

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

## Help Pastor Jeff prepare for the open roads around the Mediterranean

As of next March (2023), Pastor Jeff will have been serving WGCC for 15 years. The WGCC Board has approved a 4 month sabbatical for him in 2023 (3 months per his contract plus an additional month due to lost vacation time in 2020 and 2021 because of Covid). The Board also approved applying for a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical Grant from Lilly Endowment. The grant funds up to \$50,000 for a sabbatical experience. The primary criterion is an experience that makes a pastor's "heart sing." Pastor Jeff and a committee are working on the application this month. As many of you may know, Jeff's "heart sings" when he is studying and teaching the Bible, traveling and learning, and riding his motorcycle.

Jeff's plan is to ride his motorcycle all the way around the Mediterranean Sea, stopping and studying at spots relevant to biblical and church history – especially to Revelation, about which Jeff is writing a book. Jeff plans to make videos along the way, and to share them with WGCC and others via YouTube. The grant would fund Jeff's experience and help fund WGCC experiences and expenses connected with the sabbatical.

Some sites he plans to visit include Oxford, England; The Cathedral of St. James in Spain; Marrakesh, Morocco; Carthage, Tunisia; Syracuse, Sicily; Rome, Italy; Athens, Greece;



Patmos, Ephesus, Smyrna, Thyatira, Philadelphia, Laodicea, Pergamum, Sardis, and Tarsus in Turkey; Petra, Jordan; Jerusalem, Nazareth, Megiddo, and Emmaus in Israel; Alexandria, Giza, and Mount Sinai in Egypt; Wittenberg and Munich in Germany; and many more.

He'll be studying and preparing video teaching materials about these places and their biblical and church history.

If you've got ideas for places for Jeff to visit and study, we'd love to hear from you! We hope to present an introductory video in worship in the next couple of weeks. Committee members for the grant application, which is due April 27, include Breona Hawkins, Keiler Swartz, Laura Stuetzer, Pat Roseman, Carole Hughes, Kay Love, and Carolyn Dyess. We'll find out by the end of August whether we've received the grant.

# Women heading outside for April

The March General Meeting was held on March 3rd with eight people attending. Julie Wood reported that the checking account now has \$1,200. The Revision of the Rules/Bylaws were discussed at length. The Revision was passed agreeing to re-evaluate the revision in two years. The members will vote in their small groups on this Revision at their March meeting. Marilyn Combs gave a wonderful Devotional regarding Lent.

The 2022 Revised Rules/Bylaws passed in the voting within small groups and will go into effect in July, the new Church Year. Thanks to Sally Smith and Laura Stuetzer for hours of work during this needed revision.

Should the weather permit, the April General Meeting will be held outside on April 7 at 1 p.m. Otherwise, the meeting will be in the Heritage Room. Our Program Chairs, Diane Mark and Susan Moore will present an Easter Program and Devotional. We look forward to a large turnout at this meeting. Meeting outside, hopefully will bring some ladies that have been cautious about meeting inside the building. At this meeting the Nominating Committee will present the Slate of Officers for 2022-23. Voting on this slate will take place in the smaller groups at their April meeting. Thanks to Pat Roseman, Chairperson, Alice Yount

In April, the Disciples Women Service Project will provide funds to Memorial Boulevard Christian Church Welfare Fund. This is the name they give to what WGCC calls our Neighbor Fund. Here are examples how the Welfare Fund has reached out for MBCC church and community, when obligations are unable to be met:

- replacing loss of clothing due to a fire
- providing gasoline to get to work
- paying heat bills and other utilities
- helping with car repairs
- paying for diabetes prescriptions

As you can see these are some dire needs the Welfare Fund answers. Let's be generous for the MBCC Welfare Fund, especially in this April effort.

and Karen Miers for their efforts on the Nominating Committee.

The Tabitha Group met on Zoom on March 10 with seven members present. The April Meeting of Tabitha will be at 7:00 PM, on April 7th, outside the church, if the weather is nice or otherwise in the Heritage Room. Please note the change in date for the Tabitha group, because of Maundy Thursday on the 14th. The Lydia Group will meet at the home of Charlotte Pullen on April 14 at 11 a.m. The Martha Group met in the Heritage Room on March 10 with five ladies present. Vicki Ott presented the Bible Study and Jane Martin gave the devotional. The Martha Group is scheduled to meet in the Heritage Room on April 14 at 1 p.m.

Pat Roseman and Janie Joplin, our Service Co-Chairs, reminded us that our donations for March service benefiting Doorways totaled \$380. A check will be sent to Doorways for their Jump Start Program. Doorways will notify us how the funds are spent.

Thank you to all Disciples Women for your dedication to our service.

