



# Currents

Great River Region Newsletter    April 17, 2015    Rev. Barbara Jones, Regional Minister

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## JOYS and PRAYER CONCERNS

### Executive Regional Minister Barbara Jones.

Barb Jones' surgeon gave a good report today after her abdominal surgery yesterday. He believes she will feel much better after recovery and healing. Thank you for your prayers and please continue them during her time of recovery and healing. She is expected to be at St. Vincent Little Rock for 3-5 days and then out of action for six weeks.

Blessings to all, Miles

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## NEWS and EVENTS

### Disciples Women Workshop Dates



**April 10** Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA  
(registration begins 6:00 pm)

**April 11** First Christian, Sulphur LA  
(registration begins at 9:30 am)

**April 18** First Christian Church, Conway AR  
(registration begins at 9:30 am)

**April 25** Covenant Christian Church, Byram MS  
(registration begins at 9 am)

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### **RETREATS** *Disciples Women – We are On the Move!!!*

August 21-23

AR Retreat at Subiaco in Subiaco, AR

September 18-20

MS Retreat at Eagle Ridge in Raymond, MS

October 9-11

LA Retreat at the Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA

**REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE:**

[www.grrdisciples.org](http://www.grrdisciples.org) under the 'Disciples Women' page.

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**First Christian Church Little Rock, AR.** 1500 N Mississippi. 501-225-5656. [www.fccoflr.com](http://www.fccoflr.com)  
Rev. Leon Gray, Interim Minister.

Everyone is cordially invited to the Service of Commissioning and Installation for  
**Jessica "Jessie" Gray** this **Sunday, April 19, 3:00 p.m.**  
at First Christian Church, 1500 N. Mississippi, Little Rock.

All ministers present will be invited to participate in the Laying on of Hands.  
We're very proud of Jessie and look forward to this special service for her as  
she continues in Christian ministry.

First Christian Church, Little Rock

# SPRING FEST

**April 25, 2015**  
**10AM to 2PM**

**Admission Is Free**  
Bring a lawn chair and stay a while! There will be BBQ sandwiches and other food items to purchase.

**Fun For Everyone**  
Free tennis lessons from Central AR Tennis Academy, Fatchmo Club Volleyball exhibition, and activities for the kids!

**Buy A Gift For Mom**  
Several Arts and Craft Vendors to choose from.

**SPRING HAS SPRUNG!**

First Christian Church, Little Rock  
1500 N. Mississippi Ave  
[www.fccoflr.org](http://www.fccoflr.org)

**ARTS, CRAFT VENDORS, FOOD, FUN, VOLLEYBALL, FREE TENNIS LESSONS, FACE PAINTING, BALLOON ANIMALS, GARDENING**

For more information call: 225-5656 or email Rev. Jessie Gray at [jessicagriffith2@gmail.com](mailto:jessicagriffith2@gmail.com)

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**Mt. Sinai Christian Church, N. Little Rock, AR.** 522 N. Hickory St. 501-374-5665. Rev. LeRoy Bryant, Pastor. **Youth Ministry Coordinator Position sought.** STATUS: Intern (Non-Paid)  
HOURS: Sunday school and worship, Wednesday Bible Study and as necessary to accomplish ministry goals. Qualifications:

1. Must love and meet youth where they are.
2. Encourage youth in developing their relationship to God.
3. Provide youth with opportunities for nurture and growth.
4. Challenge youth to respond to God's call to serve in their communities and world.
5. Must embrace Christian discipline and theology.
6. Must have vision and the ability to plan, develop, coordinate, manage and implement a youth ministry.
7. Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills, conflict management skills, and computer skills.

Please contact Sara Pollard for full description and all inquiries [srudolphpollard@yahoo.com](mailto:srudolphpollard@yahoo.com).

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**First Christian Church Harrison, AR.** 915 South Maple. 870-741-5757.

[fccharrison@windstream.net](mailto:fccharrison@windstream.net). Dr. David Artman, Senior Minister.



