The Christian

Fall 2013 (Aug, Sep, Oct)

A Disciples of Christ (IL-WI Region) Quarterly Publication



RECONCILATION

Love Takes Courage

"Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the

LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for

RECONCILIATION GRANT REPORTS

The PRAR Committee of the Christian Church in IL-WI presented ## of grant applications to the Regional Church Council. The following groups were granted funds to help further their work in the community:

The Quad Cities Alliance for Immigrants and Refuges (QCAIR)

-This group received $500 to help sustain the work of their action teams.

Glen Oak Christian Church: Snack Packs

-This group received $1,500 to help provide funding for their "Snack Packs" program.

Glen Oak Christian Church: Glen Oak Action Liaison (GOAL)



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write to you this morning, I'm enjoying the cooler, fresher air that comes after a rain. The birds are singing brightly, and chirping hurriedly, and cawing loudly. It has been two weeks since Al's death. Time is relentless in its movement. Grief does not move on so quickly. We, our family, are adjusting to this new reality each and every day. We miss him.

Your thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, emails, Facebook messages, gestures of kindness and concern have been a source of sustenance for us. You are the reason I'm so grateful and passionate for the church. The blessing of your support has been invaluable to us---thank you.

I am taking time off to grieve, and recover from a cold. My vacation and the General Assembly were already on the calendar for this month. The Personnel Committee has also granted me bereavement leave. I an to be back in the office by August 1. One day at a time.

In the meantime, I want you to know that Rev. Scott Woolridge and Rev. Dr. Christal Williams are keeping things going for us, as always. Connie Henderson, Eron Dupree, Terri Grove, Jonathon Rodgers and Jeff Dulyea-Parker are tending the daily activities. I'm grateful to be a part of an awesome team who are devoted to the ministry of "Together Making Disciples of Christ.

Also, you may be aware we have hosted Glenda Lopez Ordonez from Guatemala as a summer Intern for our Camps. I want to thank all of her hosts, including our Camp Coordinator, Directors, Counselors, congregations. Special thanks to Rev. Deborah Owen and family who took Glenda to the General Assembly. And to Dr. Christal for looking after Glenda upon her arrival, in Orlando, and on her way home to Guatemala---August. 4. From the reports, I believe this has been a rewarding experience for Glenda and for our Campers.

Looking ahead, please continue to pray for our efforts to be a Pro-Reconciling/Anti-Racist people: the work that we have committed ourselves to is long, arduous, dis-comforting and essential. It's a commitment to be part of the Welcoming Table----where all of God's children are valued. It may mean open-



HEART ART

This retreat will focus on Healing Joy Art as Meditation. This is a unique combination of Prayer/Meditation and the expressive arts.

All of us have an artist inside who needs to be engaged so that we can process the head stuff with which we are bombarded on a daily basis. This helps us to live a life in balance.

Come and enjoy some creative freedom as you explore with your inner artist. Come prepared to have fun.

No artistic talent/experience is required. This is a *come as you* are retreat. Dress comfortably and be ready to learn with your heart.

The Reverend Carol P. Vaccariello, D. Min, LPC

Brief Resume: August 2013

The Reverend Doctor Carol P. Vaccariello is a Spiritual Director, Master Teacher, Preacher, Artist, Prophet and Pastor.

Carol has an active Spiritual Direction practice and pastors two churches that are uniquely different from one another: One is steeped in tradition being founded over 150 years ago and the other is a progressive group of healers.

Carol walks a spiritual path that is close to Earth and has learned from numerous Native American spiritual teachers.

Carol teaches the Medicine Wheel and leads retreats in Drum Building as a spiritual practice.

The event will be Oct. 21-23

At Chiara Center in Springfield, IL

Starts at1pm ending at 1 pm.

The cost for single room and all meals



2013 One Region One Book Announcement:

The Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Team is pleased to announce the title for the 2013 One Region One Book program: The Beattitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Tim Ladwig. This powerful book uses scripture and visual images to tell the journey of African-Americans from slavery to the present day civil rights movement in the United States.

