

# A look back at how we worshipped, served, celebrated and spread joy this season.



WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission: Following Jesus' teaching

and sacrificially serving the people who are the most marginalized.

## Welcome our newest members, the Harders

On Sunday, November 12, 2023, Amanda and Matthew Harders joined Webster Groves Christian Church.

They have four children who will be in and out of town from time to time. The children are: Grayson, who is 21, living in Montana and expecting her second child: Bailey, 19. attending on-line college and working part time; Hannah, 16, a iunior at St Charles High School; and Holly Lauren, 14, a freshman at St. Charles High School

The family has really moved around. They met



and married in Ames, Iowa, then moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, for 10 years, then on to Selma, California for five years. They have settled in St Charles for now!

In all their moves they have been active in the Disciples Churches. They served the Regional Church in Ames and were active in the service projects in all of the Churches.

Amanda talked about a homeless project where the Churches in Colorado Springs took a week, once a year, and housed the homeless in their building. It sounded very much like our Room at the Inn program before they changed over to housing them at the center. I'm sure we can get them involved in our service projects here. Matt has already started helping. He recently helped out with the seafood broil at The Cooper House.

The reason for their move to St. Louis was for Matt's job. He works for Xylem, a clean water solution company in Hazelwood.

Amanda works out of their home as a consultant for non-profits in Colorado Springs and California. She is flexible in her hours, which is a blessing because it helps with her children. They are currently training a dog, Freya, to be a service dog for Holly Lauren. Freya is the second dog they have trained.

Please welcome this family into our Church family! In this time of transition, I think they will be a God send!!

Sally Smith

### Good cheer, good works for Disciples Women





The Disciples Women's group had its general meeting at noon on Dec. 7 in Love Chapel. After a brief business meeting, they sang Christmas carols accompanied on the keyboard by Diane Mark, and played a Christmas word game provided by Laura Stuetzer. They then enjoyed decorating and eating sugar cookies made by Susan Moore.

On the evening of Dec. 14, nine members of the Tabitha group had a Christmas party at the home of John and Susan Burney, which was beautifully decorated for Christmas. They brought socks and underwear for the preschoolers at the Meacham Park Head Start program.

The Marthas met Dec. 14 in the Heritage Room. There were seven in attendance, enjoying fellowship over lunches and oohing and aahing over toddler clothes.

Hostess was Julie Wood with very special Christmas decorations and dessert. The devotional was given by Alice Yount on the Twelve Days of Christmas followed by the reading about the birth of Jesus from Luke 2:1-20.

Jane Martin led us in a "guess the Christmas carol" game that had everyone humming and scrambling for words to name the carol. The group came through in a big way with toddler apparel needed for the Head Start Program in Meacham Park. With no January Luncheon, the Marthas will meet again on Jan. 11, 2024.

Diane Mark







## Jazz and cookies - does it get any sweeter?







A big "thank you!" to all who gave free-will offerings for the Jazz and Vocal Christmas Concert, featuring Carolbeth True and the Two Times True Quartet. Donations went to the Shepherd's Center and continue to arrive.

Also, thank you to our cookie bakers and fudge maker,

-from all who enjoyed the



fellowship, the concert and the cookies brought to the reception

-from all of us who bought your cookies for home parties

-from all of us who shared your cookies with friends

-from all of us who gained weight eating your cookies and Karl's fudge!

Pat Roseman





## HOPE • PEACE • JOY • LOVE







### Third Thursdays at MBCC

Each Thursday, Memorial Boulevard Christian Church provides a hot lunch to people from their neighborhood, many of whom are clients for the food pantry at MBCC. WGCC members and friends provide money and people for this lunch on the *third Thursday* of each month.

WGCC members and friends are encouraged to contact the church office or Sally Smith if you are interested in helping with this program – either on the third Thursday, or any Thursday!



### Give us a like; drop us a follow!

WGCC Sunday morning worship services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook every Sunday morning at 10:30AM (Central Time).

