



The Witness

Webster Groves Christian Church/Disciples of Christ

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 5

A GLOBAL MISSION CONGREGATION

MAY 2016

Our congregation is celebrating how we have been blessed by God.

We are making important decisions about how we will answer God's call to serve our neighbors.

Please be praying about the resources you will generously offer to help us be a witness for wholeness in a fragmented world.



**MAY 15
COMMITMENT
SUNDAY**

We will offer estimates of giving.

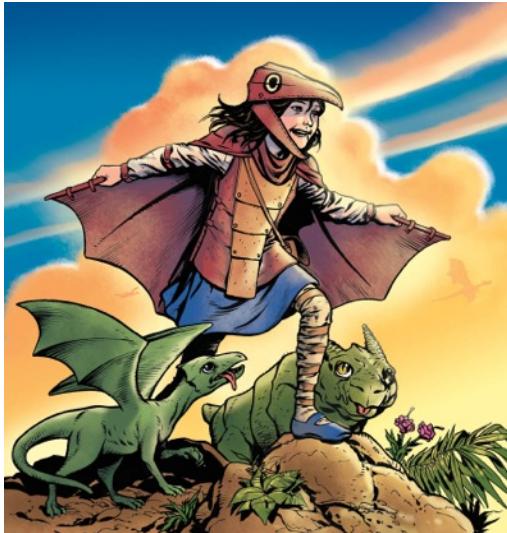
We will hear NBA XPLOR resident Evan Stanfill preach.

We will join together in a church-wide Pentecost Picnic!

In the weeks ahead you'll hear stories of how we are engaged as a congregation in mission transformation.

You are invited to join other members of our faith community in deciding to increase the size of our financial gifts this year.

Join us for Commitment Sunday on Pentecost, May 15.



'Read With Me' gallery opening on May 15

Join us for the opening of the art show "Read With Me" from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on May 15 at the Gallery within Webster Groves Christian Church.

The show continues through June 26. It is a show of art students of John Dyess at Meramec Community College with an assignment that promotes learning to read and reading. The show also features the illustrations and graphic novels written and illustrated by local artist Jeff Weigel.

WE COULD USE A HAND

Coffee on the first Wednesday and Friday

First Wednesday of every month you will find WGCC members offering free coffee and a hearty "Have a grand day" to the early-morning travelers on Lockwood.

BUT...Did you know that the First Friday of each month we also offer free coffee and a hearty "Have a grand day" to the parents at the Educare Head Start in Meacham Park when they drop their children off for a day of learning?

We welcome anyone who wants to join us. It's only one time a month for each morning.

Contact Pat Roseman, 636-220-9237, or the church office.

The Webster Groves Cafe on Sunday mornings

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; setting out light refreshments at 10:00 a.m.; and cleaning up at 10:30. Please call Linda Wilmoth at 405-808-6201 with any questions.

There are slots for 2 people on each Sunday; one person could host by themselves, but more hands make the load light!

Sign up at bit.ly/cafewgcc

Mowing the lawn this summer

The Green Team could use your help!

Our grass cutters could use the help of one more volunteer on their rotation this year. We want to keep the same size, which would mean teams would mow approximately once a month.

Volunteers can call Ken Rainey at 314-722-3535.



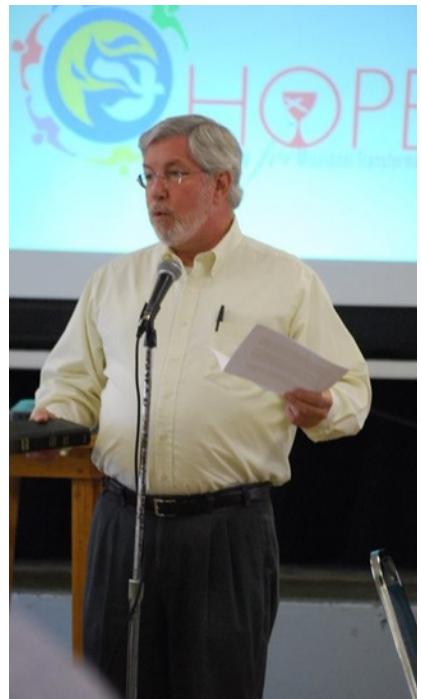
A focus on community. A focus on children.

