



**weston
christian
church**
(Disciples of Christ)



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WestonChristianChurch@gmail.com
Website: westonchristian.org
Sunday Service ~ 10:30 am

A note from Cindy...

Despite it all . . . much is stirring. Remaining hopeful and faithful is our work right now. I want to share with you a couple of pieces of wisdom that are currently informing and inspiring me. The recent passing of Congressman John Lewis was one such moment. Please read this short excerpt taken from an essay that he wrote only days before he passed. During this contentious election season, his words are a strong call to action:

“Ordinary people with extraordinary vision can redeem the soul of America by getting in what I call good trouble, necessary trouble. Voting and participating in the democratic process are key. The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society. You must use it because it is not guaranteed. You can lose it.

You must also study and learn the lessons of history because humanity has been involved in this soul-wrenching, existential struggle for a very long time. People on every continent have stood in your shoes, though decades and centuries before you. The truth does not change, and that is why the answers worked out long ago can help you find solutions to the challenges of our time. Continue to build union between movements stretching across the globe because we must put away our willingness to profit from the exploitation of others.

Though I may not be here with you, I urge you to answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe. In my life I have done all I can to demonstrate that the way of peace, the way of love and nonviolence is the more excellent way. Now it is your turn to let freedom ring.”

Even though we are not meeting in person just yet, I am so very grateful for all of you who keep in touch via Zoom - for Worship, for prayer, for Bible study and for the necessary business of church. We all know this is a less than perfect solution, but I am humbled by your willingness to stay connected. I am also deeply grateful, on a personal level, for all your healing prayers for me as I underwent a recent round of chemotherapy. All is well. God is gracious.

I close with a beautiful excerpt of prayer from the leader of our denomination - Rev. Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President/Disciples of Christ:

*O Holy I am, We are Your people - Your disciples -
Continue the good work within us.
Remind us that we can do hard things -
For Others - For ourselves - For You.
May we come together - even when apart -
to be the fount of every blessing.
O God who creates anew each day
Remind us that we will hug again - laugh again - gather again.
For what we grieve is not a place, but a people -
O Lord who journeys with us and for us
we know nothing can ever separate us from you
and for that we are eternally grateful
We pray all of this in the name of Christ Jesus
Amen.*

Cindy



The Courage of Daniel

I know how much I enjoy our children’s moments during worship. The enthusiasm of the children, their spontaneous answers and of course the way so much truth is presented in a simple manner. I particularly enjoy the old testament stories and one of my favorites is about Daniel.

Daniel was described as a handsome and intelligent young man who had developed a good relationship with the king he was serving. The king trusted Daniel and put him in charge of much of his kingdom. The king had many advisors and unfortunately, they were jealous of Daniel’s authority. They knew Daniel was a righteous man and it would be difficult to criticize him. So they formed a plot to attack him the only way they knew how; they made him choose his faith over his duty. The advisors tricked the King into signing a law that forbid people to pray. I’m sure Daniel was torn between obedience to his king and obedience to God but he chose to continue his practice of worshipping God.

Daniel never tried to hide that he was still praying. He prayed three times a day with the window open just as he had always done. He wasn’t making a statement or trying to throw his actions in the king’s face. He just continued to be faithful. The advisors’ plan had worked and the king had no choice but to punish Daniel. He was sent to the lion’s den and should have suffered a horrible death...but he didn’t. The lesson is that Daniel’s faith saved him.

The other part of the story that isn’t always discussed is all that Daniel must have experienced before making his decision to continue practicing his faith. Daniel knew he would lose everything. His standing in the community, his income, the cherished relationship he had with the king and probably even his life. Yet, in the face of all this loss, he continued to believe.

Do you know a Daniel? Is there someone who walks with the Lord and does all the “right” things and is still suffering? Maybe they’ve lost their job or are facing an illness, perhaps even death. I believe the real story of Daniel is the story of one man’s personal faith in God. Daniel was facing the unknown. Bad stuff was going to happen and he didn’t do anything to deserve it. Daniel trusted God because he believed his faith would get him through whatever he had to face. We too can be Daniels.

Blessings,
Melissa



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.

More Good Things:

WCC Handbell Choir

WCC is starting a handbell choir. We want to start practicing soon, but are waiting a bit to get clearance from the Church Board regarding meetings in our building.



Weston Al-Anon Family Group meets anonymously at the Weston Community Church of the Nazarene, 19495 Hwy H, Weston, MO - Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. This is a summary of the goals for these Family Group meetings:

"Al-Anon Family Groups, Al-Anon and Al-a-teen, are a fellowship of families and friends of alcoholics who may still be drinking compulsively, who may have found sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous or by other means, or who may no longer be part of our lives. We unite to solve our common problems of fear, insecurity and the warped family relationships associated with the disease of alcoholism.

