

The Indiana Christian



Volume 101 • Number 1

IndianaDisciples

Spring • 2019

Regional Board Authorizes Distribution of Funds to Congregations

Where would \$1,000 take you? That is the question that the Regional Board is asking each congregation to ponder after they authorized the distribution of \$1,000 to each active congregation in the Christian Church in Indiana from the proceeds of the sale of the Barbee Christian Camp. The hope is that our churches will use the funds in a creative and imaginative way to bolster faith formation in their congregation. It is

a Barbee Blessing for our churches.

The Barbee Camp, located in Leesburg, Indiana, and used by our Region for 62 years, was sold at auction in July 2018 for \$1.575 million. The Regional Board has decided to place \$1 million from the sale with the Christian Church Foundation in what will be known as the Barbee Camp Legacy Fund. An annual draw will be taken on this fund to support capital needs at the Bedford Christian Camp and the Geneva Conference Center, the two sites where our summer camp experiences continue. Each of these camps will receive approximately \$25,000 this year, and potentially more in subsequent years as the fund grows.

The remainder of the sale proceeds will be placed in what will be called the Faith Formation Designated Fund. The Faith Formation Commission of the Region, under the leadership of Rev. Rebecca Sundquist, has been charged with developing guidelines on how grants may be made from this fund to support creative new ventures in faith formation in our congregations. Regional Moderator Julia Johnson expressed hope that the best features of summer camp including the formation of community, growth in understanding the scriptures, and connecting with God in a deepening spiritual life, can find new

expression in our local church settings.

The distribution of the \$1,000 checks to each congregation, which constitutes the first draw on the Faith Formation Designated Fund, will occur in Area gatherings in the month of May. Each congregation is invited to send at least two persons to the gathering for their area to receive the distribution for their church and participate in a ceremony blessing this endeavor.

Congregations are encouraged to dream and imagine with this gift and try something that might not have seemed possible to do. We will gather our congregations together again in a number of months to share stories about the new places \$1,000 took them. We give thanks for this Barbee Blessing for our churches. †



Barbee Blessing

a faith formation project

Locations for the Distribution of the Barbee Blessing Checks

El Cinco (Area 5)	Thursday, May 2	First Christian Church, Jeffersonville	7pm EDT
GIDA (Area 11)	Monday, May 6	Northwood Christian Church, Indianapolis	7pm EDT
Northern Lights (Area 1)	Tuesday, May 7	Wabash Christian Church, Wabash	7pm EDT
Dunes (Area 2)	Wednesday, May 8	First Christian Church, LaPorte	7pm CDT
Four Rivers (Area 4)	Tuesday, May 14	Location to be determined	7pm EDT
White River Valley (Area 6)	Tuesday, May 14	Hazelwood Christian Church, Muncie	7pm EDT
Covered Bridge (Area 16)	Thursday, May 16	Stilesville Christian Church, Stilesville	7pm EDT
Heartland (Area 7)	Tuesday, May 21	Madison Christian Church, Frankton	7pm EDT
Wabash Valley (Area 3)	Wednesday, May 22	First Christian Church, Frankfort	7pm EDT
Anchors (Area 9)	Thursday, May 23	Tabernacle Christian Church, Franklin	7pm EDT
Stonebelt (Area 12)	Tuesday, May 28	Woodhaven Christian Church, Bloomington	7pm EDT
Three Rivers (Area 13)	Thursday, May 30	Broadway Christian Church, Princeton	7pm CDT

Congregations in the Southeast (Area 10) are invited to attend the White River Valley or Anchors gathering



Faith Formation Toolbox

Have you checked out the new Tool Box on the regional website, www.indianadisciples.org?

(<http://indianadisciples.org/commissions/commission-on-faith-formation>). The Faith Formation Committee has created a place to learn about resources related to developing disciples.

The goal is to continue to add content to this site. So, if you have an idea or a resource you would like to share with others, please contact the chair of the commission, Becky Sundquist, at becky.sundquist@gmail.com.

Search for new ideas now and keep checking back as more are added!