On Sunday, April 24, about 40 WGCC members gathered to participate in a delicious lunch, including menu items from our Project NOW (Nutrition on Weekends) program, and to hear and discuss some of the directions and proposals that have arisen

through our 18-month transformation and study process with HOPE Partnership. John Pahl and Jeff Moore presented a review of the work of the congregation over the last 18 months, including our retreats, round tables, meetings, community interview, conversations, community mapping, statistical analysis, and educational sessions. They presented three key findings:

- WGCC members and friends are strongly committed to expressing their faith lives as followers of Jesus through serving the most marginalized in our community and in the world.
- Most WGCC members who have participated in the process have expressed the desire to explore and pursue new and faithful ways to engage and serve those in most need in our local community through utilizing our building as a mission site.
- An important community need that we feel we may be able to address is the care and education of the most marginalized young children (especially early childhood) and their families living within the Webster Groves and Kirkwood school districts.

We spent time together on Sunday sharing ideas and imagining together ways that we might partner with others in our community to help improve access to quality education and care for the most marginalized young children and their families in the Webster-Kirkwood area.



5 PM SATURDAY, APRIL 30, AT WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH



A Little Help From My Friends

The Wind of the Spirit will help Webster-Rock Hill Ministries meet its new commitments to the neighborhood with a FREE concert at Webster Groves Christian Church on Saturday, April 30 at 5 p.m.

As part of the fundraising effort for WRHM, we are asking members to donate desserts (cakes, pies, cookies) which will be sold at the concert to help raise extra funds. If you are able to help out, we ask that you do not cut the cakes or pies. They will be portioned out here at the church and priced in a way that benefits WRHM! Pat Roseman and Becky Piening have agreed to help spearhead this effort.

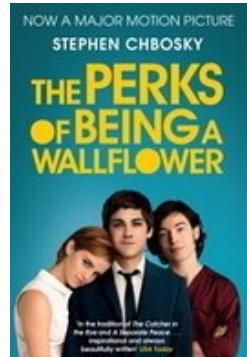
Also, please remember that we have raffle tickets available for a Beatles boxed set of CD's/DVD's that can be purchased or checked out from the church and sold to your friends, relatives and neighbors. The tickets are \$1 each, and the boxed set is a \$50 value.

All proceeds of the raffle, concessions and any other donations will go directly to Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Wallflowers - and their friends - are welcome

Join us at 7 p.m. Friday, May 6, for a free showing of the movie "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," followed by a 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.)

Friday, 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.
Stars: Logan Lerman, Emma Watson, Ezra Miller. Rated: PG-13.
Mission partner: WGCC Pridefest Participation



7 PM FRIDAY, MAY 6, AT WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH

6 PM FRIDAY, APRIL 29, AT UNION AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Following the fatal shooting of young adult Michael Brown on Aug. 9, 2014, by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson, several Disciples clergy and laypersons joined many others in community responses for justice in Ferguson and beyond.

The documentary “Injustice Anywhere” arose in the midst of collective conversations and work of several expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including key activist clergy and laypersons in the St. Louis area.

The film will be shown Friday, April 29, at Union Avenue Christian Church. The evening begins with a reception at 6 pm, followed by the screening at 6:30, and a panel discussion at 7:15.

The National Benevolent Association commissioned this gathering of stories after the death of Michael Brown in August 2014 on behalf of local Disciples seeking to respond to the crisis. The viewpoints presented here reflect a story of collective experiences from individuals impacted by the events in Ferguson and do not necessarily represent the views of these supporting organizations.

Can high school students help heal St. Louis?

A panel of students from Webster Groves High School and Riverview Gardens School District who have been a part of the Gateway 2 Change project will talk about their focus on improving race relations throughout the St. Louis area.

The discussion is 6 p.m. Thursday, April 28, at First United Methodist Church and is part of the next meeting of the Alliance for Interracial Dignity.

There will also be a presentation by the North Webster Coalition by Daniel Jackson and updates from the Alliance subcommittees.

For additional information call
314-918-4008



“Black and Blue,” a play by Lee Patton Chiles developed after the events around Ferguson, is being presented by the Alliance for Interracial Dignity at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 22, at Webster Groves High School.

The work is an original play of hope and healing, exploring the assumptions that all young black men are dangerous, and that all cops are bad.

