



weston christian church

(Disciples of Christ)



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The Apple Dumpling Gang Returns!

Get your aprons out and your running shoes on and get ready to enjoy amazing fellowship as we come together to make these delicious treats! Our world famous Apple Dumpling production will begin on Saturday morning, September 14th at 8:30 am, and we should be done by 1:00 pm. Lunch will be served. Production continues September 21 and September 28, the same process, the same opportunity to join friends, neighbors and special guests who come to participate in this amazing feat! If you haven't been a part of this before, this is your chance to update your resume with an incredible skill! We have music and football games playing! It is a wonderful time for men, women and children, friends and neighbors — anyone who wants to have a great time. Have you ever peeled, chopped and sliced an apple with a power drill? It is Tool-Time in the Dumpling factory! We will be creating about 6,000 of these delectable desserts! Come for all of the time or part of the time, one Saturday or three Saturdays, but just come! And Applefest is the first weekend in October - October 5 and 6. So clear your calendars and get ready for the masses who clamor for our world famous Apple dumplings! People come from all over the world for these!



Sundays, 9:30 am - Adult Sunday School
Sundays, 10:15 am - WCC Church Zoom Meeting
Sundays, 10:30 am - Worship Service
Tuesdays, 6:30 am - Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays, 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal
(RESUMES Sept. 4th)

NO MICAH MINISTRY DUE TO LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

9/11 2:30 pm - "Christ and a Cup of Coffee" Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
9/14 Apple Dumpling Preparation
9/15 11:30 am - Church Board Meeting
9/18 10:00 am - "In His Service" Soup Ministry
9/21 Apple Dumpling Preparation
9/24 7:00 pm - Worship Committee Meeting
9/25 2:30 pm - "Christ and a Cup of Coffee" Bible Study in Fellowship Hall
9/28 Apple Dumpling Preparation
9/29 WMA Sing-spiration (TBD)

Pastor Candidate Cindy Molini

WCC has asked Cindy Molini to be our pulpit supply on Sunday, September 1st. Cindy is currently the pastor at United Christian and Presbyterian Church in Lawson, Missouri. She is being considered for the pastor's position.

Since this is the Labor Day holiday weekend, many of you will have made plans but we're hopeful that our congregation will be well represented and that you will have the opportunity to meet and hear Cindy.

Dear Congregation,

It has been a true pleasure to worship with you again this summer. I look forward to several more weeks into the autumn. Please reach out if I can be of assistance in any way at revbolan@gmail.com or (417) 689-1137. May peace and joy in Christ fill you to overflowing in this in-between time!

Much love,
Mary

"Rose Vine" is a women's organization that was started three years ago. This women's ministry provides fellowship for the women of our congregation as well as being the prayer chain for our church. "Rose Vine" took a break over the summer and we are having a "welcome back" party at Melissa's house on Saturday, September 14th at 6:00 pm. We'll have a meal, entertainment, and a meeting to make decisions about when to meet and what events we are interested in attending. ALL women are welcome, so please try to attend this event. We know how powerful women working together and supporting each other can affect the life of the church. Please come and be a part of this terrific group.
RSVP Melissa at 816-739-3189, either by text or phone call, or call the church office at 816-640-2846 by September 7th.

"Christ and a Cup of Coffee" Bible Study

continues to meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, but please note that the time has changed to 2:30 pm. Lem Whitmer is leading.



September Sermons...

September 1 - Pastor Candidate Cindy Molini
"Keeping Score"
Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8 - Pastor Lem Whitmer
"Shaping the Future"
Jeremiah 18:1-11

September 15 - Pastor Mary Bolan
"The Spirit Sent Him"
Matthew 3:13-4:4

September 22 - Pastor Mary Bolan
"Spiritual Development"
Matthew 4:2-7

September 29 - Pastor Mary Bolan
"Spiritual Big Jobs"
Matthew 4:8-11



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.

Pastoral Pieces

My Dear Family,

I have always been a little in awe of this congregation. There was always that certain "something" about you that was different or perhaps unique is a better word. A certain *je ne sais quoi* if you will.

