

THE COORDINATOR

DECEMBER 2021

DISCIPLES BEING CHRIST'S CHURCH

FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK

I've seen Christ in you.

In the faith and graciousness of those recovering from last Friday and Saturday's tornadoes and in their receiving offerings of help after ...

In the calls from so, so many Disciples churches near and far seeking the best ways to share their money and time right now ...

In the calls from so, so many Disciples near and far preparing their churches for long-term ministries that will become more clearly revealed later ...

In one church helping another restore its beautiful communion table that survived its sanctuary's collapse ...

In members from one of our churches going out with members from another, sifting through wreckage of homes to recover precious family mementos ...

In pastors of churches both within and outside the tornadoes' paths, sitting down to work through applications for Week of Compassion "Solidarity" grants to assist members who lost their homes or those moving into their communities ...

In the denominational partners from beyond our area working diligently and gracefully to shoulder complex processes to ensure arrival of timely assistance ...

In one of our churches accommodating visiting utility workers and in two others opening their doors to vetted disaster-response work crews ...

In our churches organizing blood drives to help replenish area supplies ...

In one church helping another dry out and preserve records and artifacts retrieved before decay sets in ...



In the conversations among pastors to brainstorm and discern ways that their congregations have been equipped to support their neighbors ...

In the willingness of our churches to become mini warehouses for storing supplies to deliver later to impacted communities immediately overrun with donations ...

In the efforts of Disciples to feed their brothers and sisters in the impacted areas and to help them enjoy a bit of the traditions of the Christmas season ...

In a Disciples church welcoming a Presbyterian church to the parking lot between their devastated buildings ... to sing "The Church's One Foundation" and "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ... to have communion and to pray ... to read Philippians 4:4-7 together (*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice*) ... to bear witness to the hope that we know in Christ Jesus.

In all of these and other ways, I've seen Christ alive in you. Thank you for your living testimonies. And praise be to God for the gift of the Church!

Rachel

Rev. Rachel Nance Woehler
West Area Regional Minister

RESOURCES FOR SURVIVORS

DISASTER DISTRESS HOTLINE

The Disaster Distress Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, is a 24/7, 365-day-a-year, national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents in the United States and its territories. Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common reactions after a disaster.



Call or text 1-800-985-5990 to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

Español: Llama o envía un mensaje de texto 1-800-985-5990 presiona “2”

ASL: visit <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline> and click the “ASL Now” button



FEMA REGISTRATION FOR ALL IMPACTED

The current federal disaster declaration has approved assistance for individuals and households in the following 8 counties (more counties may be added as damage assessments continue): Caldwell, Fulton, Graves, Hopkins, Marshall, Muhlenberg, Taylor, and Warren. Various kinds of assistance are available, with varied eligibility requirements, for immediate needs as well as damage to homes/personal property.

It is important for folks who had impacts from the storm to register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), even if they don't think they will qualify for assistance. A FEMA application (even a denial) is often the first step for accessing other resources and programs, including low-interest disaster loans for households through the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Apply by phone at 800-621-3362, online at www.disasterassistance.gov, or via the FEMA App.

In-person registration is also available in select locations (more sites to be added):

- Mobile Registration Centers open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central daily.
 - **Dawson Springs:** First Baptist Church--960 Industrial Park Rd, Dawson Springs, KY 42408
 - **Mayfield:** The old Walmart location, Mayfield Plaza, 1102 Paris Rd, Mayfield, KY 42066

The SBA now has a Business Recovery Center open at the Joe Creason Community Center (1600 Park Ave. in Benton). The facility will provide businesses impacted by the storms with help in applying for disaster loans from the federal government. Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Central Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Central Saturday.

CRISIS CLEANUP HOTLINE

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a vetted organization with Crisis Cleanup.

**LÍNEA DIRECTA PARA LIMPIEZA DE HOGAR
LLAME AL: 800-451-1954**

Si necesita ayuda con los daños causados por el clima severo durante el 10 y 11 de diciembre, llame al número de arriba. Le comunicaremos con voluntarios de organizaciones locales de socorro, grupos de la comunidad, y comunidades de fe, quienes tal vez le puedan brindar la ayuda que usted precisa, tal como:

- ✂ Cortar los árboles tumbados
- 🧱 Tablaroca (drywall), pisos, y retiro de electrodomésticos
- 🏠 Lonas impermeables para techos
- 🧼 Mitigación de moho

Los servicios se brindan libre de costo, pero no se puede garantizar debido a la necesidad apremiante. Esta línea directa permanecerá disponible hasta el 24 de diciembre de 2021.

FAVOR DE TOMAR NOTA: Esta línea directa NO es para servicios sociales como la comida, la ropa, alojamiento, el seguro, ni preguntas sobre la registración en la FEMA. Los voluntarios trabajan sin recompensa y tienen sus herramientas y maquinaria necesarias para llevar a cabo su obra.

