



**WEST DES MOINES
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(Disciples of Christ)

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THE Caller



WEST DES MOINES CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS AND INFORMATION

BACK TO THE FUTURE Fall Programming Kicks Off September 11-12

Our fall programming begins September 12 as we resume church school at 10 a.m., welcome back our choirs, and return to our fall schedule of 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services. This fall we will be introducing some new choirs and several other opportunities for everyone! From 5 to 7 p.m. join us as we celebrate the decades with awesome games such as Bingo, Twister, and Wheel of Fortune. We'll conclude the evening with a meal featuring a baked potato bar, salad, soft-serve ice cream, a few surprises, and some awesome entertainment!



On Saturday, September 11 bring your lawn chairs and blankets for a showing of the 1980s classic film *Back to the Future* starting at 8 p.m. in the yard behind The Sanctuary. (Rain location is the Gym.) Popcorn and beverages will be served. Also at 7:30 p.m. we will have a replica of the DeLorean Time Machine from the movie on display. You can get in the car and have your picture taken with this fun *Back to the Future* replica prop. The car will also be on display for our Kickoff Event on Sunday. A freewill offering will be taken to help defray costs.

Join us September 11 and 12 as we kick off another fantastic year.

WDMCC Hosts SCL August 28

Plan to attend *Come Together* School for Congregational Learning (SCL) at WDMCC on Saturday, August 28 beginning at 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. SCL is a one-day training opportunity for anyone who wants to receive training, inspiration, guidance, and direction for doing the work of the church.

Events include worship, morning and afternoon workshops of your choice, a family-style lunch, and a keynote speaker. Cost is \$20 per person. Keynote speaker is Jose Morales Jr., a gifted speaker, writer, and Disciples pastor who is the Central Rocky Mountain Region transitional minister and an adjunct professor at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Registration forms and information are available on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall building or at uppermidwestcc.org.

All-Church Brunch August 29 at 11 a.m.

Disciple Enrichment invites members, guests, and visitors to an all-church brunch on Sunday, August 29 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

The buffet-style menu features cinnamon rolls, fresh fruit, and other delicious breakfast entrees. A freewill offering will be collected.

Caller Preference: Mail or Email?

In the spirit of going green and being good stewards of church resources, we continue to offer the option of receiving the *Caller* via email. (Be assured, as always you can still receive the *Caller* by mail.)

If your delivery preference has changed, please email or call the church office with your preferred mail and/or email addresses.

SERMON TOPICS

August 8 Rev. Alison Robuck	<i>Finding Our Treasure!</i> Luke 12: 32-40
August 15 Rev. Alison Robuck	<i>Something Unexpected!</i> Luke 12: 49-56
August 22 Alison Nicoll	TBD



Our mission at
West Des Moines Christian Church

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August 21 Men's Steak Fry Supports Youth

The 2nd Annual Men's Steak Fry is Saturday, August 21 at 5:30 p.m. It's time to purchase your tickets to this *great* event. The combination of *great* food, fellowship, and entertainment (Travis Acheson, a National Guard fighter pilot will take us on a journey) – with the proceeds helping to fund summer camp for our youth – makes it a *must event* for WDMCC men of all ages. And don't forget to bring your friends.

Tickets are on sale in The Gathering every Sunday and also in the church office. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 10 and under.

You Can Be On YouTube

Church Growth, in collaboration with our own Pool Cat Productions, will be interviewing members on Sunday, August 8 in The Gathering before and after worship. The interview will ask why you belong to WDMCC or what WDMCC means to you. The video will be produced and uploaded to YouTube and our wdmcc.org website.

So it's lights, camera, action on August 8. Stop by and help us share the good news of WDMCC. If you can't make it on August 8, other tapings are planned depending on Pool Cat's schedule, so watch the *Caller* and Sunday *Bulletin* for future taping dates.

Host Families Needed For Children's Choir

The African Children's Choir will perform at WDMCC Friday, October 29 at 7 p.m. A love offering to help cover the choir's expenses will be collected.

We're looking for about nine families to serve as host families for the 23 children (ages 7 to 10) and eight chaperones. They would stay in your home on Friday evening. You would provide breakfast Saturday morning, then bring them to the WDMCC at noon so they can travel to their next performance.

Please mark your calendars for this wonderful opportunity to welcome these children into our church and our lives, even for a brief minute. Interested in hosting? Contact Scott Stilwell.

Wanted: Smiles!

A new pictorial directory is in the works! Starting September 15, photos will be taken at the church for the general congregation. However, if you have a college student, Saturday, August 14 is available for photos to be taken at the J. Johnson Gallery. Make your appointment by calling 278-4463.

