

# Helping out, one backpack at a time

There will be a meeting following worship this Sunday, January 31, to discuss the new Backpack Nutrition Ministry of WGCC. The meeting will be held in The Chapel.

This is an exciting opportunity to positively impact the lives of families whose children attend the Educare Head Start program in Meacham Park, just a few miles from our building.

The director has identified 15 families who really struggle to provide sufficient nutritious food for their children on weekends. Members of Webster Groves Christian Church have stepped up by making the financial commitment to send home a bag of food items each Friday for those families.

But much work and coordination still needs to be done. We'll need people to purchase and collect food, to package the food and transport it, for example.

All interested parties are invited to attend this Sunday to learn more about this exciting mission initiative, and to find out how YOU can help out!

This new opportunity is a wonderful chance to increasingly live out our mission of following the teachings of Jesus by sacrificially serving people who are marginalized!

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# It's time to practice your pancake flipping skills!

The C.W.F./ D.W. are sponsoring the Church's annual Pancake Supper on February 9 from 5 pm to 7 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Paul and Sharon Jones have graciously agreed to do the cooking again this year. Expect some surprises and just GOOD eating!!

I will be asking for volunteers to help with all the jobs needed to make the evening a success.

Please mark you calendar and plan to be with us. A free-will offering will be accepted.

This year's proceeds will go to the preschool backpack nutrition program. A backpack filled with nutritional food will be given to selected families from the Educare Head Start program in Meacham Park each Friday.

Thanks, Sally Smith

**W.G.C.C.**  
**PANCAKE SUPPER**  
**TUESDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2016**  
**5-7 PM**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
**SPONSORED: C.W.F./D.W.**  
**FREE WILL OFFERING**  
**PROCEEDS GO TO:**  
**PRE-SCHOOL BACKPACK NUTRITION PROGRAM**

**WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**1320 W. LOCKWOOD AVE**  
**GLENDALE, MO**

**314-961-3232**



# Discovery: the road ahead

After all of the hard work and prayerful consideration undertaken by our congregation we determined our "why" or purpose for being: "Following Jesus' teaching by sacrificially serving the people who are the most marginalized."

But this is only the beginning. Our next step is to discover our "what," or more specifically, in what direction do we want to focus our purpose.

## **Feb. 7: Uncovering our "what"**

We hope to make great strides uncovering our "what" at the next Congregational Roundtable which will take place following services on Sunday, Feb. 7.

## **April 24: Structure and transformation**

There is another Congregational Roundtable scheduled for Sunday, April 24, where we will discuss some structural issues regarding the transformational process we have been undergoing for the past two years, specifically regarding our congregational constitution.

## **May 22: Congregational meeting**

This will all culminate in our annual congregational meeting which will take place following services on Sunday, May 22.

These are exciting times in the life of Webster Groves Christian Church and your input is invaluable in determining our future. Please plan on attending.

Mat DeKinder

## **This Sunday, bring two cans along**

The meeting on February 7 will have a "Souper-Bowl" style luncheon - bring one can of soup to eat, and one to share. You can bring your soup starting this Sunday, January 31, so that we can have soup ready to go at the meeting!



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## **Week of Compassion**

The Week of Compassion special offering will be collected on February 21 and 28; more info at <http://www.weekofcompassion.org/>

## **Ash Wednesday**

The Ash Wednesday worship service will be held at 7pm on February 10 in the Chapel.

# Our newest members: Meet the Worsdells

Matt and Sarah Worsdell and their daughter Xanzie come from Dover Place Christian Church. Matt's parents and grandparents were very active in the church at Dover Place from the time Matt was a toddler. Sarah and Xanzie were raised Lutheran, but joined Matt as members of the Disciples of Christ church after their marriage at Dover Place in January 2011.

**Matt** is a self-employed artist, specializing in sci-fi movie props. He is also a production manager at a local sign shop. A

consummate artist and craftsman, he has been working in the creative service industry for over 20 years. In his spare time, Matt enjoys music, cooking, and caring for his family.

