



WEBSTER HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Social Justice Newsletter

May 2024

Upcoming Events



**WEBSTER HILLS UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

WELCOME NEIGHBOR STL

SATURDAY, June 1st at 11:30 am
698 W. Lockwood, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Saturday, June 1st at 11:30 am in the CLC

Welcome Neighbor STL International Supper Club to support immigrant families in St. Louis. This meal presents an opportunity for immigrant families to share knowledge and unique skills, for us to get a glimpse into their culture, and can set them on a path of greater independence and confidence in their lives here in the USA. For more info contact Trish Wright.

<https://welcomeneighborstl.org/events/international-lunch-for-webster-hills-umc-june-1/>



**Guns to
Gardens**

**Guns to Gardens Event
June 8, 10-12pm**

**Wear Orange March and Rally
June 9, 1130-3pm**

Both events at Webster Groves Presbyterian

Guns to Gardens Safe Surrender event and the Wear Orange March and Rally are hosted by Webster Groves Presbyterian Church as part of the nationwide grassroots movement taking action to raise awareness and prevent gun violence. To volunteer or learn more contact Dwight Bitikofer.

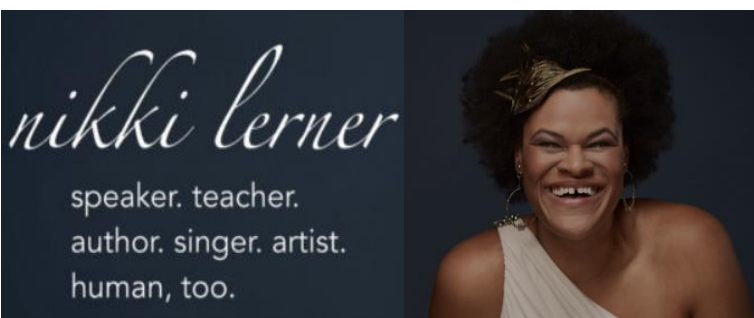


**5k Race
Saturday June 15th
8:30-10:30am
Delmar Loop**



**Maafa Experience
Saturday June 22nd
9-1pm
Old Cathedral**

The Race For Reconciliation is a 5K run/walk with the goal of promoting racial unity in St. Louis to bring the message of racial unity to the historic Delmar Divide. The Maafa Experience (Kiswahili word translated as "great disaster or tragedy") will honor, through prayer and reflection, the African people who suffered through the Middle Passage of the Transatlantic slave trade and include song, spoken word, fellowship, and a walking tour of areas that are relevant to the enslaved of African's in St. Louis. For more information go to <https://www.togetherstl.com/> or contact Lynn Hitner.



nikki lerner
speaker. teacher.
author. singer. artist.
human, too.

Join us on **August 24th and 25th** for a special event with UMC Culture Coach Nikki Lerner as she brings her passion and experience to inspire our journey towards health diversity through music and conversation. Additional details and registration will follow. For questions contact Lisa Miller.

<https://www.nikkilerner.com/>

News you can use

UNITED METHODIST REVISED SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

At General Conference in Charlotte NC, delegates voted to eliminate harmful language in the revised Social Principles and reverse multiple denominational constraints on ministry with and by LGBTQ members.



Resources



The Missouri Conference has produced a graphics package about the uniting power of love, called **Love Unites**, in time for another divisive election year. Print-ready files are available for download, so you can produce yard signs, banners, T-shirts and profile pic frame.

<https://www.moumethodist.org/resourcedetail/hate-divides-love-unites-materials-18327143>



Juneteenth (June 19) marks the day in 1865 when U.S. federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take control of the state and ensure all African Americans were freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation had been signed. The date is now a federal holiday. The Missouri Conference encourages local churches to observe and celebrate Juneteenth. We've compiled a resource list to help you do so.

[Juneteenth Resources \(moumethodist.org\)](https://www.moumethodist.org)

The Social Justice Ministry Team at Webster Hills United Methodist Church seeks to advance inclusion, affirmation, and equity for all of God's creation through deliberate and honest awareness, education, and action. We strive to stand up against evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves and to live out the teachings of Jesus.

Team members: Lisa Miller, Dwight Bitikofer, Linda Craig, Rebecca Grimes, Lynn Hitner, Don Kayser, Dan Ruzicka, and Trish Wright

To learn more or join, please contact Lisa Miller at spurz@sbcglobal.net