

## September 12, 2021 Announcements

### Get Ready for Mission Weekend!

**October 2 and 3**

Despite the continued impacts of COVID, we will still be joining together for our annual Mission Weekend.

**MISSION**  
Weekend

There are many physically-distanced projects including mulching the ECC playground, working

in the Home Sweet Home warehouse, and packing care packages and sack lunches at church. For more information and to sign up, see the Friday Flash.

### Responding to the Crisis in Afghanistan: An Update from International Institute

We are surprised and happy to say that the St. Louis community responded so enthusiastically that the International Institute has put a temporary stop to accepting new donations of household items.

thank  
you

Their storage is filled to the brim, and for now they are going to spend time sorting and assessing what they need. For that reason, we have

put a temporary stop to our collection of items for IISTL until we hear what items they will need and when. If you would like to contribute in another way, IISTL is accepting bus passes, grocery gift cards and financial donations. You can find out more about their collection by going to <https://www.iistl.org/>.

### Looking for Officers

The Nominating Committee is currently preparing a new slate of officers for the Class of 2024. If you would like to serve the church as a Deacon, Elder or Trustee or nominate a member to serve, please contact Lynne Binder at [ljrbinder@msn.com](mailto:ljrbinder@msn.com).



### Volunteer Nursery Worker Needed

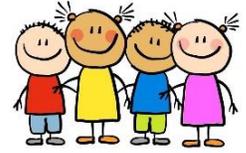
**Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - noon**

A volunteer is needed to work in the nursery. The nursery volunteer is an aide to the staff teacher who will lead the nursery service. Volunteers just show up and do as directed- no planning or prep required! If you love little children and would like to serve, please contact Carrie Rao at [gopackers4@me.com](mailto: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 or [ecc@wgpc.org](mailto:ecc@wgpc.org).



### Social Advocacy Film Club: "FREEDOM SUMMER"

**Tuesday, September 14, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**



Recent changes to voting laws have created issues of equity in voting rights. Examine the 1964 Mississippi civil rights movement in *The American Experience's* "Freedom Summer." View the film online and join us on the 14th for a Zoom discussion. Links and

information are on WGPC's Advocacy page at <https://wgpc.org/ministries/advocacy-team/>.



**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/>.

### Opportunities to Bee-Long at WGPC!

- Mission Weekend, contact Beth Kozlauskas at [bok@wgpc.org](mailto:bok@wgpc.org)
- Transportation providers, contact Mike Kearney at [newstlou@swbell.net](mailto:newstlou@swbell.net)
- Environmental Stewardship, contact Dennis Wacker at [wackerd@ann.net](mailto:wackerd@ann.net)



## Host a Youth Dinner! It's as Easy as Pizza!

**Sundays 5:00-5:30 p.m.**

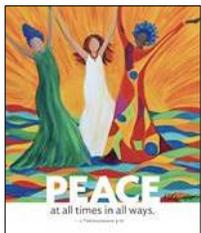
Break bread with Celtics and Agape! Sign up to provide dinner (20 servings with a vegetarian option) for our youth on Sunday night (or many nights) using the Friday Flash link. Bring your kids, partner, grandkids! You can order take-out, use the church kitchen, or prepare a meal at home and bring it in. Youth will set up and clean up. Questions? Contact Pastor Hannah for more info at [hmd@wgpc.org](mailto:hmd@wgpc.org).



## Peace & Global Witness Offering

**Sunday, October 3**

WGPC will collect for the Peace & Global Witness Offering to empower congregations and individuals



to become peacemakers. Through this offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address anxiety and discord prevalent throughout our world. Half of the offering goes to the national church to address these

issues globally, including the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, 25% to congregations like ours for local peace and reconciliation work, and 25% to mid councils for regional ministries. To contribute look for special envelopes in the pews, mail a check the church office, or donate on our website by selecting Special Offering > Peace & Global Witness.

## 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 worshippers 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 **this Sunday, September 12**, following worship. The nursery will be open until noon. For the full fall schedule, visit [WGPC.org](http://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!

- TODAY, Sept. 12: What is Racism: A Biblical Perspective
- Sept. 19: Reformed Theological Resources for Resisting Racism
- Sept. 26: Black Life Matter to God

Additional topics will include: 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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: 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.

Agape High School Fellowship: 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.