

# Welcome!

First Congregational Church  
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ

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

OCTOBER 27, 2024

REFORMATION/RECONCILIATION SUNDAY  
UCC HIGHER EDUCATION SUNDAY  
SUNDAY AFTER SIMCHAT TORAH  
CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING



*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** *Simchas Torah Song* Klezundheit!

**WELCOME** Rebecca Novak, *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 OF THE BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**) inspired by Psalm 126  
The Holy One has done great things for us, and we are overjoyed.  
**Holy One, change our circumstances for the better, like dry  
streams in the desert waste!**  
Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joyful shouts.  
**Let those who went out, crying and carrying their seed, come  
home with joyful shouts, carrying bales of grain!**

**\*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.**

**\*OPENING SONG** *Ale Brider* Klezundheit!  
*Lyrics that you sing: Oy!*

**\*RITUAL OF APPROACH**

*\*Invitation*

*\*Prayer of Confession* (Unison)

**God of word and wonder, we hear you speaking through familiar  
promises and new inspiration. We have sometimes disregarded  
your word and followed our own advice. We have left pain or  
hardship in our wake, or we have failed to change what ought to  
have been corrected. We have even allowed others to convince us  
that we are not beloved by you. But your Word calls us home.  
Remind us here and now of promises you have made, afar and  
past, which still apply and offer hope. By your grace, forgive our  
missteps, and cause us to dance in your light, thankful for your  
Word. Amen.**

*\*Silence for Personal Confessions*

*\*Words of Assurance* inspired by Psalm 19  
The faithful promises of God are more to be desired than gold, even the finest  
gold; sweeter than honey dripping from a honeycomb.

**We will heed their warning; in keeping them there is great reward.**

In observing them we shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.

**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to the Holy One – our rock and redeemer.**

*\*Singing God's Glory*                      *Glory to God in the Highest*                      Tune: GLORIA (HAAS)

*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**

*The Hakufot*

Johari Hunt, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*

*Niggun-o-matic*

Klezundheit!

**THE WORD SHARED**

*From the Prophets*

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Pew Bible, p. 720

*From the Gospels*

Mark 10:46-52

p. 922

*Response*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

*The Rabbi's Ketuba*

Klezundheit!

*(A ketuba is a marriage contract.)*

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

*On the Road*

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We Share Our Joys and Concerns*

*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 SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS**

*Stewardship Moment*

Bob Moody, *Stewardship Committee*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Ukrainian Hoedown*

Klezundheit!

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

*After the Postlude, as the band disassembles, we will have a momentary break for the shifting of streaming service from YouTube to Zoom. Thank you for your patience.*

*If you would like to join us remotely for the Congregational Meeting on the Budget, please log out of YouTube and log in to Zoom.*

*The link to the meeting is [bit.ly/FCCWG-Meet2](https://bit.ly/FCCWG-Meet2);*

*if you are asked for a passcode, please enter **1stchurch**,*

*OR you can enter Meeting ID **890 5296 4458** with passcode **1stchurch**.*

*An online copy of the draft Budget may be downloaded from [bit.ly/2025-Draft-Budget](https://bit.ly/2025-Draft-Budget)*

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### **New WiFi Connection!**

first\_church\_guest | passcode: firstguest

You may have noticed that there are new instructions for how to connect to the internet using wifi. Security concerns have made it necessary for us to ask our members and friends no longer to wirelessly access the internet using the fccwgl hub. Please, ask your smart device to “forget” your familiar connection and login to our network using the “first\_church\_guest” connection and “firstguest” as your password. THANK YOU!

### **Assisted Listening Systems**

If you have an in-ear listening device connected to your mobile phone, such as hearing aids and stage monitors, you to listen to what’s going on in the sanctuary without wearing a separate hearing device. Simply download the **LISTEN WiFi App** from the App Store or the Google Play Store and connect to our wifi system (fccwg1 + password “firstchurch” – Yes, you’re the exceptions to the new WiFi connection.). Headsets connected to our historic listening system are also available from the Narthex table. *If you need help connecting, please see one of A/V Techs at the table in the southeast corner of the sanctuary.*

### **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](https://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 (and Pledge!) 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
- Scan the QR code.



### **A Puzzle Puzzle???**

It’s truly wonderful that so many people have donated their jigsaw puzzles for others to use, but... we have officially run out of room in the office to receive any more. There are a few boxes next to the shelf of puzzles; please use these to take puzzles to your favorite charity or library. Thank you!

## **Imagine Together!**

**November 17 will be Consecration Sunday.** On Consecration Sunday, we gather together to finalize our 2025 financial pledges to the Church and commit them prayerfully to God and one another. **Imagine Together** is the theme of this year's invitation to commitment. As you anticipate filling out your pledge card or completing the online pledge form at [FirstChurchWG.org/donate](http://FirstChurchWG.org/donate), please be imagining all the good we can do together as a church. The Christian life is a life of giving, as we emulate God's gifts to us. And although commitments of time and service are invaluable to our life as a faith community, committing from our income and assets enliven our ministries too. Please, consider "stepping up" your generosity in 2025, if you are able. **Then, don't miss Consecration Sunday, November 17!** *That's when, possibly best of all, we move from pie charts to pies: The Lady Elect Guild is planning a delicious menu of pies for after the service that day!*

## **Fresh Pecans Arriving in November**

Two cases (48 bags) of the fresh mammoth pecans have been ordered and should arrive in early November. They will be here in time for holiday baking. Get those recipes together! They will once again be \$15 per bag. Thank you! Debbie

## **Get Out the Vote**

On Sunday October 27, Saturday November 2, and Sunday November 3, Churches Together for Justice will be canvassing and phone-banking to residents in and around Webster Groves to Get Out The Vote (GOTV). There is also an important training session for GOTV participants before the canvassing dates. Notably, there will be no promotion of any particular position on any race, Amendment, or Proposition; this effort is only to get out the vote. If you are interested in participating, please contact Doug Miller to get the details.

