



# Kansas MESSENGER

Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ)



Vol. 122, Ed. 3 : March 2019

## TAWAKONI GALA & AUCTION RAISES MORE THAN \$26,000 FOR CAMP



The annual camp Gala and Auction, February 16, raised more than \$26,000 for the pool bathhouse and fence, new caretaker's house, and Jones Lodge projects. Despite the freezing temperatures and threat of snow, 110 people from 19 different churches came out to Disciples Center at Tawakoni to enjoy the day and support the camp.

Chef Martin Peck of Wellington and his crew prepared a dinner of beef tenderloin, turkey, green beans, short ribs, buttered potatoes, homemade bread, and salad. Youth from Great Bend First CC and Liberal First CC volunteered as table servers.

Volunteers from the caretaker house build were honored for their dedication and service. More than 50 volunteers put in more than 600 days of volunteer labor.



Auctioneer Terry Hughes of Wellington was entertaining as he drew out the bids. Items ranged from handmade arts and crafts and various baked goods to trips, wine and jewelry sets.

This year's 52 card draw prize was a Weber grill, handmade grilling table, and grilling tools and utensils.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our camp.

## COMING EVENTS

Art of Church Communication  
**Cancelled**

Spirituality Retreat  
**Cancelled**

KDW SpiritFest 2.0 . . . . . Pg. 3  
*April 6, 7, 13*

Camp Mission Week . . . . . Pg. 2  
*April 7-13*

Clergy Retreat . . . . . Pg. 3  
*April 23-25*

Boundaries Training . . . . . Pg. 3  
*May 3 or May 4*

Disciples Connect & Equip Event  
*August 10 . . . . . Pg. 3*

## “LEADERSHIP IS AN ACTION NOT A POSITION” LEARN MORE AT KLC’S LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

If you want to make progress on something you care about, grow your leadership skills, aid your congregation and the region in addressing the adaptive challenges we face then this training is for you. Currently, 19 spots remain for 2019.

Through a grant from the Kansas Leadership Center and Kansas Bible Chair, you too can attend one of three training seminars.

Your church will benefit most by sending teams of 3-4, one of whom is probably your pastor. You will also benefit by identifying a challenge on which you want to make progress.

### Leadership Seminars:

1. **Your Leadership Edge** - A 3-day training for anyone who wants to lead more and get better results.
2. **Lead for Change**—A 3-4 month process done in three parts designed for individuals called to lead others through tough situations.
3. **Equip to Lead** – A 2-day program designed to give you the essential skills to build leadership in others.

### How to Apply:

1. Go to [www.kansasdisciples.org/grants](http://www.kansasdisciples.org/grants) and download the application form.
2. Return form with \$25 commitment fee to the Great Bend Regional Office, 5230 Broadway Ave.
3. Consult with Regional Minister Ken Marston about training details and receive KLC Promo Code
4. Follow e-mailed instructions from region on how to register online with Kansas Leadership Center.
5. Arrange for book pick-up from regional staff.

## PRAYER 4 PARTNERS

### From the Region:

- **Everest Christian Church**  
*[In Search]*
- **Coffeyville First CC**  
*Pastor Louie Celaya*
- **Caldwell Central CC**  
*Pastor Dan Price*
- **Great Bend, First CC**  
*Pastor Josh Leu*  
*Associate Pastor Sue Bishop*
- **Dighton, First CC/  
Utica, First CC**  
*Pastor Aerii Smith*

### From Our Partner Regions:

- Brownville Christian Church  
Brownville, NE
- First Christian Church,  
Newkirk, OK

### From the General Church:

- Ash Wednesday was March 6 and marks the beginning of Lent. Reflect and pray on repentance and healing.

### From our Global Mission Partners in Latin America & the Caribbean:

- **Carmelo Alvarez,**  
*Latin American Evangelical Pentecostal Commission*
- **Marilyn Cooper,**  
*Ecumenical Foundation for Holistic Development, Training, and Education, Ecuador*
- **Sandra Gourdet,**  
*National Spiritual Council of Churches of Haiti*



## THOUGHTS FROM YOUR REGIONAL MINISTER

*By Ken Marston, Regional Minister*

We are reimagining the Christian Church in Kansas. This is not new. About 150 years ago Kansas was the mission field, the western frontier. Traveling evangelists sought the conversion of settlers and established new churches. Within 50 years we had at least one congregation in almost every community.

