

  
**WEBSTER GROVES**  
**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

THE WITNESS • MARCH 2026

## A groundbreaking day for Isaiah 58 Ministries

On Feb. 24 Isaiah 58 Ministries celebrated a groundbreaking — and while no actual ground was turned, something even more powerful happened: it marked the beginning of a new chapter in its ministry.

From the Isaiah 58 Facebook page: What stood out most wasn't the ceremony itself. It was the people.

Church partners. Community leaders. Long-time volunteers. Neighbors. Friends. New faces who are just beginning the journey with us.

Your presence was a reminder that this building is not about bricks and mortar. It is about beloved community.

Together, we are creating a space that will be the heart and hub of our neighborhood — a place where food is shared with dignity, relationships are nurtured, hope is restored, and neighbors walk alongside one another.

For nearly 60 years, Isaiah 58 Ministries has been answering the call. Today, we declared that we are not finished yet.

St. Louis, thank you for believing in this vision.



### WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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

# Disciples Women share the love

The DW luncheon will be held on March 5 at noon with the Tabitha group hosting. The program will be the LifeWise organization. ALL are invited. We would love to have anyone interested in hearing about their programs, to please join us! It will be a sack lunch (bring your own). Drinks and dessert will be provided by the Tabitha women. If anyone wants to join us for the program only, please come at 12:30.



The February Tabitha group began with Becky Piening bringing in Valentine treats and FLOWERS for everyone to take home! The program was led by Sally Smith. We talked about how the Holy Spirit was not only in the New Testament, but was part of the Old Testament as well.

Tabithas will meet on March 12 at 7 pm at the Church. Denise Pahl will bring in the treats and the study will be led by Susie Burney.

The Martha Group met on February 12 at 12:30 at Alice Yount's home with eight attending. We enjoyed good fellowship during our sack lunch time and were treated to Valentine cupcakes, candies, nuts and grapes on Valentine plates, napkins and cups all thanks to our hostesses Kitty Baumgarth, Anna Yount and Julie Wood. The devotional was given by Anna and the study, "Busy Being Busy: Finding Joy In Rest" by Alice. The scripture, "Come to me all who are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest." was the backbone of our study about Jesus admonishing us to take time to rest. Monetary donations were given for MBCC Welfare Fund.

The next Martha meeting will be March 12 at 12:30 at Jane Martin's home. Carol Bachman will give the devotional and Bev Richmond will present the study, "Friendship Like Braided Sweet Grass". Come and enjoy the wonderful friendship ties of the Marthas.

- Susan Burney

## Let us March in to giving!

Memorial Boulevard Christian Church Welfare Fund grew this month by \$250 because of your thoughtful and generous giving. Thank you very much. In addition to the \$250 amount, Janie and Pat asked Steve to include the \$20.92 leftover from NOW shopping in January making the MBCC total \$270.92.

Let us march into our MARCH project and SPRING into action This is a major project! It has a far-reaching goal because it has the possibility of giving aid to many folks. We will be donating TOILETRIES FOR GIVE-AWAY BAGS that will be given to clients at the newly-created clinic at Doorways. Other churches will be asked to join with us but we will be setting the example.

Disciple Women invite our congregation to join us.

Suggested items:

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Deodorant

Face cloth

Disposable razors/shavers

Band-aids

Bar soap

- Pat Roseman

# March Mondays: Join the discussion

All are welcome to join in the discussion of **The Bible According to Christian Nationalists: Exploiting Scripture for Political Power** by Brian Kaylor.

This online book study opportunity is sponsored by the Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciling Justice Team, will take place via Zoom on each of the five **Monday evenings in March, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.** The study will be facilitated by Jeff Moore, PhD, of Webster Groves Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Jeff is Affiliate Professor of Biblical Studies and Theological Method at Eden Theological Seminary.

