

What's going on? Plenty! Updates from our WGCC Board

NEW MEMBERS: On Aug. 9, the WGCC Board welcomed three new members, John Burney, Mat DeKinder and John Gerdes, to join Deb Trautman, John Christensen, Laura Stuetzer, Keiler Swartz, Chris Webb and Jeff Moore.

ONLINE PRAISE: Worship online has been a multi-participant experience with up to 12-15 people helping to create each week's worship, including our seminary student interns Breona Hawkins and Adrian Hill. We have had around 300 views each week on Facebook, and additional views on YouTube. It is likely that we will be not hold services inside the building through the remainder of 2020.

KHOTSO ON THE AV: A great big thanks to Khotso Moore who has used his talents to provide the AV tasks for the service. He is beginning college at Missouri State in Springfield this fall. Khotso has graciously offered to commit 4 – 5 hours per week to produce the online services in addition to his full class schedule. The Board unanimously approved paying Khotso \$15.00 per hour for his professional services. Thanks also to the Worship Team for their amazing coordination with the many parties at WGCC and MBCC to create an inspiring service every week.

ELEVATOR REPAIR: The finance team recommended, and the Board approved, a limited capital campaign for a necessary major elevator repair and other building needs, with a goal of \$55,000. Letters will be mailed from the finance committee to all members.

CELL TOWER: The cell tower agreement is in process. There has been some delay in the title search. After closing, the monies will be used to pay off our mortgage, with any excess going to the building fund.

REGIONAL OFFICE: The Mid-America Regional office will be leaving its current location at Eden Theological Seminary. WGCC will be sharing office and storage space with the Mid-America Disciples Region as an in-kind donation to the region. They will move their furniture and files into the office (formerly the KAEChP office) across from Pastor Jeff's office during the month of September. Susan Moore is currently their St. Louis-based staff member.

Disciples Women heading outside

SOCIAL DISTANCE
LUNCHEON

NOON THIS
THURSDAY

WGCC LAWN

SEE DETAILS
ON PAGE 2

The Church Office will be closed for a week between Friday, September 11 and Friday September 18, as Steve will be out of town. Pastor Jeff will be monitoring voicemail messages during that time.

Calling all Disciples Women this Thursday on the church lawn

The Disciples Women invites all women of WGCC and MBCC to join them on the church lawn at noon on Thursday, Sept. 3, for lunch, because the church buildings are closed due to Covid-19. The gathering will be under the trees close to the West Parking Lot and Lockwood. This event will be a:

social-distancing wear-a-mask, bring-your-own-lunch-drink - chair-and-bug-spray type of gathering. You are asked to bring an extra lawn chair if you can, because some people no longer have lawn furniture. There will be no meeting, just a social gathering to get everyone out of their house and to see their friends. We may talk about our upcoming Service Projects, if possible.

This lunch gathering is dependent on good weather. Of course, in case of rain or hot temperature, the lunch will be postponed until October. You will be notified if the gathering is postponed. We look forward to seeing all the women of the churches as we kick off the DW year with a social event.

The DW September Service Project is Health and School Kits for Church World Service. Because of Covid-19, it was decided that we should not go into the stores to purchase the items for the kits. We contacted Church World Service and they suggested that we send the offering of \$15 per kit to them and they could purchase the kits. Our members are sending their offering to Julie Wood, Treasurer. Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have a great offering already with September yet to go for collecting for this project.

Is this ministry in the cards for you?

As we continue to worship online and stay socially distanced from one another, we are planning to continue our greeting card ministry for all members. If you would be willing to be one of our card-writers, please let me know! We will supply pre-addressed, pre-stamped, hand-made cards for you to write a message of pandemic encouragement to a WGCC member and mail. You can commit to writing just a few, or up to a dozen. INCENTIVE: I'll throw in two freebie cards for your own use! Thanks to all of our past and future writers. I have heard from several folks how nice it is to receive them!



Susan Moore (reallysusanmoore@gmail.com)

The regular schedule of meetings for Disciples Women will not be held in the church building. The Lydia Group will not be meeting until the building is open.

Tabitha Group will be meeting on the third Thursday at 7 PM on Zoom; all are welcome. The first meeting will be September 17. They will conduct their regular meeting and study.

The Martha Group will not meet, however for the second Thursday each month, members will receive a lesson by email. Each person is asked to share questions or comments about the lesson. Alice Yount and Vicki Ott are preparing the lessons and a Devotional.

Jane Martin



And how about something for the pantry as well?

Recently on a Thursday some WGCC volunteers met at Memorial Boulevard Christian Church to help prepare and serve a lunch to about 90 residents in their community. As we sat down to take a breather before serving, we all had an opportunity to visit with MBCC members.

We asked Shirley, who is their Food Pantry Coordinator,

"Is there any food families always ask for that you have difficulty supplying?"

Shirley explained, "Vegetables!"

Our reply, "Give us a list and we will put it in our newsletter."

Please keep these food items in mind as you donate to our Food Pantry Box that goes to MBCC.

Canned green beans

Canned corn

Canned fruit

Canned beans: especially pork & beans and baked beans

Granola bars

Thanks for hearing and answering these needs.

