



THE CHRISTIAN ALABAMA-NORTHWEST FLORIDA

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The mission of the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region is to encourage and equip its congregations and pastors for the ministry of Jesus Christ in local communities and throughout the world, while seeking to nurture them into deeper relationship with God, with each other, and with the whole Church.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

- 2 - 4 College of Regional Ministers - Lexington, KY
- 8 Committee on the Ministry (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office, Helena
- 13 Executive/Personnel Committee (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office
- 14 - 21 Christmas Offering (for ministries of the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region)
- 16 Staff Planning Meeting (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office, Helena

JANUARY, 2015

- 3 Program Committee on Church Development (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office
- 10 Anti-Racism Team (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office
- 11 District 5 Anti-Racism Workshop (4:00-6:00 p.m.) - South Baldwin Christian, Foley
- 12 - 14 Ministers and Mates Retreat - Hilton Garden Inn, Orange Beach, AL
- 16 - 18 Young Adult Winter Retreat - YMCA-Camp Chandler
- 17 Regional Convocation Board (10:00 a.m.) - Harrison Street Christian, Greenville
- 21 Commissioning and Ordination North (9:15 a.m.) - Regional Office, Helena
- 23 - 25 Youthtopia (all youth grades 6 - 12) - YMCA-Camp Chandler
- 26 - 27 Clergy Colleague Group Kick-Off Retreat - Joe Wheeler State Park, Rogersville, AL

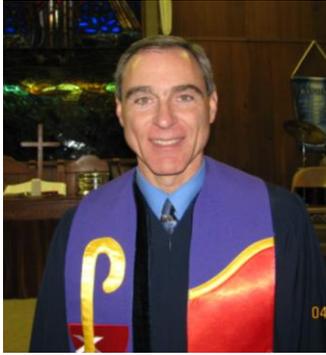
FEBRUARY, 2015

- 3 Commissioning and Ordination South (9:15 a.m.) - United Christian, Montgomery
- 7 CWF/Disciples Women Cabinet (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office, Helena
- 10 Senior Adult Cabinet (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office, Helena
- 13 - 14 Congregational Transformation Event - First Christian Church, Birmingham
- 15 - 22 Week of Compassion Offering
- 21 Division of Administration and Stewardship (10:00 a.m.) - Regional Office
- 28 Regional Board (10:00 a.m.) - First Christian Church, Birmingham

"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us."

- 2007 Disciples Identity Statement

REFLECTIONS FROM THE REGIONAL MINISTER



As we move into the Advent season, I am aware of the great need our world has for a Savior. The “advent” (or coming) of Jesus long ago, which we celebrate each year, was at a time when the world was needy and hungering for good news. There was oppression of the masses by the rich and powerful who enjoyed the benefits of military and economic power while many suffered in poverty. There was religious oppression as well – as religious leaders promoted a well-established system that separated persons into the righteous and the unrighteous. There was great anxiety in the culture and world into which our Lord was born. Many people were marginalized and uncertain about their future.

Not much has changed. The world of 2014 is still in great need of a savior. News stories that speak of innocent people being beheaded, car bombings, mass shootings in schools and other public places, police violence against unarmed citizens, human trafficking, health epidemics, etc., can lead us to the point of despair over the condition of our world. There is no doubt about it, in my view, we need healing. We need a messiah. We need God more than ever.

During Advent each year, the church seeks to prepare for the coming of Christ. Although we believe that Jesus was born in history long ago, we also believe that Jesus can be born in our hearts spiritually in new and fresh ways. Thus we pray for the coming of Christ. We prepare for his arrival. We hope for his presence with us in our world. As we tell and re-tell the story of his coming over two thousand years ago, we prepare our hearts for his coming to us in 2014. May it be so!

Our task as people of faith is to meet the despair that is prevalent in our world with a testimony of hope. We are to give witness that God is in control. Through us God can reach out to persons in need with compassion and grace. Through us God can heal relationships. Through us God can bring peace. May our Advent season be a time of genuine preparation for receiving the Christ. And may our preparation consist of more than decorations and parties, as important as those things may be. May our preparation be a preparation of the heart, where we prepare to be different because of the coming of this child – different in what we do, in what we pray for, in who we reach out to, in how we give of ourselves. That is when we will really know that Jesus has indeed been born in our hearts.

