

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

JULY 7, 2024

SEVENTH 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

Meditation Prelude

John Carter

WELCOME

Andrea Welnick, *Liturgist*

At this time, we invite you to complete an entry in the Friendship Booklet and to silence the ringer on any cellular device you may have with you.

TOLLING THE BELL

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

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

The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome. Who will hear their message?

We will listen and we will hear!

Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching to all who would listen. Who will hear his message?

We will listen and we will hear!

Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them.

We will listen and we will hear!

God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in the pews. Who will hear their message?

We will listen and we will hear!

***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**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
No. 347 – *New Century Hymnal*

Fred Kaan

RITUAL OF APPROACH

**Invitation*

**Prayer of Confession* (Responsive)

Holy God, as we remember the celebration last week of our nation's heritage, it is fitting that we give you thanks and praise. You created a Land rich in resources and set before the founders and pioneers of our nation an opportunity beyond measure to build a realm of justice, peace, and freedom that might be a blessing to all the world.

We confess today that our nation has not always used its power for the health of your creation, the good earth and the creatures you have made; we have, for all our good intentions, wearied of struggling for justice; and we all too easily fall into justifying ourselves: as having done all we could. Have mercy, o God, on the leaders and people of our country, and on each of us, that the vision of peace and justice for

all, food and freedom and room to live, may not be lost, and that as forgiven and empowered people we may serve and praise you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Silence for Personal Confessions*

**Assurance of Pardon*

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Gathered Here

Phil Porter

No. 742 – *New Century Hymnal*

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Johari Hunt,

Coordinator of Faith Formation

*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

Mark 6:1-13

Pew Bible, p. 915

Response.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Together"

Rev. Marty Black, *Pastor*

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Nada te Turbe / Nothing Can Trouble

Jacques Berthier

No. 772 – *New Century Hymnal*

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten
those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.**

**Nada te turbe, nada t'espante.
Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta.
Nada te turbe, nada t'espante.
Solo Dios basta.**

WE OFFER OF OURSELVES

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! Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

Accept these gifts, o God, as symbols of our lives. Our material gifts, our acts of service, and what we have offered to you in the quiet chambers of our own hearts, we present with the prayer that you will magnify and multiply them showing your power and your strength in a world of need. May the power of Christ dwell in us, even as we pray. Amen

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Leader: God's Spirit be upon you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our loving God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right...

Words of Institution

Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Distribution

The gifts of God for the people of God. Let us celebrate the feast.

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.

**Prayer after Communion*

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Send us out to live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth, and as citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

This Is My Song

No. 591 – *New Century Hymnal*

***BENEDICTION**

***WORDS OF PARTING**

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.

People: Let our service begin.

POSTLUDE

Sunday School Postlude

Alexander Schreiner

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.

Go to 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 library banner) and to the left of the Narthex just before the double doors.

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 QR code.

How to Reach Pastor Marty Black

If you need to reach her, you may email her at: marty.black@firstchurchwg.org or 715-853-9101 to leave a message, text or talk. You may also leave her a message at 314-962-0475, ext 111. She plans to be in the church office most Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9:30 and 12:30.

Volunteer Opportunities

Liturgists - bit.ly/Liturgists-2024 | **Kids Church** - bit.ly/FCCWG-Kids-2024

Volunteers Needed to Help Pastor Marty on Sundays

Pastor Marty would love it if a few people could help her with running the Power Point presentation during worship on Sundays. This is an easy job!

Leon Burke to Conduct the Gateway Festival Orchestra Washington University Quadrangle – Today at 7:30 PM

Our Music Director will be conducting the Gateway Festival Orchestra for the opening concert of its 60th season this evening. This free, informal concert is for all ages with music ranging from the exciting Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto to Phantom of the Opera and Pirates of the Caribbean! Bring a blanket or some lawn chairs. For more information go to GatewayFestivalOrchestra.org.

Peace UCC Presents: A Holocaust Survivor Speaks Sunday, July 14, 2024 at 3pm

Wehrli Chapel of Eden Seminary
483 E. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves
(Follow signs from parking lot)

Holocaust survivor and St. Louis resident Gittel Burns will share her story Sunday, July 14, at 3:00pm at Eden Seminary Chapel, sponsored by Peace UCC. Her long-time friend and researcher, Lisa Johnson, will facilitate the discussion, which will include projected images of the long journeys, refugee life in Shanghai, and new life in St. Louis after the war; there also will be a question-and-answer segment.

