

September 11, 2022 Announcements

Music in a Great Place, 2022-2023

Welcome to Stony Hill Brass Quintet WGPC Artists in Residence

Today, we welcome the Stony Hill Brass Quintet as our first Artists in Residence at WGPC. Playing for our “Music in a Great Place” series in four unique worship services this season, the members of the quintet includes some of the most well-known St. Louis brass musicians: Robert Souza, trumpet; Jason Harris, trumpet; Stephen Hanrahan, French horn; Matt Frederickson, trombone; and Jeremy Knudtson, tuba. Thank you for enhancing our Worship!



Are You Listening?

God is speaking to the heart of each member of our congregation about ways they could be living out their responsibilities as Christians. Are you listening? The WGPC Officer Nominating Committee is trusting you to spend time in prayer about your commitment to this body of Christ and to listen for God’s call to serve as a Church Officer. We need **Elders** to guide and direct the important decisions of our congregation, **Trustees** to nurture and protect our financial and physical resources, and **Deacons** to provide care, compassion, and fellowship for us. More information about each office is on our church website under the “About” tab. Becoming an elected church officer is one very important way to honor God and serve others. Please spend time over the next few weeks discerning God’s call to you. Listen for God’s “nomination” and then let us know what you’ve heard! Email the committee at nominations@wgpc.org; contact Harriet Hall, Committee Chair, at hallhughes@aol.com or 314-707-4750; or contact Pastor Ed. The committee will be forming our slate of officers to present to the congregation for election in November. We’re looking forward to hearing how God is calling you.



Participants Needed for Young Member Input/Discussion Groups

Tuesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m. at Frisco
Sunday, September 18, 10:30 a.m. at WGPC

Through the Congregational Assessment, we learned that younger members have significantly different perceptions of WGPC than older members. The church leadership is eager to hear the voices of younger members and younger people who are frequent attendees to better understand their hopes and desires for our church. Two focus groups are planned for September. On Tuesday,



September 13, the group will be held from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at Frisco Barroom, 8110 Big Bend Blvd., in Webster Groves. On Sunday, September 18, the group will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon at WGPC. If you are a younger member or frequent WGPC attendee and have not received information about these sessions **or** if you know of younger people interested in WGPC, please let us know by contacting Brenda Dribin at 314-740-4447 or brenda@dribinconsult.net.

Welcome to Michelle Lepak, Our New Director of Welcome & Involvement



This week, please welcome our new WGPC staff member, Michelle Lepak, who will serve in the newly-created position of Director of Welcome and Involvement. Born and raised in St. Louis, Michelle graduated from Mizzou with a B.S. in Elementary Education and earned her master’s degree in Teaching from Webster University. She lives in St. Louis Hills with her husband Bill and three sons – Jake, Gabe, and Nate. An avid animal lover, Michelle has two dogs – Zeke and Luna – and dreams of owning a rescue ranch. For the past seven years Michelle served as the Pantry Director at Circle of Concern in Valley Park, where she was responsible for the operations of the food pantry and warehouse. In her free time Michelle enjoys reading, hiking, and trying new restaurants.

**Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary:
Learn More about Sunday Scriptures!
Sundays, 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the Parlor
and by Zoom**

Have you ever wanted more detail about the texts used in our Sunday services? We will explore the historical settings, the people mentioned, and other references in the weekly Bible texts at 8:30 a.m. before our worship service on Sundays. Sessions will be led by Jeff Buck, Deb Grossman, and Pete Putnam. Plan to drop in and join us in the Parlor or on Zoom as we discuss the lectionary texts for the week. See the Friday Flash for a Zoom Link.

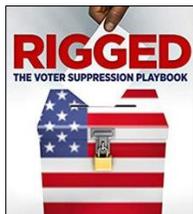


What Do You Mean I Can't Vote?

**Learn about the New Missouri Voting Laws
and How They Will Impact You This Fall
Tuesday, September 13, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall**



The community is invited to join the WGPC Advocacy Team this Tuesday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. for an important presentation on new laws impacting your ability to vote in Missouri. In the past year, voter suppression has increased exponentially across the country, including in Missouri. Voters need to know what these changes are and how we can make sure we are able to cast our votes. Denise Lieberman, staff lawyer and coordinator of the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition, will join us to discuss Missouri House Bill 1878 which was recently signed into law by the governor. Denise will explain the main points of the bill, how it will impact us, what we need to know before going to the polls, and how we can help make sure that all voices are heard through the voting process. This event and presentation align with our church's mission focus of "stronger community." Prior to Denise's presentation, we will hold a short discussion on the film *Rigged: A Voter Suppression Playbook*, which gives some background information about the restrictive voting laws spreading across the country. To view the film, go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for the free viewing by the title or use the link in the Friday Flash. It is NOT required to have watched the film to attend the discussion and presentation. Bring family and friends! All are welcome! For more information, contact Julie Burchett at burchett.juliekay@gmail.com. The meeting will also be recorded and available for later viewing.