Your Partner in Ministry,

John P. Mobley
Regional Minister

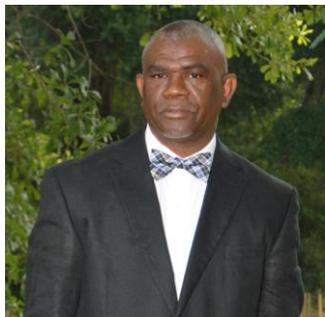


From the Regional Staff of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Alabama-Northwest Florida

We would like to wish you all a wonderful Advent Season and a Merry Christmas!



REFLECTIONS FROM THE ASSOCIATE REGIONAL MINISTER



The Christmas season is traditionally looked upon as the season on peace. The word “peace” appears in many just keeps cropping up in the Scriptures passages having to do with the birth of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah, in a passage that Christians have always associated with the birth of Jesus, speaks of the child that is born to us, the Son who is given to us, and who shall be called, as Isaiah puts it, “prince of peace.” Isaiah (9:6)

Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist (the forerunner of Jesus), likewise spoke of the one who would “guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:79). The message of the angels to the shepherds who were out in the field keeping watch over their flocks by night was speaking about “peace on earth” (Luke 2:14). Many of our beloved hymns we sing during Christmas season speak of “peace on earth, good will toward men.”

Not only do our beloved hymns we sing during Christmas season speak of “peace on earth and good will to all men,” they speak of Jesus, the Light of the World. *“Hark the herald angels sing, Jesus the Light of the world; Glory to the new-born King, Jesus, the Light of the world. We’ll walk in the light, beautiful light, Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright. Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the Light of the world.”*

It appears to me that if we really want to experience the Christmas peace that the scriptures so often talk about, we will have to make a conscious choice to have it and go the extra mile to make it a part of our lives.

Here are some practical steps that each of us can take to be more peaceful during the Advent and Christmas season.

--Sit down with the family and set a limit on how much to spend this year, remember the amount of joy experienced during the Christmas holidays does not depend on how much money you spend. In fact, the simpler we make Christmas, the less we spend, the more joyous the holiday should be.

--Do whatever you can to stop domestic violence and support organizations that seek to intervene and provide a safe haven for victims.

--Whenever possible, choose peaceful toys for children and try to avoid war toys.

--Try to be sensitive to the needs of other.

--Get down on your knees and pray that God will let peace be on earth and that it will begin in each of us.

Have a safe and peaceful Christmas!

Your Partner in Ministry,
Dale C. Braxton, Associate Regional Minister

Why Should I Support the Christmas Offering?

The Christmas offering supports Regional Ministries in Alabama – Northwest Florida. Ministers are nurtured, and congregations are provided the opportunities for work and worship. Giving to the Christmas Offering supports camps and conferences. The region plays a critical role in the preparation and authorization of ministerial ordination. Both are keys to church leadership and development. The Region partners with congregations to support the process of calling a new minister. Gifts to the Christmas Offering make a difference in enabling these and many other ministries to take place on our behalf.

2015 MINISTERS AND MATES RETREAT - JANUARY 12 - 14, 2015



The 2015 Ministers and Mates Retreat will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Orange Beach, Alabama, on January 12-14, 2015. Rev. Dr. Rick Morse, Vice President, Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will be our guest keynote.

The theme of the 2015 retreat is *"The Pastoral Life: Looking at Ministry and its impact of Family and Personal Health (for ministers and mates)."* Rev. Morse offers these words to those who will be participating: *"As a job, ministry is lousy—it takes long hours, low wages, high education, sometimes shallow people. As a calling, however, it can be rewarding, enlightening, and you get to work with some outstanding folks who love God and want to follow God. It cannot be denied that ministry impacts every aspect of the pastor's life. Care for self, family and spouse can be pushed aside in favor of pursuing things that may not matter. Pastors can actually choose how they live their lives, rather than having their churches choose it for them."* This retreat will focus on Presencing—a process of self-evaluation and conversation that will lead couples and individuals towards intentionally shaping their future. Through exercise, practice and humor, participants will name specific ways in which they will intentionally focus their future lives for maximum impact.