All are welcome-please invite your family and friends to tune in!

https:// www.facebook.com/ WGCCDisciples/

Make sure to "Like" the WGCC Page in Facebook, in order to receive all notifications of upcoming events!

## **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!**

Like to drive and enjoy conversation? Did you know that transportation to medical care is cited as one of the key determinants in aging successfully?

### Join our volunteer team and MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

How we serve our clients:

- Free rides to medical appointments
- Ambulatory (no wheelchairs) older adults aged 55+
- According to your own schedule
- Service boundaries apply
- Round-trip, door-through-door service (walk rider from parking lot to appointment, wait in waiting room, drive client home)



#### Contact the Shepherd's Center to Volunteer

www.shepherdscenter-wk.org 314-395-0988 kzelle@shepherdscenter-wk.org

## **Prayer concerns for WGCC**

For John Smiths' friend, Carol, whose husband passed away unexpectedly

For Bryan Williams, diagnosed with Stage 3 colon Cancer

For all who are grieving during this Holiday season

For Tim and Kathy Carson, as Kathy continues to battle cancer

For Laura Stuetzer's neighbor, Marlene Otto, recovering form a heart attack

For the Swartz family, in the loss of Steve's mother

For the family of Barbara James, a church friend of the Otts in Oklahoma, who recently passed

For Deb Trautman's neighbors, who were recently able to adopt a child

For Susie Burney's family, as they grieve the loss of Susie's sister, Carol

For peace throughout the world

For Molly Gibbon's mother, recovering from a TIA

For Max Ott, grieving the loss of a longtime friend to cancer

For Molly, the daughter of Carolyn Dyess's friend, diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma

For all those traveling during this holiday season

For the Harders Family, as they deal with several health issues within their family, and for the children who are in finals week

For the families (now 19 of them!) served by the NOW weekend nutrition program of WGCC

For Anna Yount's stepmother, awaiting test results on a large tumor For the daughter of Carolyn Dyess's friend, who underwent surgery in Ecuador

For Denise Pahl's friend Karen, recovering from a bone marrow transplant

For Devoree Crist, recovering from back surgery

For the leaders of the church, local leaders, national leaders, and world leaders as big decisions are being made

For Pat, a friend of Laura and Donna, recovering from a shattered femur, but now living back in her assisted living facility

For Joe Kingston of MBCC, as he recovers from health issues

For Billie Swartz's friend, Nancy, recently diagnosed with brain cancer

For Jane Martin's nephew and his children living in Israel; the children are serving in the Israeli army, and for the family of her son, as they grieve the passing of his mother-in-law

For Laura Stuetzer's friends Brad and Linda, facing medical issues, and for her sister & brother-in-law, as her sister's memory issues worsen

For Jennifer, a friend of Billie Swartz's, whose family is dealing with issues around suicide

For a student of Robin Woodrome, who is dealing with substance-abuse issues in her family

For Max Ott's friend, Carl Mack, battling cancer

For Robin's friend Dan, who has an inoperable GI tract cancerous tumor, and for a student, Nate, at her school For Karl Reinhardt, finishing up chemotherapy for cancer in his abdomen

For Jeff Tedford

For Barb Merrell's niece Regina, battling cancer

For James Burney's (and all police officer's) safety in the field

For Diane Mark's friend, Jennifer, diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer

For Devoree Crist's brother-inlaw, in hospice with a progressive palsy disease

For Chris and Sara Webb

For Barb Merrell

For Bill Woodrome

For Pauline (Smith) England

For Shirley Arther

For Eva Moutrie

For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will

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

For DeVere and Bev Shoop

For Mildred Baker

For Bill Sullivan

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

For the families served by Webster Rock Hill Ministries

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



A Global Mission Congregation 1320 West Lockwood Ave. St. Louis MO 63122



#### The SEGA connection newsletter is available at http://www.mid-americadisciples.org/

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