

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.”

Matthew 2:10



Webster Groves Christian Church celebrated the telling of the story of Christmas through the sights and sounds of a triptych service and Jazz and Choral Christmas on December 23.

On Tuesday, January 8, we continue the story by studying the gospel of Matthew. Join us each Tuesday morning from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Upcoming table talks

Join us at service each Sunday.

January 6: Matthew 2:13-23 "Seeking Refuge"

Jesus was born into a dangerous situation. His story proceeds directly from the gifts of the wise ones to a journey across borders. Even though his ancestral land was likely his family's first and best choice for his infancy and early childhood, political threats and violence made his family into refugees. What does it mean for us to tell this story and take it seriously? Are there powerful "Herods" among us today? What does our biblical tradition tell us about refugees?

January 13: Luke 3:15-22 "Up the River, In the River, Down by the Riverside"

Jesus' baptism occurs in the midst of speculation that John might be the messiah and as John's continued calls for political reform are landing him in prison. Jesus was a part of a movement, and heaven opened to affirm his faithfulness. The Spirit that descended upon him filled him, empowered him, and moved him to ministry. What does Jesus' baptism tell us about our call? What do our baptisms mean for us?

January 20,: John 2:1-11 "The First Sign – Mighty Fine"

John's gospel tells us that Jesus' presence is a manifestation of God. It changes things – our celebrations, our understandings, our expectations. How might this sign of the wedding wine provide us with a glimpse of his glory? What witness will we give to Jesus' presence in our own lives?

January 27: Luke 4:14-21 "Promise and Fulfillment"

Jesus reads and preaches in his hometown synagogue: a few lines from the prophet Isaiah and a one-sentence spoken sermon. Powerful. Holy Spirit powerful. He speaks, acts, lives fulfillment of promise, and everyone (people AND demons!!) seems shaken up. When God's promises are fulfilled, lives are transformed. Are we ready for transformation?



A sweet thanks!

A big sweet thank you to all the cookie bakers, eaters and cookie buyers who helped with goodies for our reception following our Jazz and Choral Christmas. Also a thank you to Daun Hashbarger who purchased, prepared and served the punch.

Finally, a special thanks for the donations made to Heifer International. WGCC is raising funds to help bring hope, dignity and self-reliance to families and communities around the world, through Heifer.

Please make a tax-deductible donation today to support our fundraising efforts. Together, we have power over poverty. Go to: <https://fundraise.heifer.org/team/200870> to join Team WGCC and donate today!

What's up with Disciples Youth?

Young Adult Winter Retreat

- Friday, Jan. 4, at 5 p.m. to Sunday, Jan. 6, at noon
- Camp MoVal

This is a great opportunity for college students and young adults to get away for a weekend over winter break. There will be a worship leader for Bible study and worship, time to relax, play games and enjoy the outdoors in the winter season.

Our United Church of Christ partners in the Missouri Mid-South Conference invite us to this retreat at Camp MoVal.

Winter Fest

- Saturday, Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. to Monday, Jan. 21, 2 p.m.
- Harmony Hill Youth Camp

All high schoolers are invited to this retreat brought to us by the Christian Regional Youth team.

Our scripture theme is from 2 Corinthians 5:17: "The old has gone, the new is here!"

For more information about the Winter Retreat or Winter Fest, go to: <http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/upcoming-events/>

General Youth Council News

The General Youth Council is made up of students and adults who are committed to youth ministry in their local congregations and regions. The purpose of the GYC is to give them opportunities to grow as future leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This is accomplished by having them in key planning roles for General Assembly and other International, National, Ecumenical, and Interfaith youth events. There may also be other opportunities as well for this group to grow in their leadership skills.

- Carole Hughes



Khotso Moore has been selected to serve on the Disciples General Youth Council for 2019-2020. We congratulate Khotso and wish him well in this new position!

Disciples women, CWF ring in a new year

As we all get used to writing the new year on our checks, let's also remember to be generous with our resources. The service project for January is money for the Pastor Neighbor Fund. This is an ongoing need. There are many in our area who are still struggling. As a Church we want to help as many people as we are able.

There is no General meeting or luncheon in January. A good time to stay home and enjoy not getting out in the bad weather.

