



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



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Website: westonchristian.org
Sunday Service | 10:30 am

A note from Cindy...

"The pandemic has given us all a chance to awaken from our routines and choose to go in a fresh direction."

These words, uttered by a dear friend of mine, seem to ring true. This pandemic has given us an opportunity to go in a fresh direction - change out our old ways of thinking and embark on something new. Zoom has been one of the greatest blessings of this past year. Despite its limitations, we are able to gather live - see one another's faces - and bring a measure of encouragement to one another. God is with us.

My task as your pastor is to help you find ways to strengthen and grow in your faith. I have been watching and listening this year. I've heard your hopes for many aspects of this faith: Study the Scriptures more. Learn about other faith traditions so we can bring some clarity and unity to our divided world. Strengthen our outreach efforts to those in our community and beyond. Sing more. Learn new songs and bring that joy to all generations within our gatherings. Build opportunities for our young people to learn about our rich faith and provide time and space for them. Be creative in using social media more effectively. Be intentional about praying and gather with others in order to lift up our needs and cares.

We are in the midst of doing all these things. We are also deeply mindful of our commitment to care for our historic church structure and to keep doing what is necessary for up-keep.

Many cares. Many directions. And yet, this is my "ask" of you at this time. As we put together a new series of Zoom opportunities in the next few months, consider joining in on one of these conversations. We are planning more offerings in the evenings as well as daytimes. The promise of a vaccine to lessen this pandemic is happening now. But it looks like we will still be doing remote gatherings for many more days. It has never been easier than now to get on your computer and sign into a gathering.

I am so very grateful for each one of you. The following is an excerpt from a poem by Maya Angelou. It is my prayer for each of you.

My wish for you
Is that you continue
Continue
To be who and how you are
To astonish a mean world
With your acts of kindness
Continue
To allow humor to lighten the burden
Of your tender heart
Continue
In a society dark with cruelty
To let the people hear the grandeur
Of God in the peals of your laughter
Continue
To let gratitude be the pillow
Upon which you kneel to
Say your nightly prayer
And let faith be the bridge
You build to overcome evil
And welcome good . . .
Continue
And by doing so
You and your work
Will be able to continue
Eternally.

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.

Quaker pastor Philip Gulley superbly summarizes how we must rebuild spirituality from the bottom up in his book, *If the Church Were Christian*. [3] Here I take the liberty of using my own words to restate his message, which offers a rather excellent description of what is emerging in Christianity today:

*Jesus is a model for living more than an object of worship.
Affirming people's potential is more important than reminding them of their brokenness.*

The work of reconciliation should be valued over making judgments.

*Gracious behavior is more important than right belief.
Inviting questions is more valuable than supplying answers.
Encouraging the personal search is more important than group uniformity.*

Meeting actual needs is more important than maintaining institutions.

*Peacemaking is more important than power.
We should care more about love and less about sex.
Life in this world is more important than the afterlife (Eternity is God's work anyway).*

Cindy



From the Board President...

Greetings from your Board President Elect,

Well to say 2020 was a challenge is a bit of an understatement. But thanks to our Chair Melissa, our dedicated Board of Directors and our passionate Pastor Cindy, we saw it through. Mike, Tim and Ryan's IT skills via Zoom were critical in keeping us all connected.

I know we are waiting for the "all clear" sign so we can resume our traditional church service but the reality is we are probably looking at 8-12+ weeks before the vaccine kicks in to help with herd immunity. So for the time being Zoom is our best option. Our very talented and capable IT crew are working diligently to keep us connected and I am very grateful for their significant time commitment.

In closing, please always remember that WCC is YOUR/OUR church. Together we are destined to do much good in the name of Christ! I look forward to hearing from you and working with you to make Weston Christian Church a place of peace, love and acceptance for all who seek Community in Christ.

So here's to a 2021 full of hope and promise.

Peace,

Thank You

"Thanks for your donation. It helped with our Christmas with the seniors and families in Weston."

Weston Masonic Lodge



From the Music Department

Because of the great work of our IT department, our instrumentalists will continue to offer music that has been previously recorded or is actually being performed during the worship service. It's been great to have one of our youth join in and wish her continued success. Thanks to a friend of WCC for the pictures and videos of the stained glass windows and also the church building - beautifully done.

Be safe, stay well and have a very Happy New Year.

"Christ and a Cup of Coffee" Bible Study

The group continues its ongoing study of the Acts of the Apostles.

Please join us on January 13th & 27th at 2:30 pm via Zoom.



New Outreach Opportunity...

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Several WCC members have shared their concerns about friends and family members struggling with loneliness as a result of COVID-19. Separation has caused so many, especially our elderly or home-bound, to feel isolated and depressed.

We are starting a new program here at the church to address this issue. It's entitled "Two's Company." The way it works is that we are looking for individuals from the church who would like to connect with someone who doesn't have much interaction with others. We are compiling two lists.

First, if you or someone you know, would like to be contacted by someone at the church, please send us your/ their name and contact information. It would be best to clear it with these individuals first before submitting their personal information, as there are privacy laws that need to be respected.

Second, if you are a member or friend of WCC and want to be on the list of people who contact others; please let the church office know. We will compile the two lists and in about two weeks we will pair people up with the names that have been submitted.

This is not a time consuming project. The minimum time expected would be contacting your person once a week. A phone call might be preferable, however, email or text is fine as well. Those that enjoy written communications, a card or letter will suffice. As you begin to interact, you will find which method is best for both of you. There is no expectation other than regularly communicating with your person. If you choose to send them items or communicate more frequently that is entirely up to you. The whole purpose is to help ease their sense of isolation. However, we expect that both parties will benefit greatly from this project in ways none of us could imagine. Also, this is not limited to the Weston area. If you know of someone who would benefit from participating, regardless of where they live, please let us know.

Hopefully, all of you will give this some consideration. It is an opportunity for each of us to have our own outreach ministry.

I am reminded of the story about the woman who was walking on the beach at low tide, picking up starfish and throwing them back into the ocean. There were literally thousands of starfish that needed to be rescued. A man watched what she was doing and then approached her. As they walked along together he asked her if she thought what she was doing was really making a difference. She looked at him as she picked up another starfish and said, "It makes a difference to this one."

Thank you WCC.

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Pastor Molini.



January Church Calendar

Today
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January 2021
Month
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SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI Jan 1	SAT 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Chair Yoga via Zoom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Eve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Day 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Epiphany 8am Prep for career fair. 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 7pm 1 Corinthians Scripture Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 8am Career fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 8:30am WMA - Ministers' Breakfast 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 2:30pm WCC Christ and a Cup of Col 7pm 1 Corinthians Scripture Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Church Board Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 10am "In His Service" Soup Ministry 7pm 1 Corinthians Scripture Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 2:30pm WCC "Christ and a Cup of Co 2:30pm WCC Christ and a Cup of Col 7pm 1 Corinthians Scripture Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Reminder - WCC's Sunday Sch 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb 1 First Day of Black History Month 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 9:30am Weston Christians Prayer/M 7pm 1 Corinthians Scripture Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6