ACTIVITY GROUPS GUIDE

Acclamation

(small, mixed adult choir)

Benediction

(small male adult choir)

Chancel Choir

(Adult choir)

Children in Faith

(grades K-1)

Chi Rho

(grades 6-8)

Chore Corps

men's indoor/outdoor maintenance task group

Church Ladies

(20-50 something) meet once a month for casual conversation

Connections

(to age 50)

Crafts Therapy

women making crafts for annual bazaar

CYF

Christian Youth Fellowship-grades 9-12

Disciples Diners

(approx 30-60 years)

Exhaltation

(small female adult choir)

Friends in Faith

(grades 2-5)

Game Day

(open to all ages to play a variety of games)

Golden Mixers

(ages 50+)

Helping Hands

(women assisting with church housekeeping)

Music Ministry Outreach

("caroling" hymns to shut-ins)

New Possibilities

(for single, widowed and divorced women)

Prayer Shawl group

women of all ages

Parents Night Out

a kid sitting co-op

Quilt Group

(All interested in quilting)

Resonance

(adult handbells)

Rock of Ages

multi-instrumental band

Tuesday Tunes

old-fashioned hymn sing

Unspoken Praise

sign language choir

VA/Caller

Volunteer Action - anyone can help

Vision

adult contemporary choir

Women's Current Issues Book Group

(Women of all ages)

YES

(Young Energetic Srs-age 50+)

Youth choir

(grades 6-12)

YM

(Youth Ministry)

THE CONTENTS OF SOME PAGES IN THIS NEWSLETTER HAVE BEEN REMOVED TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF THOSE IN OUR CONGREGATION.

Remembering In Our Daily Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers are with members recovering from illness, surgery, and accidents; residing in in-care facilities; serving in the military; mourning the loss of loved ones; and celebrating life's special milestones. If you have a special prayer request for *The Caller*, please email caller@wdmcc.org or call the church office. Due to HIPPA laws, we can only publish requests received from you or your immediate family members. If you'd like your prayer request added to the Elders Prayer Chain, contact the church office.

Dear God, For those we have not remembered, we pray that you do remember them by name and give them peace and comfort. Amen.

Thank You, WDMCC!

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Recent Visitors to WDMCC

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Disciple Diners meet Friday, August 21. Call the church office, email Martha McDanel, or sign up on the FH bulletin board.

Y.E.S. Sharpen your pencils and brush up on your spelling! The YES group is going back to school on Saturday, August 28, beginning at 5 p.m. at the historic Bennett School on Fuller Road. Cost is \$5 per person (lunch, book rental, and gym fees).

Golden Mixers Save the date! On Tuesday, September 14, for a program on historic Jordan Cemetery. Watch for details.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Quilt Group meets Saturday, August 7 @ 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to complete plans for the upcoming year.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets August 14 (and the third Saturday of every month) @ 9 a.m. to knit or crochet shawls. Crafters pray for the recipient as they knit or crochet. All shawls are blessed at the Prayer Shawl meeting before they are presented.

Church Ladies (20- to 50-something) meet Monday, August 23 @ 6:30 p.m. for casual fellowship (conversation, snacks, and laughter). Please bring a snack to share.

Women's Issues Book Group meets September 2 @ 7 p.m. in the Library to discuss *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. Visitors are welcome as we discuss this book about early-onset Alzheimer's disease.

Women's Retreat All women are invited to the Upper Midwest Women's Fall Retreat October 1-3. This year's theme is *Sanctuary in the Stories* with keynote speaker Dr. Marti Steussy, professor of Old Testament studies at Christian Theological Seminary. The retreat is at Lake Koronis Conference and Retreat Center in Paynesville, Minnesota. Rev. Alison Robuck is one of the retreat's co-coordinators.

Transportation from WDMCC will depart Friday morning, October 1 and return the evening of Sunday, October 3. Cost is \$100 to \$150 (depending on lodging option). Full or partial scholarships are available. Registration forms are available in the church office.

If you want an opportunity to connect with other women, take a "breather" in a beautiful fall location, and grow your faith, then this is the weekend for you! Questions? Contact Pastor Alison for information.

Bus Ministry Seeks Volunteers

WDMCC's church bus is an important ministry, providing rides to and from worship services on Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, our list of dedicated drivers is short, and we need more volunteer drivers.

Drivers must have a Commercial Drivers License (CDL); CDL study manuals are available in the church office.

If you would like to help with this ministry, but don't feel comfortable driving the bus, we also need people to ride along to assist passengers with their walkers and wheelchairs and help them get on and off the bus. If you can help with this important ministry, please call the church office.

MUSIC & FINE ARTS

State Fair Outing Scott Stilwell performs at the Iowa State Fair near the main entrance on Friday, August 20. We'll take the church bus, leaving WDMCC at 8:30 a.m. and returning by 3 p.m. Transportation cost is \$2. Admission tickets at the gate are \$10; advance discount tickets (from Dahl's or Hy-Vee are \$7). Sign up on the FH bulletin board or call the church office.

Financial Secretary Reminder

Statements of Giving are mailed in May, September, and December. You may, however, request a copy of your statement any time during the year by contacting Financial Secretary Claudette Sederburg.

HIPPA Law

Hospitals are unable to release patient information. This includes contacting WDMCC when someone is admitted to the hospital. If you or a family member is hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, please call the church office.

