

Join us for Christmas virtual worship

- **Sunday, December 20 at 6:00 PM** Jazz Christmas Lessons and Carols with Two Times True on WGCC Facebook
- **December 24 at 11:00 PM** Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship on WGCC Facebook
- **Christmas Day at 10:00 AM** Christmas Communion via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8815177894>



Keep the WGCC Christmas cookie tradition alive!

Although this year the annual Jazz and Chorale Christmas Concert will not take place in our sanctuary, you can still purchase an assortment of delicious homemade Christmas cookies from the WGCC bakers and support our mission partner, Heifer International. *Bakers will observe strict COVID guidelines wearing masks during baking and packaging.*

Suggested donation: \$10 per dozen. **Order deadline:** Dec. 7

Drive-by order pickup: Friday, December 18, 10:00 - 12:00 or Saturday, December 19, 10:00 - 2:00 at the rear Fellowship Hall door.

To order, contact Pat Roseman at roseman.pat@gmail.com or (636) 220-9237. Please include the following information when you contact Pat:

- Your name and phone number
- How many dozen cookies do you wish to order? (minimum order 1 dozen, order in increments of ½ dozen)
- Do you require cookies without nuts?
- Is it impossible for you to pick up? Delivery will be available only for our members who are unable to pick up.

To pay for your cookies and/or donate to Heifer international:

- Donate online on the WGCC Heifer team page. <https://fundraise.heifer.org/team/329208>
- Mail a check to the church, payable to WGCC, and write “Heifer” in the memo line.

Freedom to fear no more

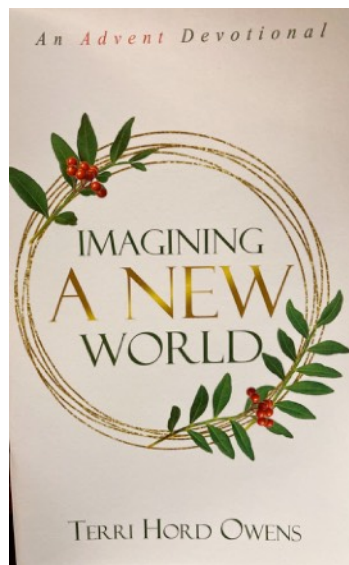
Your daily devotional for Advent can unlock a new world

Advent's scripture passages call us to imagine a new world, one free from fear, not one based on a "return to normal."

In this new daily devotional for Advent, Terri Hord Owens, a leader of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), delves into Advent lectionary texts to reflect on God's vision for the world and how we might find the courage to imagine, the permission to change, and the freedom to fear no more.

A prayer rounds out each daily devotion.

Devotionals are \$4.00 each, and can be picked up at WGCC. Please call the office to let us know when to expect you!



For Project NOW, a calendar of giving

In the spirit of giving during the Christmas season, this unique Advent calendar is an opportunity to share with others. Each day put the designated food item into a large box or bag. At the end of the Advent season please leave the gift of food items at the Church for Project NOW. All the items on the list are foods that we use each month for the NOW families.

Project NOW is a nutrition on weekends program affiliated with Webster Groves Christian Church. NOW provides a bag of food to 15 families every weekend.

Questions? Email Julie DeKinder at dekinderj@umsl.edu

Your 2020 Advent giving calendar

- December 1- box of macaroni and cheese
- December 2- canned chicken
- December 3- box of granola bars
- December 4- box of fruit snacks
- December 5- box of cereal
- December 6- package of fruit cups
- December 7- box of Nutrigrain bars (or similar breakfast bars)
- December 8- canned tuna
- December 9- microwave popcorn
- December 10- applesauce (plastic jar or individual containers)
- December 11- pretzels
- December 12- canned pizza sauce
- December 13- canned refried beans
- December 14- box of crackers
- December 15- Goldfish crackers (or similar snack cracker)
- December 16- oatmeal
- December 17- package of pasta noodles
- December 18- canned spaghetti sauce
- December 19- canned chicken noodle soup
- December 20- canned tomato soup
- December 21- animal crackers
- December 22- Cheez-its
- December 23- individual raisin packages
- December 24- canned ravioli pasta (or similar canned pasta)

Christmas wishes from the Disciples Women

The Disciples Women were invited to join the Tabitha Group for a Virtual Meeting on Zoom in November. Several members attended. A wonderful study was given by Denise Pahl. It was great to see everyone and to catch up on friends.

