

August 29, 2021 Announcements

Haiti Earthquake Response



After a massive earthquake and a tropical storm, Haiti continues to face serious challenges. At least 2,000 died in the earthquake, more than 6,900 have been injured, 83,300 homes have been destroyed, and 2.2 million Haitians have been exposed to violent aftershocks. For more

information about how PC(USA)'s mission agency is responding, and how you can donate, visit this link: <https://wgpc.org/ministries/mission-outreach/>

Responding to the Crisis in Afghanistan

Many WGPC members have asked how they can help Afghan families who may be on their way to St. Louis. We are in contact with the International Institute (IISTL) to see how we can best respond and will communicate details to the congregation as soon as we know.



We anticipate collecting items for IISTL and will most likely publicize a sign-up genius so that members know which items have been donated and what is still needed. In the meantime, IISTL has published a great list of resources for those who would like to learn more or make a financial donation. You can find that information here: <https://www.iistl.org/siv/>

WGPC Gentle Yoga Thursday, September 2, 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Join Marlene McCarthy, a Yoga Alliance certified instructor and grandmother to Charlie, Nora, and Teddy Ringkamp, on Thursday, September 2, for a gentle yoga session. Marlene says, "I offer yoga classes to quiet your mind, strengthen your body, and renew your spirit." All are welcome.



Month of Grace + Prayer:

An Ecumenical Retreat in Everyday Life Begins Sunday, September 12

Pray on your own 20 minutes each day and meet one-on-one with a spiritual companion one hour each week for four consecutive weeks. Starts September 12. All meetings will be virtual (Zoom or phone if you prefer). Weekly meeting times are set around your schedule. This is an individually directed retreat tailored to your own deep desires. Committed couples also have the option to participate as a couple. The spiritual companions are not members of our church nor can accompany anyone they know. All adults are welcome regardless of denomination or affiliation. More information about the retreat can be found at www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org. Register by contacting Clarence Heller at clarenceheller@gmail.com.



Be a DOV!

What are DOVs? They are Dedicated Office Volunteers! We are looking for members to be a part of our new office/staff support team! It takes a village, and staff would very much appreciate help with answering phones and small tasks, Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We will accommodate any schedule. You can volunteer for as little as once a month, for as much as once a week, or for anything in between. Please call/text Pam Murphy at 314-477-9634. Thank you!



Part-Time Teacher's Aide Needed

The Webster Groves Presbyterian Church ECC is looking for a part-time teacher's aide in the Little Learners classroom (ages 1-3). Hours are Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon. No experience necessary but must love kids! Interested? Please reach out to Amanda at 917-312-7075 or ecc@wgpc.org.

Masks in Worship

The CDC guidelines have been updated to reflect new data on the Delta variant of the coronavirus. Data suggests the variant is more potent and more contagious than the Alpha variant and now much more common. COVID cases are rising and the positivity rate has increased in our area. Children in our congregation 12 and under as well as some immunocompromised individuals are unable to be vaccinated. For the sake of these in our church family, we are at this time asking all vaccinated and unvaccinated worshipers to please wear a mask during worship and as you move around the church. We ask you to also remain "socially distanced." While the risk remains relatively low for vaccinated individuals, we believe making this sacrifice for others in our church is a faithful action to take to express our love for one another. Thank you for your kindness, understanding, and patience. Encourage those you know who are not vaccinated to be vaccinated so we can get back to normal! Thank you.

Pastor Ed



Classes start Sunday, September 12.

Adult and children's classes will meet after morning worship (the nursery is open until noon), and youth will meet Sunday evenings. Classes will be led by guest teachers, congregation members, and Rev. Susan Andrews. For the fall schedule, visit WGPC.org > Ministries > Faith Formation > Adult Ministries > Adult Education.

Adult Classes, 10:45-11:45 a.m. in the Church Parlor and on Zoom

Adult classes will kick off with a three-part series entitled Do Black Lives Matter to White Christians? presented by Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Theology Professor at St. Louis University. Attend one or all three sessions!

- Sept. 12: What is Racism: A Biblical Perspective
- Sept. 19: Reformed Theological Resources for Resisting Racism
- Sept. 26: Black Life Matter to God.

Additional classes will be announced on topics including: Coping with Pandemic Stress, Presbyterian Mission in Latin America, Gratitude in Tough Times, Advent Explorations, and More Light: Welcoming the LGBTQ+ Community, plus presentations from Environmental Stewardship and mission activities.

Children's Classes, 10:40-11:45 a.m. Drop-off and pick-up in Room 210

Children pre-k through 5th grade will participate in a weekly rotation of classes to Praise (music and worship leadership), Explore (art, science, yoga and more), Grow (gardening and cooking) and Serve (mission projects). Each of the four-week segments focuses on the same Biblical story or theme.

Youth Classes, Sunday evenings

Celtics Middle School Fellowship will meet from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. Agape High School Fellowship will meet from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. All youth will come together for a family meal from 5:00-5:30 p.m.