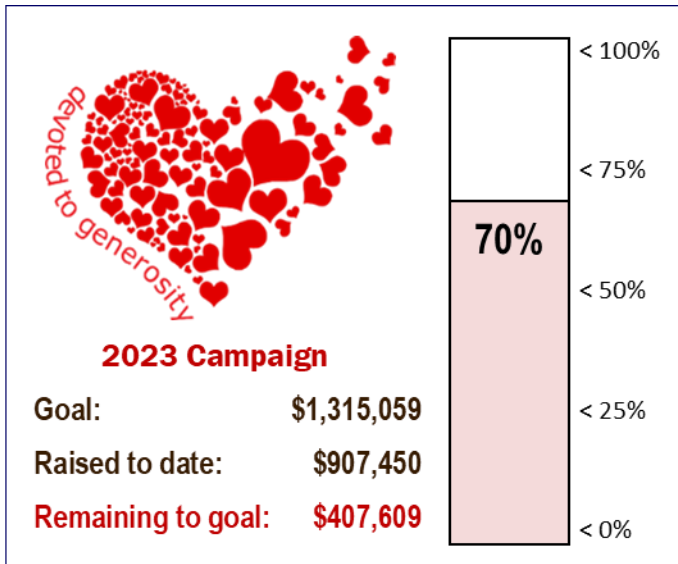


# December 11, 2022 Announcements

## WORSHIP

### “Devoted to Generosity” Update

Generous pledges for 2023 are continuing to come in, as our congregation celebrates Jesus’ birth by laying the groundwork for our church’s budget next year. So far, our “Devoted to Generosity” stewardship campaign is close to 70 percent of our pledge goal of just over \$1.3 million, with about \$407,000 still being sought. This money will pay for our missions, our ministry and our staff in the coming year. Your commitment highlights the generosity of God’s love and Jesus’ call to us to help those in need. Pledges are welcomed at any time, but those received by the end of December will be key in our budget planning. To make your pledge, please visit [wgpc.org/give/pledge-now/](http://wgpc.org/give/pledge-now/).



### Christmas Joy Offering Begins Today



The Christmas Joy Offering, a special collection of the PC(USA), provides much-needed assistance to PC(USA) church workers and their families. It also supports Presbyterian-affiliated racial and ethnic schools and colleges that enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. Donations may be made by check, or online by selecting “PCUSA Special Offering” in the drop-down box and indicating “Joy Offering” in the memo.

## Music in a Great Place, 2022-2023



### “And There Was Light” Festival of Lessons and Carols by Joseph M. Martin

December 18, 2022  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service

WGPC Chancel Choir,  
Glendale Presbyterian  
Chancel Choir, and guest  
orchestra

This cantata is a celebration of light. Filled with time-honored carols and expressive original songs, this work will dazzle and inspire. The first half of the cantata is dedicated to hopeful prophecies associated with the coming "Light of the World." With the birth of Jesus, the second part moves forward to declare the tidings of great joy. Jesus lifts us from our dust and darkness and at last we claim the dawn. "Let there be light," the heavens shout! And there was light!



### Upcoming Advent and Christmas Events

- December 11: Children’s Pageant  
Deadline for Poinsettia orders  
Family Christmas Movie at 11:00 a.m.
- December 18: Lessons and Carols  
Christmas Reception hosted by the  
Deacons following Worship  
Youth Christmas Party at 5:00 p.m.
- December 24: Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 and  
9:00 p.m.
- December 25: Christmas Day Worship at 9:30 a.m.

### End of the Year Giving Reminder

Please have your End of the Year Giving to the Church Business Office by Tuesday, December 27, to be included on your 2022 statement. Your statement will be sent in January 2023. To check the status of your 2022 pledge payment, contact Joyce Kimmons at [jlk@wgpc.org](mailto:jlk@wgpc.org) or Jan Scheurer at [jls@wgpc.org](mailto:jls@wgpc.org).

## MISSION

### Brighten the Holidays for Others!

Our Giving Tree continues! We are supporting eight agencies, and you have the option of shopping for a particular item or making a cash donation. See page 4 for more details. Items are due Wednesday, December 21. Financial donations accepted through December 29.



