



THE COORDINATOR

DECEMBER 2020

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

With love,

Glori and Rachel

REJOICING IN WHAT GOD IS DOING THROUGH THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN KENTUCKY

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: DECEMBER 13 AND 20

Gifts from your congregation during the Christmas Special Day Offering support the ministries of the Christian Church in Kentucky. Check out the regional YouTube page for three new short videos to use in your times of worship and on social media as we rejoice in the past, present, and future work of God in our midst.

Give online:

<https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/christmas>

YouTube Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzj2ahIzjpC2bW1y8ky7jSQ/videos>

2020 Christmas Offering
REJOICE
A special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund



When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

Matthew 2:10

Our finest gifts supporting the Ministries of our Region – Received December 13th & 20th in most Congregations

FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK

Last week I heard about a small, aging church that had several members experiencing significant back pains. The wooden pews in the sanctuary had become uncomfortable for them, even unbearable for a few, and so the church boldly responded to their needs by taking out one of their historic pews and putting in a row of rocking chairs. The comfortable new chairs were a welcomed addition and eased some of the pains that worshipers were experiencing, allowing them to take their minds off of their pain and instead focus on worship. Another member who had difficulty sitting still in worship also found swaying in one of the chairs peace-giving. The rocking-chair row allowed the members to continue worshiping among the church family.

Within a few Sundays, a first-time visitor came to the sanctuary--a young mother, carrying her baby in her arms. Immediately, as she entered the sanctuary, she saw the row of rocking chairs and had a sense that this church had a place for her and her baby. Rocking her baby through worship, next to the others with their aches and pains, she felt at home among a new church family. And in a short time other young families joined her on the rocking-chair row, feeding hungry babies and settling fussy toddlers.

Sometimes it is by caring for one person that God leads us into caring for more. Sometimes, when we leave a seat open to possibility, God fills it. And, with Christmas approaching, and preparations being made for celebrating the birth of the baby Jesus, I'm reminded that sometimes we have to take bold steps to make room among us so that we can welcome new life.

Merry Christmas to each of you!

Rev. Rachel Nance Woehler
Transitional West Area Regional Minister

MINISTRY CHANGES



Pembroke Christian Church celebrates the interim ministry of the Rev. Theta Miller. Theta has been called to serve as the new Senior Minister at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Clarksville, Tennessee..

Bardwell and Morris Valley Christian Churches will celebrate the ministry of their shared pastor, the Rev. Bill Roberts, at the end of December, after a combined 42 years of ministry in western Kentucky. Bill and Susan are moving across the state to be closer to family as they welcome their first grandchild.



CLERGY NEWS

JANUARY VIRTUAL MEETINGS

We've scheduled our West Area clergy gatherings up through June, so now is a great time to add these dates to your new 2021 calendars. If you haven't joined us yet, please know that you can join us by computer, tablet, or your phone. If your district's regularly scheduled meeting isn't working with your life, you're welcome to join in with another district. Email Rachel at WestAreaMinister@twc.com for more details or to learn how to connect with us.

DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, January 26, at noon on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

DISTRICT 2

Tuesday, January 12, at 10 a.m. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

DISTRICT 3

Thursday, January 21, at 11:30 a.m. on Zoom
Check your email for connection information.

BI-VOCATIONAL/PART-TIME

Thursday, January 21, at 7 p.m. on Zoom.
Check your email for connection information.

CLERGY ANTI-RACISM/ PRO-RECONCILIATION TRAINING

The 2020 Regional Assembly of the Christian Church in Kentucky passed a resolution that requires anti-racism/pro-reconciliation training for all clergy for ministerial standing. All clergy must participate in a training session within 18 months to remain in good standing. A team of trainers are ready to present this important curriculum. The training schedule is forthcoming and will include one-and-a-half day trainings approximately once a month. These events are limited to 22 participants. Registration is \$30.00. The resolution strongly encourages congregations to support their clergy's attendance and provide financial assistance.

The first training is **Tuesday, January 19, and Wednesday, January 20, 2021.** On-line registration will soon be available at <http://www.ccinky.net/>. Contact Dave Carr by email dave@ccinky.net or phone the regional office at (859) 233-1391 with questions, or if funding is a barrier to your attendance.



