



THE COORDINATOR

MAY 2020



VIRTUAL CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN

This summer, instead of traditional in-person camps at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya, our advisory team, directors and staff are creating a fun and meaningful virtual experience called Camp Zoom-Ba-Ya! Like our summer camp programs, our virtual camps will be designed for the various age levels (grades 1-12) around the theme “This is Our Prayer.” You’ll see familiar faces and places through our online connections and activities—all from the comfort of home! Through Bible stories, video conference gatherings (where age appropriate), off-screen activities, and spiritual practices, we will be teaching our campers about living a life of prayer from their homes that will help



them discover a deeper connection with God. Detailed virtual access information will be sent directly to you closer to your camp’s dates.

Registration forms, camp newsletter and T-shirt information are available at www.campkumbaya.org.

SOCIAL DISTANCE VOLUNTEERING

Another way that you or your family can be a part of Camp KBY this summer is to help us complete some summer projects. If you have the time and talent, consider scheduling a day that you (or your family)

can come to KBY and volunteer some elbow grease. If you need more information about projects or have special talents to share, please contact Susan Roberts (susanr721@gmail.com) or the West Area office for more contact information.

IN PERSON ALL Y’ALL RETREAT

If it is responsibly safe to do so, this will be the tenth year KBY offers the annual All Y’all Retreat, and it’s a proven good time. It’s a programming-light weekend that mostly takes its own shape and tone over the course of the time we are together, depending on the personalities who happen to be gathered. We all pitch in where we want, can and are needed on cooking, cleaning and leading activities. There’s down time, there’s up time; there are loud moments and quiet moments. We come in groups from churches; we come with our families; we come by ourselves; we come with friends from other denominations or with friends with no church home—and then we see what God does with us and our time together. It’s great. Plan to come Sept. 11-13, 2020 at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya. The registration form is posted on the “Just Forms” tab at <http://www.campkumbaya.org>. We hope to see y’all there.

FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK

With Pentecost approaching, I have been thinking about the Holy Spirit quite a bit lately. The lectionary readings recently reminded me that John 14:15-16 (NRSV) says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever." The Holy Spirit is our Advocate--one who speaks up for us, one who stands up for us, one who never leaves us or forsakes us. And that same Holy Spirit inspires us to be advocates in ministry. The Spirit calls us to speak up for others, to stand up for others, to accompany others in times of trial and be a helping companion.

During this pandemic, I have felt and witnessed this Spirit many times. I've seen it in your advocacy for those who are being forgotten, and in your outreach to those who are isolated. I've watched our clergy accompany one another through difficult decision-making and help one another find the resources and equipment that they need. I've witnessed how you have encouraged one another.

This is our work and witness together, too--to advocate and accompany one another. In the West Area and the region we talk about our mission to "Care, Equip, Connect." If I could add a fourth word, I think it would be advocate. This monthly newsletter is all about advocacy. I hope that you are feeling our advocacy for you, your congregation, and your ministry. And, I am so very thankful for the many ways that you advocate for us, as well. The Spirit is present and at work through us all, West Area!

Come, Holy Spirit!



Rev. Rachel Nance Woehler
Transitional West Area Regional Minister



PLANNING RESOURCES AND GUIDELINES

On the Christian Church In Kentucky-West Area Facebook page, we have created a new list of resources and guidelines for ministers and lay leaders as we plan for phase one of reopening. You'll find it on the post dated May 8, though the information is being updated regularly. New resources are added at the bottom of the listing.

CLERGY NEWS

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR JUNE

Each of our three district ministers meetings, along with our bi-vocational/part-time clergy gathering that always meets online, will continue to gather in a virtual space online for the time being. If you'd like assistance to connect with us by phone, tablet, or computer, please email Rachel Nance Woehler at WestAreaMinister@twc.com. This is a great way to support one another as we walk through these uncertain times in ministry.

DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, June 23 at noon. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

DISTRICT 2

Tuesday, June 9 at 10 a.m. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

DISTRICT 3

Thursday, June 18 at 11:30 a.m. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

BI-VOCATIONAL/PART-TIME

Thursday, June 18 at 7 p.m. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

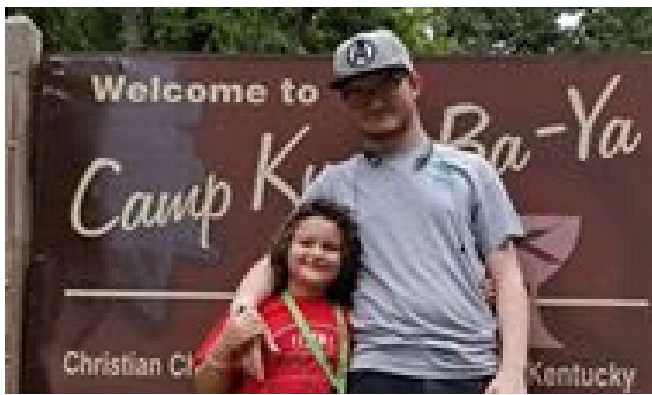
CHUCK SUMMERS RETIRING



Congratulations to Dr. Chuck Summers on his retirement on May 3 after 44 years of full-time ministry! Chuck has served these last seven years at First Christian Church of Henderson. At Chuck's retirement, the church welcomes Rev. David Clifford into the role of Senior Minister.