We hope you'll join us in using this book to spark intergenerational conversations and promote the Reconciliation Offering. Each congregation will receive one book for your church library; discussion guides for adult, intergenerational, youth, and children's book discussion groups; and Resources for worship, children's Sunday School, and promoting the Reconciliation Offering.

Why Do We Have Pro-Reconciliation Anti-Racism Ministry?

2013 Theme: Love Takes Courage

(An Article for Reconciliation Offering September 29th and October 6th)

The work of CCIW's Pro-Reconciliation Anti-Racism (PRAR) Team is a sanctioned ministry effort of the Christian Church in Illinois/Wisconsin called to assist the Region in dismantling racism in the institution of the Christian Church. As a team, we gather from various parts of the Region. We affirm the one faith that we share as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and we understand that as church we deal with the church-spiritual and the church-institutional. All believers in Jesus Christ are on a spiritual journey seeking to be formed in the likeness of the One who demonstrated all inclusive love, equality, and justice. Our struggle is with the church-institutional. One of the greatest place of struggle as church-institutional is the area of racial reconciliation.

Racial Reconciliation is difficult to deal with as church-institution because the church-spiritual feels shame, brokenness, and resistance as the sin of racism is approached. No one wants to air their sins especially when we have embraced the One who forgives sin. Conversation is complicated by the fact that many of us tend to reflect personally on the individual intent to do harm to one of another race. The unexplored racism that is ingrained in institutions is what hurts us all. When we fail to recognize the very nature of all institutions that infuse a worldview that puts our white brothers and sisters in a position of internalized racial superiority (without asking for their permission). In the same way the institutions set forth a worldview for our People of Color brothers and sisters of internalized racial inferiority (without asking for their permission). Sadly some have used scripture as a means to justify the sin of racism through inaccurate and poorly intentioned Bible exploration. Using scripture inappropriately by the church-institutional supports a lopsided racial worldview that creates road blocks to the unity of church-spiritual and healing of church-institutional. The church-spiritual is calling on the heart of the Gospel within each believer in Jesus Christ to examine the church-institutional to pursue the path of wholeness, healing, and God's shalom.

In the life of church-institutional we have attempted to "fix" the issues of racism by making proclamations, discernments and position papers. What is needed is for Christians of all colors, opinions, political persuasions and theological perspectives to be willing to lay aside the pride that keeps us from admitting what is happening in our church-institutional. Are we willing to admit that racism has blurred all of our visions? The church-spiritual is urging us to go the Doctor, Jesus, the heavenly Ophthalmologist (eye doctor) to remove the cataract from our eyes that we may see clearly what we are doing to ourselves.

The Pro-Reconciliation Anti-Racism Team is a part of the church-institutional seeking to work with all our brothers and sisters to transform our church-institutional into a Church-Spiritual. We are seeking those who have experienced the pain, discomfort and brokenness in our church and want to be a part of a "movement for wholeness". Join us on the journey.

RECIPIENTS OF CCIW Pro-Reconciliation / Anti-Racism Grants for 2013

Quad Cities Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees



Quad Cities Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees (QCAIR) is a membership-based organization that arose from a series of public dialogues in Rock Island, Illinois during 2010 & 2011. Its mission is to build community among refugees, immigrants, and citizens of the Quad Cities. QCAIR champions comprehensive immigration reform alongside other Quad City organizations by participating in the "Dream for All" rally. Their work includes addressing the issues of education, healthcare, jobs, and housing for immigrants and refugees.

One goal of the work QCAIR does is to survey existing services for refugees and immigrants and coordinate and share information about the services available among QCAIR members. It seeks to identify opportunities for combining services, filling gaps in services, sharing resources, and eliminating duplication of services, all for the purpose of enhancing self-sufficiency of refugees and immi-

Common Place Family Learning Center



The Common Place Family Learning Center (CPFLC) is supported by churches throughout the Peoria community. The CPFLC Promising Futures Program provides academic assistance and enhancement to children in K – 2nd grades through after-school programs. Their work lives out their strong belief that every child deserves the love, guidance, and opportunities to develop as individuals and to succeed in school. All the children who participate in their program are minorities who live in poverty and have had limited opportunities in life. Education, particularly when linked with gaining awareness of self and others, empowers children to succeed in school and beyond.



