



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



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Weston, Missouri 64098
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WestonChristianChurch@gmail.com
Website: westonchristian.org
Sunday Service | 10:30 am

A note from Cindy...

In this post-holiday moment, I have tried to set aside more time simply to pray, to listen and to dream. Once again, many of our best laid plans are on hold as we wait to see what this next round of the pandemic will require from us. This doesn't mean we cease our praying and our dreaming. God is still asking something new from us and our task is to try to hear what this means.

I am beginning to realize that a return to normalcy is perhaps not in the cards. We may instead be on the cusp of something entirely different. Everywhere I look, I see others asking the same questions: What is most essential? What does it mean to be a church? What will we strive for when so many of the current restrictions are lifted? How do we help to bring about God's Kingdom? What will this look like?

I came across this prayer attributed to the recently deceased Archbishop of South Africa, Desmond Tutu. This is my prayer and my prayer for each of you as we welcome a new year:

**Disturb us, O Lord
when we are too well-pleased with ourselves,
when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too
little,
because we sailed too close to the shore.
Disturb us, O Lord
when with the abundance of things we possess,
we have lost our thirst for the water of life,
when, having fallen in love with time,
we have ceased to dream of eternity
and in our efforts to build a new earth,
we have allowed our vision of Heaven to grow dim.
Stir us, O Lord
to dare more boldly, to venture into wider seas
where storms show Thy mastery,
where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars.
In the name of Him who pushed back the horizons of our
hopes
and invited the brave to follow. Amen.**

Blessings,
Cindy

Our Hillcrest Mentoree...

As some of you are aware, the young man we had been mentoring through Hillcrest was killed recently in a car accident. He had sent WCC a "thank you" note and the text of it follows his obituary in the next column. If you would like to make a contribution toward his funeral expenses, copy the link in his obituary and paste it into your browser.

WCC will host a memorial service for Ernesto, which will include staff from Hillcrest, and will be held at WCC on Monday, January 10th at 5:30 pm. Please continue to hold Ernesto's family and loved ones in your prayers.

(Continued in next column.)

THANK YOU!!

Thank you for the very generous monetary gift you gave me for Christmas. WCC has demonstrated time and again what a special, caring group of people you are. It has been and remains a privilege to work here at WCC.

Janet

(Hillcrest Mentoree—continued from first column)

DRE'S OBITUARY

Ernesto Andres Lopez, 20, of Platte City, Missouri, passed unexpectedly on January 1, 2022 after a fatal car accident in Wyandotte County, Kansas. We are devastated by this loss and completely unprepared.



Born on October 2, 2001 to loving parents Ernesto Lopez Sr., and Camille Aims Back, Andres Lopez immediately filled the lives of those around him with joy. Andres Lopez received his GED certificate January 14, 2019.

Andres Lopez was a loving brother to Lupita, Laura, Julio, Carlos, Patricio, Rubious, Harmony and Enedina and adored his family. Andres Lopez was passionate about gaming, hunting, working with horses and spending time with family and a firm believer in Catholicism and Native American beliefs. His presence is sorely missed and his loss is deeply felt.

Andres Lopez is predeceased by mother Camille Aims Back, uncles Neil Roy McNabb, Bob Aims Back, great grandmother Jean Harwood Kipp, great grandparents Boy John and Thelma Aims Back, grandfather Roscoe Aims Back, godmother/aunt Avalon Kipp, aunt Mindy Kipp, cousins Clarence McNabb and Gabriel Spottedeagle. He is survived by sibling's, grandmother Consuella Pepion, great grandfather Woody Kipp, numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

<https://everloved.com/life-of/ernesto-andres-lopez/donate/>

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ERNESTO'S NOTE OF THANKS...

Dear Weston Christian Church, thank you for the gifts and all the help you have given so far.

*Sincerely,
Ernesto Lopez*



From the Music Department...

After the ravages of COVID-19, choir rehearsals resume on Wednesday evenings,

"Christ and a Cup of Coffee" Bible Study

Our study continues of the
Acts of the Apostles.