Pat Roseman

Help us dish it out for our friends at Memorial Boulevard

Memorial Boulevard Christian Church serves a carry-out lunch to neighbors (usually between 80 and 110 meals) each Thursday. WGCC members and friends have helped to provide funding and volunteers for this lunch once in July and once in August.

We will be providing funds and volunteers for Thursday lunches on September 24; October 15; November 19; and December 17.

Please consider donating to this project along with your usual tithes and offerings to WGCC by annotating your gift, "MBCC lunch." This is also a category on our WGCC Givelify page.

If you'd like to volunteer for any of these dates, please contact the WGCC office.

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Mid-America

OCT 3
9:00am

Join us online for this special 90 minute Assembly!



TUNE IN FOR:

State of the Region Address

Worship/Bible Study

Business/Reporting

Recognize and welcome new clergy

IN ADDITION:

Join us for Better Together Thursdays where our workshop leaders will make their presentations online throughout the fall.

(This is great continuing education for clergy!)

GUEST PREACHER

Dr. Richard Ward, Retired Fred B. Craddock Professor of Homiletics at Phillips Theological Seminary. His sermon will be pre-recorded and available for use on Sept. 30.



Find more information and register to vote online at www.mid-america-disciples.org

Mid-America's [Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciling Justice Ministries](#) has developed an online training program! Each session is for clergy to meet their 2020 standing requirements, receive continuing education credits, and for lay people and congregations to move forward in their wider welcome and community witness. Join us **Saturday September 19 or November 7** from 10am to 3pm (breaks included). Readings and videos will be sent in advance for preparation, and training screen time will be limited to four hours. Completion certificates, follow-up materials, and seminar ideas will be emailed afterward. **\$25 registration fee. Registration deadlines 9/11 and 10/30 respectively.**

These sessions are open to clergy, lay people, entire congregations, and anyone outside of our Disciples tradition wanting to learn more about how to understand and meet challenges in these unsettling times. Register at www.mid-america-disciples.org



INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP OF
GREATER ST LOUIS PRESENTS

THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS

A Free Public Lecture Series with
Dr. David Oughton

**MONDAY EVENINGS, 7PM CENTRAL TIME
SEPT 7TH THRU DEC 14TH**

TO REGISTER, GO TO: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3GCMVDX](https://bit.ly/3GCMVDX)



This free, non-credit series, offered via Zoom, is designed for anyone interested in learning about the history, beliefs and practices of the major religions of the world. The course is taught by Dr. David Oughton, President of the Board of IPSTL.



Give a hand where it's needed most

The Webster Groves Christian Church Neighbor Fund receives designated gifts from members and friends of WGCC, and is intended to allow our congregation to respond to unanticipated and unbudgeted requests for assistance. Over the years, the Neighbor Fund has helped hundreds of people with rent and utility assistance, transportation, gasoline, food, repairs, medications, books, childcare, and much more.

The Neighbor Fund is maintained by our church administrator and is used at our pastor's discretion to aid those within our congregation and those from our wider community with one-time emergency assistance. Our congregational budget includes money for the Neighbor Fund, but the majority of income from the fund comes from generous and faithful designated gifts by WGCC members. In addition to your regular support of our budgeted mission and ministry, please consider a one-time or ongoing gift to the Neighbor Fund.

Contributions should be marked "Neighbor Fund," and will be used to provide assistance, care, and hope to our neighbors.

Sunday morning worship services will continue to be live-streamed 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/>**

WGCC@125!



On April 13, 1985, Associate Minister Charles Bahn led the way in counting out 90 pennies to celebrate our 90th anniversary. Throughout 2020 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.

Your support 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>

Books of Luke and Acts Bible Study continues

Join us on Mondays for our Zoom Bible Study on the Books of Luke and Acts. Note: There will be no session on Labor Day, Sept. 7.

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.

Bible Study

Mondays, 3 p.m. (except Labor Day)

<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

After worship, you are invited for a special Zoom fellowship. It's a special WGCC "Community Time" at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday

**Join us at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89722013606>**

Recent prayer concerns

- For Ken and Ginney Rainey
 - For Bill and Arlene Sullivan
 - For Barbara Merrel
 - For Robin Woodrome
 - For all teachers and students beginning classes
 - For victims of recent shootings and acts of violence.
 - For those battling recent hurricanes and wild fires.
 - For Rose Anne, a friend of Vicki Ott's, who lives in Pennsylvania.
 - For Barbara Merrell's granddaughter, taking the Medical College Admission Test
 - For John Dyess, who is recovering from surgery.
 - For Eva Moutrie, as she recovers from broken ribs and injuries sustained in a fall.
 - For Jeff Tedford and Peggy Eskridge, recovering from surgeries
 - For all health care "frontline" workers, and all essential workers.
 - For the families of WGCC Project NOW, KSD NOW program, and KAEChP.
 - For Webster Rock Hill Ministries, and their director, Ed Johnson.
 - For all whom have experienced loss or change in their work situations.
 - For all victims of COVID-19, especially the under-served and under-represented members of the community.
 - For James Burney as he continues to regain strength.
-

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