



Webster Groves Christian Church/Disciples of Christ

NOV. 2018

[illegible]

Project NOW: Spicing up the season in a new way. Page 5.

Disciples women plan a mission-filled November

November brings cooler weather and lots to do!

The beginning of the holiday season means many opportunities to show our love to others. There will not be a luncheon meeting and program in November. This gives us an extra day to help others. The card making ladies will be working on Thursday, Nov. 1 and 29. If you have the time, please stop by.

In the afternoon of Nov. 1, Pat Roseman and 'crew' will be dividing up the laundry detergent into smaller containers to take to the Webster/Rock Hill Ministries for distribution through their food bank program. We collected \$71 for the purchase of the detergent, so there will be lots of soap to divide up! Please come at 2 pm to Fellowship Hall to help with this project.

The service project for November is non-perishable food. We want to focus on bringing in extra food for the Memorial Boulevard Christian Church's food bank. Drop off your contribution to the bin in the tower hallway.

Also, part of the service project for November is filling the N.O.W. bags with Thanksgiving dinner for the families at the Meacham Park Head Start preschool.

Each of the three women's groups are asked to fill five bags. Please bring the filled bags to the stage in Fellowship Hall on Nov. 14 or 15. See Page 5 for details

Group meetings:

Nov. 8 : Lydia group: 9:30 a.m.; Gilda Rzechowski's home

Nov. 8: Martha group: 12:30 p.m.: Heritage Room, Alice Yount & Vicki Ott hosting

Nov. 15: Tabitha group: 7 p.m.; Heritage room, Diane Mark hosting

The Bible Study for November will be on Jeremiah. Read Jeremiah 1:49.

- Sally Smith

The Power of Advent in Challenging Times

Led by Devoree Crist and Susan Ulmer, Spiritual Directors

WHERE: Peace Tree Spirituality Center
5718 N US-67 (Lindbergh Blvd)
Florissant, Missouri 63034

WHEN: December 8, 2018
From 8:30 am until 3:30 pm

WHAT: We will share and pray and take some time to silently reflect.
Lunch will be provided.

WHO: All are welcome, all are invited.

WHY: As we approach the holidays, so many things rise up in us. For some it is sadness, for others frustration, for others a sense of despair and for others the holidays are joyous but chaotic. The season of Advent calls us to prepare and anticipate and remember our relationship with the Holy One. In this retreat we will take the major themes of Advent (Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love) and explore how we might focus the positive energy to center ourselves and counter any negative energies we might be holding at this time in our lives.

Cost: \$50 (early bird \$45 until Nov 15)

Deadline Nov 30. Space is limited.

Request registration information at
closertogod@gmail.com

Sabbatical Reflection

- A grant for KAEChP
- Recognition from Doorways
- An exciting road ahead.

On October 1 I returned from sabbatical to find WGCC hosting its annual Kirkwood Area Every Child Promise Golf Fundraiser – an event to raise money and awareness for mission and programs to help ensure that all Kirkwood area children and families enter kindergarten ready to succeed. It was great to see WGCC members and friends working together and supporting our community in this way! After 10 years serving as your pastor, I'm very aware of our congregation's capacity for mission and discipleship, and I am excited about all the ways we'll work and serve together into the future.

I am grateful to have had three months set apart from my usual ministry tasks, allowing me to rest, reflect, study, travel, and write. As many of you know, I am working on writing a book exploring possibilities for understanding and responding to the biblical book of Revelation using the writings of J. R. R. Tolkien as a possible interpretive tool. I made great strides on this project during my sabbatical, incorporating some of my ideas and findings into the course on Revelation I teach at Eden Theological Seminary, and presenting a paper at the annual conference of the Tolkien Society at Oxford University in England.

As I was leaving for sabbatical I was working with community members to submit a grant application to the Brown Sisters Foundation, requesting funds for a part time Project Coordinator for KAEChP. An important part of the application was WGCC's role in the vision and founding of KAEChP, and our ongoing participation as part of our mission to "follow the teachings of Jesus and sacrificially serve the most marginalized." Last week I participated in a final presentation to the Brown Sisters Foundation

Board, sharing with them about many of the fantastic ways KAEChP is serving under-resourced children and their families. We were informed the following day that KAEChP has been awarded a \$20,000 grant for this position! KAEChP's obligation is to use this money to also help to raise an additional \$40,000 for its important work in our community. We'll be sharing more information about this opportunity in the coming weeks and months.

