love us. Embrace us, remind us, as Jesus did whom we remember as we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BIRTH OF A CHILD (Dedication)

Mila Kiden Falconer

Address

Presentation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Naming the Child

Covenant of the Parents and Congregation

**Congregational Assent (Unison)*

We are the family of Christ, the community in which we grow in faith and commitment. We of the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, United Church of Christ, rejoice to take Mila under our care. We will support you and go with you as workers together in Christ Jesus and heirs of Christ's promise. Amen.

Blessing

Presentation of the Child to the Congregation

Dedication Anthem

We Are Carol Maillard / Ysaye Barnwell
Sung by Chancel Choir

For each child that's born
A morning star rises and sings
To the universe who we are...

We are our grandmothers' prayers.
We are our grandfathers' dreamings.
We are the breath of the ancestors.
We are the Spirit of God.

We are mothers of courage, fathers of time,
Daughters of dust, sons of great visions,
We're sisters of mercy, brothers of love,
Lovers of life and builders of nations.

We are seekers of truth and keepers of faith,
Makers of peace, wisdom of ages.
We are one.

Presentation of Gifts

Prayer

THE WORD SHARED

Matthew 13:31-32
Read by Maggie Hill

Pew Bible, p. 890

Jesus told the people a story: “God’s kingdom is like a mustard seed that a farmer plants in their field. It is the smallest of all seeds. But when it grows, it is the largest of all garden plants. It becomes a tree big enough for the birds to come and make nests in its branches.”

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

NOT FOR ADULTS ONLY

Introduced by Gabe and Phoebe Kim

Readers: Francis Byrne, Braxton Falconer, Ethan Falconer

ANTHEM

Open Our Eyes

Rain for Roots

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST’S TABLE

Prayers of Intercession (Joys and Concerns)

Ruby and Gabe Cohen

*Worshipers are invited to contribute their prayers,
stating who or what they are praying for: “For...”*

*As each prayer concludes, a leader says, “God in your mercy,”
and the Congregation responds, “Hear our prayer.”*

Invitation

*The Pastor expresses an invitation to everyone, to participate in communion as they
feel drawn to do. Bread is gluten-free; wine is white; grape juice is red.*

Prayer of Consecration

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. Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Communion

*The sacrament will be served from three stations including
a supervising adult and one child with cups of bread (gluten-free)
and another with cups of juice (red) and wine (white).*

Please, go to the station of your choice.

*If you are unable to get to a communion station, please indicate this to an usher,
and one of the stations will bring the elements to you.*

*Prayer after Communion (Unison)

**You have come to us – our Way, our Truth, our Life – in the
simpleness and splendor of this holy meal. Send us forth,
rejoicing, with our siblings in faith, to share your abundant love
and grace with all we meet. Amen.**

*PARTING HYMN *It's Love That Makes the World Go 'Round* Andy Wilson

Refrain:

It's love that makes the world go round
Jesus is where true love is found
Let his love shine through you to brighten up the world
C'mon everybody we can make a difference, every boy and girl

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

*BENEDICTION *Go Now in Peace* Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

POSTLUDE *It's Love That Makes the World Go 'Round (Reprise)* Andy Wilson

Singing Groups

Group 1

Gabe Kim
Phoebe Kim
Tabitha Kim
Trina Hill
*Maggie Hill
Elle Polaske
*Emily Polaske
*Nina Thompson

Group 2

Ruby Cohen
Gabe Cohen
Cam Mocabee
Cooper Mocabee
Warner Prange
*Elyse Von Weise
*Francis Byrne
*Noel Burke

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Connecting Remotely to Worship

Sunday worship each week is streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10am (bit.ly/FCCWG-YT).

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 accompanying QR code.

Wi-Fi Info

Recommended: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3

Password for all: 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, Jan & Katy VerHagen, Joan Whitford
- 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

“A Pastoral Care Approach to the Opioid Epidemic” By Erick Falconer Today during Coffee Hour

Minister Erick Falconer, M.D., will be presenting his Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) project titled “A Pastoral Care Approach to the Opioid Epidemic”. The goal of this presentation is to give an update on the status of the American Opioid Epidemic and equip those who have been affected by the Opioid Epidemic with information and tools to empower and support them through what many have found to be the most challenging crisis in modern U.S. History.