**Sarah** works for the Department of Mental Health as a behavior resource specialist and parenting coach. She has degrees in Special Education and Educational Technology and is currently working toward her doctorate in Behavior Analysis. Sarah also enjoys music, art, and antiques.

**Xanzie** is in ninth grade and enjoys learning about Greek mythology and the history of the Roman empire. Xanzie has many interests including belly dancing, singing, playing the piano and guitar. She likes writing poems and short stories and is currently working on two books. She also likes polymer sculpture, beading, painting, knitting, crocheting, and leather work. Fun family activities include Star Wars light saber battles, attending Renaissance Faires and Sci-Fi Conventions. In her spare time, Xanzie likes spending time with her English Labrador, Didi.



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**Calling All Youth!!!!** All 4th - 12th grade youth are invited to participate in Youth Group. Regular meetings are scheduled for second Sundays following worship and third Sundays at 5 pm.

There is a Congressional Round Table Discussion following worship on Sunday, February 7. Youth are encouraged to attend and help Webster Groves Christian Church shape the direction of our purpose.

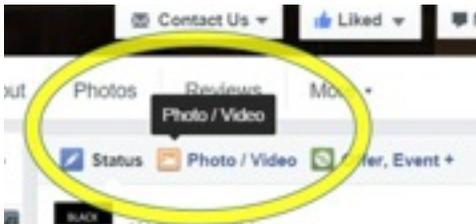
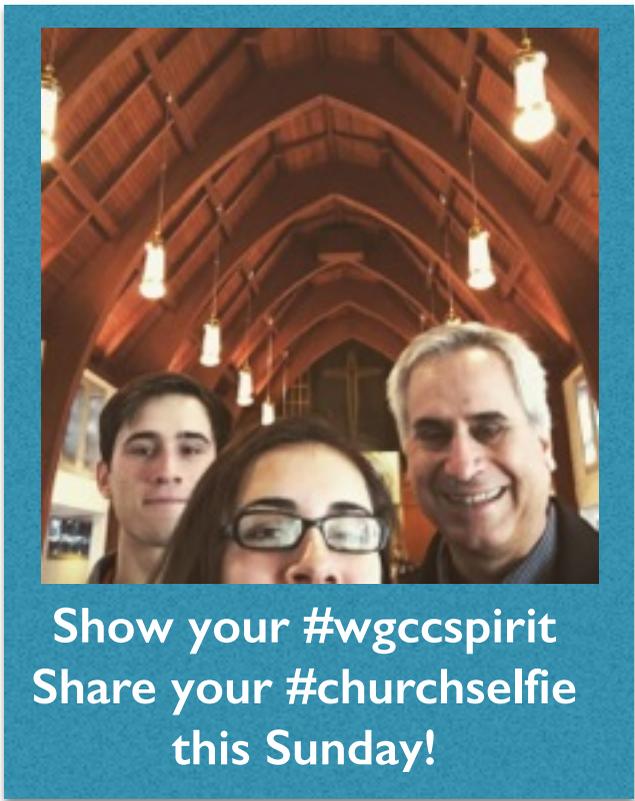
The Youth Group next meets on Sunday, February 14. We will set up for Room at the Inn after worship, followed by a lunch meeting. Our evening meeting on Sunday, February 21, will include planning future activities with St. Charles Christian Church as well as summer mission experiences. We welcome angels to provide lunch or dinner for our meetings. A sign-up sheet is located outside of the Sanctuary.

In Christ, Beth Cooley, Brendan Tedford, and Carole Hughes

Taking our lead from the Rose family, we are asking for folks to post their WGCC selfies on our Facebook page. This is another way to clearly show the world who we are and where we do God's work.

Simply type "Webster Groves Christian Church" (without quotation marks) in the search bar on Facebook or if you already have our page bookmarked, just use that.

When you arrive, please "Like" our page, if you have not already done so. We thrive on Likes!)



