

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

WEBSTER GROVES
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE WITNESS • OCTOBER 2025

All are welcome here!

WGCC congregation members pose with our new signage after a Sunday morning worship service in September.



**Save the date:
Saturday, Oct. 11
Church work day**

WGBC and WGCC will host another **Church Work Day** for the Fall, focused mostly on building exterior and grounds.

Trimming bushes, painting some windows, and similar tasks. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Lockwood sale investments support our community

A special Congregational meeting was held after the Sunday service on Sept. 28.

It was a short meeting to approve the distribution of funds from the interest on the sale of the Lockwood property and to set up a procedure going forth on the distribution of these same funds.

Pastor Jeff Moore reminded us that the net proceeds sale of the Lockwood Property came to \$2.5 million. The funds are invested in CDs for now. We will be dispersing the interest on these CDs only. The amount should come to approximately \$100,000 per year. The amount available at this point is \$59,000.

John Pahl, as Mission committee chair, laid out the reasons for the committee's decision. The tornado that came through North St Louis on May 6 damaged many homes, including our sister Church, Centennial C.C. There have been three organizations that have stepped up to help with the recovery of the people in the Fountain Park area. Centennial CC, Isaiah 58, and a new organization, 314 Oasis.

Our own congregation provided a meal in August to 60 people in the Fountain Park area.

John also talked about Room at the Inn. During COVID they had to change their model of bringing the clients to various Churches each night, to housing them at the day site. They launched a Capital Campaign to renovate the day site to add kitchens, bathrooms and sleeping areas. They are in temporary housing now but hope to move back in 30 to 60 days. The site will house 20 to 30 people at night.

The committee's proposal:

\$10,000 Centennial Christian Church- tornado relief

\$10,000 Isaiah 58 tornado relief

\$10,000 314 Oasis tornado relief

\$10,000 Room at the Inn Capital Campaign

The motion passed unanimously.

Also approved was a change to the process for the Mission Committee allocates funds.

At the annual Congregational meeting in 2026 and forward, the Mission Committee will present for approval a list of mission partners they propose WGCC support for the budget year. Also, until that 2026 meeting, the congregation authorized the mission team and the Board to make decisions on spending the available funds for 2025-2026 budget year.

Submitted by Sally Smith

More updates from the board:

- We have hired a new sound technician: Sarah Van Norman. She is a professional and has been a great help with recent tech problems.
- Wilkens, our Haiti student, had requested a meeting. A committee of Billie Swartz, Sally Smith and Pastor Jeff Moore met with him in March and reported that Wilkens, who we have helped support for many years with housing and schooling, is trying to continue his education to become a doctor. He has his Bachelors degree and is working as a technician, but wants help financing his further education through a Caribbean school. No decision was made by the Board.
- John Pahl, chair of the Personnel Task committee reported that the committee had rewritten the entire personnel manual. The last update was 17 years ago. The new manual is shorter and on file in the Church office.

Birthdays and beyond for Disciples Women

On Thursday, Sept. 11, the Marthas met in the parlor with six in attendance and two Tabithas as guests. The women enjoyed good fellowship while eating their sack lunches and hearing more about service opportunities from Pat Roseman and Janey Joplin.

A beautiful decorated cake was presented to Kitty Baumgarth in honor of her 97th Birthday! Anna Yount gave a thoughtful devotional and Vicki Ott gave the study "Authentically Me" from the Just Women study book. We talked about what it means to "breathe with God" and love our fellow man with His kind of love that matters not what color, sex, appearance, financial status, etc. a person may be. The Marthas pledged to help pack lunches for the Fountain Park folks next month. The next meeting of the Marthas will be October 9th at 12:30 in the Parlor.



Disciple Women's Martha group celebrate Kitty Baumgarth's 97th birthday.