Neighbors in Need Special Offering – Today

This is the day when we collect the Neighbors in Need special offering (NIN) which benefits our denomination’s outreach through partner agencies across the United States. An envelope is included with the printed bulletins, for your convenience.

While other special offerings benefit international ministries and emergency funds, one-quarter of NIN is distributed to organizations and churches serving Native American people. Our national Justice and Witness Ministries benefit also.

This year’s NIN focus is on our denomination’s advocacy for fair and living wages. Read stories of faith and transformation provided by Neighbors in Need at ucc.org/nin

Jazz for the Journey – TODAY at 5:00 PM in Memorial Hall!

The third chapter will once again be held in a coffee house setting. The theme for this chapter will be, You’ve Got a Friend.

St. Louis Metro CROP Hunger Walk – TODAY!

Our church is participating in the Metro St. Louis CROP Hunger Walk, and we’d love to have you join our team. Registration begins at 4:30pm today at Eden Seminary, and the walk steps off at 5 PM. Walkers can choose a 1- or 3-mile loop. This is a great event for families and people of all ages!

The CROP Walk supports the work of Church World Service (CWS) and three local organizations fighting hunger. One quarter of CROP Walk funds stay locally. Here in St. Louis, they go to Circle of Concern, the Alton Crisis Food Center, and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Please join us (in body or in spirit) today – with your steps, prayers, and/or donations – to provide meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and to create greater food security in communities around the world. You can register to walk or make a donation at <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-crop-walk>.

OUTRAGED? Get ENGAGED!

The Peace & Justice Team invites you to get involved.

- Sign up to help on election day: <https://tinyurl.com/2s3bwsb2>
- Get involved with the St. Louis Area Voter Protection Coalition at <https://www.stlouisvpc.org/> .Text “MOVPC” to 66866 or email info@movpc.org .
- Email Halley if you are interested in driving voters to the polls for the general election.
- Reach out to a candidate for state rep or state senator and help them canvass – it’s not just federal offices that matter!

FCCWG Swag

If you did not get a chance to sign up for a shirt, don’t worry! We will have extra shirts for sale. They will be sold for \$15. Debbie will let you all know when they have arrived!

Kids’ Church Enrollment Forms

All parents will receive a hard copy of the enrollment form today. Please fill it out and return it to Halley by Oct 23rd. Thank you!

Wish Upon a Cloud: Funding Off-Budget Projects

Wish Upon a Cloud donations give 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. Example: We are seeking to purchase two 85” video monitors for the sanctuary, to enhance our worship experience. These monitors will project relevant images and information during worship services and can be used for other events in the sanctuary. The cost for each is approximately \$1,400.00. You can donate a portion of the cost, or the full amount, according to your ability!

Habitat for Humanity Updates

Save the date for our First Church Habitat Work Day on Saturday, December 2. We will be working in the Lookaway neighborhood. Watch for further details.

NEXT SUNDAY

Pet Blessing & Outdoor Worship in the Jubilee Garden

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. Worship is OUTDOORS, 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.

Make sure you dress for the weather! In case of rain, we will gather in Memorial Hall.

What’s Going On at First Church

Sunday, October 2

Kids Lead Worship

World Communion Sunday

“Neighbors in Need” Special Offering

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:15 AM Presentation by Erick Falconer

5:00 PM Jazz for the Journey – Mem. Hall

5:00 PM CROP Walk – Eden Seminary

Tuesday, October 4

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Communications Team Meeting – Church Office

6:30 PM Pastoral Relations Committee

Wednesday, October 5

9:30 AM Yoga – Inglis Room

6:00 PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Thursday, October 6

6:00–7:00 PM Canterbury Bells

7:30–8:30 PM Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 9

Pet Blessing

Outdoor Worship in Jubilee Garden

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids’ Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship



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Webster Groves, MO 63119
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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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www.facebook.com/FirstChurchWG/

Instagram

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

YouTube

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