Lisa's recent book about Gittel's story, *A Letter to My Family: A Journey through Persecution in Nazi Germany, Refuge in Shanghai, and New Life in America*, is based on the family's donated collection to the Holocaust Museum. It will be available for \$10 cash, signed by Gittel.

From Lisa: A first-person account from a living Holocaust survivor has value beyond words for today. The need to be mindful always of the consequences of hate is ever-present. Please join Gittel and me for this sobering but life-affirming hour.

Carina is Heading to College!

Carina, our faithful nursery attendant, is leaving us at the end of July and will be heading off to college. We will be presenting her with a cash gift on her last day with us.

To contribute, please give cash or a check to the church (checks should be made payable to "FCCWG" and include the word "Carina" in the memo line), or use the Donate page (<http://firstchurchwg.org/donate>) on our website and select **Farewell Fund** from the drop-down menu.

Looking for a Nursery Attendant

On that note... we are starting the search for Carina's replacement. If you know of anyone that might fill her shoes, you can find the Nursery Attendant Job Description on the table in the Narthex.

Jazz at First Church

As a special treat, Cliff Aerie and Oikos will be leading the worship service on July 14. The Logos Readers will be featured as part of this service.

How to Underwrite the Pastor's Sabbatical

A special fund has been created, for members and friends who would like to underwrite the Pastor's Sabbatical. To contribute to the Sabbatical Fund, please direct your donation to the church office – either with a check payable to the church ("Sabbatical Fund" in the memo line) or by donating through our website's Donate page and scrolling down to the "Sabbatical Fund" line of the pull-down menu.

Read an article by Pastor Dave Denoon about his **sabbatical schedule and funding**, at https://bit.ly/Sabbatical_Fund

Summer at First Church

It's summer at First Church. People are taking vacations and there are times when nobody is here in the office. Please give us a call before you drop by. It could save you some gas and a wasted trip. Thank you!

July Meal-a-Month Shopping List

Canned Beef or Chicken
Canned Green Vegetable (low or no salt)
Canned Fruit in own juices
Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk
Whole Wheat Flour
Cold Cereal (no sugar)
Plain Oatmeal (no sugar)
Sugar free juices in plastic bottles

July Birthdays

Connie Kitchen	July 2
Katie Hoepfer	July 11
Barbara Krewson	July 12
Jeanene Harris	July 13
Sue Leary	July 18
Emma von Weise	July 29

What's Happening at First Church

Sunday, June 30

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday, July 2

1:00PM Communications Team– Church Office

Wednesday, July 3

9:30AM Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

10:30AM Staff Meeting – Church Office

6:00PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, July 6

9:00AM - 12:00PM

First Saturday Drive-thru collection for School Supplies

Sunday, July 7

Sacrament of Christ's Table

9:00AM Brown Baggers

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship



July 2024 – Benevolence Committee Awards to Partner Agencies 2024

The Benevolence Committee is pleased to announce award decisions for Partner Agencies for 2024. The total amount available for funding decisions was \$33,394. In addition, the church budgets \$15,000 for UCC Our Church Wider Mission\Mid-South Conference.

Members of the Benevolence Committee include: Jeanene Harris, Chair; Cathy Buerk, Pastor Dave Denoon; Mary Edwards, Rebecca Novack, Jane Porchey, and K Wentzein.

We were very pleased with the results of the Gala of Grace: A Night of Giving and Gratitude, the Quilt Auction and generous donations. The dollars raised allowed the committee to award larger amounts to existing partners, restore funding to Beyond Housing and provide funding to the Uganda Water Project Field for Humanity.

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to the Gala of Grace: A Night of Giving & Gratitude, the Quilt Auction and donations.

Each year, the Benevolence Committee raises funds to be distributed to charities. Benevolence Giving has been a part of our church since its founding. In 2009 when the budget for Benevolence was reduced, our members came up with a new way to raise funds to distribute to partner agencies.

