

## weston christian church



**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...

"Our finest gifts we bring . . . To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum . . . I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum, I played my best for Him . . . " - lyrics from The Little Drummer Boy

We will be celebrating with much joy a Cantata of music, created by our interim Music Director, Melissa Hickman, on Sunday December 14. This program will also include words and songs from our young people. I met with Melissa this week to go over details and to be assured that all will be ready in time for this special event. Something Melissa said to me has given me pause: "I am trying to give my very best to Him - the best of what we can ALL give to Him - during this holy season." She noted that she had pushed the musicians hard and that they had risen to the occasion. "The best for him," seems like a very worthy goal for all of us during this Advent season.

What would it look like to give God our very best? To decide to not just slog through the busyness, the preparations, the expectations . . . but to lean in with all our hearts? Certainly it would mean deciding to set some boundaries - to become more discerning and thoughtful about how and where and why we spend our energy. What can we set down? What can we let go of during this time?

And how might we give our very best to the people and the causes that most need us? When was the last time we actually wrote something in a Christmas card to a far away aunt or uncle? When have we last put pen to paper and spoken of our love and care? In a world of text messages and emojis - old fashioned snail mail still has a place. When do we set aside time or resources for those in need? What does our very best look like when we consider the words of Matthew 25 - to meet Jesus in the "least of these."

Advent is a time of intention. A time when we ponder the great gift of God entering into our human condition - and showing us what it means to give one's all. I pray that each of us can decide to adjust our own intentions in order to see what is most valuable and precious: God's gift of Jesus to our hurting world.

May you find that spark within you - a spark that reminds you to do and to be your very best! Advent joy and peace to each of you. You are a blessing.

—Cindy

## Bristol Manor Christmas Party

December 17th at 1:30 p.m.

We are getting gifts for the residents again this year and a wish list is currently being put together. Look for a sign -up sheet coming soon.



The KC Disciples Region will hold their Special Christmas Offering on December 7th and 14th. As you know, 100% of this offering stays here in the Greater Kansas City Region for our shared Ministry.

To view a video on how this impacts our region, copy/paste the link below into your browser.

https://youtu.be/qsCeSM\_Kbw?si=zPTbB3HkDRr6bBeR





#### HOPE ~ PEACE ~ JOY and LOVE A Celebration of Advent

Join us during worship on Sunday, December 14th as we combine our Children's Christmas Program with our Service. Guest musicians and vocalists will join our own musicians and vocalists for this very meaningful celebration of Advent with this cantata composed by our own Interim Music Director.

December 21st After the Worship Service

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!





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.

#### Outreach

Mrs. Whatsit was not speaking aloud, and yet through the wings Meg understood words. "My child, do not despair. Do you think we would have brought you here if there were no hope? We are asking you to do a difficult thing, but we are confident that you can do it."

— Madeleine L'Engle, <u>A Wrinkle in Time</u>

We have made a very great leap this past year in dedicating not only time - but our financial resources to the work that Jesus calls us to do. In November of last year our Church board made the courageous decision to allocate \$15,000 of our church budget to the needs of those on the margins. Most of us are aware of how many people in our country are currently affected by cuts in federal spending for children, the elderly, the poor and the immigrant. Gratefully, this church is also aware that the Biblical mandate for us is to care for "the widow, the orphan and the stranger in our midst."

Here are a few of the projects that WCC has helped to fund in 2025: We have helped start a new food pantry here in Weston, with donated food items and many dollars donated to get this off the ground. We have given funds to Hillcrest Ministries, Platte County, to buy mattresses and computer screens for those graduating from the program - in order to insure their ongoing success. We are partnering with our local Farmer's House to purchase their homemade cookies - and then giving those cookies to our partnership with Birthday Connections - an organization that provides birthday gifts to young people in need.



We have provided funds for two separate meals at Micah Ministry - a ministry of our Disciples of Christ denomination in Kansas City. This ministry serves a hot meal every Monday night to the homeless and working poor. This past year Micah has averaged serving from 900-1200 persons each Monday. In addition, we allocated additional funds to purchase items from area thrift stores that were most needed by those at Micah. This is in addition to all the donated goods our folks at WCC have given!!

We purchased Aldi's grocery cards for the latest refugees to our country - including the family from South Sudan that we helped to bring here last January. ALL of the federal spending that had been promised to these folks was cut as soon as they had arrived - so our grocery gift cards truly helped to fill a void.