THANK YOU, BOARD MEMBERS!

Thank you to all who are completing terms as district representatives on the West Area Board at the close of the year: Malcolm Bryant (Owensboro), Rev. Jamie Eubanks (Paducah), Secretary Rev. Kara Foster (Madisonville), Terry Harrell (Mayfield), and Rev. Linda White (Smiths Grove). We are grateful to each of you for your service to God in this ministry.

Jamie, who served as a District 1 representative, will continue serving on the West Area Board as the chair of the Camp Kum-Ba-Ya Advisory Team. For a complete listing of the new 2021 West Area Board, go to <http://www.westareadisciples.org/our-leadership/>



JANUARY WACYL

Our next gathering of the West Area Children & Youth Leaders will be Monday, January 25, 2021, at 7 p.m. Central on Zoom. (Please note: We're skipping December and pushing out the January meeting date one week later than usual due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.) We'll be looking ahead to Lent and spring ministries, so bring your ideas and challenges for us to workshop together. Please share this information with the clergy and lay organizers of your church's ministries with children, youth, and families. If you have not been receiving an email with the Zoom connection information in the past, please email Rachel (WestAreaMinister@twc.com).

Also, please note that, due to the pandemic, we will not be having the Ski Thing or Spring Youth Retreat in 2021.

GET READY FOR CAMP 2021!



We're laying plans for a great summer of camp in 2021 at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya. This year's theme is Creation Speaks--inviting us to immerse ourselves in God's creation and listen for God's voice in the world today. Embracing our call as caretakers of creation, we'll experience the awe and wonder of the the beauty and gifts of God's world.

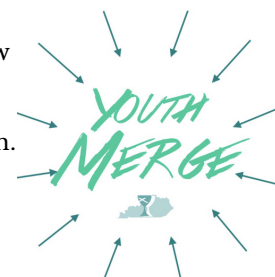
Spring Workday	April 24
Discovery Camp (grades 1-2)	July 16-18
Young Disciples Camp (grade 3)	July 12-14
Junior Camp (grades 4-5)	June 7-11
Chi Rho Camp (grades 6-8)	July 5-10
Chi Rho Sailing Camp (grades 6-8)	June 21-25
CYF Sailing Camp (grades 9-12)	June 28-July 2
CYF Camp (grades 9-12)	June 13-19
Adult Sailing Camp	TBA
All Y'all Retreat	TBA
College Weekend	tentative

Learn more at <http://www.campkumbaya.org>

DECEMBER YOUTH MERGE

OUR VIRTUAL YOUTH GROUP

Middle and high school youth are invited to the new online, region-wide youth gatherings happening the third Sunday of each month. Youth Merge is a time of games, keynotes, small groups, and prayer.



The next Youth Merge will be at 4-5:15 p.m. Central on December 20. Please encourage your youth to join and wear their ugly Christmas sweater. The Zoom link is listed in the recent CCK News e-newsletter (or contact Rachel at WestAreaMinister@twc.com for the links).

TREASURER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS ON THE WEST AREA AND KBY FINANCES

West Area:

Congregational giving surpassed year-to-date budget during November. I understand December should be a good month for the West Area. We had very few expenses which led receipts to exceed expenses by \$3,267 for the month. We ended November with an operational cash balance of \$57,805. We had very little activity in restricted funds leaving a balance of \$2,279. We applied for the federal PPP loan forgiveness during November, but have not received word from the bank yet.

Camp Kum Ba Ya:

YTD we have had expenses in excess of income by \$20,076. Our ending operational cash balance was \$10,527.

We have \$10,891 in PPP money that should be forgiven shortly. It appears we may need to do some sort of fund raiser in the first quarter of 2021 to remain solvent. Restricted funds should be zeroed shortly.

Charlie Ramsey

Treasurer, West Area Board

END-OF-YEAR TIPS FROM CCF

As Dec. 31 approaches, taxpayers are organizing their finances to prepare for filing their income taxes. This year, Congress passed the CARES Act to provide taxpayers economic relief during the pandemic. This relief may increase your ability to support church and other charitable causes, helping others through this difficult time. The three key tax-wise strategies for charitable giving include:

1. Persons over the age of 70½ may still use qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) for their charitable giving, despite Congress 'permanently' raising the age for RMDs to 72 and suspending RMDs for 2020. For eligible seniors, this is often the most tax-effective way to give.
2. Donating appreciated stock can save the capital gains tax, allowing donors to reduce the net cost of their giving.
3. Non-itemizers can take a tax deduction for up to \$300 of cash charitable contributions (called an "above the line" deduction) in 2020.

