

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 2

A GLOBAL MISSION CONGREGATION

FEB. 2021

In February, let's make Wednesdays WARM WEDNESDAY.

Imagine what it feels like if you live in a home with no heat and you have one blanket or no blanket. This is the case with many of our neighbors in the Memorial Boulevard Christian Church community.

As you reach for another blanket for your bed, do you see the extra one you keep for guests? The extra blanket you aren't using any more? The extra blanket you got on a 2 for 1 sale?

At WGCC, we eagerly send clothes we don't need to those who have a need. Can you make more space in your closet and also keep someone warm with a blanket you don't need?

Bring clean blankets, comforters, sleeping bags to Steve in the church office.

Office hours are 9 AM-3 PM. Questions? Pat Roseman 636-220-9237.



That's a wrap!

Speaking of warmth, Laura Stuetzer recently delivered these baby quilts to Nurses For Newborns. The quilts were a project from our Disciples Women's groups.



SAVE THE DATES:

ASH WEDNESDAY

For Lent 2021, we'll have an Ash Wednesday online service at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17 on Facebook.

WEEKLY LENTEN STUDIES

We'll host weekly Lenten online studies at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays Feb 24; Mar 3; Mar 10; Mar 17; Mar 24; Mar 31. Join us on Zoom:

https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/ 82507329265

MAUNDY THURSDAY

We'll worship together with UACC and CCC on Maundy Thursday, April I (we'll have more details about this soon.).

GOOD FRIDAY

We'll have a Facebook Good Friday Service at 7:00 PM on Friday, April

"Practicing Religion" with Prof. David Greenhaw

Join Interfaith Partnership in Spring 2021 for a ten-week virtual course exploring practices of the world's religious traditions. The course will be organized around a central theme, namely that there are certain human "practices," and that these differ among the religions of the world.

Each class will focus on a "practice" and look at the practice from the perspective of differing religious communities. Classes will take a comparative approach, but not a comprehensive one; although every class will not be able to discuss every major religion, we will seek to include a breadth of examples over the course of the semester.

Rev. Dr. David Greenhaw, an ordained Christian minister, is the recently retired president of Eden Theological Seminary. Prof. Greenhaw began his teaching career at Vanderbilt University and has lectured on five continents. He is currently the Chair of the <u>Cabinet</u> of Interfaith Partnership.

This course will be offered for free to ensure that cost is not a barrier. That being said, Interfaith Partnership relies on donations to survive; if you are able to donate, we would deeply appreciate your financial support.

Click below to register.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/

Love, friendship and the Disciples Women

The Disciples Women kicked off the new year with a Virtual Lunch Meeting on the first Thursday of the month. Several people attended and were blessed by seeing their friends and talking to each other. The Tabitha Group also held their Virtual meeting and it was enjoyed by those attending. Laura Stuetzer gave the Bible Study. Sally Smith will lead the discussion of the Bible Study for the Virtual meeting of the Tabitha Group in February. The Martha Group communicated by email. Alice Yount presented the Bible Study, in January and Jane Martin will present the Bible lesson in February. We look forward to another Virtual Lunch Meeting on the Feb. 4 at noon. We are sure to talk about love and favorite Valentine stories, as well as visit with friends. There will be much to discuss about our women's ministries of this year. All are invited to attend these meetings.

The Disciples Women are very pleased to have donated to the Neighbor Fund, as the January Service project, a total of \$606.73. We gave \$250 from the 2021 budget and collected \$356.73 in donations. The Neighborhood Fund, one of our favorite charities, provides help to marginalized people in our neighborhood and the Memorial Blvd. neighborhood also.

The Service Project for February is also a very worthy cause. We are donating money to purchase a large item for Kirkwood Promise Place, part of Parents as Teachers and Kirkwood Area Every Child Promise (KAEChP). The large item will be a booster seat for a family. In addition, we will also be contributing to buy diapers, which Promise Place always needs. For both items, we are asked to please contribute money and the service team will make the purchases and deliver them. Checks should be sent to **Julie Wood** along with your DW offering. Be sure to indicate on the check how you want the donation divided.