**Webster Groves Jazz Festival
Begins with a Concert at WGPC!
Friday, September 16, 7:30 p.m.
in the Sanctuary**

The annual fall Jazz festival held in Webster Groves has added a new venue this year. The kick-off concert will be at WGPC on Friday, September 16, at 7:30 p.m. in our Sanctuary. The concert features Carolbeth True, a performer and music educator considered to be among the top jazz pianists in the city. Make plans to join us and bring your friends!



**Cub Scout Pack 300 Carwash
Sunday, September 25, 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Church Parking Lot**

Mark your calendars! Cub Scout Pack 300's fundraising car wash will return to our church parking lot on Sunday afternoon, September 21. Please plan to help out our scouts and enjoy a sparkling clean car!



**The St. Louis Metro Singers
Invite You to Our Fall Concert:**

**"Sing When the Spirit Says Sing"
in Celebration of the Life of
Sandra Buschmann,
our dear friend, music lover, and supporter**



**Sunday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.
at WGPC**

SLMS is a not-for-profit organization.
Tax-deductible donations can be sent to:

St. Louis Metro Singers
45 West Lockwood Ave.
Webster Groves, MO 63119

Join us as we share our love in the community

Mission Weekend 2022

Friday, Sept 30 thru Sunday, Oct 2



There are a variety of projects to participate in including: painting in the ECC, working in the warehouse at Home Sweet Home, yard cleanup for Sanctuary in the Ordinary, giving blood at the Deacon's blood drive, helping in the Isaiah 58 Ministries food pantry, writing cards to members, and dropping off your food donations. For more details and to sign up, see the link in the Friday Flash.

Give-A-Meal-A-Month: September Menu

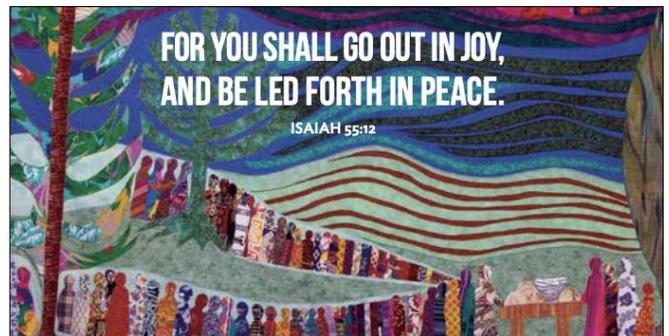
We are accepting food donations for our GAMAM program which provides recipients with the food items needed to create a healthy meal rather than just relying on donated leftovers from people's pantries. Simply purchase a bag of food according to the menu below and drop it off in the GAMAM cabinet in Fellowship Hall. We will then deliver the items to Webster-Rock Hill Ministries to support our neighbors. *This month's menu is beef stew, canned carrots (no or low salt), cornbread mix (no egg required), and Jello. Feminine hygiene products are also appreciated.*



Thanks to Our Chancel Flower Donors!



Arrangements to beautify the Sanctuary are appreciated by all. If you would like to donate an arrangement, please contact Gay Moppert at mopfam@aol.com. After Worship, chancel flowers are traditionally arranged into smaller bouquets and delivered to members who could use a little extra cheer from our congregation.



Peace & Global Witness Offering Sunday, October 2

On October 2, our congregation will collect the Peace & Global Witness Offering which allows us to connect with each other to confront systems of injustice and promote peace. Half of the offering goes to the national church to address these issues around the world (including the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program), 25% is retained by congregations for local peace and reconciliation work, and 25% goes to mid councils for similar ministries on the regional level. To contribute, look for special envelopes in the pews, mail a check to the church office, or donate on our website by selecting "Special Offering" and indicating "Peace & Global Witness." Peace begins with each of us. *If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!*



Faith Formation

*Sundays, 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the Parlor
and by Zoom*

Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary

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.

*Sunday classes below are held from 10:45 to
11:45 a.m. in the Parlor*

September 11, 18, 25 – **The Psalms and Justice (Including Voter Issues)** led by Rev. Clint McCann.

October 2 – **Mission Weekend Projects**

October 9, 16, 23 - **Being Christian in a Multi-Faith World** led by Rev. Jim Poinsett, Interfaith Partnership, and Jeff Buck (3rd session)

October 30 – **God's Call to Create Clean Air** coordinated by the Environmental Stewardship Team.

November 6 – **A Culture of Generosity: Stewardship, Planned Giving, and Endowment** led by the Stewardship and Endowment Committees.

November 13 and 20 – **How Do We Talk About Tough Issues?** led by Rev. Dale Kuhn.

November 27 and December 4, 11, and 18 – **Advent and the Arts** coordinated by Rev. Susan Andrews.

December 25 and January 1 – no classes.

January 8 – **Gun Violence and Hands-on Project** coordinated by the Advocacy Team.

January 16, 23, and 30 – **Nones, Millennials, Gen Xers – Where Are They?** led by Rev. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez.

Other Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

Disciples Bible Study

*Thursday Mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
in the Parlor and by Zoom*

Starting September 15, this lively and interactive group will explore the Gospel of Matthew. Facilitated by Rev. Susan Andrews.

