



Currents

Great River Region Newsletter January 23, 2015 Rev. Barbara Jones, Regional Minister

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JOYS and PRAYER CONCERNS

Joys

We have a great joy at **Westside Christian Church in New Orleans, LA**. Pastor Brian Cleveland and his wife Ashley have a new daughter, Amelia born November 10. She weighed in at 6 lbs 2 oz. and is beautiful!

Rev. Steven Sherrill has been called as full time Associate at Park Hill Christian Church, N. Little Rock, AR.

Prayer Concerns

Eva Fletcher, Director of Camp Couchdale in Hot Springs, AR, passed away from an aneurysm. Please keep her husband, Marion and niece Wendi Fletcher-Phillips, in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for **Rev. Marilou Coins** (Associate Minister of Parkview Christian in Little Rock) and family, especially for her son, Jason, who is a patient at St. Vincent in Little Rock with serious intestinal issues. Jason is scheduled for surgery in the morning.

Our prayers continue for **Rev. Barb Jones** through her health issues.

Our prayers continue for **Rev. Sara Rudolph-Pollard** (Associate Minister of Mt. Sinai Christian in North Little Rock) who has been home bound since reconstructive foot surgery six weeks ago. She has a visit scheduled for early next week to see if she can be cleared to resume certain activities.

Prayers for **Rev. Byron Singleton**, Chaplain at Alexandria VA Medical Center in Louisiana, whose son was badly injured from an attack of four people.

NEWS and EVENTS

SNOASIS Youth Camp. February 20th -22nd

A Christ-centered weekend retreat for Grades 9 – 12 & adult sponsors.

Camp Couchdale, 301 Catherine Park Rd, Hot Springs, AR

Registration NOW DUE!!

Forms available on www.grrdisciples.org under the Youth tab.

Parkview Christian Church Little Rock, AR. 15108 Kanis Rd, 72223. 501-916-2193.

parkviewchristianchurch@yahoo.com or stan.mcdougal@att.net

The Members invite you to the

DEDICATION of their WORSHIP CENTER and FELLOWSHIP HOUSE

Sunday, February 1, 2015 at 3:00 PM

A Reception will follow in Fellowship House

Stan McDougal, Pastor and Regional DM Coordinator

First Christian Church Jonesboro, AR. 2600 Woodsprings Rd. 870-932-2408.



fccdocjonesboro@gmail.com.

Many people who visit our church are coming from other faith traditions or denominations. We have developed four courses as an introduction to the CCDOC, our beliefs, and spiritual development. These courses are offered throughout the year and provide a basic introduction for those who want more detailed information.

Disciples 101 - is a brief survey of the history and beliefs of the Christian Church (DOC).

Mission 201 - is an introduction to the mission of this church, First Christian Church of Jonesboro, AR.

Faith 301 - is a survey of different methods of spiritual growth developed during over the history of the church. From the church Fathers in the 1st and 2nd Century to the monastic reforms of the Middle Ages.

Justice 401 - introduces the concept of Biblical justice, surveys the prophetic tradition as it relates to justice, and introduces current issues for consideration. The previous three courses (101, 201, and 301) and church membership are required prior to taking this course.

Individuals interested in this material should be aware that it touches on some of the most controversial topics in church life, and no "official" answers will be provided (in true Disciple tradition) since there are no answers in many of these areas, only questions.

If you are interested in any of these courses, please contact the Pastor, church office, or one of the hospitality hosts. bobp56@comcast.net.

Services are led by ministry teams of men and women. In the Disciples of Christ, our ministers are referred to as Commissioned or Ordained. An Ordained minister has completed

seminary or an equivalent program of study under a mentor. A commissioned minister is either a minister preparing for ordination, or a lay person who does not intend to seek ordination. FCC's **Pastor, Bob Palmer**, has an M.Div. from Memphis Theological Seminary and is an Ordained Disciples of Christ minister.

First Christian Church Bentonville, AR & Waterway. 807 SE 14th St.
479-273-2596. **"Cover them With Love" DWF Blanket Drive**

Our Disciples Women are currently receiving donations to benefit the Church World Service blanket drive to help folks from over 80 countries keep warm... including right here in the US. CWS responds to disasters at home and around the world. These special blankets are purchased directly from CWS and are **only \$5 each**. Please mark your checks or offerings with "blankets" in the memo, and make checks payable to FCC. *Cover them with love!* Rev. Don Morrow, Senior Pastor



Real Faith Christian Church, Clarksdale, Mississippi. 600 Yazoo Avenue, 662-624-5911
Rev. Zedric Clayton, Pastor.