Rick Morse has spent his life in creative innovation in the development of congregations, community organizations and other organizations in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Currently he is working in collaboration with partners in the Christian Church called the Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation that provides services that develop courageous transformational leaders for new and transforming congregations.

Rick has had extensive experience with church growth as a Pastor in established churches in the Northwest. He has also been engaged in church planting for 30 years, 18 of which he served as a church planter himself. During his ministry he has started more than 13 award winning non-profit organizations serving the mentally ill, challenging racism, and promoting civil discourse.

Rick has also lead in the development of the New Beginnings Process for congregational redevelopment. This service has helped renew hundreds congregations in the US and Canada with Presbyterian, Disciples, UCC and Lutheran congregations. He also led a team that developed the infrastructure that led to the start of more than 800 Disciple congregations in the past decade.

Morse is author of numerous articles and a book entitled FROM OUR DOORSTEPS; Ministry Planning that Makes a Difference. (Available on Amazon) Rick and his wife have three adult children, all of which are in ministry with their spouses.

The Ministers and Mates Retreat is open to all ministers with standing---active or retired, commissioned or ordained--in the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region. Those who are under the care of the Committee on the Ministry in the Region are also welcome to attend. Hotel information and registration forms are sent to all ministers with standing in October. Please contact the Regional office if this information is needed. Join us for a stimulating event, combined with opportunities for rest and relaxation in a beautiful setting.

2015 YOUNG ADULT WINTER RETREAT
January 16-18

The 2015 Young Adult Winter Retreat will be held at YMCA-Camp Chandler near Wetumpka, AL, on January 16-18. The theme of the retreat is “Agree to Disagree: A Discussion on Moral Dilemmas.” Rev. Troy Tatum, Senior Minister at First Christian Church, Birmingham, will be the retreat leader. The retreat will provide an opportunity for fun, fellowship, food, outdoor activities, and spiritual discovery. All young adults are invited to be a part of this event.

Because of a generous subsidy from the Region, young adults may register for this retreat for only \$50. Registration information was included in the November Leader’s Packet and may also be found on-line at <www.alnwfldisciples.org>. Please contact John Mobley, Regional Minister, if you have questions about the retreat.

YOUTHTOPIA - JANUARY 23-25, 2015
(Youth in grades 6 - 12)

All youth of the Region (grades 6-12) are encouraged to participate in the annual winter retreat called “Youthtopia” on January 23-25, 2015. The retreat will be held at YMCA-Camp Chandler, near Wetumpka, AL. The Regional Youth Council and Nisha Warbington, Regional Youth Ministries Staff, will be planning an exciting event of activities, learning, and inspiration for all participants. The theme of the retreat is “*Love Your #Selfie: Appreciating God’s Masterpiece in the Mirror.*” Congregations are asked to register at least one adult from their congregations to accompany the youth who attend. The cost of the weekend event is \$110.

More information about Youthtopia was included in the November Leader’s Packet. Forms are also available on the Region’s web site.

CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION EVENT
FEBRUARY 13-14, 2015
“Wine and Wineskins: Fresh Vessels for the Everlasting Wine”
First Christian Church, Birmingham

The Region’s Program Committee on Church Development has sponsored five congregational transformation events since 2008. Moving to an every-other-year schedule, the next event will be held on February 13-14, 2015, at First Christian Church, Birmingham. These weekend events have included prominent preachers and a variety of workshop leaders. These events have provided ideas and inspiration to help congregational leaders to be agents of transformation in their own congregations. Our Friday night preachers have included Dr. Fred Craddock, Dr. Sharon Watkins, Dr. Bill Lee, Dr. Todd Adams, and Dr. William Willimon, all of whom have brought us powerful messages.

