



THE CHALICE

BLUEBONNET AREA/LRGVD OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN THE SOUTHWEST

DECEMBER 2016

attention

Dear Congregations, Ministers and Board of Directors:

In our continuing efforts to keep you well informed and maintain open communication with you, we are asking that you please submit any changes to your contact information, changes to your ministerial staff and changes to your board of directors.

Please submit any and all changes no later than December 9th. This information will be used to update the BBA directories, which will be distributed in January.

Thank you for your time and service.

Dear Ones,

This is just a small report and thank-you note. This past weekend we celebrated our final Bible Olympics meet of the year. We had 10 meets and helped encourage more than 200 children, youth, and adults to study at least a portion of their Bibles. I want to thank the following churches and ministries for their faithful support and encouragement to this program:

- ◆ The Bluebonnet Area of the Christian Church
- ◆ Disciples Men of the Christian Church in the Southwest
- ◆ The Southwest Hispanic Convention
- ◆ First Christian Church of Smithville,
- ◆ First Christian Church of Commerce,
- ◆ First Christian Church of Huntsville
- ◆ First Christian Church of Burnet
- ◆ Iglesia Cristiana Renovada Sión, Houston
- ◆ Iglesia Cristiana Príncipe de Paz, Austin
- ◆ Iglesia Cristiana La Trinidad, Corpus Christi
- ◆ Primera Iglesia Cristiana, San Antonio
- ◆ Primera Iglesia Cristiana, Arecibo, Puerto Rico
- ◆ Iglesia Cristiana Discípulos, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- ◆ Iglesia Discípulos de Cristo, Glendale, Arizona
- ◆ Iglesia Alfa y Omega (Discípulos), Phoenix, Arizona
- ◆ Iglesia Alfa y Omega (Asambleas), Smithville, Texas

I am now accepting invitations to hold meets in the spring of 2017. Let me know if you would like to host or participate in a meet!

Appreciatively in Christ

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Regional Assembly Recap

Thanks to all who took time the last weekend in October to share in the Regional Assembly activities and business. As a church family, it is good to reconnect through worship, learning and sharing a meal, whether at the Lord's Table or in the Fellowship Hall or both.

For those who wish to view the [docket](#) (64-pages), it is available online at the Southwest Region website at csw.org/ra2016. For those who wish to view the list of Regional Council members, it is on the Southwest Region website at csw.org/information-and-links. A summary of the Mission First! gathering is listed in a separate article below; we encourage all congregations to note the ten-word stories of things learned in mission in the middle of that report that resulted from our conversations and to share those and the word clouds.

We thank those who have agreed to serve in leadership positions for the Southwest Region. Officers elected to serve a two-year term at the Regional Assembly:

- Jeff Billings, Moderator (NEA laity)
- Whitney Waller-Cole, Moderator Elect (NTA clergy)
- Megan Peglar, Secretary (TBA clergy)
- Brian Gibson, Treasurer (TBA laity)

Those elected to serve on the Regional Committee on Ministry for a four-year term as At-Large Members:

- Betty Brown (CPA laity)
- Marilyn Calhoun (TBA laity)
- Pam Harmon (TBA laity)

Action items approved at the assembly included the adoption of the budget for 2017 (pages 21-24 of the printed [docket](#)) and a policy for Gift Acceptance and an update of the Permanent Funds Policy (pages 32-35 of the printed [docket](#) as one document). Also approved was a request from the Regional Minister Search Committee (pages 40-41 of the printed [docket](#)) to allow the Regional Council to take whatever actions they deem necessary to allow Regional ministry to reorganize structurally and financially; the Regional Council will continually report their decisions to members of the Region as well as give a full report at the next Regional Assembly.

We give heartfelt thanks to Judith Dalton for serving as Moderator these past two years. Her cheerful and caring leadership has helped the Region continue in its process of adapting to meet the needs that are present in today's challenges. We also give thanks to each minister, lay member and congregation in the Southwest Region for their dedication and service to share the Good News and make a difference in their community.

Request for Renewal of Standing

Ordained Ministers in the Southwest Region should complete the annual [Request for Renewal of Standing for 2017](#) before December 31, 2016.

