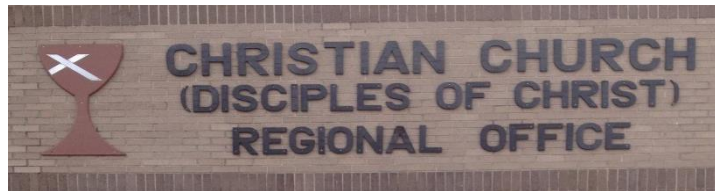




# Currents

Great River Region Newsletter

September 25, 2015



9302 Geyer Springs Rd, Little Rock, AR 72209

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

Email: [tina@grrdisciples.org](mailto:tina@grrdisciples.org), [wendy@grrdisciples.org](mailto:wendy@grrdisciples.org), and [drnburton@grrdisciples.org](mailto:drnburton@grrdisciples.org)

Great River Region Website: <http://www.grrdisciples.org>

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



*An installation service for*

**Rev. Dr. Nadine Burton**

Interim Executive Regional Minister

**3:00pm on Sunday, September 27**

Park Hill Christian Church

4400 John F Kennedy Blvd.

in North Little Rock, AR 72116

NOTE: **All Churches** in the Great River Region please send your **Congregational Profiles** to the Regional Office, 9302 Geyer Springs Rd, Little Rock, AR 72209 or [tina@grrdisciples.org](mailto:tina@grrdisciples.org).

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS



2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
JULY 18-22 2015 • COLUMBUS, OHIO

A number of ministers and lay persons from the Great River Region were able to attend the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) which was held July 18-22 in Columbus, Ohio. In order for everyone to benefit from the General Assembly, **we are inviting all who attended to write of your experience**, highlighting information that you believe would be helpful to share with the ministers and lay persons of our region. **If you attended the General Assembly and would be willing to write such a reflection**, please email to Tina Jones at [tina@grrdisciples.org](mailto:tina@grrdisciples.org)

These "reflections" will be emailed to each of you and will also be posted on Facebook at **GRR SOAR**. Look for the first one to be coming soon. We thank Rev. Ashley Sherard, Jerusalem Christian Church in Lafayette, LA, for setting up and making posts/pictures on this page connecting the Great River Region to the General Assembly.

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## JOYS and PRAYER CONCERNS

### JOYS

On the Rise 2015: Pamela Palmer | 27,

Daughter of Rev. Robert Palmer, Cross Street CC, Little Rock



**Attorney, Buckley Beal**, Katheryn Hayes Tucker, Daily Report

When people tell Pamela Palmer that lawyers are motivated by money, she discloses her first year salary—not the six figures that many have come to expect.

She made \$20,000 in her first year out of law school as a legal fellow in the Atlanta district office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She worked a couple of part-time jobs to make ends meet. And she learned the law on employment

discrimination.

Then she landed a job with a law firm that handles employment disputes for plaintiffs, filing claims of discrimination based on race, gender, age, national origin or other civil rights concerns. "I consider this position a blessing," she says. "There aren't many plaintiffs' side employment firms."

After she joined the Buckley Firm, Ed Buckley III merged his practice with that of longtime friend Drew Beal to form Buckley Beal in July. Beal's practice includes representing small business owners and individuals in commercial disputes.

Palmer grew up in Little Rock, the daughter of a pastor and a teacher. She studied political science at Rhodes College in Memphis. Her senior year, she worked for U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., who is a lawyer. After that, she decided law school was her calling. She earned her J.D. in 2014 from William and Mary Law School in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Palmer lives in Midtown Atlanta, one MARTA stop away from her firm's office. She's active in the Gate City Bar Association, serving this year as a judge for the mock trial competition at the Justice Robert Benham Law Camp for high school students. She attends Ebenezer Baptist Church, where she volunteers with the women's ministry. She has fed homeless people and cleaned up the roadside in the area around the historic church at the corner of Auburn Avenue and Jackson Street. She volunteers for the Hosea Williams Feed the Hungry program.

