



THE WITNESS • JULY 2026

Gift cards for Project NOW

We are currently unable to support our NOW families with food during the month of August, as the Head Start program is closed. With the rising cost of groceries, we want to ensure our families continue to receive support during this time.



We are asking church members to consider donating grocery store gift cards that can be distributed to these families.

- Suggested donation: **\$25 per gift card** (you are welcome to give one or multiple cards)
- Our goal: **Each family receives \$50 in gift cards** to help offset their August grocery expenses
- Gift Card ideas include: Walmart, Aldi, Schnucks, or Dierbergs

How to give:

- Drop off gift cards with **Steve in the church office** or **Jeff Moore on Sundays**
- Prefer to give cash/check? Donations can be made through the church using normal methods—please include the note: **“NOW gift card”**. Monetary donations will be used by **Julie DeKinder** to purchase gift cards

Questions?

Please contact: dekinderj@umsl.edu or 314-435-1133

Thank you for your generosity and for helping support our NOW families!

-Julie DeKinder

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

**Our mission: Following Jesus' teaching
and sacrificially serving the people
who are the most marginalized.**

Disciples Women: Patio & pool time!

Disciples Women do not regularly meet in the summer months of July and August, however for the last three years the Marthas have looked forward to updating our prayer list and keeping in touch as we enjoy eating together on the second Thursday of each month.

The Martha Group met for lunch at PJ's Tavern in Kirkwood on June 11 with eight attending. It was good to see Marilyn Nennert and also to catch up with Carol Bachman, who is making Aberdeen Heights her new home. Carol had time to eat breakfast in the dining room and attend water aerobics all before meeting for lunch.

In July the Martha Group will meet the second Thursday, July 9, 1 p.m. at Mike Duffy's in Kirkwood.

The Tabitha's enjoyed a terrific BBQ at Susan Moore's lovely patio in June. The carry-in dishes were yummy and unique! The worry that there would be too many desserts was unfounded. Food and Friends made the evening special. Thank you, Susan (and Jeff)!

Laura and Sally are putting together the DW contact list for the DW yearbook. Group leaders: please let them know of any changes by August 1.

Bring your sunscreen! Tabithas will meet at the Burney's pool on Saturday, August 1, at noon. Bring your own snacks and the drinks will be provided. It would be helpful (for John) to know how many

chairs, tables and drinks to set up. Please RSVP to Susie. 314 322-8901.

Submitted Susan Burney



Monday afternoon Bible studies have resumed with the Gospel of Mark.

Topic: WGCC Gospel of Mark Bible Study

Time: 3 p.m. every Monday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85028422700>

The Gospel According to MARK

of the good news^a of
Son of God.^b
in the prophet Isaiah.
my messenger
you.^c

are your way;
the voice of one crying out in the

16. As Jesus passed along
Galilee, he saw Simon and his
drew casting a net into the
were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus
"Follow me and I will make
people." ¹⁸ And immediately
nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As
further, he saw James son
John, who were

Board update: Sales & finance news

In financial news, the Church Financial year ended on June 30. The Board voted to change our list of signers to Board members: Keiler Swartz, Mike Moran and Sally Smith.

Lockwood Funds Update:

The CDs are reaching maturity and are being cashed in. The principal only is being sent to Christian Church Foundation to be deposited into the Bostick Fund. The interest earned from the CDs will stay with us so that it can be distributed to our Mission partners. All of it should be transferred by the end of August.

Update on the sale of the Sanctuary piano and the Hillis Arnold Cross:

Pastor Jeff contacted David Hall, grandson of Melvin Hall. The Board asked Pastor Jeff to call David once more and see if he is still interested. If not, we would pursue looking at auction houses.

Pastor Jeff talked with a person at the piano storage place, who suggested we advertise on Facebook Market Place. Before we do that, we will look into other options.

Personnel Task Committee:

John Pahl and his committee are in discussions on replacing Steve Staicoff after his retirement in mid September. They want to hire by mid August. A job description and

requirements have been written.

Pastor Jeff has posted the job on the Regional newsletter, Facebook and Indeed. He has received seven applicants. The job description says part time with some time off site. Pastor Jeff thinks we can work this out with some volunteers and forwarding phone's etc.

The new hire could come in once a week. The job would be 20 hours a week. \$20-25 an hour.

Mission Committee:

The Shepherd's Center will be giving a 'Moment for Mission' talk in August.

Keiler and Jaxson Swartz went to church camp. Keiler would like to see us use some of the funds to support our Church camps.

When the numbers are tabulated on the interest earned from the CDs, the committee will recommend how they are spent.

Pastors Report:

- We will be sending \$2.5 million to the Bostick fund. By year-end approximately \$130,000 should be available for the Mission Committee to distribute.
- Pastor Jeff submitted to the Baptist church an agreement to continue

renting for the same amount. The Baptists will meet in 2 weeks to, hopefully, approve the lease at the same amount.

