

THE COORDINATOR

SEPTEMBER 2022

AREA MINISTERS RETREAT AT KBY

FROM THE VIRTUAL DESK

This week two ministry colleagues have shared with me articles that explore the pervasive burnout that many pastors and chaplains report experiencing.

Even as clergy have wrestled with the best ways to prevent COVID outbreaks within the congregation, ministers have lived with anxieties over their own health and the health of their families. When members were dying alone in care facilities under quarantine, their heart-broken chaplains and pastors did what they could to be a pastoral presence, even when that presence had to be from the other side of a window. The pandemic required pastors to acquire new skills for using technology to reach us in lockdown, and this additional work placed upon pastors has not let up even as most worshipers return to the sanctuary. Hybrid is our new way of being church, and ministers are feeling behind the digital eight ball as all eyes are on them to "fix it" when the tech equipment is inadequate



From the pulpit the pastors look out across the pews and see the empty seats once occupied by beloved members who have died because there have been so many funerals. Our ministers are grieving them, too. And all of this is set within a divisive political climate in our country that is challenging Christian unity within our church families, and pastors are feeling attacked from all sides.

Our West Area clergy need time to be together--time to rest and play, time to worship and time to share what they have been experiencing. On October 4, we will be hosting a retreat just for our ministers (chaplains or pastors, active or retired) to be together and be reminded that we are not alone. Dee and I can't wait to be there together with you all in person. Let's break in that new ping-pong table!

Rev. Rachel Nance Woehler
West Area Regional Minister



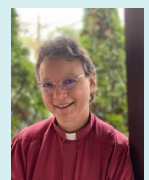
<http://www.westareadisciples.org>



*Ministers,
register
today!*

RETIRED MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT IN BERA

The Christian Church in Kentucky Retired Ministers and Spouses will be meeting for their fall retreat at Historic Boone Tavern in Berea, Kentucky, on **October 10-12**. Contact Rachel (westareaminister@twc.com) to learn more about this special gathering. This year the retreat will feature Dr. Leah D. Schade (pictured) on "Living in the Purple Zone."



APPLY FOR OUR YOUTH COUNCIL

Do you have some great student leaders in your church? The West Area Youth Council (WAYC) is seeking high school students who are active in their churches and have gifts for leadership. Candidates must be willing to attend meetings (either virtually or in-person) and events to help plan and lead ministries. The application deadline is **September 15**. An informational flyer and application may be found on the WAYC webpage. Help us spread the word about this unique opportunity for leadership development.



Questions? Contact WAYC Leader Rev. Zach Hardy at First Christian Madisonville, 270-821-5335 or zach@madisonvilledisciples.org.

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



FALL WORK DAY AT CAMP KBY

Join us for our Fall Work Day on Saturday, **November 12** at Camp Kum-Ba-Ya (4943 Barge Island Road, Benton). Gate opens at 7:30 a.m., and work will begin at 8:00 a.m. We'll be cleaning, repairing, organizing, and splitting wood for the winter months. If you have work gloves and shoes, a weed eater, leaf blower, a tool box, a truck, a mask, and/or friends and family who would love to join you in this fun and meaningful work, bring them with you. Interim Camp Manager Rev. Dee Wells will be serving us lunch, too!



ALL Y'ALL RETREAT NOV. 18-20

Come to Camp Kum-Ba-Ya for a relaxing weekend away for connection, fun and renewal for everyone--individuals and families in all ages and stages of life. Mark and Nancy Dycus will be directing this laid-back weekend. Watch this space for details.

CCK LOCK-IN

For Kentucky Disciples Youth (grades 6-12)
Begins Fri., November 18 at 11:00PM Eastern
Ends Sat., November 19 at 6:00AM Eastern
Malibu Jack's Indoor Fun Park
(2520 Nicholasville Rd, Lexington)

\$35 a person (payable to First Christian Church)
1 to 7 adult-to-youth ratio for each church
Registration is due to Mike McColl
(mjmfcc@gmail.com) by November 14.

<http://www.ccinky.net>



CLERGY NEWS

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

If you are not able to attend your district's meeting, join in any one of these offerings. Email Rachel at WestAreaMinister@twc.com for details.

DISTRICT 1

Tuesday, September 27, at noon Central on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

DISTRICT 2

Tuesday, September 13, at 10 a.m. Central upstairs at First Christian Madisonville (1030 College Drive) and on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

DISTRICT 3

Thursday, September 15, at 11:30 a.m. Central on Zoom. (Check your email for connection information.)

BI-VOCATIONAL/PART-TIME

Thursday, September 8, at 7 p.m. Central on Zoom. (Check your email for a new Zoom link.)

FOR CLERGY CAREGIVERS

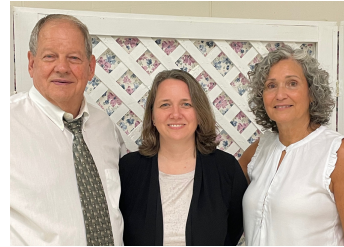
Thursday, September 1
10:30-11:30 a.m. Central
Facilitated by Rev. Marie Weaver
To receive the Zoom link, contact
Marie at craftywriter000@gmail.com



Hello West Area family,

The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus of Ephesus once opined, "There is nothing permanent except change." There might be a few other items we'd add to that list, however, change is the pertinent topic at hand. The West Area Office is in the midst of change once again. Christina Olivarez, our Office Administrator since April, has decided that it is time for a change in her life. Christina submitted her Resignation on Thursday, Aug. 25th, which the Personnel Committee accepted. We thank Christina for her brief time with us and will continue to keep her and her family in our prayers. Prayerfully yours,
Rev. Jeff Mandrell
West Area Board Chair

MINISTRY CELEBRATIONS



On July 31, Millbrooke Christian Church honored the retirement of Rev. John Strode and celebrated his 14 years of ministry

with them in Hopkinsville. Pictured (L to R) are John, Rachel, and John's wife, Shari Strode.

On August 28, First Christian Church in Murray honored the retirements of Rev. Dr. Ruth Ragovin and her husband, Rev. Russell Ragovin.



Ruth has served over 26 years in ordained ministry, and Russ completed thirty-four years in ordained ministry, most recently in interim ministry in First Christian Princeton. Pictured at the reception (L to R) are Rachel and Ruth.



Also on August 28, Crofton Christian Church honored the retirement of Rev. Dr. Rick Loader. Ordained in 1977, Rick has served 45 years in ministry in Kentucky.

Pictured at the morning worship (L to R) are Dr. Donald K. Gillett and Rick.

Congratulations to Rev. Paul Ganther, co-pastor at Liberty Christian Church and chaplain at the Hopkinsville Christian Care Community. On August 20, Paul was promoted to Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel of the Kentucky Army National Guard.



REGISTER FOR ASSEMBLY



Make Plans to Attend the Reunion
Regional Assembly - November 3-5, 2022 - Georgetown KY

The Regional Church of Kentucky will gather in Georgetown **November 3-5**. The Assembly team is planning for a feast of workshops, fellowship, worship, and prayer. Register today!

[CLICK HERE](#) to register online and join us this November at THE WELCOME TABLE!

[CLICK HERE](#) to download a printable registration form.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download a child care registration form.

We have a block of rooms at the Sleep Inn - 407 Cherry Blossom Way, Georgetown, Kentucky. The rooms are \$95/night for up to two people. Children are free. Extra adults are \$10. To contact the hotel and reserve your room, call 502-735-4714.



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

270-821-1332
WestArea@twc.com
WestAreaMinister@twc.com (Rachel Nance Woehler)
deemwells@gmail.com (Dee Moore Wells, Camp Manager)



WWW.CAMPKUMBAYA.ORG



WWW.WESTAREADISCIPLINES.ORG

MORE FOR 2022

WEST AREA VISION TEAM

Monday, September 19, at 3:30 p.m. Central.
Please watch your email for Zoom links.

FAR WEST DISCIPLES MEN

Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. Central at
Bardwell Christian Church.

WEST AREA BOARD MEETING

Sunday, October 2, at 3:00 p.m. Central.
Please watch your email for Zoom links.

CCK WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

October 14-16 at Barren River State Park
Speaker is Dr. Emily Askew. Register at
www.ccinky.net

KBY ADVISORY TEAM

Sunday, October 15, at 2:00 p.m. Central.
Please watch your email for Zoom links.

Share the good news!
Stick a mailing label here
to mail this to someone
who might join in these
important ministries.