### Our Bountiful Gift to Others



Thank you for the fresh produce! Through the generosity of our members, we collected 1,175.6 pounds of fresh produce to share with families served by Isaiah 58 Ministries!! Thanks to those who donated, to our children for gathering, to all who jumped in to help sort the items after worship, and to those who loaded and delivered it. Many other churches and families donated additional items, and on November 21, Isaiah 58 provided full Thanksgiving meals to over 250 families. We are grateful to be able to partner with such wonderful organizations to lift up our community.

### Looking for a Unique Christmas Gift?

Stop in the new Mission Hub and do a little shopping! Our shelves are filled with ceramic bowls made by students at Webster Groves High School and nativities created by artisans in Peru. Choose what you'd like in exchange for a donation (amount of your choice) to support Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Donations can be made online or by cash or check given to Director of Mission Beth Kazlauskas.

### December Give-A-Meal-A-Month

Give-A-Meal-A-Month provides a variety of healthy foods to create a meal for those served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Donations can now be dropped off in the new Mission Hub! Please note the menu has changed from what was published last week: canned beef stew, canned peas (no or low salt), canned mixed fruit (lite or in fruit juice), box of au gratin potatoes, and hot chocolate. Additional needs: baby foods.

### Today is the Last Day to Order Poinsettias!

Poinsettias are \$10 each and can be ordered for the Sanctuary or to be delivered to a WGPC member who is homebound by visiting: [wgpc.org](http://wgpc.org) > click "Give" at the top of the screen > scroll down and click the blue "Give" box (or use the link in the Friday Flash). Then, enter an amount, select "Flowers" from the drop down and enter "Homebound Member" or "Sanctuary" in the memo field. If you'd like your flowers to be given in honor or in memory of someone, indicate "honor" or "memory" and the name in the field as well. You may pick poinsettias up after the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve or after the 9:30 a.m. service on Christmas Day. Questions? Please contact Jamie Scott at [mjscott81012@gmail.com](mailto:mjscott81012@gmail.com).

## FELLOWSHIP

### Family Christmas Movie: *The Star*

*Today, December 11, 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall*  
After Worship and our Christmas Pageant, please join us for a viewing of *The Star* while munching on pizza and popcorn. This family film focuses on a small but brave donkey and his animal friends who become the unsung heroes of the first Christmas. Invite your friends and family. All are welcome!

### Theology on Tap is Back

*Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 p.m. at C.J. Mugg's*  
Join us this Wednesday at C.J. Mugg's (101 W. Lockwood Ave.) as we gather to share a drink, build friendships, and discuss various faith topics. Please reach out to Scott Lyon with any questions 636-675-7893.

### Join Us at the Christmas Reception!

*Sunday, December 18, following Worship*  
Don't miss an opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of our deacons at our traditional Christmas Reception held in Fellowship Hall immediately after next Sunday's Lessons and Carols Worship service.

### Youth Christmas Party

*Sunday, December 18, 5:00-6:30 p.m.*  
All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to the Youth Christmas Party! Please wear festive holiday gear or ugly Christmas sweaters. There will be a special dinner and a hot chocolate bar! Games, music, fun, and gifts from the Magi will help us celebrate the holidays and our fellowship!

**Social Justice Film Club:  
The U.S. and the Holocaust**

Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 p.m. by Zoom

All are welcome to join the second discussion of the new three-part film, *The U.S. and The Holocaust*, by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick, and Sarah Botstein. Burns' film examines the rise Nazism in Germany, the eugenics movement in the United States, and race laws in the American south. The series can be streamed for free on [pbs.org](http://pbs.org) prior to the discussion. See the Friday Flash for a link to a reflection sheet to aid in conversation.

**FAITH FORMATION**

FAITH FORMATION THIS WEEK <i>(see event descriptions below)</i>		
Sunday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> 8:30 a.m.  <b>Sunday Adult Education –</b> Advent Through Poetry and Art 10:45 a.m.  <b>Youth Sunday School, Celtics, and Agape –</b> no meetings today	<b>Theology on Tap</b> 7:00 p.m. C.J. Mugg's	<b>Disciples' Bible Study</b> 10:00 a.m.

**SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION**

**Please note: See the Friday Flash for the current Zoom link for Sunday Adult Education classes.**

**Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary**  
*Sundays, 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom*  
Participants will consider Biblical texts used in the day's worship and explore historical settings and the people and issues involved. Leaders: Jeff Buck, Deb Grossman, and Pete Putnam.

**Advent through Poetry and Art**  
*Sundays, December 11 and 18, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom*  
We examine the stories of Joseph and Mary and Elizabeth through poetry and art. How do words and images help scripture come alive? (Bring your favorites with you!)

**SUNDAY YOUTH EDUCATION**

**Sunday School**

*Sundays, 10:40-11:45 a.m. in Room 210*  
Children pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> grade gather for "Follow Me," a curriculum based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. Each week also features music that prepares the children to sing in worship services throughout the year.

**Celtics and Agape**

*Sunday Evenings, Youth Lounge*  

- Celtics, (6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade), 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- Agape (9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade), 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Youth today are seeking answers. Centered in Jesus Christ, Celtics and Agape ministries provide safe space for spiritual discussion as well as fellowship and fun while developing friendships. From 5:00-5:30 p.m. each week, all youth come together to break bread with a meal provided by church members. Interested in providing a meal? Sign up at [wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links](http://wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links).

**OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE WEEK**

**Disciples' Bible Study**

*Thursday Mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., in the Parlor and by Zoom*  
This lively and interactive group will explore the Gospel of Matthew. Facilitated by Rev. Susan Andrews.

**Men's Bible Study**

*Tuesday, December 20, 7:00-8:00 a.m. by Zoom*  
Facilitated by Rev. Dale Kuhn, former director of Care and Counseling. Contact Frank Bloemke at [ekmeolb@gmail.com](mailto:ekmeolb@gmail.com).

**Theology on Tap**

*Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 p.m., C.J. Mugg's, 101 West Lockwood Avenue*  
Monthly informal conversations about faith and life. Facilitated by Scott Lyon. Contact Scott at [sjlyon33@gmail.com](mailto:sjlyon33@gmail.com).

**FREE ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET**

Stop by the table next to the Giving Tree in the hall to pick up "Attending to Advent: Poetry, Prose, and Prayer" for daily devotions published by the *Presbyterian Outlook*.





# THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree offers members a way to give to those in need at Christmas time and make a difference in our community. There are three ways to give:

## 1 - Shop for a specific need

Select a “wish” from the Signup Genius on the church website to help:

- Children supported by *Beyond Housing*
- Children supported by *Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services*



Deliver unwrapped gifts to the Giving Tree bin in the main hallway  
by the Mission Hub by Sunday, December 4th.

## 2 - Shop for a variety of items to be shared with clients of local agencies

- New pajamas, coats, and underwear for kids ages 3-18  
*Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition*
- New kitchen utensils, pans and comforters (sizes twin or queen)  
*Home Sweet Home*

Deliver unwrapped gifts to the Giving Tree bin in the main hallway by the Mission Hub  
by Wednesday, December 21st.

## 3 - Make a cash donation

Your cash donations will help us provide:

- Faith-based training to people in rural Nicaraguan villages through programs in leadership training, sustainable agricultural practices, and economic development led by *CEPAD*
- Gift cards for neighbors served by *Webster-Rock Hill Ministries*
- Gift cards for teachers at *Urban Sprouts* to buy classroom supplies
- Comforters for neighbors served by *EnergyCare*
- Extra items for the organizations listed above in #1 & #2



Checks can be made to **WGPC** with “Giving Tree” and the agency in the memo, or by going to [wgpc.org/give](http://wgpc.org/give) and selecting “Giving Tree” in the dropdown box.

Cash donations will be accepted through Thursday, December 29th.

Have questions? Contact Beth Kazlauskas at [bok@wgpc.org](mailto:bok@wgpc.org).