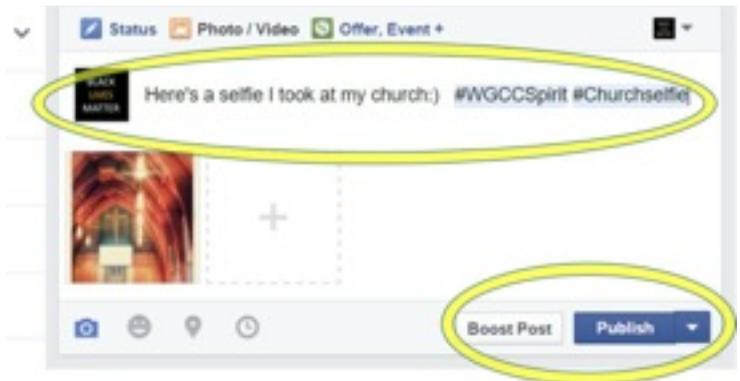
Below the banner post are several options. Choose "Photo/Video" (between "Status" and "Offer, Event").

Choose "Upload Photos/Video" from the drop-down list.

Navigate to your photo wherever you have it stored and click to download to the WGCC FB page.

Add any comments or identifiers desired, along with the hashtags #WGCCspirit and #Churchselfie to amplify our reach.

Choose "Publish" to share your WGCC selfie.



NOTE: If you already have a WGCC selfie previously published on FB, just make sure the image is marked as "Public" to share it to our page.

FOR NON-Facebook FOLKS: If you are NOT on Facebook, but would still like to be part of our project, we will take selfies of you after the completion of worship on Sunday, January 31, to post to our site. Dress nice and bring a smile.

Please contact John Smith with any questions or if you experience problems posting your WGCC selfie or using FB: Mobile: 314-960-6621 or email to [stratlearning@hotmail.com](mailto:stratlearning@hotmail.com)

## ‘Good Negroes’ exhibit through February

An art exhibit titled "Good Negroes" is challenging viewers' thoughts about racial inequality in the St. Louis region. The exhibit opened at the Gallery at Webster Groves Christian Church on Monday, Jan. 18, and runs through Feb. 28.

This exhibition seeks to take a look at what it means for black people in the region to “be happy.” The artists hope to address what happiness looks like, whether it is found through participation in protests, or in following the unwritten rules that serve as foundational for St. Louis in order to not make social or cultural waves.



Above: Terrell Carter, Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Sean Frye, and Denise Ward-Brown at the gallery opening. Left: patrons look over some of Ward-Brown's work.

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## WGCC Legacy Fund Financially Supports the Church

The WGCC permanent fund, named the Legacy Fund, has provided financial support to the mission and ministry of the church since its creation in 1995.

The original deposit creating the fund at Christian Church Foundation was for \$5,024.17. Over those 20 years, saints of WGCC who have gone before have given \$1,090,180.52 to the fund. The funds are invested and overseen by the Foundation. Each year, WGCC draws 4% of the investment balance and uses those funds to support the church's mission and ministries.

In those 20 years, \$650,720.76 has come back to the church and used for mission and ministry.

Over the years, average investment returns have exceeded 4%, growing the fund balance to \$1,241,450.71 at the end of 2015, well over the amount invested!

In the current church fiscal year, \$52,000 will be drawn from the investment, which is 14.5% of the entire church's budget.

Gifts to the Legacy Fund truly become the gift that keeps on giving, and in this way, our gifts can offer impact to the mission and ministry in perpetuity, long after we are gone, just as the gifts given by those before us continue supporting the church today and in perpetuity.

For the Legacy Fund trustees

# When the floods came, WGCC was there to help

Dear Jeff and the congregation of Webster Groves Christian,

At the heart of Christ's ministry is sharing others' burdens particularly during times of loss. We extend our deep gratitude in the receipt of your very kind donation of \$500 for the individuals who have been displaced by the floods this last December in Pacific, Missouri.

Your generous donation will help us to continue our mission to serve our community and help to ease their loss. Your donation has allowed us to help people with housing, hotel bills, dumpster rentals, furnishings needs, and the purchase of autism-weighted blankets as well as a host of other desperately needed items. Whether helping people to make ends meet or to counseling people after the devastating loss you and your generosity makes all we do more possible. Your money allows us to be the hands and feet of Christ here in Pacific, Missouri and the surrounding communities during this season of loss for so many folks.

