


WEBSTER GROVES
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE WITNESS • MARCH 2025

ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be an Ash Wednesday service held at the Summit location on Wednesday March 5 at 6 p.m.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Three congregations share the space at 308 Summit. The Joint Church calendar can be found at <https://bit.ly/wgcc-calendar>.

Webster Groves Christian Church and Webster Groves Baptist Church joined in a combined service on Sunday, Feb. 23, followed by a fellowship chili lunch. See more photos from the event on page 4.



Moving updates from the WGCC Board

The Church Board met on Zoom on February 23. Pastor Jeff gave a summary of the move to the Baptist Church. Overall, we are moved in and settling into our new location. The attendance has been up, and comments are good on the move.

The annual Congregational meeting will be on May 18. We will approve the budget and vote on the nomination of new Board members. There will also be a vote on how to invest the proceeds from the sale of the Church. There will be Zoom meetings in April to discuss this decision.

We've hired a company called I7 to update the church website. The church office will be able to update the site more easily, and we won't have any monthly fees. The \$3,000 cost for the redesign will come from the moving budget.

The new outside sign has been approved by the Baptist Church. We are waiting on the city of Webster Groves to approve, then we will work out the location.

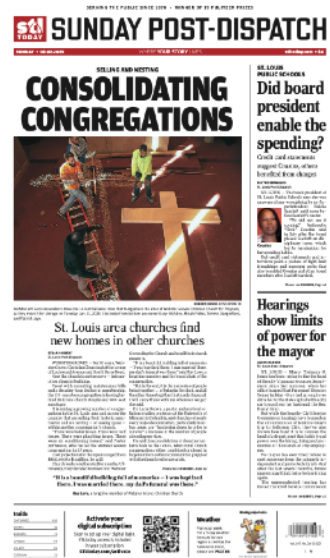
Our Steinway piano is in storage at \$75/month. We had it appraised for \$25,000. We had an offer to buy it for \$16,000. The Board decided to table the decision for six months. The piano at Webster Groves Baptist Church is in need of repairs, and we'll be splitting the expense with the Baptist Church.

The stained glass from both the Chapel and the Sanctuary has been removed and stored in the basement. Look for a notice in the April Witness about handing out pieces.

The financial report for the year ending January 31, 2025, shows we are below giving from last year by \$13,000. The congregation is encouraged to continue giving at their same or higher rate.

Pastor Jeff will be in Mississippi from March 9-15 on continuing education days. Breona Hawkins will preach on March 9.

- Sally Smith



WGCC in the news

WGCC was featured in a front page story in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on the growing number of congregations in the St. Louis area and across the country that are selling their historic sanctuaries and are nesting with another congregation. You can see the article and photos here: <https://bit.ly/pd-wgcc>

Check that address!

Just a reminder that, if you make your church donations via online banking or investment bankers, please remember to change the address of the church to:

Webster Groves Christian Church c/o
308 Summit Ave
St. Louis, MO 63119

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Snow way! No chilling the Disciples Women

Well, snow/cold weather made us change our meeting AGAIN! Both the Martha and the Tabitha women met on Zoom again in February. We still have hope that we can meet in person in March. Keep your fingers crossed and your eyes on the weather!

The February 13 meeting was a success. We had 12 women join us on Zoom, three Marthas and nine Tabithas. Susie Burney led the study on “owning our narratives,” and not judging people on how they look. The downside of the Zoom was we didn't get to eat Pat Roseman's delicious looking dessert! Yes, she showed it to us on Zoom.

DW Lunch update: Thursday, March 6, will be our first DW lunch in the new location. Everyone is to bring their own bag lunch and the Tabitha group will provide drinks and dessert. Come at NOON. Laura Stuetzer will be the program. She will talk about the different kinds of health care providers.

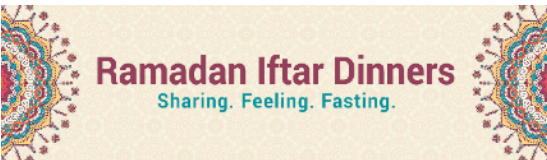
Monthly meetings: The two groups, Martha and Tabitha, will meet for their monthly group meetings at the Church on Thursday, March 13. Marthas at 12:30 p.m. and Tabitha at 7 p.m. The Marthas are to bring a sandwich; dessert will be provided. Anna Yount and Jane Martin will be hosting, Bev Richmonds will share a devotion and Vicki Ott will lead the study. In the Tabitha

group, Sally Smith will bring the goodies and Denise Pahl will lead the study.