Her motivation in volunteer work is the same as for her day job. Says Palmer, "I do this because I like helping people."

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Rev. Patricia Parker, Minister of East Percy Street Christian Church in Greenwood, MS, has asked to be on the regional prayer list. She is currently in Ohio seeing an Oncologist Specialist. A trip to the hospital in Greenwood discovered a mass in her stomach and nodules in her liver.

Please keep Alison Robuck (North Little Rock, AR) in your prayers along with her parents. Alison's father (Merle Phillips, living in Oklahoma) had emergency surgery a few nights ago and is now back to his nursing care facility. Please pray for Alison and her mother to find a better facility for him.

Zella Drinkwater, granddaughter of Rev. Donna Rountree, broke both bones in her forearm.

Rev. Sara Rudolph-Pollard (Mt. Sinai Christian in North Little Rock) requests prayers for strength as she moves through school, work, a part-time job and ministry.

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## NEWS and EVENTS

### Register for the Disciples Women Louisiana Retreat



*We Are On the Move!!!*

*Getting out of Our Comfort Zone...*

*In Search of God's Will*

*Joshua 1:9*

**October 9-11 ~ Keynoter Rev. Ashley Sherard**

*LA Retreat at the Wesley Center, Woodworth, LA*

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

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

To those of you who have registered for Retreat - If you would like a "Retreat **Shirt**", please be sure to let us know what kind (*short sleeve or long sleeve*) and size of t-shirt you would like to order. Email your preference to [wendy@grrdisciples.org](mailto:wendy@grrdisciples.org) and she will invoice you.



This year your DW Cabinets wanted to do a fund raiser for the Disciples Women Activity Fund - sales of these

shirts will go directly to that fund. Cost is \$15 for t-shirts and \$20 for long sleeve shirts. Shirts will say:

Front: GRR DW Retreat 2015

Back: Life Begins at the End of Your Comfort Zone

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### ***COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>***

**First Christian Church Conway, AR.** 1620 N. Donaghey. 501-329-6142.

For 60 years, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has had a special way to express its gratitude to God for the blessings it has received – the Blessing Box.



The Blessing Box was created in 1953, the result of a dream of the women who founded Christian Women's Fellowship. Jessie Trout, who was CWF's co-founder and first executive secretary, developed the idea as an over – and – above way to help fund the wider mission of the church. Since that time, Blessing Boxes have been kept in the homes and offices across the church to enable members to express their gratitude for everyday blessings by giving to others.

**Our Blessing Box offerings will be collected the last Sunday,**

**September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Half of all Blessing Box giving goes to support the mission of the whole church through the Disciples Mission Fund. But what about the other half that supports Disciples Women's ministries? The following will give you some idea of a few of the ministries the Blessing Box offering supports and the far reaching effects of your over-and-above giving and how your blessings in turn bless others:

Leadership trainings for regional and constituency representatives; support of New Church, Start, develop-ing women's ministries; funding for women's participation with ecumenical entities such as Bread for the World, Church Women United, UCC/DOC partnership, Faith Trust Institute, and USA World Day of Prayer; development of materials and resources in support of social advocacy at the congregational level; and so much more.

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### **2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE:**

**First Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Little Rock, Arkansas,** is searching for a paid part time **Contemporary Worship Leader** for our contemporary worship service. This position is and will combine with duties related to that ministry area. This person needs to have a strong faith in Jesus Christ and a passion for leading people in contemporary worship. A background in contemporary praise and worship music is essential. The ability to play an instrument (keyboard or guitar preferred) and put together arrangements to fit both vocalists and instrumentalists is vital. Knowledge of presentation software, Power Church and Power Point, is required. FCC has a well-established volunteer musicians and singers who make up the praise team. Send resume to 1500 N. Mississippi Street, Little Rock, AR 72207; or contact Rev. Leon Gray, phone 501-225-5656.

