

January 22, 2023 Announcements

WORSHIP

Music in a Great Place, 2022-2023 26th Season, Upcoming Events

Welcome to the Mazzoni Duo!

Matt and Jennifer Mazzoni

*Today, January 22, 2023
9:30 a.m. Worship Service*



Inspired by the beauty around them, the Mazzoni Duo has been presenting music as a dynamic flute and piano ensemble for over 15 years. After meeting in a theory entrance exam in 2003, Matt and Jennifer have brought a "fluid and seamless blending" of their instruments to concert stages nationally and

internationally. Recent winners of the Artist Presentation Society, the duo seeks to present engaging repertoire that energizes and uplifts its audiences. The duo has recorded two albums: *Morning by Morning* (2017), a collection of hymns for flute and piano, and *Love's Pure Light* (2020), a Christmas album for flute and piano.

Plan to Attend the Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 29, following Worship and by Zoom
Please plan to spend a few minutes with your church family at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation called by Session in the Sanctuary following Worship next Sunday. The purpose of the annual meeting is to receive the annual report, amend the WGPC Articles of the Association, approve bylaw changes, complete elections, approve the minister's terms of call, review the budget, and to hold the annual Meeting of the Association. You can also attend by Zoom using the link found in the Friday Flash.

Per Capita Giving

As Presbyterians, we embrace the concept of "polity," the form of government that unites us with our own presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy and the Office of General Assembly. To support the operations of the broader Church, each member is asked to donate \$35 per member per year. This reduces the amount WGPC must pay toward these services and allows more funds to remain for our ministry here. Please make your donation at wgpc.org/give/paying-per-capita/.

FELLOWSHIP

Cocktail Party for Empty Nesters to Reconnect!

*Friday, January 27, 5:00-7:00 p.m., at 231 Gray Ave.,
Webster Groves*

It is time to connect with WGPC friends! Has your nest been emptied recently? Has a child completed college in the last few years? Are there church friends you haven't seen since the start of the pandemic? If so, this is the event for you! Lynne and Jeff Binder and Laura Arnold and David Kimball are hosting an Empty Nester Cocktail party. It is sure to be fun and a great time to connect. No need to RSVP; just plan to come!



What is the Gathering Spot? Find Out Next Sunday!

Join us January 29 before and after the 9:30 a.m. service for coffee and donuts in the Gathering Spot (formerly the front office) and see for yourself! If you need to leave the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning, it's a comfy space to relax with toys, books, coffee, a changing table, and a live-stream of the worship service. But it's so much more! The Gathering Spot is always open to everyone – to catch up with friends over a cup of coffee (or tea and hot chocolate) from the coffee station or have a small meeting. Books from the former adult and children's libraries are incorporated into this space, and you are welcome to borrow any of them or sit and read here. You can even find a charging station at the desk if your phone's battery is low. If you are a history buff, our Church Archive is located inside the GS, and we'll be featuring fun church history facts and photos near the coffee station. And if you need to drop off or pick up some mail, you'll find a new mail room here too. Come see all this for yourself on Sunday, January 29 – or any time at all.

The Gathering Spot Team

Do you have an hour a month you could devote to keeping our new Gathering Spot (old office) organized? Join our team and pick your time. Team members will come in once a month to shelve books; rotate books among the Prayground, Red Cart in the Narthex, and the Gathering Spot; and generally straighten up. If you'd like to learn more, please stop by the Gathering Spot on January 29 or contact Michelle Lepak at 314-962-9210 x3102 or mml@wgpc.org.

WGPC Archive Angels

Would you like to explore WGPC history? Will you share an hour or two each quarter to help keep the Archives (inside the new Gathering Spot) organized and help find fun history facts to highlight in the Gathering Spot? If you'd like to learn more about being an Archive Angel, please stop by the Gathering Spot on January 29 or contact Michelle Lepak at 314-962-9210 x3102 or mml@wgpc.org.

MISSION

Success! 178 Jugs of Laundry Detergent!



Margaret, one of our Agape members, was all smiles as she collected donated detergent at the drive-thru

A huge thank you from Agape youth to everyone who participated in the Detergent and Donut Drive-Thru last Sunday! A goal of collecting 100 jugs of detergent was set, but **our congregation exceeded that goal by donating 178 jugs!** Isaiah 58 folks were so happy for this much-needed item for the families they serve. Thank you for making Agape's MLK Day of Service project such a success!

