

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

JULY 21, 2024
NINTH 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.*

REMEMBER THE
SABBATH DAY,
AND KEEP IT
HOLY.

EXODUS 20:8, NRSV



Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates the Congregation standing, in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

Pater Noster

Arthur Foote

WELCOME

Phil Shoulberg, *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)**

We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,
and gives us refreshment of soul.

Christ our Shepherd shows us the way we should go,
so that the name of God will be glorified.

Though all manner of evil befall us, we will not be afraid,
for the Great Shepherd of our souls is with us.

We are never away from the love and mercy of God,
and we shall be with God for ever and ever. Amen!

– from the Lectionary Sermons Worship Resources archive. (adapted).

***GATHERING HYMN**

Holy, Holy, Holy
No. 277 – *New Century Hymnal*

***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.**

RITUAL OF APPROACH

**Invitation*

**Prayer of Confession (Responsive)*

**Holy Jesus, you called your disciples away from their busy labors in order to
rest with you in the wilderness. You pulled your followers out of the tug and
pull of the demands of ministry and led them into a remote place where they
might find rest and restoration.**

**You do call us to participate in your ministry, but it is not ALL up to us. Help
us to realize that we do not run the world, that it is not within our power to
make history turn out right, or to fix all that is wrong with ourselves and
other people. Help us to remember that you are God and we are not.**

Give us the grace to enjoy your promised rest this day and always. Amen.

**Silence for Personal Confessions*

**Assurance of Pardon*

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Gathered Here
No. 742 — *New Century Hymnal*

Phil Porter

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 6:30-34 and 53-56

Pew Bible, p. 916 & 917

Response.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Sometimes the Framework Matters"

Rev. Marty Black, *Pastor*

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Nada te Turbe / Nothing Can Trouble
No. 772 — *New Century Hymnal*

Jacques Berthier

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior

**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 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)**

We bless your holy name, O God. We sing your praise in our living. We thank you in the way we live. Accept this offering of ourselves, as well as the material gifts that we bring. Use all we offer in your service. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name
No. 80 – *New Century Hymnal*

***BENEDICTION**

***WORDS OF PARTING**

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

POSTLUDE

Postlude

J. G. Frech

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!

Looking for a Nursery Attendant

We have started 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.

Summer Schedules

Pastor Dave – On Sabbatical – Will return on September 9

Leon Burke – Away from July 28 thru August 4

Debbie Tolstoi – Away on July 23 & 24 and August 5 thru August 7

Pastor Marty – Away from August 14 thru August 27

As people are taking vacations, there will be times when nobody is here in the office. Please give us a call at 314-962-0475 before you drop by. It could save you some gas and a wasted trip. Thank you!

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

TRIVIA NIGHT for Metropolitan Churches United (MCU)

7pm on August 17, 2024

Eden Theological Seminary

Doors Open at 6:30

\$30 per seat or \$210 per table of 8

FCCWG will be trying to fill at least one table for this important event. If you are interested, please contact Doug Miller before August 14. After the 14th contact Doug Barton. MCU has been championing some very important and valuable activities, including these: (a) getting a raise in the minimum wage and paid sick leave on the Missouri ballot, (b) implementing regional air quality monitors, (c) advocating for funds to get lead out of school drinking water, (d) working to break the school-to-prison pipeline, and (e) helping restore the rights of people who were incarcerated. However, doing this work requires organizing people and financial resources, and that is what the Trivia Night is all about. Activities include not only trivia challenges but also silent auctions and other games between rounds.

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 Hooper	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, July 21

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

11:15AM Peace & Justice Meeting

Tuesday, July 22

10:30AM Staff Meeting – Church Office

Wednesday, July 23

9:30AM Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

6:00PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Sunday, July 28

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

Treasurer's Report

Below are the church year to date operating results through June. Some items to note:

- Operating Income is \$2,395 higher this year compared to last year with Use of Space income offsetting the decrease in Pledges and Gifts.
- Expenses are \$9,002 higher than prior year, primarily in Staff costs.
- Benevolence expenses are shown net of proceeds. The annual church budget for benevolence is a net expense of \$17,000.
- Cash on hand is \$35k lower than prior year at the end of this month. The church has 2 months of cash on hand; however, the majority of the benevolence auction earnings have not been distributed which will lower the cash on hand.

Statement of Financial Activities

	2024	2023	Budget	2024 vs 2023	Variance to Budget
Income					
Pledges and Gifts	\$ 164,802	\$ 174,162	\$ 157,500	\$ (9,361)	\$ 7,302
Transfer from Endowment	45,000	45,000	90,000	-	(45,000)
Use of Space and Miscellaneous Income	61,586	49,581	41,470	12,005	20,116
Interest Income	12,642	12,891	13,000	(249)	(358)
Total Operating Revenue	284,030	281,634	301,970	2,395	(17,940)
Expenses					
Human Resources Expense	239,596	227,806	236,213	\$ (11,789)	(3,383)
Facilities and Finance Expense	81,577	83,113	91,017	\$ 1,535	9,440
Christian Education Ministry Expense	987	590	1,800	\$ (397)	813
Parish Life Ministry Expense	4,923	5,218	5,700	\$ 295	777
Executive Ministry Expense	1,713	3,067	2,500	1,354	787
Total Operating Expenses	328,796	319,794	337,231	(9,002)	8,435
Net Increase (Decrease) in Operating Assets	(44,766)	(38,159)	(35,261)	(6,607)	(9,506)
Benevolence Gifts	40,195	22,968	15,000	\$ 17,227	25,195
Benevolence Expense	45,114	25,403	9,500	(19,711)	(35,614)
Benevolence, Net	(4,919)	(2,435)	5,500	2,484	10,419
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ (49,685)	\$ (40,594)	\$ (29,761)	\$ (9,091)	\$ (19,924)

Statement of Financial Position

	2024	2023	Variance
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 123,521	\$ 158,494	\$ (34,973)
Property and equipment	24,562	26,019	(1,457)
Total Assets	\$ 148,083	\$ 184,513	\$ (36,431)
Unrestricted Designated Funds	\$ 70,210	\$ 42,509	\$ 27,701
Restricted funds for:			
Funds in Endowment Trust	62,344	56,839	5,505
Churchyard	38,876	38,737	139
Kishlar/Dickens Room Maintenance	49,046	49,046	-
Memorial Funds	67,278	75,544	(8,266)
Unrestricted Net Assets	(147,431)	(78,161)	(69,270)
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 148,083	\$ 184,513	\$ (36,431)



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

Contact Information

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iyell4@aol.com

Pastor – Rev. Marty Black
Marty.Black@FirstChurchWG.org

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi
Admin@FirstChurchWG.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation – Johari Hunt
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
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Custodian & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf

Weekend & Events Custodians –
Kayla Skiles & Onyeka Igboanuzue

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity
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