We are happy to announce the 100th birthday of our dear member, **Jane Yount**. Jane will celebrate her birthday on February 17. We treasure Jane, as active member of the DW and the Martha Group. We are asking all members of the DW as well as the congregations to shower Jane with cards. We are thankful for her long life and for your many years of service to WGCC and the Disciples Women. Jane, you have been a strong leader and have contributed generously to the work of our missions.

Jane Martin, Secretary

'The older I get, the more stories I have!'

Webster Groves Christian Church member **Jane Yount** turns **100** on Feb. 17. Her daughter, Alice, helped her mom as she reflected on her 100 years.

Jane Yount grew up in Sedalia and became a teacher after graduating from Lindenwood and the Universtiy of Missouri-Columbia. After three years of teaching she became an air traffic controller in Kansas City and later in Wichita.



One day, representatives from Boeing asked the control tower crew if they would be interested in flying in their new B-17 plane.

"We could not get up there fast enough," Jane recalled.

"Everyone had to wear a parachute. Mine was so heavy on my back that I gave it a hoist to lift it up. You guessed it, I pulled on the rip cord and the whole thing bellowed out on the floor around me. How I wished I could disappear."

The folks at Boeing gave Jane another parachute and even let her sit in the cockpit.

"What an exciting adventure that was. It was like watching the world whiz by."

In 1946, she married Tom Yount and moved to Niagara Falls, where Tom worked for Bell Aircraft Co.

"We could not find a Christian Church there so we attended a Methodist church," Jane said. "Years later talking to Dr. Bill Shoop, I told him there was not a Christian Church in the City of Niagara Falls. Bill answered, and I quote, 'Oh yes there was, and I was the minister.'"

In 1947, the Younts moved to St. Louis, where Tom would work for McDonnell Aircraft Corp for 34 years. He helped design nearly every plane they had, including the F-15 and the Demon fighter planes.

He also worked on Apollo 11, which took the first men to the moon.

"When Tom was invited to watch the Apollo 11 blast off, our daughter Alice and I decided to go with him. That was the most extraordinary experience we ever had in our life," Jane said. "It was so big and so loud!"

The Younts joined Webster Groves Christian Church in 1965. Jane, Tom and Alice served as deacons, board members and other roles in the church.

"I was a member of several Christian Womens Fellowship Groups," Jane said. "I feel blessed to have been in these groups with such outstanding Christian women.

"May God bless each and every one of us!"

When you give to Week of Compassion, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world. Through sustainable development projects, our partners help provide life-giving water and other critical resources that help communities reinvent and reimagine what is possible. When water comes to a village, people are safer, healthier, and more free to pursue learning and growth opportunities. *Let love flow*, and share more than just water.

The last two Sundays of February are set aside as "The Week of Compassion."

Donate at weekof compassion.org

Give safely online at weekofcompassion.org

Photos by Craig Thompson



Let love flow.

Joshua Mumbi used to spend much of his time collecting water.

When it rained, he would collect water running in the streets. Often he would spend much of the day walking to a local water source and carrying back buckets. Sometimes he would even travel to the water source with his family the night before, spending the night there so that they could bring back water in the morning. His mother, Josephine, did not like to make the journey alone — it was not safe.

There was not much time to go to school. And when he did go to school, Joshua Mumbi was very tired during the day. It was hard to focus; it was hard to learn.

But thanks to your gifts through Week of Compassion, Joshua Mumbi and his family — and all of the other families in his village — have a safe, clean water source close to home. With a new solar-powered borehole well, they have water for cooking, water for drinking, water for bathing and keeping things clean and sanitary. Because you *let love flow*, water brought new life to a whole community. Now children like Joshua Mumbi and his siblings can go to school every day, and a whole world of opportunity is open to them. Now the whole community is empowered to provide for their needs, plan for their future, and pursue new opportunities for growth.

