

# WESTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)



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Weston, Missouri 64098  
Office – (816) 640-2846  
WestonChristianChurch@gmail.com  
Website: westonchristian.org

**DON'T  
MISS**

## Jubilee

*Sunday, September 25th*

Please plan to be in worship and stay after on September 25th for our "JUBILEE."

Jubilee was the practice of the Hebrew people to forgive all debts once every seven years. It was a time of release from obligation. It was a fresh start. Today we would say it was a "reboot." Sometimes it is good to wipe the slate clean and to start over.

Do you feel burdened by church obligation? Come, lay it down. Do you feel a fresh new calling? Come, offer it. Does God give you the grace to persevere in the ministry you currently serve? Come, be appreciated and be blessed.

The day will begin with "Notes of Grace," a fresh, new style of worship named after our musical ensemble, "Grace Notes." We hope to reveal the new banners in that service.

Then, after the service we will have a congregational conversation, have a pot luck dinner, and share news of exciting new ministries rising up in our midst. You will have an opportunity to share your thoughts, to thank those who have volunteered tirelessly in the past, to encourage those who offer themselves now, and to join in the ministry of our church as you feel called by God.

It'll be a great day, made so much better if you are there!

**Pot Luck Dinner**  
September 25  
After church  
Bring a dish or two, if you are able, but stay to eat, no matter

**Congregational Conversation**  
September 25  
After Church  
We need to listen to one another.  
Join in the conversation!

**Notes of Grace Service**  
Coming September 25  
10:30 a.m.  
Come and worship in the style that has evolved from the Jazz Service, first offered January 31. There is more music, less talking, and a fresh opportunity to experience God's grace.

**How to Get Involved in the Ministries of Our Congregation**  
September 25  
After church  
Come and find out what is new and how you can help!



## *It's Apple Dumpling Time...*

Join us as we once again start making our Apple Dumplings to sell at Weston's Apple Fest coming up the first weekend in October. We'll gather in the church's kitchen at 7:30 am (or thereabouts!) on Saturday mornings,  
**September 10th, 17th & 24th.**

Come and go as you're able throughout the day. We'll have fun along with the work!

A sign-up sheet is located on the card table.

### **Our identity statement:**

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for **wholeness** in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

## MICAH MINISTRY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH.

### Stewardship Meeting, September 20

Everyone is invited to come to the church for a meeting with Kirby Gould from Church Extension. She will help us think through our vision for special gifts and memorial gifts to our church, as well as ways to make our yearly budget. No policies will be set at this meeting. We are gathering information and sharing ideas. Please come if you are able.



### SEPTEMBER'S YOGA CLASSES

Due to apple dumpling-making time, September's Yoga classes will be Thursday, September 8th & Tuesday, September 27th at 9:30 am. Plans are in the works to expand this to weekly sessions in October.

### Weston Churches...

Community Prayer Breakfast  
Saturday, Sept. 10th - 8:00 am  
Weston First Baptist



### September Sermon Series

September 4th - "Work and Sabbath"  
Genesis 1:26-2:3

September 11th - "It's a Party"  
Deuteronomy 14:22-27

September 18th - "Best Practices"  
2 Samuel 24:18-25

September 25th—"Jubilee"  
Deuteronomy 15:1-11

## September 11th Remembrance

September 11 falls on Sunday this year. We will continue our tradition of playing the chimes. God Bless America will play at 9:28 a.m., which is when the north tower fell. The National Anthem will play shortly after noon, allowing for the Catholic Church bells to ring first. Following the ringing of the chimes, those gathered will pray for our nation.



## Save the Date: October 29

"Stewardship Summit" with our Kansas City Region, October 29,  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
South Summit Christian Church  
1121 SW Hook Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64082  
Featuring special guest: Bruce Barkhauer, Executive Director,  
Center for Faith and Giving



This will be a great opportunity for everyone to learn more about our denomination's Center for Faith and Giving. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) offers great resources to our congregations. Let's learn more about it and get involved!

## Save the Date: November 6

Our whole congregation is invited to visit Pleasant View Christian Church, one of our "Journey" partner churches for an event of mutual support, Sunday, November 6, 2:00-5:00 p.m. Plans include gatherings of lay people by ministry interests, so folks can share what is working with each other. Wouldn't it be great to connect with the people from the other congregations who are doing the same work of ministry you are doing? Please mark this date and plan to participate. They brought a strong group to Weston when we hosted and we'd like to return the favor.

## Mary's Moment...

Recently, I did a children's sermon about dogs and invited folks in the congregation to text me pictures of their dogs. I got permission from each of them to put them in the newsletter for you to enjoy.

The biblical texts were I John 4:7-21 and John 15:1-14. The title of the sermon was "Abide in Me," taken from I John 4:16, "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them," and John 15:4, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."

So, how do we abide in God? What does that look like? On one level, we can say that God created everything, so the fact of our existence means we abide in God. But, I think Jesus is talking about something much more meaningful than that in this passage about the vine. Since most of us do not tend grape vines, I moved to a metaphor of a dog, our dog, Snowball.