Commissioned Ministers do not need to complete this form as they receive their standing through their Area Committee on Ministry as part of the shared responsibility of the Region and Areas. Since this occurs on schedules set by each Area, be sure that any change of contact information, especially email, phone numbers or mailing address, is reported to your Area office promptly so that we can make sure that information is submitted to the Office of Christian Vocation in time for updating information in the Year Book.

Healthy Boundaries Trainings

This past year, the Regional Committee on Ministry required that ministers are to complete a Healthy Boundaries for Clergy training every five years; ministers whose most recent training was before 2011 should complete this requirement by June 2017. Here is the next scheduled training, though others may be set before then. As details are confirmed on this or other trainings, we will post on the Southwest Region website calendar at ccsw.org/2016-events/ and send out emails.

February 20 (Mon) - Healthy Boundaries Training at University Christian Church in Fort Worth (registration details to be posted soon on the [Information and Links page](#) of the Southwest Region's [website](#).)



Chi Rho Mid-Winter
(6th—8th graders)

January 20-22, 2017

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. “
Proverbs 3:34

Registration form and \$105 fee due by December 20th

[Click here](#) for more information.



Senior Retreat Weekend @ Disciples Crossing

January 27-29, 2017
Deadline for Registration January 15, 2017
Cost: \$100 per person

[Click here](#) to register.



Ministers Week 2017

Re-envisioning Spirituality, Community and Faithful Living
February 20-23, 2017

Registration is now open for Ministers Week 2017. Together with Amy Bulter, Norman Wirzba, John Holbert, Larry Rasmussen, Melanie Harris and Nora Gallagher, we will re-envision spirituality and explore faithful living. Other speakers and workshop leaders include Scott Hardin-Nieri, Mary Gaudreau, Laraine Waughtal, Ann Dotson, Patrick McCoy, Arthur Stewart, and Barbara Tucker. Kyla K. Rosenberger is our featured organist. Check out the full schedule and list of offerings at www.brite.edu/mw.

We look forward to seeing you at Ministers Week 2017!

REGISTER

What is Disciples Home Missions?

Disciples Home Missions is the hands-on general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ) empowering congregational life, mission and ministry. For congregations and clergy intent on faithfully serving God in the 21st century check out the resources, services and programs DHM provides. Watch the video below and make Disciples Home Missions the first stop along a pathway to transformation, vitality, and an abundant life in ministry.

[DHM Overview](#)

[DHM Fact Sheet](#)

[Ministry in a Minute: Disciples Home Missions](#)

[DHM Video from GA 2015](#)

DHM's Priorities

- ◆ Leader Development
- ◆ Congregational transformation
- ◆ Faith formation
- ◆ Christian vocations

Pro-reconciliation/Anti-racism DHM's ministries and programs

In addition to the programs listed below, DHM staff provide many other services to congregations, regions and the general church, including technical assistance and referral, print and electronic resources, consultations, workshops, events, and constituency networks. Disciples—both clergy and laity—are encouraged to contact DHM staff by phone or peruse the website for a complete list of services and contact

information.

DHM programming: something for everyone

Programs and support resources loosely fall under these categories:

- ◆ **Leader development:** programs for youth and young adults, African American ministries, support for clergy and laity in the church, scholarships;
- ◆ **Faith formation:** Congregational Christian education, spiritual growth, congregational transformation and planning, and programs aimed at strengthening congregational life;
- ◆ **Missions:** Refugee and immigration ministries, mission projects, disaster recovery, Disciples Volunteering;
- ◆ **Justice:** Racial and environmental justice, Rapid Response, legislative issues;
- ◆ **Networks:** families and children, youth, young adults, women, and men.

Mission Centers

These mission centers are popular destinations for individual and group work trips. They provide a broad range of social services and spiritual resources to support and transform their local communities, bringing hope and hospitality, healing and peace, justice and compassion.

