Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
1011 North Main Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

"Good News" Stories

BARNEY'S PRAIRIE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Ministry of Local Congregation: We visit the assisted living and nursing home in Mt. Carmel, IL, once a month. At that time a short meditation is given. The rest of the time is spent singing hymns. The residents seem to thoroughly enjoy it. Some of their relatives see us outside of the facilities and tell us how much the relative enjoys it. People who do not, are unable to, or whoever have not attended church hear God's word.

In addition, we just celebrated our 195th anniversary of continuous service to God.

RUSHVILLE SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM – First Christian Church

On behalf of the Illinois Coalition for Community Service, I would like to personally thank you for your contribution to utilize your facility towards our free Summer Meal Program. This program could not have been a success without your contribution. I also would like to extend our thanks to your church leaders for making it possible to use the church facility to host the program. Please extend our greatest gratitude to them. Furthermore, special thanks to Karen, Suzanne, and Judy who were excellent individuals to work with during this time.

ICCS' mission with Summer Meals is, and always will be, about feeding children. Our partnership with the USDA and Illinois State Board of Education is also recognized and deeply appreciated. However, there are significant costs that ICCS incurred to sustain the program. It is for that reason why we are grateful to the many volunteers who like us, want to see communities and youth thrive.

Over the course of last summer, ICCS provided 33,000 meals at 33 sites across the state. In comparison, this summer over 58,000 meals were served to children in 52 sites during the summer months. Our goal was to serve, at minimum, of 52,000 meals across the state of Illinois during summer of 2014, we went over our projected goal and you made this achievement possible this summer.

Once again, ICCS thanks you for your efforts and contribution of time! Thanks for helping to make our program a wonderful success for your community. I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Montoya Picazo
Community Organizer
Illinois Coalition for Community Services

The Christian

Fall / Winter 2014

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

"What Gifts Shall We Bring?"
2014 Christmas Offering Supports Regional Ministry

The Regional church is about connections, about relationships. **Fellowship groups in our Region** help us connect with God and one another—creating holy moments that enrich us for a lifetime. Here are some testimonies—

Clarissa Johnson, a camp alumnus and Regional Youth Council member writes—Camp has been my spiritual recharge every year since I began going. The more long term impact is the great morals, values, and genuine friendships that are made. Coming from the generation who has been accused of deteriorating the church numbers and wreaking havoc on the moral code of society, it is imperative that we keep a good core group of youth who are hungry for the bread of life and wanting to know more to always actively engage in their faith walk. One of the most sacred places that I feel most connected to God is sitting in the pew of the outdoor sanctuary at Camp Walter Scott. If home is where the heart is, my home would be at that very spot.

And **Vickie Nevius**, from the Disciples Women's Cabinet, writes—Disciples' Women Ministries is about helping a woman to be the person that God has called her to be. This is done through education, spiritual enrichment and fellowship. As Disciple women we endeavor to be aware of what is happening in the world and to help bring justice where we can by educating ourselves. We study the scriptures to learn what God is calling us to do and to deepen our relationship with the holy. We gain strength from the fellowship of our sisterhood as we strive to be the bodacious women God is calling us to be.

Thank you for giving as generously as you are able to the ministries we share through the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin. Your gifts make a difference!





REGIONAL MINISTER'S MOMENT

Rev. Dr. Teresa Dulyea-Parker

On the Eve of the 165th year of Ministry for the Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin

"

I have been pondering how the Christian/Disciple movement with our polar star of unity had its beginning in the midst of the time that led up to the American Civil War. It is a great paradox, but isn't that always God's way. More recently, I attended a 50th anniversary celebration for one of our churches. They, too, were lifting up Unity, Liberty, Love: "In essentials, Unity. In non-essentials, Liberty; In all things, Love."

The foundations of our faith movement call us to recognize that we can and will hold different opinions on many things, but that our unity---that Jesus prayed for ---was essential. Our founders believed that, "if we could find the one true biblical answer to the fundamental questions, we would come together around one Table in Jesus' name." They were believers. They were dreamers. They had vision. And, they were tired of brokenness in the church, and longing for love---the kind that creates a common bond.

