



Kansas Messenger

Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ)

www.kansasdisciples.org

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TBA, Regional Minister of New Church Ministry

**We would love to
connect with you!**

Connect with us on
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2023 CAMP SCHEDULE IS HERE!

We are excited to announce that the 2023 summer church camp season schedule is available and registration is open as we prepare for another wonderful camp season! This summer's theme is how do we have a FruitFULL Faith. We will explore what the Fruit of the Spirit is and see how this fruit is all around us and how seeing the fruit assures us we have encountered God.

We would love to see all our youth at camp this summer. Camp is a vital part of our faith formations. A week of camp is empowering for our youth to see how the Kingdom of God can be lived out.

Camp Dates:

Discovery/Primary	Grades K-3	July 5-7
Junior	Grades 4-5	June 19-22
Chi Rho	Grades 6-7	July 10-15
Pre High	Grade 8	July 10-15
CYF	Grades 9-12	July 24-29
Grand Camp	All ages	July 7-9

New tiered pricing is in effect this year. A tiered system recognizes that different families in the camp community have different financial means, and lets families pay what they are able to. Summer camps around the country have been moving to these models for about the past 10 years, and have gotten positive feedback from their communities. See 2023 tiered prices on our website at www.tawakoni.org.

We are also using a new registration software called RegFox. We are hoping to see more online registrations this year. Reach out to Olivia See, revoliviasee@kansasdisciples.org, or any of our offices if you have any questions. Online registration closes two weeks prior to camp start to allow our staff time to prepare for arrival. Late registrations will only be accepted by phone and at the camp director's discretion.

'RISE UP ANEW' WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING

This past year has continued to witness the ravages of COVID-19 worldwide. War in Ukraine, and the post-war recovery will be extensive and long-lasting. Communities from Kentucky to Puerto Rico to Newfoundland are in long-term recovery efforts from tornadoes, massive floods, hurricanes, wildfires, and drought.

In the middle of it all, *Week of Compassion* calls on God's mercy and speaks boldly of the Divine goodness made new each day. *Week of Compassion* is where Disciples respond to the challenges and the blessings they experience in the world.

As our General Minister and President, Rev. Terri Hord Owens has often said, "When *Week of Compassion* is there, the whole church is there"—to bring immediate relief and long-term recovery after disasters; equip churches and leaders for disaster

preparedness; assist refugees; and support global development projects that empower communities.

In the midst of pain that seems too great and challenges that seem too many, God's great faithfulness remains, and we rise up anew, again and again, to give, serve, and live with compassionate generosity.

With the 2023 **RISE UP ANEW** *Week of Compassion* special offering, collected on Feb. 19 and 26, you can provide ongoing support and partnership, throughout the year, throughout the world. Give through your congregation or ENGAGE account.



THOUGHTS FROM YOUR REGIONAL MINISTER

BY TOM STANLEY, CO-REGIONAL MINISTER & PRESIDENT

Greetings Disciples in Kansas! I hope you have had a blessed Christmas season and have begun your journey through Epiphany with determination, faith, and hope in and with Jesus the Christ!

This month is my sixth month serving as your Co-Regional Minister! I have visited nearly 40 congregations in those six months, some several times. I have traveled over 23,000 miles around our state and am even more excited about our shared ministry around this state!

I continue to share week in week out, I have the best job in the world, I am called to serve Kansas Disciples! And Kansas Disciples are doing amazing ministry around our state! Thank you for all the ways you are Gospel of Jesus in your communities.

I know we have not said much about this yet but I want to personally invite you to attend a worship service on April 29. Terri Hord-Owens will be leading our worship and preaching at First Christian Church McPherson. The worship service will be my installation as your Co-Regional Minister. I hope you will join us for worship and the celebration of our shared ministry. This will be the first visit made by Terri this year, but I also know she will be joining the Disciples Women of Kansas at their fall retreat!

There is a great deal happening around the region in the next several months. Please see the list of events below and join us when you can do so! We will also have a new administrative assistant in the Regional Office in Topeka beginning Feb. 27. Please look for that article next month! If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact me! I will be glad to help in any way I can.