Scan me

In The **Spirit** Richard L. Spleth, Indiana Regional Minister



Living with Openness to Surprise

I have had two delightful surprises in recent days. One came near the end of February. My colleagues Cynthia Newman, Sarah Riester and I were finalizing our report to the Lilly Endowment for the first FLOURISH! grant which was coming to an end on February 28. As you likely know the Lilly Endowment generously provided \$900,000 to us at the end of 2015 for the purpose of addressing clergy economic challenge. The grant program has been a terrific success, except...Lilly had asked us to provide matching funds of \$210,360. With just days to go we were almost \$5,000 short. The prospects for completing the match in a timely way seemed elusive. Until one day, late February, when I arrived at my office and Sarah Riester handed me a piece of paper and asked, "Do you know about this?" It was a check from a brokerage firm for \$5,000. Surprise! We contacted that firm, but they were not authorized to tell us who the donor was. So, I take this opportunity to say thank you to our donor. Thank you for your generous contribution which came right in time. Your gift, combined with the contributions of 400 other persons, has changed the life of our clergy. Thank you.

And thank you for reminding me to live with more openness to surprise. The Benedictine monk Brother David Steindl-Rast says, "The more the insight that life is

surprising takes hold of us, the more our life will be a life of hope, a life of openness for Surprise. And Surprise is a name of God. In fact, Surprise is a somewhat more successful name than others, though all names miss the mark when we aim at naming the Nameless One."

Hymn writer Brian Wren hints of the same in his lovely "Bring Many Names" (number 10 in the Chalice Hymnal). Verse four goes, "Old aching God, grey with endless care, calmly piercing evil's new disguises, glad of good surprises, wiser than despair: Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!" Our God is one who delights in surprise and invites us to do the same as a counterpoint to despair.

The second surprise came just a few weeks later at the beginning of March. As my colleague Carolyn Reed and I were scheduling pastoral visits to our congregations we realized that it had been ages since either one of us had been to the Charlestown Christian Church in southern Indiana. So, Carolyn scheduled herself to go. On Monday mornings she and I check in with one another about the places we have been and the people we have seen. That Monday Carolyn presented me with a surprise. It was the worship bulletin from Charlestown with my name in it. There on the back of the bulletin with their prayer concerns was my name along with our General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens. Surprise! This faithful

group of Disciples, who most weeks average 12 in worship, has a printed bulletin, and remembers me and Terri by name week after week. Wow. I am humbled and grateful, and filled with surprise.

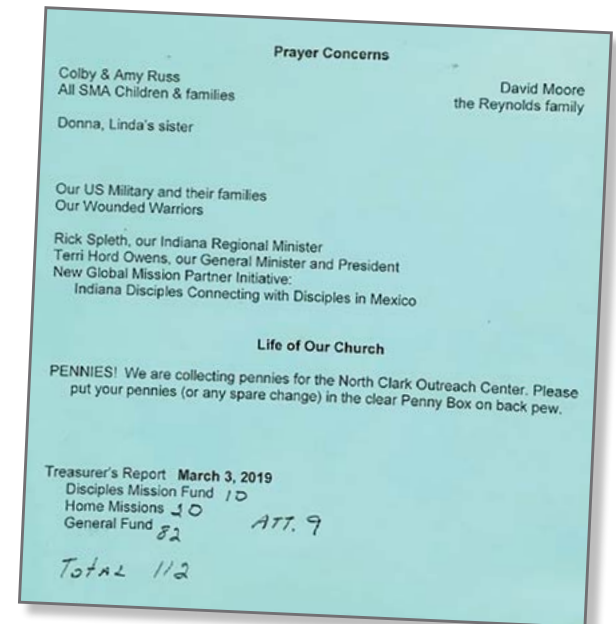
There is another who found himself in such a way. In the 8th chapter of the *Book of Acts* the preaching of Philip the Evangelist touches the heart of Simon the Magician, and he is converted. The text says, "And Simon himself had faith and, having had baptism, he went with Philip and, seeing the signs and the great wonders which he did, he was full of surprise." Acts 8:13 BBE

"Full of surprise." It is this state of being that enables hope and connection with the One whose name, according to Brother David, is Surprise.