It's the kind of dream that has the power to motivate people: to see Jesus in one another even when they disagree; to start churches across the landscape; to get a movement going to help foundling children; to inspire far-flung diverse people to gather together; to get them organizing mission societies/regions; that pushes them to be Pro-Reconciling/Anti-Racist. A Jesus dream---in the midst of a broken world---for wholeness expressed in a life abundant welcome Table of love.

So, what does that matter to us 165 years, or 50 years later? We are the inheritors of an essential dream: Together Making Disciples of Christ. The miracle of our gathering isn't that we agree on everything.

It is that we believe that we are called by Jesus to his Table, and to go out in service in our communities and world. Our unity is in the loving welcome we humbly receive, and in the loving welcome we humbly receive, and in the loving welcome we gratefully give.

Here are some of the highlights of our last two years in ministry together:

Deepening Discipleship:

CCIW Prayer Calendar, Regional Elders,

Meaningful & Authentic Relationships:

Clergy Clusters, The Journey, Reconciliation Grants, Camps, Youth MidWinter Retreat, Summit, Disciple Women events

Creative, Innovative Ministry:

Coach training, Use of technology for Connecting, Clergy Ethics Training, On line registration and giving, Interactive website.

Mission Focused:

Global Mission Region with Concejo Ecumenico Cristiano de Guatemala. Hosted Glenda Lopez in our camping program, Sent another mission group.

Administration: Finance and Personnel, RCC/ MLT

Transitioned to Treasury Services, Living into new Constitution and Bylaws, Balanced budget for 2013, Generosity workshops, "Legacies"

Pastor Changes

Brian Shinkle to Albion; Dick Jumper to Pontiac; Dana Jumper to Flanagan and Long Point; Brenda Wessel to Frederick; Amy Bertschausen to St. Louis; James Bisch to Rock Island; Justin Ziegler to Arlington Heights; David Presley to Metropolis; Rob Rixman to Watseka; Dee Ann Woods to Waupaca

Prayer Concerns

Health Concerns: Rick Branaman, Dave Jassman, Pat Jones, Ellen Moma, Tracy Armstrong, Warren Turner, Terri Grove, Ray & Missy McLaren, Terry Brace

Deaths: Rev. Ambrose Stump; Rev. Clarence Bangs; Vickie Akers—wife of Rev. Tom Akers & mother of Rev. Tim Akers; Rev. Mike Roberts' mother; Rev. Sharon Patton's mother; Rev. Bryan Elliot's mother; Rev. Bethany Lowery's grandmother, Rev. Clarence Bangs, Rev. Joe Wilcox

Weddings: Rev. Rachel Doolin was married to Alan

Births: Rev. Courtney Montgomery Chandler and Rev. Patrick Chandler welcomed Liliann Chandler to their family.

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

Terri Grove (Youth, OM, Women)	terri@cciwdisciples.org
Connie Henderson (Youth, Outdoor Ministries, Treasury Serv.)	connie@cciwdisciples.org
Jeff Dulyea-Parker (Website, eNews)	jeff@cciwdisciples.org

Camp Contacts

Bob Broeker, Camp Walter Scott — camp@cciwdisciples.org

Regional Moderator

Cheryl Jackson — cpjackson77@att.net

Global Mission Partners

Rev. Dr. Vitalina Similox and Gloria Vincente

Ecumenical Council of Churches in Guatemala

Rev. Dr. Felix Ortiz, Executive Director

Christian Church Foundation Representative

W. Darwin Collins—Phone: 800-668-8016 — dcollins@ccf.disciples.org

FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE CALL:

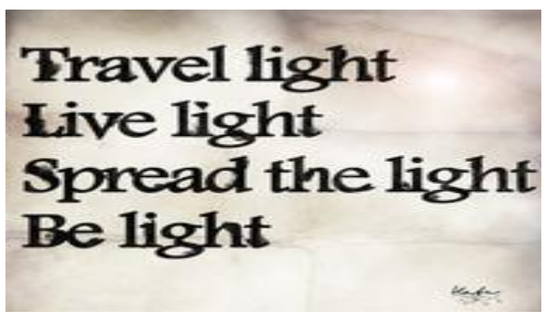
REGIONAL OFFICE BLOOMINGTON, IL
Phone:309-828-6293 Fax: 309-829-4612
Address: 1011 N. Main St,
Bloomington, IL 61701