I decided to return to Weston Christian Church in 2014. I had just finished 35 years of almost continual employment as a church musician. However, this time I came not seeking a job, but looking for a family.

I remember the day I came home. It was Mary Bolan's first Sunday. I slipped in the back door right about 10:25. I came in quietly, sat in a back pew and tried to be relatively unnoticed. I might as well have announced my presence over the loud speakers. The choir, although lined up for processional, one by one slipped out of line to put their arms around me and greet me with the kind of warmth and affection that is bestowed on a favorite relative or perhaps a prodigal child. Jeff E. took that second, (he didn't have to spare) and said "Welcome home M."

The sermon was personal. The singing heartfelt. The communion reverent. I was greeted by well-known faces and introduced to new ones. Many of you expressing your happiness at seeing me and your hope that I would return.

I'd been in many other churches over the years. They too had beautiful music and exquisite sanctuaries. Yet, I chose to be here. I was sitting in the church I had served the least; knowing it was the place I wanted to serve the most.

It is now five years later, and I am still amazed by this church.

Once I became part of you, I began to understand who you were and what made Weston Christian so special. I will admit I was tempted to "fill a pew" for a while. Please don't misunderstand. Attending a church without extra involvement isn't a bad thing. Often, it is a necessity. The point I am trying to make is when you become involved with a church you get to experience church in a different way. You get to interact with people when they are just themselves. No pretenses. You see others at their best and sometimes at their weakest. You get to share a joke and laugh with them. You also get to comfort them as they weep. You are present at their most joyous occasions and they feel your presence when there are no words to ease their suffering. It's the irritation you feel when you're up to your elbows in apple dumpling dough. It's also the satisfaction you experience when someone tells you, "I came to Apple Fest today just to get one of your dumplings."

There are so many things about Weston Christian Church that are impressive. The church's history, the beauty of the sanctuary, it's pool of talented musicians, the dedication and commitment of the congregation to the Weston community and so much more. There is one quality however that stands above the rest. Remember that certain *je ne sais quoi* I mentioned earlier? You know, that "something" I couldn't quite figure out? Now I know what it is because I've experienced it firsthand. It's the selfless, unconditional, passionate, reckless love that you pour out on each other and into everything you do here at this church. It's the way you love that makes you so special.

Oh, and just so you know, that kind of love looks a lot like God to me.

Blessings,

Melissa

Board Bulletin...

Dear Members and Friends of Weston Christian Church,

The departure of Pastor Casey was the beginning of a time of reflection and processing. We were sorry to see her go but understood her decision to follow God's call for her life. Although she will be missed we are grateful for her time with us and wish her the best in her future endeavors.



The process of searching for a new minister can be lengthy and is almost always a stressful time for a church. The board elected itself the task of becoming the new Search and Call Committee. There were several reasons influencing this decision.

The first reason was the relatively short amount of time that had transpired since the last selection process. The leadership and members of the previous Search and Call Committee expended an incredible amount of time and energy in the performance of their duties. Simply, the board was unwilling to ask them to do it again.

The second reason we elected to serve was to have the ability to move forward as quickly as possible. We are already an organized group and are in frequent contact with one another. We felt utilizing the board would be less time consuming than reorganizing another search committee.

Please let me express the board's decision to take on the search and call responsibilities was motivated by the desire to relieve this burden from our parishioners. I want to reiterate that persons interested in the selection process were always welcome to participate and that invitation is still open.

The board decided to continue the part-time pastor position we established two years ago. We have communicated with members of the regional DOC. We have found them to be very supportive and a great resource in helping us locate candidates. Currently, we have interviewed four potential candidates. All have qualities and skill sets that would benefit Weston Christian Church. Personally, I have been pleasantly surprised at the diversity and competency of those candidates.

We will be contemplating God's will for the next several weeks. You may have the opportunity to meet some of these candidates as we invite them to preach. I hope you will interact with these candidates. Feel free to ask questions and engage in conversation.

I want to emphasize the board is representative of you, the congregation. We value your opinions and would appreciate any feedback that you might wish to provide.

I want to thank you for your patience and support. I ask for your continued prayers as we endeavor to select our next spiritual leader.

