



CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
A COVENANT NETWORK OF CONGREGATIONS



Ohio Regional Newsletter ~ November 2021

Regional Celebration & Installation Energized And United Those Gathered, Whether In Person Or Online

Thank you SO MUCH to everyone who participated in our Regional Church Celebration and Installation Service on Saturday, October 23rd. We were profoundly grateful to the Rev. Teresa Hord Owens, our General Minister & President, for being with us, for preaching such a good word of grace and hope, and for installing our new Regional Pastor and President, Rev. Allen V. Harris. A special thank you to Rev. John Romig and the Gender Road Christian Church for being an amazing host, and for facilitating the online streaming of the service.



If you weren't able to join us live, the video of the service can still be viewed through the Gender Road Christian Church Facebook page and YouTube Channel. We have also added it to the [Christian Church in Ohio YouTube Channel](#). If you would like to follow along, a PDF of the service bulletin can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

We received an offering of \$1,545.00 during the service for the Renewal Initiative. If you would still like to make a donation to the offering, you can still do so at the below link. We invite you to designate it for "Renewal Initiative - Regional Operations." If you would like it to be included in the service offering total, please also indicate in honor of the "Celebration and Installation Service." <https://www.ccinoh.com/donation.aspx>

Please continue to use the hashtag #CCinOHChargedAndBlessed as you witness to and live out the charges and blessings offered to Rev. Harris - and all of the Regional Church - that day.

Reflection on the October 23, 2021 Installation Service Of Rev. Allen V. Harris as Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Ohio

Written by Rev. Cynthia Klingemier, District 4 Regional Elder
Sunday, October 24, 2021



Yesterday's installation service for Rev. Allen V. Harris as the Ohio Regional Pastor and President in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) highlighted what the church can be when ALL are included, NO ONE left out. A lovely, loving collection of people, ALL people. NO ONE excluded – excluded by ethnicity, language, color, orientation, or the rest of that endless list by which some in power draw lines that scream YOU CANNOT CROSS.

May this church, this ALL included and ALL inclusive church, bear out the CROSS of CHRIST so that ALL have a place at the table, no one higher, no one lower, ALL around the table, where ALL truly does mean ALL. I want to be part of that CHURCH!

For those who say, "God gave the rainbow its color, and it doesn't look like this" – May their eyes be opened to the possibilities of TRUE INCLUSION, their ears be opened to the stories of OTHERS, their mouths be opened to offer RAINBOW HOPE, and their hands to be opened to INCLUSION work.

Indeed, GOD of ALL creation, open all hearts to RAINBOW LOVE so that ALL means ALL in every way. May it be so. Amen.

2022 Camp & Conference Schedule

We are so excited to share with you the [2022 Summer Program Schedule](#). There are Summer Programs at Camp Christian for Children and Youth from Kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as Advance Conference for Young Adults. You will also note the two Disciples Fellowship Retreats which are open to all ages. We have also included Adult Conference, which is open to all adults and is held at Northwest Christian Church in Columbus.

Ohio Region Summer Program 2022 Schedule

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| • Disciples Fellowship Retreat | Friday, May 27 – Sunday, May 29 |
| • Grandparents Camp | Thursday, June 9 – Saturday June 11 |
| • Chi Rho Camp #1 | Sunday, June 12 – Saturday, June 18 |
| • CYF Week # 1 | Sunday, June 19 – Saturday June 25 |
| • Otter Camp | Sunday, June 26 – Saturday, July 2 |
| • Adult Conference | Monday, June 27 – Friday, July 1 |
| • Ribbit Camp | Wednesday, July 6 – Saturday July 9 |
| • Chi Rho Camp #2 | Sunday, July 10 – Saturday, July 16 |
| • CYF Week # 2 | Sunday, July 17 – Saturday, July 23 |
| • Advance Conference | Sunday, July 24 – Sunday, July 31 |
| • Disciples Fellowship Retreat | Friday, September 2 – Sunday, September 4 |

Registration materials for the Camp Christian Children, Youth & Young Adult Camps and Conferences will be available in the coming months. We will also be sharing information on payment plans for registration fees.