The September luncheon had eight Tabithas attending. Together with the Marthas, we packed the NOW snack bags. This was a first for us, so there was some organizing to be done, but we accomplished our task and we are all still friends! This was the first time Laura Stuetzer ran the general meeting as president. We had lots to discuss about the year's programs. Pat Roseman brought in some new service projects and we are all looking forward to this year and all of its opportunities for helping our neighbors.

For our September evening meeting Susan Moore led a fascinating study about love and also was the hostess. The October Tabitha meeting will be on the Oct, 9 at 7 p.m.. It will be hosted by Diane Mark; she will also lead our study. This should be a stimulating evening.

The DW Luncheon will be Oct. 2 at noon in the Parlor at WWCC/WWBC on Summit Ave. The Marthas are Hostess and the speaker will be our very own Pastor Jeff, who will discuss the results of the congregational survey.

Our service donations for September - NOW fruit benefitting the NOW ministry - is incomplete. In mid-September Steve reported \$310 received. At the time of this publication the amount remains the same. Janie and Pat will update group leaders, so please listen for that at your group meeting.

Our October service is to prepare, pack and serve 50 meals to the Fountain Park tornado victims. We will need volunteers at the Martha group meeting, October 9, to do some simple preliminary packing. You can do it SITTING DOWN! (or standing on your head). On Friday, October 10, we will pack and deliver/serve. We will ask for volunteers at group meetings. We value and appreciate your service.

Please remember to bring to group meetings: paper products, canned tuna, canned chicken and other canned meals for 314 OASIS.

Submitted by Susan Burney

Gifts needed: Support the LifeWise Holiday Market

For more than 50 years, LifeWise StL has celebrated the spirit of the holiday season through our Holiday Market. Serving hundreds of families who have participated in programming over the past year, the Holiday Market offers low-cost, carefully curated NEW household and clothing items, as well as age-appropriate toys. The aim is to strengthen and encourage families who have made progress or achieved goals they set through program participation while connecting them with the generosity of our donors. This year's Holiday Market will run from December 5-12, 2025.

The greatest need is gifts for teens so we plan to focus our donations to help fill that need. If you're considering contributing, all we ask is that items be brand new and unwrapped. We will be accepting donations here at WGCC until **October 26**. To donate, please use the list below as a guide. If you prefer to let us do the shopping for you, please indicate **LifeWise** on your check or choose the **OTHER** category on **Givelify** and note that your gift is for **LifeWise**.

And remember, LifeWise is always open for donations of gently used items year-round for sale in their bodega. For more information, please contact Denise Pahl at pahl Denise@gmail.com or 314-651-1552.



Teen gift ideas

Zipped jackets
 Hooded sweatshirts
 Purses and Wallets
 Jewelry/bracelets/
 watches
 Hair styling Tools
 Perfume (Bath & Body)
 Cologne (Axe)
 Makeup
 (no foundation)
 Fingernail design items
 Skincare box sets
 Specialty
 haircare boxsets
 Insulated water bottles
 Gym bags

Hobby kits
 Desktop mini-fridge
 Bluetooth Keyboard
 Lighted mirrors
 Bluetooth speakers
 Beanbags chairs
 Travel pillows
 Paint supplies
 Drawing supplies
 Karaoke machines
 Tablets
 Card games
 LED room lights
 Drawing Kits
 Paint Kits
 Travel Battery



The Annual **Memorial Blvd Christian Church Barbecue** is set for **October 11, 2025**.

Everyone gets one free meal: choice of sandwich, with potato salad, baked beans and dessert. Proceeds go to offset the free meals.

--Janet Kingston, MBCC

Pork Steaks		Chicken	
Whole	\$7.00	Half	\$7.00
Sandwich(1/2)	\$4.00	Quarter	\$4.00
Ribs		Hot Dog	\$3.00
Slab	\$18.00	Sides	
½ Slab.	\$9.50	Potato Salad	\$1.00
Sandwich (1/3)	\$7.00	Baked Beans	\$1.00
Rib Tips	\$4.00	Dessert	\$1.00

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



The Moores celebrated their new home by inviting the congregation to a backyard barbecue!



