The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois & Wisconsin

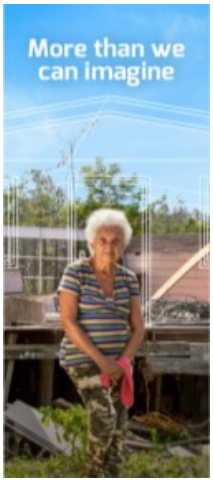
The Christian

A Disciples of Christ Quarterly Publication



Week of Compassion - February 7th - 24th

Imagine having a garden, but not being able to feed your family. Imagine digging into the sand of a dry river bed in search of drinking water. Imagine your child is diagnosed with stunted growth, a preventable early childhood condition with lifelong consequences. These are the struggles of the people living in a small village in West Timor, Indonesia. On the bank of an impassable river in monsoon season, which transforms into scorched moonscape at rains' end, the small village of Oebaki is considered one of the poorest communities in the country. The prefix "Oe" means water, but drought has stolen this town's identity. Poverty abounds, and families struggle to feed their children. Imagine life in Oebaki. Now imagine the world the way God intends. God imagines a world where all are fed, everyone has access to clean water, and all children grow up healthy. The author of Ephesians writes, "Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine…" (Ephesians 3:20).



Your gifts to Week of Compassion help make this world look more like the world God imagines. In Oebaki, your gifts help support well-trained savings and loan groups that allow families to buy resilient vegetable seeds for farming, yarn for weaving stunningly beautiful traditional fabric, and egg-laying chickens for a sustainable source of protein essential to prevent child stunting. These three enterprises also produce excess goods that families sell to generate income. Those who once struggled during the dry season and drought can now maintain a diversified diet by eating stored root vegetables from the last harvest, supplemented with greens purchased at the market. Nelci Tlonaen works hard in Oebaki with her husband and three children—two in elementary school and one entering high school. Despite the current drought, she feels confident that her family will persevere. "Even now, I can afford clothes and food for my children. I don't have any difficulty paying for their school." That's what happens when we imagine the world as God intends. ***Through your gifts to Week of Compassion, our imaginations, and far more, become reality for families in Oebaki and around the world. Please give generously!***

[photo credit: Week of Compassion] Mission Mom

Inside this issue

A New Church, A New Way.....2
2019 New Day Ideas 2
Regional Minister's Moment.....3
Women's Ministry Dates 4
2019 Clergy Ethics Training.....5
Fall 2018 New Church Grants.....5
Regional Youth Council 6
CWS Spring Cleaning.....7
2019 Camp Flyers 7

1st Quarter
Volume 1, Issue 1



A New Church, A New Way!

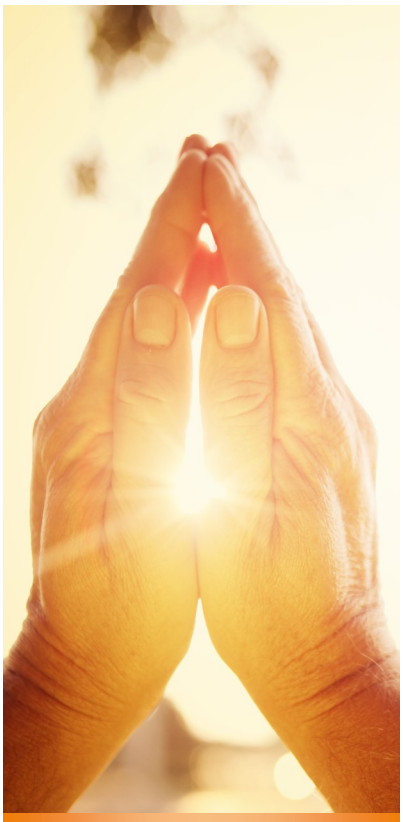
Rev. Dr. Franshonn Salter has been busy with some trial runs and putting together some musicians who are composing original music for ANEW Church (A Nontraditional Extravagantly Welcoming Church).