We hope you'll save the dates and share this schedule with folks from your Congregations, Families, and Communities!!

(If the above image with the schedule is not visible to you, it can also be viewed on our website by clicking [HERE.](#))

Regional Church Seeks Your Input For The Future Of Camp & Conference Programming & Facilities

You are invited to complete the 2021 Ohio Camp & Conference Survey. The survey can be accessed at - <https://forms.gle/taBVCWdB2gSaNU987>

This survey is both for persons who have attended as well as those who have never attended an event at Camp Christian, the Christian Church in Ohio's Regional Camp & Conference Center in Magnetic Springs, Ohio.

The first section will be broad and general questions that will help the Camp Christian Committee and the Regional Church Council make strategic and long-range decisions about the camp program and facilities.

The second section will be specific questions about this past summer's Church Camp Program (2021).

The third section is for you to tell us a little about yourself if you are willing.

Please complete this survey by November 15, 2021



2021 OHIO CAMP & CONFERENCE SURVEY



Retired Clergy Will Gather Via Zoom November 19

On Friday, November 19 at 11 a.m. all retired clergy in the Christian Church in Ohio are invited to gather via Zoom to visit with our new Regional Pastor and to share updates and support with one another. This will be the first of many regular events, virtually and in person, specifically for retired clergy. We will also begin to plan a spring in-person (hopefully) retreat at Camp Christian.

The Zoom link and instructions have been sent out to all retired clergy. If you did not receive the invitation, or if you need help with connecting with Zoom, please email the Regional Church Office at ccio@CCinOH.org and we will assist you.



Hiram Farm is seeking new Direct Support Professionals

Hiring both part-time and full-time! Hiram Farm offers: *Paid Holidays and paid training *PTO *Schedule does not typically include weekends or evenings *Health insurance for qualifying employees with option to purchase Dental and Vision You will work in an environment that allows you to engage and care for people with Developmental Disabilities with a focus on Autism. You will support individuals while working on the farm feeding animals, making crafts, gardening, participating in outings,

woodworking, cleaning and more. You will be part of supportive team of DSPs and management. Experience preferred but not required. \$10.50 to start without experience increase to \$12 after successfully completing 90 day probationary period. \$12 to start with experience.

Go to their webpage to apply using this link: <http://www.hiramfarm.org/2019/03/joinourteam/>

Wadsworth Volunteers Give Camp Manager's House A Fresh Look

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the amazing group of volunteers from the First Christian Church in Wadsworth!! They spent several days at Camp Christian cleaning, fixing and painting. Their main project was the much needed painting of the Campsite Manager House. They also worked on painting a few other maintenance buildings around Camp and cleaned out the old shower house.



We are so grateful for the generosity of their time, their hard work, and their love and support of Camp Christian and the Ohio Region!!

If you or your Congregation has any interest in volunteering at Camp Christian to assist in the upkeep and maintenance, please reach out to Campsite Manager Tom Bowerman-Jett at tbowerman-jett@ccinoh.org.



[Elyria Church Recognized For Its Creative & Faithful Responsiveness](#)

Disciples Church Extension Fund, one of the essential ministries of our General Church, recently published an online article highlighting the responsiveness of Washington Avenue Christian Church of Elyria to the daunting challenges of the last eighteen months. Rev. Nathan A. Russell and other leaders of the congregation share in the article their creative responses to the global pandemic as well as to the renewed commitment to racial justice in our society.

From using technology in new ways, to alternative services of worship, to deepening their commitment to children's ministries and confronting racism,

Washington Avenue Christian Church helps us all imagine how we can live out our calling from Christ authentically amidst previously unimaginable circumstances. We give thanks that this vital congregation in the Christian Church in Ohio and its dynamic pastor were lifted up for their new and innovative approaches to ministry. <https://disciplescef.org/blog/140-years-old-still-kicking-washington-ave-christian-church-story/>

AND, Washington Avenue Christian Church is seeking a Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries who will cultivate relationships, inspire Christian discipleship, and lead with imagination. The successful candidate will be a vital staff member who contributes to the ministry of the whole congregation that seeks the future God wants and ultimately will have. Click [HERE](#) to download the PDF with the complete details.