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15290 E. 300th Ave.
Dieterich, IL 62424
Phone: 217-739-2332 Fax: 217-739-2298

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Top 20 Disciples Mission Fund Giving 2013

Church Name	City	2013 DMF	2012 DMF
Central Christian Church	Decatur	$70,895.00	$79,897.00
Eureka Christian Church	Eureka	28,335.00	32,550.00
Central Christian Church	Danville	25,310.30	23,471.16
First Christian Church	Bloomington	24,897.62	18,642.38
First Christian Church	Canton	22,500.00	21,000.00
First Christian Church	Moline	21,985.98	22,504.88
First Christian Church	Pekin	21,500.00	21,500.00
First Christian Church	Gibson City	21,024.52	15,282.69
Central Christian Church	Jacksonville	19,787.90	20,354.24
First Christian Church	Paris	16,168.42	21,113.10
Union Avenue Christian Church	Litchfield	16,010.34	14,591.74
First Christian Church	Mount Carmel	14,650.00	13,900.00
First Christian Church	Peoria	14,379.15	13,793.61
Mackinaw Christian Church	Mackinaw	3,276.80	11,623.89
First Christian Church	Rushville	12,357.00	10,263.00
First Christian Church	Macomb	10,550.00	11,160.00
Coldbrook Christian Church	Cameron	9,672.75	10,199.73
First Christian Church	Galesburg	9,632.12	10,737.72
First Christian Church	Springfield	9,483.00	10,200.00
United Christian Church	Country Club Hills	9,399.05	11,872.35



2014 CCIW Disciple of Merit

"**The Disciple of Merit** award is the highest honor given by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin in recognition of outstanding service to the congregation, region and the general church. Retired clergy and lay leaders of any age are eligible. The Regional Board of Directors chooses the recipients. This year we recognize **Rev. Nancy Stump and Rev. Burley and Martha Herrin.**



Nancy Stump has always found the most creative ways to serve local congregations and the Region of Illinois and Wisconsin, Disciples of Christ, and the NBA. In 1987, the administration of Barton W. Stone Christian Home in Jacksonville invited Nancy to volunteer at the National Benevolent Association facility as a chaplain. In an effort to be the very best volunteer possible, Nancy worked inside the structure of the Region and with Memorial Hospital in Springfield to receive both basic and advanced chaplaincy training. In 1988, Nancy's work was recognized and rewarded when she was invited to be the facility's full time chaplain.

During the twelve years of service at Barton Stone Home, Nancy worked with each home church to keep strong the bonds that had been built between resident and congregation. Nancy came to be seen as an extension of that continuing care as she would invite and encourage home churches to come and visit the campus and bring the Sunday afternoon chapel service. Also, to further lift up the sense of being a part of the Region, Nancy utilized the Home's location and resources to host CWF events and cluster minister gatherings.

Nancy was very much aware that the resident was not the only human factor in the Barton Stone equation. With the hiring of new or additional staff, Nancy was asked to help each employee to understand and relate to the aging process and the eventual passing of the resident. Many times, for young staff members, Nancy's words of insight, guided the actions of the caregivers; before and at the end of a saint's life.

Because of Nancy's compassion and love for the Home, she was invited by many congregations to fill the pulpit. She accepted each opportunity eagerly, traveling in all seasons to share and to hone her preaching skills.



One might think having a regional or retired minister in the congregation may be intimidating. This is far from the truth when the retired minister and spouse are Burley and Martha Herrin. A congregation and minister could ask for no greater support than what the Herrin's provide. Burley and Martha joined the Marshall Avenue Christian Church when they were at Camp Walter Scott and Burley was camp manager and an associate regional minister for the southern part of Illinois/ Wisconsin.