In February she is also beginning a series of events to generate interest in ANEW Church and practice doing and being church in a new way with Hip Hop artist Reggie Daniels. Connect on Facebook with @anewworshipexperience.

The CCIW region is financially supporting Franshonn in the planting of ANEW Church. The New Church Ministries Team meets several times a year to interview folks seeking a grant for new church. ANEW was awarded it first grant last year, running May of 2018 through April 2019.

If you are interested in planting a new church or want to participate in some way, please contact Jeff Zimmerman (jeffz@cciwdisciples.org), CCIW Minister for New Church/ Ministries.

"Supporting new church starts is the ministry and work of the region." - Jeff Z.



Announcing New Day Ideas for 2019

Soon we'll be coming to you with an online poll. We want your help in setting the direction of spiritual transformation in the Regional church. Here are some of the options we're considering -

- Personal spiritual retreats—we plan to offer a retreat for first time attendees and a version 2.0 for those who've been to a retreat before
  - Retreat 2.0 will be offered April 5-6
  - Retreat 1.0 will be offered October 11-12
- Geography of Grace/Circles of Trust for spiritual discernment
- Thrive—for congregational transformation (by Ruth Fletcher)
- A workshop on Personality and Spirituality led by Dick Hamm and others
- In-person and online - spiritual growth opportunities focused on transforming lay leaders into spiritual leaders
- Transforming our communities (community development) co-sponsored by our Pro-Reconciling/Anti-Racism Team
- Spiritual retreats for children and their families—how we connect with God and one another – in partnership with others in Children & Family Ministries
- Creating Ministry Incubators – offering opportunities for new ventures in ministry led by Eric Law, author of Holy Currencies – in partnership with New Church/ Ministries

And we continue to be open to other possibilities – what would you suggest?
Our goal is to transform lives and grow healthy, thriving congregations – in line with God's call on our lives.
Stay tuned for the many adventures ahead. There's room at the table for you!



Rev. Dr. Teresa Dulyea Parker

Regional Minister's Moment

Our mission; *To connect and empower Disciples congregations for life-changing and life-giving ministries in our evolving world.*

As we began our new year, we launched a new ministry the "School for Ministry" with our partners in the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ. The school's intention is to raise up leaders from and for our small rural/urban congregations. Rev. Lorrie Reed, PhD has been called to serve as our Executive Director. We held our first discernment retreat with 17 people in January. This initial cohort will be attending online classes with Philips Ministry Training program, as well as attending workshops and weeklong summer classes. This summer we will have retired professor Marti Steussy, PhD teaching a class on First (Old) Testament storytelling. The class will be held at Eureka College, June 24-28. The summer class will be open to everyone who wants to learn. Watch for more info on School for Ministry Facebook page.

Service, Learning and Mission or SLAM is also one of our new ventures. The Rev. Bill Kerns, pastor at Davis Memorial in Taylorville, is leading the team. Our first project came to us: we are planning a CCIW Disciple summer week in Taylorville to do cleanup work from the November tornado. Watch for more information through our website and Facebook pages.

As a region, we give thanks for Bob and Bill Deck. The brothers were faithful Disciples, business men, and community leaders in Girard. Through their lives they supported many ministries, including Parkway Christian Church in Springfield; First Christian, Virden; First Christian, Girard. They also saw the value in supporting the regional church. With Bill's recent death, the region has received the remainder of a Charitable Gift that Bob made in his lifetime through the Christian Church Foundation. We give thanks for the generosity of these two saints of the church, and, look forward to honoring their legacy with ministries of service.

As you can see, there is much to be grateful for in all ways. Do not be discouraged by the chaos of this world. The groaning of new birth is upon us. God will bring about the shalom that is intended for us and for our world. Christ is our light and life.

Teresa

We do this, because we want to *be a radically welcoming Region of connected Disciples congregations, radiating the Creator's love, continuing Christ's mission, and following the Spirit's call. (Vision 2018)*

Third Tuesdays at Two with Teresa

Our Regional Minister is inviting you to conversation. The third Tuesday of each month as calendar allows. We will use Zoom technology to facilitate connecting with each other. Our next conversation will be Tuesday, March 19 at 2 p.m. Please send an email to teresa@cciwdisciples.org if you would like to receive the Zoom link.

