

# Welcome!

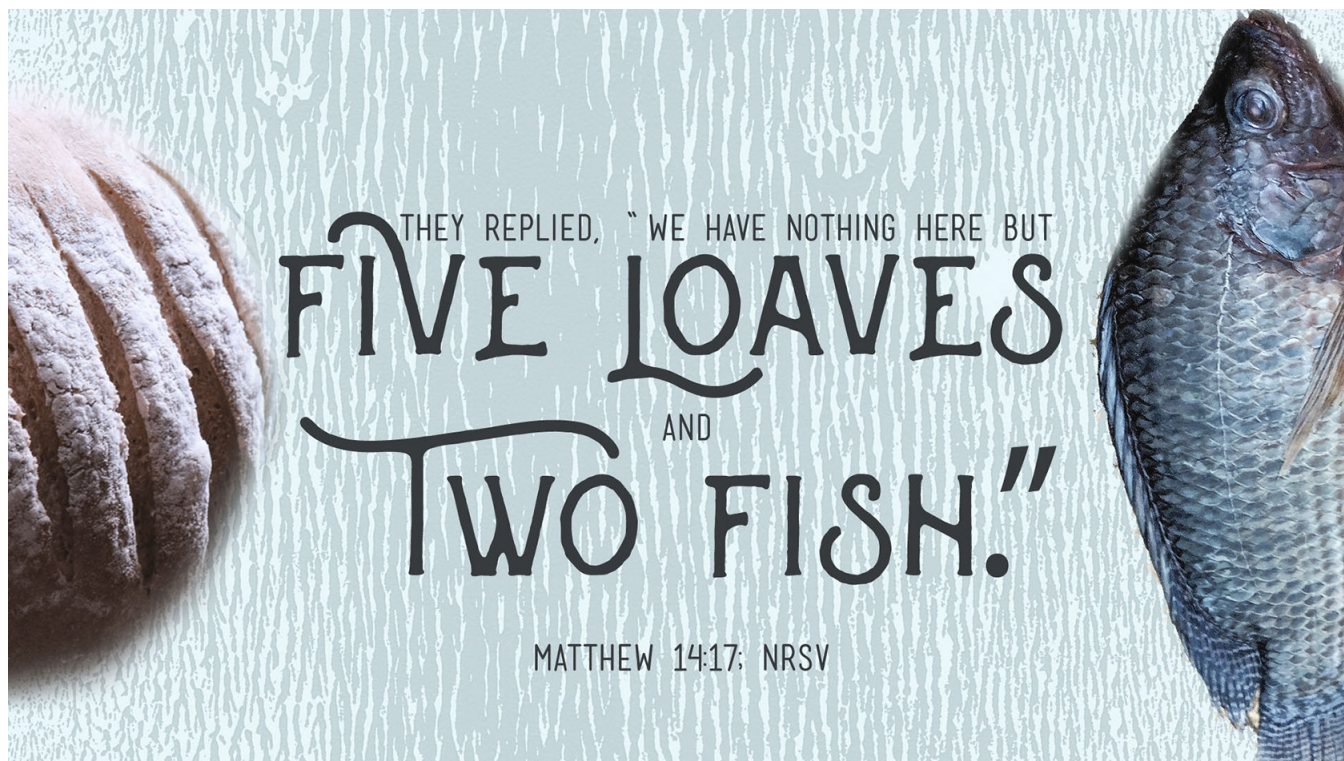
First Congregational Church  
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



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

JULY 28, 2024

TENTH 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

### 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.*

### LIGHTING THE CANDLES

### TOLLING THE BELL

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

We worship this day our giving God:

**God in the crowds, God in the bread, God in the children, God in the bounty.**

We worship this day our powerful God:

**God in the storms, God in the sea, God in the boat, God in our fear.**

We worship this day our living God:

**God of forgiveness, God of justice, God of miracles, God of our life.**

Come, let us worship God.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*  
No. 4 – *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)

o God, sometimes we feel like dry crumbs on a cold plate. Lackluster living, depleted energy, meaningless existence in a cold, uncaring world.

Sometimes we feel like a loaf of bread broken and disregarded. Torn in too many directions, divided allegiances, worn thin.

Sometimes we feel like stale, unleavened bread. Dispirited, dried up, wondering how to carry on.

**Gather us into the breadbasket of your love, o God. Renew our dried-up spirits. Heal our brokenness. Lift us with the friendship of this community. Shape us into your people once again. Amen.**

#### \**Silence Confessions*

*\*Assurance of Pardon*

Gathered into this community of Christ, may we comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the abundant love of God. God provides all that we need - and more - and we are filled with the fullness of God.

**Let us live as God's people. Amen.**

**\*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 Epistles(?)*

Ephesians 3:14-21

Pew Bible, p. 1065

*From the Gospels*

John 6:1-21

Pew Bible, p. 971

*Response.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

*"Abundance"*

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)

**Almighty God, what we bring today says more about us than it does about you. Still, we are bold to ask that you will bless what we bring, that you will multiply and use what we have shared, and that you will fill us with your love. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

\***PARTING HYMN**

*Jesus Loves Me*

No. 327 – *New Century Hymnal*

\***BENEDICTION**

\***WORDS OF PARTING**

Our worship has ended.  
**Let our service begin.**

**POSTLUDE**

*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](http://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](mailto: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](https://bit.ly/Liturgists-2024) | **Kids Church** - [bit.ly/FCCWG-Kids-2024](https://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 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](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 is hoping to fill at least one table for this important event. If you are interested, please use this link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/mcu-trivia-night>. 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. If you have any questions, contact Doug Miller before August 14; after the 14th, contact Doug Barton

## August Meal-a-Month Shopping List

Canned Chicken • Brown Rice  
Canned Soup (low or no salt) • Canned Corn (low or no salt)  
Canned Fruit in own juices  
Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk  
Diapers • Diaper Wipes • Formula with Iron

## Remaining July Birthday

Emma von Weise                      July 29

## August Birthdays

Sue Stepleton	August 10
Luke Ferguson	August 13
John Paci	August 13
Gwen Denoon	August 14
Julie McHugh	August 20
Sharon Beal	August 23
John Claggett	August 30

## What's Happening at First Church

### Sunday, July 28

**9:45AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00AM** Worship

**10:15AM** Kids' Church

**11:05AM** Coffee Fellowship

### Tuesday, July 30

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

### Wednesday, July 23

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

**6:00PM** Bridge Club – Inglis Room

### Sunday, August 4

*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



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. Marty Black  
[Marty.Black@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Marty.Black@FirstChurchWG.org)

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi  
[Admin@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Admin@FirstChurchWG.org)

Coordinator of Faith Formation – Johari Hunt  
[Johari.Hunt@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:Johari.Hunt@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 & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf  
[mark.metcalf@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:mark.metcalf@firstchurchwg.org)

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](mailto:cliff.aerie@gmail.com)

Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
Webster University – Rev. Dr. Laurel Hayes  
[laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net)

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing  
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I  
[lesrhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lesrhs@sbcglobal.net)

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

YouTube

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

