

Congregational meeting on Sunday on open and affirming policy

Our congregation set out on a journey over 125 years ago on a frigid Christmas Eve in 1894 with a singular purpose: to share the love of Jesus Christ which has bound us all as one. To that end, today, the Board of Webster Groves Christian Church announces that a Special Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 7, at 11:45 a.m.** in order to vote on a motion which will determine whether Webster Groves Christian Church will officially adopt a policy of being Open and Affirming towards the LGBTQ+ community.

This meeting will take place both in-person and virtually via Zoom following our worship service. In order to participate in the virtual meeting, please use the link provided below; WGCC Special Congregational Meeting (Nov. 7 at 11:45 a.m.):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81628656610>

Whether you attend the meeting in-person, or virtually via Zoom, you will be asked to vote on a motion to adopt a Welcome Statement and policy of being Open and Affirming towards the LGBTQ+ community.

The motion being proposed will read as follows:

"A motion for the adoption of an Open and Affirming policy towards the LGBTQ+ community, the associated Welcome Statement, and the empowerment of the Webster Groves Christian Church Board to enact these actions wherever it is able."

Written ballots will be made available to members who are unable to attend the Special Congregational Meeting in person. These ballots will need to arrive at the WGCC Administrative Office no later than **noon on Nov. 5.** Written ballots may either be dropped-off directly at the WGCC Office, or mailed in, but must be received no later than noon on Nov. 5 in either case in order to be counted.

The Webster Groves Christian Church Board

Members will have the following options when voting:

1. Yes, I approve the motion and support the adoption of an Open and Affirming policy and Welcome Statement for Webster Groves Christian Church
2. While I do not currently support the adoption of an Open and Affirming policy and/or Welcome Statement for Webster Groves Christian Church, I will support the decision of the congregation and welcome all persons who come into our church
3. No, I do not approve the motion and I do not support the adoption of an Open and Affirming policy and Welcome Statement for Webster Groves Christian Church

Several members of our congregation have made their own connections and stories around this topic available on the WGCC YouTube page in the form of video testimonials. If you would like to view these testimonials, please visit the link below; Open and Affirming Stories by WGCC Members:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxSOLCEy2D0>

16 bags and what do you get?
16 Thanksgiving meals for NOW!

Yes! That's right! WGCC serves 16 families in PROJECT NOW. Each year we provide bags of food for Thanksgiving meals for 16 underserved families giving them a plentiful meal as the one your family will enjoy.

After worship on Nov. 7, there will be a sign-up table for WGCC families to register for a family and receive two bags for your purchases. The shopping list will be included with the bags. Consider sharing purchases with another family. If you are not in church Nov. 7, call Pat Roseman (636-220-9237) or Steve Staicoff in the church office to register for a family and to get your two bags and shopping list.

Return the two bags to Fellowship Hall kitchen by Wednesday, November 17, 9 a.m.- 3p.m. It is important to use the bags we give you as they will be marked with a family number.

Julie DeKinder will provide turkey gift cards for each family from the NOW account.

2021
ADOPT A FAMILY TREE



THROUGH
WEBSTER/ROCK HILL MINISTRIES

W.G.C.C.
DISCIPLES WOMEN

LOOK FOR THE
TREE IN THE TOWER HALLWAY.
PICK ORNAMENT FOR GIFT CARD
RETURN YOUR GIFT CARDS
THURSDAY, DEC 2, 2021

DETAILS ON THE ORNAMENT.
QUESTIONS?CALL SALLY SMITH (636-579-6078)
OR DIANE MARK(314-962-4668)



Thanksgiving gift cards for Webster-Rock Hill Ministries

This year our giving for Webster-Rock Hill Ministries Thanksgiving food will be gift cards.

WRHM is asking for donations of \$25 gift cards for each member of the families that we adopt. We are adopting 10 families. This is the same number of families we have adopted in past years.

Our goal is \$1,000 in gift cards.
This assumes an average of 4 in each family.

Please contribute cards in \$25 denomination. Gift cards may be from Aldi, Dierbergs, Schnucks, and/or Walmart. Please put cards in an envelope, marked WRHM Thanksgiving and your name as donor.

Gift cards may be mailed to WGCC or dropped off with Steve in the church office. All cards must be received in WGCC office by Wednesday, November 10.

Your generosity helps to set a plentiful Thanksgiving table for our neighbors. May their table be as plentiful as yours. Thank you.

Questions? Check with Pat Roseman

Disciples Women:

Looking back and moving ahead!

