



Tennessee

DISCIPLES of CHRIST

4006 Ashland City Highway, Nashville, TN 37218

Tel 615/646-3705 Fax 615/646-3707

Rev. Dr. Christal L. Williams

Regional Minister and President

drchristal@tndisciples.org

The Christmas Offering 2022

Tennessee Disciples,

As we navigate this beautiful Advent season, engage with me, our 2022 Christmas Offering theme, *"Repeat the Sounding Joy."* As many of you know, this theme is from the Hymn *"Joy To The World."* Disciples, if ever a time the world needed joy, it is now. Can you agree? We have been through many trying times, yet God's love sustains us for the road ahead. In the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2:14, it states, *"And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man.'"* O, what great and magnificent joy this announcement brings. Tennessee Disciples, as you and I repeat the sounding joy we proclaim to the world, "Jesus is alive and there is joy in our relationship with him." Therefore, finding joy, peace, love, and hope, whatever the season. Your regional staff has faithfully led the regional church in nearly every sense of the word. Through prayerful communications, words of encouragement, and cooking, and cleaning at Bethany Hills, and thousands of miles driven on the car. Church, we are and will remain called, committed, responsible, and strong. Your support is vital to us, and we say thank you and look forward to what we shall do together as a Regional Church Family.

Regional Snapshot (2022)

1. Ordained five ministers this year. (32 persons ordained in 6 years), Extended Commissioning for several commissioned ministers; provided standing cards for 274 clergy; held several Commission on Ministry meetings to ensure every clergy person in Tennessee receives credentialing.
2. Worship Visits to Congregations, Meeting with Church boards, and Pastor's Meetings.
3. Offered Technology Grants to congregations and
4. healthy Boundaries workshops, Anti-racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training, Executive Committee Meetings, Pastoral Relations Committee Meetings, and Personnel Committee Meetings.
5. Scholarships for students at Vanderbilt Divinity School.
6. Distributed Doorstep Outreach Grants to Four recipients.
7. Search Call Process, Helping Congregations find Interim Pastors and Permanent Pastors.
8. Conflict Mediation and Resolution in Congregations and with Clergy.
9. Tennessee Disciple Women Spiritual Journey.
10. Tennessee Disciples Clergy Women's Retreat.
11. Disciples of Christ Interim Ministry Meetings and Training.
12. The Regional Prayer Group Meeting every Saturday Morning.
13. Webinars with Rev. Jake Morrill
14. Summer Camping Program, Spring & Fall Retreats at Bethany Hills
15. Maintaining the grounds and buildings at Bethany Hills
16. Gutters Added to Dining Hall at Bethany Hills,
17. Remodeling Cabin 8 at Bethany Hills- New roof, bathroom fixtures, walls, and painting.
18. Regional Assembly 2022 at Vine Street Christian Church
19. The Disciples Divinity House Board Meetings
20. Continual connection with Clergy, Laity, Ministerial Standing Forms.

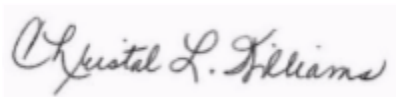
I am grateful to the Christian Church in Tennessee's Regional Staff Team. We have all worked very hard and are a better staff for having done so. Please note our regional life continues to renew, thanks to the Holy Spirit and your partnership. Church, there are many great things in store for 2023. There will be more new partnerships and opportunities to serve and lead within our region. I hope you'll be available when approached.

Attached to this email is a copy of the 2022 Christmas Offering Promotion. Please share this information with your congregation. The Regional Church will receive this offering in your congregation on Sunday, December 11th & 18th. However, you may begin sending your offering to the Regional office now! Place a copy of the insert in your bulletins so that people can become more familiar with our Tennessee Regional church and what we offer. Finally, please encourage your congregation to give generously to this year's Christmas offering. One hundred percent (100%) of each gift returns to the Tennessee Region to fund regional church ministries throughout our three areas, including Bethany Hills Camp and Conference Center.

For your convenience, we have expanded how one can share a gift.

1. Through our TN Website- www.tndisciples.org (donation button)
2. Text to give 615-261-0899
3. Send a Check to 4006 Ashland City Highway, Nashville, TN. 37218
4. Call 615-646-3705
5. ETF-Draft call Joan to set up

Rejoicing with you,



Rev. Dr. Christal L. Williams
The Regional Minister & President
The Christian Church in Tennessee
www.tndisciples.org
drchristal@tndisciples.org
615-646-3705