


WEBSTER GROVES
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE WITNESS • APRIL 2026



The Easter Offering provides vital support for the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your generous gift helps equip college students for leadership, strengthens global mission partnerships, sustains health and social service ministries, supports the formation of new congregations, cares for pastors and chaplains, and so much more.

Holy Week schedule:

Thursday, April 2

Maunder Thursday Disciples
Gathering Hosted by
WGCC

Dinner at 6:00 PM followed
by worship at 7:00

Saturday, April 4

Easter Egg Hunt hosted by
WGBC and WGCC at 308
Summit at 1:00 PM

Sunday, 4-5-26

Easter Joint Worship Service
with WGBC

9:30 AM: Intergenerational
Sunday School and
Refreshments

10:45 AM: Worship Service

WEBSTER GROVES CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

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

Keeping tabs with Disciples Women

The Martha Group met on March 12 at 12:30 at Jane Martin's home with seven attending. We enjoyed wonderful fellowship around the dining table with our sack lunches. Our hostesses, Jane, Julie and Anna provided us with nuts, grapes, goldfish, candies, St. Patrick's Day decorations and chocolate pie, key-lime pie and cookies.

Vicki shared a memorial she had written about Donna Wolff Crump. The study, "Friendship Like Braided Sweet Grass" was given by Bev. We are thankful that we have friends to support us like braided grass rather than standing alone like a single strand that can be easily broken. Service for the month was toiletries for Doorways.

The Disciples Women March lunch was attended by 10 people. We had an informative and interesting program by Scott Walker, President of LifeWise. Their programs are helping people from birth to seniors become independent so they can pass that knowledge on to friends and family.

The Disciples Women's lunch for April is CANCELLED because it falls on Maundy Thursday. The service and meal will be in our building-- so something had to give!!

The nominating committee has been hard at work. Look for an email from Laura on the slate of officers. We will have to vote on line. May will be the installation of the new officers.

For the Tabitha meeting in March Denise Pahl brought the goodies. Susie Burney had the study. It was fun and enlightening to consider Christian symbols, especially geese! In April Sally will bring the food and Laura will lead the study.

- Susan Burney

"The time has come," the Walrus said, "to talk of many things..."

Lewis Carroll, The Walrus and the Carpenter.

We, Disciple Women at WGCC have a lot to talk about and remember the many needs, services and ways Pastor Jeff spoke of as he talked about all these things our WGCC NEIGHBOR FUND provides for strangers who come to our door. Need for food, child support, utility bills, gas for doctor, getting to work, getting to church....things needed to make living possible

This is our April service project - WGCC NEIGHBOR FUND.

Our Marthas and Tabithas definitely know what is needed to help the marginalized.

-Pat Roseman

Let's **March** our giving right into **April!**

Please continue to bring toiletries for the **DOORWAYS** bin in the coat room. We will have a final collection day in late April and celebrate

our **GIVING MARCH**. 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

WGCC Board report:

Your contributions fuel the budget

Financial statements for January and February were presented and approved. We are still running behind on giving. The expenses are on track or less than the budgeted amounts. The budget for 2026/27 will be worked on soon. The Congregation is encouraged to give the same or more than this year.

We are asked to let the office know if you can't continue giving at your rate. The Finance committee can make adjustments on the new budget.

The Personnel Task Committee is working on the plans for Steve Staicoff's retirement. More details to come on how we say good-bye. They are also working on writing the job description for hiring a replacement.

The Board addressed the need for a board liaison to the Legacy Fund Committee. The Committee chair, Craig Wood, is not on the Board. Pastor Jeff suggested that the liaison be filled by a Board member who would eventually become an elected voting member /Trustee. Sally Smith volunteered and was voted to fill that position.

Pastor Jeff provided an update on the investment funds. The 2025 report from Board of Church Extension, showed a strong return of 12 to 19 percent on multiple funds. We are looking at a new fund: Bostic Select Fund. It shows strong returns as well. This fund is being looked at because it's investments align with the congregations values.

The Mission Committee Chair: John Pahl, reported that the committee had a Moment for Mission report on February 8 by Teresa Crist on Isaiah 58's new building and mission.

On March 22, we heard from the Affton Christian Church on their monthly free community meals.

The next Board meeting will be held on Sunday, April 12 at 1 p.m.

The Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17 - following the service.

- Submitted by Sally Smith, secretary

Updates from our pastor:

- A bulletin board will be installed for use by both the Baptist and our congregations.
- On Pentecost (May 24) we will be opening the time capsules from the Lockwood Building. More details later.
- We soon will be sharing the results of the survey on how the congregation feels about our move.
- The Church Web page should be up and running before Easter. Khotso took pictures to be part of the site with just a few more adjustments to make.
- The items that were stored in a separate storage location have been moved to the Baptist Basement. We hired a professional company to do the move.
- The large monitor from the Sanctuary on Lockwood has been mounted on the Parlor wall. This can be used by all for presentations. If we move we can take it with us.
- Repairs on the walls in the Music room will be started soon. They have made sure that all leaks were fixed and now they will plaster and refinish the walls.
- The boiler has been repaired and pipes in the kitchen replaced.