Disciples Volunteering is currently partnered with Disciples Church Extension Fund, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Reconciliation Ministry, Week of Compassion, National Convocation, Disciples Great River Region, and Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation to assist Real Faith CC in Clarksdale, MS with the construction of a new facility. Mission teams are needed and Registration is now open for the Special Project with Real Faith CC in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Dates open: November 2014 January—March of 2015. **Cost:** \$100/person for a week
Click this link to Register you Mission Team:

<https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/disciples-volunteering/sending-teams-in-mission/special-projects/registration-form-real-faith/>

Christview Ministries 992 County Rd 309 **Eureka Springs, AR.** 72632.

Beginning February 2015: "A Survey of the New Testament," taught by John J. Turner, author of *Living the Full Bible* (<http://livingthefullbible.com/>). The plan is to cover the entire New Testament in approximately 24 sessions, one each month. Each session will be offered twice. Participants can attend either the first Tuesday or the following Saturday of each month, 9:00 AM to Noon. There will be an optional bring-your-own-bag lunch with free-flowing discussion following each session. There is a suggested completely voluntary donation of \$15.00 per session.

This course begins with "The Earliest Gospel: Mark, Part 1," Tuesday, February 3, or Saturday, February 7, 9 AM to Noon. Make reservations as soon as possible to assure that there will be ample copies of study notes available: phone 479-253-5865 or email john@christviewmin.org. Be sure to leave your contact information (*preferably email*) so that you can be notified of any necessary adjustments in the schedule (*such as due to inclement weather*).

John Turner says, "I pray that every person who takes this study course will gain life-changing insights into the faith and mission of Jesus, the apostles, and the first century church. I love it when I hear, 'I didn't know THAT was in the Bible!'"

First Christian Church Rogers, AR. 905 South 13th St. 479-636-2230. www.fccrogers.org,
office@fccrogers.org. Rev. Shawn Wallace, Pastor.

All-Church Valentine Banquet, Sunday, February 15th at 6pm in Fellowship Hall

It's time for the Annual All-Church Valentine Banquet, hosted by CROSS Training. Delicious meal and outstanding entertainment. Your MC for the evening will once again be *The Great Ronaldo*. That in itself is pretty great, but it gets even better with performances by our gifted and talented youth.

Everyone is invited. Cost: \$10 per person. A nursery will be provided upon request in advance. This is always a wonderful time. Don't miss it!!

CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION & STAFF UPDATES

Congregations in Pastoral Search and Call:

FCC Hot Springs, AR: full time pastor

FCC Pine Bluff, AR: part/full time pastor

FCC Stuttgart, AR: part/full time pastor

FCC Blytheville, AR: associate pastor with potential to become senior pastor

Please send [all inquiries](#) to barb@grrdisciples.org who will forward them to the committee.

From Regional Minister Barbara Jones: Barb@grrdisciples.Org:

Preparing for Regional Board to be held at First Christian Church Monroe, LA on January 30-31.

REGIONAL ELDERS

As time goes along, circumstances change and occasionally one of our Regional Elders needs to step down due to their personal circumstances. We do our best to be supportive when that happens, and also to diligently fill the position so that all of the ministers in our region are being checked on with prayerful and caring support. The current list of those serving are:

Rev. Vance Moore: Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Rev. Sherry Horton: Tupelo, Mississippi; Rev. Randy Jay: Ft. Smith, Arkansas; Rev. Frank Johnson: Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Rev. Lucian Lee: Camden, Arkansas; Rev. Russell Myers, Jackson, Mississippi; Rev. Patricia Parker, Itta Bena, Mississippi; Rev. Ryan Pfeiffer: Fayetteville, Arkansas; Rev. Ann Pickett-Parker: Moss Point, Mississippi; Rev. Graham Riggs: Shreveport, Louisiana; Rev. Miles Cook: Sherwood, Arkansas

We continue to be honored to serve our region in this way.

Miles Cook, Regional Elders Coordinator, milescook@outlook.com.