This coming Thursday, December 3, will be our first luncheon/ DW General Meeting on Zoom. Information will follow in the article. Instead of a speaker, each person is invited to read a Christmas story, poem, song lyrics or to tell about their favorite Christmas. Please grab your lunch and join us at noon on Thursday as we share our Christmas joys.

For our service project in November, we collected money for food baskets and gift certificates for Memorial Boulevard's food pantry. We were able to fill eight baskets and give eight gift certificates. Thank you to all who donated and participated in purchasing the food and making the delivery to Memorial Boulevard Christian Church.

In December, our service project is socks and underwear for Head Start. They are requesting toddler sizes 2T-5T and children's sizes 5 and 6 for both boys and girls. Each DW member may decide if she wishes to shop and buy items or if she prefers to donate money. Janie Joplin and Pat Roseman will then shop for items after donations are received. Checks may be sent to Julie Wood made out to WGCC/DW with DW December service in the memo line. For items dropped off at church to Steve, there will be a box in the main entry hall. The deadline is Friday, December 18. The office closes at 3 PM.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, thank you for loving those in need as Jesus loved them. (Janie and Pat)

The Adopt-A Family project is an all-church effort. We have two families that we are adopting for Christmas. (Details at right). Disciples Women always take a lead in this project.

Please note the information for Thursday's meeting on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83920478268>

- Jane Martin



A new look for the Adopt-A-Family project

Our traditional Adopt-A-Family tree will not look the same. No 'ornaments' on the tree. No shopping for 'little Johnny's winter coat.' Webster / Rock Hill Ministries will be doing things safer this year. We will be buying GIFT CARDS for the families. \$25.00 cards per person for the food and whatever amount we want for the personal gift card.

We are 'adopting' 2 families: Kywana Berry and her two sons, Kayden and Markece, and Betty Hunt and her five children: Edmons, Zylah, Alonzo, Treymond and Aikhari.

I have decided that \$75.00 gift card for each person will be given. Between the two families, that is nine people. With the food gift cards of \$225.00 and the individual cards of \$675, the grand total is \$900.

The cards/money need to be turned in to Webster/Rock Hill Ministries by December 4th. That is a really quick turn over. Pastor Jeff has graciously agreed to send this amount to WRH from the Neighbor Fund. So all we have to do is repay that fund.

So please give generously. There is no deadline. Send the money to the Church. Make it out to WGCC and on the memo line indicate Adopt-a-Family tree. Steve can keep track of the totals for us.

THANKS, Sally Smith

Details from the board: Playground news and office updates

The following meeting notes from the WGCC Board were provided by Deb Trautman.

The MBCC and WGCC partnership and services are going well. WGCC has been able to engage with the MBCC neighborhood by making lunches for individuals, providing toiletry items, and other ministries.

WGCC finalized the cell tower lease purchase with Landmark Dividend. We are excited to

announce the mortgage on the church is now paid off. The Capital Campaign continues to raise money for the elevator repair and installation of a playground for preschool aged children.

The elevator is now repaired and awaiting inspection by the state. While we have had some additional unanticipated repairs on the HVAC system and roof repair, we had funding for these expenses. Keiler Swartz will

work with Sydney Woodrome and Wayne DeKinder on the design of the playground for preschool-age children.

The worship committee is planning for Advent with both churches, honoring their traditions for the season. See details on the cover.

Due to the upward spike in COVID cases and deaths, it is likely the church facility will remain closed in January and February 2021.



The Neighbor Fund can help those close to the Burneys

The “Neighbor Fund” is used to assist people facing emergencies. The Burneys’ foster son, Shaun, and his family, (Erica and their three small children,) are facing such an emergency. Missouri’s purging of welfare rolls has resulted in Shaun’s losing his disability payments, despite his seizures resulting from childhood lead poisoning. He has re-applied, but approval is a lengthy process.

