

Welcome!

**First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ**



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

JUNE 18, 2023

WEEKEND OF JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

FATHERS DAY

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS



*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 blessings 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.*

PRELUDE *Everything Possible* Fred Small

WELCOME Mark Edwards, *Liturgist*
*At this time, we invite you to complete an entry in the Friendship Booklet in your pew
and to silence the ringer on any cellular device you may have with you.*

TOLLING THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

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

We are here to worship.

Hallelujah!

We are here to lift up our voices!

Hallelujah!

We are here... the kin-dom of God!

**Hallelujah! Let us praise that Name which is above all other
names!**

***GATHERING HYMN** *This Is My Father's World* M. D. Babcock
No. 485 – *Pilgrim Hymnal*

RITUAL OF APPROACH

Invitation (Responsive)

Jesus, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof.

But only say the word and your servant will be healed.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**We are your children, righteous God, and your disciples. You call us to
manifest good news of love, reconciliation, and healing. But our
concern for such things too often dissipates at the point of our
discomfort. Forgive us our lack of faith, and guide us to dwell in your
presence, where faith is strong for the work of your ministry. Revive
our love for your kin-dom. Revive our desire for reconciliation. Revive
our capacity for healing. As it was for Jesus, let it be for us. Amen.**

Silence for Personal Confessions

Words of Assurance (Responsive)

based on Romans 5:1-2

Justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Through Christ we have obtained access to the grace in which we
dwell. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***Singing God's Glory** *Glory to God in the Highest* Peruvian melody

The congregation repeats each line of the following after the Minister:

Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

To God be glory forever!

Next, the Minister leads the congregation in harmonizing the following:

Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

*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 Gospels

Matthew 10:16-23

Pew Bible, p. 886

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

*When History Rhymes:
The Mystery of "Wapping Alice"*

Rev. Denoon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

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. 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

Opportunities to Give and Gather

**Song of Praise*

Doxology

Tune: OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God, above, you heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

O God, we give of ourselves for the sake of your kin-dom because we are thankful for your generosity to us. May our gifts glorify your Spirit and meet the needs all around us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

New Member Candidates Introduced

Jacque Kempf, Mandi Heiser Fisher, Chris & Katie Hoepfer

Preface

**Affirmation of Faith*

based on *Our Creed*, 1901

Do you believe in the kinship of all people as children of God? **I do.**
Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Way and the Truth and the Life? **I do.**
Do you believe in the clean heart, the unworldly life, and the service of love as Jesus taught and exemplified, and do you accept Christ's Spirit, and Christ's teaching? **I do.**

**Questions of the Candidates*

**Raising the Covenant*

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.

**Welcome to the Church*

Doug Barton, *Moderator*

We as members of this church, gladly welcome you to a part with us in the hopes, the labors, and the joys of our mutual ministry. We promise to walk with you in Christian love and sympathy, and to promote, as far as in us lies, your growth in the Christian life.

***PARTING HYMN**

The Summons

John Bell

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

***BENEDICTION**

***PARTING WORDS**

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.
People: Let our service begin.

POSTLUDE

O Perfect Love

arr. John Carter

During the Postlude, we encourage you to greet those around you, 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.

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**Wi-Fi Info**

Recommended: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3 | Password for all: firstchurch.

**Connecting Remotely to Worship**

If you need to join us remotely, Sunday worship each week is streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10am ([bit.ly/FCCWG-YT](https://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT)).

## How to Donate to First Congregational Church

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex, OR

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.



## 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 members who are homebound, in assisted living, or skilled care – Sharon Beal, Becky Scott, Margery Gable, Shirley Moore, Kitty Pearl, Jan Ver Hagen, 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 Scott
- People with mental illnesses, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

## New Phone Have Arrived!!!

The new phones have arrived and are set up. Of course not all of the wrinkles have been ironed out. The extensions numbers have changed as the new phones do not work with two digits. Please see the back of the bulletin or the website for our new extension numbers.