**DECEMBER 10-11 SEVERE WEATHER
HOME CLEANUP HOTLINE: 800-451-1954**

If you need assistance with damage from the damage from the severe weather during December 10 & 11 call the number above to ask for help. We will connect you with volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups and faith communities who may be able to help with:

- 🌳 Cut fallen trees
- 🧱 Drywall, flooring & appliance removal
- 🏠 Tarping roofs
- 🧼 Mold mitigation

All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to the overwhelming need. This hotline will remain open through December 24, 2021.

PLEASE NOTE: This hotline CANNOT assist with social services such as food, clothing, shelter, insurance, or questions about FEMA registration. Volunteers work free of charge and provide the tools and equipment necessary to complete the work.

HOW CAN I HELP?

STAY, PRAY, GIVE, ORGANIZE, AND SPREAD THE WORD

As Week of Compassion often says, right now the best way to help is to Stay, Pray, and Give:

- **Stay** home until the local communities have a chance to assess their needs and organize ways for volunteers to be helpful. Week of Compassion will help the West Area communicate opportunities to work with partners and our local congregations. Individuals interested in volunteering can also register with Serve Kentucky through Kentucky Emergency Management (<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/02e24e0e3ddd4d158a21aaf9a0973384>). Remember, the need for volunteers will continue long after the news attention fades—rebuilding is likely to take years, and volunteers are a critical part of that process!
- **Pray** for our eight directly-impacted church communities—Benton, Bowling Green, Dawson Springs, Ilsley, Mayfield (First and Second), Pembroke, and Princeton, as well as the surrounding counties still restoring basic utilities. Pray for our neighbors and the many responders who are working tirelessly in response to this disaster.
- **Give.** The greatest need is for money. It is the most efficient and flexible donation we can make, that reduces waste and hassle, as communities and partners can use the money when they need it for exactly what they need, leveraging connections to make dollars stretch farther. This recovery will also involve significant rebuild needs, and money is useful now and throughout the whole of recovery. As communities and congregations assess their situations, they will share out information about what material items are needed where. Those needs can shift fairly quickly. We will share that information as it comes available. The Week of Compassion (<https://www.weekofcompassion.org/donate.html>) and all of our churches in or near impacted communities are receiving financial donations to assist in recovery. For a listing of our West Area churches and their contact information, go to our website (<http://www.westareadisciples.org/our-churches/>).
- **Get Organized.** Identify who in your congregation wants to help and what skills they have, as well as what other resources (financial, material, and human) you have available. Do you have folks who are able to tarp roofs or help clean up debris? Do you have the ability to transport goods? Do your people's gifts and skills lie more in communication and fundraising? The more prepared you are, the more quickly you will be able to mobilize when needs arise. We will email pastors about known volunteer opportunities as spots are organized. Some will be for certain specialized skills; some will be for whole groups; and some will be in your own community as impacted families relocate or arriving utility and disaster crews need hospitality.
- **Spread the Word.** Watch the West Area Facebook page ([@ChristianChurchInKentuckyWestArea](https://www.facebook.com/ChristianChurchInKentuckyWestArea)) for sharable resources and announcements, and pass this newsletter (especially page 2 and 3) along to others.



MINISTRY RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES



Disciples Home Missions/Ministries Across Generations has resources, links, and starting places for quality ways to engage in conversation with younger people who have been impacted by experiences and images surrounding disasters. They also host a list of organizations to help when disaster strikes. Help the families in your church and community in their trauma by hosting safe-space conversations and prayer times, sharing these resources where appropriate, and developing long-term ministries to respond.

<https://www.docfamiliesandchildren.org/disaster-response>

CLERGY NEWS

JANUARY MINISTERS MEETINGS

At our January District Ministers Meetings we had originally planned to invite members of the West Area Vision Team to join us for listening sessions. However, as our focus has shifted to relief and support ministries for those impacted by the tornadoes, our conversations will expand to include these topics. As always, we will share resources and pray together for our colleagues. Please join us if you are able.

DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, January 25, at noon Central on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

DISTRICT 2

Tuesday, January 11, at 10 a.m. Central upstairs at First Christian Church of Madisonville (1030 College Drive) and on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.) Lunch afterward.

DISTRICT 3

Thursday, January 20, at 11:30 a.m. Central on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

BI-VOCATIONAL/PART-TIME

Now on the second Thursdays. Next on January 13, at 7 p.m. Central on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

FOR CLERGY WHO ARE CAREGIVERS

Thursday, January 6 (Epiphany!)
10:30-11:30 a.m. Central
Facilitated by Rev. Marie Weaver

We meet the first Thursday of each month for clergy who are caregivers for loved ones (spouse, parent, child, grandparent, sibling)

To receive the Zoom link, contact Marie at crafterwriter000@gmail.com



ALEX YEARBOOK REPORTING

Church staff, on January 3, the ALEX Yearbook reporting tabs will be available for you to enter your church's report for 2021. This is when the additional financial data and activity reports will be submitted for our historical snapshot of the year 2021. Please plan to make time to enter your information during January and February if at all possible so we don't have a logjam on March 15.