The Disciples Women's Ministry

As a part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Disciples Women welcomes all to the table as Christ has welcomed us. The mission of Disciples Women's Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin is to connect and empower women in the Region in diverse ministries as they grow individually and communally as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our purpose is to provide leadership, guidance and a communication channel for women as they share the Good News through:

- Worship for spiritual growth and renewed discipleship;
- Bible study for greater knowledge, understanding, and service;
- Participation in mission, advocacy, and service;
- Networking and fellowship for building the faith community locally, regionally, and throughout the whole church;
- Leadership training for the service to God in Disciples Women, the church, and the
- community;
- Stewardship of time, talent, and resources for the
- mission of the church;
- Accountability and personal responsibility for the mission of Jesus the Christ through the church.

Leadership for Disciples Women's Ministries is provided by a Leadership Team comprised of a President, Vice- President, Recorder, Director of Worship and Study, Director of Service, and 8 Communication Directors representing geographic areas of the Region. The Ministry Leadership Team (DWMLT) meets at least twice a year. A representative serves on the Region's Ministry Leadership Team.

Upcoming 2019 Events

DWMLT Meeting
February 2
Regional Office 10 AM

The Gathering
April 27
How to Love Ourselves While Still Loving Others: The Art of Self-Care Keynoter - Rev. Chesla T. Nickelson
Chiara Center, Springfield, Il

Pray & Play Days
March 16
First Christian Church
Virden, IL

August 3
First Christian Church
Macomb, Il

September 14
Park Manor Christian Church
Chicago, IL



"The Gathering"
Saturday, April 27, 2019
The Chiara Center
Guest Speaker: Rev. Chesla T. Nickelson



"Pray & Play Days"
An afternoon of praying and playing is an act of worship. It is a time of fun and remembrance, a time to rest in God's love and refresh our souls.

2019 Clergy Ethics Training Dates



Healthy Boundaries 101: Tuesday, March 26th, at First Christian Galesburg, 301 N Broad St., Galesburg, Il Rev. Dr. Teresa Dulyea-Parker will present material from Faith Trust Institute. Host Rev. MJ Fitch

Clergy Self-Care: Tuesday, May 7th at Central Christian Church, 1101 N Vermillion St, Danville, Il Rev. Canon Al Keeney and Rev. Scott Woolridge will lead. Host Rev. Adam Harmon

Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism: Monday, Monday, Aug. 12 at Camp Walter Scott. 15290 E 300th Ave., Dieterich, Il PRAR Team representatives will lead. Host Laura Williams

Healthy Boundaries 201: Saturday, Sept. 21st at First Christian Rock Falls, 506 Fifth Ave., Rock Falls, Il
Rev. Rebecca Kirby presenting on Conflict Transformation Skills for congregational leaders---Lombard Mennonite Peace Center model. Host Rev. Jeanette Larson

All clergy are required to have attend an Ethics Training class every three years
REGISTER ON LINE: www.cciwdisciples.org Cost : $35.00 per class / includes lunch
Sessions are from 8:30-3:30 pm

Fall 2018 New Church Grants

The New Church Ministries Teams voted to continue funding Root and Branch Church and Gilead Church for another year. This decision was made following a review of grant proposals and an in-person interview with the pastor(s) and one or two key lay leaders. The New Church Ministries Team determined that both congregations had strong momentum and a need for more funding than requested. In response we gave more than was requested for 2019. The grants are divided into two portions with one part as a direct grant and the other structured as a matching grant to encourage the growth of non-denominational grant income.

Supporting new church starts is the ministry and work of the region. Coming together we make new church starts possible. Your gifts to the Pentecost Offering supports this ministry. Of course, giving directly is also appreciated. Root and Branch needs a bit more than $3,000 to reach its goal to unlock its 2019 matching grant of $20,000. One time gifts and recurring pledges are acceptable at http://www.rootandbranchchurch.org/donate/.