Both Shaun and Erica have part-time jobs, but they need a safe place to live. Please consider this an invitation to reach out to a very needy (and loving) family.

Tax-deductible contributions can be made to Webster Groves Christian Church, 1320 W. Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63122. The memo should say “Neighbor Fund-Shaun.” If you would like to know more about this family, please call Susan Burney.

A national honor for Shepherd's Center volunteer

In October Dick Entenmann was selected by a group of Shepherd's Center leaders from across the country to receive the Donald Owen Smith National Volunteer Award. Here are some of the words the selection panel used in describing Dick's service: "invaluable," "phenomenal," and "natural leader."

After Dick retired after 32 years with Chrysler/Daimler, he volunteered with Kirk Care, an organization that collects and distributes food to the needy in the Kirkwood area. One day his friend Bill German introduced him to the Shepherd's Center whose offices were in the same building. Bill told him he was retiring from the Shepherd's Center board, but Dick became intrigued with the organization and soon found himself deeply involved with it.

He became a Shepherd's Center board member, as well as a chairman for many terms. But his leadership does not stop at the top job. He also drives riders to doctor's appointments twice a month, chairs fundraising events, and is a phone pal to many.



Dick Entenmann (right) with Shepherd's Center founder Ed Odom.

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>

WGCC update: Sidney Baker



Sidney graduated in May 2020 with her BFA in Acting from Missouri State University. Unfortunately, graduation ceremonies have been postponed indefinitely.

Sidney participated in many aspects of Theatre and Film while in college — including playing "Babe Botrelle" in Crimes of the Heart; "#7" in The Wolves; "Gwendolen" in The Importance of Being Earnest; and "Mercy Lewis" in The Crucible.

Excitingly, she also received the opportunity to act in her first professional film — Sick Girl, with notable actors and filmmakers.

She was the recipient of the Deans, Theatre Regents and John Goodman Scholarships. She also made the Dean's List as a Junior and Senior. She was named "Best Actress in a Mainstage Play" for her role as "Babe Botrelle" in Crimes of the Heart.

She plans to move to Chicago in July 2021 with her partner, Baylor, and her cat, Luna, to pursue an acting, music, directing and producing career.

Please send well wishes to 7978 Thornbush Dr, Westerville, OH 43082

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!

Throughout 2020 we've marked 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.

Above: Some of the angels and animals from the manger pose after the children's pageant in 2005.

Join us for our virtual Bible study or Sunday class

Join us on Mondays for our Zoom Bible Study on the Books of Luke and Acts.

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.

<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

Recent prayer concerns

- For Donna Schindler, a childhood friend of Kay Love's, who is undergoing many personal problems, and for the Collett family, all of whom have COVID-19.
- For WGCC member Don England, who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor, and will soon start treatments.
- For David, Linda, Matthew, and Hannah Klietherme, relatives of John Smith. David is hospitalized with pneumonia and is COVID-19 positive, Linda has a deep cough and getting worse, Matthew has been sick (non-COVID) and is slowly getting better, Hannah is getting worse.
- For Shah Smith, who is recuperating from total knee replacement surgery last month and while getting better every day, has some complications that are not responding to different treatments.
- For the Burneys' former foster son, Shaun, and his family as they try to secure a safe place to live.
- For Robin Woodrome's coworker, who lost his wife to a brain aneurysm. She was a beautiful woman, with a lively spirit and a servant heart. Please pray for Scott and his sons, Hayden and Holden, and for their entire family.
- For Ruth Anne, a friend of Vicki Ott's, who lives in Pennsylvania and is battling health issues.
- For Raymond Kolacek, friend of Max and Vicki Ott, who suffered a fall and a broken pelvis.
- For Eva Moutrie, who has been through rehab for a broken leg and is back at her place in Ellisville.
- For Jane Martin's friend Fran Effertz, recovering from serious surgery.
- For all health care "frontline" workers and all essential workers.
- For the families of WGCC Project NOW, KSD NOW program, and KAEChP.
- For basic needs of food, shelter clothing and healthcare for all.
- For Webster Rock Hill Ministries.

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/>

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