We ask for prayers for members of the Disciples Women. Our prayer list seems to grow each month as some members have moved to care facilities, hospitals and in home care. Our God is an awesome God and will hear our prayers for each other.

Submitted by;

Jane Martin, Secretary

## Easter worship & studies

**April 6 and April 13:** We'll continue our Zoom Lenten Bible Studies each Wednesday at 7 p.m. The studies focus on Lenten texts suggested by Dr. Wilda Gafney from Woman's Lectionary for the Whole Church. Join us: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84040736144>

**April 14:** Joint Maundy Thursday Service: We will have a combined service with Memorial Blvd Christian Church, Centennial

Christian Church, and Union Ave. Christian Church at Centennial Christian Church. Service will begin at 6:00 p.m. WGCC member, Breona Hawkins, will be preaching at the service!

**April 15:** The WGCC sanctuary will be open for prayer and reflection on Good Friday.

**April 17:** Easter Sunday worship at WGCC at 10:30 a.m.

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## Your Easter offering makes a difference

Several times a year, congregations receive a special offering to support the ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These gifts are given above and beyond the regular core support of Disciples Mission Fund.

The Easter Offering, received by most congregations on April 10 & 17, 2022, supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

<https://disciplesmissionfund.org/give/>



Your gift to the Easter Offering is part of God's enduring love...

Love that creates...

- Bible studies that challenge and inspire
- Opportunities for clergy to gather in prayer
- Spiritual care for those in prison
- Resources for mental health and trauma care

Love that inspires...

- Visionary leadership that calls the us to imagine new ways of being church.
- New congregations that worship in a variety of languages and worship styles
- Ministries of compassion and care

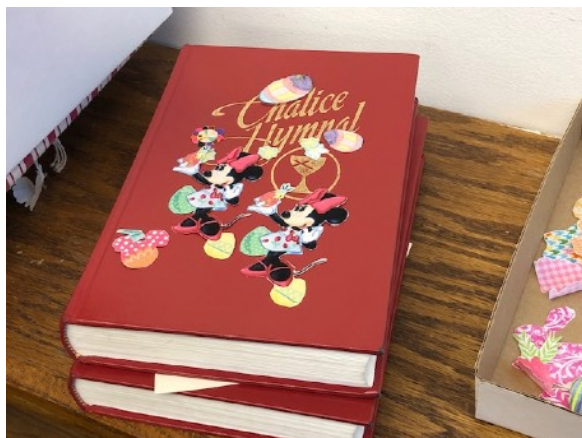
Love that makes a difference...

- Global ministry partners who work for justice, reconciliation and peace
- Colleges, universities and theological institutions
- Collaborative response in the wake of disaster
- support for congregational service ministries that serve hungry neighbors



## A ministry that's in the cards

Members of the Disciples Women's group meet monthly to design greeting cards for all occasions. The hand made cards not only spread joy - the money made from the sales of the cards supports the CWF mission projects.



REGISTER AT [www.roomstl.org/events](http://www.roomstl.org/events)

*Save the Date*

August 22, 2022



## ROOM AT THE INN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Old Hickory Golf Club, St. Peters

register at [www.roomstl.org/events](http://www.roomstl.org/events)



**save \$\$\$**

REGISTER EARLY



starting April 1 until May 15th

**AUGUST 22, 2022**

Old Hickory Golf Club  
St. Peters, MO



9:00am / Registration and donuts

10:00am / Shotgun start

**Lunch:** Grilled brats and hot dogs fresh off the grill  
available during your round on the course

**Program:** Heavy appetizers at 3 pm. You will be out by  
4:30 and home in time for dinner!!

**Price: \$750 per foursome, \$200 for individuals**  
Includes hot lunch, heavy appetizers, raffle,  
auction, new contests where everyone is a winner!

**REGISTER EARLY** starting April 1 until May 15th

**Save \$50/foursome and \$10/individual**

**Questions:** Contact David Weber 314.209.9181

## Room At The Inn Card Fundraiser

Our card fundraiser is still going on. Our very talented client, Amber, designed the art for these cards at the age of thirteen when she was in our shelter. You may purchase a set of 7 different designs for \$15 (plus postage). The cards can be picked up at the Bridgeton day site or mailed to your home. To place an order, contact Room at 314-209-9181 or email Cindy Warren at [cwarren@roomstl.org](mailto:cwarren@roomstl.org).

All proceeds will be used to meet clients' needs.

Cindy Warren

Volunteer Coordinator

## Hike Against Hunger April 23

This is a reminder that the MBCC 48th annual Hike Against Hunger will be April 23, 2022, in Tower Grove Park.