31 children were enrolled in their program for 2012-2013 school year, plus 11 during the summer. The children also developed confidence and self-esteem thanks to the work of Promising Futures' staff and volunteers. The success of the program this year exceeded expectations. Children improved their grades by at least 1 letter grade, demonstrated good decision-making and problem solving skills, increased the awareness of their individual talents, and broadened their knowledge base through educational and personal growth opportunities.

Common Place's mission is to embrace diversity and improve lives through education support for children, adult learning opportunities, and family activities. Check out their website at: http://www.commonplacepeoria.org/.

Glen Oak Christian Church

Glen Oak Christian Church, Peoria, IL, received the support of the CCIW Pro-Reconciliation / Anti-Racism for 2 programs this year: Glen Oak^2 and Glen Oak Action Liaison (GOAL).



Glen Oak^2 provides a snack pack program through the work of Glen Oak Christian Church and Glen Ok Community Learning Center which serves 900 students in K – 6th grades. The snack pack program provides children each Friday with food items for the weekend bridging the gap between school meals. The problem was brought to the church's attention through member and school principal who took notice of the need of children. The program has provided snack packs for 560 children and due to the success of the program has extended its ministry to summer packs.



GOAL reaches out to the people of the inner-city East Bluff neighborhood that is home to Glen Oak Christian Church in Peoria, IL providing service through Weekday Wonders, Operation Inasmuch, Neighborhood Revitalization activities, Nursery School, and tutoring.

GOAL provides direct personal face-to-face contact with the neighborhood. GOAL staff connects directly with neighbors visiting the families of the children in its program to help the congregation come to a deeper understanding of children and their families, including working with individuals from the neighborhood to connect them with social services, employment assistance, and mentorship. GOAL is active in the community addressing, violence and crime. Staff works to connect children and youth to the various services throughout the area.



Summer Camp Mission Work

During camp, we like to give back to the camp that gives so much to us. Here is a list of all the mission projects completed at Camp Walter Scott (CWS) and Pilgrim Park (PP).

JYF (PP): Spread grass seed, two fleece blankets for Princeton shelter…CYF (PP): Clearing of brush and planting new grass…CYF (CWS): Replace bunk bed plywood, weed the volleyball court, paint the shower house…Post High (CWS): Paint the shower house floor…. JYF 2 (CWS): Weed the Retreat House flowerbed…

Our apologies if we have omitted any work on this list.

Camp Walter Scott Improvements

Through our partnership with The Rekindle Foundation, Illinois Valley Cluster, and various churches, Camp Walter Scott has some new features in 2013.

- Air Conditioned Dining Hall
- Dining Hall ramp for Accessibility
- New Mattresses for the Cabins

Thank you for the numerous snack & food donations throughout the summer for our campers!





2013 Summer Camp – By the Numbers

Total Number of Campers	**301**
Total Number of Directors	**24**
Total Number of Counselors	**44**
Camp Offering (through July 31)	**$904.65**

This is an unofficial, unaudited list.



Around the Campfire

News from Outdoor Ministries - Summer Camping Program





ALL THINGS NEW

Look What God is Doing!

"Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?" - Isaiah 43:19a (CEB). This scripture was the basis of a week learning what God is doing: A New Thing, New Creation, New Shape, New Expressions, New Understanding, New Life, and New Community. While participating in campfires, worship, bible studies, and recreational activities, campers from across the region grew closer to each other and grew closer to God.