- ◆ [All Peoples Christian Center](#)
- ◆ [Inman Christian Mission Center](#)
- ◆ [Kansas Christian Home](#)
- ◆ [Kentucky Appalachian Ministries](#)
- ◆ [Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries](#)

- ◆ [Urban Spirit](#)
- ◆ [Yakama Christian Mission](#)

Sponsored Organizations

- ◆ [Association of Disciple Musicians](#)
- ◆ [Disciples Chaplain Association](#)
- ◆ [General Youth Council](#)
- ◆ [National Association of Christian Church Boy Scout, Girl Scout and Camp Fire Leaders](#)

Learn more about the [Mission Centers](#)

Organizations Relating to DHM

- ◆ [Association of Disciples Intentional Interim Ministers](#)
- ◆ [Christmount Christian Assembly](#)
- ◆ [Disciples Peace Fellowship](#)
- ◆ [General Conference of Disciples Men](#)
- ◆ [International Christian Women's Fellowship](#)
- ◆ [National Convocation](#)
- ◆ [National Evangelistic Association](#)
- ◆ [National Hispanic Assembly/Obra Hispana](#)
- ◆ [United Christian Missionary Society](#)
- ◆ World Christian Women's Fellowship
- ◆ **Association for Disciples in Outdoor Ministries (ADIOM)**

General Ministries

All General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) work and sometimes partner with Disciples Home Missions at various points to provide program and support for ministry.

Social Enterprise Resource Bank

Welcome to [NBA's Social Enterprise Resource Bank](#)! If you are building or leading a Disciples-related health and social service ministry/organization, you are in the right place! If you are building a health and social service ministry/organization that is not Disciples-related, stick around anyway—we hope to be helpful to you on your journey as well.

This page is meant to address the frequently asked questions of those establishing and operating health and social services ministries, as well as offer information and techniques to promote both healthy organizations and healthy leaders. Here, you'll find articles, blogs, videos, and comments from your peers intended to help equip you for service through your nonprofits and social enterprises. We'll try to define common terms, address common conundrums, share commonly accepted practices, and provide a platform to explore ideas with those attempting the same thing you are: *creating communities of compassion and care—moving toward wholeness in this fragmented world.*

You can expect new content on this page about every two weeks, but feel free to check in more often for unexpected sources of news and wisdom from your colleagues and others as they respond to what we share here. We look forward to accompanying you on this journey!

BBA Congregations in Search and Call

Bluebonnet Area -----
----- Search Committee for Area Minister is receiving profiles

Central CC San Antonio ----- Accepting applications for
Church Family Minister (Associate Minister)

FCC Lockhart ----- Called
Steve Digby as Interim Minister; search committee preparing church
profile

FCC McAllen ----- Max Grubb has announced his retirement

Rolling Oaks CC -----
Sale of property is now under contract; search for "re-launch" pastor to
commence after the first of the year

South Shore CC --- Has called Oscar Banks as Senior Minister, beginning
January 2017

*For more information on these churches,
contact the BBA Office at (210) 822-4345 or bba@ccsw.org.*

Monthly Events

Lilies of the Valley at IC Emmanuel 9:00 a.m. (every Monday &
Tuesday)

Loaves and Fishes at Primera IC Raymondville 5:00 p.m. (every
Tuesday & Thursday)

Domestic Violence Support Group at Primera IC Raymondville
6:00 p.m. (every Tuesday)

Community in Action at Primera IC Raymondville 9:00 a.m.
(every Thursday)

2 LRGVD Bilingual Christmas Gathering at Bella Vista CC 7:00
p.m.

3 LRGVD Thanksgiving Luncheon at IC Ebenezer 12:30 p.m.

9 Food Pantry Distribution at Inman Christian Center 12:00 p.m.

10 Confraternidad Navidena de la Convencion Hispana

10 LRGVD Mentor Group Meeting at FCC Donna 3:00 p.m.

12 *Alamo Cluster Meeting at Lubys 911 N Main 11:30 a.m.*

13 *Capital Cluster Meeting at Hyde Park CC 12:00 p.m.*

21 *Coastal Cluster Meeting at FCC Corpus Christi 11:00 a.m.*

23 Food Pantry Distribution at Inman Christian Center 12:00 p.m.

24-30 BBA Office closed in observance of the Christmas Holidays

*To request more information regarding these upcoming events
contact the Area Office at bba@ccsw.org or (210) 822-4345.*



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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
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