



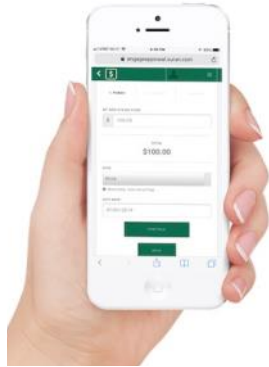
Kansas Messenger

Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ)

www.kansasdisciples.org

Vol. 125, Ed. 3: March 2021

NEW: TEXT TO GIVE



In 2020 the ENGAGE online giving system was introduced -- an easy to use, mobile optimized system of giving that you can use through web link, app or now by text.

Using the text method, you can target your giving to the CCK fund of your choice. Here are the funds that are currently set up with a brief description of their distribution:

ANNUALFUND: Donations remain in Kansas for regional ministry

TAWAKONI: Donations go directly to the Disciples Center at Tawakoni for ministry and mission

MAINTENANCE: Donations are used towards maintenance costs at the Disciples Center at Tawakoni

JONESLODGE: Fund established to construct new Jones Lodge cabin at the Disciples Center at Tawakoni

GALA: Annual fund-raising event to benefit the Disciples Center at Tawakoni

DMF: Donations distributed 52% to General Church and 48% to the region

BLESSINGBOX: Offerings from Disciples Women support Disciples Women Ministries. (50% off the top goes to Office of Disciples Women. The remaining 50% is divided between General Church and KS using the DMF percentage)

This service is included in our CDM+ ENGAGE package at no charge, and gives you more flexibility in your giving options. If you're not signed up for ENGAGE, you can create an account by going to <https://engage.suran.com/cck> and click the bar at the bottom of the page.

Once enrolled you can give through text to the fund of your choice. Text: **FUND NAME <dollar amount>** to **785-278-0678**. For example: **ANNUALFUND 100** will make a \$100 donation to the Annual Fund.

A confirmation text should be received. Example: "Reply YES to give \$100 to Annual Fund from your account." Reply **YES**, if this is correct. A return message will be received: "Submitting your gift ..."

The last message received should be a final confirmation. Example: "Success! Thank you for your gift of \$100. You will receive an email confirming the gift to **<your email address>**."

With your Engage account you can also update phone and email, register for events and create recurring gifts or one-time gifts all from one login.

Kansas Regional Office

Financial Office

[Steve Martin](#), Regional Minister
[Susan White](#), Executive Secretary
[Barb Koelling](#), Treasurer
2914 SW MacVicar Ave.
Topeka 66611-1787
785-266-2914
Fax: 785-266-0174

Central & High Plains

Satellite Office

Clergy Care Office

[Ken Marston](#), Regional Minister
[Krista Donaker](#), Admin. Assistant
5230 Broadway Avenue
Great Bend 67530-3208
620-792-6490; Fax: 620-792-1268

South Central Satellite Office

Communication Office

[Steve Hart](#), Communications Director
[Jessica Marston](#), Communications Spec.
8492 SW Tawakoni Rd.
Augusta 67010-8111
316-775-1236

Disciples Center at Tawakoni

[Sid Rutland](#), Camp Manager
8492 SW Tawakoni Rd.
Augusta 67010-8111
316-775-1222
www.tawakoni.org

Fellowship Groups

[Carla Pearson](#), Disciples Women
[Luis Mendez](#), Disciples Men

TBA, Regional Minister of
New Church Ministry

Several times a year, congregations receive a special offering to support the ministries of the General Church. These gifts are given above and beyond the regular core support of Disciples Mission Fund.

The Easter Offering, received on March 28 and April 4, supports several of

the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and more.

Easter Offering

a special day offering of Disciples Mission Fund
March 28 and April 4, 2021

Imagine what God can do when we share our gifts. The Easter Offering reaches deep and wide with the limitless power of the risen Christ by developing Disciples, forming new faith

communities, connecting with ministry partners around the world, and serving God's people in need.

Check us out on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR REGIONAL MINISTER

“On the Edge of Control”

BY STEVE MARTIN, REGIONAL MINISTER



I am guessing, with all the cold weather and ice that accompanies these cold days, that most of us have had the scary feeling of being just on the verge of losing control and falling. It is in that moment when we know there's little we can do to stop the inevitable, and

in this minor crisis, we learn again of God's loving presence who will aid us in finding our equilibrium.