How does it go with you? Have you been surprised of late? Have you been captured by wonder, or the unexpected care of someone? Have you provided a surprise for someone? Are you willing to be surprised about the way things might turn out for your family, for your church, for our nation, for yourself? I hope so. Though your baptism, like my own, is likely a long time ago, I hope it still provides for you, as it did for Simon, the power of surprise.

Blessings on you and your congregation. †

Richard L. Spleth
Regional Minister



2019

Regional Calendar

MAY

May 3-4

Financial Literacy Academy, Indiana Interchurch Center

May 15
May 18

Early Bird Camp Deadline
Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation Training, First Christian Church, Mooresville

May 27

Regional Office closed for Memorial Day

JUNE

June 10-15
June 12-15

Explorer Camp, Geneva
You & Me 1 Camp, Geneva

June 17-19

New Beginnings Camp, Geneva

June 17-22

MAD Camp, Geneva

June 20-22

You & Me 2 Camp, Geneva

June 24-26

New Beginnings Camp, Bedford

June 24-29

Middle School Camp, Geneva

High School Camp, Geneva
CROSS Camp, Geneva

JULY

July 1-6

High School Camp, Bedford

July 8-13

Explorer Camp, Bedford

July 15-20

Middle School Camp, Bedford

July 20-24

General Assembly, Des Moines, Iowa

AUGUST

August 17

Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation Training, Avon Christian Church

NOVEMBER

November 2

Healthy Boundaries Training, Allisonville Christian Church

November 9

Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation Training, Central Christian Church, Indianapolis

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will be held at the Indiana Interchurch Center. All times, unless otherwise indicated, are for the Eastern Time Zone.

You can also view the regional calendar by visiting our website at:

<http://indianadisciples.org/upcoming-events>.

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**SUMMER ISSUE
DEADLINE
JULY 2, 2019**



First Christian Greencastle Welcomes University Students

Rev. Dr. Brooks Barrick

First Christian Church in Greencastle spent a great deal of time this past year developing the ongoing mission of the church. Our mission is twofold: to minister to our existing congregation and to welcome members of the student population at DePauw University.

Thus far, the church has regularly hosted up to 23 students at worship and special events. Every young person we introduce to our community, we believe, fulfills God's calling for our church.

But our success hasn't come by His word alone. We had to adapt. Upon a student's first attendance to worship, we offer gift bags with ramen noodles, ink pens, toothbrushes. However, it's the certificates for a home-cooked meal and homemade cookies, redeemable from one of the church families, that catch the most attention. The certificate reads: "Everyone here welcomes you to partake in our faith community."



Perhaps the pinnacle of student interaction is their leadership in worship, fellowship, and mission. Every Sunday, we invite talented student musicians to host music. On occasion our special concerts highlight a larger group of students. During Advent, students lead carol lessons and provide special Advent music.

Many students are looking for a place to worship. They are looking for a place to feel loved and nurtured. Meanwhile, our congregation is looking for more ways to serve their faith-based needs, allowing us to grow more adaptable than we ever imagined in the past.

Join us sometime. †

Easter Offering April 14 & 21, 2019



Your gifts to the Easter offering can transform our shared work. Find more stories from our general ministries and make a gift online at disciplesmissionfund.org.

Ministry Milestones

MINISTRY CHANGES

Lem Whitmer began serving as Interim Minister at Avon Christian Church, Avon on November 1.

James Petty concluded serving as Associate Minister at Hazelwood Christian Church, Muncie on November 4 and began serving as Associate Minister at Mt. Summit Christian Church, Mt. Summit on November 7.

Ken Thompson concluded serving at Central Christian Church, Van Buren on November 30.

Steve Baker retired from Woodhaven Christian Church, Bloomington on December 30.

Gale Stutz began serving as the Minister of Eastgate Christian Church, Indianapolis on January 1, in a shared ministry position with Franklin Central Christian Church, Indianapolis where she continues.

Rev. Héctor J. Hernández concluded serving at Iglesia

Nueva Creación, Indianapolis on January 6 and is now working with the National Benevolent Association.

Mike Srbljan concluded serving as Interim Minister of First Christian Church, Bargsville on January 13.

