


WEBSTER GROVES
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE WITNESS • DEC 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDARS--NOTE ADVENT WORSHIP TIME!

We will be worshipping with the members of Webster Groves Baptist Church on Nov. 30 for first Sunday in Advent and Hanging of the Greens; and also through December (Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28).
10 a.m. Sunday School • 10:45 Fellowship • 11:15 Worship
Christmas Jazz Service - 4 p.m. on Dec. 14

Board weighing rent and storage issues

At its November meeting, the WGCC Board had a discussion on the three items in storage: The Hillis Arnold Cross, the Steinway grand piano and the stones from the Memorial Garden. The total storage cost of all three is \$6,000.

The discussion was on whether we should sell the cross and the piano and move the stones to the Baptist basement thus saving the cost of storage. A recommendation will be presented to the congregation at our regular yearly meeting in May.

The Mission Committee chair, John Pahl, reported that all the funds have been put to work, but more are expected from interest on some of the CDs in December. In January the committee will decide how to distribute them.

The Board had discussions on Evangelism and how we can move forward to make ourselves more visible and attract new participants.

The Board was given a 'homework' assignment by president Keiler Swartz, on how we can attract youth back into our congregation.

There will be appointed a subcommittee to work on the renewal lease with the Baptist Church. The present lease is a 15-month and we are at the one year mark.

The financial reports for September and October were presented. We are behind on the budget but generally doing well. A reminder that members need to keep their giving strong.

The next board meeting will be on Jan. 18, 2026.

- Sally Smith



Welcome Elyse DeLoach

The WGCC board met Elyse DeLoach, a student at Eden Seminary. She asked WGCC to be her supporting congregation, and the board approved.

Elyse attends Affton CC, and they will be her primary congregation, but we might expect to have Elyse attend services and even preach in the future.

All are invited - men and women - to special Disciples Women meeting Dec. 4



"Blessings come in disguise. And challenges can be a blessing." Diane Lane

The Martha group met on Nov. 13 at the home of Alice Yount. Anna Yount served as hostess. Four Marthas were in attendance. The Marthas were pleased to present five baskets of Thanksgiving food for Webster Rock Hills Ministry.

The December meeting will be held on the 11th at 12:30. Julie Wood will serve as hostess, Bev Richmond will give the devotional and Jane Martin will lead us in a Christmas game.

The November Tabatha meeting had nine attending. Goodies were provided by Janie Joplin. She served two pies and we had to vote on which we liked best!! -- calories with a purpose!! Sally Smith led a lively discussion on the Holy Spirit and how it works in our lives.

Tabitha will meet on Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. at Susie Burney's house. Everyone will bring appetizers. We won't have a study, just good food and conversations.

The Disciples Women will gather for sack lunches on Dec. 4 at noon. The Tabithas are in charge and will provide drinks and dessert.

As part of the business meeting, Laura will be introducing the topic from Disciple's Women's Ministries about Thursdays in Black: Ending Gender-Based Violence. The program leader will be our own author Susie Burney. She will be leading a discussion about challenged and banned books. Susie is a retired elementary teacher with a master's in Library Science. She taught Graduate Children's Literature at Fontbonne University after retirement. This is a topic dear to her heart. We all need to be aware of current events involving the Arts. Please invite neighbors and friends, including males, to participate in this program.

Our service in December is providing sweat pants and sweat shirts for the MBCC community, as there is an urgent need. Our deadline is Dec. 11. However, if anyone has purchased the donation by Dec. 4, our general meeting, please bring your "sweats" donation then.

The sooner we can get the items to MBCC the better! Thanks for your thoughtfulness and giving.

Janie and Pat

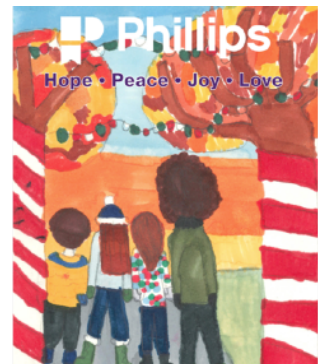
Download your Advent Devotional

The devotional, courtesy of Phillips Theological Seminary, guides us through a four-week journey.

