

Join us Sunday, March 15, for 10:30 a.m. worship and following worship from noon to 2 p.m. for a presentation from Rev. Dr. John Bracke.

Sunday morning sermon: **“Inclusion: A Witness to God’s Inclusive Love and Grace”**

Luncheon presentation: **“The Clobber Texts: Texts of Exclusion in Context”**

This session will examine the seven biblical texts often used to justify churches’ exclusion of LGBT persons. It will explore these texts in the historical and cultural contexts which they addressed.



John Bracke taught Old Testament and congregational leadership and administration at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis for 28 years before retiring in 2012. During his time at Eden, he served as academic dean for 14 years.

While teaching at Eden Seminary, John frequently taught adult education classes, served as a retreat leader, or consulted with churches of several denominations.

An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, John has served the denomination in both regional and national settings. In retirement he and his wife Mary live in Columbia, Mo., where they are members of Columbia United Church of Christ.

Join us for a Lenten supper series

There will be a Lenten Wednesday series offered at WGCC beginning Wednesday, March 4, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., in the Library.

We'll have a light supper and engage in biblical stories of wilderness and gratitude.

Interact with Revelation

On Saturday, March 14, Jeff Moore will present "Engaging the Book of Revelation" at Community Christian Church's Men's Breakfast. WGCC men are welcome and encouraged to come. Please RSVP to WGCC or Community Christian Church by Sunday, March 8.



The Gallery Within presents

Rwandan Reconciliation: photographs by Debbie Kindschuh

**Opening reception: 4 p.m.-8 p.m. on Sunday,
March 1.**

**Show will be on display through April 12.
Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Photographer Debbie Kindschuh will present works from her visits to Rwanda villages, where she took photographs and talked with survivors of Rwanda Genocide.



How is a small African country able to restore its infrastructure after a hate-fueled genocide that killed more than one million people in 100 days?

Irembo Foundation was started in Rwanda by a young genocide survivor to bring literacy and education to the vulnerable street children of Rwanda. Debbie and Randy Kindschuh work with Irembo Foundation to find sponsors for children.

More information at www.irembofoundation.org.

Disciples Women will learn about borders and barriers

The Disciples Women will meet at noon on March 5 in Fellowship Hall. After our “Bring your own lunch,” we are fortunate to have Denise Pahl as the speaker. As many of you know, Denise spent two weeks as a volunteer at an Annunciation House migrant shelter in El Paso, Texas. She will be sharing some of her experiences with us. She chose for the title, “Borders and Barriers, Walls are Everywhere.” The hostess will be the Tabitha Group, and Marilyn Combs from the Martha Group will give the devotional. Following the speaker, we will convene for the Business Meeting, also in Fellowship Hall.

Group meetings are scheduled as follows:

LYDIA GROUP will meet in the Gallery Area of the church at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 12. Karen Miers will be the hostess and lead the study.

MARTHA GROUP will meet in the Heritage Room at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12. Karen Atkins and Vicki Ott will serve as hostesses and Alice Yount will lead the study.

TABITHA GROUP will meet in the Heritage Room at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 19. Diane Mark will lead the study and Laura Stuetzer will be the hostess.

The **SERVICE PROJECT** will be a collection of funds to purchase diapers for both Promise Place, KAEChP (since our February meetings were small) and the **NOW Project** for Head Start.

The Bible Study for the group meetings should be of great interest: Be of the same mind in the Lord: The Mind of Christ.

SEWING GROUP Meeting will be on March 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Peggy Eskridge.

CARD MAKERS Meeting will be on March 26 at 9 a.m. in the Heritage Room.

Please make every effort to attend these meetings now that winter is behind us, we hope.

Submitted by Jane Martin, Secretary

SAVE THE DATES!



Every Child Promise

April 4: Festival for KAEChP

WGCC will host a Spring Festival from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April 4 for area preschool and early elementary children and their parents. We'll highlight the work of KAEChP and have a variety of activities and snacks for participants. Anyone who'd like more information or would like to volunteer can contact Jeff Moore.

April 9: Maundy Thursday Dinner

WGCC will host Maundy Thursday dinner and worship on Thursday, April 9. We will be eating and worshipping with Disciples from Centennial Christian Church, Memorial Boulevard Christian Church, and Union Avenue Christian Church. Dinner is at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, with worship at 7 p.m. in the WGCC sanctuary. Rev. Margie Pride will be preaching. Please contact Pat Roseman to find out how you can help with dinner preparations.

The Future of St. Louis Starts At Home

Hear from local experts how the affordable housing crisis impacts today's youth and what actions you can do about it

Featuring Panelists:



Sarah Hobson
Community Allies



Candace Ellis
Jefferson Elementary School



Phillip Boyd
Ferguson-Florissant School District

When injustice hits home

A local group, Educators for Justice, will present an event addressing some of the root causes of racial injustice.

The group will host a panel of experts on poverty; each panelist will offer a unique perspective on how the affordable housing crisis is affecting children and what everyday citizens can do about it.