In 2015 the Program Committee on Church Development is excited to sponsor a sixth Region-wide congregational transformation event. The theme is “Wine and Wineskins: Fresh Vessels for the Everlasting Wine.” The Friday evening worship service on February 13 will feature Dr. Richard L. Hamm, church consultant and former General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Dr. Hamm will also lead a plenary workshop on Saturday morning entitled, “What Transforming Congregations are Doing Right.”

Richard L. Hamm was born in Indiana and raised in Florida. He returned to Indiana to attend Butler University (B.A., 1970) and Christian Theological Seminary (D.Min., 1974). Dick is an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and served congregations for 25 years in Indiana, Kansas and Missouri.



Dr. Hamm served as Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Tennessee (1990-1993) and he served as General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada from 1993 to 2003.

Dr. Hamm is the author of three books, *2020 Vision for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)* and *From Mainline to Front Line* and *Recreating The Church: Leadership For The Post-Modern Age*. He has written and spoken extensively on the subject of church renewal and transformation and coaches and consults with congregations, middle judicatories, denominational agencies and other church organizations. Dr. Hamm is a Ministry Partner of The Columbia Partnership <http://www.TheColumbiaPartnership.org>

Dick and his wife, Mindy, live in Indianapolis. They have two adult children and five grandchildren.

On Saturday, February 14, there will be a variety of workshops to help equip participants to be agents of transformation in their own congregations. Following Dr. Hamm's plenary workshop, there will be opportunity for persons to choose from a variety of workshops, listed below:

- "Healthy Pastors Lead to Healthy Congregations" (led by Rev. Eugene Fisher, Pension Fund)
- "Learning to Ask the Right Questions" (led by Rev. Beth Thomason, Madison Christian Church, and members of The Journey team at Madison Christian Church)
- "Effective Inclusion of Children in the Church's Ministry" (led by Rev. Lea McCracken, First Christian Church, Meridian, MS)
- "What God wants FOR Us: Church Planning with the End in Mind" (Led By Rev. Troy Tatum, First Christian Church, Birmingham)
- "The Gifts Hidden in Conflict: Learning the Tools to Transform Struggle into Harmony" (led by Rev. Anna Shirey, First Christian Church, Florence)
- Two workshops will be offered in Spanish. In the morning the workshop will be "Understanding the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)," and the afternoon workshop will be "Evangelism in Hispanic Communities." Both of these workshops will be led by Rev. Roberto Rodriguez, Church Planter, Primera Iglesia Cristiana (Discipulos de Cristo), Birmingham.

There will be program activities for elementary school-aged children on Saturday. Robin Blakemore, a part of the Ministry Staff at First Christian Church, Birmingham, will provide leadership.

The congregational transformation event will include lunch, fellowship, and worship in addition to the workshops. The event will end around 2:45 p.m. on Saturday.

The cost of registration for "Wine and Wineskins" is \$25 for an individual registration (\$10 per child age 12 and younger) or \$250 for a congregational registration (which covers registration for as many as the congregation would like to bring). It is imperative, however, that congregational registrations include a listing of all of the persons who will attend so that adequate preparations can be made. The registration deadline is February 4, 2015.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Drury Hotel, 3510 Grandview Pkwy (off Hwy. 280), at a rate of \$89.99/night, plus tax, for rooms with either one king bed or two double beds. Only a few doubles are available. An evening reception with hot food and a deluxe, hot breakfast are included. Also there is an indoor/outdoor pool with hot tub. The block of rooms will be held until January 13, 2015. Individual reservations may be made by calling 1-800-325-0720 and mentioning the group number 2161391 for the "Christian Church - Disciples of Christ." Reservations may also be made on-line at <www.druryhotels.com> <http://www.druryhotels.com> and entering the group number 2161391. The local hotel number is 205-967-2450. The fax is 866-249-0164.