Thank you once again, for being a part of our ministry to the people in Pacific United Methodist Church and the surrounding communities.

Reverend Dr. Nora Jones,

Pastor of Pacific United Methodist Church



Contribute to the Heifer Project at our Team Page, <http://www.bit.ly/wgccheifer2016>

or by scanning this QR code.

## A thank you for the Heifer Ranch

Thank you for your gift of \$1,256 to the Heifer Ranch Learning Center. Your generous donation is fostering global and sustainable changes in the lives of families and communities struggling for self-reliance.

Your congregation's selfless giving multiplies, and provides hardworking families with the tools and resources needed to triumph over hunger and poverty. Thank you all for being global change-makers!

Pierre U. Ferrari, President/CEO

# Volunteers needed for the Webster Cafe



Fellowship is such an important aspect of being part of a church family, and in welcoming others on Sunday mornings. Please consider volunteering as a Webster cafe host(ess) this year!

Duties include making coffee at 8:30 am, setting out light refreshments at 10 and cleaning up at 10:30. Please call Linda Wilmoth at 405-808-6201 with any questions.

There are slots for two people on each Sunday; one person could host by themselves, but more hands make the load light!

Sign up at <http://bit.ly/cafewgcc>

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## This month: 'Inside Out' for film, faith and fun

Join us for a free movie each of these Friday nights at 7 pm. We will show the movie and offer discussion time afterward. We will also be selling concessions with proceeds going to one of our mission partners. Every other month will feature a movie either appropriate for adults, or for the whole family. (Child care will be provided for those movie nights for adults.)

**February 5 - Inside Out** After young Riley is uprooted from her Midwest life and moved to San Francisco, her emotions - Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness - conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house, and school. Rated: PG Mission partner: The Shepherd's Center

For more information, visit [www.malala.org](http://www.malala.org)

### Save the dates ....

**March 4 - Life of Brian** Brian is born on the original Christmas, in the stable next door. He spends his life being mistaken for a messiah. (warning: contains suggestive language and brief nudity.) Rated: R Mission partner: Habitat for Humanity

**April 1 - Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day** - Drive-In Style! Alexander's day begins with gum stuck in his hair, followed by more calamities. Rated: PG Mission partner: Webster/Rock Hill Ministries

**May 6 - The Perks of Being a Wallflower** An introvert freshman is taken under the wings of two seniors who welcome him to the real world. Rating: PG-13 Mission partner: WGCC Pridefest Participation

**June 3 - Guardians of the Galaxy** - Drive-In Style! A group of intergalactic criminals are forced to work together to stop a fanatical warrior from taking control of the universe. Rated: PG-13 Mission partner: Global Ministries

# IN OUR PRAYERS ...

## • RECENT PRAYERS

- Marilyn Stewart, as she recovers from surgery
- Nicole, a friend of Laura Stutzer's battling breast cancer
- Gloria Hutchings, who is 95 percent recovered and hopes to be back at church soon
- Michelle Fielden, as she recovers from a car accident
- Arlene Sullivan, who was hospitalized briefly after a fall
- Diane Mark's sister Andrea, who is having a knee replacement
- For 2 colleagues of Carolbeth True's daughter in law who are dealing with cancer
- Kathy Carson, who is battling cancer

- Vicki Ott's stepmother, who is continuing in recovery
- John Christensen, recovering from an appendectomy
- Xander Gerdes, also recovering from an appendectomy
- Dorothy Wood, health issues

## • JOYS

- For a phenomenal opening of our art gallery's current exhibit
- John Burney's father turned 103, and is sharper than John, according to a source close to the family
- Joy of seeing Gilda Rzchowski healthy enough to be back in church
- For Jenna Rose's safe return from Zambia
- A new great-grandson for Jim and Anna Mae Bottorff

## • COMMUNITY

- For the citizens of Flint, Michigan dealing with their water crisis
- For the families of Meacham Park struggling with poverty
- For patience and understanding in dealing with social media
- For those dealing with recent flooding and other natural disasters

## • LONG-TERM CONCERNS

- Bill Woodrome
- Hank and Jane Martin
- Gloria Bitza
- Louise Larsen
- Dorothy Wood
- Marion Cadwallader
- John Norris
- George Estes

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## How about some coffee? It's on us

Come join our Free Coffee Ministry on the first Wednesday of each month!