Those whose loved ones have achieved sobriety often find that life with a recovering alcoholic also presents problems of adjustment. For these, too, there is help in Al-Anon. Like the members of our fellow society Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon members believe that the way to help ourselves is to share willingly with others what we receive in serenity of spirit and in enriched lives."

Applefest & Christmas Candlelight Homes Tour ... Different Approach for 2020

The Weston Chamber of Commerce announced the cancellation of Applefest and the Christmas Candlelight Homes Tour for this year. Instead, they plan to *"focus on Fall and Holiday promotions designed to continue enticing a steady flow of visitors and customers to Weston by spreading traffic out over the entire Fall and Holiday seasons, versus focusing so heavily on two weekends."* according to the Weston Chronicle newspaper.

There will be a Fall promotion which will run from September until November, ending with an "Open House" event.

The Holiday promotion will be "The 2020 Candlelight Homes Tour Presents: A Holiday Candlelight Stroll Back In Time." Visitors will be spread out over four weekends during the season, starting with the Shop Small weekend of Saturday, November 28th and Sunday, November 29th. It will continue on the following three weekends: December 5th & 6th; December 12th & 13th and December 19th & 20th.

Email

Suzanne@thefarmershouse.org
if you'd like to participate in either or both of these promotions.



Apple Dumpling Gang...



It's almost time for the Apple Dumpling Gang to ride again!

Things are a little different this year. As you know, many people come to Applefest specifically for their apple dumplings. There won't be an "Applefest Weekend" like we are used to, and we won't be setting up a big tent downtown. The chamber is scheduling a fall of apple festivities from October through Thanksgiving when the Christmas festivities will begin. So for October into November, we will have a small tent and a freezer and will sell frozen pans for a few hours on Saturdays and Sundays. We have yet to determine whether we will be downtown or at the church.

We are only planning to make dumplings on two Saturdays—September 19th and 26th—and we are working to make things as safe as possible! We will only be making about 1,000 of each of these two Saturdays, and we will stagger our helpers so we do not have a large group there at any time during the making of the dumplings. Take a look at the schedule below and see what works for you and your family to help. We are going to ask for people to sign up so we can control the number of people in the kitchen and fellowship hall. Also, we will not be selling hot dumplings; only frozen.

Saturday, September 19th and 26th

7:30 am-9:30 am - dough-making - 2 people

7:30 am-10:30 am - apple peeling - 4 people - 2 stations
(1 in kitchen and 1 under TV)

9:30 am-12:30 pm - rolling and dumpling assembly - 10 people maximum

9:30 am-3:30 pm - baking - 2 people until assembly is done

Masks are required by the health department. We will take temperatures and ask a few COVID-19 related questions for all volunteers.



Thank you to all who are able to help! We are looking for our volunteers to sign up!

Recent Reflections from the Prayer/Meditation Group:

FROM CELTIC CHRISTIANITY

There is nothing in the world that resembles God so much as silence. Silence is a great friend of the soul. It unveils the riches of solitude. It is difficult to reach that quality of inner silence. You must make a space for it so that it may begin to work for you. In a certain sense, you do not need the whole armory and vocabulary of therapies, psychologies, or spiritual programs. A greater tolerance for silence is desirable, that fertile silence, which is the source of our most resonant language. The depth and substance of a friendship mirrors itself in the quality and shelter of the silence between two people. - Anam Cara

Ephesians 1:9-10

God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ, which is to fulfill his own good plan. And this is the plan: At the right time he (God) will bring everything together under the authority of Christ, everything in heaven and on earth.

Join us each Wednesday morning at 9:30 via Zoom.



SAVE THE DATE
**REGIONAL
VIRTUAL!
ASSEMBLY**
OCTOBER 3, 2020

The Tall Oaks Gala is Going Virtual!