2015 MEN'S RETREAT SET FOR MARCH 13-14

The annual Men's Retreat is planned for March 13 -14, 2015, at YMCA-Hargis. For a nominal added cost, men have the option of arriving on Thursday, March 12, for fishing, hiking, and fellowship prior to the beginning of the retreat on Friday afternoon. The Disciples Men's Cabinet has put together a great retreat filled with fun, fellowship, and challenge for all men in the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region. The theme for the 2015 Men's Retreat is "Your Gifts...God's Mission." The guest leader for the retreat will be Rev. James E. Brooks.



Jim Brooks has recently been called to serve as Interim Senior Minister at First Christian Church, Montgomery, Alabama, beginning in January, 2015. Jim retired in May, 2014, after a 12 year ministry as pastor with First Christian Church, Winder, Georgia. Jim has served congregations in South Carolina, Kentucky, Illinois, Alabama, and Georgia. He has served in regional ministry as Associate Regional Minister in Georgia. He also has served in general ministry as Director of Christian Education Ministries with the Division of Homeland Ministries.

For 23 years Jim served as Director of the Andros Mission Project, which began in 1989 when he was serving as Associate Minister with First Christian Church, Birmingham. For 43 consecutive years Jim has been involved in camp/conference ministry in several different regions. Jim has led numerous retreats and workshops over many years of ministry.

Jim received his bachelor's degree from Charleston Southern University in 1973 and his Master of Divinity degree from Lexington Theological Seminary in 1976. For over 41 years Jim has been married to Katrine Brooks, who currently works as Human Resources Director for Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, University of Georgia.

The Men's Retreat formally begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and concludes by 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. All men of all ages are encouraged to participate in this time of renewal, inspiration, and fellowship.

Each year at the Men's Retreat there is an important offering collection which provides resources for the Disciples Men to support specific mission efforts in and beyond the Region. Men's groups in congregations are urged to collect their money in advance of the retreat so that each congregation's gifts may be included with the offering collected at the retreat. Registration forms and information on costs were included in the November Leader's Packet. The early-bird deadline for registration is February 21. After that date there is an increase in the registration fee. Please contact the Regional office if more information is needed.

NEWS OF THE CLERGY

Susan Diamond has announced her acceptance of a call to serve as senior minister with a congregation in Florence, Ky. She will conclude her ministry with First Christian Church, Montgomery, at the end of November. **Jim Brooks** has been called to serve as Interim Senior Minister with First Christian Church, Montgomery, beginning in January.

Bob Powell began his service as Interim Minister with First Christian Church, Decatur, at the beginning of October. **Cameron Douglas** began his service as Interim Minister with First Christian Church, Meridian, MS, at the beginning of October. **Anna Shirey** has been called to serve as Minister of Christian Education with First Christian Church, Florence, beginning November 1.

Mickey Johnson has been approved for ordination by the Committee on the Ministry. A service of ordination is scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 2015, at First Christian Church, Valhermoso Springs.

CONGREGATIONS SEEKING A MINISTER

Decatur, First (Bob Powell is Interim Minister)
Fairhope, Fairhope (John Alford is Interim Minister)
Hartselle, First (Jerry Ridling is Interim Minister)
Meridian, First (Cameron Douglas is Interim Minister)
Mobile, Azalea Hills (Phillip Hayes is Interim Minister)
Montgomery, First (Jim Brooks is Interim Minister, beginning Jan. 1, 2015)
Tuskegee, Mt. Calvary Missionary
White Hall, Mt. Zion

OUTREACH GIVING UPDATE

The year-to-date giving in 2014 by congregations in Alabama-Northwest Florida to the Disciples Mission Fund and the four Special Day Offerings (Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving, and Christmas) has decreased by 12.16% from the amount given year-to-date in 2013. Church-wide gifts to Disciples Mission Fund and the four Special Day Offerings are showing a 4.64% decrease from the amount given through October, 2013. Week of Compassion giving in Alabama-Northwest Florida, regular and designated, is showing a 22.98% decrease from the amount given through October, 2013. The Easter Offering in Alabama-Northwest Florida is showing a 3.4% decrease from the amount given through October, 2013. The Pentecost Offering in Alabama-Northwest Florida is showing a 11.7% increase over the amount given through October, 2013. The Reconciliation Offering in Alabama-Northwest Florida, regular and designated, is showing a 70.85% decrease from the amount given through October, 2013.