Spiritual Growth University (SGU) Back in Session. We are back up and running on Wednesday evenings now through May 13<sup>th</sup>. Each Wednesday there will be a 5:30 meal for everyone, followed by 6:00 classes and programs for all ages. We will conclude the Spring Session of SGU at 5:30 on May 20<sup>th</sup> with our annual Fish Fry and Slide into Summer. The adult classes for Spring SGU are Nate Jordan on *The Sacred Romance*, Charles and Jane Adair on *Followers of Jesus*, and Holly Gillies on *Healthy Lifestyles in 2015*. Cindy Adler will be leading the youth 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade in the Crossing with Dr. D and

Kenneth providing help with music. Kim Trublood will be leading the children's programming (K – 4<sup>th</sup>) downstairs below the traditional sanctuary in the children's area. Beth Neel and Karen Stalnaker will be leading an Operation Christmas Child Sewing Class down in the children's area as well.

Our focus at First Christian is spiritual growth, and the Christian Education Committee hopes that these opportunities on Wednesday evenings will be of help to everyone. Our thanks go out to all who are serving by helping provide meals and classes.

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**Items needed for Pacific Islands Christian Church, Rogers, AR.**

Our newest congregation, being nested at First Christian Church in Rogers, AR, needs the following equipment. Please contact Pastor Sealast Relech, ([srelech@yahoo.com](mailto:srelech@yahoo.com)) if you are able to help, and let [barb@grrdisciples.org](mailto:barb@grrdisciples.org) know as well!

- 1: KEYBOARD - PSR 950 (YAMAHA BRAND)
- 2: BEHRINGER EUROPOWER PMP4000 POWERED MIXER -16 CHANNELS, 1600 WATTS WITH MULTI-FX PROCESSOR AND FBQ FEEDBACK DETECTION SYSTEM
- 3: 2 SPEAKERS (PEAVEY PV-115 SPEAKERS)
- 4: SPEAKER CABLES ( 2 PYLE PPJJ-30 1/4 INCH (30FT)
- 5: MICROPHONE ( BEHRINGER ULTRA VOICE XM1800S DYNAMIC CARDIO ID VOCAL MICROPHONE) 3 MICROPHONES WITH MIC CABLES CBI MLC20 LOW Z XLR MICROPHONE CABLES 20FOOT
- 6: PROJECTOR

Thanks for your help!

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**First Christian Church & Waterway Bentonville, AR.** 870 SE 14<sup>th</sup> Street. 479-273-2596.  
Rev. Don Morrow, Senior Pastor.

Join us this Sunday, April 19 for a new sermon series on Marriage & Love, Family & Relationships: “*Modern Family*”. We’re starting a new series this Sunday you don’t want to miss! Using clips from the popular TV show and wisdom from the Bible, Don will be talking about the challenges to developing lasting, loving family relationships today. No matter your marital status, family dynamics play a key role in life. Come learn the keys to living in love that lasts.

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**First Christian Church of Greater New Orleans, Metairie, LA.** 8121 Airline Drive. 504-467-6984. [fccgno@yahoo.com](mailto:fccgno@yahoo.com). [www.fcc-greaterneworleans.org](http://www.fcc-greaterneworleans.org).

**Workers in the Vineyard** (Matthew 20:1-16). **A Call for the Use of Your Time and Talents**

*One thing is true of almost every church, 10% of the people do 90% of the work. Why is this? Is it because this is how it’s always been done and no one questions it? Is it because the same people are tapped on the shoulder time and again, because that well has already been primed, and asking other people is just too labor intensive? Or is it because there are those of us in our congregation who want to be partners in ministry, but just haven’t given it much thought, that we haven’t been called from the market place and asked to come and work in the vineyard (Matt. 20:6-7).*

*I want to call on all of you to think about how you would like to share your God given gifts with this congregation. I know that many of us wonder, “Where will I find the time?” When you commit yourself to doing the Lord’s work, God finds a way of making the time for you.*

*During the month of April the church will be asking you to think about what gifts you have to offer God’s church. Our intention is that you will become more familiar with the church’s different ministries and you will have an opportunity to pledge your time and talent to assist a ministry committee of your choice. As we use our time and talents we get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ more intimately and we become more intimate with God as He works through us as we help others. I invite you to come to vineyard to help with the harvest.*

*Peace in Christ Jesus, Pastor Glen Schory*

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**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 for the Special Project with Real Faith CC in Clarksdale, Mississippi. **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/>

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# CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION & STAFF UPDATES

## Congregations in Pastoral Search and Call:

FCC Hot Springs, AR: full time pastor

FCC Stuttgart, AR: part/full time pastor

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

FCC McComb, MS: full time interim / pastor

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

## From Regional Minister Barbara Jones: [Barb@grrdisciples.org](mailto:Barb@grrdisciples.org):

I am back from the Regional Ministers meeting and General Board. We worked on some significant items that are posted on [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org). I want to thank Ronny Nowell for his work throughout General Board as our representative.