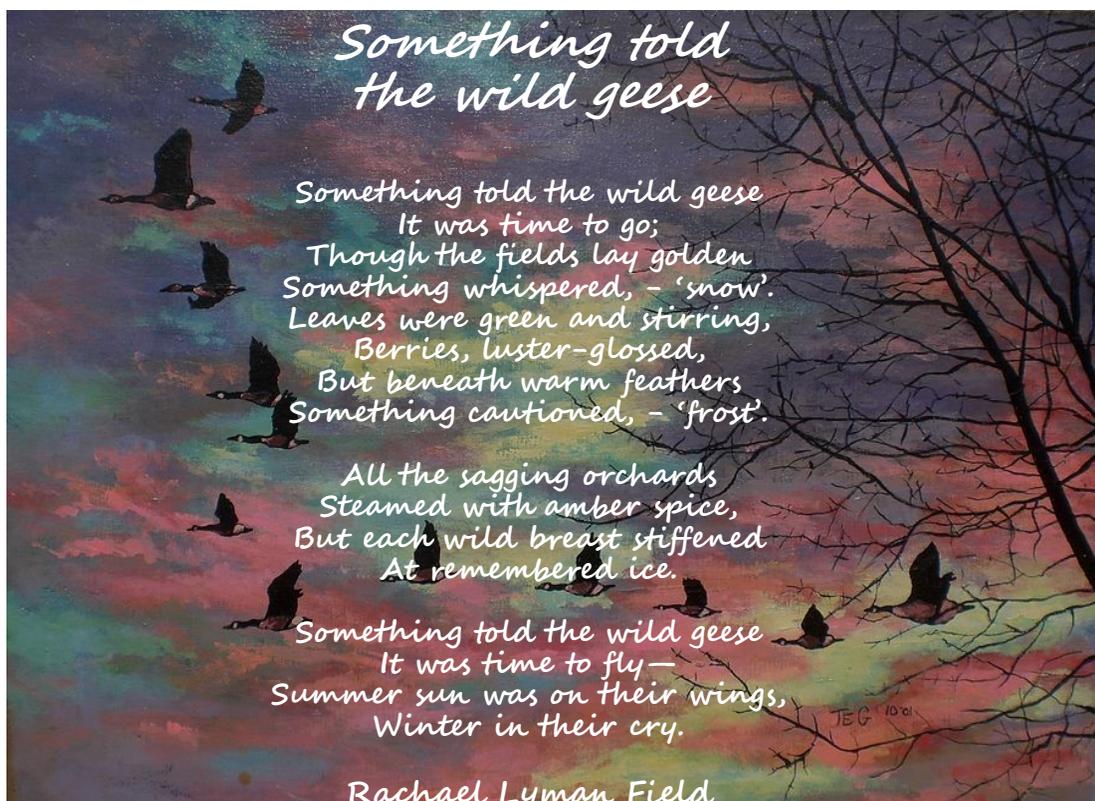
Sunday, November 8th - Evening Program and Live Auction
Sunday, November 8-15 - Silent Auction
The Virtual Live and Online Silent Auctions will be new and exciting!

Donations are needed! Please consider silent auction donation items with a minimum \$30 value. The most popular are restaurant gift certificates, local attractions, and themed baskets.

For the live auction, we are looking for vacation homes, weekend getaways and sports memorabilia.

As we all know, this is a tough year with camps cancelled. Please consider donating an auction item to support our beloved Tall Oaks! We need donations by October 11th. Please contact ANN MORTON - 913/515-3828 or amor-ton324@gmail.com

Tall Oaks Camp & Conference Center is a ministry of the Greater Kansas City Region. For over 50 years, children, youth and adults have attended camps, conferences and retreats at Tall Oaks. Tall Oaks also serves many other groups in our community such as summer camps for young people with juvenile diabetes, autism and foster kids. All proceeds from the gala will benefit this wonderful ministry in our region. Thank you for your support!



September Church Calendar

Today
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September 2020
Month
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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 ● 9:30am New Zoom ID - WCC's Sunda ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 4pm Salem CC-Ice Cream Social ● 6:30pm WMA Praise Sing at WCC	31 ● 7pm Weston Christian's Board Zoom	1 ● 6:30am Men's Bible Study	2 ● 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M	3	4	5
6 ● 9:30am New Zoom ID - WCC's Sunda ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 6pm "Back to School" Prayer-West P	7 Labor Day ● 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC	8 ● 6:30am Men's Bible Study	9 ● 8:30am WMA - Ministers' Breakfast ● 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M ● 2:30pm WCC Christ and a Cup Of Co	10	11 ● 7:30am Apple Dumplings	12 ● 7:30am Apple Dumplings
13 ● 9:30am New Zoom ID - WCC's Sunda ● 10:30am Worship Service	14	15 ● 6:30am Men's Bible Study	16 ● 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M ● 10am "In His Service" Soup Ministry	17	18 ● 7:30am Apple Dumplings	19 ● 7:30am Apple Dumplings
20 ● 9:30am New Zoom ID - WCC's Sunda ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 7pm Church Board Meeting	21	22 ● 6:30am Men's Bible Study	23 ● 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M ○ 2:30pm WCC "Christ and a Cup of Co ● 2:30pm WCC Christ and a Cup Of Co	24	25	26 ● 7:30am Apple Dumplings
27 ● 9:30am New Zoom ID - WCC's Sunda ● 10:30am Worship Service	28	29 ● 6:30am Men's Bible Study	30 ● 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M	Oct 1	2	3 Applefest