



# THE COORDINATOR

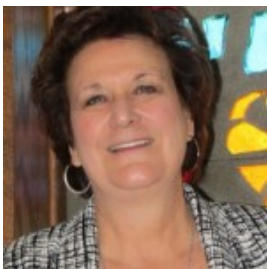
AUGUST 2021

## WELCOMES AND GOODBYES

FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK



August has been a month of significant staff transition as we begin an exciting new chapter in our region's history. Having celebrated and given our deepest thanks for the transitional ministry of **Rev. Dean Phelps** at then end of July, on August 1 we welcomed **Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett II** as our new Regional Minister (pictured here at left, celebrating the retirement of Dr. Chuck Summers, center, at First Christian Church in Henderson). It has been a joy working with Don and discussing his vision for our ministries. His leadership brings fresh passion and deep expertise to the caring, connecting, and equipping work that we do. He has a heart for all of the churches in Kentucky and has already discovered the joy in traveling the roads that connect us.



*Rachel*

Rev. Rachel Nance Woehler  
West Area Regional Minister

While we are welcoming Don, we are simultaneously preparing to say our goodbyes to Associate Regional Minister **Rev. Linda Jones** as she retires on September 1. A retirement celebration has been postponed to a later date. Thanks be to God for her long, impactful ministry with us.

### REGIONAL BOARD CALLS REV. DR. DON GILLETT

*Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett II has been called as the new regional minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky. The regional board voted unanimously on Saturday, May 22, to approve the Regional Minister Search Team's recommendation that Rev. Dr. Gillett be called to this position. He [began] this position on Aug. 1.*

*Rev. Dr. Gillett has deep roots in the Kentucky region, having served the last 22 years as senior pastor of East Second Street Christian Church in Lexington. Since June 2017, he has been the Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Churches and has served as an adjunct lecturer at Lexington Theological Seminary.*

*Rev. Dr. Gillett stated, "I am honored and privileged to have been called to regional ministry in Kentucky. I am truly excited and feel called to this ministry at this moment in time and look forward to working with all who make up the Christian Church in Kentucky."*

*"After an extensive search, the team felt that Rev. Dr. Gillett was the person God was calling to this position," said Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, chair of the Regional Minister Search Team. "His relational nature, his dynamic presence, and his commitment to the health of the region will be a blessing to Kentucky as we move forward."*

*Rev. Dr. Gillett holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics from Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Tex.; a Master of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago; a Master of Business Administration Degree from Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Ind.; and a Doctorate of Ministry Degree from Lexington Theological Seminary.*

*In addition to his current work, he has extensive experience at the local, regional, and denominational level. He currently serves as the chair of the UCMS Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He...*

*(continued on page 2)*

# CLERGY NEWS

## SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Each month we share resources, pray for one another, and laugh at this life that we share. Join us in person or on Zoom. Email Rachel at [WestAreaMinister@twc.com](mailto:WestAreaMinister@twc.com) for more details.

### DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, September 28, at noon on Zoom  
(Check your email for connection information.)

### DISTRICT 2

Tuesday, September 14, at 10 a.m. upstairs at First Christian Church of Madisonville (1030 College Dr.) and on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

### DISTRICT 3

Thursday, September 16, at 11:30 a.m. at First Christian Church of Hopkinsville (2601 S. Walnut St.) and on Zoom  
(Check your email for connection information.)

### BI-VOCATIONAL/PART-TIME

Thursday, September 16, at 7 p.m. on Zoom.  
(Check your email for connection information.)

## MINISTRY CHANGES/CELEBRATIONS

Though the in-person celebration had to be delayed by over a year, First Christian Church of Henderson celebrated and gave thanks to God on August 15 for **Dr. Chuck Summers'** 44 years of ministry, including seven years as Pastor of First Christian Church of Henderson.



**Rev. Bill Clement** preached his last sermon at First Christian Church of Russellville on August 22, closing the worship with prayers of thanksgiving from the Epistles. Bill has been called to serve as the Senior Minister at First Christian Church of Decatur, Alabama.

*...is the immediate past President of the National Convocation Board of Directors for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He has served as Chair/Co-Chair of the Division of Overseas Ministries Board of Directors of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Co-Chair of Global Ministries of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ. He is a former Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in KY and President of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention.*

*"I live by the passage in Ephesians," said Rev. Dr. Gillett. "The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."*

*Reverend Dr. Gillett has four children, Jeremy, Liyah, Tasia, and Donald, III (Trey) and one grandchild, Jayda. He is married to Dr. Charisse L. Gillett, President of the Lexington Theological Seminary.*

*(reprinted from*

*<http://www.ccinky.net/blog/2021/06/board-calls-don-gillett-as-regional-minister/>)*

Join with Rev. Dr. Gillett on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays for 30 minutes of conversations where we can talk and listen to one another.