In His Service,
WCC Board President





A Note from Mary...

Hello friends. I want to summarize my first sermon series from July and August for those who were traveling and missed one or more. It really is one sermon broken into four parts. Here we go.

The first one was the day the KC Men's Chorus was here and the title was "Like a Song" (Matthew 6:25-34). Remember that life is more than rehearsals for what is coming up and evaluations of what has past. We need to remember to enter the moment of the music as it happens. This includes listening to the musicians around us. Sometimes we are too stubborn about singing our own song. When each of us sing something different we are only contributing to the noise. Something beautiful happens when we harmonize with others.

The second sermon was "I Surrender All" (Galatians 2:18-3:5). This was about those times when life breaks apart. It may feel like total disaster. We may do everything we can to stop it or to control it, but it breaks us and humiliates us and leaves us in devastation. Sometimes when all is lost we finally see the absurdity of our defenses and open to new possibilities. Consider Mr. Banks' humiliation at being fired after the "tuppins" episode in "Mary Poppins." What do you say when there is nothing to say? "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." Laughter and new hope arises and he gathers his children with true joy for perhaps the first time and goes out to fly a kite.

The third sermon was "Good, Bad, Who Knows?" (Romans 14:1-3; Matthew 7:1-2) We can be too quick to evaluate things. Take a breath. Trust God. Give it time. See what happens.

Finally, this past week was "Something New" (Lamentations 3:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:15-17). Transformation can be scary. It can hurt. We may not recognize ourselves. We may have to learn new ways of being. We may be awkward for awhile. But, "God's Got This." We take the step in front of us and keep on breathing. It's going to be okay.

The message of the cross is death does not get the final word. Sunday's coming. Resurrection is more that resuscitation. It isn't living again in the old way. It is living in a new way. A more spiritual way. An eternal way. Resurrection is love.

Blessings! I look forward to more time together in a couple of weeks.

Much love,
Mary



Our friends at Holy Trinity Catholic Church are holding their annual ice cream social on Sunday, September 15th from noon to 4 pm. This long-standing annual event features ice cream and cake, meals from the grill (hamburgers, brats, hot dogs & pulled pork), and beverages. Attendees can browse the Country Store for hand-crafted items, baked goods, homegrown produce, & collectibles, and bid on items in the Silent Auction. Bingo and Children's Games will be on-going throughout the afternoon giving participants a chance to win a variety of wonderful prizes donated by local businesses and individuals.

Holy Trinity is located at 407 Cherry Street. To reach Holy Trinity, go to the end of the shops on Main Street in Weston, turn left on Market St. and go to the top of the hill.

Property Update...

The four stained glass windows on the east side (back of church) have been renovated on the outside. This included new paint, wood stripping repaired/replaced, cleaning and caulking. We plan to have four additional windows completed in the fall.



Also, late this summer there will be a construction project underway at the new addition entrance. This is to repair an ongoing rain water issue which has plagued us for years. When completed, you will notice a new epoxy cap and non-slip finish over the entire concrete area at that entrance.

Choir Notes



The choir did a pop up anthem on August 25. They regularly come back after their summer break the Sunday after Labor Day; however, this year they did an anthem a little ahead of time. The choir will return on Sunday, September 8. Jerry Barr, Medford Hardesty's son, will sing a special tune on September 1.

The discussion of applause has come up again. In typical church settings, applause is not appropriate because the music is an integral part of the worship service, not entertainment. Some folks, however, prefer to show their appreciation by applauding. One way to address this dilemma is to applaud when the music is fast and loud but when the music is slow, soft and thoughtful, a very soft 'Amen' is more appropriate. Telling the choir members/accompanists you appreciate the music is also welcome. Thanks for considering.

The choir is very talented; the accompanists are a choir director's dream team and the music presented is chosen to enhance the worship experience. Thanks for listening.



September Church Calendar

Today
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September 2019
Month
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SUN Sep 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 10:15am WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30am WCC Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC-CAN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Mens Bible Study 				
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 10:15am WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30am WCC Worship Service 6pm WMA Sing-spiration - Salem CC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Mens Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applefest 			

Show all