**First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, in Little Rock, Arkansas** has an immediate opening for a paid part time **Director of Music Ministries** who is responsible for Traditional Worship Services weekly, a hand bell choir and an ensemble. This person needs to have a strong faith in Jesus Christ and a passion for leading people in traditional worship. All serious inquiries are welcomed. Send resume to 1500 N. Mississippi Street, Little Rock, AR 72207; or contact Rev. Leon Gray, phone 501-225-5656.

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**Pacific Islands Christian Church, Rogers, AR.** 479-306-8344.

Our newest congregation, being nested at First Christian Church in Rogers, AR, need equipment! Items include: Microphones, Keyboard, Cables, Speakers, Mixer, and Projector. Please contact Pastor Sealast Relech, [srelech@yahoo.com](mailto:srelech@yahoo.com) or Miles Cook, [milescook@outlook.com](mailto:milescook@outlook.com), if you are able to help.

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## **YOUTH NEWS**

*(Alisha Gourley, Youth Coordinator, [youth@qrrdisciples.org](mailto:youth@qrrdisciples.org))*

**Fall Fandango dates are October 9-11, 2015**

*Registration forms are on the Website: [www.qrrdisciples.org](http://www.qrrdisciples.org)*

**Snoasis dates are February 26-28, 2016**

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## **CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION**

### **Congregations in Pastoral Search and Call:**

- FCC Stuttgart, AR: part/full time pastor
- FCC Blytheville, AR: assoc. pastor with potential to become senior pastor
- FCC McComb, MS: full time interim / pastor
- FCC Hammond, LA
- Pulaski Heights CC, Little Rock, AR
- FCC Mountain Home, AR
- FCC Conway, AR
- Park Hill CC, North Little Rock, AR

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

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## **PINNACLE OUTREACH MINISTRY**

One of the goals of Pinnacle Outreach Ministry is to do something annually to help the ministers of the Great River Region who are actively serving in ministry. Last year we were privileged to provide our ministers a copy of Dr. M. Eugene Boring's book, **An Introduction to the New Testament: History, Literature, Theology**. We were also able to sponsor Dr. Boring's visit in conjunction with our Regional Assembly which took place November 7-9 in central Arkansas. To view Dr. Boring's pre-assembly seminar as well as his presentations during the Regional Assembly, you may access the following link, and please share this with others: <https://vimeo/user37364414>

This year we are providing our active serving ministers a copy of **The People's New Testament Commentary** by Dr. M. Eugene Boring and Dr. Fred B. Craddock. If you are a minister and have not already received a copy of this commentary, please contact me at [milescook@outlook.com](mailto:milescook@outlook.com).

Yours in Christ's service,  
Miles Cook, Director, Pinnacle Outreach Ministry

## REGIONAL ELDERS

Rev. Glen Schory: Metairie, LA	Rev. Sherry Horton: Tupelo, MS
Rev. Randy Jay: Ft. Smith, AR	Rev. Russell Myers: Jackson, MS
	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](mailto:milescook@outlook.com).



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

**NOTE: Great River Region Churches, be sure to email your News, Conventions, Church Anniversary, or Special Events to: [tina@grrdisciples.org](mailto:tina@grrdisciples.org). Thank you.**

NOTE: **All Churches** in the GRR please send your **Congregational Profiles** to the Regional Office, 9302 Geyer Springs Rd, Little Rock, AR 72209 or [tina@grrdisciples.org](mailto:tina@grrdisciples.org)

*The Great River Region  
Of the Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)*

*Cordially invites you to the  
Service of Installation*

*For*

*Rev. Dr. Nadine Burton*

*On*

*Sunday, September 27, 2015*

*At 3:00 pm*

*Service will be held at*

*Park Hill Christian Church (DOC)  
4400 N. John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
North Little Rock, AR*

*Reception Follows*

*Please RSVP 501-562-6053*