Fifth Sunday Songfest A Spirit-Filled Success

On Sunday afternoon October 31 several dozens clergy, choirs, and laity representing many different congregations gathered at Summit Christian Church, Dayton, for the regular Fifth Sunday Songfest to hear inspiring music, to enjoy rich fellowship, and to raise money for the Sarah Wilson Endowment Fund to help fund seminarian scholarships. Over \$1,000 was raised!



The Rev. Thomas Barnes, one of the leaders of the Ohio Black Pastors Fellowship, presided and Regional Minister, Rev. Allen V. Harris brought greetings. In addition to several choirs sharing their offerings in song, there were soloists, a sacred dancer, and a saxophonist/clarinetist who electrified the assembly and brought the event to a glorious conclusion. The next Fifth Sunday Songfest is set for January 2022.



Harmony Springs Church Dedicates New Building

On Sunday, October 24 our Regional Minister, Rev. Allen V. Harris, and Regional Elder, Rev. Terry Bartlett, was present to celebrate the dedication of the new building for Harmony Springs Christian Church in Green. The Rev. Joel Engman is their Lead Pastor, Kim Barnett is Associate Pastor, and Jennifer Berlyoung is their Pastor of Community Development.

Harmony Springs Church is the new incarnation of High Street Christian Church of Akron.

Check out their Instagram account @harmony.springs and their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/harmonyspringschurch/>

Third Christian Church in Warren Celebration

Warren's Third Christian Church held a celebration on Sunday, September 12, 2021, to honor Pastor Bob Faulkner and his wife, Joyce. The 101-year-old congregation was celebrating five years of Bob, a commissioned minister, serving as their pastor. Regional Elder, Rev. Cynthia Klingemier, preached on Bob's favorite scripture passage, Romans 8:31-39. The anniversary celebration continued after the worship service with a delicious dinner served in the fellowship hall.



Ohio Pastor Provides Needed Service To Congregations and Clergy

The Rev. Brian Carr, one of Ohio's clergy currently serving Carthage Christian Church in Cincinnati as their Interim Pastor, has skills in graphic design and website development. Some examples of his work are shown in the below image. Here's an introduction from Rev. Carr:

"As a pastor of multiple churches, I know how difficult it can be to find the expertise and support needed to create graphics, advertise events, and run websites and social media platforms that drive engagement. Through my work both starting new churches and working in smaller congregations, I have had to perfect all of these skills, and now I want to help you too!"

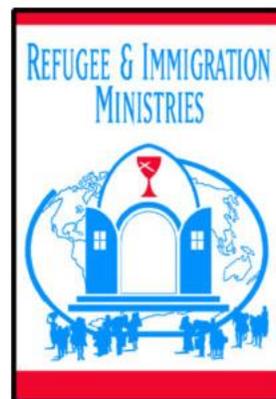
I have experience designing and running websites (including disciplespeace.org), creating Facebook and Instagram advertisements (with targeted audiences), designing graphics for events, postcards, slide shows, business cards, mailers, flyers, newsletters, and more, and creating branding guidelines for churches. If you are interested in learning more about what I have to offer, or would like more information on pricing and availability, please contact me! I would love to work with you and help your church grow and thrive in the modern age!"

For more information, contact Rev. Brian Carr at briancarr33@gmail.com.

The image displays three distinct promotional posters. The first poster, on the left, has a purple background and is titled 'PROCESSING THROUGH OVERWHELM'. It offers self-guided exercises for stress management and is open to surgical unit staff and providers. The middle poster, on a green background, promotes a '#WEAREISSAQUAH MURAL REVEAL and art exhibition' on September 8th, 2018, at the corner of Front Street and Alder Place. It features an illustration of a person painting a mural and lists sponsors including Mission Gathering, Downtown Issaquah, and the City of Issaquah. The third poster, on the right, has a dark blue background and is titled 'Patient Remembrance Service'. It features a graphic of white doves and a dandelion, and is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1st, from 3:00-5:30pm.