Join the fun of meeting and greeting the Lockwood travelers who swing through our drive for their morning fair trade buzz. We give free coffee and our hearty "Have a great day!"

Serving 6:30 - 8:30 AM - Feb. 3

Talk to Pat Roseman to volunteer, 636-220-9237 or [roseman.pat@gmail.com](mailto:roseman.pat@gmail.com)





Thanks to the generosity of WGCC members, collections for the Lesotho Motorcycle Project stand at \$3,120 against a goal of \$3,000! We will be forwarding the monies to Global Ministries this week. More info at <http://www.globalministries.org/>



## Visions of hope

Jenna Rose recently completed a trip to Zambia volunteering for African Vision of Hope with its educational efforts. While there, she worked with communities to help educate, equip and empower the future leaders of Africa.

## Coming up at the Shepherd's Center

### Mark Senior Prom!

Friday, February 12, 3-5 pm

Webster Hills UMC, 1333 W. Lockwood

Join the fun and dancing at the 4th annual Senior Prom. Relive your high school senior prom with music, dancing, friends, refreshments and a disco ball! All generations are welcome – invite your favorite older adult or a grandchild. Bring your favorite dance song on a CD and we'll spin it. Admission \$5, proceeds benefit Haiti relief. Call 314-395-0988 for more information.

### 13th Annual Taste of Webster-Kirkwood Chef Wars!

Sunday, April 17, 5:30-8 pm

Kirkwood Community Center, 111 S. Geyer

Join in the fun, food and festivities! Senior Living Communities compete for the best entrée and best dessert. Local establishments share their best appetizers and libations. Tickets go on sale in February. For more information, call 314-395-0988.

# FEBRUARY EVENTS

<b>SUNDAY, JAN. 31:</b>	9 a.m.: Christian formation 10:30 a.m.: Worship noon: Meeting on Backpack Nutrition Ministry (Chapel)
<b>MONDAY, FEB. 1</b>	10 a.m.: Book of 12 prophets Bible study Zechariah (Library)
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 2:</b>	6:30 p.m.: Painting and drawing meet up group. Fellowship Hall
<b>WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3:</b>	6:30 a.m.: Coffee ministry (Parking lot)
<b>FRIDAY, FEB. 5:</b>	7 p.m.: Film and Faith
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 7:</b>	9 a.m.: Christian formation 10:30 a.m.: Worship noon: Congregational roundtable
<b>MONDAY, FEB. 8:</b>	10 a.m.: Book of 12 prophets Bible study Malachi (Library)
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 9:</b>	5 - 7 p.m.: CWF Pancake supper (Fellowship Hall)
<b>WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10:</b>	7 p.m.: Ash Wednesday service (Chapel)
<b>THURSDAY, FEB. 11</b>	7:30 a.m.: Foodbank Run CWF group meetings
<b>FRIDAY, FEB. 12:</b>	3 p.m.: Shepherd's Center senior prom
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 14:</b>	9 a.m.: Christian formation 10:30 a.m.: Worship noon: Youth Group 5 p.m.: Room at the Inn
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 16:</b>	6:30 p.m.: Painting and drawing meet up group. Fellowship Hall
<b>THURSDAY, FEB. 18:</b>	9:30 a.m.: Stich & sew for BRO
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 21:</b>	9 a.m.: Christian formation 10:30 a.m.: Worship Week of Compassion offering 5 p.m.: Youth Group
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 23</b>	Deadline for Feb. Witness
<b>THURSDAY, FEB. 25:</b>	9 a.m.: CWF Cardmakers (Fellowship Hall) 5 p.m.: Room at the Inn
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 28:</b>	9 a.m.: Christian formation 10:30 a.m.: Worship Week of Compassion offering

# Webster Groves Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

A Global Mission Congregation  
1320 West Lockwood Ave.  
St. Louis MO 63122



The current edition of the SEGA connection newsletter is available at [www.segadisciples.org](http://www.segadisciples.org)

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