- The Baptists found out their boiler has been leaking for several weeks into the basement. They are working on that and on the walls in the music room.
- General Assembly will be July 10 and 11th. It will be on ZOOM. We are allowed 3 lay delegates and 1 clergy delegate. Pastor Jeff will ask Tom and Julie Wood and Devoree Crist. He encourages others to join.
- Doug Breese will be moving on July 13 If anyone is willing to help, contact Pastor Jeff.
- Shirley Arthur's funeral will be on July 22. Son, John and daughter Henrietta are still working on the details.
- Pastor Jeff is working on a fellowship event for August or September. A BBQ and potluck, hopefully with the Baptists. He is hoping to hold more of these events.

Submitted by Sally Smith, secretary

WORSHIP AND SERVICE FROM WGCC



A final gift for our budget year

Dear Members and Friends of WGCC,

As we approach the end of our congregational budget year, we are writing to remind you of the importance of our shared generous giving to the ongoing mission and ministry of Webster Groves Christian Church. Together we provide for pastoral leadership, online worship technology, music and office staff, building rent, and many local and global mission activities. Please consider an additional gift to help strengthen our ministries as we complete our budget year.

We are an active and engaged congregation, serving many people and organizations in the name of Jesus Christ! Thank you for your vision, commitment, and generosity to our shared ministry!



Celebrating the life of Shirley Arthur

Long time Webster Groves Christian Church member Shirley Arthur passed away the morning of June 25.

The funeral is expected to be held on July 22. Shirley's son, John, and daughter, Henrietta, are finalizing the details.

Please keep her family in your prayers.

A new life for our Tuxedo site



John Christensen was thumbing through a recent issue of Missouri Life magazine when he came across an item about our original church site, on Tuxedo Avenue. The building, with some original stained-glass windows, has been converted into a bed and breakfast called Tuxedo Park STL. For details on the conversion, check out www.missourilife.com/from-hymns-to-hospitality/



Take your spot in the CROP Hunger Walk

The 2026 St. Louis CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, September 27, again at Eden Theological Seminary, 475 E. Lockwood Ave. in Webster Groves — check-in/registration (if not registered online) at 1:30 pm and Walk at 2:00. Please save the date, and plan to participate!

Just a reminder that Church World Service represents almost all of you who are receiving this email — AME, AME Zion, Alliance of Baptists, American Baptist, CME, DOC, Ecumenical Catholic Communion, ELCA, The Episcopal Church, National Baptist, PCUSA, RCA, The Swedenborgian Church, UCC, UMC, and more.

The local CROP webpage is already active, and it will be updated with details within the next few days. Check it out at www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo and use this site to register, create a team, and/or donate.

You can email Clint McCann at cmccann@eden.edu or text or call at 314-619-0599.



Room at the Inn Golf

Gather your team and hit the tee to raise funds that will help our clients find solutions to their homelessness and give them the future they deserve!

Every dollar raised helps empower individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and provides pathways to stability and hope.

Registration is open, so get your tickets today by going to

bit.ly/2026-RATI-GOLF

August 17, 2026

Registration: 9:00 AM



Shotgun Start: 10:00 AM

Old Hickory Golf Club, 1 Dye Club, St. Peters, MO 63304

For more information regarding the event, call Jed Buechele at

314-209-9181, x105 or email at jbuechele@roomstl.org

Prayer concerns for WGCC

- For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Ruth Hille, who is facing health concerns.
- For Diane Mark's brother Jeff, who is dealing with severe headaches.
- For Pat Roseman's friend Cathy, battling breast cancer
- For Jane Martin's friend, Debbie, whose cancer has returned
- For John and Carolyn Dyess's granddaughter Claire, still in pain from a prior hip surgery
- For Norma Redstone
- For Devoree Crist's great niece Maya, who is recovering from several gunshot wounds
- For Max Ott's Uncle Jerry, 86 years old and having some health issues
- For Gerry Love's mother Joanne, having many health issues
- For Ricki Marshall, as she faces some life challenges
- For Jane Martin's grand-niece, serving in the military in the Middle East, amidst the dangers of war
- For Robin Woodrome and family
- For Laura Stuetzer's friend Sandy, battling several different types of breast cancer
- For Jim and Daun Hashbarger
- For Janie Joplin's friend Laura, entering hospice care
- For Bev Richmond, who is battling major health issues
- For our divided nation, and its leaders
- For Carolyn Dyess's friend, Becky, battling gall bladder cancer
- For John and Carolyn Dyess
- For Bill Woodrome
- For Jeff Tedford
- For Vicki Ott, suffering from MS
- For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will
- Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop, who have moved to a nursing care facility
- For Mildred Baker
- For basic needs of food, shelter clothing and healthcare for all.
- For the families served by Webster Rock Hill Ministries, and for WRHM as a helping organization
- For the MBCC Food Ministry, and neighborhoods of Memorial Blvd. Christian Church.

Give us a like! Drop us a follow!

WGCC Sunday morning worship services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook every Sunday morning.

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

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

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

For a calendar of church events, go to:
<https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/73851247/month>

Webster Groves Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

A Global Mission Congregation
308 Summit Ave.
Webster Groves MO 63119



The SEGA connection newsletter is available at <http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/>

Webster Groves Christian Church

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