Our Hike project this year is to bring God's love to the people of Tanzania's rural communities.

Total amount needed for this project is \$15,000. Are we up to the challenge?

You can download your sponsor form at <https://bit.ly/wgcchungerhike>

## Study

All are welcome to join the Koinonia meetings before worship in the Chapel, or you can join the discussion every Sunday at 8:45 a.m. on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/652179864?pwd=bXRLdkMyenRzakZkNUJQZGYzRINvQT09>

## Worship

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/>

For those worshipping at home on Sunday mornings, worship documents--including a bulletin and scriptures--can be accessed at the link below, or by scanning the QR code (right) with your smartphone.

<https://wgcc.org/worship-advent-documents/>



## Celebrate

After the service:

Join us for some Zoom Fellowship at 11:30 a.m. central time.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84305885368?pwd=Q0xwSjJWYXZkd4MlVkdjF6cldOdWZCZz09>

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## Corinthians Bible study on Mondays

Our Monday 3-4:30 PM Bible Study group is studying I Corinthians and you are invited to join.

Topic: Corinthians Bible Study

Time: Mondays 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/381789752>



The Swartz family joins Bob Rose for a children's moment at a recent service.

## WGCC seeking childcare workers

WGCC is currently seeking two childcare workers to be available on Sunday mornings from 10am to Noon.

The applicants would preferably be 18 years or older. CPR Training will be provided, as well as Safe Church training.

Please contact Pastor Jeff Moore or the Church Office for more details, and if you would know of any interested candidates.

## Prayer concerns for WGCC and MBCC

For Chris Webb, as he recovers from surgery

For Richard Mark's brother, Bob, battling an infection

For Devoree Crist's friend, Deb

For Marilyn Combs, as she battles vertigo

For the Burney Family

For Don and Jane, friends of the Roses, whose daughter Ellen died at the age of 29

For the people of the Ukraine, as they face aggression, violence, and invasion from Russia

Barb Merrell asks prayers for Rosemary, Les, Mark, and her friend Wanda, who fell during therapy

For Barb Merrell, as she seeks new housing arrangements

For the family and friends of David Farmer (MBCC), who passed away

For the family and friends of Ed Strong, who passed away

For Robin Woodrome's mother, Grace

For the family of Max Ott's friend, Liz Jones, who passed away

For the family of Max Ott's aunt, who passed away at 93 years

For Pat Roseman, whose friend Barbara passed away following a battle with liver cancer

For the unhoused

For Tanya Crosby

For Kay Love, as she mourns the passing of her friend Pat Weakley

For Devoree Crist's brother, John, recovering from both COVID and pneumonia, and for her sister, Rosemary

For Susan Burney's sister Carol, suffering from Alzheimers

For Gilda Rzchowski

For those recovering from COVID, and the effects of COVID, and for those who have lost loved ones to COVID

For Susan Moore's family in Chicago

For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Carm Mattered, battling ovarian cancer

For Laura Stuetzer and her family

For Deb Werner's niece-in-law, battling triple negative breast cancer

For Lisa Rothe

Barb Merrell asks prayers for Jim Mowrey, suffering from dementia

For Rhonda Allridge and family

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

For Pauline (Smith) England

For Shirley Arther

For Eva Moutrie

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

For Jane Yount

For Andy Olree

Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop

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

For Carole Hughes' friend, Melody, who is battling cancer

For Bob Rose's friend, John, battling prostate cancer

For the grandchildren of Joyce McCowan

For the families of WGCC Project NOW, KSD NOW program, and KAEChP.

For basic needs of food, shelter clothing and healthcare for all.

For the MBCC Food Ministry, and neighborhoods of Memorial Blvd. Christian Church.

## Rev. Natalie could use your help

One of our Disciples colleagues could use our help. Rev. Natalie Dixon Crewell, former pastor of Fellowship Christian Church in Gainesville, Mo., recently underwent treatment for leukemia and subsequent bone marrow transplant.

The transplant surgery seems to have gone well, and Natalie is convalescing at the apartment in Union Avenue's building for the next couple of months while she recovers. Her recovery requires that someone be with her 24-7 during those months. While she has family and friends coming into town to stay with her, there are a few mornings, afternoons, and evenings here and there over the next two months where she doesn't have anyone lined up.

The folks at Union Avenue have put together a signup sheet for anyone who may be able to volunteer to stay with her for a few hours at a time as well as one for volunteering to bring some food .

Thank you for considering this request, and please add Rev. Natalie to your prayer lists.

Sign up to help at:

<https://bit.ly/wgccnatalie>

# 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-americadisciples.org/>**

## **Webster Groves Christian Church**

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Robin Woodrome, Choir Director

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