## Our Whole Lives (OWL) – Sex Ed for Adults: Info Session June 25th in Coffee Hour

Our lovely CE Support Staff Noel Burke will be offering an OWL class for adults starting in September. Our Whole Lives (OWL) is "a comprehensive, lifespan sexuality education curricula for use in both secular settings and faith communities. [It] provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality."

Halley and Noel will lead this information session. It will be an opportunity to learn about OWL and get your questions answered. Noel will first offer a class to adults only, but ultimately will be offering classes for kids and teens as well. These classes are a "deep dive" and will meet over a period of months (TBD based on participants' schedules).

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

We are having another blood drive! Sign up here to donate blood on Thursday, June 29th between 2pm and 6pm. Besides the fact that donating blood is just a great way to love your neighbors, there's an added incentive: all donors will receive a \$10 gift card to a merchant of their choice (even if deferred!).

### **Habitat Workday Scheduled**

We have a work date! On Saturday August 26th, we will combine forces with future homeowners and a group from Emmanuel UCC to work at the Lookaway Build site which is near the Chain of Rocks bridge. This is a full day (8:00 AM to 3:00PM) commitment, and I promise you will find it rewarding. Call Phil Shoulberg if you have questions. Sign up sheet is in the office.

### **Collecting Signatures For An Important Missouri Legislative Petition**

You can help ensure 200,000 Missourians don't have to choose between a paycheck and caring for themselves and their families. Along with other Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) congregations, we will be collecting signatures for an initiative petition to guarantee earned paid leave plus a raise in the minimum wage in Missouri. With enough signatures, this issue will be on the ballot in Missouri in the fall of 2024.

If you are a registered Missouri voter and want to support getting these issues on the ballot, all you have to do is sign the petition. Doug Miller will be available during the month of June to take your signature on Sunday mornings before and after worship service. The one exception is June 4, when he has other obligations before worship and very limited time afterwards as well. (PLEASE NOTE: your signature on the initiative petition only supports getting the proposed legislation on the ballot. It does not require that you actually vote for the legislation once it is on the ballot.)

If you want to help collect signatures, for example, from family and friends, please talk to Doug about how to get trained to collect signatures and for some background literature and blank petition pages. The training is quite easy both in terms of time commitment and learning time.

We look forward to robust support from FCCWG for this very valuable legislation.  
Doug Miller

### **Webster Rock Hill Ministries...**

has plenty of peanut butter they distribute to needy families but they could use **Bread and Jelly!** Please consider donating bread and jelly to WRHM. You can leave these in the boxes in the narthex.

Thank you!

### **We are Hiring!**

Halley's departure in July creates the need for a Coordinator of Faith Formation. We are particularly interested in applicants who have a strong background in religious education in a progressive theological setting, preferably including collaborative partnerships and team building.

Interested individuals should introduce themselves at [personnel@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:personnel@firstchurchwg.org) and detail why their candidacy should be of particular interest to our Christian Education Ministry. A résumé (Word or PDF) should be attached. All applications should be sent to: [personnel@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:personnel@firstchurchwg.org) with the subject "CFF Recruitment." Telephone inquiries will not be accepted. Pastor Dave will be on vacation from June 20 through July 10. He will resume the process at that time.

## ***What's Going on at First Church***

**Sunday, June 18**

**Father's Day**

**Reception of New Members**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

**Monday, June 19**

**Juneteenth**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**7:00 PM** Executive Ministry (Zoom)

**Wednesday, June 21**

**9:30 AM** Yoga w/Jeanene (Inglis)

**6:00 PM** Bridge Club (Inglis)

**Sunday, June 25**

**Pride Sunday**

**Rev. Sue Leary leads worship**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

**11:20 AM** Our Whole Lives (OWL) presentation - Memorial Hall

**11:20 AM** Music Seminar with Dr. Burke - Sanctuary

**Monday, June 26**

**7:00 PM** Peace & Justice Team (Zoom)

**Thursday, June 29**

**2:00 - 6:00 PM** Red Cross Blood Drive (Memorial Hall)



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## Contact Information

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Weekend & Events Custodians –  
Dianna Konopka and Kayla Skiles

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity  
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie  
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Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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