They have volunteered in all areas of the church life from teaching Sunday school to helping with the back to school carnival, Burley was in charge of the Nose Picking game. Both have helped with pulpit supply when the minister has been on vacation or sabbatical. The church can always count on them to help with food and refreshments for special dinners or social hours. Martha participates in the Knitting and quilting circle and encourages us to read the anti- racism pro-reconciliation book each year. She is the church treasurer and on both the ministry team and the resource team. Burley is an Elder in the church and on the Pastor /Parish team. He often has sage advice for the congregation but generally offers only when asked. Any congregation would benefit from having a couple as devoted to the church and its life as Martha and Burley Herrin. Martha is a Core-Trainer for the General Church Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism initiative, and works faithfully on our CCIW PRAR Team. Burley is a Coach for HOPE Partnership and for CCIW helping congregations and Pastors in the transformation process. They are a blessing.

Moderator's Message



It is a distinct privilege and pleasure to serve as your new moderator of the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin in this time and space. We have been living into our new constitution, actively working toward "Together Making Disciples of Christ " and continuing to be a "movement towards wholeness" in a broken world. We are indeed Disciples (disciples) of Christ.

Your Council has served the Christian Church in the Illinois and Wisconsin region with specialized expertise, diligence and passion. We have lived into our new "lean" model of a smaller council, embraced the use to technology, balanced the budget, and supported the ministries of well-established churches, transforming churches and churches in formation (i.e. new starts). Our regional staff has worked with excellence and compassion in the execution of their ministerial duties.

I am very thankful for the level of leadership represented in our region and thank each member for his or her commitment to the continued success of our region. I value your time, talent and treasure. Your commitment to the overall stewardship of the church is commendable!

We celebrate a rich history of celebrating our success as being co-laborer in Christ together. Can you imagine the accomplishments of approaching 165 years of ministry? Can you dare to dream of the potential of what will happen, if we all accepted the call of being fully engaging disciples of Christ? Can you envision the power of this movement in transforming lives? I am challenging you to embody discipleship in its fullness and richness. I am challenging you to envision the future in which Christian Unity comes to fruition through our personal and collective commitment. I am challenging you to plant for the future by continuing to "Go Tell It" …Tell that there is room at the TABLE of Grace…Tell that there is a place for you to serve within the local congregation… the Regional Church…the General Church. Let us renew our vision of being a movement towards wholeness in a fragmented world! Let's SOAR into the future!

God's blessings and peace,

Rev. Cheryl P. Jackson

2014-2016 Regional Church Council Officers and Representatives

We give thanks for good people in our region who have stepped up the role of leadership.

Moderator: Cheryl Jackson (AA, Commissioned, United Christian Church Country Club Hills, Olympia Fields)

Moderator Elect: Kelly Ingersoll (C, Ordained, Pastor at First Christian, Macomb)

Past Moderator: Terry Foland (C, Ordained, Interim Parkway Springfield, Astoria)

Treasurer: Marla McElroy (AA, Laity, First Christian, Bloomington)

Secretary: Brenda Culver (C, Laity, Barney's Prairie)

Long Range Vision and Planning Chair: Katherine Bryant Graves (C, Ordained, FCC Carbondale)

Regional Assembly Chair: Robin Spurling (C, Ordained, FCC Carthage)

At Large 2016: Roberto Romero (Hispanic, Commissioned, Iglesia Milwaukee)

At Large 2016: John Bender (C, Laity, Union Avenue Litchfield)

At Large 2018: Beth Rupe (C, Ordained, FCC Moline)

At Large 2018: Hyein Park (A, seminary student, YA, FCC Downers Grove)

At Large 2020: Jared Reno (C, seminary student, YA, FCC Jacksonville)

Clergy Ordination Anniversaries

10 Years

Laura Evans Mahn
Jan Harris
Tommy Henegar
Laura Hollinger Antonelli
Jan Proeber

20 Years

Bonnie Condon
Pat Jones
Nelia Beth Scovill

30 Years

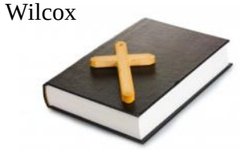
Rick Branaman
Daniel Krumrei
Deborah Owen
Jim Warren