Disciples outreach ministries are carried out in partnership between general ministries, ministries of higher education, Regions, congregations, and other related ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The financial support given by your congregation enables this partnership to be effective in carrying out the ministry of Jesus Christ. Your commitment to our shared ministries is greatly appreciated.

2014 WOMEN'S RETREAT A SUCCESS

Fall was definitely in the air during the 2014 Disciples Women's Fall Retreat which was held October 3–5, as the temperature dropped from short sleeves to jacket weather from Friday to Saturday. This year's retreat was held at YMCA-Camp Chandler in Wetumpka, AL, as has been the home of the Women's fall retreat for the last several years. Fifty women from the



region gathered to express this year's theme *"We are Wonderfully and Beautifully Made."* As always the YMCA camp staff was wonderful and supportive of all our needs. The resource leader was Tijaun McCarty of *The Well House* in Birmingham, AL. Tijaun spoke of the many facets involved with Human Trafficking in the

Southeast. As a victim and a survivor, her message was direct and made women aware of the issue and its proximity to this area. As founder of *The Well House*, Tijaun described the shelter and programs that are available to assist human trafficking victims. Lastly, Tijaun shared her faith and how the love of Christ has influenced her life.

The Region's Anti-Racism Team members Katie Wallace-Davis, Fannie Ashley and Robert Davis conducted a two part workshop on Saturday at the retreat.

The workshop provided very informative and thought provoking material for retreat attendees.

On Saturday afternoon Cynthia Stinson of Christian Services for Children in Alabama gave a presentation providing a bit of history as well as current state of the organization. A mini-mission trip to the Friendship Mission homeless shelter was led by Ellen Rawls and accompanied by several retreat attendees. During the retreat the women enjoyed many activities including vespers on the porch and lakeside, paddle boats on the lake, Bible feud, s'mores, line dancing, a silent auction, singing on the porch; some even watched Alabama and Auburn football games. Best of all is the fellowship that can only be experienced at retreat where participants stay up late, get up early, and wash no dishes after meals.



Thirty-one persons participated in the 13th annual Senior Adult Retreat at St. Bernard Retreat Center in Cullman, AL, on Nov. 6-7, 2014. The theme was "The Changing Role of Senior Adults in the church." The keynoter was Rev. Dr. Carl Gebhardt. Music leaders were Rev. George and Judy Dudley.

VALLEY CONTINUES TO GO GREEN!!



Valley Christian Church, Birmingham, AL, has been a Green Chalice Church since October 2012. As such, Valley is committed to connecting Christian faith with the preservation of our environment and the realization of our responsibility to protect the beautiful world God has given us.

Activities include a recycling program, rain barrel workshops, Green meals, special worship services, and a community garden. This summer the garden produced 70+ bags of produce which were given to Greater Birmingham Ministries for distribution to their clients. This fresh produce included tomatoes, potatoes, squash, lima beans, green beans, okra, sweet potatoes, eggplants, banana peppers, bell peppers and cucumbers. A fall garden has been planted and continues to produce a variety of green leafy vegetables.

Valley members enjoy working in the garden and look forward to having another garden next year.

Congregations that have formally committed to expressing “true community” through intentional efforts to work against racism and toward reconciliation.

First Christian Church, Anniston
Primera Iglesia Cristiana Hispana, Anniston
Village Christian Church, Auburn
First Christian Church, Birmingham
Valley Christian Church, Birmingham
First Christian Church, Dothan
First Christian Church, Florence
Snow Hill Christian Church, Ft. Deposit
First Christian Church, Ft. Walton Beach
Primera Iglesia Cristiana Hispana, Ft. Walton Beach
Sellers Memorial Christian Church, Hayneville
First Christian Church, Huntsville
Grateful Life Community Church, Huntsville
Mt. Pleasant Christian Church, Mathews
First Christian Church, Pensacola
Mt. Calvary Missionary Christian Church, Tuskegee
Union Christian Church, Tuskegee
First Christian Church of River View, Valley

STATEMENT AFFIRMING AN ANTI-RACIST IDENTITY

Recognizing the division that exists within the human family due to the sin of racism, the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region confirms its commitment to the call of the gospel of Jesus Christ to be an ambassador of unity and reconciliation. The Alabama-Northwest Florida Region confesses its own participation in the sin of racism and is committed to the dismantling of racism wherever it exists in its own institutional life and in the life and witness of its congregations.