We are continuing to allocate a monthly stipend to an organization called "Happy Bottoms" which provides diapers to those without resources to buy them. Happy Bottoms doubles any dollar donation by being able to purchase diapers at a very reduced rate for poor children. Happy Bottoms also serves families in our immediate area.

We have continued our outreach to our local families through the West Platte Schools. This year we are donating grocery gift cards for both Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to more than a dozen families.

We have a lively and loving outreach ministry to our local senior living facility - Bristol Manor. We have two monthly dates where we provide Scripture study, hymn singing and bring baked goods to the residents. For Christmas, we adopt each resident and provide small gifts and treats for each person. Our children's program also participates in this outreach.

There are many, many more examples - day to day efforts to help local people who have lost jobs and especially single mothers in our area who have had a significant struggle. We work with our local Ministerial Alliance to also provide funds for those who have hit a rough patch. We are a church community who have been greatly blessed. It is encouraging, hopeful and inspiring to see what we can do in the name of the One who cared so deeply for those on the edges of our society.

And did we mention that the current Board has approved another \$15,000 for the 2026 calendar year? With all of this in mind, please remember to give to the support of our church. Your tithes and offerings do indeed help to fund these crucial needs.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

~~ James 1:27

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

~~ Hebrews 13:2

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

~~ Matthew 25:35

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#### ~~ Weston Food Pantry ~~

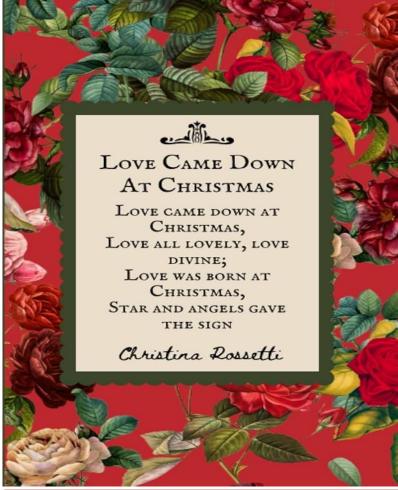
Thursday, December 11th at 3:00 p.m. Come and help with the organization and distribution of food to those in need.



### Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

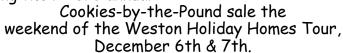
A steady group of folks has been gathering for many weeks each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary. Prayers of healing are offered for people on our prayer list as well as prayers for the church and the larger world. Do consider setting aside this hour to pray for the needs of our community. All are welcome.





# Cookies-by-the -Pound Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Our neighbors at Holy Trinity are having their 23rd annual



They will be in the Weston Masonic Lodge #53 at 507 Main Street, Weston. They'll be open Saturday, December 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and December 7th from Noon to 3:00 p.m., or until sold out.





Pumpkin Shaped Bread Rolls

Assorted Holiday Boxes \$20 includes items not on menu!!

Braided Cinnamon Roll

Sugar Cookie Banana

Monkey Bread

Orders are taken throughout the week and pickup-delivery is available for the weekends. Any special events coming up, please give two weeks notice.





Al-Anon is an organization designed to help **families and friends** of those who struggle with alcohol addiction.

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

"Monday Noon Awakenings" Zoom Meeting Al-Anon Group Mondays at Noon Zoom Meeting ID: 406 647 1926 Password: 178998

You can also search Google for Al-Anon meetings in your area



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Calendar	Month •	FRI 5	12	19	26	2
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		WED 3	10 • 1:30pm Bristol Manor	17	24 Christmas Eve 1:30pm Bristol Manor 8pm Christmas Eve Canc	31 New Year's Eve
December Chu		TUE 2	9 • 8am WMA - Ministers' Br	16	23	30
ecem	December 2025	MON Dec 1  6:30am Men's Bible Stud	8 • 6:30am Men's Bible Stud • 4:30pm Micah Ministry a	15 • 6:30am Men's Bible Stud	22 • 6:30am Men's Bible Stud	29 • 6:30am Men's Bible Stud
Ω	Today < >	SUN 30 Advent Begins 9:30am Sunday School/S 10:30am Worship Service	7 Weston Christmas Homes 1 9:30am Sunday School/S 10:30am Worship Service	Congregational Annual Mee  9:30am Sunday School/S  10:30am Worship Service  2pm Christmas Cantata//	21 • 9:30am Sunday School/S • 10:30am Worship Service	28 • 9:30am Sunday School/S • 10:30am Worship Service