Of course, Gilead Church would like to receive some love as well: http://www.gileadchicago.org/give/.

The New Church/Ministries Team has two goals, one is to support new congregations doing church in new and creative ways and the second is to help the CCIW region better represent God's true diversity.

Root and Branch and Gilead are doing some cool stuff in different ways. Both congregations celebrated a baptism this past year in Lake Michigan. In 2019 both will work on issues of loneliness and connection with young urban adults. This past year Gilead sold out its initial release of a second beer under the Gilead label. This past year Root and Branch Church significantly refined and improved how to do dinner church effectively and meaningfully.

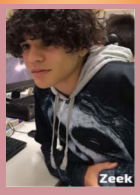
When you are in the Chicago area on a Sunday, check to see when and where services are being held and check them out. Most Sundays you can experience both in a single day.



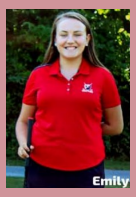
Meet the CCIW Regional Youth Council

The Regional Youth Council is a ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin that is comprised of youth in 9th to 12th grade and adults. The group is primarily tasked with carrying the region's mission of healthy and vital ministry partnerships in regards to youth ministry. Specifically, RYC is responsible for planning, implementing, evaluating, and resourcing youth programs for CCIW such as the Midwinter Retreat, Regional Assembly, Summit Retreat, and more. Through guidance and support of adult leaders, RYC serves as a way for young leaders to continue developing their own leadership skills and spiritual growth. As part of the council, youth intentionally engage in critical discernment of the collective needs and wants of young people and implement ideas of how we as the regional church can best address such concerns. In all, RYC serves as an avenue to nourish the gifts of young folks in our region and affirm their role as leaders of our Church today.

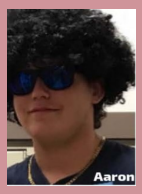
Below, you'll find short bios of our current RYC team. We're always looking to expand our team. If you are a youth in 9th to 11th grade with ideas – however big or small – and want to continue developing your leadership skills, RYC might be for you. Or, if you're an adult who is committed to helping young people continue in their leadership development, RYC might be for you as well. Contact us – we would love to have you on our team!



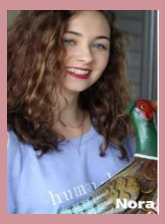
Zeek is 15 years old and a sophomore at Macomb High School. He is an only child who enjoys playing football and dancing. Zeek is member of First Christian Church in Macomb where he has served as youth deacon, has held leadership roles during youth Sunday and is co-leader for children's church. He has attended summer camps, regional assemblies, and has participated in mission trips. Zeek is an outgoing person who feels comfortable in almost any situation and wants to use these gifts to further strengthen our youth events throughout the region.



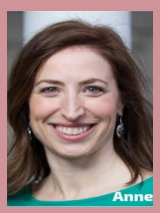
Emily is a junior and her home congregation is Gerlaw Christian Church. At school, she's in the band and plays golf and also works in the after-school program. She has served as youth deacon and as founder and president of the youth council at her church. She's also active throughout the region by participating in youth events such as Summit and Mid-Winter Retreats and summer camps at Pilgrim Park and Camp Walter Scott. Emily is creative and passionate, skills she brings to RYC in order to have a meaningful impact on her community.



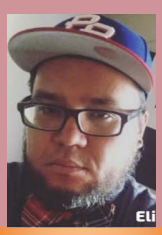
Aaron is 16 years old and a sophomore at Macomb High School – Go Bombers! – where he plays football, baseball, and basketball. He is a member of First Christian Church in Macomb, a summer camp regular, and has participated in mission trips. At FCC, Aaron has served as youth deacon, has lead during youth Sunday, and is co-leader of children's church. Aaron brings to RYC a great sense of humor and, as an outgoing person, he finds no difficulty in publicly speaking with others. He finds God in God's beautiful creation.