From Alisha Pettigrew Gourley, Youth Coordinator: youth@grrdisciples.org:



Our 2014-2015 **Youth Commission** had a fabulous meeting last weekend which focused on planning Snoasis. We are all in for a special spiritual experience and I simply can't wait to see it all unfold before us. I am blessed to work with such great Youth along with the guidance from the Youth Commission adults who supported the Youth as they planned this retreat for their peers.

You don't want to miss this so be sure to get those Snoasis registration forms into the Regional Office.

2015 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DATES

June 13th through 14th: Discovery Camp

June 14th through 17th: JYF Camp

June 17th through 21st: Chi Rho Camp

June 21st through 26th: CYF Conference

SNOASIS YOUTH CAMP. February 20th -22nd

A Christ-centered weekend retreat for youth Grades 9 - 12, along with adult sponsors. To be held at Camp Couchdale, 301 Catherine Park Road Hot Springs, AR 71913.

NOW DUE!!!

Registration forms are available on the Website at www.grrdisciples.org under the Youth tab.

The *Theme* for Snoasis 2015 will be "**COMFORT**" and we are blessed that Sarah Dowd from FCC Monroe, Louisiana has taken the calling to make her Keynote debut at Snoasis this year!

News from our Partners in Ministry

The Board of Directors of the Council on Christian Unity announces the job opening for President-Elect. Interested applicants are asked to submit a letter of interest and resume with the names and contact information for four references (including a Regional Minister for pastors or a congregational pastor for lay people). Applicants may send this information to ccusearch@gmail.com by March 15, 2015. Please share this information with anyone you feel would be appropriate. The profile and links to other information are available on the disciples.org website at: <http://disciples.org/general/council-christian-unity-seeks-president-elect/>

Disciples Higher Education & Leadership Ministries (HELM) has an urgent need to fill the



positions of Director of Development and Director of Programs and will begin scheduling interviews as soon as we receive materials from qualified candidates.

[\(click here to see Applications\)](#)

Blessings, Chris Dorsey, President
Higher Education & Leadership

Ministries 314.566.1440 president@helmdisciples.org

Mount Sequoyah.

DivorceCare Group Support Class. February 8- May 10, 2015

DivorceCare is a weekly class to help you face the challenges of separation and/or divorce and move toward rebuilding your life. You'll gain access to valuable DivorceCare resources to help you deal with the pain of the past and look forward to rebuilding your life.

This 13 week program will be facilitated by Denni Palmer, Mount Sequoyah Christian Education and Spiritual Formation Coordinator. The class will meet from 5- 7 p.m. in the Martin Classrooms.



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. February 8- April 12, 2015

This life-changing class taught by Dave Ramsey and the FPU teaching team on video will help you achieve your financial goals by showing you how to eliminate debt, save for the future, and give like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever.

This 9 week program will be facilitated by Wendy Kane, The class will meet at 5 p.m. in the Martin Classrooms.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

National Disciples of Christ. <http://www.disciples.org/>

Lexington Theological Seminary. <http://www.lextheo.edu/>

Missouri School of Religion courses. <http://midamericacenterforministry.wordpress.com/>

Global Ministries. <http://globalministries.org/>

Week of Compassion. <http://www.weekofcompassion.org/>. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (DOC) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities.

Disciples Home Missions. <https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/>

Disciples Mission Fund is the common fund of the Christian Church (DOC). DMF supports 72 ministries of wholeness as close as your local congregation and reaching around the globe. As a Global Mission church, we understand that equipping congregations for mission includes learning from, learning with and offering support to our partners beyond the borders of the United States and Canada.

Juliette Fowler Communities has been named one of the best nursing and rehab centers in [U.S. News and World Report](#). Since 1903, Fowler has been a member institution of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and is located in Dallas at 1234 Abrams in close proximity to major medical centers. An intergenerational community, Fowler serves children, elders and families. To learn more, call 214.827.0813 or go to www.fowlercommunities.org or connect with us at www.facebook.com/juliettofowlerhomes.

US News and World Report: <http://health.usnews.com/best-nursing-homes/area/tx/juliette-fowler-communities-675952>

National Benevolent Association: XPLOR Residency:

NBA XPLOR is a faith-based, 10-month, congregationally-hosted residency program designed for 21 to 30 year olds looking to explore lives of care and service — giving them the opportunity to unleash their own potential, while positively impacting their community. We encourage you to check it out! <http://www.nbacares.org/xplor>