The group meetings for January:

Thursday, Jan. 10, Lydia Group: 9:30 a.m., Charlotte Pullen's house

Thursday, Jan. 10, Martha group: 12:30 p.m., Heritage Room (WGCC), Donna Wolff-Crump & Marilyn Nennert hosting

Thursday, Jan. 17, Tabitha group: 7 p.m.; Heritage Room (WGCC), Laura Stuetzer hosting

-Sally Smith



Rock Hill, Webster Groves to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The 24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration in Webster Groves and Rock Hill will be held Sunday, Jan. 20. The event will begin with a march from Webster Groves City Hall to the Steger/Givens school building in Rock Hill, to be followed by a dinner reception in the school cafeteria, and the celebration program of word and song in Steger's auditorium. The public is encouraged to attend.

Marchers will assemble at 4:30 p.m. on the steps of Webster Groves City Hall, 4 E. Lockwood Ave., and walk to the Steger/Givens building, 701 N. Rock Hill Road. Marchers are reminded that they should dress for a mile-long walk in whatever weather the day brings. A bus shuttle, provided by the Webster Groves School District to transfer marchers from the Steger/Givens parking lot to the Webster Groves City Hall, will make its first departure from Steger at 4 p.m.

A dinner reception will be provided at no charge, beginning at 5 p.m., followed by the Community Celebration program at 5:45 p.m.

Keynote speaker for the program will be the Rev. Traci Blackmon, pastor of Christ the King United Church of Christ (UCC) in Florissant and Executive Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries of the national setting of the UCC.

Music and other performances will be provided by public school students and a special community ensemble. Awards will be presented to honorees of Proud Past – Inspired Future. And recipients of the Martin Luther King Scholarship Awards in honor of Ras Jones will also be recognized; all essay and artistic submissions for the Ras Jones Awards will also be on display.



“Living The Dream – Dismantling Injustices in Community, Education & Literacy”

Peace Walk

10:00am
Starts at the MLK Statue
In Fountain Park Across
The Street From Centennial

Panel Discussion

11:30am – 1:00pm
Centennial's Sanctuary

**Book Bag & School
Supply Giveaway**

1:00pm – 3pm
in Bush Hall

Partners: Centennial Christian Church (DOC), Fountain Park & Lewis Place Residents, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. – Epsilon Lambda Chapter & Epsilon Lambda Charitable Foundation



For More Information Contact Centennial Christian Church at 314. 367.1818

IN OUR PRAYERS ...

Recent concerns

- For the family of Stephen DeWitt, Sally Smith's nephew, who passed away in December.
- For Jeff Moore's mother, recovering from surgery.
- For Craig Wood, who is recovering from a stroke suffered last weekend. He is doing well, but has a road ahead to recovery.
- For Richard Frankenberger, recovering from a broken femur.
- For a friend of Molly Gibbons, who is in rehabilitation.
- For the family of Emma Townsend, a relative of Carole Hughes, who passed away.
- For the family of Lori Rose's friend Kim, who died Wednesday after a battle with cancer.
- For Andy Lindberg, who is recovering from a foot amputation.
- For all who lost loved ones in the past year.
- Melanie Ave, the wife of one of Bob Rose's co-workers, who was injured in a car accident.
- For Analyn Howells, recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- For Katie, a friend of Max Ott, who is a foster parent going through the adoption process.
- Dick Savage, who continues to ask for our prayers.
- Dev Crist as she continues on sabbatical.
- Marley Sexhauer, as she battles seizures.
- For Jane Yount.
- Bill Sullivan, as he continues to recuperate.

Thanks for ...

- John Christensen and Delcia Corlew, who recently were honored for their service to the Shepherd's Center.

- All visitors who were able to join us over the Christmas season.
- For all the veterans who have served our country.
- The gifts and spirit of our musicians.

Community

- 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.

Ongoing concerns

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

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACCESS THE CALENDAR
AT WGCC.ORG

THROUGH JAN. 20

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

TUESDAY, JAN. 8

THURSDAY, JAN. 10

SUNDAY, JAN. 13

TUESDAY, JAN. 15

THURSDAY, JAN. 17

SATURDAY, JAN. 19

SUNDAY, JAN. 20

MONDAY, JAN. 21

TUESDAY, JAN. 22

THURSDAY, JAN. 24

SUNDAY, JAN. 27

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

“Faces” Art show in the Gallery Within

Youth retreat at Camp MoVal

Epiphany Sunday

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

7:30 a.m.: Foodbank run

CWF group meetings

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

7 p.m.: KAEChP general meeting

CWF group meeting

Centennial Christian Church MLK Celebration

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

Webster-Rock Hill King Celebration

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

9 a.m. Cardmakers

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

Deadline for next Witness

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/>

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