[https://wmt.suran.com/tool/event\\_registration\\_v2/attendees?guid=88c846f8-f492-11eb-8ddf-737d769aedel](https://wmt.suran.com/tool/event_registration_v2/attendees?guid=88c846f8-f492-11eb-8ddf-737d769aedel)



Under the leadership of the **Rev. Betty Sivis**, Century Christian Church in Owensboro held a closing worship on June 27, with **Rev. Dean Phelps**, Transitional Regional Minister, joining them in the celebration of thanksgiving and remembrance. Century Christian Church, we give thanks to God for the many ways that, together, you showed us how to be a welcoming church— inclusive of all. Your work lives on in all of the lives that you touched.



# FOR CLERGY WHO ARE CAREGIVERS

On Thursday, **September 2, at 10:30-11:30** Central time on Zoom, a Christian support group for clergy who are caregivers for loved ones (spouse, parent, child, grandparent) will begin. We will meet the first Thursday of each month. You, clergy, need a place where you can freely talk about your story, your situation, where you can ask questions, receive information, reassurance, encouragement, and support, all with active listening, understanding, and acceptance. The group will be facilitated by Rev. Marie Weaver, Certificate in Pastoral Ministry graduate from Lexington Theological Seminary.



For more information and to sign up to receive the Zoom link, contact the West Area Office or Rev. Marie Weaver-- at [craftyriter000@gmail.com](mailto:crafter000@gmail.com).

# DEAR YOUTH,



These last couple of years have been difficult on all of us from the West Area to around the world. As new challenges have arisen, we have thriving. Your youth group has been different, your school has been different, and your church life has been different. Our calling now, as we begin looking forward into 2021-2022 is to begin the difficult task of being TOGETHER AGAIN. Your church and your region need you and your talents to make sure we adapt to this renewed call for unity. Maybe you have a heart for worship, and feel a call to lead others, that will help bring us TOGETHER AGAIN. Maybe you have a brain that allows you to organize and focus on the details, that will help bring us TOGETHER AGAIN. Maybe you feel a call by God to help others and you are looking for a place to start, that will help bring us TOGETHER AGAIN. WAYC is open to anyone who is entering/in high school, and comes with certain responsibilities. Learn more about the work of WAYC, their year-round leadership, and how to apply by **August 31**.

<http://www.westareadisciples.org/youth-ministries-wayc/>

THE COORDINATOR

# CALENDAR UPDATES

## ALL Y'ALL RETREAT POSTPONED

Due to the rise in COVID cases--particularly among children--across the West Area, we have decided to postpone the All Y'all Retreat at KBY until spring. Watch this space for a 2022 date. Be safe, y'all.

## WEST AREA VISION TEAM

The West Area Vision Team will meet again Monday, September 20, at 3:30 p.m. Central to continue their work together with Chair Leah Eubanks. Team, please check your email for the recurring Zoom link.

# A NEW THING TRAINING FOR GOD'S CALL

Is God calling you to do a new thing? There are three training opportunities coming in September that might just be the experience that you need to start that new thing that God is asking of you:



On **September 1 at 2:00pm CT**, New Church Ministry is offer a webinar on "A Dozen Hacks for Digital Disciple Making."

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_SFf-mC1CQeGS4bgm9DL6da](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SFf-mC1CQeGS4bgm9DL6da)

New Church Ministry is hosting Leadership Academy--a multi-track online learning experience



**September 21-23** for those considering starting a new church and for existing churches who are feeling the call to do a new thing in their congregation's ministry. Deadline is September 10. <https://newchurchministry.org/news/leadership-academy/>



SENT Seminar (**September 16-18**) is an online training for social entrepreneurs and disciples who want to learn more about the world of social enterprise. Online registration is open through September 1.

<https://www.nbacares.org/event/sent-seminar-2021/#sentapplication>

# CARETAKER'S PROJECT LIST

Our new Camp Caretaker, **Denny Flaherty**, is settling in to his new ministry, and he has already identified several projects on the campgrounds where we could use volunteers, to be tackled either at our Fall Work Day or at an alternative time. If a group from your church would be interested in helping with one of the following projects, please call the West Area Office at (270) 821-1332 or email Denny at [dennyflaherty@gmail.com](mailto:dennyflaherty@gmail.com).