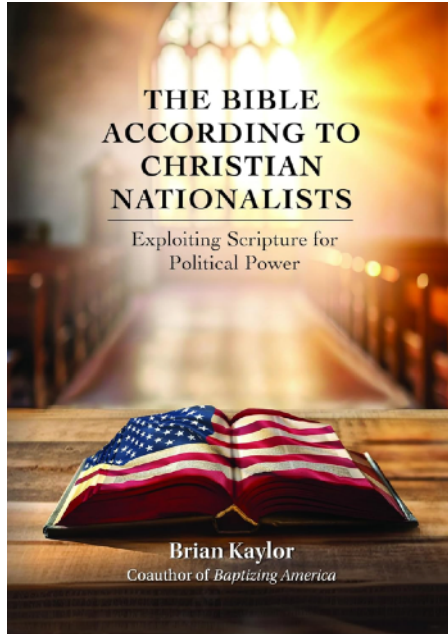
Please plan to join us as we explore scripture and faith together!

## Register link:

<https://www.mid-america-disciples.org/upcoming-events/2025/9/8/arprjm-online-book-study-n2rtr>

## Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89763694005?pwd=zMR4hckEgjATYbW5gkivxbVtfr1PvF.1>



## ‘Gateway to a New Life’: a special screening at Union Avenue

Last year Webster Groves Christian Church joined at Union Avenue Christian Church to dive into resources regarding support of Immigrants in St. Louis.

Again this year, Union Avenue is inviting us, as part of a smaller group of congregations, to join on Sunday, March 15 for a screening of the award-winning documentary "Gateway to a New Life" which focuses on the story and work to support the Afghan Immigrant Community in St. Louis.

This is truly an amazing story and is important to the St. Louis Community as we have over 2,000 Afghan Immigrants in STL.

They will gather at about 12:15 and will have a light lunch, beginning the viewing the film about 12:30. The film is 54 min. long and will be followed with a 30-minute panel discussion which will include Kathy Bratkowski the producer of the film, an Afghan refugee, and leaders from Lifewise and the International Institute.

The trailer for "Gateway to a New Life" is on the landing page of the website:

<https://www.gatewaytoanewlifefilm.com/>

Please contact Jacque Foster, [jleigh55@att.net](mailto:jleigh55@att.net), Chair of Outreach & Justice Ministry at Union Avenue Christian Church by March 9 if you plan to have a group join them.



**Saturday April 18, 2026**  
Shaare Emeth Congregation  
11645 Ladue Road, St. Louis MO 63141

**Trivia, games, silent auction, and more!**  
**Doors open at 6.00pm, the FUN begins at 7.00pm!**

## Save the date! RATI trivia

Gather your team for a lively night filled with trivia, games, a silent auction, and more!

Whether you are a hardcore trivia nerd or someone who wants to support an important mission, you will not want to miss a night of community, competition, and meaningful impact!

Every ticket, table, and auction bid helps empower individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and provides pathways to stability and hope.

Tables are now available, so buy yours today by using the link below or scanning the QR code!

**[bit.ly/Room-at-the-Inn-Trivia-Night-2026](https://bit.ly/Room-at-the-Inn-Trivia-Night-2026)**

For more information regarding the event, call Jed Buechele at 314-209-9181, x105 or email at [jbuechele@roomstl.org](mailto:jbuechele@roomstl.org).

**Ticket Package**

- Individual Ticket (\$40) - Attendance for one person.
- Table Package (\$300) - One table for eight individuals.
- Round Sponsor (\$1,000) - One table for eight individuals; Logo placement on event materials and registration website; Verbal recognition during the event, and before and after the Round sponsored.
- Title Sponsor (\$5,000) - Two tables for eight individuals each; Verbal recognition during event, and logo placement on tables and materials.

## Transform the lives of Room at the Inn clients

Every day, we work tirelessly to help our clients find solutions to their homelessness, including providing them with tools they need to find employment.