Paula Neibert concluded serving as Pastor of River of Life Christian Church, Logansport on January 13.

Andrew Guthrie began serving as Senior Minister at First Christian Church, Lafayette on January 7.

Randy Miles retired as Senior Minister at Central Christian Church, New Albany on January 13.

David Hampton concluded serving as Senior Pastor of Light of the World Christian Church, Indianapolis on January 17.

Dustin Hite concluded serving as the Promise Road Campus Pastor of Geist Christian Church, Fishers, on Sunday,

January 27 and began serving as the Pastor of First Christian Church, Bargsville on February 1.

Nancy Eberhard began serving as the Interim Pastor at River of Life Christian Church, Logansport on January 27.

Will Jewsbury began serving as Interim Minister at Central Christian Church, New Albany, on February 1.

Doug Lofton retired as Senior Minister at Tapestry Church (formerly Southport Christian Church) on February 24.

Martin Tapia began serving as the pastor of Casa del Alfarero, Indianapolis on February 24.

Lynne Kreiger began serving as Pastor of Big Flat Rock Christian Church, Rushville on March 1.

Mary Alice Mulligan concluded serving as Pastor at Westview Christian Church, Indianapolis on March 3.

DEATHS

Jim Love, Bedford Christian Camp manager died on November 10.

Sharon Gillen, retired licensed Disciples minister and former co-manager of the Barbee Christian Camp, died on February 10.

Teal Younce, retired Disciples minister and Regional Elder, died on February 15.

George Dudley, former Disciples minister, died on February 17.

Robert Glover, retired Disciples minister, died on January 26.

Roger Heimer, retired Disciples minister, died on March 3.

BIRTHS

Stephen Yarbrough and wife, **Joanna**, celebrated the birth of a son on November 5.

Stephen Eberhard and wife, **Megan** celebrated the birth of a daughter on February 18.

ORDINATIONS

Anita Adams was ordained November 28, 2018 at Northwood Christian Church, Indianapolis.

Linda Bush was ordained November 28, 2018 at Central Christian Church, Indianapolis.

Amie Vanderford was ordained January 13, 2019 at Downey Avenue Christian Church, Indianapolis.

Rachel McLoughlin was ordained January 26, 2019 at West Street Christian Church, Tipton.

Pamela Pettyjohn was ordained February 24, 2019 at First Christian Church, Louisville. †

What is an Offering of Letters?

Bread for the World's annual Offering of Letters campaign engages churches, campuses, and other faith communities in writing letters to Congress. Each year, for the focus of the campaign, we choose specific legislation or a legislative emphasis that can make a real difference to people struggling with hunger and poverty.

People write letters, usually as a group, and present them as an offering to God before mailing them to Congress. Hundreds of Offerings of Letters are held each year, resulting in tens of thousands of letters to Congress. Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to

God's justice and mercy. They have, and continue to have, a significant impact on the decisions made in Congress.

This year's theme is "Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow."



Over the past several decades, the world—with a strong commitment from the United States—has made great progress toward ending hunger by promoting global nutrition programs.

Hunger and poverty rates have been cut nearly in half during the past 30 years. We have the tools to move toward our goal of ending hunger. Good nutrition during the 1,000-day period

from the beginning of a woman's pregnancy to her child's second birthday is critical to a child's health and future well-being.

As people of faith, we are called to care for one another and speak out for those in need. Bread for the World's 2019 Offering of Letters: Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow urges our government to accelerate progress toward ending hunger by increasing funding for global child nutrition programs.

Join our collective voice in urging Congress to pass legislation that will accelerate progress on global nutrition.

Learn more about Bread for the World's Offering of Letters at www.bread.org/2019-offering-letters-congress-better-nutrition-better-tomorrow †

Lift EVERY Voice! Women's Retreat

Women of the Christian Church in Indiana are invited to gather at Abe Martin Lodge in beautiful Brown County State Park, Nashville, Indiana on August 23-25. The weekend will be filled with multicultural praise, worship, conversation and reflection around the theme, "Lift EVERY Voice." The theme was inspired by the hymn, Lift Every Voice and Sing. During the retreat there will be speakers telling the stories of how various cultures have contributed to the whole fabric of the church. The hymn will serve as the centerpiece of the retreat beginning with an optional Friday night documentary that celebrates faith within the deaf community.