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING MAY 31-JUNE 7





REMEMBERING TAELOE MORSE

OUR CAMP BELL IS RESTORED



In the 1980s former camper Mark Whitley's family donated this heirloom bell to Camp Kum-Ba-Ya. For many years it woke up campers in their cabins, called hungry campers to meals, and notified them that their afternoon free time was coming to an end. After years of use, the bell developed a crack that made it inoperable, and so the bell was put in storage and

replaced by a camp-wide buzzer system. All that visibly remained of the bell was its post--standing outside of the lodge just near the tetherball court. Last summer our CYF camper and Counselor-in-Training, Taelor Morse, mentioned to the Discovery Camp director, Rev. Kara Foster, that he really wished we still had the old camp bell up on that wooden post.

Rev. Foster remembered his words months later when Taelor (pictured above with one of his sisters) was tragically killed in a car accident this last November. His camp friends and former counselors gathered at First Christian Church of Madisonville to remember Taelor. Knowing how much our camp meant to him, his family requested that memorial gifts be designated to restore the camp bell, purchase multimedia equipment, and grow the Camp Revamp Fund--a designated fund for updating, renovating, and refurbishing the camp facilities. For all who knew and loved Taelor, the bell now stands as a reminder of a lifelong camper, CIT, and spiritual friend of ours who served the God he came to know more on these sacred grounds.

UPCOMING EVENTS

IN THE WEST AREA

WEST AREA BOARD MEETING

Sunday, September 6, 3:00pm
First Christian Church of Hopkinsville

ALL Y'ALL CAMP

September 11-13 at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya
A relaxing weekend away for campers of all ages and stages. Parents and grandparents, this is a great way to introduce your children to the wonders at camp. For more information, go to www.campkumbaya.org

ALL DISCIPLES SING

Sunday, September 27
First Christian Church of Paducah

FALL CAMP WORK DAY

October 24 at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya
Join us as we prepare the campground for the winter season. More information will be available at www.campkumbaya.org

DISCIPLES WOMEN



WOMEN'S SILENT RETREAT

November 6-8 at the Kentucky Leadership Center in Jabez.
www.ccinky.net/ministries/disciples-women/

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

November 14-15 at Barren River State Park in Lucas.
www.ccinky.net/ministries/disciples-women/

UPDATE ON ASSEMBLY

NO IN-PERSON EVENT

The Board of the Christian Church In Kentucky voted unanimously to cancel our in-person gathering in October 2020 at First Christian Church of Owensboro. Watch this summer for details from the Regional Assembly Planning Committee about how we might conduct business and gather virtually for fellowship and worship.

THE CAMP DREAM

CAMP KUM-BA-YA ADVISORY TEAM APPROVES PHASED PLAN

Even during these challenging times, those who love and support our camping ministry are seeing visions and dreaming dreams. After receiving input from campers, counselors, directors, and staff, the Camp Kum-Ba-Ya Advisory Team's Dream Team, chaired by Susan Roberts, was tasked with the work of setting priorities, getting estimates, and putting a phased plan on paper that will restore and update our camping ministry facilities near Benton for another generation of campers.

First on the list is ramps and decking for accessible cabins. Their dream also includes a new basketball court, volleyball court, gaga ball, and playground structures for younger and older children. And in later phases they dream of nature learning stations along the trails, new waterfront games, improved worship areas, and year round camping facilities. Putting this phased dream plan on paper is the first step toward revamping our camping ministry for the future.

TREASURER'S REPORT

APRIL UPDATE ON THE WEST AREA AND CAMP KBY FINANCES

We have been very blessed at the West Area through April 2020.

Through April 2020 Congregational Giving was \$25,737 versus budget of \$21,318. Year-to-date expenses are down compared to year to date budgeted expenses by \$3,288. Some of this favorable difference in expenses is due to items like insurance and marketing that have not been incurred yet this year.

Cash receipts have exceeded expenses by \$2,027 year to date. The cash balance remains healthy due in a large part to an U.S. Small Business Administration loan we received in April under the Paycheck Protection Plan. The 24 month loan carries an interest rate of 1% and may not have to be fully repaid.

The Camp Kum-Ba-Ya financial situation remains in limbo at this time due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We have PPP loan money to take care of some of the expenses for committed salaries. We have a commitment from CCK for the caretakers salary, which is 19% of our budget. We anticipate another \$32,000 in expense that might be partially offset by KBY Alumni, Congregational Gifts and an Individual Appeal. They total \$14,000, which leaves a shortfall of \$18,000. When a final determination is made as to the use of the facilities and projected income for 2020, we will need to revise the budget to reflect the changes that we will incur.

Charlie Ramsey
Treasurer, West Area Board



CCK-West Area or Camp Kum-Ba-Ya
P.O. Box 1332
Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

270-821-1332
WestArea@twc.com (Glori Cope)
WestAreaMinister@twc.com (Rachel Nance Woehler)



WWW.CAMPKUMBAYA.ORG



WWW.WESTAREADISCIPLINES.ORG

MAKE A SUSTAINING GIFT TO THE WEST AREA OR KBY TODAY!

Make your check payable to:

CCK-West Area
P O Box 1332
Madisonville, KY 42431



Or, give digitally to the West Area or Camp Kum-Ba-Ya through the Givelify or Paypal links on our "Give" tab at:



www.westareadisciples.org/give/