



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



**540 Washington Street
Weston, Missouri 64098
Office—(816) 640-2846
WestonChristianChurch@gmail.com
Website: westonchristian.org
Sunday Service | 10:30 am**

A note from Cindy...

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.
- 1 John 4:16

"Dear Child of God, you are loved with a love that nothing can shake, a love that loved you long before you were created, a love that will be there long after everything has disappeared. You are precious, with a preciousness that is totally quite immeasurable." - Archbishop Desmond Tutu

As I write this, it is a gray February morning . . . and I am yearning for a hint of spring. Lots in the news of late to remind us to be on our knees: the earthquake in Turkey/Syria which has claimed so many thousands of lives, the ongoing war in Ukraine, the horror of mass shootings . . . Too much, dear Lord! Into all of this, we navigate our daily lives and try to keep our heads above the fray.

So I turn today to the reminder that February also holds within it the celebration of love we call "Valentine's Day." This doesn't necessarily need to be just a day for those romantically inclined. Let it be for us a gentle reminder that all the love we know originates in God. All of it. It is the very definition of God.

And even in the midst of turmoil and suffering, God's loving presence remains, abides, comforts, directs, inspires. I tell you this, because it is what I have known - again and again: God remains present and active within our trials and sufferings.

I encourage you to send loving greetings, via snail mail or electronic means, to someone you know who would appreciate being remembered. Bake someone some cookies. Leave a note on their door. Put a vase of flowers on their desk. Tell them they are treasured. These are the ways that the love of God gets out into the world, despite it all.

Bless each one of you for the light and grace you bring.

Cindy



I Go to Sing

I might be exhausted and the children might be cranky,
but I will be going to church on Sunday.
Don't know who is preaching, doesn't matter –
the sermon may be helpful or not,
holds my attention or doesn't –
it's the singing.
I go to sing.
I get up,
get clean,
get dressed,
possibly get mad (at not-ready kids,
at empty coffee pot,
at traffic)
get going,
get there,
get seated,
get comfortable,
get focused
and when the music starts,
get saved.
It's the singing.
I go to sing.
It's the willingness to stand if you are able,
the common agreement on page number,
the voluntary sharing of songbooks with people on your row,
even ones you rode there with –
but most of all,
it's the collective in-breath before the first sound is made,
the collective drawing upon the grace of God,
the collective, if inadvertent, admission
that we are all human,
all fragile,
all in need of the sustaining air, freely dispensed,
all in need of each other to get the key right and not sound
discordant –
it's the hidden life-celebration
in the act of making a joyful noise,
all together.
We don't even have to sound that good.
Singing together still brings home
the we-ness of worship,
the not-alone-ness of life in God,
the best of all we have to offer each other.
When we are singing, I think that I might actually be able to
forgive you
for being so terribly human,
and you might be able to forgive me
for being so terribly not there yet,
and we might be able to find peace now,
not postpone it for some heavenly hereafter
but live and breathe it today,
drawing in the grace of God,
voicing out our need and hope and gratitude and longing.
When we are singing, I can feel the better world coming,
and if I get to be a part of it, you do too . . .
so sing with me,
and we'll make our way down that blessed road together,
collectively better
than we ever thought
possible.



Mardi Gras is a Christian holiday and popular cultural phenomenon that dates back thousands of years. It is celebrated in many countries around the world on the day before the season of Lent begins, Ash Wednesday. This day is sometimes referred to as "Fat Tuesday." Traditionally people used up their stores of butter and lard before entering into the more penitential season of Lent.

Many traditions surround Mardis Gras - including the feasting on a "King's Cake." In the US, it is usually purple, green, and gold, with a trinket baby Jesus inside. Whoever gets the baby Jesus is said to have good luck all year. For Christians this is a day filled with gratitude and joy. We note the bounty of our blessings and prepare to humbly approach the Lenten season.

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Fat Tuesday Fellowship

Wear your Mardi Gras attire!
Hats and bright colors encouraged!



Tuesday, Feb. 21
6:00pm
Weston Christian Church Fellowship Hall

We will be serving Jambalaya and King Cake!



There will be hot dogs and mac-n-cheese for the kids.

Please bring a dessert or side to share.