Although a full list is too long to be included in this newsletter, I want to thank all of our directors, counselors, counselors-in-training, kitchen volunteers and CCIW Staff who made the multiple weeks of camp possible. In this edition of "Around the Campfire," you will learn about our Global Exchange, Camp Mission Work, Camp Walter Scott improvements, and the 2013 Summer Camping Program, by the numbers.

God Bless,

Eron

Eron Dupree
Program Director

Conocé Glenda Nineth López Ordoñez

Glenda nos viene de Guatemala, a pesar de nuestra asociación con el Consejo Ecuménico Cristiano de Guatemala. Glenda pasó el verano participando en nuestro programa de campamento de verano en tanto campo de Walter Scott y Pilgrim Park. Durante su tiempo con nosotros, participó en todas las actividades del campamento. Algunas de sus actividades favoritas incluyen fogata y adoración. Amaba los tiempos durante el culto en la que participamos en la comunión. Con la ayuda del Rev. Dr. Christal Williams y Rev. Deborah Owens, Glenda fue capaz de asistir a la Asamblea General en Orlando. En la Asamblea General y cada uno de nuestros campamentos, Glenda habló a los jóvenes sobre su camino de fe y de la labor del Consejo Ecuménico Cristiano de Guatemala. Tuvimos la suerte de tener Glenda y su traductor Vanessa Velázquez (Inglesia de Cristiana en Milwaukee, Wisconsin) con nosotros este verano.



Meet Glenda Nineth López Ordoñez

Glenda comes to us from Guatemala, though our partnership with the Christian Ecumenical Council of Guatemala. Glenda spent the summer participating in our summer camping program at both Camp Walter Scott and Pilgrim Park. During her time with us, she participated in all of the camp activities. Some of her favorite activities include campfire and worship. She loved the times during worship in which we participated in communion. With the help of Rev. Dr. Christal Williams and Rev. Deborah Owens, Glenda was able to attend the General Assembly in Orlando. At the General Assembly and each of our camps, Glenda spoke to the youth about her faith journey and the work of the Christian Ecumenical Council of Guatemala. We were blessed to have Glenda and her translator Vanessa Velazquez (Inglesia de Cristiana en Milwaukee, Wisconsin) with us this summer.



Dear CCIW YOUTH, Pastors, Youth Workers, and Friends,

I know you have been waiting with tip-toed anticipation to hear and receive more information about our upcoming Summit 2013! Today, you are reading our SPECIAL Invitation. Welcome to the youth event that will cause youth and their Sponsors to think seriously about living for God---Forever!

Our Summit will be held November 22-24, 2013 at the Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, Illinois. (Near St. Louis) We anticipate the energy level of more than 400 youth and their sponsors helping to make this an AWESOME and MAGNETIC experience.

The task group is meeting and praying for the best speakers, awesome facilitators, volunteers and entertainment to encourage us throughout our weekend together. Also, there will be mission opportunities and special interest groups for your youth to choose from.

Summit 2.0.1.3 is being welcomed at LWCC-Which is a full service Christian conference center that is more than able to accommodate over 1,000 people at a time. It has plenty of break out space, plenty of dormitory style sleeping rooms, a huge dining hall with some of the best tasting (all you can eat) food around-There is a recreation center with a game room, Olympic sized swimming pool, break out spaces, snack bar and vending machines available to us! The activities for our youth are unlimited! I want to encourage you to take a look at the Lake Williamson website. (www. lakewilliamson.org)

Informational Emails, the CCIW News Alerts, and the CCIW Website are all very important sources of information for those who are interested in participating in this year's summit. So, I will ask that you check these places often to receive timely updated information about the event. Please pay close attention to the information on the bottom of this page.

Deadlines: Registration $165.00 -October 31, 2013-(Regular Registration) Registrations must be postmarked October 31, 2013. No Registrations will be accepted after November 6, 2013!!!! (Any Registrations after October 31 and before November 6, will be at **$175.00)**

Registration Covers: Registration & Program Costs, Five Meals, **Sleeping Rooms,** and T-Shirts). **Please watch the CCIW News Service and our Website for Registration Forms.**

Five Meals

Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Sunday: Breakfast, LUNCH!!!!!!!

