



## Familiar faces at the General Assembly

The recent Disciples General Assembly was well attended by WGCC members and friends, past and present.

From WGCC, Barbara Merrell and Donna Savage attended parts of Assembly, Becky and Robbie Piening (representing Affton Christian Church, where Becky is serving), and Khotso Moore (member of the General Youth Council), Teresa Crist (COCU), Tom and Julie Wood (Mid-America Region delegates), Devoree Crist (WGCC delegate), Carole Hughes (WGCC delegate), and Jeff Moore also represented our congregation.

Former members and friends of WGCC spotted at GA who send their greetings: Dawn and David Ingram, Michael Kinnamon, James Brooks, Darla Goodrich, Howard Goodrich, former NBA XPLOR Resident Evan Stanfill, Kimberly Guy, Tabitha Kneer Isner and Jenn and Des Simmons.

## WGCC @125

### It's time to plan the celebration

This Christmas Eve will mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of our church.

In celebration of that anniversary and the many wonderful years still to come, we will be forming an "Anniversary Celebration Committee" which will decide what events and reunions our church will host over the next year. If you are interested in being a member of this committee, please email Keiler Swartz at [keiler.swartz@gmail.com](mailto:keiler.swartz@gmail.com).

# Lend a hand to our Haitian student

Please consider making a generous donation to the Haitian Student Fund at Webster Groves Christian Church.

The Memorial Committee of WGCC has recognized the need for support of the Haitian Student Fund. The Committee unanimously agreed to transfer \$2,000 from the memorial Fund to the Haitian Student Fund to be used specifically for tuition fees for our Haitian student.

Current balance in the Haitian Student Fund is \$6,150, which includes \$2,000 from the Memorial Fund, \$920 Love Gift in honor of Jeff Moore's ordination 25 years ago, a \$1,920 Mission Tithe from last fiscal year's surplus, and designated gifts from church members.

For the coming school year, our Haitian student will need \$17,050 in total in order to continue his studies.

Your donations will go to fund a face who is very familiar to our congregation, who is

completing his associate degree at Meramec and now is about to enroll in Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

Among other items that are needed

Steam iron

Area Rug - Approximately 5'X7' or larger

Backrest pillow with arms for reading in bed - \$15 at Target

Carry-on suitcase or duffle for weekend trips

Mini-refrigerator - Limited to no more than 2.9 cubic ft. & 700 watts

Microwave

Gift certificates: Certificates: Target, Kohl's, Ikea or Bike shop

Contact Denise Pahl for questions at 314-651-1552.

---

## Sign up your foursome today!

It's time to sign up your foursome for the Kirkwood Area Every Child Promise Golf Tournament Oct. 7 at Westborough Country Club.

Join us for a great afternoon - lunch, 18 holes of golf, contest holes, silent auction, and fundraising dinner. Amigos Cantina will return again this year with their famous margaritas.

Register now at <https://birdeasepro.com/kaechp/>



# As usual, summer just flew by!

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. We need to start thinking “FALL”!

We had to postpone the budget meeting in July. We moved the meeting to August 8 at 10 am. Please try to attend. We need both old and new officers and group leaders.

After we get the budget voted on, we can then get the Yearbook printed and distributed.

I think we have all of the changes from the groups and officers, just waiting on the budget. So THANKS for getting me the information.

Heads up on our summer homework: Remember to buy the School and Health kit items. Page 11 in our Yearbook has the list for both kits. Both kits are for Church World Service. They will be dedicated in October.

If you are a woman, and participate in Webster Groves Christian Church, you are a member of Disciples Women. If you haven't been attending any of our meetings, please consider joining this fall. We kick off the year with our luncheon on September 5. We start with our general business meeting at 11am then move on to our box lunch at noon. Everyone brings their own food. Drinks and desserts are provided. Our program for September will be Suzie Burney and her therapy dogs. Who doesn't love a dog!!

If you can't attend a day meeting, we have one evening group that meets at 7 pm on the third Thursday each month. We also have a morning group and an afternoon group meeting on the second Thursday of each month. Hopefully one of these will meet your needs.

Disciples Women is both a Study and Service organization. Each month we discuss a Bible related topic. This year's theme is “The Church on a Mission”. We use the Just Women Bible Study series.

Each month we also do a service project. All year we contribute to the Food Pantry that is taken to Memorial Blvd Christian Church. Watch for the articles in the Witness and your group meetings for the list of monthly projects. Pat Roseman and Beth Cooley have made some exciting changes this year.

I'm looking for to a great year!!

Sally Smith

## Study in England for Pastor Jeff

Pastor Jeff will be in England on a Continuing Education trip from Monday, August 5 to Monday, August 12.

The Gospel of Matthew Bible Study will not meet on Tuesday, August 6.

---

## More news from the board

KAECbP received \$15,000 from Give STL Day. A grant has been awarded by the Brown Sisters. Assistance is needed for hosting a successful golf tournament. Contact Denise Pahl to volunteer.