About 25 participants in September's CROP walk dropped by our tent to grab some refreshments.



WGCC made donations to 314 Oasis in support of tornado victims.

Dear WGCC,

Thank you all so very much for the lovely housewarming gift basket! All the items were so thoughtful and useful! We had lots of fun shopping at Home Goods and The Container Store, and used the gift cards to help fill our new space with the perfect touches to help make our new house truly homey. After one of our long days of getting settled in, we enjoyed a wonderful meal at Tuckers, and were happy for not needing to cook as well as for learning about a great place to eat in our new neighborhood!



We are grateful for your kindness and so appreciate your generosity in helping us celebrate our new home.

With love,
Susan and Jeff

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)

EAT PIZZA RAISE DOUGH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21
 4:00 - 9:00

WEBSTER GROVES
 112 E LOCKWOOD AVE
 314.961.1000

Mention this Giveback Night when dining in or ordering carryout and up to 20% of sales will be donated to CROP Hunger Walk. Online orders must mention "GBN" in the Order notes.



DEWEY'S D PIZZA

Valid only on 10.21.25 at Dewey's Pizza Webster Groves for dine in, carryout and online ordering at deweyspizza.com. Must mention "GBN" at checkout in Order notes. Not valid with DoorDash delivery.



Mental Health FIRST AID
 from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- Employers
- Police officers
- Hospital staff
- First responders
- Caring individuals

WHY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults.

On average,
130
 people die by
 suicide every day.

Source: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

From 1999 to 2019,
841,000
 people died from
 drug overdoses.

Source: National Institute of Drug Abuse

Nearly
1 in 5
 in the U.S. lives
 with a mental illness.

Source: National Institute of Mental Health

Sources:
 American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Suicide statistics: <https://afsp.org/suicide-statistics/>
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Drug overdose deaths: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/death/index.html>
 National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) (n.d.). Mental illness: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/mental-illness.shtml>

REGISTER TODAY!

Delivery Format:
 In-person training

Date and Time:
 October 18, 2025 from 9am to 4pm

Location:
 Union Avenue Christian Church, 733 Union Blvd, St. Louis, 63108

Where to Register:
 Email min.edvonia16@gmail.com and melofabi@gmail.com

The course will teach you how to apply the MHFA Action Plan (ALGEE):

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm.
- Listen nonjudgmentally.
- Give reassurance and information.
- Encourage appropriate professional help.
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies.

The cost for this course is \$64, which includes take-home materials, and a 3-year MHFA certificate after taking a test and evaluation. Payment can be made via Zeila, Venmo, or check, by Oct. 1, 2025, info will be provided at registration.

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 Kay Love's cousins, traveling from Israel

For Robin Woodrome's mother, Grace, taken to the ER

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

For Jeff Moore's mother, Linda, hospitalized with intestinal issues and possibly facing surgery

For Kay Love's friend, Colleen, recovering from successful open-heart surgery

For Diane Mark's friend, Janet, battling Parkinson's disease

For Max and Vicki Ott and family, in the passing of their grandson, Tyson Knapp. Further info and a service will be sent out as we receive it.

For our divided nation, and its leaders

For Max's friend, Carl in Oklahoma, who is battling brain cancer, and has been moved into a hospice setting

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

For Julie DeKinder's friend Angel, battling cancer

For immigrants in this country living with the fear of deportation

For the friends and family of Max Ott's friend, Ben Dempsey, who succumbed to cancer

For Bill Woodrome

For Jeff Tedford

For Vicki Ott, suffering from MS

For Shirley Arther

For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will

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



Giving God Thanks for the Life of Tyson Knapp

Tyson Knapp, grandson of **Vicki and Max Ott**, passed away last month after a battle with cancer.

Tyson, a 20-year-old student at the University of Missouri was a former standout athlete at Webster Groves High School. His memorial service will be on **Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 1:30PM.**

The location is:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

9 S. Bompert

Webster Groves, MO 63119

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

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Webster Groves, MO 63119

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