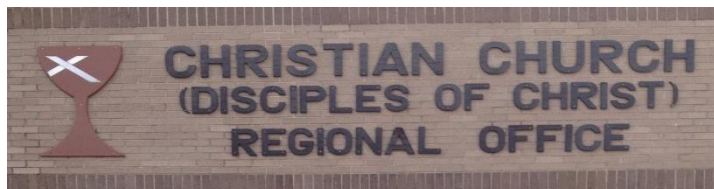




Currents

Great River Region Newsletter June 15, 2015 Rev. Barbara Jones, Regional Minister



9302 Geyer Springs Rd, Little Rock, AR 72209

501-562-6053, 501-562-7089 fax

Email: tina@grrdisciples.org, wendy@grrdisciples.org, and barb@grrdisciples.org

Regional Website: <http://www.grrdisciples.org>

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

JOYS and PRAYER CONCERNS

Regional Youth Camp is underway in Hot Springs, AR. Prayers for all of the youth, workers, drivers, speakers, and all those who help to make this a great success for our Region.

Tina Jones, Regional Administrative Assistant, husband Pastor Cletis Jones has been released from the hospital and recovering at home after kidney cancer surgery at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock.

NEWS and EVENTS

Disciples Women 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 under the 'Disciples Women' page.

First Christian Church Little Rock, AR. 1500 N Mississippi. 501-225-5656. www.fccoflr.org.
Rev. Leon Gray, Interim Minister.



Our third year of serving families in our community with middle school students is in the books!!

Creating Champions for the Future is a mentoring ministry that works primarily with 6th grade students. This amazing group of 24 volunteers has served as the hands and feet of Christ to 21 students every Wednesday from 2:30- 5:15. Not pictured are: Dotty M., David H., David

W., Karen S., Brian C., and two high school boys both named Jordan. Thank you for your faithful service and for another great year of CCF!!

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.

Save the Date...Mark your Calendar Now!

2015 Clergy Fall Retreat

September 21-23, 2015

Subiaco Abby, Subiaco AR

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Robert Lee Hill
Community Christian Church, Kansas City, Mo



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) if you are able to help, and let 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!

CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION & STAFF UPDATES

Congregations in Pastoral Search and Call:

- 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 who will forward them to the committee.

From Regional Minister Barbara Jones: Barb@grrdisciples.org



This poster is in a staff elevator at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth and I think it speaks well for family and church situations so I took a picture of it. My son Kris was in CCU being treated for viral pericarditis. He is now doing well and has gone back to work. Regional Elders Retreat and Regional Committee on Ministry met in Shreveport. We continue to meet with ministers new to Disciples, guide those called to ministry, and work with candidates for ordination. I'm doing well and appreciate all who carried the baton for me as I recuperated from surgery. We are actively preparing to cover the gaps in the office for things I have always done that are not typically part of a regional minister's job description like IT and Network Administration. The journey toward July 31 is a fast paced current now...
Much love, Barb.

NEW TESTAMENT VIDEO SERIES AVAILABLE

Pinnacle Outreach Ministry is honored and pleased to share six videos featuring Dr. M. Eugene Boring. These videos are from the Great River Regional Assembly held last November in central Arkansas.

The first four videos with Dr. Boring are from a Pre-Assembly Seminar based on his latest book, **An Introduction to the New Testament**. The seminar's purpose was to help clergy and lay leaders become better equipped at interpreting the New Testament.

The fifth video is from Dr. Boring's presentation to the Regional Assembly on the topic "Reading the Bible as a Disciple."

The sixth video is from a workshop Dr. Boring led during the Regional Assembly. The topic is "The Role of Bible Study in the Church" using the Gospel of Mark as an example.

All six of the videos can be watched through the following link: <https://vimeo.com/user37364414>

Dr. Boring is the I. Wylie Briscoe Professor Emeritus of New Testament at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University. He is the author of numerous books on the New Testament including **Mark** from the New Testament Library series, **Revelation** from the best selling Interpretation series, and **The People's New Testament Commentary** which he co-authored with Dr. Fred B. Craddock.

Pinnacle Outreach Ministry is an extension of Pinnacle Structures, Inc. of Cabot, Arkansas, and the Great River Region. Our mission statement is "Helping Equip the Faithful for the Work of Christ."

Rev. Miles Cook. Director, Pinnacle Outreach Ministry, milescook@outlook.com, 501-743-0068

REGIONAL ELDERS

Below is a list of our current Regional Elders.

Rev. Glen Schory: Metairie, LA	Rev. Sherry Horton: Tupelo, MS
Rev. Randy Jay: Ft. Smith, AR	Rev. Russell Myers: Jackson, MS
Rev. Frank Johnson: Baton Rouge, LA	Rev. Patricia Parker: Itta Bena, MS
Rev. Susan Miller: Hot Springs, AR	Rev. Ann Pickett-Parker: Moss Point, MS
Rev. Ryan Pfeiffer: Fayetteville, AR	Rev. Alison Robuck: N. Little Rock, AR
Rev. Graham Riggs: Shreveport, LA	Rev. Miles Cook: Sherwood, AR

In Christ's service,

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

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

2015 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DATES:

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

Magnolia Camp and Conference in Mississippi.
June 22-27, Roosevelt State Park, Registration fee \$140



Support Your Regional **Annual Fund Drive**
donations can be sent to:
Great River Region
9302 Geyer Springs Rd
Little Rock, AR 72209

OUR MINISTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

2015 National Annual Conference

Association of Disciple Musicians National Workshop



June 23 - June 28 at [William Jewell College](#), Liberty, Missouri (NE of Kansas City)

Plan now to attend the ADM Summer Conference for Music and Worship! Featuring nationally recognized clinicians in Choral, Organ, Handbells and Worship including jazz, creative and traditional.