Snowball used to be on his own, lost in the world. He lived by his instincts. He chased cats, birds, and other creatures. He ran from some animals. Sometimes, surely he had to fight. Sometimes, surely he was injured. He was alone in storms. Often he was hungry, and he learned how to get into trash looking for food.

Then, one day he saw Cami Bolan, Dino's adult daughter. He crept up to her, shaking with fear, looking and smelling awful. But, she saw something worthwhile in him. She saw something loveable in him. She brought him into her car and into her home.

It took a lot of effort and expense to get him cleaned up and deloused. Some of that process was uncomfortable for Snowball, but he knew the prize was love and a forever home, so he endured. He started receiving food on a regular schedule from Cami's hand. He received a collar with a tag that had her name and phone number on it. Some nine or ten years later he lives with us and has our name on his collar.

I put a leash on him and walk him around Weston every day. His old nature urges him to chase cats, and to put his nose in any trash he can find. Sometimes that old nature puts him on alert for a potential fight with another dog, or fear arises in him when another person passes too close for his comfort. But, I am there with that leash. I can anticipate his behavior and protect him from harm. Once in a while he breaks loose from the leash or he gets into the trash at home. When those things happen he gets scolded and his little face shows remorse. He hangs his head in shame. But he doesn't lose his happy home. We don't withhold his food or our love. He is not rejected.

We know that he will chase cats again and will get into the trash again. It is his nature to do such things. We are neither shocked, nor appalled when it happens. If left to his own devices, he would return to his old means of survival. He doesn't really like the leash, but I think he knows it is good for him to stay connected to me when we walk.

## Mary's Moment con't...

I think Jesus found us, looking ratty, smelling bad, and suffering various wounds. He cleaned us up (baptism) and brought us home. He put his name on us. Do we go out into the world being led by him on our leash, or do we continually escape his leading and run wild with our old nature? As often as we come back to Jesus, he welcomes us. But doesn't it just make more sense to stay connected to him and to let him lead? Isn't it better to eat the food he offers than to dig in the trash of the world? I think Snowball abides in the Bolan family. As Christians, do we abide in Christ?

Blessings,  
Mary

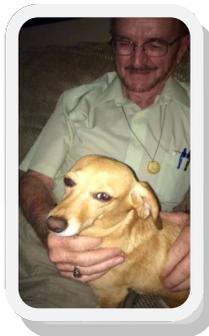
## Canine Friends!

"Snowball"  
Mary & Dino's "baby"



"Maggie"  
Don & Robbie Wilson

"JiNY"  
Mike & Cheri Edwards



"Millie"  
Don Pepper's "grand-dog"

"Carl" (chocolate Lab)  
&  
"Becky"  
Jim & Janna Powell



"Rosie"  
Ray & Wilma Hill

*What's happening in...*



September



9:30 am—Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am—Greeters  
10:30 am—Worship Service  
Tuesdays, 6:30 am—Men's Bible Study  
Wednesdays, 7:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal



- 9/5 LABOR DAY (no Micah Ministry)
- 9/8 9:30 am—Yoga in Fellowship Hall
- 9/10 7:30 am—Apple Dumplings Preparation  
8:00 am—Community Prayer Breakfast at 1st Baptist
- 9/12 4:30 pm—Micah Ministry at IBCC
- 9/13 7:00 pm—Worship Committee Meeting
- 9/17 7:30 am—Apple Dumplings Preparation
- 9/20 7:00 pm—Stewardship Meeting with Kirby Gould
- 9/21 11:30 am—"In His Service" Soup Ministry
- 9/24 7:30 am—Apple Dumplings Preparation
- 9/25 **"Jubilee"**
- 9/27 9:30 am—Yoga in Fellowship Hall



Fall is Here!



Search Calendar

Today   September 2016

Day	Week	Month	4 Days	Agenda	More	Settings																																															
Sun	28	9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 WCC Worship Service 11:30 Church Board Meeting	Mon	29		Tue	30	6:30 Mens Bible Study	Wed	31		Thu	Sep 1		Fri	2	Sat	3																																			
4	9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 WCC Worship Service	5	Labor Day	6	6:30 Mens Bible Study	7	7:30p Choir Rehearsal	8	9:30 Yoga - Fellowship Hall	9		10	7:30 Apple Dumplings 8 Community Prayer Breakfast-First Baptist	11	8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 WCC Worship Service	12	4:30p Micah Ministry-Indep. Blvd. Christian	13	6:30 Mens Bible Study 7p Worship Committee Meeting	14	8:30 WMA Pastors' Meeting-Weston Cafe 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	15		16	7:30 Apple Dumplings	17		18	8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 WCC Worship Service	19		20	6:30 Mens Bible Study 7p Stewardship Meeting with Kirby Gould	21	11:30 "In His Service" Soup Ministry 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	22		23	7:30 Apple Dumplings	24		25	Weston CC Jubilee 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 WCC Worship Service	26		27	6:30 Mens Bible Study 9:30 Yoga - Fellowship Hall	28	7:30p Choir Rehearsal	29		30	Applefest