50 Years

David Beebe
Ruben Cruz
Donald Daudelin
Terry Foland
Burley Herrin
Frank Hoss

In Memoriam…

Eleanor Ditrick
Albert Dulyea-Parker
Michael Fitch
James Fyke
Gene Gebhart
Jack Koehler
Pearle Lange
Louise Lowe Perkins
Ed Sawyer
Ambrose Stump
Dick Trefzger
Clarence Bangs
Joe Wilcox





New Day 2015

Congregational Transformation in CCIW
A Two-Year Process of Being Faithful to God

New Day is an offering of the Regional church to help your congregation. We work with congregations to create an atmosphere open to God's transformation. Together we pray, we listen to God, we take risks, we experiment with new ideas, we let go, we focus on ministry opportunities outside and inside the congregation.

We are on a spiritual journey and God is guiding our path. Our current reality might be marked with decline and frustration. If we will invest in deepening our relationship with God and one another, new perspectives can be opened. A vision of God's next chapter for us can be revealed. We have the courage to try something new and learn from our experiences. New opportunities and new ideas come to us and feed the life of the community and the church. We see what can emerge in our ministry context and who we are created to be.

It's not about a dying church, it's about new life and a commitment to a change for the better. For many of us, the old way is not working. We have lower worship attendance and lower giving in the offering plate. It's time for something better! When we tap into God's loving power, things change. Lives change. Commitments change. Churches change. Again, it's a change for the better – one we can handle, one that can bring us joy.

New Day is a new approach to congregational transformation. Driven by deeper spirituality, enriching partnership and ongoing support, churches find their path to a faithful future. We open ourselves to possibilities we haven't seen before – opportunities that fit who we are and where we live. They call on our best gifts, the gifts God has given us to serve.

There will be training/retreat gatherings for church leaders to get the process started, monthly coaching calls for the ministers, and follow-up events to hear about progress and offer more resources. The Regional church is making a huge commitment to help in congregational transformation.

Want to join in this partnership? Contact Scott Woolridge at scott@cciwdisciples.org

CCIW OUTDOOR MINISTRIES
CAMP DATES FOR 2015

FAMILY WEEKENDS

CHURCH FAMILY REUNION MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND	MAY 22-25
CHURCH FAMILY REUNION LABOR DAY WEEKEND	SEPTEMBER 4-7

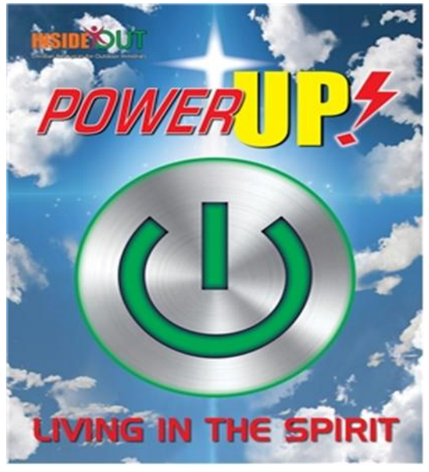
JUNE

CAMP ACTS 20:35 (CWS – WORK WEEK)	JUNE 7-13
CYF (CWS)	JUNE 14-20
JYF (PP)	JUNE 21-27
GRANDPARENTS & ME (CWS)	JUNE 21-24
BEGINNERS (CWS)	JUNE 24-27

JULY

BEGINNERS (PP)	JUNE 28-JULY 1
CHI RHO (PP)	JUNE 28-JULY 4
CYF (PP)	JUNE 28-JULY 4
JYF #1 (CWS)	JULY 5-11
CHI RHO #1 (CWS)	JULY 5-11
POST-HIGH WEEKEND RETREAT	JULY 24-26
JYF #2 (CWS)	JULY 26-AUGUST 1
CHI RHO #2 (CWS)	JULY 26-AUGUST 1