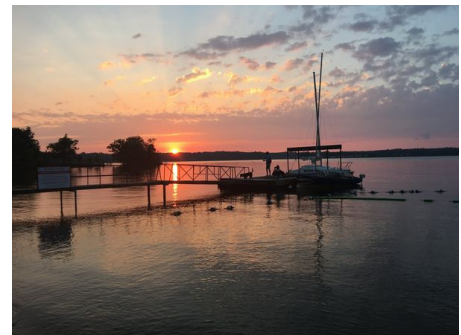
1. Rebuild small vespers seating by dining hall. Power wash stage. Stain seating and stage.
2. Clear out debris at old men's restroom and install new door and shelving.
3. Move all materials from old women's shower house to old men's shower house. Clean and paint inside.
4. Move red rock pile from caretaker's house. Skid Steer will be needed.
5. Tear down old concrete pillars and asphalt at front gate and dispose. Direction will be given on work day.
6. Install mulch barrier and spread mulch at newer shower houses.
7. Build new firewood stand at the pavilion.
8. Spread barrier and rock underneath deck at men's shower house.
9. Repair all retains walls throughout camp.
10. Winterize camp. Put away benches, kayaks and canoes.
11. Move concrete steps to caretaker's house.
12. Perform screen, electric, and light repairs at cabins.
13. Replenish firewood . Fell, buck and split firewood. Power splitter and chain saws will be needed.
14. Move material from tractor shed to an area to be determined.
15. Clean up trails and camp property of stick and rocks.



## ADULT SAILING CAMP

Join our sailing director, **Rev. Brandon Cook**, on the weekend of **September 10-12** for renewal on the water. This camp experience is for anyone over 18 with one full year out of CYF Camp. Encounter God's spirit in new ways as you sail on Kentucky Lake. No experience is required, and all levels are welcome. The registration fee is \$300.

<http://www.campkumbaya.org/camp-kum-ba-ya-is-fun/>



## CAMP MATTERS PERMANENT FUND



"Vespers" by Discovery camper Abbey Bruce

In collaboration with the Christian Church Foundation, Christmount has established the Camp Matters Permanent Fund for the purpose of generating grants for all camp & conference centers affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). As the principal of the fund is established, the Camp Matters Permanent Fund will provide small grants, loans, and seed money to help with facility needs, staffing, short-term projects, and more. Camp Kum-Ba-Ya was an inaugural recipient of this grant in 2021.

A donation to the Camp Matters Permanent Fund sustains Disciples camping programs across the US and Canada. Half of your gift will go to the CMPF Endowment Fund to be used for future grants, and half of your gift will go to the Disciples Camp / Conference Center of your choice for their immediate needs today. Together, we are finding a path forward.

<https://secure.paperlessstrans.com/campmatters>

# TREASURER'S REPORT

**West Area:** We had very good receipts from our congregations totaling \$9,836 and a year-to-date total of \$44,937 or 70% of the annual budget. We had very little expenses other than the West Area Minister's items. Our operating income was \$5,878 in excess of expenses bringing our operating cash balance to \$86,466 at month end. Our restricted balance remained at \$2,202.

**Camp Kum-Ba-Ya:** Our July statement shows a very improved situation over 2020. We ended the month with an operating cash balance of \$55,673 plus a restricted cash balance of \$9,472. Our budgeted receipts for 2021 were \$42,700; however, actual receipts have been \$79,990 thanks to congregational and individual gifts exceeding \$24,000. Also, the federal PPP Loan that was forgiven was \$10,926.

We did not have a caretaker until this month (Jamie Eubanks, Bruce Dobyms, Kerry Frazier and crew filled in the void). And we did not have a Camp Program Manager (Rachel filled this position), so these items helped our bottom line.

Hopefully, 2022 will be easier to budget, and we will get back to normal.

It should be noted that we started 2021 with an operating cash balance of \$8,218 and ended July with \$55,673.

Charlie Ramsey



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[WWW.CAMPKUMBAYA.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPKUMBAYA.ORG)



[WWW.WESTAREADISCIPLINES.ORG](http://WWW.WESTAREADISCIPLINES.ORG)

# INSPIRING GRANTS TO KBY

We are so thankful to report that Camp Kum-Ba-Ya has been the recipient of three generous grants in recent weeks:

- Camp Kum-Ba-Ya was awarded a \$1,000 grant for COVID relief from Team Kentucky Lake in Marshall County.
- Among five other ministries, the Christian Church of Hopkinsville gifted Camp Kum-Ba-Ya with a \$10,000 donation.
- The Christian Women's Fellowship of Century Christian Church in Owensboro remembered Camp Kum-Ba-Ya with a \$500 gift as they dispersed their funds in closure.

We are so thankful for the many ways that our camp is remembered and supported. We are honored. Your generosity is truly inspiring.



**RECONCILIATION OFFERING**

September 26-October 3  
<https://reconciliationministry.org>



## 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.

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