Regional Minister Report to the Regional Board - March 2019

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Connections this month with

- Pleasant Hill Christian Church
- Belton Christian Church
- Shawnee Community
- Foxwood Springs Retirees
- Longview Chapel

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

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS/ COMMITTEES/ CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

- Convencion
- Budget and Finance Committee
- Ordination and Standing
- Disciples Ministers Association

STAFF

- Joint staff meeting

Disciples Ministers Association (DMA) met at Tall Oaks with John Arante—a mediator who described the benefits of practicing restorative (versus punitive) justice in a case involving an incident at a church. A 2-minute video reinforces the case that restorative justice actually increases accountability and the chances for rehabilitation.

Leaders in the Belton Christian Church begin the first part of a short-term discernment phase that will shape their congregational profile used in the Search and Call process.

Using the resource, Ministry Blueprint created by Rev. Yolanda Roseby) and the World Café model of appreciative inquiry, congregational leaders can provide prospective pastors with a snapshot of the congregation that is honest, helpful, and hopeful. This increases the chances of a better match between pastor and congregation.
White supremacy was embedded in Disciples DNA from our inception as a Church. This is one reason why we require clergy (and encourage all lay leaders) to become educated about and engage with anti-racism work. (Campbell quote cited on page 3)

**Rev. Sandhya Rani Jha and Rev Dave Bell will lead Disciples of Christ from Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, and Missouri in the Anti-Racism Train-the-Trainer Workshop at Tall Oaks, ay 6-8**

Registered so far: 5 GKC from GKC, 2 from Arkansas, and 2 from Arizona as of 3.17

**Recommended Reading**

*Steve Biko*  
*I Write What I Like*

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**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  
Belton Christian Church—Interim

**COMING UP**

- Developing an Annual Fund campaign and completing the Gift Acceptance policy  
- Forming a Regional Anti-Racism Team  
- Developing Training in Trauma-Informed Collaboration with Cornerstones of Care  
- Working with a pastor on a sabbatical plan during which we assist the congregation to engage in a season of discernment

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Regional Ministers:

- Are called to intervene in church conflicts. In our Greater Kansas City Region there are usually one or more church conflicts requiring assistance at any time—with many behind-the-scenes conversations with congregational leaders and injured parties? As more congregations approach insolvency, the number and levels of conflicts increase.  
- Spend several hours each week completing reports and responding to requests from General and Regional Church partners.  
- Write 3-10 detailed references every month for clergy in search and call, and applicants for seminary, grants, and scholarships.
• NEW REGIONAL WEB PAGES
  • Kcdisciples.org/clergy
    • Features information regarding Standing, Search and Call, Ministry Opportunities, Scholarships, Online Boundaries Courses and more
  • Kcdisciples.org.ARPR
    • The momentum is building and we have news and opportunities to share.

• Our Region’s Anti-Racism work was featured in a Disciples News Service story this month. Those who participated in the 2.5 day Introduction to the Analysis of Anti-Racism workshop included:
  • Laurie Anderson
  • Bo Crowe
  • Kristin Dow
  • Mindy Fugarino
  • David Long
  • Delesslyn Kennebrew
  • Travis McKee
  • Sherry McLaughlin
  • Peggy Moore
  • Joshua Patty
  • Lara Blackwood Pickrel
  • Bill Rose-Heim
  • Lisa Setty
  • Matthew Silvers
  • Debbie Schwarz
  • Sheryl Tucker

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS AVAILABLE UNTIL March 31st.

There was not enough interest to charter a bus. We may set up a car pool poll.

Joyce Larko Steiner will be with us from the Christian Council of Ghana March 30-April 3! If your group would like some time with her, please email billrh@kcdisciples.org

(Reference to Campbell Quote)