Week 1: Hope • Week 2: Peace • Week 3: Joy • Week 4: Love

You can download your free copy at:

<https://bit.ly/2025-devotional>

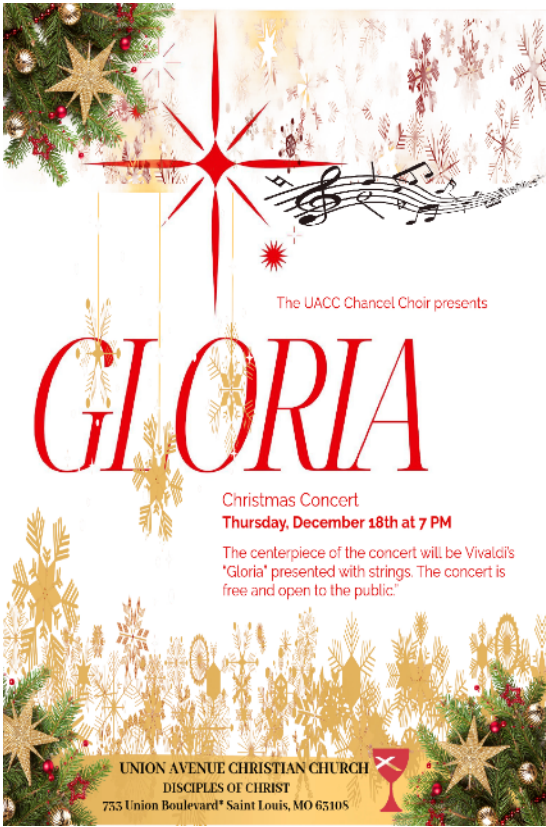


Advent giving for Project NOW

In the spirit of giving during the Christmas season, this unique advent calendar is an opportunity to share with others. Each day put the designated food item into a large box or bag. At the end of the advent season please leave the gift of food items at the Church for Project NOW. All the items on the list are foods that we use each month for the NOW families.

Project NOW is a nutrition on weekend's program affiliated with Webster Groves Christian Church. NOW provides a bag of food to 16 families every weekend. Questions? Email Julie DeKinder at dekinderj@umsl.edu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Box of Macaroni and cheese	2 Canned vegetables	3 Box of granola bars	4 Box of fruit snacks	5 Box of cereal	6 Package of fruit cups
7 Box of multigrain bars (or breakfast bars)	8 Canned tuna	9 Microwave popcorn	10 Applesauce (plastic jar or individual containers)	11 Pretzels	12 Peanut butter crackers	13 Cheez-its
14 Box of Ritz-type crackers	15 Goldfish crackers (or similar snack)	16 Oatmeal, individual packages preferred	17 Package of pasta noodles	18 Canned spaghetti sauce	19 Canned chicken noodle soup	20 Canned tomato soup
21 Animal crackers	22 Pudding cups	23 Pack of Individual raisin packages	24 Canned ravioli pasta (or similar)	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27
28	29	30	31			



The UACC Chancel Choir presents

GLORIA

Christmas Concert
Thursday, December 18th at 7 PM

The centerpiece of the concert will be Vivaldi's "Gloria" presented with strings. The concert is free and open to the public.

UNION AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
 753 Union Boulevard* Saint Louis, MO 63105



Open House
RIBBON
 Cutting

Room at the Inn
 Shelter with a purpose. Families with a future.

DECEMBER 4, 2025
3:00PM – 6:00 PM

TOURS BEGIN AT
3 PM

RIBBON
CUTTING
& BLESSING
AT 4 PM



3415 BRIDGELAND DR.
BRIDGETON, MO 63044



Register for the event with QR code
or call Cindy Warren @ 314-209-9181
or email at cwarren@roomstl.org

Order your Christmas Poinsettias by Dec. 12

If you would like to order poinsettias this year in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Steve at the church office (314-961-3232), or email him at admin@wgcc.org

When you call or email, please let Steve know whom the plant is in memory/honor of. They can be taken home following the Christmas services on December 24.

The deadline for ordering is Friday, December 12, at 9am.

Poinsettias are **\$10** each, and a portion of each purchase will go toward supporting the Shepherd's Center of Webster-Kirkwood.



Adopt a Family Tree 2025

Webster/Rock Hill Ministries

**November 23rd to
December 14th**

3 families, 6 individuals



**take an ornament, buy the gift,
return gift (WRAPPED) by Dec 14th**

**Webster Groves Christian Church
questions: Sally Smith 636-579-6078**

Help the residents of Cooper House at Doorways

Help share the joy of Christmas by giving a gift to a resident of Cooper House at Doorways!

