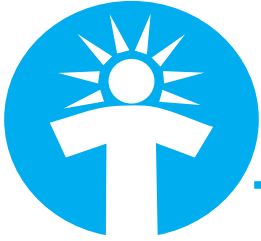


# Welcome!

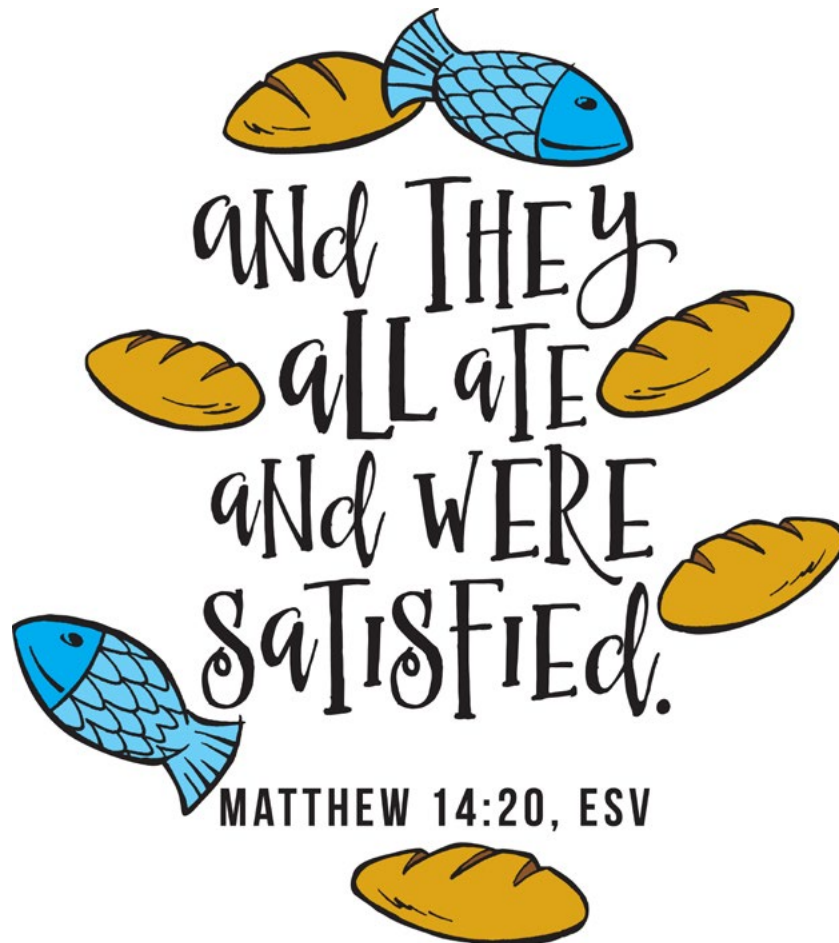
First Congregational Church  
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



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

**AUGUST 6, 2023**

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE**



MATTHEW 14:20, ESV

*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** *Summertime* George Gershwin

**WELCOME** Bob Moody, *Liturgist*

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**TOLLING OF THE BELL**

**\*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.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* Fred Kaan  
No. 347 – *New Century Hymnal*

**RITUAL OF APPROACH** Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*  
*Invitation*

*Guided Meditation*

*Silence for Personal Confessions*

*Words of Assurance*

**THE WORD SHARED**

*From the Gospels*

Matthew 14:13-33

Pew Bible, p. 891

*Response.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY** *"The Miracles They All Report"* Rev. Denoon

**WE OFFER OF OURSELVES**

*Opportunities to Give and Gather*

**\*Song of Praise**

*Doxology*

Ken / Bourgeois

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

**Praise God, all creatures here below!**

**Praise God, above, you heavenly host,**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE**

*\*Prayers of Intercession*

*\*Invitation*

*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*

*Communion is served in the pews, first the bread and then the cup.  
The bread is gluten-free. Wine is white; grape juice is red.  
Each is consumed at the indication of the Pastor, unless this  
presents a hardship for the individual.*

*Communion Hymn*

*Let Us Break Bread Together  
No. 330 – New Century Hymnal*

*Spiritual*

*\*Prayer after Communion (Unison, standing)*

**We give you thanks, O God, for blessing us at this table with the presence of our friend Jesus. Send us forth, rejoicing, with our siblings in faith, to share your abundant love and grace with all we meet. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*There's Bread for the Journey*

*J. Stratthdee*

*There's bread for the journey and friends for the way.  
There's hope for tomorrow and love for today.  
The cup of forgiveness, all blessings release,  
To heal and renew us and bring us God's peace.*

*O Holy Spirit, bind us together, now.  
O Holy Spirit, bring us your peace.  
O Holy Spirit, bind us together, now.  
O Holy Spirit, bring us your peace.*

**BENEDICTION**

**PARTING WORDS**

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.