On Saturday, August 24, the opening worship will tell the story of the hymn followed by the "Herstory" of Marilyn Williams, President of the International Disciples Women Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples

of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The newly ordained (as of April 7, 2019) Reverend Williams has served the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in many capacities. She was President of the National Convocation Disciples Women; Second Vice-Moderator of the General Church; Vice-Moderator Elect of the Christian Church in North Carolina; and a member of Covenant Christian Church, Cary, NC, where she sings in the choir, and has served as an Elder and as Vice-Moderator. She enjoys preaching and using her drama skills "to open up God's word for all to understand."

Professionally she has worked for 40 years as a dental hygienist. She says that her dual passions are "saving teeth and saving souls." When she is not busy cleaning teeth or preaching the Word, Marilyn LOVES being with family, which includes her father, the Reverend Dr. J.O. Williams Sr., Ida Williams and the

late Josie Jones Williams; two children, four beautiful grandchildren and three granddogs! The women of Indiana are in for a treat as we welcome Marilyn to our Region and prepare to hear the story of her faith journey.

Saturday evening, women will celebrate the 145th birthday of the work of women in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The celebration will be preceded by a dinner honoring the work of women's shelters across Indiana but specifically the work of Turning Point in nearby Columbus, Indiana. Women will be asked to bring items to assist this shelter and those gifts will be received and dedicated at dinner. Lists of items needed will be sent out with confirmation letters to retreat participants. It is hoped that upon returning home, each group will find ways to provide similar kinds of assistance to their local women's shelters.



ABE MARTIN LODGE at BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK

During the birthday party, there will be cake, games, conversation and a birthday offering. The goal for this offering nationally is to have at least 1,450 gifts (from individuals and groups) of \$145. Any gift, of course, will be welcomed and appreciated. If someone is unable to give \$145, perhaps it would be possible to contribute \$1.45 or \$14.50.

The retreat will conclude with Sunday morning worship at which time Blessing Box offerings will be received and dedicated.

The retreat promises to be a full weekend of praise, proclamation, service and worship with conversation groups interspersed among presentations. The cost is \$75 per person and covers the meals and programming. Event registration opens on April 1.

A block of rooms is reserved at the Lodge. Reservation information will be forthcoming.

Come, women of Indiana. It is time to gather and "Lift EVERY Voice!" †

México



Region Launches the Mexico Initiative

As a connectional church, our Region has enjoyed decades of partnerships with Christians across the globe, working and learning together to broaden our mutual understanding of the gospel as it is lived out in many cultures and communities.

Most recently, we shared a joyful ten-year partnership with Disciples in the Mbandaka district of the Congo. This formal partnership reached its agreed-upon conclusion last year, and it is time for us to look forward as we seek to continue our commitment to global fellowship.

As a church in the world, we are aware of an important conversation happening nationally and within our local communities as questions of race, immigration, and economics touch our neighborhoods and congregations. As a connectional church, we realize the importance of having these conversations within the context of relationship—especially a relationship that is centered around the communion table.

In that spirit, our Region is beginning a two-year relationship-building initiative with Disciples of Christ and other ecumenical organizations in Mexico. These next two years will include at least three pilgrimages to various parts of Mexico, including the Guatemala border region, the central region in San Luis Potosí, and the U.S. border region in Texas. These pilgrimages will be organized in collaboration with Global Ministries' People-to-People Pilgrimage Program and will include conversations with indigenous

communities, refugee support centers, migrant communities, churches, and families.

Finally, we will invite a delegation from Mexico to visit Indiana and attend the 2020 Regional Assembly. Our hope is that a formal partnership may develop organically from these pilgrimages, as relationships of mutual collaboration and accompaniment are built and steps forward into deeper connections and shared mission emerge. We also hope that those who participate in the pilgrimages will share their experiences with their congregations, informing our conversations on critical issues and inviting a deep Christian fellowship with immigrant families in our local communities.