## **Adult Education: Sabbatical Reports! November 10 and 17**

Pastor Dave Denoon will offer two presentations based on the research he did during his sabbatical (and continues to do). On Sunday, November 10, he will address the life and work of Jennie E. Davis Sharp, member of our Congregation and first Black schoolmistress of Webster Groves' "Colored School," 1878-1883. For her remaining 35 years, this plain-spoken and innovative educator ran a school for girls in Liberia. "The Rise and Fall of East Canada" is Pastor Dave's version of the story of Webster Groves Urban Renewal Plan, 1960-1974. In this presentation, you will learn why the African American population of Webster Groves has been steadily diminishing since that time. Both presentations will be offered in the sanctuary and live-streamed on YouTube.

## **Election Collection, November 5**

First Church will be hosting its first **Election Day Collection!** We will be collecting non-perishable food to benefit the St. Louis Area Food Bank and school supplies that for WRHM. The event will be held all day. Please see Chris von Weise if you would like to volunteer to help! **Spread the word about the Election Collection!**

## **Free COVID-19 Tests**

U.S. households are eligible, once again, to order 4 free COVID-19 tests at [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov). The COVID-19 Tests will detect current COVID-19 variants and can be used through the end of the year.

### **Gentle Reminders**

- **Reimbursements** – Please fill out a check request form found on the door of the 10 West Lockwood room in the office.
- **Maintenance Repair/Requests** – Please fill out the building use form found on the door of the 10 West Lockwood room in the office (preferably not a staff member).
- **Doors, Windows and Lights** – When you exit the building, please be sure that all the windows are closed, the doors where you are leaving are pushed shut (including outside and office doors), and all the lights are off.
- **Umbrellas** – Umbrellas in the vestibule and coat room are there for your convenience. When you return the one you've borrowed, please make sure it is entirely retracted.
- **Garden Umbrellas** – Please feel free to open the umbrellas in the garden, but please wind them down when you leave.
- **Please do not leave dirty dishes in the sink in the office.**

### **November Meal-a-Month Shopping List**

Canned Salmon or Tuna (in water) • Canned Spinach (no salt)  
Applesauce (in plastic, no sugar added)  
Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk  
Soap • Deodorant • Toilet Paper

### **Remaining October Birthdays**

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Braeden Hood | October 29 |
| David Denoon | October 30 |

### **November Birthdays**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Lynda Morrison    | November 2  |
| Keith Moore       | November 5  |
| Andrea Welnick    | November 9  |
| Nina Thompson     | November 12 |
| Joseph Weyhrich   | November 13 |
| Carolyn Woodsmall | November 18 |
| Jennifer Monaco   | November 19 |
| Chris von Weise   | November 25 |
| Kristy Barton     | November 27 |
| Pat Schutte       | November 27 |
| Joan Musbach      | November 30 |



**What's Happening at First Church  
Sunday, October 27**

*Reformation/Reconciliation Sunday*

*UCC Higher Education Sunday*

*Sunday after Simchat Torah*

**9:45AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00AM** WORSHIP (Klezundheit!)

**10:15AM** Kids' Church

**11:05AM** Congregational Meeting on the Budget

**11:20AM** Coffee Fellowship

**11:25AM** Peace & Justice Meeting – Library

**Monday, October 28**

**7:00PM** Scout Troops 301 – Dickens Room

**7:00PM** Executive Ministry – Zoom

**Tuesday, October 29**

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

**Wednesday, October 30**

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

**6:00PM** Bridge Club – Inglis Room

**Thursday, October 31**

*Halloween*

**6:00PM** Canterbury Bells – Sanctuary

**7:30PM** Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

**Sunday, November 3**

*Remembrance Sunday*

*Daylight Savings Ends*

*Sacrament of Christ's Table*

**9:45AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00AM** WORSHIP

**10:15AM** Kids' Church

**11:20AM** Coffee Fellowship

**Monday, November 4**

**7:00PM** Scout Troops 301 – Dickens Room

**Tuesday, November 5**

**6:00AM – 7:00PM** –General Election

**6:00AM – 7:00PM** –Election Collection

**1:00PM** Communications Team – Church Office

**Wednesday, November 6**

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

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

**6:00PM** Bridge Club – Inglis Room



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314-962-0475  
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## Contact Information

Moderator – Doug Barton  
iyell4@aol.com

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Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi  
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Custodian & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf  
mark.metcalf@firstchurchwg.org

Weekend & Events Custodians –  
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

**THE VISION** of First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, United Church of Christ, is to be a dynamic Christian community expressing God's love, hope, joy, and peace for all people.

### OUR MISSION is to provide:

- Worship that praises God
  - ◇ Shows commitment to the teachings of Jesus
  - ◇ Celebrates the Holy Spirit in ways that express the diversity of our experiences
  - ◇ Encourages spiritual growth and commitment
- Educational activities that promote faith and intellectual growth for children and for adults.
- Advocacy and care for those in need in our community and throughout the world.
- Community that seeks justice, loves kindness, and walks humbly.
- Hope, love, and encouragement to all who seek our support.
- Grace and forgiveness for ourselves and all who seek the ministries we share in worship, music, and fellowship with others on life's journey.

## Follow us on

Facebook

@FirstChurchWG

Instagram

@webstergroves\_firstchurch

YouTube

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