BENEVOLENCE PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Beyond Housing
Brown Baggers – FCCWG providing brown bag lunches for homeless individuals at Gateway 180
Chads Coalition for Mental Health
Emmaus Homes
Gateway 180
Gateway ONA Coalition
Habitat for Humanity
Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis
Lydia's House
Minister's Discretionary Fund
Operation Food Search
Prevent Ed – National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse
Provident Behavioral Health (Formerly Care & Counseling)
Room At The Inn
Shepherd's Center Webster Groves-Kirkwood
UCC – Our Church's Wider Mission – Mid-South Conference
UCC – St. Louis Association
Unleashing Potential
Webster-Rock Hill Ministries
Uganda Water Project (new to committee)

Submitted by Jeanene Harris

BENEVOLENCE PARTNER AGENCIES 2024

BEYOND HOUSING

6506 Wright Way | St. Louis, MO 63121

314-533-0600

Chris Krehmeyer, President

<https://beyondhousing.org>

ckrehmeyer@beyondhousing.org

Beyond Housing is a nationally recognized, comprehensive community development organization dedicated to transforming the St. Louis region's under-resourced communities to create a stronger, more equitable, and prosperous St. Louis for all. Their work brings civic leaders, targeted nonprofits, corporate partners, and residents together to create meaningful and lasting change. Provides housing and support services.

CHADS COALITION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

4121 Union Rd., Suite 224 | St. Louis, MO 63129

P.O. Box 510528 | St. Louis, MO 63151

314-952-2046

Tom Duff, CEO

www.chadscoalition.org

CHADS provides programs to advance awareness and prevention of depression and suicide. Provide adolescents and young adults ages 25 and under and educational programs, for parents, educators and community members.

EMMAUS HOMES

3731 Mueller Road | St. Charles, MO 63301

636-534-5200

Lisa A. Key, Chief Development Officer

keylisa@emmaushomes.org

www.emmaushomes.org

Based on unique needs and goals, Emmaus provides homes and programming for adults with development disabilities to help them live their lives as independently as possible, housed in numerous group homes throughout St. Louis and St. Charles.

UCC

GATEWAY 180

1000 North 19th Street | St. Louis, MO 63106

314-231-1515

Kathy Connors, Executive Director

kconnors@gatewayhomeless.org

www.gateway180.org

Gateway 180 is a valuable resource for those experiencing the burden of homelessness. Provides temporary shelter and support systems.

GATEWAY ONA COALITION

Parkway United Church of Christ | 2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131

314-872-9330

Lorin Cope

www.gatewayona.com

The mission is to serve as a resource for churches who seek to embrace the diversity of God's people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Open and affirming organization within UCC churches that recognizes gender choices and concerns. UCC

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Samuel - UCC

320 North Forsyth Boulevard | St. Louis, MO 63105

314-727-9540

Keith Karau, UCC Contact

Keith.karau@gmail.com

www.habitatstl.org

Christian housing ministry to build houses in partnership with families in need. This local branch of the national organization builds affordable housing. Each year there is one home built by UCC churches throughout the area.
UCC

INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

9540 Clayton Rd. | St. Louis, MO 63124

314-918-2541

Mary Pedersen

admin@interfaithstl.org

Jack Sisk, Board President

family@livinginsights.org

www.interfaithstl.org

Diverse faith group offering a public voice on matters of religious, moral, and ethical issues. Our church is considered a member of the organization.
UCC connection

LYDIA'S HOUSE

P.O. Box 2722 | St. Louis, MO 63116

314-771-4411

Karen Kirk, President & CEO

Kkirk@lydiashouse.org

www.lydiashouse.org

Lydia's House is the only transitional housing program in Eastern Missouri that is specifically for battered and abused women and their children and that offers immediate community. They have 50 confidentially located homes and apartments for women and their families. Provides transitional housing with comprehensive, goal-oriented support services, and access to community resources for abused women and their children.
UCC

MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – FCCWG

Provides funds for individual church members, families and people in the community in need. May include food gift cards, gas money, money for prescriptions, etc. UCC

OPERATION FOOD SEARCH

1644 Lotsie Boulevard | St. Louis, MO. 63132

314-726-5355

Kristen Wild, Executive Director

Kristen.wild@operationfoodsearch.org

www.operationfoodsearch.org

Distributes food and necessities to 330 community partners in the City of St. Louis and surrounding counties in Missouri and Illinois.

PREVENT ED (NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE CHAPTER)

9355 Olive Boulevard | St. Louis, MO 63132

314-962-3456

Nicole Dawsey, Executive Director

ndawsey@prevented.org

www.ncada-stl.org

Provide counseling, education and resources on the harms of alcohol and drug abuse. Programs offered through education, intervention and advocacy. Provides resources and services that promote safe and healthy living.

PROVIDENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (FORMERLY CARE AND COUNSELING - ST. LOUIS)

2650 Olive Street | St. Louis, MO 63103

314-878-4340

Kevin Drollinger, President & CEO

Kdrollinger@providentstl.org

www.providentstl.org

This agency offers mental health counseling via telehealth, and in-person in St. Louis City, North West and South County offices and in their Access Center. Community based counseling is also provided in select schools and co-located with the Jefferson County Health Department. Psychiatric Services team serves ages 5 and up.

ROOM AT THE INN (RATI)

3415 Bridgeland Drive | Bridgeton, MO 63044

314-209-9181

Laurie Phillips, Acting Executive Director

lphillips@roomstl.org

www.roomstl.org

RATI is a temporary, emergency shelter and stabilizing support system for homeless women and families in St. Louis County. The agency is housing clients at its location and will continue to do this for the future.

BROWN BAGGERS - FCCWG

10 West Lockwood | St. Louis, MO 63119

314-962-0475

Faye Dyer, Contact

Provides for supplies needed for lunches made at church that are delivered to various locations for people in need. Brown Baggers make up 60 lunch bags each month for Gateway 180.

UCC

SHEPHERD'S CENTER WEBSTER-KIRKWOOD

1320 West Lockwood | St. Louis, MO 63122

314-395-0988

Betsy Solomon, Executive Director

bsolomon@shepherdscenter-wk.org

www.shepherdscenter-wk.org

This is an interfaith volunteer organization that provides senior programs and services for supporting older adults. Our church is considered a sponsoring organization.

Sponsor/Member

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST-OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION AND MISSOURI MID SOUTH CONFERENCE

The Rev. Dr. Karen Geigia A. Thompson, General Minister & President, UCC

The Rev. Mary Nelson, Transitional Conference Minister, UCC

483 E. Lockwood Ave., Suite 15 | Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-8740

www.ucc.org

www.missourimidsouth.org

UCC churches unite to reach out to people in need. Our Church's Wider Mission supports local congregations with worship and faith forming publications, resources and education. There are 44 Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC congregations in the St. Louis area. It also includes churches in Little Rock, Arkansas and Memphis, Tennessee. Our church is recognized for being a 5 for 5 Congregation of the UCC, for support to Our

Church's Wider Mission and the Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, The Christmas Fund, and Strengthen the Church Special Mission offerings. UCC

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST-ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION

www.missourimidsouth.org/st-louis-association

St. Louis Association offers support and outreach to people in need. Some of the programs supported by the Association include Neighborhood Ministries, Joint Neighborhood Houses, Union Community Neighborhood House, Lydia's House and Doorways. UCC

UNLEASHING POTENTIAL

1000 North Vandeventer | St. Louis, MO 63113

314-383-1733

Darlene Sowell, President & CEO

dsowell@upstl.org

www.UPstl.org

Formerly Neighborhood Houses. Seeks to close the opportunity gap for children and youth by building on their strengths. They offer Early Childhood education, after school programs, youth development and enrichment camps. UCC

WEBSTER-ROCK HILL MINISTRIES

111 E. Waymire Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63119

314-961-5082

Derek Bastian, Executive Director

Derek.bastian@wrhm.org

www.wrhm.org

This agency is a cooperative effort of member churches to fulfill their mission to serve people in need in our community. Programs assist individuals and families who are unemployed or in financial difficulty. Operates a food pantry. Our church is a founding member of the organization. UCC

UGANDA WATER PROJECT FIELD FOR HUMANITY

Peter Kalulu & Lawrence Katumba

Plot 11 Wamara Road

P.O.Box 44

Pakwach, Uganda

www.fieldforhumanity.org

Email: info@fieldforhumanity.org

+256781733528 | +256752207781

Field for Humanity implemented a groundbreaking approach to addressing the critical need for clean and safe water in rural communities of Uganda. It exists to expand piped water infrastructure, establish community water kiosks, distribute ceramic water filters and install toilets. A significant portion of the community remains to be reached. Efforts continue and \$1,000 is required to construct one community water kiosk. The goal is to expand to all 44 villages in Pakwach and to reach 196,800 individuals.



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

Contact Information

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iyell4@aol.com

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Marty.Black@FirstChurchWG.org

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Johari.Hunt@FirstChurchWG.org

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

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus
ctil234@FirstChurchWG.org

Events Coordinator – Alicia McMinn
Events@FirstChurchWG.org

Custodian & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf

Weekend & Events Custodians –
Kayla Skiles & Onyeka Igboanuzue

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

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

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