Nora is a junior and a member of Eureka Christian Church. At school, she's in the track and cross-country teams as well in choir, jazz vocal, and band. At church, she's been part of youth worship for several years and has served as a youth representative to the church's board. Nora is also a regular participant of CCIW youth events like Mid-Winter and Summer Camps at Camp Walter Scott. Her goals are to help others see God at youth events and wants to help create meaningful experiences for youth.



Anne has served on RYC for two years as an adult sponsor. She is very passionate about working with youth and loves to see youth serve in leadership roles with their own churches as well as our region and denomination. Anne works for herself as an educational consultant and teaches yoga in her free time.



Eli serves the CCIW as the Associate Regional Minister for Children, Youth, and Young Adults. As regional staff, he is dedicated to working with young folks as they continue to develop their leadership and educational skills as well as they continue in their spiritual growth process.

Camp Work Projects Spring 2019

We are looking for volunteers to support our Spring Cleaning at Camp Walter Scott. The team will be working on the following:

1. Wash, wax, and transport paddle boats
2. Hang tarps in hogans
3. Turn on water to shower houses and clean shower houses
4. Repair benches at the fire ring
5. Deep clean kitchen
6. Deep clean cabins and Retreat House
7. Cabins, #1 and #2 - insulation, weather stripping, sealing cracks, etc
8. Check/clear all trails - add wood chips to trails
9. Trim tree branches
10. Cut trees and split firewood – several trees are down that need to be cut for firewood
11. Assemble bench for frog pond
12. Clean the beach
13. Kill weeds around lagoons + duckweed
14. Power wash all metal roofs
15. Repair or discard trailers at shop
16. Install metal roof - north side – small shelter
17. Install metal roof on the shop

Spring Cleaning Dates:
April 13 & May 18

Call us at 217-739-2332
to volunteer!
Or email camp@cciwdisciples.org



Camp Flyers

Camp Flyers are also available online at cciwdisciples.org

CAMP WALTER SCOTT

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 11 FOR ALL 2019 CAMPS

Visit cciwdisciples.org/camp-program/ to access and complete the online registration form. Instructions and other important information are also available on the site above.

We encourage everyone to register online; however, please contact Peggy at the CCIW office if you're needing to complete a paper registration form instead.

Remember, ALL registrations completed after May 15, 2019 will incur an additional $25 per registrant.

CCIW Contact Information:
401 W Jefferson St. Bloomington IL, 61701
Phone: +1 309-828-6293
Fax: +1 309-213-9469
ministry@cciwdisciples.org
www.cciwdisciples.org



Prayer Concerns

Prayer Concerns: Sharon Warren, Rev. Jim Warren's wife; Mary Knutsen, wife of Neal Kentch; Burley Herrin; Ruben Cruz; Don Moseley; Keela Newman; Brock, step son of Pam Holt; (RM OK); Paul Lydic; Crystal Chinn; Tom Hartman, father of Shane Hartman; Gretchen Barron; Dennis Steckley; Rick Williams; Jim Turner; Ray Culver

Deaths: Steve Brown, brother of Karla Brown Smith; father of Melissa Williams;, Rick William's wife; Ray Reed, father of Brant Reed; Joe Juchems, and Carol Breedlove, Holly Invin's father and mother; Don Hooper, Scott Woolridge's step-father; Ann Irving, wife of Nelson Irving (deceased); Bradley Brown, father in law of Jeff Zimmerman and Jayne's father; Allen Gordon, Lorrie Reed's step father; Wallace Bailey, brother of Dwight Bailey; Mary Ellen Jones, Lisa Grace's grandmother; Vivian Ceasar, Larry Jackson's sister

Pastoral Changes: Rev. Mike Dixon, retired; Rev. Neal Kentch, retired; Mat Bowen to ministry at Gibson City, Amy Wharton to Olney as Interim; Mark Parkinson to Paris Interim; Geoff Mitchell concluded ministry with Big Life and will begin ministry at Lindenwood Christian Church; Kyle Singleton to Big Life Christian Church; James King to United Christian Church; Bob Clark concluded ministry at Abingdon Christian Church