**All: Let our service begin.**

**POSTLUDE**

*What the World Needs Now Is Love*

*Bacharach / David*

*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.*

### 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

### We are Hiring!

We are seeking 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.

### **Kids Church Needs Your help!**

Ideally, there will be TWO volunteers every Sunday until that hire is accomplished: one to assist Noel, per usual, and one to assist Carina with the toddlers and preschoolers. The reality is that without two volunteers (until a Coordinator of Faith Formation is in place), Kids Church must function as a one-room schoolhouse (all ages together). Sometimes this works well; other times not so much. Let's give Noel and Carina the support they need during this transition. You can sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-kids-church> Thank you!

### **Remember Our Legacy**

Our church was the recipient recently of a gift to our Endowment Fund, from the estate of Paul Davis. And we have been notified that a bequest will soon be received from the estate of another member who passed recently. It has always been gifts like this that keep our church strong and vibrant. We would love to be informed that you have included an Endowment gift in your will or trust, so that you may be added to the list of our **"Legacy Group."** Such a listing can encourage others to do the same. Please let Pastor Dave Denoon or Sue Stepleton (Chair of the Endowment Counselors) know if you would like to receive a form.

### **Habitat Workday**

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.

### **School Supply Drive for Webster Rock Hill Ministries**

**August 12th from 9am-12pm**

We are pleased to partner with Webster Rock Hill Ministries (WRHM), for providing school supplies and backpacks for their **Back to School Backpack Program**. Every year, WRHM distributes backpacks to students in need of school supplies. These backpacks are filled with grade-level appropriate materials, including items like:

- **Notebooks**
- **Paper**
- **Pencils**
- **Pens**
- **Crayons**
- **Three-ring Binders**
- **Erasers**
- **Note Cards**
- **Folders**

This will be a drive-thru style event in our east parking lot.

*If you are unable to make it on August 12,  
there is a box in the narthex for school supplies and backpacks.*

**Volunteers are also needed for this event! Sign up at [bit.ly/FCCWG-Back2School](https://bit.ly/FCCWG-Back2School)**

### **Peace & Justice Team meets, 4th Mondays**

All members and friends of First Church are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings of the Peace & Justice Team. We consider the wide variety of social and environmental justice issues that are before us, every day. We also are the organizers of our First Saturday collections. If you have an issue that you are especially concerned about, and want to discuss how the church might address it, or if you would just like to connect with others who have a heart like yours, please consider attending.

*P&J's latest projects include:*

collecting signatures for the Minimum Wage/Earned Sick Leave Ballot Initiative

preparing/recruiting for First Saturday collection, August 12

**school supplies** for Webster Rock Hill Ministries

preparing/recruiting for CROP Walk to End Hunger, October 1

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

#### **Sunday, August 6**

**Sacrament of Christ's Table**

**9:00AM** Brown Baggers

**9:45AM** Nursery Care

**10:00AM** Worship (All Ages)

**11:05AM** Coffee Fellowship

#### **Wednesday, August 9**

**9:30AM** Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

**10:30AM** Staff Meeting – Church Office

**6:00PM** Bridge Club – Inglis Room

#### **Saturday, August 12**

**9:00AM - Noon** School Supply Collection for WRHM

#### **Sunday, August 13**

**9:45AM** Nursery Care

**10:00AM** Worship (with the Oikos Jazz Ensemble)

**10:15AM** Kids Church

**11:05AM** Coffee Fellowship



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

## Contact Information

Moderator – Doug Barton  
[iyell4@aol.com](mailto:iyell4@aol.com)

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

Weekend & Events Custodian –  
Kayla Skiles

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  
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Director, Center for Counseling & Healing  
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I  
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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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