CHURCH BRANDING 101: YOUR REPUTATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

WRITTEN BY
JESSICA MARSTON
CCK COMMUNICATIONS
SPECIALIST



Branding is a marketing concept that can be a bit confusing, even for people who have studied it. Consider a brand as the idea or image people have when thinking about specific products, services, and activities of a company, both in a practical and emotional way.

When we start talking about church branding, many churches don't see the connection or need for branding in ministry. The church's ministry is the most important business out there and it's our calling as believers to market what product of eternal life.

When we talk about branding in ministry, we are talking about your church's reputation in the community you serve. Every church has a reputation – good, bad, or ugly. People in your community are making assumptions about your church based on what their friends are saying. Additionally, what you think about your church and what others think about your church are sometimes vastly different.

Defining your church branding is about helping people find their place in the body of Christ. Church branding is a physical reflection of the spiritual calling of your church. When you are intentional about your brand, awareness is created, causing your ministry to be memorable. When your ministry is memorable, more people will talk about it to their friends, family, and co-workers.

When you put effort into branding your communication strategies to your church's mission and vision, you become better stewards of the resources you have. You then project confidence in your church's ministry and are united with a clear understanding of whom God has called you to be.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Save the Date:

Youth Spring Retreat	March 3-5	Chi Rho Camp	July 10-15
Regional Spiritual Retreat	March 9-11	Pre-High Camp	July 10-15
Boundaries Training	March 21;	CYF Conference	July 24-29
	May 20; Oct 19	DCE Regional Gathering	Aug 12
KDW Spirit Fest	April 22; May 6	KDM Fall Retreat	Sept 22-23
R3 Clergy Retreat	April 25-27	KDW Fall Retreats	Oct 4-6;
Junior Camp	June 19-22		Oct 6-8
Discovery/Primary Camp	July 5-7	Tawakoni Gala	TBA
Grand Camp	July 7-9	AOCC Workshops	TBA

ALEX DATABASE YEARBOOK REPORTS NEEDED

REPORTS DUE TO REGIONAL OFFICE BY FEB. 28



ALEX Yearbook Reporting has been open since Jan. 17, and 164 reports have been submitted. That is a little over 5% of the 3,067 listed congregations. Regions that already have over 10% reported are: Arizona

(27%), Northern Lights (17%), Florida (14%), Upper Midwest (12%), Kansas (16%) and Nebraska (10%). There are less than **30 days remaining** in the reporting period for congregations, ending February 28 with a goal of at least 70% of churches submitting reports.

So far, 49 congregational reporters have elected to complete the Supplemental Survey to the ALEX Yearbook Report. That's 30% of the reporting congregations. Survey responses have come from rural or town contexts (70%) with the other 30% from urban or suburban contexts.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) thanks you for supporting the ALEX Yearbook Reporting process. Please know that you can reach out for help by visiting the ALEX support portal on the OGMP Help Center.

Each Kansas church has at least one congregational reporter for ALEX. If you are unsure of your church's reporter, contact Jessica Marston at 316-775-1236.

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

KLC/CCK PARTNERSHIP GRANT RENEWED FOR 2023

Thanks to a 2023 Partnership Grant through the Kansas Leadership Center (KLC), the Kansas region has a marvelous opportunity: 60 training slots in KLC's leadership training programs. These are for people who want to improve their leadership skills, to aid their congregations and the region in addressing the adaptive challenges we face. This training is intended to help you lead your congregation more effectively, more powerfully, to change lives and turn systems in healthy directions.

If you want to make progress on something you care about, grow your leadership skills, aid your congregation and the Christian Church in Kansas (CCK) in addressing the adaptive challenges we face then this training is for you.

Your church will benefit most by sending teams of 3-4, one of whom is probably your pastor. You will also benefit by identifying a challenge on which you want to make progress. As you begin the process of defining what your adaptive challenge is for your congregation, the team developed a collective adaptive challenge for the region of Kansas.

Plan to focus 90 days on the process: pre-work, the training and its application, beginning 21 days before your event. **This is not for everyone. It is hard, and you will have homework.**



**KANSAS
LEADERSHIP
CENTER**



In addition to congregational teams, CCK plans to send interested staff, moderators, and other regional leaders. Trainings fill fast and registration early in the year is encouraged. The KLC Partnership Grant pays tuition only. The CCK Executive Committee and Regional Board considered a recommendation from the Kansas Bible Chair Task Force for a grant to reimburse books, housing, and meals for those who take part.