During my sabbatical I continued my work on the Board of Directors of Doorways, and as a volunteer chaplain with Doorways clients. I continue to love getting to know the residents of

Cooper House and the other Doorways residences – whether sharing food and conversations, leading Bible study, praying with residents, or just spending time getting to know clients and staff – my interactions on your behalf with the people of Doorways have been fun and rewarding. Thank you to those of you who provided food and/or time for our Spring and Autumn BBQs with the residents of Cooper House. As an acknowledgement of the work I do on your behalf with Doorways, I received the 2018 Doorways Volunteer Award at a banquet in the Spring. Doorways then submitted the story of my volunteer work to the Missouri HealthCare Association, and I received one

of their District Volunteer of the

Year awards. This fall I received their Missouri State Volunteer of the Year Award. As I shared with each of these organizations, my work is always an expression of the ministry of Webster Groves Christian Church.

I am glad to be back among you, working, worshiping, studying, praying, and planning. Thank you all for your participation in the ministry to which we are called!

- Jeff Moore

Let's talk mission and ministry



I'd like to take some time this fall and winter to talk with WGCC members and friends about their spiritual journeys and about the mission and ministry of our congregation. Please contact me at jeffmoore@wgcc.org and let me know if you'd be willing to have a conversation, and about possible times and places for us to meet. We don't all always have much time to just sit and talk together, and I'm hoping to learn more about your participation, observations, hopes, and concerns about our ministry together. I look forward to speaking with you!

Meramec/Shepherd's Center Book Club Event

Think Like a Freak by authors Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner

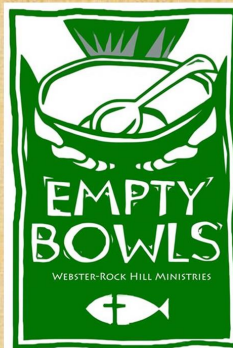
Shepherd's Center participants are invited to join St. Louis Community College Meramec English as a Second Language students for a book discussion. A limited number of books will be available in the Shepherd's Center office. About the book: Levitt and Dubner offer a blueprint for an entirely new way to solve problems, whether your interest lies in minor lifehacks or major global reforms.

Sign-up and Read the Book: Call 314-395-0988 to register

Attend the Book Discussion: Thursday, November 8, 9:40-10:40

Webster Hills UMC, 1333 W. Lockwood Ave., 63122

2018 EMPTY BOWLS DINNER SHARE A MEAL & HELP FIGHT HUNGER



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
4:30-7:00 PM**

**WEBSTER HILLS METHODIST CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER
1333 W. LOCKWOOD - CORNER OF BERRY & LOCKWOOD**

**ALL FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT FOOD PROGRAMS
@ WEBSTER-ROCK HILL MINISTRIES**

**ADMISSION TO THE EVENT IN ADVANCE OR AT THE DOOR:
\$15 FOR ADULTS, \$5 FOR STUDENTS (K-12)
CHILDREN UNDER 5 EAT FREE**

27th Annual Whitaker

ST. LOUIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Nov 1-11, 2018

TIVOLI
PLAZA FRONTENAC
ZACK
WASHINGTON U.
WEBSTER U.
STAGE AT KDHX
MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM
THE GATHERING
ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

SLIFF will screen 414 films from 63 countries with more than 150 filmmaking guests in attendance.

These films are designed to educate, challenge and inspire. Having reviewed some of these films, I encourage you to go to <http://www.cinemastlouis.org>, to explore this opportunity. There are nine venues and many films are free. There's something for everyone.

Delcia Corlew

TIME TO SPICE UP **NOW** Nutrition on Weekends

Project NOW is going strong. The program has benefited from generous gifts from both church members and the greater community. We were recently the recipients for the Kirkwood Library Fines for Food drive (photos below) and the Kirkwood Rotary Ramble. As we look to the holidays, we are planning a couple of unique opportunities for Church members to help us make this year extra special for our NOW families.

Spice Up NOW!

We are planning to provide each family with bottles of popular spices and seasonings to Spice Up their winter meals. We are planning to provide Cinnamon, Cumin, Italian Seasoning, Nutmeg, Pepper and Salt. We would also like to include recipes to share with the families that include or feature the provided spices and seasonings.

How can you help?

Buy a spice or two (or five!) from the list above and bring them to church by Sunday, Nov. 11. All of the above mentioned spices and seasoning are available at Dollar Tree for just a dollar each! Spices can be given to Steve during the week, or Julie DeKinder or Pat Roseman at anytime.

Provide a recipe that includes one of the above-mentioned spices and seasonings. Recipes can be given to the same people mentioned above or emailed to Julie DeKinder at dekinderj@umsl.edu.

Thanksgiving Bags. We will be providing a special Thanksgiving bag for each family this year, just like in years past! (See the details at right)

Christmas Gift Cards. For the last few years, we have provided our families a little something extra in the Christmas bag: a gift certificate to a local grocery store. We are planning to do this again this Christmas. If you are able to donate money for the gift certificates, please make a note on the check designating it for "Now Christmas gift"

Thank you to all the volunteers and monetary supporters of NOW. This program would not be possible without each of you.