2019 Mexico trips set

The first trip in the Mexico Initiative will be to Chiapas, Mexico to engage with church leaders and mission staff on the Guatemalan-Mexico border. Participants in this trip, June 10-17 will be: Kathie Meyer, Rachael Jacobs, Tawn Parent Spicklemire, Bob Shaw, Susan McNeely, Maggie Harris, Kristin Miller, Diane Spleth, Rick Spleth, and Angel Rivera. The second trip will be September 28-October 5 to the San Luis Potosí area in central Mexico and will be led by Bere Gil Soto who is from that community. Persons interested in participating in the second trip should contact Sandy Kincaid at sandy@indianadisciples.org Cost for travel, lodging, food, transportation, and insurance will be \$1,500 per person. Some scholarship assistance is available. †

New Models of Women's Ministries

By Rev. Maribeth Westerfield

A lot of time has lapsed between when I first served on the Regional Staff and my current time here. There have been MANY changes to women's ministries in that interval. It would be easy to reminisce about "the good old days" when we had nice neat packets of study material and multiple groups of women in a congregation to share them.



However, I would rather focus on what women are doing NOW in the new days of women's ministries. According to the Office of Disciples Women, the mission of Disciples women is to serve as "a conduit for diverse connections empowering each woman to find her voice and live out her call," a vision inspired by Micah 6:8.

So, Disciples women of Indiana, we are in search of congregational stories of new ways your congregations are empowering women to find their voices and live out their call. Do you have a story to tell of ways your congregation is serving women? Or perhaps you have a story of how the women in your congregation are serving in ministry. We want to hear your story!

In the remaining 2019 issues of *The Indiana Christian*, let's "lift up" women's ministries. Send your stories and photographs to maribeth@indianadisciples.org.

Additionally, in the next couple of months, members of the Indiana Women's Council will visit congregations that have invited them (via a survey that was distributed last fall at the Regional Assembly). We look forward to exchanging ideas with these congregations and sharing them with all women in the region.

What women's ministries do you have to share? Perhaps they may inspire others? †

Bethany Expands Worship and Wonder Program

Bethany Christian Church, Evansville, recently expanded their Sunday morning "Children Worship and Wonder" program to include the church's weekday daycare. Barb Hester and Krista Hunter share stories of God with the pre-K class of 16-18 children. After the story and response time, children have a time to give thanks and enjoy a feast together. For some of these children it is their only exposure to a faith foundation. It has been a great experience for the children as well as the leaders!

To learn more about "Children Worship and Wonder," as well as other resources for children, visit Disciples Home Mission website at www.discipleshomemissions.org/congregations/family-childrens-ministries. †



FLOURISH!

FLOURISHING IN FAITH AND FINANCE

Success for FLOURISH! Phase 1

The last three years have seen incredible success for the FLOURISH! Project. This program was created through a partnership with Lilly Endowment, Inc. to alleviate the economic challenges facing clergy by offering financial education and grants to Indiana pastors and congregations. Our efforts have yielded these results:

FLOURISH! Project Contributions

48 clergy and congregations served

\$689,000 grant funds distributed

200 lay leaders trained through the Financial Literacy Academy

\$210,791 New Regional money raised to support the program

**Donation
Goal:
\$210,360**

**Total
Donated:
\$210,791**

Hallelujah! This is amazing!

What's Next? We have been awarded a sustainability grant to continue the program and make it part of our Regional fabric. As of this writing, I will be concluding my work as Project Director and will hand the baton to my capable successor Rev. April Scott.

I extend overwhelming and heartfelt thanks to all the grantees, steering committee, Regional Board, donors and supporters. Your individual and collective efforts have garnered this success. It has been my sincere pleasure to serve you.

Love and Blessings,

Cynthia Newman



Indiana Congregations Provide Increased Disciples Mission Fund Dollars

Our Regional Board celebrates the good news that the Region finished "in the black" for the third year in a row, thanks to increased gifts from Indiana congregations to Disciples Mission Fund. Hoosier Disciples contributed \$655,328 to Disciples Mission Fund in 2018 compared to \$652,331 in 2017.