October 7, 2021, was the first General Meeting of the Disciples Women since the Pandemic began. We were pleased to have 11 ladies meet in Fellowship Hall to discuss the budget and approve the 2022 Budget. **Jewell Rau**'s son shared the 1958 Annual Report of church activities including CWF. It was very interesting to see pictures of so many former members and to see how many CWF Groups there were at that time. We had a great time admiring how many people sang in the choir at that time. It was a wonderful time for our church. These documents are now stored as a part of the history of the church. We were most appreciative of the gift from Jewell's family.

At the meeting, we got to know **Glendel Warren**, who we hope will become a part of the DW and the Card Making Group. It was exciting to have a new person attend the meeting.

The service project for the month is detergent for WRHM. The church-wide project for Walridge School children was discussed and all were encouraged to contribute to the box by Steve's desk during October.

Pat Roseman gave a wonderful devotional about Indonesia, the three religions there and how the Islands of Faith may be under the ocean in a short time. There will be no General Meeting in November, however in December we will meet again.

The church has signed up for the Christmas Adopt a Family Gift Program to benefit Webster Rock Hill Ministries. (See facing page)

Thank you to members of DW for approving the money from our savings account, which was gifted by **Dorothy Wood** to pay for the new freezer for the main kitchen, since the old one just quit.

On October 14, the Lydia Group met in the Chapel at 11 a.m., masked for their first meeting since March 2020. Five of them shared their experiences with a devotional about true worship and **Charlotte Pullen** led the Biblical study of Tamar, based on Promises and Possibility DW study book. They plan to meet again on November 11, at 11 a.m. in the chapel. The Martha Group met on the same day at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Three members were present. **Vickie Ott** had prepared a Biblical lesson and we discussed how the stories this year will shed light on women's rights and women as true leaders, believers and Christ-followers. The Tabitha Group met on ZOOM with eight people participating.

Janie Joplin and **Pat Roseman**, our service leaders, report that November is in the Warm and Cozy mode! The men at MBCC need our Warm and Cozy donations. This month DW members will purchase the items each member wants to give instead of donating money. Needed items are socks, mufflers, scarves, stocking caps and lined gloves. Even though more items for men are needed than those for women, we should not slight the MBCC women. Please include a few of the same Warm and Cozies for the females. Please mark "women" on the women's bags. Please put items in "MBCC" boxes near Steve's desk by Wednesday, November 17. Should you not be able to get items and want to participate, please mail your contribution to **Julie Wood** and let Pat or Janie know that you wish to give.

Though Disciple Women Service, we will not be giving to NOW for Thanksgiving this year. Please see on the facing page how the congregation will donate for NOW and WRHM Thanksgiving.

Thank you for the donations in October of \$265 for WRHM detergent.

- Jane Martin

Holiday Boutique sale returns to WGCC

The Art4Epilepsy.org Holiday Boutique sale that has been at WGCC for 2 years had to have an online version only last year due to COVID. This year they are having both.

We have a group of 12 to 14 artists and craft people who will be set up in the Art Gallery and Love Chapel. Twenty percent of sales from vendors goes to the organization Art4Epilepsy.org.

WGCC graciously provides the space for the group to have their sale. WGCC artists John and Carolyn Dyess and Deb Trautman will be represented, among others. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Dec. 4. Shop local artists and help support Art4Epilepsy.org.

Online Sale: Goes Live Nov. 15, 2021 and is active through Dec. 1.

The link: www.art4epilepsy.org

Pickup for purchased items will be at WGCC on Sat. Dec. 4, 2021 from 10am to 4pm

In Person Sale at WGCC is Sat. Dec. 4, 2021

1320 W. Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63122 - Art Gallery and Chapel



Necklace with groups of 3 blue beads displayed on a branch by Deb Trautman



Snowman head in centerpiece: Holiday Arrangements by Carol Gaffney



4 mug rug coasters with blue and white coffee mug: Fabric pieces by Carolyn Dyess

WGCC IN THE NEWS

From Cuba to the SEC, with help from Webster Groves Christian Church

When the Mizzou Tigers played Texas A&M in football in October, the A&M quarterback was a sophomore who had strong ties to Webster Groves Christian Church.



Zach Calzada's paternal grandparents, Hector and Maria Del Carmen Calzada, fled Fidel Castro's Cuba in 1960 and settled in Panama, then Miami before the U.S. government moved the refugees in 1962.