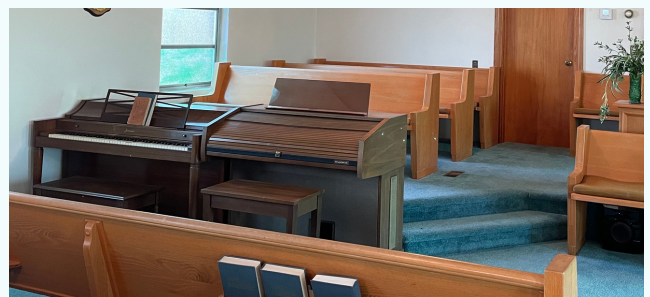
Tutorial sessions will be available in late January and early February. Learn more at the "Congregation User Info Page."

<https://disciples.org/alex/congregation-user-info/>



FURNISHINGS AND INSTRUMENTS OFFERED FROM MORRIS VALLEY

As their church closes, the members of Morris Valley Christian Church would like to find good homes for their piano, organ, hymnals, choir loft pews, pew cushions, and chancel furnishings to carry out more ministry. If your church or ministry would benefit from receiving these items, please contact Rachel at WestAreaMinister@twc.com. We are thankful that Morris Valley has generously donated their dinner plates and other kitchenware for use in our ministry at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya.





SKI THING 2022!

NEW DATE AND NEW LOCATION

Calling all West Area Youth! Our annual Ski Thing is returning in a new and exciting way! This is a trip open to all students from 6th-12th grade and will take place January 14-16 (MLK Jr. Weekend). This year, we will be changing our locations. We will meet on Friday, January 14, at Camp Bedford in Southern Indiana. We will stay in the heated lodge at Camp Bedford (33 Church Camp Road, Bedford, IN 47421) both Friday and Saturday night. We will be providing breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings. We will wake up Saturday, have breakfast, and then leave for Perfect North in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. Day ski passes go from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. so students will be able to ski all day. After we all get back to Camp Bedford, we will have a large group activity and worship before lights out. On Sunday we will wake up for breakfast, and have a short devotion. You are invited to leave after that or worship at FCC Bedford, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. More details and registration forms may be found on the WAYC webpage. The deadline is **Monday, January 10**. Questions may be directed towards Rev. Zach Hardy at FCC Madisonville, zach@madisonvilledisciples.org.



MORE FOR YOUR 2022 CALENDARS

KY REGIONAL MEN'S CHORUS

January 21-23, 2022 at Cincinnati River Center in Covington.

<https://kyregionalmenschorus.com>

KY WOMEN'S CHORAL RETREAT

March 4-6, 2022, at Middletown Christian Church in Louisville.

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Kentucky-Disciples-Womens-Choral-Retreat-104264362034335>

WEST AREA BOARD MEETING

Sunday, March 6, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. Central on Zoom. Please watch your email for Zoom links.

SPRING WORK DAY AND CABIN DEDICATION AT CAMP KUM-BA-YA

Saturday, April 23, 2022. Gates will open at 7:30 a.m. Central for Work Day. A new cabin dedication will be held at 3:00 p.m. Central.

SUMMER AT CAMP KUM-BA-YA

(by grade completed in 2021-22 school year)

June 6-11	Chi Rho Camp (grades 6-8)
June 12-18	CYF Camp (grades 9-12)
June 20-22	Young Disciples Camp (grade 3)
June 24-26	Discovery Camp (grades 1-2)
June 27-July 1	Junior Camp (grades 4-5)
July 4-8	Chi Rho Sailing (grades 6-8)
July 11-15	CYF Sailing (grades 9-12)

KENTUCKY REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Friday and Saturday, November 4-5, 2022, at First Christian Church of Georgetown.

THE WEST AREA WORKSHOPS EVENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED. NEW DATE TO BE DETERMINED

GRATEFUL FOR OUR BOARD

We give thanks for Wayne Hunter, Petie McLean, Betty Sivis, and Milton West, who will complete (or have completed) their service on the West Area Board in 2021.

We welcome Cameryn Kyle (FCC Owensboro) to the West Area Board in 2022, and we also welcome Leah Eubanks (FCC Paducah), who will be serving as First-Vice Moderator to the Regional Board. May God's voice be a strong and clear guide in your work.



TREASURER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

West Area:

We had enough Congregational support in November to put us over budget for the year. The \$4,277 we received put us at a year-to-date total of \$64,544 or 101% of our annual budget. We also received DMF support of \$7,500 and our annual budgeted draw from Endowment Funds totaling \$11,844. We had total expenses of \$4,820, giving us a positive cash flow for the month of \$19,226. We ended the month with a cash balance of \$106,015.

Camp Kum-Ba-Ya:

So far this year we have had receipts of \$82,374 with expenses of \$64,967 giving us a positive cash flow of \$17,407. The ending cash balance was \$25,625. The restricted fund balance was \$19,928 which will be used mainly on Camp upgrades.

Charlie Ramsey



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

270-821-1332
WestArea@twc.com (office)
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.

www.westareadisciples.org/give/

