



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



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Weston, Missouri 64098
Office—(816) 640-2846
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Website: westonchristian.org
Sunday Service | 10:30 am

A note from Cindy...

I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God. -Ephesians 3:16-19

If I could put into words what I hope for in this new year . . . it would be these words written to the community of Ephesus in the earliest days of our Christian beginnings. This is it! May we be strengthened by His Spirit - a glorious inner strength that will live in us! This inner strength will be just what we need to join with all followers of Jesus in being God's great love in the world.

I sometimes think we have only just gotten started on this ambitious goal of loving others and living out the love of God within us. I'm talking about myself, not anyone else. How easy it is to get sidetracked by what I perceive as someone else's bad attitude or lack of graciousness. It's not personal, but I sure can go down that road of misery. So . . . join with me in making a renewed effort. Prayer is the time and the place!

Let's begin with humility, admitting we know little of God's true direction for our lives. Humility also involves admitting when we know we have been arrogant and looked down on someone else for our own complicated reasons. After humility, let's try a little more gratitude, thanking God, minute by minute for this wonderful gift of being here.

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House Blessing for the New Year An Epiphany Blessing

Epiphany, which is also known as "Little Christmas," is the feast that celebrates the arrival of the three Magi who had come to worship the Child Jesus shortly after his birth. It is traditionally celebrated on Jan. 6. However, in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between Jan. 2 and Jan 8. Many around the world celebrate this feast with as much pomp and circumstance as Christmas, including the exchanging of gifts.

Traditionally on the feast of Epiphany, Christians bless their homes by writing, with a piece of chalk, the letters C, M and B and the numbers of the year at the top of their doors. The letters stand for the names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. They also represent the Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless this house."

After the prayers are recited write the initials of the Magi connected with crosses at the top of your front door. Then the numbers of the year. The numbers will be split so that they are on each side of the initials. Here's an example:

20 + C + M + B + 23

A Blessing Prayer: May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen. Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If These Walls Could Talk

A Collaborative Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Sunday 1/15/2023 • 2:00-4:00 pm

Weston United Methodist Church

533 Main – Weston, Mo.

Music • Storytelling • History

Featuring

Brother John Anderson

Bethel AME Choir of Leavenworth

Highlights from Richard Allen Cultural Center



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Beyond gratitude, let us pray for perspective - being able to see more broadly the BIG picture. This means getting a glimpse into where someone might be coming from when they hurt us or lash out at others. Perspective also means that we are not at the center of the Universe, but that God is working all around us and often despite us.

"With both feet firmly planted in Christ's love. . . " may we go forward. Beyond ourselves, our egos and our agendas, may we know the inner power of this love to transform us. If we do this inner work, we will be so much more prepared to do ALL THE REST.

We begin with us.
We allow the love of Christ to transform our broken and wounded places.

And then . . . watch out!

So much more is possible. So much more.

Cindy

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 and the other is an "A" student at Platte County R-3 High School. The other young man 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 of our 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.

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

-Martin Luther King Jr.



Harvesters Food Pick-Up Truck

If you or someone you know is in need of help affording nutritious food, the Harvesters Food Pick-Up truck is in Weston the 3rd Friday of each month (**this month, January 20th**) from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **The truck will be at 300 Main Street (City Hall).**

While the scheduled hours are 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., it will often start earlier, depending on how quickly they can get it unloaded and organized.

HELP FOR UKRAINIAN FAMILY

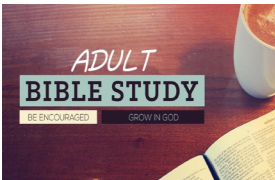
A local family in the Raytown area has been helping a young family from Ukraine get settled in a home near Olathe.

Dec 30, 2022 • We are on the lookout for basic apartment furnishings for the Ukrainian family we are hosting. If you or anyone you know has furniture in good condition that you want to get rid of, please let us know. We do have some furniture we plan to give them, but we believe they will feel more comfortable if we are not the ones solely providing furnishings for them.

Things they need:

- Queen mattress and frame
- Dressers and/or shelving for clothing storage
- Pots and pans
- Dishes and cups
- Dining table and chairs (3 people)
- A couch/loveseat

She is also willing to get a U-haul to pick up items we have collected. You may also contact the church office if you have any of these items and the appropriate person will be notified.



Our "Acts of the Apostles" study meets every third Friday in the church basement. The next session is set for **January 20th at 10:00 a.m.** We'd love to have you join us!

MANY THANKS!

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift to me. Your monetary gift was very much appreciated and as always, it's a pleasure to work here and serve Christ along with you.

Happy New Year!
Janet



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.

January Church Calendar

<div>SUN Jan 1</div> <div>New Year's Day</div> <div><div>9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sunday School</div><div>10:30am Worship Service</div><div>11:30am Senior High Lunch/Conversations</div><div>4pm Women's Book Study</div></div>	<div>MON 2</div> <div>New Year's Day (substitute)</div> <div><div>6:30am Men's Bible Study</div><div>4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC</div></div>	<div>TUE 3</div>	<div>WED 4</div> <div>7pm Choir rehearsal 7pm</div>	<div>THU 5</div>	<div>FRI 6</div> <div>Epiphany</div>	<div>SAT 7</div>
<div>8</div> <div>9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sunday School</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service</div>	<div>9</div> <div>6:30am Men's Bible Study</div>	<div>10</div> <div>8am WMA - Ministers' Breakfast</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>
<div>15</div> <div>9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sunday School</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service</div> <div>11:30am Church Board Meeting</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</div> <div>6:30am Men's Bible Study</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div>10am Adult Bible Study-Acts of the Apostles</div>	<div>21</div>
<div>22</div> <div>9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sunday School</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service</div>	<div>23</div> <div>6:30am Men's Bible Study</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>7pm Choir</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div> <div>9:30am WCC's Sunday School/Sunday School</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service</div>	<div>30</div> <div>6:30am Men's Bible Study</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>Feb 1</div> <div>First Day of Black History Month</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>