Recovering from surgery and will be at St. Vincent's in Little Rock for several days. Recovery will take me off the road through May. Rev. Miles Cook, our Coordinator for Regional Elders, was appointed by the Regional Board to respond to pastoral needs in my absence. His email is [milescook@outlook.com](mailto:milescook@outlook.com). Call the office and Tina or Wendy can get him in touch with you. In appreciation for all you do and who you are,

*Barb*

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## 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](mailto:milescook@outlook.com).

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From Alisha Pettigrew Gourley, Youth Coordinator: [youth@grrdisciples.org](mailto:youth@grrdisciples.org):

## 2015 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DATES:

June 13 - 14: <b>Discovery Camp</b>	K - 2	90.	Director Sarah Dowd
June 14 - 17: <b>JYF Camp</b>	3 - 5	210.	Directors Renee Eakin & Yvonne Taylor
June 17 - 21: <b>Chi Rho Camp</b>	6 - 8	260.	Directors Cody Robertson & Betty Arambel
June 21 - 26: <b>CYF Conference</b>	9 - 12	375.	Directors Ronny Nowell & Mike Jennings

**CAMP REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE:**



[www.grrdisciples.org](http://www.grrdisciples.org) under the 'Disciples Youth' page.

*(Camp booklet with registration forms have also been emailed to each church)*

Magnolia Camp and Conference in Mississippi.

June 22-27, Roosevelt State Park, Registration fee \$140



Dear CYFers and CYF Sponsors:

Hello from TCU! **CYF DAY** at TCU is coming soon. This year's event will be held in conjunction with the TCU baseball game on April 18. The TCU Horned Frogs will take on the Santa Clara

University Broncos. This game promises great excitement as the Horned Frogs once again hope to return to the College World Series.

Game time is 4:00 p.m. Pre-game activities will take place at University Christian Church (next to the TCU campus) beginning at 1:30 p.m. Parking is available at UCC for those who desire.

### **Schedule of Events**

**Pre-Game** *(At University Christian Church, snacks provided)*

Campus tours	1:30 p.m. and 1:45 p.m.
Welcome program and door prize drawing	2:25 p.m.
Worship	2:45 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.
The Game	4:00 first pitch at Lupton Stadium

### **Ticket Information**

[Tickets for the game are complimentary and available by clicking here.](#) Food is available for purchase at the baseball stadium. Baseball tickets are general admission (which includes the Grass Hill area located down the right field line; groups may want to bring blankets for seating). Please reserve your tickets by April 10. Tickets are available for pickup at UCC until 4:00 pm.

We very much look forward to seeing you in Fort Worth on April 18. It's going to be a great day! All the best, Dr. Jim Atwood

# OUR MINISTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

**Theological Institutions.** Seven Disciples theological institutions educate ministers for thousands of Disciples congregations as well as for other denominations. Located in large metropolitan areas, these schools serve as theological, spiritual, and intellectual centers.



- [Brite Divinity School](#)
- [Christian Theological Seminary](#)
- [Disciples Divinity House of the University of Chicago](#)
- [Disciples Divinity House at Vanderbilt University](#)
- [Disciples Seminary Foundation](#)
- [Lexington Theological Seminary](#)
- [Phillips Theological Seminary](#)

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The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) contains many ministries that work in covenant to resource congregations for mission and ministry.

Please use the links below to explore their web sites.

- - [Center for Faith & Giving](#)
  - [Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries](#)
  - [Christian Board of Publication](#)
  - [Christian Church Foundation](#)
  - [Council on Christian Unity](#)
  - [Disciples Church Extension Fund](#)
  - [Disciples of Christ Historical Society](#)
  - [Disciples Home Missions](#)
  - [Disciples Men](#)
  - [Disciples Women](#)
  - [Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries](#)
  - [Family and Children](#)
- - [Higher Education and Leadership Ministries](#)
  - [HOPE Partnership for Missional Transformation](#)
  - [National Benevolent Association](#)
  - [National Convocation](#)
  - [New Church Ministry](#)
  - [North American Pacific/Asian Disciples](#)
  - [Pension Fund](#)
  - [Reconciliation Ministry](#)
  - [Week of Compassion](#)
  - [Year Book and Directory](#)
  - [Young Adults](#)
  - [Youth](#)