Sleeping Room Block:

At this Summit it is going to be important that each church send both a male and female sponsor! If for some reason that is not going to be possible-you will need to call the Regional Office for a list of Churches who are willing to be in partnership with your group to help accommodate your chaperone needs.

The Rooms are on a dormitory style. This is the same model that we use at our Camps!!!! For an example, they have ten beds in a room and if you have five girls. Your room will be open to share with another youth group who has five girls as well. Females and Males will not be able to share rooms. Therefore, the Regional Office will need you to please send back the reservation sheet-so that we are able to make sure that you are actually with your group and that we have arranged enough space for all involved in the weekend. Thanks, so much and I will see you there! Please be advised that rooms will be assigned on a first come-first serve basis. We will not be able to exchange rooms at the event. (Thank You)

This full service Christian Center will save a Summit participant over $300 in costs. This year's Summit event at a major hotel would have cost nearly $500.00 per person. What an incredible savings! Please be sure to join us for a great event.

Sincerely,

Our 2013, Summit Task Group!

For Questions please contact

Dr. Christal Williams @ pastorchristal@cciwdisciples.org

Terri Grove @ Terri@cciwdisciples.org or 309-828-6293

2013 Clergy Ethics Seminars

These educational events provide opportunities to refresh your knowledge on continuing ethical issues and learn new information about hot topics such as social media ethics, financial ethics and other 21st century issues. You may also learn self-care tips to prevent burn-out and keep the minister and congregation healthy. For clergy entering the Search and Call system, completion of at least one course every three years is required to obtain a letter of reference or verify good standing from the any of the Regional Ministers.

2013 Course Options

"Clergy Self-Care": Thursday, October 10th @ FCC in Moline, IL

The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will present their program "God's Own Peace" which utilizes some aspects of the Bowen family systems theory to help clergy understand the need for self-care and overcome barriers to achieving that goal with meditative prayer and other solutions.

"Pro-Reconciliation, Anti-Racism": Saturday, October 12th @ United Christian Church in Country Club Hills, IL

The IL-WI Region's PR-AR Team will present this session about racism in the church and provide op-

Pastor Changes

Steve Surratt was called to FCC Mt Sterling

Michael Duncan retired 7/31 from FCC Metropolis

Mike Armstrong is serving as Interim at 15th Avenue in Rock Island

John Roh is serving as interim at Chicago Christian

Kelly Becker is serving as Associate at FCC Bloomington.

Clint Collins was called to serve a

Greg Summers to CPE Residency at Advocate Bromenn in Bloomington

Sandra Anderson has retired and moved to Indianapolis Robin Run Village

Courtney Chandler is serving Sterling First CC

Brent Budd was called to serve Arcola Christian

Pat Meyer is serving Arrowsmith/Colfax

Rob Rixman is serving as Interim to FCC Metropolis

Prayer Concerns

Jon Bormann was called to serve as Associate at First Presbyterian in Jacksonville, IL

Gretchen Barron competed 15 years of service at Decatur Central

Deaths: Pray for the families of Rev. Michael Fitch, Rev. Dr. Albert Dulyea-Parker, Rev. Rolland Pfile, and for Rev. Sharon Patton on the loss of her husband Hulon Robertson, and for Rev. David Hicks on the loss of his wife Norma; and for the family of Edith Prather (wife of deceased Pastor Ray Prather.)

Please continue to use the Regional Prayer Calendar for weekly prayers for our congregations and their Pastors.



August 19, 2013

For immediate release
Media contact: Cherilyn Williams, assistant vice president for marketing and communication, Office of the General Minister and President, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); cwilliams@disciples.org; desk – 317.713.2496; cell – 253.683.1883

General Assembly adopts resolution urging welcome of all

At the July 2013 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Orlando, a resolution was brought forward by a group of 20 congregations entitled *Becoming a People of Grace and Welcome to All*. The intent of the resolution is to urge Disciples to welcome into our congregations and other ministries *all* who seek Christ.