The collective regional adaptive challenge:

We want more people leading so that we can strengthen, empower, and equip the leadership within the congregations that make up the CCK, as our church navigates an ever-changing world.

There are three types of workshops:

All registrations will close two weeks prior to each program or once maximum capacity is reached. Registration early is advised.

Your Leadership Edge -- This is a two-day training either virtual or in person for anyone who wants to lead more and get better results.

Lead for Change -- This training is designed for individuals who are called to lead others through tough situations. Perfect for pastors and church leaders working to guide or influence change.

Equip to Lead -- Whether you are a pastor or church leader this training will give you the essential skills you need to build leadership in others. Practice and receive feedback as you learn to communicate key leadership concepts tailored to your congregation in this two-day program.

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Your church could be featured here! Submit your articles and pictures to us.

We are always glad to receive your news articles and photographs for publication. Submit your items by email at messenger@kansasdisciples.org or online at:

www.kansasdisciples.org/km-submissions

The *Kansas Messenger* editorial team reserves the right to edit all materials for relevance, tone, clarity, and space. Submission deadline for the next issue is:

Monday, February 20

JOIN OUR TEXT ALERTS SYSTEM

Get CCK news on your phone wherever you are. Sign-up to receive the latest CCK news and event information by text message.

There are three

ways to join:

1. Text KSMESSANGER to 316-465-5352 and follow the on-screen prompts.
2. Go to our "News" tab at www.kansasdisciples.org/news. Look for the "Text logo" on the right-hand side of the page.
3. Call the CCK Communications Office, 316-775-1236



This is just one more example of how your Communications team is working to connect you to the ministries of your Kansas Region. You will normally receive no more than one or two text message per week as a part of this service. Standard SMS and data charges apply.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

KANSAS CHURCH MISSION FEATURE:

Smith Center, First Christian Church

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world". - John 16:33 KJV

For First Christian Church Smith Center (FCCSC), the tribulations of the COVID pandemic, brought forth a real opportunity to bring cheer in their mission to support youth and the community.

FCCSC offered school startup prayers outside the school during that period, and someone mentioned the low morale for staff/teachers at local schools struggling during the year. An idea was raised, and "cheer baskets" were born as a way of lifting the spirits of staff/teachers. The baskets included things like candy, morale mugs, special coffee beans, fruit, pens/pencils, school supplies, gift cards for local businesses, and Chamber bucks that could be used in various businesses.



The cheer baskets were given to teachers and staff at the local elementary school and at Smith Center high school. These baskets were greatly appreciated by the staff and teachers; they even gave back the baskets so they could be used again next time. These not only improved the morale of the

staff and teachers, but they also further connected the church with the local school system. The initial cheer program was such a success that the plan is to prepare two or more of every quarter.

To further connect with the schools and community, FCCSC donates annually as sponsors to the high school yearbook and for some sporting event programs. They team up with local school groups (4H, FFA, FCCLA, etc.) and provide an annual father-daughter/mother-son dance, a watermelon stop for the annual tractor run, support post-prom events, assistance with Baccalaureate services, and aid in summer meals at the schools.

Around Holy Week, they have been providing Easter baskets for several years now, delivering them to a list of those who might need a lift in their morale, those who have special needs for help during the year (rent, utilities, hunger, etc.), or those who are struggling to make ends meet. The brightly colored Easter baskets might have such things as a spatula (Easter themes), thermos style mugs, gift cards, trinket containers, bibles (Gideons), candy, fruit, and, in general, special things people might not regularly buy for themselves.

Overcoming tribulation in everyday life serves as this congregation's guiding light to equip and connect with their community.