Over the last two weeks in February, we have seen the images of the terrible weather devastation. I am amazed, stricken, and shocked at how many have been affected. The loss of heat, and in many places water as well, brings issues of survival to the forefront -- far more than just an inconvenience. Governmental and other helping agencies try their best, but the destruction is far more than any single effort can remedy.

All of this causes me to reflect on the fragility of life. An overabundance of necessities is one thing, yet what we have seen is that this calamity is widespread, affecting people in

every part of society. Regardless of wealth, race, or background, all who were in the path of the storm became victims.

We constantly feel that loss of control, no matter how much we hope for stability. We turn to God for a sense of reassurance that “these falls” will pass and we will find security. The Hebrew scriptures are abundant with passages of assurance: “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.” And “Hold me up that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually.” (Ps. 119: 114, 117)

As a society accustomed to many conveniences, even those that bring risk to our environment, we need to reconsider at what cost. We need to listen to scientists who understand the ways we cause harm, and act to prevent additional devastation.

Dear Kansas friends, let us keep our eye on the prize and stay firmly planted in God's love in Jesus Christ, that we may together embrace the challenges of our time. God's love is sufficient, and we will continue to give ourselves to greater faithfulness. May it be so!

CAMP REQUIRES VOLUNTEERS!

Yes, summer will come regardless of the freezing winter temperatures, and the camp program team is planning camps for all ages.

Camp planning for this summer includes COVID-19 safety. The hope is that by the time summer is here there will have been significant progress in the pandemic. Currently our camp schedule has a limit per camp event, simply to keep both campers and staff safe. If the conditions change, we will announce a revision via our website, social media pages and text alert.

Most camps are scheduled for Monday through Friday, and camps for younger ages are only two or three days long. Following are the directors who will lead this summer:

- CYF Alpha – Travis McKee
- CYF Omega – Stephanie Switzky
- Pre-High – *pending*
- Chi Rho – Belinda Amend
- Junior – Amanda Martin
- Primary – Belinda Amend
- Discovery – Conita Burden
- Grand Camp – Jodi Hime
- Mission Week – Joe and Sharon Bullock

Yes, we still need counselors! As always, finding counselors continues to be a challenge. Please consider giving of your time and talents. To sign-up, go to www.tawakoni.org/summer-camp-fees-forms. For further information please contact Sid Rutland, campmanager@kansasdisciples.org.

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR KBC AND RECONCILIATION GRANT APPLICATIONS



The Christian Church in Kansas has a variety of grants that are available each year. The deadline for two of those grants – Reconciliation Offering and the Kansas Bible Chair Grants – is fast approaching.

Funds from the Reconciliation Special Day Offering in the Fall provide grants for pro-reconciliation/anti-racism programs. The Reconciliation offering is divided, with one half staying in our region and one half used by General Reconciliation Ministry.

The Kansas Bible Chair (KBC) offers significant funds to provide quality education and spiritual formation for Kansas Disciples. Many events are subsidized by KBC funds, allowing Kansas Disciples to take part at a much lower cost than would otherwise be possible.

These grant requests are reviewed by the grant committee and recommended to the Regional Board for consideration.

The spring submission deadline is March 31. Grant guidelines are available at www.kansasdisciples.org/grants.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS



On January 2, 1921, Riverside Christian Church began as a Sunday School, meeting in the Riverside Elementary School. Constitution and bylaws were adopted, officers elected, and lots purchased at the corner of Harrison and Litchfield.



WICHITA'S RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TURNS 100

Rev. O.N. Roth, who had been the Chancellor, and acting President at Philips University, was called as the first pastor on January 1, 1922. Rev. Roth had also led the South Lawrence Avenue Church of Christ, Wichita, in building their sanctuary. On Sunday, April 29, 1923, eight months after the first shovel of dirt was overturned and more than two years since the first Sunday School, the dedication service for the new building was held. Seventy-six confessions of faith were made that day and enough money was raised to pay off the cost of the building.

