Regional Minister Report to the Regional Board - February 2019

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

On-Site Connections

Country Club Christian Church
Countryside Christian Church
St. Andrew Christian Church
Belton Christian Church

Continuing one-one pastoral and lay leader consultations/writing clergy references/clergy funerals

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS/ COMMITTEES/ CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

Executive Committee
Budget and Finance Committee
Commissioned Ministers Commission

STAFF

Onboarding Camp and Conference Coordinator Rev. Shandra Yost-Soltani
Joint staff meeting

St. Andrew Christian Church has extended a call to the Rev. Rene Jensen to serve as their interim minister.

Global Ministry Partner and member of the Global Ministry Board, Joyce Larko Steiner is coming to Kansas City, March 29th from Ghana! She will be available Friday evening, Monday and Tuesday to visit congregations. Nancy Lear (Country Club Christian Church), also a Global Ministry Board member arranged this visit. Plan to meet this amazing leader!

Joyce Larko Steiner
Director of Programmes and Advocacy
+233-244253656/+233-274163891
jsteiner@christiancouncilofghana.org
The Rev. Shandra Yost-Soltani has been called to serve as our Region’s Camp and Conference Coordinator. She is already at work assisting with promoting summer church camp and supporting the work of the Camp and Conference Committee led by Rev. Lara Blackwood Pickrel and Rev. Kassie Smith McKee.

Rev. Nathan Hill and Rev. Sandhya Rani Jha will lead 30 Disciples of Christ from Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, and Missouri in the Introduction to Analysis of Racism at Tall Oaks 2.25-27.2019

Recommended Reading

ANXIOUS TO TALK ABOUT IT
Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism
CAROLYN B. HESSEL

DID YOU KNOW?
The College of Regional Ministers:
• Currently 14 women 14 men
• Ethnically diverse
• Includes heads of NAPAD, Obra Hispana, and National Convocation
• Members serve on the General Board
• Members serve on Commissions, Committees and Constituency Groups
• Members serve on General Unit Boards
• Hold dual standing in their Regions and General Commission on the Ministry and file 2 renewal of standing reports and a report of the Region to the General Board annually
• Develops and publishes best practices for Search and Call
• Has developed a Code of Ethics for Regional Ministers which was unanimously adopted?

GENERAL CHURCH
General Board
Governance Committee
Task Force — Contextual Analysis
College of Regional Ministers
Task Force — Anti-Racism
Pastoral Commission — Obra

SEARCH AND CALL
Bonner Springs FCC — Pastor
Woods Memorial — Janet Weiblin serving as interim minister
Smithville FCC — Sabbatical Pastor

COMING UP
• Developing an Annual Fund campaign
• Forming a Regional Anti-Racism Team
• Developing Training in Trauma-Informed Collaboration with Cornerstones of Care
• Exploring an Oreon E. Scott grant
• Working with a pastor on a sabbatical plan during which we assist the congregation to engage in a season of discernment
• The General Board is recommending approval for Full Communion with the United Church of Canada. If approved by the General Assembly, Disciples the new relationship offers the possibility of deeper partnership and sharing of clergy. It is not a merger. Each denomination maintains its own ministries, missions and structures. The United Church of Canada already enjoys full communion with the United Church of Christ.

• General Assembly Registration is underway. There are new features including Bible studies from a variety of perspectives with resources available online at https://ga.disciples.org/education/bible-studies/

• The General Assembly Invites more congregations to participate in the MissionFest

• Among the features at General Assembly will be a celebration of the 1000 new church instantiates since 2001 and the 50 year anniversary of the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

• Regions in transition include:
  • Kentucky
    • Dean Phelps will serve as Interim Regional Minister
  • Northwest and Montana
    • Seeking General Assembly approval to form the Norther Lights Region
  • Virginia
    • Bill Spangler Dunning was called as the new Regional Minister
  • Upper Midwest
    • Will seek an Interim Regional Minister in July
  • Ohio

• Will search for a Regional Minister in 2020

• South Carolina
  • Called Juan Rodriguez as Interim Regional Minister

• Pacific Southwest
  • Searching for an Interim Regional Minister

• Arizona
  • Seeking a Regional Minister

• Mid-America
  • Called Ron Routledge to serve in the NW part of the Region as a member of the Regional Ministry Team

• Southwest
  • Restructuring—will consolidate Areas

• The General Board will recommend to the General Assembly the General Assembly Time and Place Committee recommendation for the General Assembly in 2021 to be held in Louisville. And in 2023 to be held in Memphis

• The National Convocation, Obra Hispana, and NAPAD Biennial Assemblies will occur simultaneously in 2020 in Dallas

• NEW REGIONAL WEB PAGE
  • SEARCH AND CALL features quick access to documents and information for clergy and search teams
This is the first Ethical Covenant for Regional Ministers in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It was developed to improve consistency, transparency and collaboration among Regions and between the College of Regional Ministers and the General Church.