



THE WITNESS • MAY 2025

Congregational meeting May 18

WGCC will have its Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday morning, May 18, 2025, combined with an abbreviated worship service. The annual budget and slate of Board nominees will be voted on as well-- copies will be sent out beforehand.

The Legacy Committee has requested a change in the policy to lower the required number of members from 5-7 to 4-6, and to allow Craig Wood to stay on the committee an extra year, as he was unable to serve one year of his term due to illness. Max Ott has reached the end of his term. Becky Piening will come on as member and secretary. Continuing will be Kay Love and Dick Moore. The board will vote on this change to the policy two weeks after the notification to the congregation.

Updates from the Board

Other updates from the WGCC Church Board meeting on Sunday, April 27.

- The focus of the meeting was approving the 2025/26 budget and slate of board members, which will both be presented at the Congregational Meeting.
- The March financial report was presented. The giving is still down but we are making some gains on the deficit, thanks to the response to the Easter letter from Pastor Jeff.
- It was resolved that the proceeds from the sale of the building be managed by the Legacy Committee, in a separate fund from the Legacy Fund with its own guidelines.
- The earnings from the investments from the building sale will be funding the mission partners. The Mission committee will make a recommendation to the congregation for how much will be distributed to which Mission Partners. The Mission Committee chair is John Pahl. Members are Becky Piening, Laura Stuetzer, Ross Tedford, and Breona Hawkins. Their first meeting will be May 18th. The Board discussed how everyone felt about the move so far, with most responses being positive.
- Pastor Jeff proposed that a questionnaire be given to the congregation, asking them how they feel about the move.

Submitted by Sally Smith, secretary

SPRING AHEAD

A look at what's going on with Disciples Women's groups

Spring brings us flowers and showers and new officers. The Disciples Women nominated and voted on the new officers for the 2025-26 Church year. We thank them for their service to the continued work of the organization.



The Disciples Women get a history lesson on WGBC.

The officers are President: Laura Stuetzer; Vice-President: Sally Smith; Corresponding Secretary: Jane Martin; Recording Secretary: Susie Burney; Treasurer: Julie Wood; Service: Pat Roseman and Janie Joplin.

The April luncheon was a big success. A special thanks to Carolyn Kuyendall and Jill Blaylock for presenting an informative and interesting history of Webster Groves Baptist Church. We had a great turnout and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

The Marthas met in the parlor on April 10 with five members attending. Hostesses Anna Yount, Julie Wood and Jane Martin provided Easter themed cookies and other goodies/flowers. Jane gave a devotional concerning Lent and Bev gave the study on "May Justice Roll" from the Just Women study book. The song "Let Justice Roll Like A River" was played on Bev's laptop while remembering the scripture Amos 5:24: "But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." The prayer list was brought up to date.

The Tabitha group decided to forgo the regular group meeting in April. We attended a program at Saint Louis University High School on that Thursday evening instead. Denise Pahl and Sally Smith went to hear Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ. The program was "Dignity of the Human Person-immigration." The lecture was very informative.

The May luncheon will be on Thursday, May 1, at noon. The Martha group will host. Please bring your sack lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided. The program will be a service project for Forget-Me-Nots and Special

Cares. We will be making designer hand soap bars and simple little folded May baskets to hold the bars. All are invited to come and make fragrant colorful bars of soap from scratch for our friends who can't be with us!

The group meetings will be on the second Thursday of May, May 8. The Marthas meet at 12:30 p.m. and the Tabithas will meet at 7 p.m. Both groups meet in the Parlor at the Church. The Martha group asks that you bring a sack lunch. A light dessert will be provided. Guests are welcome!

Hostesses will be Jane Martin, Anna Yount and Carol Bachman. Devotional: Anna, and Study: Vicki Ott. The Tabitha hostess will be Becky Piening. The study will be led by Sally Smith.

As far as the May service project: "Diapers" are calling us to donate to Kirkwood Early Childhood Center/KECC. Remember when we were at the former church location they had a Promise Place Room, which the Church provided, as a resource for needy families. In lieu of buying an item for them we often donated money so they could buy the much-needed diapers. If you donate with a check, please note May Service/KECC on the memo line. Let's keep those little bottoms dry! May is the last of our projects until fall. Thanks for all your donated service dollars this year.

Submitted by Sally Smith



Time to pick up your stained glass

If you asked for a particular stained glass pane — you get it!! There's enough for all. There are extra “snowflakes” and some of the “words” weren't asked for, so if you aren't on the list, you can see Sally about claiming the extras.

If you aren't at Church on Sunday, check with Sally about coming during the week to pick up the panes. The stained glass will be on tables in the gym on Sunday morning. Your name should be on your piece. Please take them. We are asking for an offering to help cover the cost of getting the windows removed. Look for the labeled basket. Checks made out to WGCC, with memo line: stained glass.

Sally Smith 636-579-6078
sally.lucy@charter.net

Join the study of Revelation

Join us Monday afternoons for Bible study on the Book of Revelation.

The meetings will be on Mondays from 3-4:30 p.m. - but join any time!

You can join in on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87469209858>



Our visit to Doorways

WGCC and Disciples Women have donated to Doorways for years, and questions often arise about the facilities and services offered by Doorways.

Several WGCC members took advantage of an opportunity to see Doorways' Jefferson Avenue facilities and services through a tour on April 9.