Many members and several pastors later, Riverside is still making a difference in the lives of members, the Riverside area, Wichita and beyond. Even though they have not been able to celebrate their birthday in-person, they will be doing so at some time in the months to come.



HAVE NEWS TO SHARE? KANSAS MESSENGER ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

We are glad to receive your news articles and photographs for publication. We reserve the right to edit all materials. Submit your items online at www.kansasdisciples.org. Article submission deadline for the April issue is:

Monday, March 22

NEWS FROM YOUR REGION

CCK EVENT COVID-19 NOTE: We plan to begin meeting in-person at the Disciples Center at Tawakoni. Therefore, face masks and social distancing precautions will be expected of all participants. If health authorities indicate it is not wise for large gatherings, we will move events online or cancel the event and refund registration fees.

2021 DISCIPLES ODYSSEY RETREAT



**DISCIPLES
MEN**

There is still time to register for the Odyssey Project. This is a good opportunity for boys and their father figures to develop and start practicing Christ-like character.

The Odyssey Project Retreat is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 17, at Camp Tawakoni. All men and boys, 10 years and older, are encouraged to attend. Cost is \$35 per person.

KDM BARBER SHOP TALK

The Kansas Disciples Men's cabinet made a decision to start having once a month; "Barber Shop Talk." These once a month Zoom meetings will allow Disciples Men to connect and discuss a relevant question.

The first one will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 5, and the question to be thinking about is: "What is your most memorable time of Easter?"

If you have questions or would like to join the Zoom call, contact Kansas Disciples Men Coordinator, Luis Mendez, disciplesmen@kansasdisciples.org, or the South Central Regional Office, scd@kansasdisciples.org.

NEWS FROM YOUR REGION

2021 DISCIPLES WOMEN VIRTUAL SPIRIT FEST

The 2021 Virtual Spirit Fest will be by Zoom, 9:30 -11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 10, and 2 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 11. There is no charge for this online event.



Rev. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold, Associate Director, Domestic Disaster Response for Week of Compassion, will bring the keynote address during worship.

Attendees will have an opportunity to take part in two of the four workshops being offered. Workshops include a study from the book "Service, Ministry of Heart and Hands," Sharing Individual Service Ideas, Exploring Daily Devotions, and a demonstration on making a

HELP US GET THE CAMP READY FOR THE SUMMER CAMP SEASON

Yes, this weather will soon be history and Spring will bring warmer days. That means it's time to get the camp facilities ready for the Summer.

The Spring camp work days are **Thursday, April 15 - Sunday, April 18**. Volunteer Coordinator, Vern Failor is leading the effort and would love to include you on the list. The list of projects include:

- Painting the pool and preparing it for water
- Completion of the new bathhouse
- Camp vehicle maintenance
- Tree trimming and removal of excess brush
- Creating an archery area
- Deep cleaning the cabins
- And more!

Even if you cannot stay all four days, we would love to include you for

crocheted sleeping mat for the homeless.

Blessing Box offerings will be dedicated during worship service. Please send your offerings to the Regional office at 2914 SW MacVicar Ave, Topeka 66611. Please make checks payable to Christian Church in Kansas and write "Blessing Box" in the memo line.

Registration is open and may be completed online at kansasdisciples.org or through your ENGAGE account. A PDF copy of the registration form is available from Carla Pearson, KDW Coordinator, or any regional office.



whatever time you are available. It is important to get a count of volunteers to enable the cooks to prepare the meals! Email Failor at vfailor@gmail.com or camp manager, Sid Rutland at campmanager@kansasdisciples.org to sign-up. We hope to see YOU at camp!

Donations of supplies or money are also helpful. Needed supplies include:

- Paper towels, napkins, toilet paper
- 13 and 33 gallon trash bags
- Toilet cleaner
- Flour sack dish towels and dishcloths
- Crockpot liners
- Soft Scrub Comet
- Zip-lock bags - quart and gallon sizes

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THESE REGIONAL EVENTS:

**DISCIPLES MEN
ODYSSEY RETREAT
9 A.M.—5 P.M.
SATURDAY, APRIL 17
TAWAKONI**

All men and boys, 10 years and older, are encouraged to attend. Cost is \$35.