Sign Up For Coed Volleyball League

WDMCC's semi-competitive coed volleyball league begins Monday, September 27 and ends Monday, November 15. If you're interested, please call the church office or sign up on the FH bulletin board by September 13.

228 Sailed High Seas Expedition At Vacation Bible School

What a wonderful time 228 children, youth and adults enjoyed at High Seas Expedition 2010 Vacation Bible School, singing with Pam, Lisa, and crews; having Bible stories played out by Scott, Alison R., Alison N., Kyra, and crews; learning etiquette and eating delicious snacks prepared by Claudette and crew; playing energizing games with Randy, Courtney, and crews; making crafts with Kelley and crew; and being cared for by Kathy and crew!

The children collected \$184.79 for Disaster Relief (Week of Compassion) and 1,021 items of food for the Food Pantry. What an incredible response by the children to the needs of others! Of course, a little friendly competition between the boys and girls doesn't hurt either!

A special thanks to VBS directors for their devotion, dedication and months of planning and preparation that resulted in a successful week. Thank you to everyone who donated craft supplies, snacks, milk, juice, money, time, and other items.

About 200 people enjoyed the Wednesday Family Night celebration picnic. Thank you to Claudette and her hospitality crew;



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W.D.M.C.C. EVENTS CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 4

7a Men's Current Issues @ Panera
8:30a Volunteer Action/ Caller

Thursday, August 5

7:30a Chore Corps
9a Crafts Therapy
5:30p Weight Watchers
7p Preschool Meeting

Friday, August 6

9a New Possibilities @ Hy-Vee (Mills)

Saturday, August 7

7:45a YES @ Hy-Vee (74th)
9a Quilt Group

Sunday, August 8

10a Worship

Monday, August 9

8:30a Helping Hands
9:30a Staff Meeting
7-8p Sanctuary in use

Tuesday, August 10

5:30p Social Concerns Meeting

Wednesday, August 11

7a Men's Current Issues @ Panera

Thursday, August 12

7:30a Chore Corps
9a Crafts Therapy
5:30p Weight Watchers

Friday, August 13

No activities scheduled

Saturday, August 14

No activities scheduled

Sunday, August 15

10a Worship

Monday, August 16

8:30a Helping Hands
9:30a Staff Meeting
7-8p Sanctuary in use

Tuesday, August 17

1p Game Day
7p Children's Ministries Meeting

Wednesday, August 18

7a Men's Current Issues @ Panera

Thursday, August 19

7:30a Chore Corps
9a Crafts Therapy
5:30p Weight Watchers
7p Disciple Enrichment Meeting

Friday, August 20

9a-3p State Fair Outing
6p Football Parking

Saturday, August 21

9a Prayer Shawl Ministry
10a Music Ministry Outreach
11a-1p Rooms 302/303 in use
5:30p Men's Steak Fry

Sunday, August 22

9a Nursery Staff Meeting
10a Worship
6-10p Courtyard in use

Monday, August 23

Caller Deadline
8:30a Helping Hands
9:30a Staff Meeting
6:30p Church Ladies
7-8p Sanctuary in use

Tuesday, August 24

Preschool Orientation
1p Tuesday Tunes
7p Property Meeting

Wednesday, August 25

Preschool Orientation
7a Men's Current Issues @ Panera
11:30a New Possib. @ Tavern (5th St.)
6:30p Youth Sponsors Meeting
7p Chancel Choir resumes
7:30p International Mission Mtg.

Thursday, August 26

Preschool Orientation
7:30a Chore Corps
9a Crafts Therapy
5:30p Weight Watchers

Friday, August 27

No activities scheduled

Saturday, August 28

8a School for Cong. Learners
5p YES Event
6p Disciple Diners

Sunday, August 29

9a Vision resumes
10a Worship
11a All-Church Brunch
5p Youth Event @ Pearson Park

Monday, August 30

8:30a Helping Hands
9:30a Staff Meeting
7p Personnel Meeting
7-8p Sanctuary in use

Tuesday, August 31

7p New "Sanctuary" choir rehearsal

Wednesday, September 1

7a Men's Current Issues @ Panera
8:30a Volunteer Action/ Caller

Thursday, September 2

7:30a Chore Corps
9a Crafts Therapy
5:30p Weight Watchers
7p Disciple Enrichment Meeting

Friday, September 3

9a New Possibilities @ Hy-Vee (Mills)

Saturday, September 4

7:45a YES Breakfast @ Hy-Vee (74th)
4p Wedding

Bazaar Apps Due Soon

The 20th annual Fall Bazaar is Friday-Saturday November 5-6. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. If you would like to sell homemade crafts, boutique items, or home-based party products, contact the church office for an application. Reservation and payment due September 15. Cost: 8'x10' spaces are \$40 (you furnish table), \$50 for 1 table, or \$60 for 2 tables.

Save These Dates!

Saturday-Sunday, October 2-3

Community Days at Valley West Mall

Sunday, October 31

Trunk or Treat

Friday-Saturday, November 5-6

20th Annual Fall Bazaar