Click here for the [REGISTRATION \(Paper\) FORM](#)
Click here for [Sneak Peak at the 2015 Conference](#)

Conference workshops:

Organ Techniques and Master	Powerful Worship Experiences	Choral Techniques
Organ Improvisation	Choral Conducting	Piano Jazz and Contemporary Styles
Creating New Worship Settings	Beginning & Advanced Handbell Techniques	Organ Master Class



700 Prospect Ave, 5th Floor
Cleveland OH, 44115
www.InsuranceBoard.org

As a reminder the following services are available to **all churches and related ministries in the denominations we serve and include:**

- **SafeConduct™ Workbench**-Abuse Prevention ministry offered by the Insurance Board focusing on conduct in support of children and preserving sacred space. Additionally, offers fundamentals applicable to broader concerns including ethical relationships, sexual harassment, protection of vulnerable adults, bullying and tolerance around race, religion and sexual orientation.
- **Policy Template**-A **complete abuse prevention policy template is provided.** This Word document template will save you many, many hours of debate and drafting. It includes guidance and essential content missing from many policies.
- **Online Self-Assessment Tool**-Interactive, private space to evaluate your abuse prevention policies and plan for improvements.
- **Free Online Abuse Prevention Training**-This service is offered through our partnership with Praesidium, a national leader in abuse risk management using their Armatus program.
- **Discounted Background Screening Services**-This service is also offered through Praesidium and the Insurance Board further subsidizes discounted rates for participants of our package program.
- **Webinars**-Interactive for those attending the live webinar, current schedule includes subject matter relating to Adult/Child Interaction; Convicted Sex Offenders as Congregants; Financial Controls; Property Valuation and Facebook. A library of previously recorded webinars is also available for viewing at any time.
- **The Steward**-Quarterly newsletter offered by the Insurance Board
- **Loss Control Manuals**-Five volume manual set authored by focusing on People, Safety and Liability; Church Property; Transportation; Youth Activity and Church Management.
- **Your Church: Employer and Small Business**-Provides the basic guidance regarding your church's obligations as an employer and business. It includes information about employment and governance along with valuable links to resources on taxes and labor law. Many additional resources, such as an **Employee Handbook Template** are available as well.

[Insurance Board Turns 30! Call to Celebrate Services for Insurance Board Churches from Praesidium](#)

Jennifer R. Perri CIC, CISR, Director - Member Services

Phone: 216.736.3273, Toll Free: 800.437.8830 ext. 3273 or 877.597.8247

Fax: 216.736.3239, Cell: 216.509.3339, jperri@insuranceboard.org, CA Agent License 0G99798

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](#)



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](#)

The HELM (Higher Education & Leadership Ministries) dinner will feature a panel discussion on ***The Status of Women in Higher Education and Leadership*** by four of the women currently leading Disciples higher education institutions.

Kristine A. Culp, Dean of Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago
Charisse L. Gillett, President of Lexington Theological Seminary
Kelly Thompson, President of Culver-Stockton College
Lori E. Varlotta, President of Hiram College

It will be held Monday, July 20, 2015 at 5:15pm at the Hyatt Regency Columbus—Union A&B. Tickets are \$18 and can be reserved through the normal GA online meal registration process:

ga.disciples.org/meals-and-events

Blessings, Chris Dorsey, President. 314.566.1440. president@helmdisciples.org

Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee, and development ministry fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), is seeking an **Associate Director** to help advance its mission “to be the channel for the resources for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in providing ready and compassionate response” to an array of worldwide humanitarian needs. For the past seven decades, Week of Compassion has been changing lives through our humanitarian aid and compassionate care for people around the globe. We are seeking a dynamic, action-oriented team player with a global perspective who can think strategically about advancing our mission in a rapidly changing landscape and engaging diverse communities in our work. As part of the team at Week of Compassion, the Associate Director will be involved in a unique partnership that includes developing new ideas and approaches to fundraising and programs as well as hands-on implementation of projects with other ministries and ecumenical organizations.

Applications will be received through July 31, 2015 and should include a letter of intent, resume, and at least three letters of reference. Please send applications to Rev. Dr. Todd Adams, Associate General Minister and Vice President, at tadams@disciples.org. Questions regarding this position may be directed to Rev. Susan Gonzales Dewey, chair of the search committee, at sgdewey@disciplespswr.org.

Pension Fund of the Christian Church seeks Senior Vice-President/President Elect

The Board of Directors of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc. is seeking candidates and candidate recommendations for the position of Senior Vice-President/President Elect. This position has been created to serve a transitional role in conjunction with the retirement of the current president, following which the President Elect will become the President of the Pension Fund.

The Pension Fund is a general ministry of the Christian Church (DOC) in the U. S. and Canada, providing retirement and health programs for ministers and lay employees of the Disciples of Christ and Stone-Campbell heritage congregations, ministries, colleges, seminaries and related organizations. The Pension Fund assists its members in achieving and maintaining health and financial security.

Interested candidates may forward a letter of interest and resume to Fraser Keating Associates as noted below. Candidate recommendations are also welcome.

A complete position specification is available on the Pension Fund’s website, www.pensionfund.org or through Fraser Keating Associates, LLC.

Anne F. Keating, 917-207-1587, akeating@fraserkeating.com

Patricia Nevins, 203-894-1699, pnevins@fraserkeating.com

230 Park Street – Suite 1000, New York, NY 10169, Telephone: 212-551-3545