**BOUNDARIES TRAINING—
HEALTHY LIFESTYLES
MAY 22 -TAWAKONI
OCT. 19 -GREAT BEND FCC**

The cost for ministers is \$35 and \$10 for church leaders. Clergy spouses are free.

**R³ CLERGY RETREAT
TUESDAY, APRIL 27 —THURSDAY,
APRIL 29
TAWAKONI**

The cost is \$70 for overnight lodging at our camp and four meals. The cost is \$50 if a participant is not staying overnight at the camp.

**SUMMER CAMP
JUNE-JULY
TAWAKONI**

Children, youth and adults are invited to seven events for grades K-12 and three specialty camps. The cost is \$63-\$245 depending on camp session. All camps begin at 1 p.m. on the first day and end at 10 a.m. on the last.

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL CHURCH

GROW YOUR SOCIAL SERVICE PROJECT

National Benevolent Association (NBA) is accepting Social Entrepreneurship Partner applications (formerly *Incubate Partners*) from Disciples health and social service organizations. Being in partnership with NBA involves a multi-year relationship that includes a specialized menu of resources and support for your young ministry.

Our partners receive up to six years of access to professional consultants, learning opportunities, peer support, and grant funding. Learn more about our Social Entrepreneurship program and apply online now.

DCEF PRESIDENT TO RETIRE IN DECEMBER



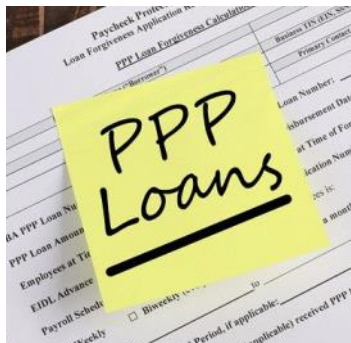
Erick D. 'Rick' Reisinger, President of Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF), plans to retire at year's end, December 31.

Throughout his career, Rick has helped DCEF successfully navigate such challenges, including record high interest rates in the late 70s and early 80s; the Dotcom collapse

of the late 90s; the 2007-08 recession and the resulting stock market crash; and, the current pandemic. Under Rick's leadership DCEF remains focused, not on the past, but on the future of its ministry partners.

"It has been my honor to serve congregations, regions, and other ministries and organizations," Rick explains. "I thank current and former staff, board members and church-wide leaders who made this possible, especially during the stressful times of economic crises."

DCE AVAILABLE FOR ASSISTANCE WITH SECOND ROUND PPP APPLICATIONS



The Small Business Administration (SBA) is now accepting Second Draw Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan applications through March 31, 2021. Recipients of the first round of PPP loans that have used the full amount for authorized uses are eligible to

apply. The same general terms apply for this round of lending. The loan amount is based on 2.5 times the average monthly payroll in either 2019 or 2020 and the borrower must be able to show that they had a 25 percent reduction in gross receipts in comparable quarters of 2019 and 2020.

As in the first round of these loans, your current bank is your best first option if they are participating. The following link from the SBA <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/lender-match> will assist you in finding a lender if your bank is not participating:

There is a loan forgiveness component to the Second Draw PPP Loans as follows. Second Draw PPP Loans made to eligible borrowers qualify for full loan forgiveness, if during the 8-to-24-week covered period following loan disbursement:

IN MEMORIAM

Retired pastor **John Park Winkler**, Watauga, TX., died Feb 16. John served Kansas congregations in Caldwell, Wichita, and Goodland.

Helen Nowlan, Leavenworth, wife of clergy Bill Nowlan, who died in 2019, died Feb 17.

Retired pastor, **Roy Browning, Jr.**, Topeka, died

Feb 18. Roy spent 32 years in active and reserve duty as a USAF Chaplain, along with teaching and administration in the education system.

Gail Coburn, wife of retired clergy Bill Coburn, Richardson, TX., died Feb. 21. While in Kansas, Bill served congregations at Eureka and Emporia.

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?

Your gift can benefit the church for years to come. For information about bequests, contact the Christian Church Foundation at 1-800-668-8016, by email at kgould@ccf.disciples.org or on the web at www.christianchurchfoundation.org.