

September 5, 2021 Announcements

Get Ready for Mission Weekend!

October 2 and 3



It's that time of year again . . . we are ready to serve those in our community by heading out for a weekend of work. There will be a variety of projects to sign up for, so pencil us in and look for project descriptions and signups in the Friday Flash and the bulletin next week.

Responding to the Crisis in Afghanistan

September 5 through 26

On Sundays in September, WGPC will be collecting items from International Institute's "most needed" list to share with a family relocating from



INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE
SAINT LOUIS

Afghanistan. To participate in this collection, please visit <https://wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links> to sign up for one or more of these items. Our collection area will

be on the stage in Fellowship Hall, underneath the wood carving at the south end of the room. If you would prefer to make a financial donation, you can write a check to WGPC or [give online](#) noting "Mission - IISTL Collection" in the memo field, and we will purchase additional needed items with these funds. For more information, IISTL has published a great list of resources at: <https://www.iistl.org/siv/>.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Helping Victims of Disaster

As we all are aware, people around the world have experienced a tremendous amount of suffering from natural disasters throughout 2021. Along with our prayers, many people want to contribute financially to help where they can. The PC(USA)'s mission agency includes Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), which reaches out during times of crisis to offer support and resources. Wildfires, flooding, hurricanes, and earthquakes are all impacting our world right now, and PDA can connect our contributions with those in need following these disasters. If you would like more information on how to donate, please visit <https://pda.pcusa.org/>.

Volunteer Nursery Worker Needed

Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - noon

WGPC is in need of a volunteer to work in the nursery as we plan to open all programs on



September 12. If you love little children and would like to serve, please contact Carrie Rao at gopackers4@me.com.

WGPC Would Like to Hire A Part-Time Teacher's Aide

WGPC ECC is looking to hire a part-time teacher's aide for the Little Learners classroom (ages 1-3). Hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. – noon. No experience necessary but must love kids! Interested? Please reach out to Amanda at [917-312-7075](tel:917-312-7075) or ecc@wgpc.org. 🍏🍏

Community Composting

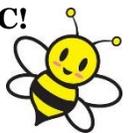
Are you looking for an easy way to get started with composting your kitchen food scraps? Table To Garden is an organization whose primary goal is to divert residential food scraps from landfills to



compost piles. Terri Ruitcel started Table to Garden to facilitate composting in St. Louis, and she hosts a collection site at her home in Webster on Clark Avenue near Glen Road. She provides buckets with lids that people can pick up at her house, fill, return, and replace with another empty bucket to fill, all for free! If you're ready to get started, you can sign up using the link in the Friday Flash (<https://wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links/>). Questions? Contact Terri at ttgtabletogarden@gmail.com.

Many Ways to Bee-Long at WGPC!

The opportunity fair may be behind us, but opportunities to meet new people, serve others, and share faith experiences abound at WGPC. A few reminders of service opportunities will be shown in each bulletin.



- Sunday Education Hour for adults, contact Rev. Susan Andrews at sra@wgpc.org
- Hospitality/Receptions & Ushers, contact Donna Bellows at dbellows@swb.net
- Flower deliveries, contact Kristy Anderson at [314-696-7383](tel:314-696-7383) or kristynanderson01@gmail.com

**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 they 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.

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 **next Sunday, September 12**, following worship. The nursery will be open until noon. For the full 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.