As they apply for jobs, one of the most important tools we provide are gift cards, which allow our clients access to new clothes, money for gas, and a stronger foundation for success.

Currently, seven of our nine adult clients have recently found employment and begun working, and these gift cards have helped make this possible!

However, we have recently run low on these gift cards and need more.

Here is how you can help:

By donating gift cards to Room at the Inn, you are playing a vital role in transforming the lives of our clients!

**Gift Cards We Can Use**

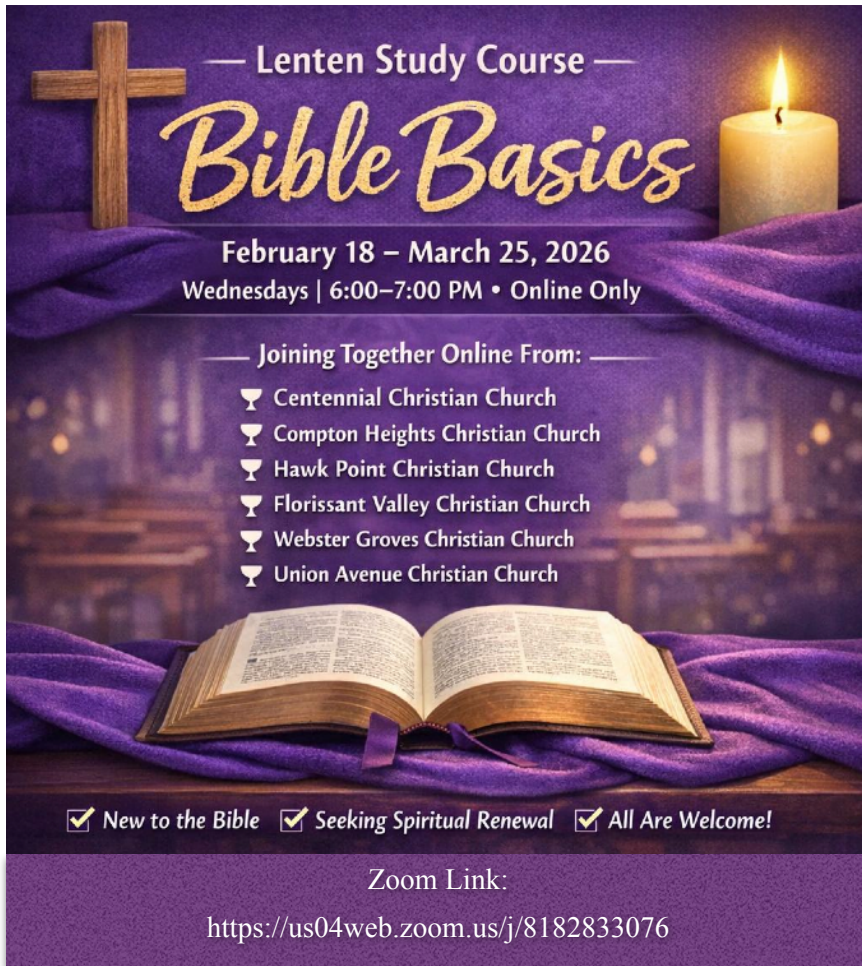
- Target
- Wal-Mart
- Aldi
- Circle K
- Amazon
- QuikTrip
- Marshalls

If you are interested in donating, please drop the gift cards off at our office ( 3415 Bridgeland Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044) or by calling us at 314-209-9181 to arrange another method.

## WORSHIP AND SERVICE FROM WGCC



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 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!

A purple-themed banner for a Lenten Study Course. At the top left is a wooden cross, and at the top right is a lit candle. The background shows a church interior with pews and a chandelier. In the foreground, an open Bible lies on a purple cloth. The text is centered and reads: "Lenten Study Course — Bible Basics February 18 – March 25, 2026 Wednesdays | 6:00–7:00 PM • Online Only". Below this, it lists churches participating online, followed by a Zoom link and a list of topics: "New to the Bible", "Seeking Spiritual Renewal", and "All Are Welcome!".

