

Weekly Newsletter

DECEMBER 5, 2024



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Matthew 4:16-17 ceb

16 the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light, and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death. **17** From that time Jesus began to announce, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!"

Greetings, siblings in Christ!

Well, we're into it now. Chestnuts are roasting, lights are twinkling in the dark nights, and decorations are cropping up all throughout our houses. But with all the activities, the joys, and the stresses over the next couple of weeks, this season can come and go before we even get a chance to breathe.

So I want to encourage you, with all that we will have going on in this time, both as a church and in your own life and family, to make sure to take some time to make this holiday season special for you and God. We all know the phrase "Jesus is the reason for the season," but we often act as if knowing this is enough. This year, I encourage you, as followers of Christ always should, to be intentional about the time you give to your relationship with Jesus, and the God who sent him. Try your best to love God with the same depth and attention God loves you.

Now I know this is going to sound a bit hypocritical, so understand there is no expectation nor requirement in this next statement, but I also didn't want this to pass without letting people know: the Webster Groves Theatre Guild (517 Theatre Ln) is putting on "Mulligan's Stew" this Friday - Sunday, Dec 6th-8th. Friday and Saturday at 7pm, Sunday at 2pm. (Joan is playing the part of Sally.)

14 The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. - John 1:14 ceb

Church family,

I need to let you know of another big change this Christmas season. I have spoken with several members of the congregation, including the worship planning team. The consensus seems to be that it is time to do something new on Christmas Eve: one new service starting at 5pm. This service will include elements for families and children, as well as our traditional carols and candlelight at the end.

While this is a shift, I hope you will join us so that we might lift our hearts and voices as one community, as we welcome Christ again into our world, our hearts and our lives. Looking forward to a meaningful and blessed Christmas together.

Yours In Christ

PASTOR GLEN



PRAYER CONCERNS

Kroenung Family; Bev Mesey; Dianne Wallace; Floyd & Linda Emery (Jo Ann Claywell); Randy Turman & Family and Karen Leach & Family (Lettie Morse); Reesor/Stuart Family; Margo Petracek & her sister Cheryl & her friend Allison; Steve Wojtowicz (Janet Iggulden's son-in-law); Rita Milford (Maggie Stevens' mother); Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); holiday travelers; our country; the homeless population of St. Louis; and world peace.

Sympathy To...

- **Connie, Greg, Lucy Kroenung and their extended family on the recent passing of their Aunt Marlene.**

Senior Cruisers to Winter Flower & Train Show!

The WUM Senior Cruisers are planning a trip to the Winter Flower & Train Show at Missouri Botanical Garden on Friday, December 20th. We will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. to carpool to MOBOT, see the Flower/Train Show, and have lunch at Sassafras Café (in the same building). The Flower/Train Show is included with general admission fee (\$6 with proof of St. Louis City or County residency) and lunch in the Café will be approximately \$15-\$20. Please note that MOBOT is a cashless venue—you will need to pay with a credit or debit card.

SIGN UP ON THE CONNECTION CARD
ON SUNDAY MORNING OR CALL
MARCIA KENNON AT 314-914-3871
OR CINDY ANDREWS
AT 314-277-9368.





The
**MOUNTAIN
SERVICE**

SCHEDULE
December

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Worship Service With Communion
Fellowship Hall @ 7:30pm

Thursday, December 12, 2024

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Traveler's Christmas Service
Fellowship Hall @ 7:30pm

Thursday, December 26, 2024

Small group @ 7:30pm - Space Room



WUM
YOUTH GROUP
PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS COOKIE MARKETPLACE



SATURDAY, DEC. 14
9AM - 12PM



HUNDREDS OF HOMEMADE COOKIES
& HOLIDAY TREATS SOLD BY THE POUND
YOU PICK THE ONES YOU WANT!
(COME EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION!)



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT NEXT
SUMMER'S YOUTH MISSION TRIP

600 N BOMPART AVE,
WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119



OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

2:00PM - 4:00PM

MEET • GREET • EAT
CRAFTY SERVICE PROJECTS

SEE WHAT'S NEW WITH
PROGRAMS & SERVICES

SCAVENGER HUNT
& NEW OFFICE TOURS

Shepherd's Center
at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
45 W. Lockwood Ave
Webster Groves, MO 63119

• Call 314-395-0988 to RSVP by December 5th •



Epworth Auxiliary

CHRISTMAS CARD *Sale*

All proceeds to benefit Epworth
Children and Family Services

12 CARDS FOR \$15



To order, contact: Linda Guth Stangl

at: 314-961-4133



2024 EPWORTH HOLIDAY WISHES

Want to spread some cheer this holiday by donating gifts to our youth?

Our Holiday Wishes program registers gifts the youths want, allows you to “adopt” their wish so they have a gift to open on Christmas Day!

We will happily accept gifts at our Webster location, or feel free to order them online. We appreciate your support in making this holiday season special for our youth! Please fill out the form below so we can email you a wish list or assign you to a family to adopt. In the message box below, please indicate if you have a preference of adopting a family or a youth.

[Click Here to View The Holiday Wish List Items on Signup Genius](#)

Location

110 North Elm Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Please turn in all gifts by December 6th!

United Women In Faith

Craft & Bake Sale

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

10:30 AM, preceding UWF
Christmas Luncheon
AND Sunday morning
December 8th

In addition to these & other crafts,
there will be greeting cards & home
baked goodies of all kinds!

PROCEEDS SUPPORT
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
MISSIONS

Questions??
Contact Sharon Wersching,
314-961-8265



Christmas Ornaments for Sale



On the morning of December 15th during fellowship time (9:45 to 10:30 am), Scout Troop 303 will be in Fellowship Hall to sell Christmas ornaments. This new fundraiser features locally designed and created ornaments for \$12 each. ALL proceeds benefit the troop.

Please join us in supporting a worthy cause and buy some ornaments to decorate your home or give as gifts.

Join communities across the country for a silent candlelight vigil to remember victims of gun violence.

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
front steps

Check-in: 5:30 pm
Vigil: when you arrive after 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Candles provided.

2024
Nationwide Vigils to
#EndGunViolence

Come together to remember over one million Americans killed or injured by guns since the Sandy Hook shooting tragedy.

Logos at the bottom include: GIFFORDS, NEWTOWN ACTION ALLIANCE FOUNDATION, St. Mark's EPISCOPAL CHURCH, nea NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, FAITH LEADERS Ending Gun Violence, Joyce Foundation, BAWN, EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY, BRADY, MARCH FOR OUR LIVES, PROMISE, and FUND FOR A SAFER FUTURE.

"Hate Divides/Love Unites" yard signs are being ordered again on December 16.

We are placing a joint order with Unity UMC. Cost will be determined based on quantity ordered; but is expected to be less than \$20 each.

Please sign the Connection Card on this Sunday or the 15th, or call the church office, #314-961-4133, to let us know how many you need.