Contact Information

Regional Clergy Staff

Teresa Dulyea-Parker, Reg. Minister & President	teresa@cciwdisciples.org
Scott Woolridge, Associate Minister	scott@cciwdisciples.org
Angelique "Angee" Jordan Byrd, Associate Minister for Communication	angee@cciwdisciples.org
Eli Rolón Jeong, Associate Minister for Children, Youth & Young Adults	eli@cciwdisciples.org

Ministry Contract Staff

Beth Rupe (Disciple Women)	beth@cciwdisciples.org
Rev. Hyoung Chel "Tom" Yang (NAPAD)	tyang@cciwdisciples.org
Jeff Zimmerman (New Church/Ministries)	jeffz@cciwdisciples.org

Administrative Staff

Peggy O'Neal (Office Administrator)	peggy@cciwdisciples.org
Jeff Dulyea-Parker (Website, eNews)	jeff@cciwdisciples.org

Camp Staff

Laura Williams	laura@cciwdisciples.org

Regional Moderator

Marla McElroy	marlam24@yahoo.com

Global Mission Partners

Rev. Angel Luis Rivera-Agosto

Ecumenical Council of Churches in Guatemala

Christian Church Foundation Representative

India Bobadilla	indiab@ccf.disciples.org

FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE CALL:

REGIONAL OFFICE BLOOMINGTON, IL
401 W. Jefferson St.
Bloomington, IL 61701-3826
Ph: 309.282.6293 Fax: 309.213.9469

CAMP WALTER SCOTT DIETERICH, IL
15290 E 300th Ave
Dieterich, Il 62424
Ph: 217.739.2332 Fax: 217.739.2298

Gifts to CCIW

The following churches and individuals have contributed to the 2018 mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through the Annual Fund, Gifts to the Camping Scholarship Fund, and to the Designated Camping Fund.

The Region gives thanks for the incredible support through prayers, hours of volunteering and the financial support that allows ministry for children and youth, leadership development, congregation consultation, ministerial search & call, and shared mission activities to occur. You do make a difference.



Individuals
Brittany Barber
Ray Culver
Taek Su Kim
Wyman Deck
Eugene and Nancy Lamport
Rosalie Tarr
Tommy R.Akers
Eron Dupree
Scott and Vicky Woolridge
Joe Culpepper
Patricia Tucker
Ken Granitz
Verla Welker
Marla McElroy
Daniel and Doris Carter

Churches
Canton First Christian Church
Creve Coeur First Christian Church
Galesburg First Christian Church
Gibson City Christian Church
Hoopeston First Christian Church
Illiopolis Christian Church
Lincolnshire Community Christian Church
Lomax Christian Church
Niantic Christian Church
Petersburg First Christian Church
Pontiac First Christian Church
Prairie Ave Christian Church Disciples Women's
Sullivan First Christian Church
Villa Park Christian Church
Winchester First Christian Church

Camp Scholarships
Illinois Valley Lenten Service Offering
Mt. Carmel First Christian Church
Clayton Summers
Jacksonville Central Christian Church Disciples Men
Brian and Amy Gillespie
Brittney Muros
Mike Bohlman

Designated Camp Gifts
Jane Cahill
Casey First Christian Church
Centralia Christian Church
Jim and Jackie Summers
Canton First Christian Church
Marion Christian Women's Fellowship
Pekin First Christian Church
Wyman Deck
C.W.F. Metropolis First Christian Church
Creve Coeur First Christian Church
Lawrenceville First Christian Church
Hometown Christian Church
Ken McNeal
Sunnyland Christian Church
Memorial Christian Church
Scott Hoxworth
Arrowsmman
Arrowsmith Christian Church
Nancy Bivin
Linda and Gary Donovan



Camp Walter Scott
is a ministry of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in Illinois & Wisconsin

The Annual Fund

Our Regional church 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 us as partners in life-changing 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!

Your support is appreciated

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 Regional Office, 401 W. Jefferson St., Bloomington, IL 61701-3826

The Christian

401 W. Jefferson St.
Bloomington, IL 61701-3826
Subscription: $10

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE