

**Office—(816) 640-2846**

**Website: [westonchristian.org](http://westonchristian.org)**

**Sunday Service | 10:30 am**

Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.  
Say that your main crop is the forest  
that you did not plant,  
that you will not live to harvest.  
—Wendell Berry

It has been my privilege and honor to serve you these past few years. It does not seem possible that I am embarking on my fifth year with you! We have come through some tangled places together - especially the months of Covid and our many decisions about how to keep people safe. You have been gracious and flexible, even when we have not all agreed on the best course of action. I pray that this flexibility and trust is something we can count on for the future.

We have welcomed many new faces and for this we are especially grateful. The energy and enthusiasm of this new life has prompted us to listen more carefully to the Spirit who is working in all people. As a result, I see we are more committed to outreach into the larger community. We are more committed than ever to our young people and nurturing their faith. We are invested in planning good worship experiences that work to meet the spiritual needs of a broader range of people. We are studying Scripture together and having countless "Aha" moments - where God shows up with humor and with wisdom. I want to thank each of you for your participation and your enthusiasm for all these many efforts. I daily sense God moving with grace and power in our midst.

So – pray with me: “Dear God, what is next for us? What do You call us to in our desire to serve You and profess Your love? What does this look like for us? For me? For you? Guide us with Your grace as we explore these questions. We are listening. Amen.”

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Next time a resentment, negativity, or irritation comes into your mind, and you want to play it out or attach to it, move that thought or person literally into your heart space because such commentaries are almost entirely lodged in your head.

There, surround it with silence (which is much easier to do in the heart). There, it is surrounded with blood, which will often feel warm like coals. In this place, it is almost impossible to comment, judge, create story lines, or remain antagonistic. You are in a place that does not create or feed on contraries but is within the natural organ of life, embodiment, and love. Love lives and thrives in the heart space. It has kept me from wanting to hurt people who have hurt me. It keeps me every day from obsessive, repetitive, or compulsive head games. It can make the difference between being happy and being miserable and negative.

Could this be what we are really doing when we say we are praying for someone? Yes, we are holding them in our heart space. Do it in an almost physical sense, and you will see how calmly and quickly it works. -Richard Rohr



# ELDERS & DEACONS

All *current* deacons and elders are invited to participate in a short mini-retreat on Saturday morning, January 20th, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.. This will be a time of prayer and discernment for our church. Those deacons and elders who are not currently on the serve list are also invited to attend - but the focus will be on those who are active now.



## Worship Committee

## Worship Committee

This dedicated group is putting together some new ideas for the future. The goal is to create weekly worship services that are meaningful and engaging. This church is deeply fortunate to have so many talented musicians and will continue to call forth their skills and their ability to help us pray. Many thanks for all their creative efforts.

**Special Olympics Kansas** is holding their 2024 Winter Games in Weston on February 1, 2024.



If you would like to learn more about how you individually, or WCC as a church, can get involved with this opportunity please contact Kristen Nett, Community Engagement Coordinator for Special Olympics Kansas. They are in need of volunteers for the day to support these wonderful athletes as they compete.

***Kristen's contact information is 913-600-2247, ext. 106,  
and her email is [nettk@soks.org](mailto:nettk@soks.org)***



Al-Anon  Family Groups

Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. at 409 S. 7th St. (downstairs-north door)  
Leavenworth, Kansas


Separate local group via Zoom meetings:

Mondays at Noon

**Text Nikki at 816-686-7170 for login credentials**



## Bristol Manor

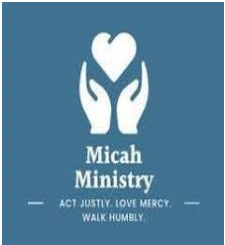


**Bristol Manor**

We are blessed to have a blossoming relationship with residents at Bristol Manor, senior living center. Pastor Cindy conducts a Bible study twice a month on Wednesday afternoons. In addition, one of our members has been donating time weekly to play games and assist with putting together puzzles, and another member is back to doing chair exercises on a regular basis with the residents. In December our entire church community participated in a Christmas lunch and gift giving. If you are interested in giving your time to this great ministry, please let Pastor Cindy know of your interest. All skills and good hearts welcome!

# Micah Ministry

We are back to volunteering to serve meals and hand out donated clothing items. Our next volunteer night will be Monday, January 8th, 4:30 - 7 p.m. Let our Children's Director know if you are able to help. In addition, Micah is asking for pill bottles and products to fill them (shampoo, conditioner, hand soap), plastic bags and toilet paper.



## Note of Thanks



Many thanks for your Christmas monetary gift to me. It was much appreciated.  
Janet

*Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading.*



*Oswald Chambers*

“Each new year, we have before us a brand new book containing 365 blank pages. Let us fill them with all the forgotten things from last year—the words we forgot to say, the love we forgot to show, and the charity we forgot to offer.”

PEGGY TONEY HORTON

woman's day



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

| Today < > January 2024          |                                  |          |                           |          |          |  | Month | Calendar Icon | Checkmark Icon | Grid Icon |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|----------|--|-------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| MON<br>Jan 1                    | TUE<br>2                         | WED<br>3 | THU<br>4                  | FRI<br>5 | SAT<br>6 |  |       |               |                |           |
| ● 4:30pm Micah Ministry at IBCC |                                  |          | ● 1pm Women's Bible Study |          |          |  |       |               |                |           |
| 8                               | 9                                | 10       | 11                        | 12       | 13       |  |       |               |                |           |
|                                 | ● 8am WMA - Ministers' Breakfast |          |                           |          |          |  |       |               |                |           |
| 15                              | 16                               | 17       | 18                        | 19       | 20       |  |       |               |                |           |
|                                 |                                  |          | ● 1pm Women's Bible Study |          |          |  |       |               |                |           |
| 22                              | 23                               | 24       | 25                        | 26       | 27       |  |       |               |                |           |
|                                 |                                  |          |                           |          |          |  |       |               |                |           |
| 29                              | 30                               | 31       | Feb 1                     | 2        | 3        |  |       |               |                |           |
|                                 |                                  |          | ● 1pm Women's Bible Study |          |          |  |       |               |                |           |