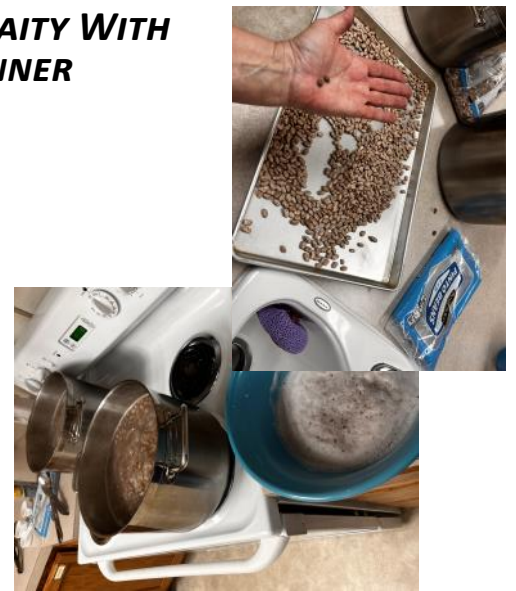
Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles describing Kansas churches and their mission to Connect & Equip. If you'd like to suggest your congregation for an article, contact Jessica Marston 316-775-1236

CLEARWATER CELEBRATES WEEK OF THE LAITY WITH SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE AND DINNER

First Christian Church Clearwater hosted a Laity Appreciation Dinner as a part of Laity Appreciation Week.

After a worship service led completely by lay leaders, they had a tostada bar with made-from-scratch refried beans, hot sauce, and tostada shells along with all the other trimmings.

They celebrated everyone serving in their church including past, present, and future lay leaders.



CHURCH BRANDING:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

So how do I get started?

Identify your church's mission, vision, and target audience: While every church wants to reach everyone, each church is gifted with different talents, gifts, and resources. Keep it simple and use language that is relatable. Remember to focus on your strengths and how you can use your resources to reach your community in the present.

Identify colors and fonts that enhance your ministry's message: The colors and fonts you choose to convey your message have psychological meanings. Warm colors convey energy while cool colors convey calmness. Neutral colors are perceived as more

masculine and professional while pastel colors are perceived as more feminine and whimsical. Serif Fonts convey a sense of tradition, stability, and respectability while San Serif fonts convey a sense of openness and modern, forward-thinking straightforwardness and Script fonts convey a feminine elegance and creativity.

Combine your chosen colors and fonts into a single graphic – the logo: Your logo is your identifying mark that communicates your values, mission, and ministry. It is something that is easily recognizable and doesn't need explanation. It is also a good idea to develop a handful of different versions – horizontal, vertical, square, full color, and black and white – to aid in consistency across all church communication platforms.

Develop a style guide: A style guide is a document that outlines the rules or standards for how official church information is communicated and how your logo is to be used in those communications. It creates a standard for all your communications across all platforms therefore it creates a sense of unity and purpose as you build relationships with your community.

Ryan Nelson, author of *Church Branding: What Your Mission Looks Like* said, "Church branding is about defining your church identity and remaining true to it. You're not peddling the gospel – you're clarifying how you live it out!"

Remember, branding takes time and effort. Do not expect overnight results. Stay consistent and enjoy the journey.

CAMP NEWS



There is absolutely no life like camp life! If you come work for us, you'll find out why. Our summer leadership internship program has

been growing and changing over the years. This is a paid internship! Past interns have gone on to be pastors, other camp program

TAWAKONI SUMMER LEADERSHIP INTERNSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 30

leaders, college chaplains, missionaries, social workers, community leaders, gifted church lay leaders in, and more. Are you up for the challenge?

Applications are now being accepted for our summer leadership internships. For this paid internship, we are looking for 3-4 college age students with

a heart for God and children.

This summer is going to be amazing and we want you to come help make it that way. If you are interested in learning more and applying, go to: www.tawakoni.org/volunteers-staff. Application window closes March 30.

2023 SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU

Our summer camp season is not complete without our summer camp staff. All summer volunteers and staff are required to pass a standard background check every year.

Volunteers are asked to fill out an application including references, one being their pastor, before March 30. We seek the following:



Directors: Adults who have a passion for working with children and youth, have served as a camp counselor, and have been recommended for their Christian leadership skills. All directors should also attend a annual training event at the camp.

Chaplains: Clergy members who have a passion for working with children and youth. All directors should also attend a annual training event at the camp.

Counselors: Adults who have a passion for working with children and youth. They are with the campers throughout the camp experience.