Disciples Mission Fund functions like "United Way" providing the mechanism for Disciples congregations to support their Region, general

ministries, and colleges and seminaries related to our church. The Christian Church

Disciples contributed \$655,328 to Disciples Mission Fund in 2018

in Indiana receives 40% of the contributions to "DMF" from our congregations. General ministries share together 50% and higher education institutions, including CTS, share 10%.

Disciples congregations contributed \$1,147,177 to all

Disciples outreach causes in 2018 including Week of Compassion, Reconciliation, and the four Special Day offerings. In 2017 there was \$1,320,971 contributed, which included that year \$118,516 in a special offering that was provided to Week of Compassion in response to the hurricane in Puerto Rico and other natural disasters.

The financial statement for the Indiana Region may be reviewed on our website, www.indianadisciples.org. We give thanks for our generous congregations and donors. †



April Scott Named Second FLOURISH! Director

We are pleased to announce that Rev. April Scott has been called to the staff of the Christian Church in Indiana to serve as the second director of the FLOURISH! Project. Cynthia Newman, the founding director of this project, concluded her work with the Region in February.

April has been a member of one of the FLOURISH! oversight committees since the project began in 2016. The Search Committee, composed of Matt Rosine, Sarah Riester, Nerissa Hunt, and Rick Spleth, were impressed with her depth of understanding and compassion for the economic struggle of clergy, and her past experience as a financial educator and insurance agent. She has been a successful fundraiser for multiple nonprofit organizations. April is a graduate of Christian Theological Seminary, and also serves as a hospice chaplain, continuing that work on a reduced schedule. We welcome April to the Regional staff! †

West Street Tipton Completes Elevator Project



Rev. Linda McKiernan-Allen assisted West Street Christian Church's oldest, active member, Gerri Hall, as she cut the ribbon of dedication for the elevator that will service all four levels of the church. (photo by Lou Ann Millett)

CTS Names Dr. David M. Mellott as Seventh President

After an extensive search process by the Board of Trustees, Christian Theological Seminary is excited to announce that Dr. David M. Mellott has been named the Seminary's seventh president. His tenure will officially begin on July 1, 2019. Since 2011, Dr. Mellott has served as Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean, and Professor of Theological Formation at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, PA. An ordained minister with the United Church of Christ, Dr. Mellott provides an especially unique perspective for the ecumenical Indianapolis campus; he grew up with roots in the Christian

Church (Disciples of Christ) and was previously ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1982.

Dr. Bill Kincaid, Interim President and Herald B. Monroe, Associate Professor of Leadership and Ministry Studies, noted that Dr. Mellott brings significant leadership experience in theological education and "a personal temperament for the opportunities and challenges before us. His teaching interests, advocacy efforts and passion for social justice initiatives reflect the historic impulses and stated values of Christian Theological Seminary. I very much look forward to working with him when I



return to the faculty," said Kincaid.

"Dr. Mellott joins CTS at a vibrant and promising moment in an institutional history spanning more than 160 years," said Liz Klimes, Chair of the CTS Board of

Trustees. "The Seminary's innovative programs including a first-of-its-kind PhD, distinctive models of advancing pastoral care, counseling and theological leadership, and a forward-thinking partnership with Butler University. We're excited to see how Dr. Mellott's leadership will help CTS serve as a flagship North American Seminary," noted Klimes.

Dr. Mellott said he is compelled by the Seminary's legacy of integrating a rich theological education with a vision to serve the common good. "Christian Theological Seminary has long been a regional and national leader in delivering ecumenical theological education that serves the world," he stated.

He added the Seminary's culture and legacy of inclusiveness is particularly relevant today. "Christian Theological Seminary's commitment to racial and gender justice is now, as much as ever, essential to being faithful, authentic and engaged," said Dr. Mellott. "I am honored to serve as president of such a distinguished school with a substantial mission to serve the world."

Upon embarking on his new role as president at CTS, Dr. Mellott will reside in Indianapolis with his husband, the Rev. Lance Mullins. †

Society of St. Andrew Gleans Indiana Farm Fields

By Dawn Barnes

Did you know that 40% of our food in America never makes it to market and is wasted in a farm field? Did you know that 14% of Hoosiers do not have enough food to eat? There are two clear difficulties in America today surrounding the issues of hunger and poverty. There is hunger and there is food being wasted. Society of St. Andrew seeks to fill the gap between these two problems.