Then the mission and purpose of this broader ministry began to change. State Secretaries helped congregations find a new minister when their minister moved or retired, moving regional ministry from evangelism to support and encouragement. The region became the hub through which information and resources flowed, from the Christian Church in the US and Canada (the General Church) to congregations and back. State Secretaries became Regional Ministers.

At first this hub-and-spoke structure worked. Programs such as stewardship, evangelism, and Christian education worked

well. Men's, women's, and youth fellowship groups flourished.

Times change. Social media and the internet have increased our appreciation of networks. The world wide web has connected us in a way that hub-and-spoke did not.

This shift has led the Vision Team to think about the regional church as a ministry network. Such a shift will necessitate giving up control over information. It will require regional staff to encourage ministers and congregations to connect directly with each other, without waiting for staff to initiate such efforts. It may mean imagining new ways to equip ministers and congregations to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in the 21st century. We will need a flexible approach that allows ministries to emerge as the Spirit moves, and allows former things to go away so that new directions and new life can spring forth.

So, what do you think? Renee, Steve, and I would love to hear your dreams and hopes for the Christian Church in Kansas.

## NURTURING YOUR SPIRIT



*by Debbie Griffith,  
Goodland First Christian Church*

January 1, I started the book "Praying the Names of Jesus" by Ann Spangler in which 26 names and images are explored. Among them are Rabbi, Bread of Life, Physician, Lamb of God, Friend, Savior, and Good Shepherd.

As we journey through life, our needs change. How we see and experience Jesus evolves. As the song goes, "...when your heart is full of joy you'll call Him Wonderful,

when you've almost lost your way you'll call Him Counselor, in the midst of your confusion whisper Prince of Peace, and when you're all alone He'll be Emmanuel."



***At this time in your life,  
which name of Jesus is inviting you  
to trust in His sufficiency  
and follow Him?***

Take some time to ponder who Jesus is to you and your relationship with Him.

## CAMP MISSION WEEK—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the Caretaker's house complete, finishing the pool project is next. We want to finish the shower house and fence before the 2019 camping season, with volunteer efforts.

Camp Tawakoni Mission Week is April 7 – 13. Food and lodging are provided.

We have jobs for several different crews for the week:

1. Finish the shower building – the floor and walls constructed by our contractor.
2. Build the new fence around the pool.
3. Build bunkbeds – materials provided

4. Do electrical work.
5. Do plumbing.
6. General maintenance, to prepare for the summer camp season.

What a great way to be the hands and feet of Jesus, by giving to the camp without an outlay of funds from you.

To sign up, contact Vern Failor, 785-231-3960, or Topeka Regional office, 785-266-2914.



**REFRESH ... REJUVENATE ... RENEW**



Spirit Fest will not be the same! Come check out KDW

SpiritFest 2.0! Kansas Disciples Women are on a Mission.

The dates and host churches are:

⇒ April 6: Salina First Christian Church 9-2

⇒ April 7: Hillside CC, Wichita 1:30-6 p.m.

**KDW SPIRITFEST 2.0**

⇒ April 13: Independence First CC 9-2

Come see what new experiences are in store for you, along with the opportunity to study, worship and fellowship with women from across the region.

Cost is \$15 and includes program materials and a light meal.

Register and pay online at [www.kansasdisciples.org](http://www.kansasdisciples.org) or print a registration form and mail with payment to the Topeka regional office.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE EVENTS**

**Disciples Connect & Equip Regional Event**

August 10  
Disciples Center at Tawakoni  
Fun for the whole family.

**Camp Scholarships**

Camp Scholarships applications are due March 31. Print application at [www.kansasdisciples.org/summer-camping-program](http://www.kansasdisciples.org/summer-camping-program). Check with your church office for details.

**Register for Camp**

2019 Summer Camp  
Registration is open. Save \$40 by registering before April 30. Register online at [www.kansasdisciples.org](http://www.kansasdisciples.org) or print a registration form and mail to Topeka Regional Office.

Kansas Bible Chair  
Applications & Reconciliation  
Applications Due April 30.  
[www.kansasdisciples.org/grants](http://www.kansasdisciples.org/grants)

**DISCIPLES GMP TERRI HORD OWENS COMES TO KANSAS**



The 2019 Clergy Retreat will feature General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens April 23-25 at Tawakoni.

Rev. Owens will give several presentations around the theme “Leading Through Points of Collision” which will help attendees think about how to manage differences in our churches and communities.