Nurses: The nurses give medications, monitor the health of campers, and at times drive campers to the Emergency Room when required. These individuals should have training as a EMT, CNA, RN, MD or equivalent. Nurses have private sleeping quarters and get paid a small stipend.



Maintenance

Volunteers: Spend the week aiding the Camp Manager, Olivia See, with maintenance requests and working on small projects to keep the camp both attractive and functioning for a variety of activities.

NEWS FROM YOUR REGION

ATTENTION!

NOTE A CHANGE TO CCK EVENT REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

We are always happy to extend an invitation to you, your church, your friends, your family, and your neighbors to attend any of our regional events.

Pre-registration for all regional events is highly encouraged online at www.kansasdisciples.org/events or through your ENGAGE account. Credit/Debit card and electronic check payments are accepted.

Don't have a computer or need assistance? Our regional support staff will gladly assist you by phone.

Online registration will close a minimum of one week prior to an event's start date as published on our website. Registrations after that date will only be accepted by phone and at the event organizers' discretion. Late registrations may also be subject to additional fees.

Need to cancel your registration? Contact the Topeka Regional Office. Our standard cancellation policy is: over 30 days prior to the event = full fee minus \$25 handling fee; 15-30 days prior to event = 50% refund; 7-14 days prior = 25% refund; 6 days prior or no-show at event = no refund.

ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR: KDM FALL RETREAT

Please add the Kansas Disciples Men's Fall Retreat that will be Sept 22-23 at Tawakoni. Our guest speaker is our very own, Co-Regional Minister, Rev. Tom Stanley. He will present, "What does the Lord require of you?"

Put these dates on your calendars and be praying for it. Registration will open the end of June.

YOUTH SPRING RETREAT 2023 REGISTRATION CLOSES SOON



Kansas youth, grades 6-12 are invited out to Tawakoni for a weekend of fun, faith, and friends. The retreat runs from 7 p.m. on Friday, March 3, to 10 a.m. Sunday, March 5.

Our theme is "Spirit Moves" and will help tie into our summer camping program. The keynote, Rev. Derek Tompkins, will share how to join in the movement of God's Spirit around us. He is the Pastor at First Christian Church in Weatherford, Texas, and is involved in the Christian Church Southwest's youth ministry and camp programming.

Activities will include games, a service project, music, and more favorites from summer camp. Don't miss out on a fantastic event!

The cost is \$80 per person for the weekend, including meals and lodging. Registration deadline is Thursday, Feb. 23, and last registrations will only be accepted by phone at the event organizers' discretion. Each church is asked to provide an adult sponsor for every five youths they send, or partner with another church to do so.

CCK OFFER THREE BOUNDARIES TRAINING SESSIONS IN 2023 FOR CLERGY, LAY LEADERS



Attention all clergy and church leaders! The first of three Ethical Boundary Training sessions for 2023 is fast approaching (March 21 at FCC Great Bend).

Besides the March 21 training session, there are two other opportunities throughout the year: Saturday, May 20 at the Disciples Center at Tawakoni, and Tuesday, Oct. 20, Topeka First Christian Church. All training begins at 10 a.m. and lasts until 3:30 p.m. with lunch provided.

Clergy, if you have not taken boundaries training since 2020, you need to do so this year to meet requirements for standing. Contact Juli Reed (chp@kansasdisciples.org) in the Clergy Care Office, Great Bend, if you are unsure when your last training was.

Church leaders: if you have ever wondered about the standards of ethical behavior we expect of our ministers, please join your pastor for this one-day training session.

In addition to going over the *Ministerial Code of Conduct*, we will also look at another document, *Ethical Guideline for Congregations*, that sets expectations for how we hope church members will treat each other and their pastors in the life of the congregation.

The cost of this training is \$35 for clergy and \$10 for congregational leaders. Registration closes one week prior to the start of each session, to allow us to plan for your arrival. Late registrations will only be accepted by phone and at the event organizer's discretion.

NEWS FROM YOUR REGION

MATTHEW 5:1-12

Blessed
ARE THE ()

2023 SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

Join us in Great Bend for the 2023 Kansas Spirituality Retreat Thursday, March 9, through Saturday, March 11, at the Heartland Center for Spirituality.

