

VOLUME 48, ISSUE 5

A GLOBAL MISSION CONGREGATION

MAY 2020

# THANKS!!!

**Thanks** to all those who have been working hard during this pandemic to continue the important ministries we all share!

**Thanks** to our staff - Steve, Gary, Lisa, and Jeff W. - for making sure our building and grounds, communications and finances, and worship music have continued.

**Thanks** to all of our worship team members and musicians! We've continued to have meaningful and creative worship experiences because of all of your faithfulness and talent!

**Thanks** to Memorial Boulevard for your fantastic partnership!

Thanks to Margie Pride!

**Thanks** to everyone who works to provide newsletters, prayer chains, phone trees, card ministries, Bible Studies, Sunday School classes, food ministries, pick-ups, drop-offs, lawn care, money counting, committee work, community connections, and so much more!

We are continuing to faithfully live and share the gospel!

Peace, Pastor Jeff

Sunday morning worship services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome- please invite your family and friends to tune in!

The link to the page is:

https://www.facebook.com/WGCCDisciples/



Volunteers at Webster Groves Christian Church help load donations.

### A truckload of thanks for WRHM donations!

Because Webster - Rock Hill Ministries has increased need for specific items, as well as increased client requests at this time, it is instituting a new procedure for in-kind donations. All in-kind donations should be brought to Webster Groves Christian Church.

Thanks to the donors and the volunteers from WGCC who are helping receive the donations into Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10am -2pm. Please let Jeff Moore know if you can help!

June England scholarship for high school seniors The June England Scholarship, a memorial gift established by Don England and family to honor June, is awarded to Webster Groves Christian Church graduating high school seniors for higher education study. We encourage our high school seniors who are considering further education to submit an application.

Seniors may contact Steve Staicoff in the church office for applications.

Application and letters of reference may be returned to Steve in the church office. If you have questions, contact Pat Roseman.

Deadline is May 1.

## Disciples Women keep the good works going

The doors of the church are closed to meetings being held, but that has not stopped the Disciples Women from carrying on their mission of reaching out to those who are in need. Each month, the Disciples Women of Webster Groves Christian Church have a unique service project for which we give money, sew needed items, shop and give of our time and resources.

In April, with money that was left over in our budget, we delivered 22 containers of laundry detergent to Webster - Rock Hill Ministries for them to distribute to families.

Thanks to Julie DeKinder for purchasing the detergent for us. Also in April, we collected \$225 to purchase more detergent for WRH Ministries. Though we were not at the church for our regular meetings, we stayed in touch and met the needs of those folks.

The service project for May is money for diapers for Webster - Rock Hill Ministries. The staff will purchase the size and amount of diapers that they need. We are asking

each person to give generously to this service project. WRH Ministries has expressed a great need for diapers of all sizes.

During the time of social distancing, the Tabitha Group held their April meeting on Zoom. They reported that it was great to see everyone and look forward to meeting again in May. The other groups are not holding meetings, however there is a lot of

communication with each other. There will not be a General Meeting in May. Meetings for June are yet to be determined.

For your information, we have a ministry called The Fellowship of the Least Coin. It is a worldwide ecumenical movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation. We are a part of Christian Women around the world praying for each other. A least coin is given at the time of the prayer. The Least Coin enables women who are marginalized to pray and give even the least coin.



Laundry detergent donated to Webster- Rock Hill Ministries

#### **News flash!**

On Wednesday, Disciples Women forwarded over \$250 to Promise Place for their diaper fund.

It came at just the right time, as the Promise Place had no more diapers.

Today, we remind each of us to renew our commitment to spend time in prayer for other women around the world who are struggling. The coins are sent to a designated FLC collection point and then to the FLC Fund. The Fellowship of the Least Coin is a sister organization to the World Day of Prayer. During this time of world struggles with the coronavirus, it is a good time to renew our commitment to this ministry.

Great is thy Faithfulness, you are not alone. The Disciples Women are here to serve and help you.

Jane Martin, Secretary



### Retirement celebration for Margie Pride on June 14

Rev. Margie Pride retires as pastor of Memorial Boulevard Christian Church as of April 30. We thank God for all of the ways Margie's ministry has been an expression of gospel faithfulness and love.

A retirement celebration for Margie has been tentatively planned for June 14. MBCC is planning to give Margie a mission trip to Guatemala as a retirement gift. If you would like to contribute toward this gift for Margie, please send checks to WGCC marked "Margie gift," and we'll pass them on to Memorial Boulevard.

Please help us keep this a secret - it's intended to be a surprise!

