



March 15, 2018

TO: REGIONAL BOARD
FROM: REGIONAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT
REGARDING: MONTHLY REPORT

1. We continue to work on infrastructure issues. Clergy renewal of standing cards were sent along with confirmation of standing notes to all clergy who renewed their standing in 2018. Yearbook report forms were sent through this office this year (versus paying a fee to have Indianapolis send them). It gave us the opportunity to say, “Thank you,” and to include information about congregational giving to support the Disciples Mission Fund and our Region. Other related projects include:
 - a. Helping Jessica to finalize her work on a master Excel pivot table of clergy which will make it possible to know almost instantly the answers to questions we receive regularly without having to consult paper files and which will make end-of-year reporting to our General Ministry partners much easier and more accurate.
 - b. Rolling out a newly designed Regional Directory – two versions, one for the Regional website listing congregations and contact information for staff and the other a version for clergy and Board members with additional information
2. I have held separate meetings with Jessica and Gwen to work on fine-tuning systems and processes that are still relatively new to them – particularly how financial transactions and internal controls are documented. We are recording what we learn so that in the future when new staff is called or hired, there are more resources to help them become acclimated to Regional ministry in all its complexity and continuous change.
3. Much of my work since our last Board meeting has been:
 - a. Supporting the work of Regional Commissions including what is forming as the new Stewardship and Development Commission
 - i. Refining the draft Gift Acceptance policy for Board approval
 - ii. Organizing the Annual Fund campaign
 - b. Writing several references for clergy in our Region in Search and Call
 - c. Writing a reference for a candidate for the Master of Divinity program at Christian Theological Seminary

- d. Orienting the Good Shepherd Christian Church Search and Call team using a new format which includes a Ministry Blueprint (designed by Yolanda Roseby) conducting a World Café and working through the congregational profile together to assure a better reception among candidates in the system
 - e. Supporting Search Teams at Woods Memorial, Liberty Christian, Longview Chapel, Olathe First Christian, and Country Club Christian Church by reaching out to new persons in the system, sending profiles, and responding to inquiries
 - f. Meeting with a co-planner of the Poor People's Campaign and conducting one-on-one interviews with GKC Disciples who are interested in taking their commitment to Anti-Racism to a new level
 - g. Updating our Regional website and working with a consultant to upgrade our social media and web use
 - h. Writing a first draft of an Oreon E. Scott grant application and a proposal for consideration by our Ordination and Standing Commission for one of the Lilly Endowment Thriving in Ministry Initiatives
4. In the month to come, in addition to the normal congregational visitation and office and field work, I will be working on:
- a. Notices to congregations that have either stopped connecting with our Region or who have not reported for the Yearbook for over five years
 - b. Preparations for crucial conversations at a meeting of the College of Regional Ministers
 - c. Supporting the Search process for our Regional Minister for New and Transforming Churches and preparing orientation materials and resources
 - d. Supporting the search for additional Board members
 - e. Supporting the transition of Tall Oaks and the Gala planning committee
 - i. Looking at four evening events in the four quadrants of our Region to gather GKC Disciples interested in learning more about the future of Tall Oaks, fielding questions and inviting people to participate in the Gala fundraiser
5. I did take bereavement leave Monday and Tuesday, March 12 & 13 to help organize and lead my mother's funeral service. Our family is very grateful for the many kind expressions of support and prayers at her passing.

Respectfully submitted,

BR-H