The retreat begins at 2 p.m. on Thursday and concludes at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Spend three days and two nights reflecting on what it means to live out the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5:1-12. We will be led in this experience by Rev. Dr. Paul Koch, Co-Regional Minister for the Christian Church in Mid-America.

Dr. Koch has provided emotional and spiritual care for individuals and congregations for 30 years. Living in Musselfork, Mo., he has also served in Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, and Interfaith Ministries in Missouri, Iowa, and Alabama.

Prior to ministry, he worked at National Public Radio (NPR), in Washington, DC. Paul is a proud Drury University 1986 alum. He dedicates himself to helping all men and women seek encounters with creational/incarnational theology and avenues for spiritual transformation. He is a Richard Rohr devotee and credits him and his writings to his faith formation today.

Participants are encouraged to bring a snack to share, their Bibles, a prayer journal, and a table game for the Friday evening game time. The cost is \$135 which includes meals, program and lodging. Register now at www.kansasdisciples.org or through your ENGAGE account. Online registration will close after Thursday, Feb. 23. Registration after that date will only be accepted by phone and at the event organizer's discretion.

REGISTER TODAY FOR KDW SPIRIT FEST 2023

LIVING YOUR FAITH WITH CHRIST AS YOUR ANCHOR

We are excited to gather this year on April 22 at Topeka West Side and May 6 at Wichita Woodridge Christian Church as women of faith for Spirit Fest 2023.

Susan Hill, Hutchinson Park Place Christian Church, and Spirit Fest Coordinator has put together a wonderful day that will focus on keeping our faith anchored in Christ.

Registration is now open at www.kansasdisciples.org. The cost is \$15 and includes a morning reception, lunch, your choice of workshops, and worship with keynote speaker, Gail Goolsby. **Online registration will close one week prior to each event. Late registrations will only be accepted by phone 316-775-1236 at the event organizer's discretion.**

More information may be found in the KDW NewsBytes or on the regional website. We will be sailing soon so remember to complete your registration today!



JOIN US FOR 2023 REST, RELAX, RENEW CLERGY RETREAT

Attention Kansas Clergy: The R3 Clergy Retreat will be Tuesday, April 25, through Thursday, April 27, at the Disciples Center at Tawakoni. The retreat begins with dinner at 6 p.m. Lunch on Wednesday is on our own at nearby restaurants.

The retreat is loosely scheduled with optional activities, plenty of free time to wander around the campgrounds to pray or just relax, opportunities to visit with colleagues, and to listen to four presentations by a noted theologian.

An optional pre-event golf fellowship or camp service project is being planned. If you would like to participate, indicate it on your registration form so that we can make appropriate arrangements for your arrival. Pre-Event activity may be canceled if not enough people sign-up.

The visiting theologian is Rev. Dr. Andrew Carter, Director of Black Church Studies and Asst. Professor of New Testament at Phillips Theological Seminary. Andrew will explore the biblical texts that talk about slavery and discuss how those texts have been used to support racist systems and ideas.

As an added bounce, clergy will be credited with required ARPR training for standing by taking advantage of these presentations and Q&A sessions.

The event cost is \$70 for lodging at Tawakoni, four meals, and program, or \$50 for meals and program. Online registration at www.kansasdisciples.org/events will close after Tuesday, April 11. Registration after that date will be accepted by phone and at the event organizer's discretion.

Scholarship Money Available:

There is scholarship money available to cover up to \$25 for your registration. If interested, please contact Regional Minister Ken Marston or Regional Minister Tom Stanley.

KBC GRANTS AVAILABLE

Established by the Kansas Women's Board of Missions, the Kansas Bible Chair provides grants for educational programs and lectureships which will benefit both laity and clergy of Disciple congregations in Kansas.

The deadline to submit grant applications is March 31 and Sept. 30. To help avoid confusion, use a separate form for each request, rather than combining related but individual items.

Apply online at
www.kansasdisciples.org/grants.

RECONCILIATION GRANTS AVAILABLE

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 deadline to submit grant applications is March 31. Grant recipients will be promoted as a part of the 2023 Reconciliation Special Offering in September and October. Funds distribution will be in January 2024.