— Lenten Study Course —

# Bible Basics

February 18 – March 25, 2026  
Wednesdays | 6:00–7:00 PM • Online Only

— Joining Together Online From: —

- ☪ Centennial Christian Church
- ☪ Compton Heights Christian Church
- ☪ Hawk Point Christian Church
- ☪ Florissant Valley Christian Church
- ☪ Webster Groves Christian Church
- ☪ Union Avenue Christian Church

☑ New to the Bible    ☑ Seeking Spiritual Renewal    ☑ All Are Welcome!

Zoom Link:  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8182833076>

**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 9 a.m.

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!

## Get ready for the Hike Against Hunger

Now's the time when Memorial Blvd Christian Church does its annual "Hike Against Hunger," supporting Week of Compassion. The Hike Project is 50 years strong and going and going. This year we will hike in Tower Grove Park on May 9, 2026. Donations are for relief, refuge, and development missions for those in need. We cordially invite you to join us. Our motto is "Better Together."

The Bible tells us charitable actions have lasting value. And we fellowship, have food and fun during the process.

We are cheerful givers. Come join us!

The gathering starts at 9 a.m. in Tower Grove at Stone Shelter.

For details and to join go to <https://bit.ly/2026-hunger-hike> or call Chuck Levy at 314-365-2765.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Linda Tobias

Memorial Blvd Christian Church, DOC

## Prayer concerns for WGCC

- For Laura Stuetzer's friend Sandy, battling several different types of breast cancer
- For the family of Chris, a coworker of Billy Swartz's who passed away at 44 years old
- For Anna Yount and family, in the passing of her stepmother
- For the family and friends of former WGCC Member Paul Hutchens, who recently passed away
- For Billie Swartz's friend Annie, having health issues
- For Max Ott, as he recovers from surgery
- For Larry and Jane, a couple in Laura Stuetzer's community, Jane is battling Parkinson's disease
- For Deb Trautman's daughter-in-law, recovering from surgery
- For Jim and Daun Hashbarger, as Jim transitions to a memory-care Unit,
- For Vicki Ott, suffering from MS
- For Janie Joplin's friend Laura, entering hospice care
- For Gregg Eilers, recovering from medical procedure
- For a student of Jeff Moore, who had an emergency appendectomy last week
- For Max Ott's friend Bob and his wife Susie, as Bob battles a blood infection
- For the mothers of Becky and David Piening, who are both suffering from congestive heart failure
- For Robin Woodrome and family, following the passing of her mother, Grace
- For Bev Richmond, who was hospitalized, and is battling other major health issues
- For the friends and family of Laura Stuetzer's friend Carlene, who passed away after a short bout with cancer
- For our divided nation, and its leaders
- For Carolyn Dyess's friend, Becky, battling gall bladder cancer
- For Bill Woodrome
- For Jeff Tedford
- For Shirley Arther, who recently suffered a small stroke
- For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will
- Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop
- 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.

## In Memoriam

### Donna Wolff Crump

Longtime WGCC member Donna Wolff Crump passed away at St. Mary's Hospital on Feb. 9. We thank God for Donna's life, and for her decades of community and care as a beloved member of Webster Groves Christian Church.



A visitation will be held on Friday, March 27 at 9:30 a.m. at Hoffmeister Colonial Mortuary, 6464 Chippewa, followed by a Funeral Service at 10:30 a.m. Donna's friends at Webster Groves Christian Church will host a reception at 2 p.m. at 308 Summit Ave.

Interment will be private at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

### Paul Hutchens

A memorial service for for WGCC member Paul Hutchens will be held Friday, March 20, at Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church.



Visitation beginning at 9:00 am; Service starts at 10:30; Internment at Jefferson Barracks at 12:30 p.m.

# 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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