The CARES Act temporarily increased the limit for cash contributions from 60 percent to 100 percent of adjusted gross income. Senior donors eligible to make qualified charitable distributions should be aware that, if using an "IRA Checkbook", those gifts must be deposited by the charity no later than Dec. 31 in order to count as a current year gift. Distributions made through your IRA administrator do not have this same requirement. For more information, please contact The Christian Church Foundation at 800-668-8016. Please also consult with your investment, legal, or tax advisers.



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 CAMP KUM-BA-YA

Make your check payable to:

CCK-West Area or Camp KBY
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/





An Invitation to Join Together in Prayer

What if each week we dedicated moments to praying for one of our sister churches or ministries in the West Area? What if we covenant to the practice of praying for one another? We might list each one on our prayer lists, or in our newsletters and bulletins. We might raise up their names in our prayer groups, at our devotional times, or in our prayer moments at staff meetings. We might invite our elders, deacons, and other intercessors to speak the names of our sister churches and ministries in their own daily prayers. What impact would such a practice of prayer together have on our ministries, and how might God weave us together in a stronger bond of ministry? Let's find out.

Let's join in praying each Sunday and the following week for each one of our churches and ministries in the West Area. Our chain of prayer will take us through the year to the first Sunday of Advent 2021.

January 3-9	Bardwell Christian Church, Bardwell
January 10-16	Morris Valley Christian Church, Bardwell
January 17-23	Baskett Christian Church, Baskett
January 24-30	Beech Grove Christian Church, Beech Grove
January 31-Feb. 6	Camp Kum-Ba-Ya
February 7-13	First Christian Church, Benton
February 14-20	First Christian Church, Bowling Green
February 21-27	First Christian Church, Cadiz
Feb. 28-Mar. 6	Sinking Fork Christian Church, Cerulean
March 7-13	Crofton Christian Church, Crofton
March 14-20	First Christian Church, Dawson Springs
March 21-27	Ilsey Christian Church, Dawson Springs
March 28-Apr. 3	First Christian Church, Earlington
April 4-10	The Christian Church of Elkton, Elkton
April 11-17	First Christian Church, Fulton
April 18-24	First Christian Church, Glasgow
April 25-May 1	First Christian Church, Greenville

May 2-8	First Christian Church, Henderson
May 9-15	Roaring Springs Christian Church, Herndon
May 16-22	First Christian Church, Hopkinsville
May 23-29	Liberty Christian Church, Hopkinsville
May 30-June 5	Christian Care Communities of Bowling Green
June 6-12	Millbrooke Christian Church, Hopkinsville
June 13-19	Bethel Christian Church, Kevil
June 20-26	First Christian Church, Madisonville
June 27-July 3	Christian Care Communities of Hopkinsville
July 4-10	Potluck Church, Madisonville
July 11-17	First Christian Church, Mayfield
July 18-24	Second Christian Church, Mayfield
July 25-31	First Christian Church, Murray
August 1-7	First Christian Church, Nortonville
August 8-14	Century Christian Church, Owensboro
August 15-21	First Christian Church, Owensboro
August 22-28	First Christian Church, Paducah
Aug. 29-Sept. 4	Christian Care Communities of Owensboro
September 5-11	Pembroke Christian Church, Pembroke
September 12-18	First Christian Church, Princeton
September 19-25	First Christian Church, Providence
Sept. 26-Oct. 2	Berea Christian Church, Russellville
October 3-9	First Christian Church, Russellville
October 10-16	First Christian Church, Sebree
October 17-23	First Christian Church, Smiths Grove
October 24-30	Maxon Christian Church, West Paducah
Oct. 31-Nov. 6	Whitesville Christian Church, Whitesville
November 7-13	Wickliffe Christian Church, Wickliffe
November 14-20	The leadership & staff of the Christian Church in Ky
November 21-27	The leadership & staff of the West Area

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-6, NRSV)