Apply online at
www.kansasdisciples.org/grants.

HAVE YOU TRIED ENGAGE?

This easy-to-use, mobile-optimized system allows you to give securely online, set up auto draft giving and view your giving history at your convenience. ENGAGE goes beyond online giving to also provide you a way to connect with others in the region through common interest groups.

You can also update contact information and register for regional and district events.

To get started, go to www.kansasdisciples.org/give and click the ENGAGE portal button. From there, follow the on-screen instructions to create an account or log into your existing account. If creating a new account, you will receive an email to reset your password and confirm the creation of your account.

After account creation, you can update your information, manage regional and district giving, and register for events all from one login.

NEWS FROM THE GENERAL CHURCH

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS SOON FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is looking forward to gathering as a whole in General Assembly for the first time in four years, July 29 - Aug. 1 in Louisville, Ky.

If you act now, you can get the best deal by registering for the 2023 General Assembly at the early bird rates. On March 1, registration fees go up so don't miss this chance to be budget friendly.

This four-day event will encourage Disciples who gather to celebrate the way that God's expansive love connects each of us as "kin" and to be part of the larger Kingdom of God. Join us for worship, workshops, Bible study, opportunities to explore Louisville, mission project, and the sacred work of the church for children, youth, and adults across the life of the church.

For more General Assembly information or to register go to: ga.disciples.org.



PEACE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION WINDOW EXTENDED

DPF will continue accepting 2023 Peace Intern Applications until February 19.

If you or someone you know wants to spend the summer living out their faith while serving as an Ambassador for Peace & Justice

then this life-changing 12-week, paid internship is the perfect opportunity.

2023 DPF Peace Interns will spend the summer serving on staff at church camps throughout the United States and Canada with remote work weeks built into their schedule to work on specific justice projects with Disciples Justice Ministries partners. Plus, they'll attend the Disciples General Assembly in Louisville.

Learn more at: disciplespeace.org/apply.

REQUEST A PEACE INTERN

The Disciples Peace Fellowship (DPF) is now accepting "Request a Peace Intern" forms for the summer of 2023. Building on the success of the last three summers, DPF will be using a hybrid model again this summer.

We have separate sign-up forms for In-Person Camps and Remote Work Week Partners. DPF Peace Interns will be available to serve in June and July 2023.

You can find all the information and both forms here: disciplespeace.org/request-an-intern

The deadline for requesting a Peace Intern is March 31.

IN TRANSITION

Robin Colerick Schinkel concludes her ministry as a chaplain for Lawrence Memorial Hospital. She has accepted a call to congregational ministry in Missouri.

William (Bill) Bass was welcomed in January to the Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF) Building and Capital Services staff for a transitional role with the lending and investment ministry staff. Bill is a third-generation Disciple, former deputy regional minister, and long-time DCEF advisor to the advisor team. He currently serves as a Regional Elder for the Indiana Region and as the board chair of Tapestry Church in Greenwood, Ind., and brings nearly four decades of experience to his position as Interim Senior Building and Capital Services Advisor.

IN MEMORIUM

Ben Duerfeldt, 89, died Jan. 12. Ben was a pastor at First Christian Church in Manhattan for 25 years. He also served several years on the Regional Board and on the General Board. He was granted an honorary doctorate from Phillips University in 1984.

IN CELEBRATION

Hillside CC, Wichita recently received the "Faithful Partners Award for Congregational Giving" from Phillips Theological Seminary. The award recognized 54 consecutive years of contributing financially to PTS.



HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?

Your gift can benefit your church and region for years to come. When you include the church in your estate plan, your generosity helps connect and equip future Kansas Disciples. For information about bequests, contact the Christian Church Foundation at 1-800-668-8016, email Kirby Gould at kgould@ccf.disciples.org or go to www.christianchurchfoundation.org.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
Ordination
OF ROSS MICHAEL ALLEN
SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 2023 AT 2:30 PM

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
3001 GRAND MERE PKWY,
MANHATTAN, KS 66503



Live-streaming link
available at
fccmanhattan.org.

Light refreshments will
be served afterward.

All are invited to dress in
red, symbolizing the
Spirit's work in the
ordination; clergy are
asked to wear
vestments.