Service projects: DW service for February doesn't have a complete report as we haven't reached the end of the month. As of this date our donations total \$200. Perhaps more will be received. We will update you at our DW general meeting on March 6. Our March service is for Doorways. Monetary donations are welcomed but there is also a great need for household items for residents moving into Eliot Place, the new residential housing. If you are doing any spring cleaning and have very gently used kitchen items or linens you no longer need, think Doorways! Bring them to your Martha or Tabitha meetings. Leave them in your meeting room. Janie and Pat will pick them up.

NOW birthdays: We are also celebrating NOW birthdays. When one of the NOW children has a birthday, we give the family a cake mix, a can of icing and candles. Please bring any (or all 3!) of these items any time you come to church and put them on the counter where we serve coffee. Thank you immensely for your kindness to those less fortunate.

Nominations: The nominating committee has been selected. Julie Wood and Susan Moore will be working on the new slate of officers for 2025/26 Church year. Pray on how you can best serve the Disciples Women organization.



As the holy season for the Abrahamic traditions approaches, the Turkish American Society of Missouri (TASOM), Congregation Shaare Emeth, and Parkway United Church of Christ warmly invite you to our Intertwine Interfaith Community Iftar Dinner. Together, we

will share a meal while we all honor Lent/Easter, Passover, and Ramadan in this holy season.

When: 5:45 p.m., March 4

Where: Congregation Shaare Emeth, 11645 Ladue Road

Program: Welcome, breaking the fast and prayer followed by dinner.

RSVP by March 2

Suggested donation: \$10

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3QzwnDL>

FELLOWSHIP & WORSHIP



Eat Like Project NOW eats!

If you have wondered what food is provided to the Project NOW families you are in luck. Each month a large box is provided to each family (21 in total). Each box contains a variety of food options for several meals.

What are some of the meals? Spaghetti noodles and sauce; canned soup and canned pasta/ravioli; tuna with mayo and crackers for tuna salad on crackers; ramen and pasta and rice meals.

For breakfast we provide muffin mix, cereal, oatmeal, and nutrigrain bars. Each family receives a loaf of bread. Various snacks are included in each box, like pretzels, granola bars, goldfish crackers, cheez-it crackers, fruit snacks, graham crackers, microwave popcorn and more!

A complete list of food is above. Next time you are at the store – I encourage you to consider “eating like Project NOW eats” – you can do this by picking up a few of the items listed below and donating them to Project NOW. Or feel free to provide monetary donations that will be used to purchase food.

Julie DeKinder

Your Project NOW shopping list

Muffin mix bag (Martha White or Betty Crocker), pasta mix bag (like Knorr), spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, canned pasta/ravioli (Chef Boyardee), canned soup, canned tuna, Zatarans or other rice mix, crackers, mac and cheese, ramen noodles, cereal, oatmeal, bread loaf, canned vegetables, canned beans, mayo packets.

Snacks: nutrigrain bars, granola bars, pudding cups, fruit cups, applesauce, cheese-toast, graham crackers, popcorn, fruit snacks, pretzels, goldfish crackers, cheez-it crackers, and raisins.



Rock and Roll Bingo

Sunday, March 16, 2:00-4:00
doors open at 1:30

Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens
8749 Watson Rd., 63119

\$25/person, \$200/table of 8

- Included: 10 rounds of BINGO, popcorn, pretzels, soft drinks, and great prizes!
- Guests welcome to bring their own table snacks. **No alcohol is allowed on the premises.**

Reserve Your Spot Today!
Go to www.shepherdscenter-wk.org
Call 314-395-0988
Or scan the QR code

BINGO WITH MUSIC INSTEAD OF NUMBERS!

ALL ERAS ALL GENRES ALL AGES

shepherd's center

SHEPHERD'S CENTER FUNDRAISER

inspiring older adults through enrichment, volunteerism & community connection



NEIGHBOR FUND

Our Neighbor Fund helps neighbors near and far in a number of important ways! Please consider a generous gift to the Neighbor Fund during 2025.

The Neighbor Fund is maintained by our congregation, and is used at our pastor's discretion to aid those within our congregation and those from our wider community with one-time emergency assistance.

Our congregational budget includes money for the Neighbor Fund, but the majority of income from the fund comes from generous and faithful designated gift by WGCC members.

In addition to your regular support of our budgeted mission and ministry, please consider a one-time or ongoing gift to the Neighbor Fund.