The Open and Affirming committee has had or scheduled 80 conversations. A Bible study focusing on sexuality is planned for the fall.

The NOW program is expanding and the Kirkwood School District PTOs will share the Love Chapel basement space for storage and packing.

In Christ,

Carole Hughes

## Disciples statement on refugees and our southern border

Our sacred scriptures are filled with stories of uprooted peoples and prophets in movement, with constant presence and direction from God. We are inspired by the leading of our Lord who liberated the Israelites, comforted the community as they faced exile and later repatriation, and guided Jesus' family to safety as they fled persecution under Herod. We therefore are ready to live out our call to demonstrate radical hospitality and welcome today's immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who are likewise searching for protection from persecution.

Our hearts grieve the deaths of children on the U.S.-Mexico border and in detention facilities while in U.S. custody which are at odds with our call to welcome. We urge the release of immigrant children and adults held captive within our land in detention holding centers reported in recent weeks by the Office of Inspector General to have "issues of dangerous overcrowding" and sub-standard hygiene requiring "corrective action...critical to the immediate health and safety needs of detainees." We are appalled by the "prolonged detention of children and adults," despite regulations aimed to ensure children are housed only in sanitary conditions, are released without unnecessary delay, and would be placed in the least restrictive conditions.

We remember how Jesus announced his ministry "to preach good news to the poor... proclaim release to the captives and...set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18). We reaffirm our previous commitments against family separations and efforts to end child detention, and we again demand these practices that are keeping children detained in dozens of facilities be ended. Together with the Oklahoma Conference of Churches, we speak out against the housing of immigrant children at Fort Sill Army post where Japanese Americans were interned during World War II, and "cannot stand silent as this history is repeated with innocent children who will, no doubt, incur trauma and life-altering consequences."

Because we believe that love can transcend every cultural divide, we join with ecumenical and interfaith partners to urge all persons seeking asylum be granted full due process and opportunities to pursue protections as guaranteed by national and international laws. We confess US foreign policies have contributed to exploitation of Central American countries and created root conditions that encourage persons to migrate.

As people of faith, we are eager to "not neglect to show hospitality to strangers" (Hebrews 13:2) and to strengthen our efforts to become "Immigrant Welcoming Congregations." Therefore, we urge our government leaders to positively and urgently address the crisis at the border; such as establishing regional refugee processing centers, strengthening asylum protections in the US and Mexico, modernizing ports of entry, using existing funding to US Customs and Border Protection to hire child welfare professionals, supporting proven and community-based alternatives to detention, and addressing the root causes of migration.

In this critical moment, aware that our "ancestor Jacob was a wandering Aramean who went to live as a foreigner in Egypt...but...became a large and mighty nation" (Deuteronomy 26:5, NLT), we seek to faithfully assume our responsibilities to care for the sojourner. For we remember Jesus' words that "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

## Koinonia class takes on Ferguson

Greetings! If you are not a regular member of Koinonia, please consider joining us! We generally meet in the Art Gallery at 9 a.m. on Sundays. It would be great to outgrow our space!

Through the month of August, we will read and discuss *The Making of Ferguson: Public Policies at the Root of its Troubles*.

This is a public policy report (43 page article, 54 pages with end notes) by Richard Rothstein (2014).

The full syllabus for each week's reading and other resources can be found at <http://bit.ly/wgckoin>

Denise Pahl



## Walk the full moon labyrinth

The Mercy Conference Center and Retreat is offering full moon labyrinth walks on Aug. 15, Sept. 14 and Oct. 13.

While typically only “open” from dawn to dusk, the center offering special evenings where you may stop by to enjoy a self-guided meditative Labyrinth walk during evenings with a full moon. Staff will be on site from 8-9:30 p.m.

Free. No registration. Bring your own flashlight. For more information, please call 314-909-4646.

---

## A thank you for WGCC

We simply cannot thank you and the congregation of Webster Groves Christian Church enough for your generosity and hospitality in hosting the Association of Disciples Musicians.

From the moment we walked in the door we were warmly greeted, and you went out of your way to see that everything was exactly as needed. We appreciate all of this more than we can say.

Herb Buffington.

## Shepherd's Center Film Series

Shepherd's Center Film Series at Laclede Groves, 723 S. Laclede Station Road. Admission is free. Proceeds from concessions benefit the Shepherd's Center. RSVP to the Shepherd's Center (314) 395-0988. Walk-ins welcome on a first-come, first-served basis.

### Aug. 4, 1:30 p.m.

Won't You Be My Neighbor A Little Kindness Makes a World of Difference

or over 30 years, Fred Rogers, an unassuming minister, puppeteer, writer and producer, was beamed daily into homes across America. In his beloved television program, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Fred and his cast of puppets and friends spoke directly to young children about some of life's weightiest issues, in a simple, direct fashion

### Aug. 11, 1:30 p.m.

Alive Inside

Alive Inside is a joyous cinematic exploration of music's capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest parts of our humanity. Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett chronicles the astonishing experiences of individuals around the country who have been revitalized and awakened by the simple act of listening to the music of their youth.

