

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 9

A GLOBAL MISSION CONGREGATION

SEPT. 2021

Unravelling the complexities of Israel and Palestine

You are invited to a Region-Wide Webinar to learn more about the ongoing complexities in Israel and Palestine on Wednesday, September 1 from 7-8:15 p.m.via Zoom

A follow up survey will be provided for those who would like to learn more after the session

Rev. Jeff Wright and Janet Wright will be our guides.

They have served as volunteer Global Service Workers to Palestine/Israel through Global Ministries and have traveled to the region many times.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86991729558?

Meeting ID: 869 9172

9558

Passcode: 565702

The fruit of our efforts, for a good cause





Did you know that Webster Groves Christian members and friends provide funding, food, cooks, and servers for the community lunch served at Memorial Boulevard Christian Church on the third Thursday of each month?

The tomatoes from the WGCC garden provided nutrition on 100 sandwiches for that effort.

We can always use more help with this important project.

Shepherd's Center on the Move Grab & Go BBQ

Friday, September 17, 5:00-7:00 Webster Groves Christian Church Parking Lot 1320 W. Lockwood Ave., Glendale, 63122

BBQ meals to go with all of your favorite sides will be available for curbside pickup

Tickets on sale now, \$20/each go to www.shepherdscenter-wk.org for online sales



All proceeds benefit the Shepherd Center's essential services for older adults – medical transportation, grocery delivery and more.

Disciples Women fall into action

Leaves have started to fall, children are going back to school and the Disciples Women are kicking off a new year of worship, Bible Study, service and fellowship beginning with our first meeting being held on Zoom. Get your lunch ready on September 2 and be ready to join the ZOOM call at noon.

We will eat our lunch, catch up on the summer months of church happenings and conduct a business meeting, where we will vote on the proposed budget for 2021-22.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89537783132?pwd=c1M3NFhWQnRhQ0x0Nzk3UWRzMUE5dz09 Meeting ID: 895 3778 3132 Passcode: 623891

The three group meetings will be on Thursday, September 9. The church building is open, but we are still not eating in the building. The groups are invited to meet under the tent on the North courtyard that day. The Tabitha Group will meet at 6 pm instead of 7 pm on the 9th under the tent. The Martha Group will not meet, but will continue to share the lesson by email for at least one more month. The Lydia Group has not yet announced their meeting.

If you wish to enter the building, either by the East doors, elevator entrance or office entrance, you can get to the courtyard from the tower hallway. The Card Makers will be making cards again in the Heritage room on the 4th Thursday of each month from 9 am until noon. Please join them if you can find the time. Your help is needed to replenish our supply of cards.

DW are asked to share their food with the food bank. The food that was collected and some clothing was taken to MBCC by Vicki and Max Ott last week, so our bank needs help now. Thanks to Vicki and Max for their service.

We look forward to an exciting year of work with the Disciples Women. Please join us if you have not yet joined a group.

Submitted by Jane Martin, Secretary



A back-to school service tradition

Janie Joplin and Pat Roseman will continue to serve as co-chairs of Service.

Here's their September update:

Bringing us back together in Service serving our Lord through those in need. As is our tradition for September service, we will continue to give to CHURCH WORLD SERVICE/CWS providing for much needed health and school kits. DO NOT BUY ITEMS: INSTEAD CONTRIBUTE MONEY. Please send your check to Julie Wood. Make it out as follows: WGCC/Disciples Women.

In the memo line, designate how you want it divided, Health and/or School kits, DW Budget. CWS suggests \$15 provides one kit. Please give as your budget allows. If you happen to be at WGCC during this month when Steve is there, you could also give him your check and he will pass it on to Julie. Thanks for your devotion to our DW service projects.

Responding to global crises

AFGHANISTAN

When you give to Week of Compassion, your support will help those in need in places like Afghanistan, while also supporting resettlement in the United States.

In recent days many of us have witnessed the dire situation in Afghanistan. The Taliban entered Kabul, seizing control as the Afghan government collapsed. As U.S. troops withdraw from Afghanistan, Afghan allies and refugees are seeking to flee the country as the Taliban take over.

As this humanitarian crisis unfolds, Disciples are asking how to help. Week of Compassion is working with partners in the region to provide needed relief and help meet urgent needs. Those needs are still emerging, and the situation is very delicate. But know that gifts to Week of Compassion will go to the partners best situated to respond.

Alongside the humanitarian needs within Afghanistan and neighboring countries are the needs of those who have fled. This is a critical moment in which to work for a robust refugee resettlement program here in the United States.