The General Assembly speaks only for the people gathered for the event and it speaks TO congregations, regions and general ministries, not FOR congregations, regions or general ministries. For this reason, the resolution does not constitute a "stance" on an issue for the entire denomination.

This resolution carries symbolic importance in the life of our Church. It reminds us that our baptism into the living Christ continues to be our common ground. Within the broad membership of Disciples there have always been gay and straight, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender persons who participate fully in the life and leadership of the church.

Here is what this "Sense of the Assembly" resolution is not:

- It is not a policy change. Individual congregations will not be requested to establish (or change) a policy on gay or lesbian persons in the life of the Church. The region is not required to change its policies on ordination. Pastors are not required to bless same-gender marriages.

- It is not a theological mandate. It does not say that we have the same biblical understanding of sexual orientation or gender identity. Disciples, prayerfully and with biblical study and other research, come to their own understanding on these matters.

For links to past resolutions related to this issue, go to the Grace-full Table page and look for the "assembly resolutions tab" on www.disciples.org

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CCIW welcomes Rev. Dr. Bruce Barkhauer from the Center for Faith and Giving, and the Rev. Darwin Collins from the Christian Church Foundation for a weekend Odyssey in our Region.

Nov. 1-3

Friday, Nov. 1 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at FCC Galesburg

Saturday, Nov. 2 from 10– 2p.m. at Decatur Central

Sunday, Nov. 3 from 2-5 p.m. at Villa Park

Mark your calendars, invite your congregational leaders, prepare to be inspired!

Regional Clergy Staff

Teresa Dulyea-Parker, Reg. Minister & President	teresa@cciwdisciples.org
Scott Woolridge, Associate Minister	scott@cciwdisciples.org
Christal Williams, Associate Minister	pastorchristal@cciwdisciples.org

Administrative Staff

Lisa Baker (Communications/Clergy Support)	lisa@cciwdisciples.org
Connie Henderson (Outdoor Ministries)	connie@cciwdisciples.org

Camp Contacts

Eron Dupree, Camp Program Director	eron@cciwdisciples.org
Jonathon Rodgers, Camp Host (CWS)	camp@cciwdisciples.org

Regional Moderator

For Information or Assistance Call:

Regional Office, Bloomington **309-828-6293**

Fax.....**309-829-4612**

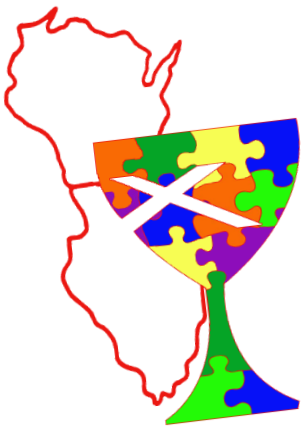
Next Issue: Winter

Deadline for Submissions:

Nov. 1st

The Christian

Postage Paid at





Christian Church (Disiples of Christ) in IL-WI

1011 North Main Street

Bloomington, IL 61701

Our Regional church in IL & WI is committed to high quality partnership with local congregations, providing ministry services not available elsewhere - helping congregations in times of crisis, providing camps for our children and youth, helping congregations call their next pastor, joining in global ministry together. We invite you to support the Annual Fund and join as partners in life-changing Regional church ministry.

One way to show support in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in IL & WI 's Mission is through a donation to our Annual Fund. Gifts to the Annual Fund enable us to grow Disciples congregations for healthy, vital ministry!

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in IL & WI

Growing Disciples congregations for healthy, vital ministry.

☐ **Yes!** I believe in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in IL & WI's mission and I want to help!

☐ Enclosed is my gift to the Annual Fund: ☐$100 ☐$250 ☐$500 ☐Other

Name _____

Address _____
City State Zip

Email _____

Congregation _____ City _____

Clip and mail to: CCIW Annual Fund, 1011 N Main St., Bloomington, IL 61701