Field Trip Opportunity to LifeWise STL

How would you like to learn about a wonderful organization that serves low-income individuals and families? The mission of LifeWise STL is “to help individuals and families achieve economic well-being by providing high-impact, relationship-based programming and by addressing systemic barriers to their success.” Programs include: Early Childhood Center, Young Scholars After School, LifeWise Academy (for teens), Freedom School Summer Program, Wellness Programs, Economic Wellness Programs, Senior Programming, and Family and Community Council. They also offer a food and clothing market where participants can shop once a week. Native Spanish-speakers make up 40% of their clientele so most of their face to face counselors and social workers are bilingual.

We have an opportunity to tour their facilities and enjoy lunch provided by one of LifeWise’s participants who started a catering business.

Although not required, you are free to offer a monetary or in-kind donation. If you bring items to donate, please leave them in your car until after lunch.

Your invited: A Red State Revival Tour

An Evening with Nadia Bolz-Weber
Friday, March 7
Manchester United Methodist Church
129 Woods Mill Road

Why a Red State Revival Tour? Nadia explains: Because first and foremost, this is not the moment to concede the Christian faith to nationalists.

Field Trip Details

Date: Friday, March 21

Time: 11:00 AM

Transportation: Carpool from WGBC parking lot at 10:30 AM

Where: 1321 S 11th St, St. Louis, MO 63104

Please RSVP no later than March 4 by signing up with Denise Pahl after worship this coming Sunday, March 2, or calling the church office at (314) 961-3232.

Critical Clothing Needs:

- Men’s apparel
- Coats of all sizes

Urgently Required *New* Items:

- Boys’ socks: Size small
- Girls’ socks: Sizes medium and large
- Men’s underwear: Sizes medium and large
- Women’s underwear: Sizes 7 and 9
- Boys’ underwear: Sizes small to x-large

For more program specific wish lists, go to <https://www.lifewisestl.org/wish-lists/>

I want to gather with you, laugh with you, and sing with you. I want to be revived from despair and from self-righteousness.

In other words, I do not want to be afraid and I do not want to be alone.

The Schedule:

5:45 p.m.-6:30 p.m. - Pop-up Choir practice with Nadia.

6:30 p.m. - Doors Open

7 p.m. -8:30 p.m. - Main Event

Tickets: <https://bit.ly/4hTxR9E>

Prayer concerns for WGCC

- For Donna Wood, in the passing of her sister, Nora Nadine Preston
- For Susie Burney, following a recent hospitalization
- For Deb Trautman's friend, Dale, released from a hospital early because of insurance issues
- For Julie DeKinder's friend Angel, battling cancer
- For Charlotte Pullen, who has had several falls recently, and is now in 24-hour home hospice care
- For those Federal workers facing uncertainty in their jobs
- For the family of Robbie Piening's birth mother
- For immigrants in this country living with the fear of deportation
- For all government representatives
- For Pat Delf, battling lung cancer
- For Deb Trautman's daughter-in-law Crystal, suffering from headaches
- For Max Ott's friend, Ben Dempsey, battling cancer

Celebrating Eva Mountie

We received word from the family that Eva Moutrie passed away Tuesday morning; funeral arrangements are incomplete, but we were told that Eva will be cremated, with a memorial service to take place sometime in March. We will pass along more info as we receive it from the family. Please hold them in your prayers.

-
- For Donna Wolff-Crump, at home recovering from some health issues
 - For Daun and Jim Hashbarger
 - For Bill Woodrome, undergoing therapy following a stroke
 - For Penelope, Max Ott's coworker's daughter, battling cancer at 3 years old
 - For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Pat, who has been diagnosed with stage 1 lung cancer and is awaiting surgery
 - For David and Dawn Ingram, as David faces some medical issues and procedures
 - For Jeff Tedford
 - For Vicki Ott, suffering from MS
 - For Tim and Kathy Carson, as Kathy continues to battle cancer
 - For the families (now 20 of them!) served by the NOW weekend nutrition program of WGCC
 - For Shirley Arther
 - For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will
 - For Gregg Eiler's sister-in-law, as she battles breast cancer.
 - Prayers 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, and for WRHM as a helping organization
 - For the MBCC Food Ministry, and neighborhoods of Memorial Blvd. Christian Church.

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
308 Summit Ave.
Webster Groves MO 63119



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

Webster Groves Christian Church

308 Summit Avenue

Webster Groves, MO 63119

Phone: 314-961-3232 / Website: www.wgcc.org

Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore, Pastor

jeffmoore@wgcc.org

Robin Woodrome, Choir Director

Lisa Cripe, Organist

lisacripe@wgcc.org

Jeff Wolf, Lead Custodian

jeffwolf@wgcc.org

Gary Smith, Custodian

Steve Staicoff, Office Manager

admin@wgcc.org

Witness Articles

brosepd@hotmail.com