Rise Against Hunger All Church Mission Project!

Sunday, February 12, in Fellowship Hall following Worship

Help us Rise Against Hunger by joining us in this popular mission project for all ages! With your help we will package 10,000 just-add-water, fully nutritious meals for people in need of critical aid across the globe. To sign up for a volunteer shift, please visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links.



The Gift of Mission Through Endowments

While our current members contribute to our annual budget to provide regular support to our mission partners, endowment gifts allow us to go beyond this giving. The Mission Endowment Fund was originally created by the Maull family in 1984 with a gift of \$35,000, and the principal has grown over the years as others have contributed through memorials and bequests. The fund now provides approximately \$30,000 in investment income each year for the Mission Outreach Commission to support a variety of needs around the community and world. Examples include \$10,000 to Sanctuary in the Ordinary to rehab a studio apartment in St. Louis city, \$10,000 to the PC(USA) fund to help in Ukraine, \$3,060 to support three students at Nyaka School in Uganda, \$3,142 to help Old Community Baptist Church with their wheelchair lift, and \$1,000 to purchase the shelving units that we built for Home Sweet Home. These are just a few of the hundreds of needs we have addressed over the last 37 years! If you would like to know more about supporting any of our endowment funds, contact Jan Scheurer at jls@wgpc.org.

A Note from Environmental Stewardship

Our "theme" for this year is air quality and each of us can make a difference. Here's one way: you'll save fuel and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by turning off your engine instead of idling. Waiting for a train at the tracks or in carpool line? If you're waiting more than 10 seconds, you'll reduce pollution since an idling engine can release as much pollution as a moving car. We can all do our part to make the air healthier.

Give-A-Meal-A-Month Menu for January

Help provide a healthy meal for those served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Purchase a bag of menu items and drop it off in the Mission Hub. January menu is canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti with meatballs, etc.), canned mixed vegetables (low or no salt), canned peaches (lite or in fruit juice), one can of soup, and hot chocolate mix. Additional needs: Diapers, wipes, and diaper rash ointment are always appreciated.

Bulletin and Friday Flash Deadlines

Please submit announcements by the end of Tuesday prior to the desired Sunday. For the bulletin, contact Barb Fischer at baf@wgpc.org. For the Friday Flash, contact Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org. **If you would like your announcement to appear in both, please be sure to email both Barb and Cherstin.**

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION THIS WEEK

(see full details following chart)

Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday
<p>Coffee and Conversation 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nones, Millennials, Gen Xers 10:40 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School 10:40 a.m.</p> <p>Celtics 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Agape 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Men's Bible Study 7:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Disciples Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p>

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

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.

Nones, Millennials, Gen Xers: Where Are They?

Sundays, January 22 and 29, 10:40-11:45 a.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom

During the last few decades, involvement in Christian churches has diminished, particularly among those 50 and younger. Why are the younger generations leaving active involvement in faith communities? Do they still believe even if they don't belong? How might churches like WGPC respond? Explore these questions with Rev. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Professor of Theological Studies at St. Louis University.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sundays, 10:40-11:45 a.m. in Room 210

Children pre-k through 5th grade gather for "Follow Me," a curriculum based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. Each class also features music that prepares the children to sing in worship services throughout the year.

Sunday Evenings, Youth Lounge

- Celtics, (6th through 8th grade), 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- Agape (9th through 12th 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? You can sign up at wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links.

OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE WEEK

Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays, January 24 and February 7, 7:00-8:00 a.m., by Zoom

Facilitated by Rev. Dale Kuhn, former director of Care and Counseling. For more information, contact Frank Bloemke at ekmeolb@gmail.com.

Wednesday Evening Book Study

3rd Wednesday of the Month, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Parlor and by Zoom

A discussion of the book *Do I Stay Christian?* by Brian McLaren will be completed, and the next book *An Altar in the Word: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor will be distributed. Discussion is led by rotating leadership. For more information, contact Rev. Susan Andrews at sra@wgpc.org.

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.

Social Justice Film Club

2nd Tuesdays in February (14th) and May (9th), 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. by Zoom

Discussion about the impact of a film focused on a social justice issue (which is watched in advance). Film titles will be forthcoming and links will be published in the Friday Flash. For more info, contact Janice Seele at seelestl@aol.com.