



Draft Minutes

Regional Board

December 19, 2022

Raytown Christian Church

Present:

- Ms. Adria Patterson (representing Ministry Innovation Commission)
- Rev. Sheryl Tucker – MOKAN
- Rev. Dr. Vickie Kumerowski (representing Becoming Beloved Community)
- Rev. James Vertreese (Treasurer and Chair, Regional Commission on the Order of the Ministry)
- Mr. John Steinmetz (Moderator)
- Mr. Ron Lewis
- Ms. Courtney Setty (Co-President, Regional Youth Cabinet)
- Mr. Keith Asaeli
- Ms. Kathy Harris (Chair, Regional Personnel Committee)
- Ms. Jan Harris (President, Regional Disciples Women's Ministry)
- Ms. Peggy Chandler (Moderator-Elect)
- Ms. Linda Harris
- Ms. Anna Godsey
- Mr. Mauricio Acosta
- Rev. Bill Rose-Heim (Regional Minister and President)

Ms. Adria Patterson led an invitation to prayer and worship and reminded Board members of the importance of arriving prayerfully prepared.

Acting Treasurer Rev. James Vertreese offered an overview of the invested funds and cash reserves for our Region, highlighting the significant losses due to the 2022 downturns in the stock market. (All financial reference documents posted at kcdisciples.org/regional-board). The November financial statements were not yet provided by Disciples Treasury Services and will be posted when they are received.

Budgets for Regional Operations, Personnel, Becoming Beloved Community and Ministry Innovation were reviewed as posted at: <https://www.kcdisciples.org/regional-board.html>. All budgets were approved noting that deficit budgets are not sustainable. This is one of the issues that will be addressed during the discernment to be done by our Region in 2023.

- Becoming Beloved Community - \$16,200 surplus if \$25,000 is raised for Regional Reconciliation Ministries in 2023
 - Ministry Innovation - \$16,000 income and \$223,000 expense (will make-up shortfall from Innovation investments) Expense amounts may change depending upon when a new Regional staff member begins serving.
 - Region - \$186,000 anticipated income and \$296,000 expense (will make-up shortfall from Region investments) This budget included funding for a Camp and Conference Coordinator
- Budgets were approved by the Board for Fiscal Year 2023

Rev. Rose-Heim reported:

- Ms. Paula Diehl, member and former treasurer for the Longview Chapel Christian Church will provide contract services as Regional Financial Secretary beginning in January. (Position description is posted at kcdisciples.org/regional-board)
- The Budget and Finance Committee still needs a chairperson
- The position description for Camp and Conference Coordinator is prepared for review
- The Regional Commission on Ministry Innovation has requested that the position being vacated by Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Kennebrew be filled. Regional Minister Rose-Heim will meet with the Commission to explore a transitional ministry option to continue the momentum of the work being done and to plan a celebration for Rev. Dr. Kennebrew as she accepts a call to serve as the Administrative Secretary for the National Convocation and Associate General Minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. and Canada.
 - Mr. Keith Asaeli and Ms. Adria Patterson offered to assist in planning the celebration

Ms. Peggy Chandler offered a report on the thirty Kansas Leadership Center scholarships that were awarded to the Greater Kansas City. Board members were encouraged to apply as soon as possible. A description of the program and the application process is on the Regional Board web page:

Awarding the Kansas Leadership Center Scholarships

Online Application: TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KANSAS LEADERSHIP CENTER WORKSHOP -Your Leadership Edge
Mail-In Option: Please print/fill out & mail your application form to 9401 Johnson Drive, Merriam, Kansas 66203

Rev. Dr. Lara Blackwood Pickrel reported that the Tall Oaks Futuring Steering Committee met for the first time in December and will meet again in January. The group reviewed conditions and decisions leading to the present challenges and plans to connect with other camp and conference program staff in an exploration of a sustainable future for Tall Oaks.

It was noted that United Camps Conferences and Retreats which manages Tall Oaks will require six months notice to extend the termination date (December 31, 2023).

Mr. John Steinmetz reviewed the grant request of \$450,000 over three years in support of a partnership between Community Christian Church and Park Hill Christian Church. The Executive Committee referred the request to the Ministry Innovation Commission which did not recommend funding at this level since current grants are limited to \$10,000 (innovation/transformation). Recommendation was made to ask Regional Minister Rose-Heim to meet with representatives of both congregations and the Ministry Innovation Commission in January to explore ways to support the initiative in a way that the Region

could replicate should more of our congregations want to form similar partnerships. It was also noted that there are good stewards with capacities to make large gifts to help fund new and transforming church initiatives but until we form a working Stewardship and Development Commission, approve a Gift Acceptance policy, and improve communications about new and transforming churches our Region is not well prepared to inspire the confidence donors need to act on their desire to offer legacy gifts.

Ms. Kathy Harris presented the amounts requested by both Regional Ministers for housing allowance. These amounts must be approved by the Regional Board in accordance with I.R.S. regulations. The amounts requested and approved by the Personnel Committee:

Rev. Bill Rose-Heim – \$26,650

Rev. Dr. Kennebrew - \$23,671.25

These amounts did not change the total compensation packages offered by the Region. The requests were approved.

The Regional Board Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2023 from 10 am – 3 pm. A request to meet at the Independence Boulevard Christian Church is pending confirmation. Topics for the retreat include:

- Purpose and focus of our Region
- Learning what is driving the growing trends affecting participation in church life
- Continue learning how our Region is structured/operates
- Planning for a 2023 season of discernment
- Revisiting three main areas of focus from the November Regional Board meeting:
 - Our Faith:
 - Youth faith development / support
 - Congregations faith development
 - Spiritual training
 - Our Communities:
 - Minority Support / Labor
 - Homeless Programs
 - Our Region:
 - Search & Call
 - Communication
 - Clergy Support
 - Leadership
 - Vision

Prior to adjournment, Mr. John Steinmetz led the Board in a closing prayer.