

Hold the following congregations and ministries in prayer:

Week of January 5

Parkway Gardens CC, Chicago, IL; FCC Cadillac, MI; Clergy and Lay Education ministries

Week of January 12

CC of Illiopolis, IL; Niantic CC, IL; Lynnville CC, IL; FCC Manton, MI

Week of January 19

Prayers for our Laity; Disciples of Christ CC, Champaign, IL; FCC Casey, IL; Christian Church of Ferndale, MI

Week of January 26

CC Villa Park, IL; Cascade CC, Grand Rapids, MI

Pray for:

- Reverend Cassie Sexton-Riggs as she begins her ministry as Associate Regional Minister of Clergy and Lay Education
- Search Committee for Regional Minister and President - Sandy Harvey (Chair), Ben McCloughan (Vice- Chair), Karon Alexander (Secretary), Jim Bisch, Marla McElroy, Vicky Kirby, Allie Lundblad (You can contact the Regional Search Committee at rmsearch@cciwdisciples.org)
- Committee Drafting the provisional documents for the *Emerging* Region

Dates to Remember

January 6- Epiphany
January 11- National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
January 20- Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Regional Events

January 11- Choices for Abundant Living - An Ethics Training for Clergy; Quincy, IL
January 14- Disciples Women Book Club - The People We Keep by Allison Larkin by Zoom
January 18- Disciples Women: Blessing Box Retreat, First Christian Church, Lansing, MI

Praise the Lord, all you nations

Christ manifested in the flesh,
Christ justified in the Spirit.

Praise the Lord, all you nations.

Christ contemplated by the angels
Christ proclaimed by the [nations]

Praise the Lord, all you nations.

Christ who is believed in the world.
Christ exalted in glory.

Praise the Lord, all you nations.

-Modified from the Canticle based on I Tim 3: 16 from the Evening Prayer/ Roman Rite

A Prayer for January

God of Creation, we come to you at the beginning of the year, in the midst of a great adventure as we seek to faithfully follow your desire and purpose for our emerging Region. We ask you, to open our hearts to the movement of your Spirit so that we may act wisely and justly as we seek to be a community of care, hospitality, inclusion where the gifts and talents of all are recognized, honored, and celebrated. We ask you, to give us the stamina and courage to continue to do the daily tasks of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in this liminal time when we move from who we have been to who we are becoming.

Lord be with the current leadership of this new creation. Speak to those who are seeking our next Regional Minister and President and speak to the heart of the individual who you would have us call to this position. Prepare each of us to answer your call to service as we seek to live into the promise and the potential community that is being formed as we merge the talents, the resources, the wisdom and the legacy of CCIW and CCMR. As we celebrate the end of the Christmas Season with Epiphany may we seek to be guided by the manifestation of your Spirit among us. May we be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

YHWH Shalom, we remember the prophetic ministry of Martin Luther King Jr. and give thanks for him and others who have shown us how to stand in solidarity with and advocate for the oppressed and the neglected. May we long and work for the day when all people are valued and respected, a day when we can celebrate how our differences enrich our lives. May we listen to the stories and value the perspectives of those who do not look like us and who have different experiences than us. May the silenced have their voices heard and may those who speak from places of privilege learn to listen. Help us Lord, to build the beloved community shaped by values reflecting our desire to follow the way of Jesus Christ in whose name we now pray. Amen.