Take advantage of an opportunity to rest after the busy Easter holiday while getting to visit with our General Minister and President.

The cost is \$70 for two nights lodging at the camp and four meals, or \$50 without lodging. Register and pay online at [www.kansasdisciples.org](http://www.kansasdisciples.org) or print a registration form and mail with payment to the Topeka regional office.

**TODD ADAMS KEYNOTES 2019 BOUNDARIES TRAINING**

The 2019 Kansas Boundaries Training will be from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m on Friday, May 3, or Saturday, May 4, at Tawakoni.



The Rev. Dr. Todd A. Adams, President and CEO of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church will lead this seminar on Financial Boundaries and Best Practices for Churches and Clergy.

We welcome and encourage the presence of clergy, church treasurers, trustees, board chairs and lay leaders .

Cost: \$35.00 for Clergy \$15 for Spouses and Lay Leaders.

Register and pay online below or print a registration form and mail with payment to the Topeka Regional Office.

**ART OF CHURCH COMMUNICATION**

Make plans to attend 2020 workshops.  
Mark your calendar for  
March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

**SPIRITUALITY RETREAT**

Make plans to attend the 2020 retreat  
March 12-14.

## NEWS FROM THE GENERAL CHURCH

### ADM SUMMER MUSIC CONFERENCE

Join other Disciples musicians, ministers, and laypeople for the 2019 Association of Disciples Musicians Summer Music Conference. The conference starts on Sunday afternoon, July 7, with dinner and a concert by Andra Moran and Joel Raney. The conference ends about noon on Friday, July 12.

Attendees will have free time, including an evening, to explore St. Louis, from the

famous Arch to a Mississippi riverboat, classic barbecue and other great dining, a chance to listen to the blues or see Busch Stadium or the St. Louis Art Museum.

The \$400 registration fee includes meals; register before May 15 and save \$30. Hotel reservations are at the Best Western Kirkwood Inn: \$242 for a double room and \$483 for a single room.

Register online at [www.adm-doc.org/](http://www.adm-doc.org/).



The 2019 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is July 21-24 in Des Moines, Iowa. Get ready with Bible studies provided by fellow Disciples.

The Bible studies are meant to provide opportunities for

congregations and individuals to reflect on the theme and scripture in preparation for the assembly.

You can read them online at [www.ga.disciples.org/education/bible-studies](http://www.ga.disciples.org/education/bible-studies), share the link with your study group, or print a PDF copy.

### NEWS FROM THE PEWS

#### BELMONT BOULEVARD CC HOLDS 1962 STYLE WORSHIP

To celebrate the 57th anniversary of the church's founding, Belmont Boulevard Christian Church in Salina celebrated with a 1962 style worship. Members were encouraged to come dressed in their 1960s garb. Pastor Tara Thompson said in her sermon "What was built on that January day back in 1962 was much more than a church; it is a family. It is a home."



#### CHAIRS AND PEW AVAILABLE

Douglass First CC will give away 13 chairs and a 10.5 foot long pew to a interested congregation. Contact the church office at 316-746-2221 for details.



Check out the latest news and events on [our website](#), our [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#) pages or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

### IN MEMORIAM:

**Keith William Purscell**, 87, died July 15, 2018. Keith was ordained as a pastor who served Oak Creek CC, Lebanon; Florence FCC; Douglass FCC; Wichita Broadway CC; and Independence FCC as well as congregations in Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, and Minnesota. After his retirement from the Mankato Christian Church, he continued to serve as an interim minister in several congregations nearby.

**Linda Walling**, wife of Dale Walling former interim pastor at Leavenworth First Christian Church, died Feb 23. Services will be 11 a.m. on March 23 at the Johnson County Funeral Home.

#### Kansas Regional Office

[Steve Martin](#), Regional Minister  
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785-266-2914; 800-737-8130  
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[Barb Runge](#), Disciples Women

#### South Central Satellite Office

[Renee Bridwell](#), Regional Minister  
[Jessica Marston](#), Communications  
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316-775-1236; Fax: 316-775-1455

#### Central & High Plains Satellite Office

[Ken Marston](#), Regional Minister  
[Kathy Foster](#), Admin. Assistant  
5230 Broadway Avenue  
Great Bend 67530-3208  
620-792-6490; Fax: 620-792-1268

#### Disciples Center at Tawakoni

8492 SW Tawakoni Rd.  
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