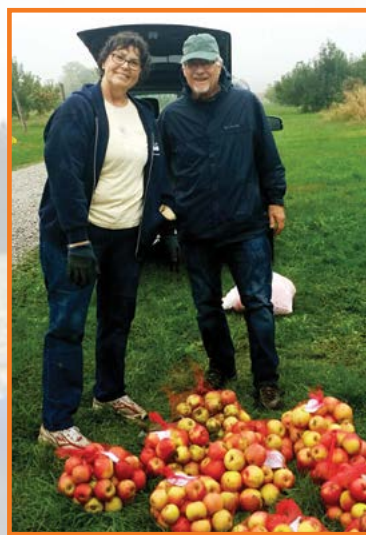
Society of St. Andrew is America's lead gleaning organization. That's right—you have heard of this word before! The term gleaning has been around for a very long time and you may know it best from the Ruth and Naomi story from the Old Testament. And what does gleaning look like in 2019? Society of St. Andrew organizes volunteers to glean farmers' excess produce



and then gives all of that fresh food to local hunger relief organizations. Our network addresses the issue of food waste and hunger by creating a bridge between nutritious, but otherwise wasted food, and the people who need it most.

In Indiana, we now have a regional office located in Indianapolis and we are working throughout the state. How can you be involved? Do you know a farmer who would like their field gleaned? Do they just have too many

tomatoes this year, did they not sell all of their zucchini, or did they plant too much corn? Connect us to farmers because there is no liability on their part to have us glean or to donate their produce AND they receive a tax statement at the end of the year for their tax purposes. Do you want to come glean with us? Please do! Not only are you helping feed those who are food insecure but you are reducing food waste AND it's lots of fun too! You can see all of our gleaning events on our



calendar at: www.endhunger.org/indiana-calendar. You can sign our online waiver and we will send out an email when we have a gleaning near you: www.endhunger.org/register. Does your congregation have a food pantry that can receive fresh produce? Let us know and we can deliver when there is produce available in your area (<https://endhunger.org/agencies>). Would your congregation like to attend a Harvest of Hope camp this year? We will have an intergenerational camp



where we will glean, learn and fellowship together September 27-29, 2019 in Claypool, IN.

Learn more here: <https://endhunger.org/hoh>

If you would like more information or to get involved, please contact Dawn Barnes, Indiana Regional Director at (317) 279-5119 or indiana@endhunger.org. Thank you for working together to help end hunger and reduce food waste in Indiana! †



“Peace is a prayer for some and a life’s work for others. It’s a blessing we share with others and a longing within each of our hearts. Scripture is filled with the stories of peace and justice, and camp is the perfect place to share them. Peace isn’t always easy, but it’s always worth the effort, because we know that peace works!”

- Chalice Press



Peace Works

Empowering the Next Generation of Peacemakers



	GENEVA	BEDFORD	GRADE LEVEL
Middle School	June 24-29	July 15-20	(completed 6-8)
High School	June 24-29	July 1-6	(completed 9-12)
C.R.O.S.S. (Sports-Themed)	June 24-29		(completed 6-12)
M.A.D. (Music, Art & Drama)	June 17-22		(completed 6-12)
Explorer	June 10-15	July 8-13	(completed 4-5)
New Beginnings	June 17-19	June 24-26	(completed 1-3)
You & Me 2 (Camper + Adult)	June 20-22		(age 5 and up)
You & Me 1 (Camper + Adult)	June 12-15		(age 5 and up)

6-day camps: \$310 / 4-day camp: \$265 / 3-day camps: \$205 / Add \$25 after May 15th
For registration and information visit: Indianadisciples.org and genevacenter.org

Register for Camp at indianadisciples.org

The writers at Chalice Press created this curriculum with a fun Hawaiian feel. Each day features a different Hawaiian word as the theme for the day. That theme will revolve around peace. Each camp then will have its own age appropriate study of peace and justice in scriptures and how it will translate into our lives when we leave camp.

Peace and prayer come together in another great season of camp. †