Where: DeSmet High School

When: 7 p.m., April 16

RSVP at educatorsforsocialjustice.org

Shepherd Center Chef Showcase 2020

Bourbon Chicken Lollipops
Tomatillo Marinated Chicken Street Tacos
Bacon Wrapped Duck Filet Mignon
Beef Tenderloin, Rice Noodles in Beef Pho Broth



Bananas Foster in a Praline Cup
Banoffee Parfait with Cookie Crumble
Chocolate Peanut Butter Crème Brule
Creamy Amaretto Cheese Sphere with Toasted Almond Sand and Apricot Preserves

WHEN: Sunday, April 19, 2020
5:30-8 pm

WHERE: Kirkwood Community Center
111 S Geyer Rd., 63122

WHY: Fundraiser to support the Shepherd's Center

WHAT: Chef Showcase, Silent Auction

TICKET PRICE: \$40 (all inclusive food, beer/ wine)

TICKETS AVAILABLE – FEBRUARY 1:

Shepherd's Center
1320 West Lockwood Ave., 63122 or
Online at: www.shepherdscenter-wk.org
Seating is limited!
314-395-0988 for more information

WGCC@125!



The Webster Groves Christian Church sanctuary under construction in 1953. The eight trusses were shipped in from Oregon.

Get in on the celebration!

Please join Webster Groves Christian Church throughout the 2020 year as we celebrate our 125th anniversary by remembering what has made us the strong community that we are today, and furthermore, what will make us even stronger in the future.

Please feel free to contact Keiler Swartz at

keiler.swartz@gmail.com if you are able to assist with planning

SHEPHERD CENTER EVENTS AT WGCC

Healthy Living for the Brain & Body: An education program presented by the Alzheimer's Association

Friday, March 6, 11:30 a.m. lecture

(Registration Deadline March 4)

Menu: pizza & salad

Fee: \$12/lunch included, call (314) 395-0988 to register

Use Your Own Stuff to Create a Beautiful Home: Presented by Gina March, director of community relations at Mary Culver Home

Friday, March 13, 11:30 a.m. lecture

(Registration Deadline March 11)

Menu: make your own taco bar

Fee: \$12/lunch included, call (314) 395-0988 to register

Book Review – Cheaters Always Win: The Story of America: By J.M. Fenster and presented by Tom Cooper, director of Webster Groves Public Library

Friday, March 20, 11:30 a.m. lecture

(Registration Deadline March 18)

Menu: sub sandwiches, pasta salad

Fee: \$12/lunch included, call (314) 395-0988 to register

Shoe Crew Water Projects
Presented by Yolanda DePrater, executive director, Shoe Crew Water Projects

Friday, March 27, 11:30 a.m. lecture

(Registration Deadline March 25)

Menu: chicken salad sandwiches, fruit salad, chips

Fee: \$12/lunch included, call (314) 395-0988 to register

Recent concerns

- For the family and friends of longtime WGCC member Mary Sue Finney, who passed away on Monday, Feb. 24. At this time the funeral arrangements are incomplete.
- Phil, the father of a friend of Sydney Woodrome who is battling illness.
- Donna Williams, a neighbor of the Otts, who is entering hospice.
- For Wilkens as he enters into the asylum interview process.
- For Devoree Crist, who is undergoing tests after a spell in which she lost sight in an eye.
- For Sherry, a friend of Laura Steutzer who recently lost her brother.
- For Betty, a friend of Pat Roseman who is back facing cancer treatments.
- For Brandon Lee Shelton, a friend of Carole Hughes whose son was born prematurely.
- For Jack, a student of Robin Woodrome who suffered a collapsed lung.
- For Bev Richmond, recovering from open heart surgery.
- For Barb Merrill's brother-in-law, Walt, who is in hospice care.
- For Andy Lindberg, who is back at St. Luke's Surrey Place.
- For Michelle Fielden, who is facing difficult challenges.
- For Barb, a neighbor of Carolbeth True, fighting cancer.
- For the refugees of the world, especially those in Hungary.
- For Shirley Arther, struggling with back trouble.

- For Eva Moutrie, who asks that we keep her in our prayers.
- For Bill Sullivan, as he continues to recuperate.

Joys

- The birth of August William Dean, great grandson of Marilyn Combs
- Riley Gibbons, recently honored in a poetry contest, will have her works published.
- For all the singers and bakers in the congregation.

Ongoing concerns

- Bill Woodrome
- John Norris
- Kathy Carson
- 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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

7-8:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday service in Chapel

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

9 a.m.: Cardmakers

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

Noon: Worship team meeting

4 p.m.: Rwanda art show opening

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

10 a.m.: Book of Ezekiel Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

6 p.m Lenten study and supper

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Noon: Disciples Women meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

10 a.m.: Book of Ezekiel Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

6 p.m Lenten study and supper

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Disciples Women group meetings

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Revelation Men's Breakfast Community Christian

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

Noon: Lunch and study with Rev. John Bracke

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

10 a.m.: Book of Ezekiel Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

6 p.m Lenten study and supper

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

9:30 a.m: Sewing group

7 p.m.: Tabitha group

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

Noon: WGCC Board Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

10 a.m.: Book of Ezekiel Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

6 p.m Lenten study and supper

THURSDAY, MARCH. 26

9 a.m.: Card makers

5 p.m.: Room at the Inn

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

9 a.m.: Christian formation

10:30 a.m.: Worship

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

10 a.m.: Book of Ezekiel Bible 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-americadisciples.org/>

Webster Groves Christian Church

1320 West Lockwood Avenue

Saint Louis, MO 63122

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