May 9 is deadline application for June England Scholarship

Applications for the June England Scholarship are due May 9. The scholarships are offered to Webster Groves Christian Church graduating high school seniors seeking higher education. The scholarship was given in memory of June England.

June was a long-time member of WGCC and had a dedicated interest in our youth and education ministries. Her family has chosen to honor her by establishing this scholarship.

Pat Roseman and Julie Wood are members of the Scholarship Committee.

Applications are available from Steve Staicoff in the church office, Tuesday- Friday, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Please return the application and all requirements for it to June England Scholarship Committee - 308 Summit Ave. - St. Louis, MO 63119 by May 9.



Packing lunches for MBCC

Each Thursday, MBCC 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.

In April WGCC members and friends packed more than 200 lunches!

Contact the church office or Sally Smith if you are interested in helping with this program – either on the third Thursday, or any Thursday!





Ringing in Easter



Room at the Inn

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
August 18, 2025

12th Annual Golf Tournament to Support Programs at Room at the Inn

Sponsorships are available!

Location:
Old Hickory Golf Club, St. Peters, MO

Save \$\$\$ by Registering Early Starting April 5th until June 21st
Questions: Contact Laurie Phillips 314.209.9181

Tee it up for a cause!

The 12th annual Room at the Inn golf tournament will be held on Monday, Aug. 18, at Old Hickory Golf Club. Please join us for a day of fun on the course in support of the families we serve.

There are several ways to participate:

- Become a sponsor at the Title, Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze level. Sponsorships provide for player spots on the course and the opportunity to reach a broad base of our supporters with your company name and message. Team spaces are filling up quickly!
- Sign up to play. If you or you and a few friends wish to join us, register a foursome or as an individual player.
- Not a golfer? We have options! Sponsor a Fun Station or secure a non-player sponsorship. Your company, team, or group will be recognized at the event through opportunities like Putting Green Sponsor, Tee Sponsor, Dinner Sponsor, and more!
- Help us on the day of the event. Volunteer your time on the course, or donate items for our auction and raffles. Sports tickets and memorabilia are always a hit with our players.

Register at roomstl.org

Please, feel free to contact Cindy Warren directly with any questions at cwarren@roomstl.org or by phone at 314-209-9181.

Make a sacred space at Eden Seminary

Join the students, faculty, and staff of Eden Seminary, along with neighbors, friends, local organizations, and congregations for a community planting day on May 10 starting at 9 a.m. We are planting a sacred grove on Eden's campus, and we'd like you to feel welcome there, like you helped create this special place. Eden's sacred grove will provide a sanctuary for native plants and animals, and serve as a sanctuary for worship, meditation, learning, and—we hope—tending the grove itself as a spiritual practice.

You're welcome to come plant just one tree, or stay for an hour, or help us all morning. There will be volunteers to assist. When you've had enough, you can head to Schroer Commons, just a few steps from the planting site, where Peace United Church of Christ has been kind enough to host a light meal.

All ages and abilities are welcome. Bring a shovel if you can. Learn about the project and meet your neighbors. We're looking forward to seeing you.

WHEN: Saturday, May 10 @ 9:00

WHERE: Eden Theological Seminary is at 475 E. Lockwood Ave. in Webster Groves. We will meet behind Press Hall, which is the building with the tall tower.

HOW MUCH? This event is free. If you would like to support Eden's sacred grove project, we have a wish list! We will be planting 25 different species on planting day, but have many more native species on our list.

Prayer concerns for WGCC

For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Pat Delf, for her friend Pam, who was unexpectedly discharged from her rehab facility with no place to go, and for her friend MJ, awaiting hip surgery

For Laura's friend, Carm, whose cancer has returned, and for her friend Mary Jo, awaiting hip surgery

For Max Ott's brother, recovering from a back injury, and for Max, who will have his second cataract surgery this week

For the students at Webster University, whose visas have been revoked

For safe travels for Kay & Gerry Love

For Donna Wolff-Crump, who has been moved to Bethesda-Dilworth for rehab

For Susie Burney, recovering from surgery

For Jeff Tedford, at St. Luke's hospital

For Deb Werner and her family, as they mourn the loss of Deb's nephew, Scott

For Becky Piening's sister-in-law Julie and family, and for Rev. Carol Barner of Kirkwood UCC, who just lost her sister

For all organizations struggling to maintain DEI initiatives

For the family and friends of Steve Frisbee, local musician, who passed away

For Breona Hawkins, recovering from surgery

For the members of Memorial Blvd Christian Church and those served by the church, whose building had a small fire and extensive smoke damage

For Laura Stuetzer's friend Tim (and family) as he recovers from surgery

For the family of Katie (John Smith's former coworker at the NBA) who died of cancer

For all pastors, as they lead their flocks through the Lenten Season

For Carolyn Dyess's friend, Becky, battling gall bladder cancer

For Julie DeKinder's friend Angel, battling cancer

For those Federal workers facing uncertainty in their jobs, and for the uncertain future of medical research by governmental agencies

For immigrants in this country living with the fear of deportation

For all government representatives

For Max Ott's friend, Ben Dempsey, battling cancer

For Daun and Jim Hashbarger, as Jim continues in rehab

For Bill Woodrome, undergoing therapy following a stroke

For Penelope, Max Ott's coworker's daughter, battling cancer at 3 years old

For David and Dawn Ingram, as David continues to battle cancer

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

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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

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.

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/>

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