With the help and sponsorship of Webster Groves Christian Church, the Calzadas settled in St. Louis.

Hector held several jobs in St. Louis and for a while bartended on the weekends at the Chase Park Plaza, according to a story in *Our Esquina*, a media site covering Latino sports and culture.

The Calzadas continued to worship at Webster Groves Christian Church, where they formed lifelong friendships with members of the congregation.

"The people who attended Webster Grove Christian Church were *buenisimos*, *buenisimos* (very good, very good)," Hector told *Our Esquina*. "They helped us a lot. They got me a job. That's tremendous."

Hector Jr., Zach Calzada's father, was born at Deaconess Hospital in 1965, and though the family moved to Atlanta four years later, the Calzadas never forgot their Missouri past. The Mizzou game was a homecoming of sorts.

St. Louis, Hector Jr. told the *Post-Dispatch*, "is considered sacred to my family."

Read more about the Calzadas' journey at : <https://bit.ly/wgcc-calzada>



Mission co-workers Larry and Debbie Colvin stopped at Webster Groves Christian Church as part of their travels around Mid-America visiting churches and speaking about their ministries in Ghana.



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/>**

Have an extra fridge you don't need?

Room at the Inn has a mom and her 7-year-old daughter who will be moving to housing very soon.

They will be moving into an apartment that does not have a refrigerator. If you can help with this need please call Angie Hamilton at 314-209-9181 or email Angie at ahamilton@roomstl.org.

RATI also has the following holiday opportunities.

Christmas Holiday Wreath: Do you enjoy making wreaths? They would like to have a volunteer lead their clients in making a fall or Christmas (or both) wreath that they could hang on their bedroom door.

Thanksgiving Meal: In the past clients have enjoyed preparing their own meal. Volunteers are needed who are interested in helping with a part of the meal, donating food items or donating towards a food purchase, or preparing a side dish or dessert.

Volunteers are also needed to **decorate the outside and inside** of the shelter. We have some inside decorations - two nice pre-lit trees and some ornaments. Clients have enjoyed participating in this activity too.

If you can help with any of these, contact Cindy Warren:
Cwarren@roomstl.org



Join us for an ordination

Julie Kies, WGCC's Student Pastor in 2014, is scheduled to be ordained on Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. CST at Community UCC in Boulder, Colorado. Julie invites us to join her also be on Zoom. Here is the link. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87421212944>

Join us: virtual Bible study of Romans or Sunday class

Join us on Mondays for our Zoom Bible Study on Romans.

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 and MBCC

For Max Ott's cousin, who fell off of a ladder, and is still in ICU

For Rosemarie Brown, who broke her pelvis.

For John, a friend of the Roses who is battling cancer.

For Laura Stuetzer's stepdaughter, Heather, who has been in the path of the recent hurricanes; she and her husband are recovering from COVID

For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Carm Mattera, suffering from bilateral kidney failure

For the family of Kay Love's friend, Britney

For Lisa Rothe

Barb Merrell asks prayers for Jim Mowrey, suffering from dementia

Deb Trautman asks prayers for the families of 3 young adults from her workplace, who were killed in a plane crash

For Rhonda Allridge and family

For MBCC's Pastoral Search Committee, as they seek a new leader for their congregation

For Devoree Crist's sister, Rosemary.

For Pauline (Smith) England, who is suffering from advanced heart disease, and is living with her daughter in Springfield, MO

For Devoree Crist's sister, Rosemary.

For Shirley Arther

For Eva Moutrie

For Gregg Eiler's sister-in-law, as she battles breast cancer.

For Jane Yount

For Barb Merrell's friend, Melissa

Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop

For all teachers, students, and school personnel, as the school year progresses

For Barb Farmer and her family

For Tom Reece, who is facing a severe kidney, liver, and heart failure. He has been given 6-12 months to live.

For Mildred Baker

For Bill and Arlene Sullivan

Analyn Howells is asking prayers for her twin sister, Evalyn Morrison, and her battle with cancer. She is dealing with side effects due to treatment

Celebrating the life of Jennifer Savage

A celebration of life will be held at Ortmann Stipanovich Funeral Home in Creve Coeur, on November 7. The family will hold visitation from 12:30 - 2:00 pm, with the service to follow at 2:00 pm.

Virtual participation will be available in Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81880793424>,
Meeting ID: 818 8079 3424.

The family kindly requests all in-person attendees wear masks. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jennie's honor to the National Kidney Foundation (kidney.org) or charity of choice.

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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