In Christ,
Being always precedes becoming and doing.
Take time to be, to breathe and dwell.
Take time and own this moment.
Take time with eternity.
-Bob Holmes

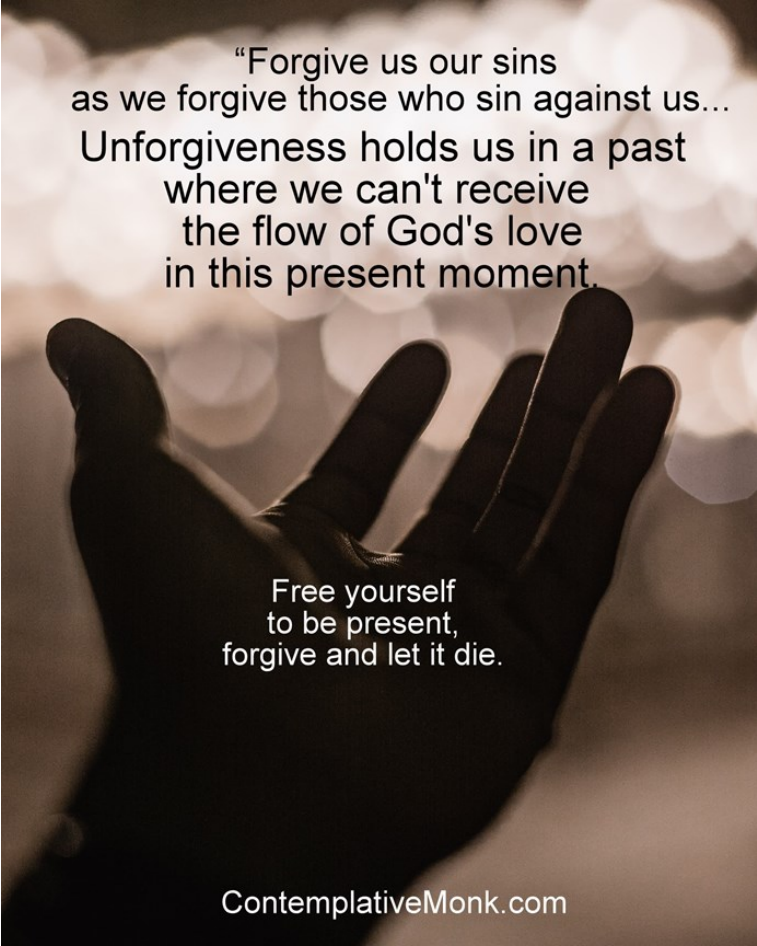


Lenten Devotions Booklets

We will be giving out a renewed version of **Lenten devotions**, created by our church members last year. Please pick up a copy at the church entrances.



Ash Wednesday: After the feasting of Mardis Gras, we turn to the more somber note of this important day. As Christians we reflect upon our mortality and begin our Lenten practices of more intentional prayer and fasting. Fasting can be as simple as choosing to eat less or not eat one of our favorite foods. The idea is to make a conscious spiritual choice and continue with the practice during the entire Lenten season.



HILLCREST

Our culinary experts have been doing cooking classes for our two new residents of Hillcrest. Our church is excited to be their sponsor.

Both are employed at Price Chopper; one full time. One young man is a junior at Platte County R-3 High School and is an "A" student. The other brother is going to the vo-tech school in Platte City.

Both have been learning culinary skills, such as which cooking pots to use, different temperatures for food cooking, etc. Our menu has been scrambled eggs (which they both love,) tacos, burritos, stir fry, and a Mexican dish. They do the cooking and we just oversee and give them instruction on preparing the food.

We did find out both walk approximately 3 miles one way, from their residence to Price Chopper. Occasionally they get a ride with a buddy. Two members have donated two used bicycles, which we are sending to a cycle shop for a general tune up, etc. We are so grateful for our church and its willingness to be their sponsors. We know with our love and continuous support, prayer and guidance and with the help of Hillcrest's counselors and staff members, these young men have a new journey which we truly believe they are so very grateful and appreciative.



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.

Our Vision
To be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.
– Micah 6:8

Our Mission
To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth."
– Acts 1:8

Our Confession
As members of the Christian Church, We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.

February Church Calendar

February 2023							Month	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
29 9:30am WCC's Sunday Scho 10:30am Worship Service	30 6:30am Men's Bible Study	31	Feb 1 First Day of Black History Moni 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4		
5 9:30am WCC's Sunday Scho 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Senior High Lunch, 4pm Women's Book Study	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IB	7	8 7pm Choir 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 6:30pm Museum Executive I	10 10am Adult Bible Study-Act:	11		
12 8am Choir sings 9:30am WCC's Sunday Scho 10:30am Worship Service	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study	14 Valentine's Day 8am WMA - Ministers' Break	15 7pm Choir 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17 1:30pm Not-for-Profit Food I	18		
19 8am Choir sings 9:30am WCC's Sunday Scho 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Senior High Lunch,	20 Presidents' Day 6:30am Men's Bible Study	21 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras 6pm Mardi Gras Dinner	22 Ash Wednesday 6pm Ash Wednesday Servic 7pm Choir 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24	25		
26 8am Choir sings 9:30am WCC's Sunday Scho 10:30am Worship Service 11am Bean Soup/Cornbreak	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study	28	Mar 1 St. David's Day First Day of Women's History M 11am Review WCC Norton 3 7pm Choir 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2	3 10am Adult Bible Study-Act:	4		