### Aug. 18, 1:30 p.m.

STEP: A Real Life Story

Set against the backdrop of Baltimore's inner city, STEP chronicles the senior year of a girls' high school step dance team. Empowered by their teachers, coaches, families, and each other, they strive to win a championship and go to college. This powerful film embodies the true meaning of sisterhood through a story of courageous young women worth cheering for. You will laugh, cry, and cheer!

---

## Save the date: Sept. 22 gallery opening



The Gallery Within will be hosting an opening on Sunday Sept. 22 featuring the art of Jack Keijo Steele. He served as a combat artist in Europe, North Africa, the South Pacific and Australia in World War II, relating the emotional impact of war.

# IN OUR PRAYERS ...

## Recent concerns

- For Gilda Rzechowski, who is recovering from a broken wrist.
- For the sister of Carole Hughes, who has gall bladder and liver cancer.
- For Bev Richmond and for Doug Richmond, who are facing health issues.
- For Tyreek Lewis, who had a stroke and is in rehab.
- For Andy Lindberg, who is recovering from a foot amputation.
- For Analyn Howell's sister who is battling cancer.
- For Carole Hughes's friend Zina Felton, whose husband Darryl was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer three months before their recent marriage.
- For two coworkers of Jute DeKinder fighting cancer.
- For Jeff Tedford, who is rehabbing at home.
- For Allie Beyer a member of the youth group from Olathe, Kansas, who were recent visitors to the church as she battles a brain tumor.
- For Jim Simpson and his wife Bobbie, as Jim battles esophageal cancer.
- For Betty, friend of Pat Roseman, who continues her battle with cancer.
- For Michelle Fielden
- For Gloria Hutchings
- For Tom Stuetzer, who is battling stage 4 cancer.
- For Sue Winchester, a friend of Donna Wolff.
- For Lou Garr, a friend of Bob Rose's who is battling cancer.
- Dick Savage, who continues to ask for our prayers.
- For Jane Yount.
- Bill Sullivan, as he continues to recuperate.

## A new home for the Derricks

Forrace and Doris Derickson have a new home, moving to the Garden Villas of O'Fallon. You can reach them at:

Garden Villas of O'Fallon #242  
7092 S. Outer 364  
O'Fallon, MO 63368  
(636) 240-5560

## Thanks for ...

- Bill and Mary Jean Shoop on their 70th anniversary.
- For John Burney sharing his preaching skills with the congregation.
- For the return of Erin King to worship.
- For safe trips for all our summer travelers
- For all those donating to Project NOW.

## Community

- For the churches throughout the world, especially those that have been victims of terrorism or natural disaster.
- 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

# UPCOMING EVENTS

ACCESS THE CALENDAR  
AT [WGCC.ORG](http://WGCC.ORG)

**THURSDAY, JUNE 27**

9 a.m. Cardmakers

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

**SUNDAY, AUG. 4**

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

noon: Worship team meeting

Canceled: Matthew Gospel Study

**TUESDAY, AUG. 6**

**THURSDAY, AUG. 8**

7:30 a.m.: Foodbank run

10 a.m.: DisciplesWomen budget meeting

**SUNDAY, AUG. 11**

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

**TUESDAY, AUG. 13**

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

**THURSDAY, AUG. 15**

9:30 a.m. Sewing group

**SUNDAY, AUG. 18**

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

**TUESDAY, AUG. 20**

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

**THURSDAY, AUG. 22**

9 a.m. Cardmakers

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

**SUNDAY, AUG. 25**

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

**TUESDAY, AUG. 27**

10 a.m. Matthew Gospel Study

7 p.m.: KAEChP golf committee meeting

Deadline for Witness

**SUNDAY, SEP. 1**

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

**MONDAY, SEP. 2**

Labor Day. Office closed

# 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-americadisciples.org/>**

## **Webster Groves Christian Church**

1320 West Lockwood Avenue  
Saint Louis, MO 63122

Phone: 314-961-3232 / Website: [www.wgcc.org](http://www.wgcc.org)

Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore, Pastor

[jeffmoore@wgcc.org](mailto:jeffmoore@wgcc.org)

Robin Woodrome, Choir Director

Lisa Cripe, Organist

[lisacripe@wgcc.org](mailto:lisacripe@wgcc.org)

Jeff Wolf, Lead Custodian

[jeffwolf@wgcc.org](mailto:jeffwolf@wgcc.org)

Gary Smith, Custodian

Steve Staicoff, Office Manager

[admin@wgcc.org](mailto:admin@wgcc.org)

Witness Articles

[brosepd@hotmail.com](mailto:brosepd@hotmail.com)