[Ohio Disciples & United Church of Christ Join Together To Support Afghan Refugees](#)

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Ohio and the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ are calling all churches in Northeastern Ohio to work in collaboration with other area churches to support at least 285 incoming Afghan refugees being resettled in our area. Areas in **bold** are considered immediate needs. Prayerfully discern what area your church can provide to help co-sponsor a family. You will be partnered with nearby churches offering differing services. **No support is too small.** Grants are available through [Week of Compassion](#) (Disciples of Christ) and [Global H.O.P.E. Disaster Ministries](#) (UCC).



- **Finding housing, furnishing housing**
- **Financial sponsorship – paying for housing (1 month, 3 months, 6 months)**
- Post-arrival: Meeting family at the airport, transporting them home
- Long-term commitments: (3 months – indefinitely)
- Integration: English tutoring (daily, weekly, monthly)
- Navigating transportation (learning bus routes, preparing for driver's license test, purchasing and registering vehicles)
- Community orientation (locating local mosques, halal stores, registering children for school, cultural etiquette at crosswalks, restaurants, businesses, how to spot mail scams, pay bills, build credit, etc.)
- Healthcare orientation (finding in-network doctors, dentists, optometrists)
- **Job training (providing a job or assisting with a job search, career coaching)**
- Transportation (to and from doctor appointments, job interviews, other necessary appointments such as getting ID cards)

Please send contact information and list of available resources to Susan Jarecke - Westlake Christian Church Moderator at susanjarecke@gmail.com.

For updates and complete background information on this and other refugee & immigration possibilities and challenges go online to <https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/missions-advocacy/refugee-immigration-ministries/> (Disciples of Christ) and <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/refugee-and-migration-ministries/> (United Church of Christ)

There will be a Cleveland Disciples virtual meeting on November 18 at 12 noon ET to discuss specific refugee resettlement possibilities. Please RSVP by emailing us at ccio@CCinOH.org and hold that time on your calendar!

District 12 Thanksgiving Program

Hosted by Northside Christian Church

"We Are Better Together"

Psalms 133

DISTRICT 12

*Thanksgiving
Program*

Sunday November 21, 2021 @
4:00p



**Guest Speaker
Rev. Allen Harris
Ohio Regional Pastor**

Northside Christian Church
4114 Fergus St
Cincinnati OH 45223

Dinner Afterwards
For more information call
513-542-4036

[Thanksgiving Special Offering](#)

Received in many congregations on Nov. 14 & 21, 2021

The [Thanksgiving Offering](#) benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses.



The Colleges and Universities of the Christian Church provide quality education through classes offered by some of the nation's top undergraduate and graduate faculty. Many of the campuses are comprised of state-of-the-art facilities, offer diverse degree programs, include dynamic student life activities, offer exciting athletics programs, and much more. The Thanksgiving offering supports everything from scholarships, to religious life offices, to faculty growth and development. By giving to the Thanksgiving Offering you are helping our institutions invest in students as they prepare themselves to become leaders.

The Thanksgiving Offering also provides scholarship and support for our theological education institutions. Each of our seminaries and divinity houses is committed to educating and forming Christian leaders for church and society. Generations of pastors, community leaders, and agents of social transformation have been educated at our theological institutions. They have flourished and made a difference in the world, thanks to gifts from Disciples congregations and individuals throughout the ages. These institutions continue to prepare leaders for the present age and the age to come.

As we continue to struggle with effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, our higher education institutions are facing unprecedented challenges and they need our support now, more than ever. Even as they work diligently to ensure safe and healthy learning environments, the financial realities faced by many of our schools add additional stress to students, faculty, and staff.

Support for Disciples Mission Fund and gifts to the Thanksgiving Offering are a critical part of the ongoing collaborative work of church and higher education that is such a foundational part of the heritage of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Please give generously to this offering. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of our students and it makes a difference in the world.

For more information, including worship resources, go to <https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/thanksgiving/>.

For the full Ohio Regional Calendar with upcoming events and important dates, go to
<https://www.ccinoh.com/regional-calendar.aspx>

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