

September 26, 2021 Announcements

Welcome Oikos Jazz Ensemble



At today's service, we are pleased to have Oikos Ensemble, a consortium of gifted musicians celebrating stories of transformation and enlightenment from around the world. We welcome Kim Fuller Barnes (vocal), Rev. Cliff Aerie, (saxophone), Carolbeth True (piano), Glen Smith (bass), and David True (drums).

Transcending musical boundaries, Oikos paints vibrant soundscapes with the brush stroke of jazz improvisation affirming the human family as one. During the past four years, the Rev. Clifford Aerie, director and the Oikos Ensemble have received rave reviews from congregations, national/regional gatherings, religious communities, colleges and seminaries around the country. Designing imaginative liturgies, sharing inspirational concerts, leading creative "playshops" and master classes, Cliff and the ensemble have been acknowledged as innovators on the vanguard of creative ministry and interfaith celebrations.

Mission Weekend in One Week! October 2 and 3

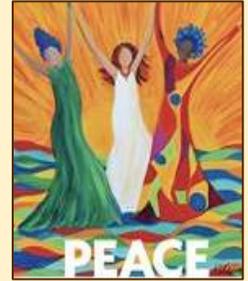
Despite the continued impact of COVID, we will join together for our annual Mission Weekend. Physically-distanced projects include packing sack lunches and care packages at church, participating in the Deacons' Blood Drive, helping in the Isaiah 58 Ministries food pantry, gardening, and working in the Home Sweet Home warehouse. For more info and to sign up, see the Friday Flash.

Deacons' Blood Drive
Saturday, October 2
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Please see the Friday Flash for more information and to register.

Peace & Global Witness Offering Sunday, October 3

WGPC will collect for the Peace & Global Witness Offering next Sunday to help empower congregations and individuals to address anxiety and discord globally. Look for special envelopes in the pews, mail a check to the church office, or donate via our website by selecting Special Offering > Peace & Global Witness. Thank you!



Medical Equipment Donation Drive Saturday, October 9, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Webster Groves City Hall



Do you have medical equipment that is not being used? Make a tax-deductible donation of your equipment to St. Louis HELP (Health Equipment Lending Program) that lends the donated home medical items to those in need at no cost. Drop-off point is Webster Groves City Hall on October 9, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Items accepted include: manual wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, canes/crutches/walkers, portable commodes, lift chairs, and Invacare-brand only electric hospital beds. For a larger list of items needed, please visit stlhelp.org for more information. Thank you!

Cub Scout Car Wash Sunday, October 3, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Enjoy a sparkling clean car and help our Cub Scouts raise funds by pulling into the Hale parking lot next Sunday afternoon!



Opportunities to Bee-Long at WGPC!

- Memorial Garden, contact Karen Schneider at bsandks@yahoo.com
- Dedicated Office Volunteers (DOVs), contact Pam Murphy at pam@spmurphy.net
- Agape and Celtics, contact Cherstin Byers at chb@wgpc.org.





For the full fall schedule, visit WGPC.org > Ministries > Faith Formation > Adult Ministries > Adult Education.

**Adult Classes, 10:45-11:45 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom**

- TODAY: “Black Lives Matter to God” presented by Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez, Theology Professor at St. Louis University.
- “More Light,” a program welcoming LGBTQ+ Christians, will be the topic of the next two classes.
- October 10: “What is the Biblical Invitation to be a Welcoming Church?” facilitated by Janice Seele, Co-Chair WGPC Advocacy Team.
- October 17: “What Does It Mean to Be a More Light Congregation?” facilitated by elder Carrie Rao and others.
- October 24: “How is the Pandemic Changing the Christian Church?” facilitated by Rev. Susan Andrews, Theologian in Residence.

Upcoming topics include: Coping with Pandemic Stress, Presbyterian Mission in Latin America, Gratitude in Tough Times, Advent Explorations, 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
Youth Lounge**

- 4:00-5:30 p.m. Celtics Middle School Fellowship
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. Agape High School Fellowship
- 5:00-5:30 p.m. Family meal for all youth

If you would like to provide a simple meal for our youth, please contact Pastor Hannah at hmd@wgpc.org.



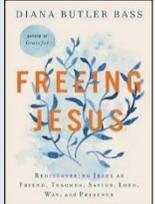
ADDITIONAL FAITH FORMATION

Disciple Bible Study, Thursdays

10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Parlor and on Zoom
Beginning with 2nd Corinthians, take a leisurely walk through the New Testament - dialogue, doubt and curiosity are welcome! Contact Pastor Hannah at hmd@wgpc.org to find out what book we're on each week. Questions? Contact Diane McCullough at dmccpae@sbcglobal.net.

**Wednesday Evening Book Study
3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00 p.m. in members' homes**

Our 2021-2022 book is *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way and Presence* by Diana Butler Bass with group-led discussion (with support from Rev. Susan Andrews). Contact Betsy Wacker at wacker.betsy@att.net.



Love Little Kids?

A volunteer is needed to assist the nursery staff, Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon. No planning or prep needed. Please contact Carrie Rao at gopackers4@me.com. The ECC also would like to hire a part-time teacher's aide for the Little Learners classroom (ages 1-3), Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. – noon. Contact Amanda Kingsbury 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 it is more potent and 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