Julie DeKinder

Let's fill those bags!

This year our goal is to fill 25 bags and provide 25 supermarket gift cards of \$15 each to purchase a turkey for our friends and neighbors served by Nutrition On Weekends and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Julie and Mat DeKinder, coordinators of NOW, have committed NOW to buying the 15 gift cards for the 15 NOW families.

How can you be a part of giving thanks and giving glory to God?

- Let Pat Roseman, Beth Cooley or Steve Staicoff know if you are sponsoring a basket/bag or gift card. There will be a sign up sheet after worship Nov. 4 and 11, and don't forget....shopping with a partner to help fill the bag is a good reason to have a morning or afternoon visit with a friend.
- Purchase a grocery store gift card for \$15. Give the gift card to Pat, Beth or Steve. The card will provide for the turkey. **DO NOT PUT THE CARD IN THE FOOD BAG.**
- Donate a new reusable shopping bag for the family food bag.
- Please bring the bag of food to WGCC by Nov. 15. Put all bags on the Fellowship Hall stage behind the curtain.

SHOPPING GUIDE

- Corn 3 cans
- Green beans 3 cans
- Instant potatoes or fresh 1 box or bag
- Yams/sweet potatoes 1 can or fresh
- Cranberry sauce 1 can
- Canned fruit 1 can
- Stuffing mix 2 boxes
- Instant gelatin 1 box
- Cake mix 1 box
- Canned frosting 1 can
- \$15 or \$25 food card from Schnucks or Shop 'n Save
- (Quantity recommended for family of 4)
- Adjust for family size.

IN OUR PRAYERS ...

Recent concerns

- For Andy Lindberg, who is recovering from a foot amputation
- For Analyn Howells, having knee replacement surgery this week
- For the family of Rev. Norman Linville, former editor at Christian Board of Publication, who died earlier this week
- For Matt DeKinder's parents, who are moving to a new home
- For Richard Mark, recovering from surgery
- Tom McGinnis a friend of Laura Steutzer who is in hospice and for his wife Joan, recovering from a broken leg
- For the father of visitor Linda Walters, who is having heart surgery
- Robin Woodrome's stepfather, who is improving after surgery
- Dick Savage, who continues to ask for our prayers
- Dev Crist as she continues on sabbatical
- In honor of suicide prevention month, for

family and friends dealing with the issue

- Don Leith, recovering from surgery
- Marley Sexhauer, as she battles seizures
- For Jane Yount
- Bill Sullivan, as he continues to recuperate

Thanks for ...

- A new granddaughter for the Doerges
- For grandchildren on the way for Greg Eilers
- The celebration of Deb Trautman's grandson's birthday
- For those who served at the Doorways barbecue
- For the Brown sisters and their donation to KAEChP
- For the congregation's support of John Gerdes' musical
- For the DeKinder family and all they do for Project NOW
- The gifts and spirit of our musicians
- For the recent success of the Roosevelt football team, where Keiler Swartz is a coach

Community

- For all those groups who have been victims of violence
- For victims of natural disasters, as we minister to them through our week of compassion offering
- For refugees and immigrants
- For families who have lost children to domestic violence
- For healing in our nation in divisive times, especially during election season

Ongoing concerns

- Bill Woodrome
- John Norris
- Doris Derickson
- Kathy Carson
- Michelle Fielden
- Jane Michener

UPCOMING EVENTS

**ACCESS THE CALENDAR
AT WGCC.ORG**

THURSDAY, NOV. 1

9a.m.: Cardmakers

10 a.m. Shepherd's Center line dancers

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

9 a.m.: Christian formation

4:30 p.m.: Empty Bowls fundraiser

10:30 a.m.: Worship

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

Election Day

10 a.m. Leviticus Bible Study

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

7:30 a.m.: Foodbank run

CWF group meetings

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

noon: Spicing it up for NOW

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

10 a.m. Leviticus Bible Study

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

9:30 a.m.: Sewing group

7 p.m.: CWF group meeting

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

noon: Interfaith Thanksgiving

TUESDAY, NOV. 20

10 a.m. Leviticus Bible Study

THURSDAY, NOV. 22

Thanksgiving Day

5 p.m. Room at the Inn

SUNDAY, NOV. 25

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

TUESDAY, NOV. 27

Deadline for next Witness

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission: Following Jesus' teaching and sacrificially serving the people who are the most marginalized.

Webster Groves Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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



The SEGA connection newsletter is available at <http://www.mid-america-disciples.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