# Your support for WGCC is crucial

Just a reminder that even though WGCC's building is closed, the financial needs of fulfilling our mission and ministry are still there. Our ongoing faithful financial support of WGCC is still crucial. During these weeks when we are not physically gathering to worship together, please prayerfully and generously consider giving via check by mail, bank draft/direct deposit or through Givelify using this link:

https://www.givelify.com/givenow/1.0/ NzQw/selection

### Recognition for Susan Moore

The Regional Board recently approved the renaming of the positions currently held by our office staff, Jeni Brown in Springfield and Susan Moore in St. Louis.

The Rev. Jimmy Spear, Moderator of the Christian Church of Mid-America, said, "The two are now more appropriately named 'Ministry Associate' in keeping with the type and quality of their work among us."

### Hike against hunger set for June 13

Memorial Boulevard Christian Church's Hike Against Hunger has been postponed until June 13, 2020.

The goal this year is to raise \$13,000!

The focus is going to be on native communities in two regions of Guatemala - the Maya Ixil region and the Maya Mam region. This multi-pronged project will study malnutrition in children; work to empower communities in understanding their basic human rights (emphasizing the right to food); and establish an agricultural cooperative in each region that helps commercialize agricultural products and increases family incomes. The program will impact 917 families, 4,585 people.



From Room At The Inn

Room at the Inn has received an amazing outpouring of support from our night sites and volunteers during COVID-19. We want to offer up a grateful thank you. Your partnership with us goes way beyond your night of hosting. While we have had to alter our programming, your generosity, caring calls, emails, and continued prayers have greatly encouraged us. Thank you for your ongoing partnership with us to meet the needs of the homeless in St Louis. "Better Together" isn't just a motto - it's what makes Room at the Inn possible.

Cindy Warren

# Can you be a super hero?

Isaiah 58 Ministries is working hard to continue to provide food to people in need throughout the St. Louis region and is currently providing food to over 1,000 families each month in a safe and efficient manner.

At the same time, we are quickly running through our stores of food, and without the regular food collections offered by our supporting congregations, they are not being replenished.

So, in an effort to replenish our quickly depleting supplies, we are hosting a no-contact food collection on May 17. We will have



collection sites centrally located throughout the city where people can drop off donations without ever having to leave their car. It will take place from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, May, 17, after online worship service.

We are asking you to share this information far and wide - with your congregation, on your Facebook page and website, and within your neighborhood communities. We want this to be a community-wide event that everyone can take part in.

Rev. Brenda Booth, Executive Director Isaiah 58 Ministries

# WGC@125!



Baby dedication in 1950 included, from left, John and Althea Schiffman with Donald, Robert and Dorothy Foster with Daniel, Marvin and Dorothy Teeter with Charles, James and Harriet Legg with Elizabeth, Alberta Leeman with Richard, Al and Rosemary Seidel with Sharisse, and Woodrow and Dorothy Hatfield with Robyn. (Photo taken by Wayne Leeman)

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.

# Join us on Zoom

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the church's regular gatherings are being held via the Zoom group discussion app. If you have a smart phone, it helps to download the free Zoom app, but the program will also work on most desktop computers if you have a camera and microphone installed.

# **Book of Daniel Bible Study**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

https://zoom.us/j/381789752

Or dial in: 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 381 789 752

#### Koinonia Sunday School Class

Sunday, 8:45 a.m.

https://zoom.us/j/652179864

Meeting ID: 652 179 864

Password: 012104

### Are you Green Team material?

Do you have what it takes to be a member of the Green Team?

That's our group of folks who help care for our yard. It usually consists of a once-a-month shift of mowing and trimming the lawn. Your reward for helping is the satisfaction of a beautiful church - and all the golf balls you can find!

Thank you for this often "thankless" ministry to the church.

Please let the church office know if you can help!



### Recent prayer concerns from our congregation

- For Andy Lindberg, who has been moved to hospice care.
- For Doug and Bev Richmond.
- For Barbara Merrell, who is recovering from several dental surgeries.
- For Bill and Arlene Sullivan
- For all health-care workers
- For the families of WGCC Project NOW, KSD NOW program, and KAEChP.
- For Michelle Fielden, who is facing difficult challenges.
- For Shirley Arther, struggling with back trouble.
- For Eva Moutrie, who asks that we keep her in our prayers.
- For basic needs of food, shelter, clothing and health care for all.
- For Webster-Rock Hill Ministries, and its director, Ed Johnson.
- For all who have experienced loss or change in their work situations.
- For Rev. Margie Pride, as she enters her season of retirement.
- For the family of Carole Hughes, as they mourn the passing of Carole's sister, Cheryl.
- Sydney Woodrome and Wayne DeKinder have been studying and praying about baptism for the past couple of months. Please keep them in your prayers and consider sending them notes and cards of encouragement!

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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



The SEGA connection newsletter is available at <a href="http://www.mid-americadisciples.org/">http://www.mid-americadisciples.org/</a>

#### **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