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!

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

DISCIPLES WOMEN
INVITE THE
CONGREGATION TO A

Bridal SHOWER BY MAIL

IN HONOR OF
**Abbie Moore &
Chris Hackman**

SEND YOUR OWN CARD &/OR GIFT.
501 LUCADO PLACE
LYNCHBURG, VA 24504

QUESTIONS? (314) 651-1552
THE WEDDING IS APRIL 18

Congrats, John!

Congratulations to WGCC's John Gerdes for his St. Louis Theatre Circle Awards win for Outstanding Achievement in Opera for Stray Dog Theatre's production of "The Second Hurricane."



Annual Hike Against

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

WORSHIP AND SERVICE FROM WGCC



Donna
Wolff
Crump's
family and
friends at
Webster
Groves
Christian
Church
celebrated
her life
with a
special
reception
on March
27.

Following a collapse and fall of shelves in the NOW storage room, John Pahl came to the rescue by designing and building replacements. Thanks, carpenter John!

TORNADO RECOVERY BENEFIT CONCERT

**ONE YEAR LATER:
AN AFTERNOON OF
HOPE & RECOVERY**



**Sunday, April 26
2:00 pm**

**Salem United Methodist Church
1200 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St Louis, MO 63131**

The one year anniversary of the devastating May 16 tornado is approaching, but families and seniors are still displaced.

LifeWise StL, in partnership with the City of St Louis and the United Way, is providing Disaster Case Management to seniors whose homes were damaged or destroyed.

A free will offering will be taken at the event with 100% going to helping seniors rebuild their homes and lives.

**RECOVERY
CONTINUES.
BE PART OF IT.**

Can't attend?
Donate today!



www.lifewisestl.org

1321 S. 11th St.
St. Louis, MO 63104
314.421.0400



You're invited to a screening and discussion

On Thursday, April 9, Home Sweet Home invites you to a special screening of Gateway to a New Life, a powerful documentary that follows Afghan families as they begin rebuilding in St. Louis.

Through deeply personal stories, the film offers a close look at the courage, uncertainty, and determination that shape the early days of starting over in a new place. It also explores how newcomers contribute to the strength and vibrancy of the communities they join—especially in regions like St. Louis, where population decline has raised important questions about the future of neighborhoods and local growth.

Director Kathy Bratkowski shares that she hopes the film helps audiences see the humanity of



refugees and immigrants and better understand the risks many have taken to build safer, more stable futures for their families.

Date: Thursday, April 9

Time: Doors open at 5:30 PM, film 6:00 PM

Location: Woodard Cleaning and Restoration
Headquarters, 9490 Watson Rd, St. Louis, MO
63126

Register at: <https://bit.ly/gw26screen>

Prayer concerns for WGCC

- For the friends and family of Donna Wolff Crump, whose memorial service was last week
- For Sally Smith's granddaughter, Riley, suffering from stomach issues
- For Laura Stuetzer's neighbor Larry, whose wife passed away last weekend
- For Becky Piening's family, in the loss of her Aunt Pat Carr
- For the families of service members who have lost their lives in the Iranian conflict, as well as the people of Iran and neighboring countries suffering under the siege of war
- For Wyndy McRoy's (WGBC) coworker, who lost her son to suicide
- For Robin Woodrome's students, who lost a fellow student to depression
- For Breona Hawkins, as she nears the end of her mDiv Program
- For Jane Martin's grandniece and grandnephew, both serving in the military in the Middle East, amidst the dangers of war
- For all military personnel, serving in war-danger zones
- For Robin Woodrome and family
- For Laura Stuetzer's friend Sandy, battling several different types of breast cancer
- For Jim and Daun Hashbarger
- For Janie Joplin's friend Laura, entering hospice care
- For the mothers of Becky and David Piening, who are both suffering from congestive heart failure
- For Bev Richmond, who is battling major health issues
- For our divided nation, and its leaders
- For Carolyn Dyess's friend, Becky, battling gall bladder cancer
- For John and Carolyn Dyess
- For Bill Woodrome
- For Jeff Tedford
- For Vicki Ott, suffering from MS
- For Shirley Arther, who recently suffered a small stroke
- For Eulalia (Lee) Arnold Will
- Prayers for DeVere and Bev Shoop, who have moved to a nursing care facility
- 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.

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!

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-america-disciples.org/>

Webster Groves Christian Church

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