Men's Bible Study (by Zoom)

Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m.

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 led by rotating leadership. For more information, contact Rev. Susan Andrews at sra@wgpc.org.

Theology on Tap

Wednesday, September 21

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Llewelyn's Pub, Webster Groves

Monthly informal conversations about faith and life. Facilitated by Scott Lyon. For more information, contact Scott at silyon33@gmail.com.

Children's Sunday School

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 week also features music that prepares the children to sing in worship services throughout the year."

Youth Fellowship

Sunday Evenings, Youth Lounge

- 4:00-5:30 p.m. Celtics (6th through 8th grade)
 - 5:00-7:30 p.m. Agape (9th through 12th grade)
- Youth today are seeking answers. Centered in Jesus Christ, Celtics and Agape provide safe space for spiritual discussion as well as fellowship and fun while developing friendships.

Youth and Agape Shared Meal

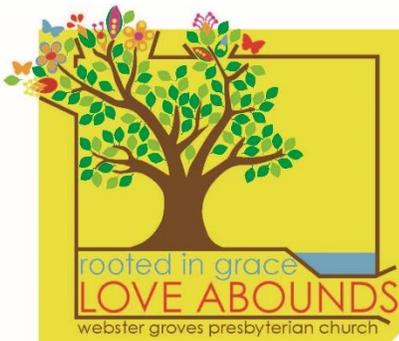
From 5:00-5:30 p.m. each week, all youth come together to break bread with a meal provided by church members. Interested in providing a meal? You can sign up at wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links.



Please submit announcements by the end of **Tuesday** prior to the desired Sunday:

For the bulletin - Barbara Fischer at baf@wgpc.org

For the Friday Flash – Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org



WGPC MISSION AT A GLANCE

MISSION:

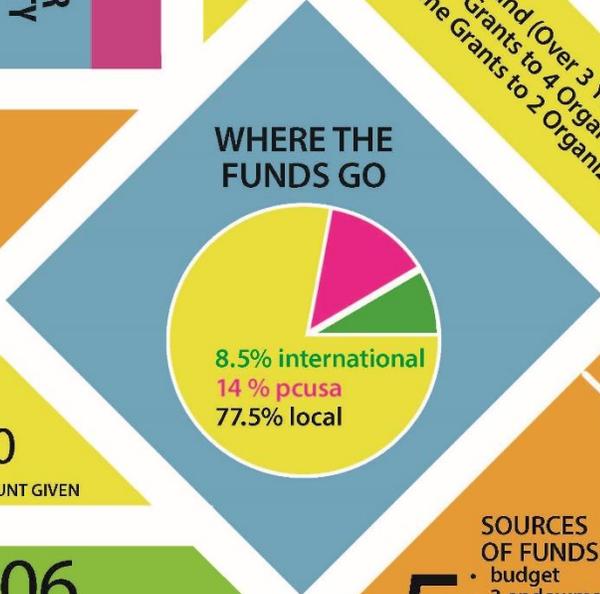
Our mission is to help provide our neighbors a pathway out of poverty and toward opportunity and empowerment. We commit to support organizations that provide hope and opportunity to underserved communities and that help in some way to break the cycle of dependency.

30
CHARITIES
SUPPORTED
IN 2022



143
VOLUNTEER HOURS MISSION WEEKEND 2021

1000'S
OF VOLUNTEER HOURS BY MEMBERS SERVING IN OUR COMMUNITY



\$500
SMALLEST AMOUNT GIVEN

\$9,906
AVERAGE AMOUNT GIVEN TO AN ORGANIZATION

\$30,000
LARGEST AMOUNT GIVEN TO AN ORGANIZATION



5 SOURCES OF FUNDS

- budget
- 3 endowments
- meyer fund
- special offerings
- congregational donations to special causes

\$297,123
GIVEN/PLEDGED AS OF 8.30.2022

To get involved or to learn more about mission outreach, social justice and environmental ministries, contact Beth Kazlauskas at 314-962-9210 x3208 or bok@wgpc.org. She'd love to connect you with our mission partners.

A big thank you to the WGPC congregation for your generous giving! With your gifts, we are making a positive impact in our community and the world.

Charities Supported in 2022

ALIVE
Beyond Housing
Care and Counseling
CEPAD
ECC Scholarships
EnergyCare
Epworth Drop in Center
Fathers and Family Support Center
Foster Care Coalition
Home Sweet Home
Immigrant & Refugee Fund
Interfaith Partnership
International Institute
Isaiah 58 Ministries
Nyaka Scholarships
Plan Grande 2 Scholarships
PCUSA Ukraine Support
Presbyterian Children's Home
Presbyterian Manors
Sanctuary In the Ordinary
Snacks for Students
St Louis Continuum of Care
St Louis Internship Program
Theological Education Fund
Third Presbyterian Summer Program
Webster/Rock Hill Ministries
Presbyterian Shared Mission
Presbyterian Per Capita
Urban Sprouts
Welcome Neighbor STL

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
45 West Lockwood
Webster Groves, MO 63119