CWS – CAMP WALTER SCOTT **PP – PILGRIM PARK**



DAILY THEMES

Power Up with the Promise of Peace
Power Up and Celebrate the Spirit
Power Up to Imitate Christ
Power Up with the Fruit of the Spirit
Power Up as One Community
Power Up with Courage
Power Up for Peace Wherever You Go

REFLECTIONS FROM REGIONAL ASSEMBLY 2014



CCIW 2015 YOUTH MIDWINTER RETREAT
"GOD IS NOT DEAD"



WHERE: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
700 S. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703
217-528-3407
WHEN: January 31-February 1, 2015
TIME: Saturday January 31, 11 AM to Sunday, February 1, 2 PM
COST: $35.00 per person before December 16, 2014.
$40.00 per person December 17, 2014 – January 16, 2015

OVERNIGHT INCLUDES:
Saturday's Snacks, Dinner, Sunday's Breakfast, Lunch, and Fun Activities in and around Springfield
Deadline: Friday, January 16, 2015
*****NO EXCEPTIONS AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE.*****

PLEASE CHECK THE CCIW WEBSITE and E-NEWS for Registration forms and official Updates: www.cciwdisciples.org

Terri Grove, terri@cciwdisciples.org
Rev. Dr. Christal L. Williams, pastorchristal@cciwdisciples.org

SAVE THE DATE!

CCIW YOUTH SUMMIT 2015

THEME: "GOD IS NOT DEAD"



NOVEMBER 20-22, 2015

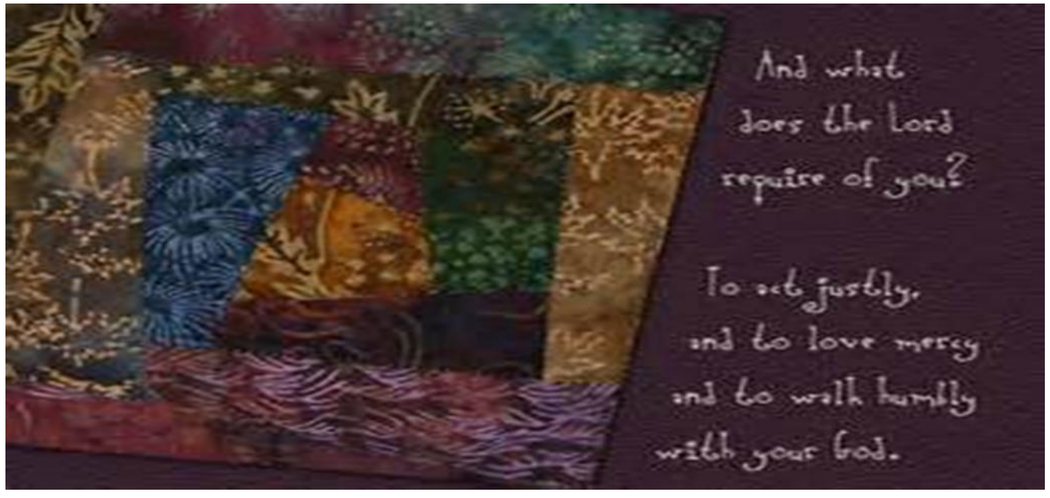
Lake Williamson Christian Conference Center
Carlinville, Illinois

FOR CHI-RHO & CYF (grades 6-12)

COSTS: Early Registration From January—August 1, 2014—$170
After August 1, 2015 - $180

DEADLINE: October 26, 2015

More Information Coming in January 2015 - www.cciwdisciples.org
Terri Grove: terri@cciwdisciples.org
Rev. Christal L. Williams: pastorchristal@cciwdisciples.org



CCIW DISCIPLE WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT
SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

THEME: STEP BY STEP
WHERE: THE CHIARA CENTER
RIVERTON, ILLINOIS

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: DR. SHARON STANLEY- REA
Director of the Refugee & Immigration Ministries Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada

Registration Forms will be available January 1, 2015 at www.cciwdisciples.org
Deadline: March 20, 2015

For More Information Contact: Rev. Dr. Christal L. Williams, pastorchristal@cciwdisciples.org
Terri Grove, terri@cciwdisciples.org