Together with our partners, Week of Compassion has walked alongside communities in comparable times of turmoil and uncertainty throughout history. Emerging from the humanitarian crisis of World War II, Week of Compassion has been our wider church's response to human suffering for more than 75 years. In the 1980s for example, Week of Compassion helped support the robust United States resettlement of over 100,000 Southeast Asian refugees, including those from Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. As we face this moment in Afghanistan now, Noel Andersen of Church World Service says, "This is a time when we really need to look at what is our moral role in the world, and it is really critical that we step up and honor our commitments to these folk."

When you give to Week of Compassion, your support will help those in need in places like Afghanistan, while also supporting resettlement in the United States. There are several ways you can help! Learn more about how to get your congregation involved in local refugee ministry, and prepare to welcome resettled families to your community. Get involved by calling your representatives and advocating for the administration to increase the annual cap on entry numbers; in particular, encourage them to expedite processing for Special Immigrant Visas for those who assisted U.S. Troops, ensuring that our allies in Afghanistan are brought to safety.

In times of instability and uncertainty within the global community, the support of our wider Church through Week of Compassion is critical. Our faith as Disciples of Christ compels us to action. Whether you give, participate in U.S. resettlement, or join in prayer for our siblings in Afghanistan, your compassion will have a long-term impact on the lives of many during this critical time.

LEARN MORE: https://bit.ly/cwsglobal-afghanistan

HAITI

As the people of Haiti navigate the impact of compound disasters, Week of Compassion partners continue to respond and take part in ongoing damage assessments.

In the wake of the major earthquake in Haiti, Week of Compassion partners have been working to respond to immediate needs such as shelter, food and clothing, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), and first aid. In the days since the earthquake, Tropical Storm Grace (since upgraded to a hurricane) made landfall in southwestern Haiti. The storm's heavy rains caused flash flooding and landslides, making immediate response to the earthquake even more difficult and hindering search and rescue operations. Poor internet and



phone connections make communication challenging. The death toll is now over 2,000, with nearly 10,000 injured, making the need for relief and medical care even more urgent.

Furthermore, the earthquake (and Tropical Storm) struck the country during the harvest season for beans, maize, and yams. This impact is likely to increase food prices and contribute to further food insecurity--in a time when the country was already struggling under the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects.

As the people of Haiti navigate the impact of these compound disasters, Week of Compassion partners continue to respond and take part in ongoing damage assessments. Plans are in development for long-term response as well. As with previous responses in Haiti, construction and building projects will aim to mitigate the impact of future disasters. With knowledge of past disasters to inform current response, our support will help the people of Haiti prepare for the future while meeting present needs. Often, building for today can save lives tomorrow--as was certainly the case in this recent earthquake.

Week of Compassion is grateful for long-standing relationships with partners who know the needs nowand can foresee needs that might arise later as well. Together, we can make a difference, even when the need is so great.

Donate online; text WoC to 41444;

or mail checks to: P.O. Box 1986

Indianapolis, IN 46206

Designate your gifts for Refugees; Earthquake; or Where Most Needed

LEARN MORE: https://bit.ly/cwsglobal-haiti

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/





Guidelines for our in-person worship





Recent prayer concerns

- For Donna Savage and her family following the death of Donna's daughter, Jennie, last week in St. Louis.
- For Shirley Arthur who is recovering after a series of strokes.
- For Laura Stuetzer's stepdaughter Heather, and her family recovering from flooding in Louisiana.
- In celebration of Jacque Foster marking 25 years as pastor at Compton Heights Christian Church.
- For all the victims of natural disasters in the Gulf Coast, in the West and in Haiti.
- For John Dyess, recovering from a broken rib.
- For Alice, Jane, and Anna Yount, and their family, as they deal with medical issues; Alice's brother (Anna's father) suffered a massive heart attack and is recovering.
- For Marilyn Stewart, recovering from a fall.
- For Lawrence Ludwig, recovering from hernia surgeries.
- For Bill and Arlene Sullivan as Arlene recovers from hip surgery.
- For Jane Yount
- For Michelle Fielden
- For Eva Moutree
- For Gregg Eiler's sister-in-law, as she battles breast cancer.
- For Devoree Crist's sister, Rosemary.
- Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop: DeVere's neurological condition has no cure.
- For all teachers and students as the school year begins.

Celebrating the live of Rev. Suzanne Webb

Suzanne Jean Webb peacefully transitioned from her physical life, Friday, August 13, 2021, in St. Louis after a lengthy bout with ALS. She was 74 years old.

In 2004 she was called to serve as the Senior Minister at Union Avenue Christian Church. She remained in service to that congregation for 13 vears, until her retirement in 2017. She served on multiple boards including Eden Theological Seminary, Christian Unity, Interfaith Ministry (formerly Council on Christian Unity), the Christian Church Foundation. and Union Avenue Opera.

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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