Please consider either donating money to the Neighbor Fund and labelling it "Cooper House Christmas", or selecting one or more residents from the sign up sheet in the rear of the sanctuary for whom to purchase a gift.

If you are unable to use the sign up sheet at church, please contact Pastor Jeff (jeffmoore@wgcc.org) to be matched with a resident.

Suggested limit of \$50 per resident.
Thanks!

Here is the list:

<https://bit.ly/2025-cooper-list>

A thanks from LifeWise

Dear Friends at Webster Groves Christian,

Your generosity and dedication in organizing a donation drive for LifeWise STL's Holiday Market have made a meaningful impact on families in our community. Because of you, parents can provide their children with special gifts and essential household items, creating a season filled with warmth, dignity, and joy.

Your kindness ensures that families who have worked hard toward their goals can celebrate the holidays with confidence. You and everyone who contributed have given parents the ability to select new, thoughtfully chosen gifts for their families-items that will bring smiles, excitement, and lasting memories. You have made this season brighter for so many.

Please pass along our heartfelt thanks to everyone who played a role in making this drive a success. Your support is truly appreciated, and we look forward to partnering with you again in the future!

MK



Join us for worship at 308 Summit Ave. in Webster Groves



Bags, bags everywhere!

WGCC unofficial photographer Laura Stuetzer noted the proliferation of food bags around as a sign of our congregation's generosity!

Isaiah 58
MINISTRIES
nourishing community
for over 50 years



BUY-A-BIRD HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

Giving thanks is a holiday tradition celebrated by families everywhere. But for many, this proves difficult due to financial hardships.

Through December 31, 2025, your gift to our Buy-A-Bird campaign will help 700 local families gather around tables overflowing with both food and gratitude.

Each guest will receive holiday groceries and gift cards to celebrate the season abundantly with joy and grace.



\$40 = One Holiday Meal
\$400 = Ten Holiday Meals

Scan the QR code to
make a donation online



or mail a check to:

Isaiah 58 Ministries
2149 South Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63104
(memo: Buy-A-Bird)

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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

Prayer concerns for WGCC

For Laura Stuetzer's friend, Ruth, battling serious lymphoma, and for her friend Judy battling breast cancer

For Candy and Dale, friends of Shah Smith

For Pat Roseman's childhood congregation, as they closed their doors this past Sunday

For Laura's friend, Pat Delf, awaiting surgical implant for ongoing pain

For John Dyess, having a third pacemaker implanted this week

For Karen Miers, recovering from recent surgery

For Donna Wolff Crump's friend, Camille, battling cancer

For Max Ott's neighbor Cheryl, suffering from leg/foot issues

For Sandra Miller, of Union Ave Christian Church, in her ongoing health problems

For Gregg Eiler's coworkers, the Fagans, whose 20-month old son is battling cancer

For Becky Piening's cousin, Doug, who is battling blood cancer, and is scheduled to receive a bone marrow transplant

For Sally Smith, as she recovers from surgery

For Compton Heights Christian Church, as they depart their church building

For Becky Piening's friend, Liz, who received a Stage 4 cancer diagnosis

For Becky's friend, Jenny, whose husband took his own life, leaving behind Jenny and her daughters

For Bev Richmond, who experienced a fall, and is battling other major health issues

For the son in law of Shah Smith's colleague, battling health issues

For the family and friends of Tyson Knapp, grandson of Max & Vicki Ott, who recently passed

For Robin Woodrome's mother, Grace, facing health concerns

For the granddaughter of Deb Werner's friend, a 17-year old named Brynn, who is battling ovarian cancer

For the immigrant families being forcibly taken from their homes by ICE

Monday Afternoon Bible Studies

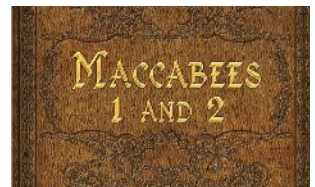
New session studying Apocryphal Maccabean Literature!

Jeff Moore is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time: This is a recurring meeting.

Join the Zoom Meeting anytime at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87469209858>



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-americadisciples.org/>

Webster Groves Christian Church

308 Summit Avenue

Webster Groves, MO 63119

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Lisa Cripe, Organist

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Witness Articles

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