This is held each 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Please join us on January 12th & 26th at 2:30 pm. We meet in the church basement and on Zoom.



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.

Join us for Adult Sunday School...

On Sunday mornings, the class will begin a study of the book, **The Language of God**, by Dr. Francis Collins.

"Dr. Collins believes that faith in God and faith in science can coexist within a person and be harmonious. He has heard every argument against faith from scientists, and refutes them. He has also heard the needless rejection of scientific truths by some people of faith, and he can counter that too. He explains his journey from atheism to faith, and then takes readers for a stunning tour of modern science to show that physics, chemistry and biology can all fit together with belief in God and the Bible." Please join us - in person or on Zoom!

Words from Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., whom we honor this month on January 17th:

"It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are made to live together because of the interrelated structure of reality."

- "A Christmas Sermon on Peace," 1967



I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and religion enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love."

- "The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Volume IV: Symbol of the Movement," January 1957-December 1958

DECISIONS

Between two words
choose the quieter one.
Between word and silence
choose listening.

Between two books
choose the dustier one.
Between the earth and the sky
choose a bird.

Between two animals
choose the one who needs you more.
Between two children
choose both.

Between the lesser and the bigger evil
choose neither.

Between hope and despair
choose hope:
it will be harder to bear.

—Boris Novak
(translated from Slovene by Mia Dintinjana)



"We may be surprised at the people we find in heaven. God has a soft spot for sinners. His standards are quite low."

— Desmond Tutu

A Prayer for Addicts

Dear Power Greater Than Myself,

Today, as we approach a new year, I pray for addicts of every kind, that we may accept that resolutions can't save us.

I pray for everyone who understandably chose to use vodka, or weed, or pills or gambling or binge eating to get through the isolation of this last year; but who have lost the ability to CHOOSE and are addicted, that they might ask for help, no matter how impossible that may feel.

I pray for all of us who think that this time will be different. That this time, unlike every other time, we will muster up enough willpower to stop; that we might accept that if willpower was enough, we would already have changed.

Be with everyone who suffers. Help us know that there is not enough resolve, not enough love, not enough willpower to overcome the beasts of addiction, but that there is enough power and that power does not have to come from us but mercifully comes from you, and there is always enough if we avail ourselves of it.

AMEN

--Nadia Bolz Weber

A New Course Offering Via Zoom Through Country Club Christian Church



A LIFE WORTH LIVING

The phrase “the good life” has become cliché in our culture, usually indicated by prosperity. What does the good life actually look like? How do people decide for themselves? In this exciting launch of a new course, you can explore different approaches to these questions, focusing on three areas: self and others; pain and pleasure; and work and rest. This would be a great opportunity to invite people from outside of your congregation, even from outside of a Christian context.

This is a five week course that will meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm, Central time, starting January 27th and concluding on February 24th. All meetings will be virtual on Zoom. More information can be found on Country Club Christian Church’s website...<https://www.cccckc.org> then, scroll about halfway down the page. You’ll see “A Life Worth Living”, then click on + READ MORE. This will take you to additional information that will enable you to register, look over course content and download resource and study materials.

Each person who registers will have their own unique login link, so be sure to remember that for yourself or when sharing it with others who might be interested. If you or others have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Dr. Mike Graves, Scholar in Residence and Minister of Spiritual Formation, Country Club Christian Church — mikeg@cccckc.org, or the main church phone number is 816-333-4917.



January Church Calendar

com/calendar/u/0/r?tab=mc



Today

< > January 2022

Month



SUN 26	MON 27	TUE 28	WED 29	THU 30	FRI 31	SAT Jan 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sundi 10:30am Worship Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9am Chair Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day off for New Year's Day New Year's Eve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sundi 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 9am Chair Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epiphany 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sundi 10:30am Worship Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Ernesto Lopez Service (tenta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Museum Meeting 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9am Chair Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am WMA - Ministers' Breakfast 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M 2:30pm WCC Christ and a Cup of Col 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sundi 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Church Board Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9am Chair Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 			
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sundi 10:30am Worship Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Day of Black History Month 6:30am Men's Bible Study 9am Chair Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Weston Christian's Prayer/M 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 			