So that more communities can experience this new life, please give generously, and **let love flow**.

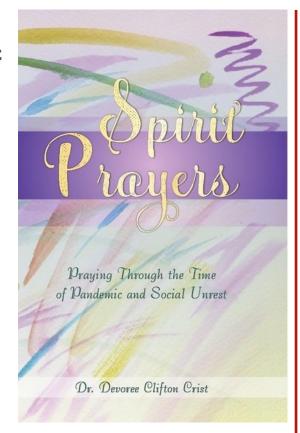


A source of comfort and hope found in 'Spirit Prayers'

By Devoree Crist

As we enter our 11th month of Pandemic, we find ourselves weary of it all.

A temporary upheaval in our lives has become a long term rearrangement and for some a complete disruption. We know our God is near but prayer is often hard when our energy level is so low



Spirit Prayers, written for the congregation, became the source of comfort and hope for me.

I have gathered these prayers in a book that may be useful as you search for your own words.

The Scriptures were sometimes for the lectionary as I wrote for worship but the majority are my own "go to" texts when I find myself struggling, in pain, or worried. As I sit with the word, I hear God's message to me and I respond in prayer.

The print version will be released on Feb 3.

You can purchase it at these stores.

Amazon, Barnes&Noble, BookBaby

Some signed copies are available at the church. Call the office and you can arrange to pick one up safely. Special price \$15.

Praise for Spirit Prayers'

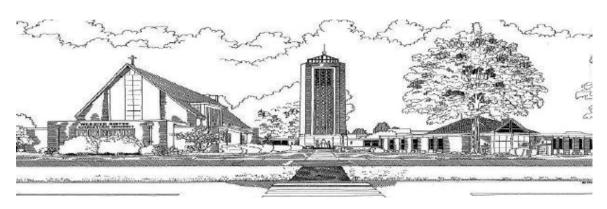
It turns out that Devoree Crist is a Prayer Warrior if ever there was one.

In *Spirit Prayers*: Praying through the Pandemic and Social *Unrest.* she invites us into her Prayer Room. This is where she consults the Scriptures, the Classics and the Ancestors for their testimonies, examples and evidence of God's provision and protection. She encourages the believer to ask God for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, the gift God wants to give, gives the believer the ability to build a reputation for the Lord, the Church and the Power of Prayer. The Church at prayer, facing this pandemic and social unrest, can be builders of the "kin-dom". healers of the breach and a demonstration of God's presence in the world. This book is a guide and a resource for walking with God daily in times like these.

Timothy M. James, Associate General Minister

and Past President, Administrative Secretary of the National Convocation of theChristian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada 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/



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

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 WGCC member Don England, who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor, and is undergoing treatment.
- For Analyn Howell's brother, Brian Rollan, who is recovering from COVID 19.
- For Vicki Ott and her family, as they grieve the loss of Vicki's father, Dick.
- For Shah and John Smith's grandson, Michael, who had a brain aneurysm five years ago, and has new symptoms.
- For Gerry Love's family as they grieve the loss of Gerry's brother, Steve, and sister-in-law, Lyn.
- For the family of Gloria Hutchings, who passed away last month.
- For Lori Rose's mother, Linda, who is in hospice care.
- For Karen Lebb (Bert & Marcy Combs' daughter), as she recovers from a double mastectomy.
- For Marilyn Combs' sister, Kay Hartman, who is having continual severe spinal pain.
- For John Dyess, who is recovering from heart valve replacement surgery on January 20.
- For Ken Crist's brother and his wife, who are recovering from Covid-19
- Devoree Crist asks prayers for her friend Sella, as she goes through a time of grieving
- Laura Stuetzer request prayers for her friend Gloria Stewart, who fell and is facing complicated recovery from several fractures
- For Susan Burney, who has an upcoming hip surgery
- For Bill and Arlene Sullivan
- For Donna Wolff-Crump's friend, Michelle
- For DeVere Shoop
- For Breona Hawkins

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 http://www.mid-americadisciples.org/

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