Tickets are free. You can register and make donations at <http://www.gitana-inc.org> or call 314-721-6556

Recent Concerns

- Donna Wolff's mother-in-law recently broke her leg
- Vicki Ott's stepmother, Barbara Hobb, who is in hospice
- A former 7th grade student of Diane Mark's, who died recently
- Judy, a friend of Lawrence Ludwig, having a kidney removed
- Imogene, aunt of John Gerdes, who has cancer
- Fred, friend of Carolyn Dyess, with throat cancer
- Mony Tes, who has complications from diabetes
- Michelle Fielden, regaining strength after car accident
- Tim Nile, friend of Adam Rose, whose mom recently died
- Donna Wolff's friend Sue, dealing with the loss of a daughter

- Diana Knuckles' brother and family, who were victims of a hate crime
- Linda, a friend of Laura Stuetzer's, who fell and broke her neck
- Marilyn Nennert asks prayers for her daughter-in-law, who is in hospice
- Prayers for Mike Moran's father and family, as his father has been admitted to a memory-care unit for ALZ care

Thanks for ...

- Shirley Arther, who was back in church after recent illness
- The love and support of our Nutrition On Weekends program
- Thanks for those who helped with the recent church cleanup.
- Carole Hughes' Uncle Lester, who is 108 years old

Community

- For the families of Meacham Park struggling with poverty
- For patience and understanding in dealing with social media
- For community conversation in election season

In our prayers

- Bill Woodrome
- Hank and Jane Martin
- Gloria Bitza
- Louise Larsen
- Dorothy Wood
- Marion Cadwallader
- John Norris
- George Estes
- Doris Derickson
- Kathy Carson
- Michelle Fielden

* Hap & Jane Michener



Longtime WGCC member Frances Head turns 100 years young on May 6!

We would like to shower her with cards for this momentous occasion, so cards may be sent directly to her residence at:

Ms Frances Head
680 Applewood Dr.
Kirkwood, MO 63122

If you would rather drop the cards off at the church office, we will do a mass mailing to her before that date.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- THURSDAY, APRIL 28:** 6 p.m.: “Gateway 2 Change,” First United Methodist Church
- FRIDAY, APRIL 29:** 6 p.m.: “Injustice Anywhere,” Union Avenue Church
- SATURDAY, APRIL 30:** 5 p.m.: Beatles show for WRHM, Webster Groves Christian Church
- SUNDAY, MAY 1:** 9 a.m.: Christian formation
10:30 a.m.: Worship
2 p.m.: Carolbeth True student recital
- TUESDAY, MAY 3:** 6:30 p.m.: Painting and drawing meet up group. Fellowship Hall
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 4:** 6:30 a.m.: Coffee ministry (Parking lot)
- THURSDAY, MAY 5:** 11 a.m.: Disciples Women/CWF business meeting and luncheon
- FRIDAY, MAY 6:** 7 p.m.: Film and Faith, “The Perks of Being a Wallflower”
- SUNDAY, MAY 8:** 9 a.m.: Christian formation
10:30 a.m.: Worship
5 p.m.: Room at the Inn
5 p.m.: Youth Group
- THURSDAY, MAY 12:** 7:30 a.m.: Foodbank Run
CWF group meetings
- SUNDAY, MAY 15:** **Pentecost Sunday - Commitment Sunday**
9 a.m.: Christian formation
10:30 a.m.: Worship
Noon: Potluck celebration
5 p.m.: Youth Group
5:30 p.m.: Art gallery opening: Read To Me
- TUESDAY, MAY 17:** 6:30 p.m.: Painting and drawing meet up group. Fellowship Hall
- THURSDAY, MAY 19:** 9:30 a.m.: Stich & sew for BRO
- SUNDAY, MAY 22:** 9 a.m.: Christian formation
10:30 a.m.: Worship
Noon: Congregational meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- THURSDAY, MAY 26:** 9 a.m.: CWF Cardmakers (Fellowship Hall)
5 p.m.: Room at the Inn
- SUNDAY, MAY 29:** 9 a.m.: Christian formation
10:30 a.m.: Worship

Carolbeth True invites all of us to her students' piano recital at 2 p.m. Sunday at Webster Groves Christian Church sanctuary.

Refreshments served after the recital.

Steve Staicoff would like to thank the church for the gift certificate presented to him on Administrative Professionals Day. He says: “I do truly appreciate the thoughtful and generous folks of this congregation!”

**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

Webster Groves Christian Church
1320 West Lockwood Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63122
Phone: 314-961-3232 / Website: www.wgcc.org

Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore, Pastor	jeffmoore@wgcc.org
Robin Woodrome, Choir Director	
Lisa Cripe, Organist	lisacripe@wgcc.org
Jeff Wolf, Lead Custodian	jeffwolf@wgcc.org
Gary Smith, Custodian	
Steve Staicoff, Office Manager	admin@wgcc.org
Witness Articles	brosepd@hotmail.com