Therefore, the Regional Board, on February 23, 2002, affirms all current and future efforts within the Alabama-Northwest Region to become an Anti-Racist manifestation of the Body of Christ. This affirmation will be demonstrated through prayer, allocation of resources, and organized efforts to challenge racism wherever it exists within the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region.



Primera Iglesia Cristiana, Birmingham, welcomed Regional Minister John Mobley in worship on November 23, 2014. The Region's newest congregation is adding new members into its fellowship each week. Rev. Roberto Rodriguez is serving as the church planter.

THE ALABAMA-NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION EXPRESSES ITS SINCERE GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE 2014 ANNUAL FUND

(* denotes a Board member, **denotes a staff person)

David G. Aichele Alabama-NW FL Convocation John & Frances Alford Mr. & Mrs. William Bagby Dr. & Mrs. Jack Baldwin Deryll & Lorraine Banning Danny & Mona Barfield Dorothy A. Battle Marie Bittle Judy Blalock Connie Bradow **Dale & Mercedes Braxton Bessie Brooks Cindy Brooks Steve & Allison Brown Larry Burger George & Muriel Castillo *Jim & Janice Clifford Jerry & Sue Coffey Annie Lee Cole Lucile Colee Steven Croomes Charles & Cherion Crow Joe & Dorris Cunningham Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Davidson Bernard & Nancy DeVore Ron & *Susan Diamond *Cameron & Diane Douglas	Charles & Donna Downey Sarah & *Stewart Draper George & Judy Dudley Gary & Stephanie Edge Harvey Fearson Carl Flock Phillip & Ann Gilbert Charles Graff John & Beth Gregory *Ed & Ginny Guindon John Hard Nathan Hartley Brenda Henderson Jeff & **Susan Henderson Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hinger Dottie Hughes Joe & Karen Humerickhouse John Jackson *Gerri Johnson Mary Elizabeth Johnson Barbara Keller Phyllis Kirk *Lola Kiser John Lambert Hattie T. Lester Alan & Brenda Lindell Michael & Jacquelyn Longmeier Glenda Luft	Jan Mackenzie Madison Christian Church Louis & Melinda Mapp *Carlos Martinez Kathy Mason Jose' M. Matos Eleanora Mauritsen *Louis & Janice Maxwell James E. & Carolyn R. McGee Kathryn Menser Jayne Meyer Wendell & Mary Miller **John & Valya Mobley Scott & Susie Morgan Russell & Mary Morrow Mt. Zion Christian Church Mrs. Sam Murphy Hubert C. Nall *Sheryl Nelson *Carmencita Ortiz George Pinkston *Jan Poolley Don & Mitzi Pouncey *Stuart Price Larry & *Ellen Rawls Mr. & Mrs. Ron Redding Russell & Linda Reeves Mr. & Mrs. Robert Renner	Flora Richardson Jerry Ridling Ana Rivera-Acevedo Les & Robin Roberts Rev. Wallace & Judy Robinson Louise Sanderson Jeff & Sue Seward Doris C. Shaw Martha Shelton Lester & Levernora Smith Tom & Mary Lou Smith Edd & Mary Pat Spencer Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Spencer Bob & *Kay Stegall Diane & Tom Stephenson *Cynthia Stinson Mr. & Mrs. Jack Templeton Johnny & *Floretta Timmons Willie & Margaret Timmons Garry & Twila Tyree Mark & Dawn Underwood Valley Christian Church Margaret J. & Mack M. Vann Daren & **Nisha Warbington Ethel Williams *Ethelyn Williams Margaret Womble
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Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible contribution to the Annual Fund may do so at any time.
 Contact the Regional Office at 205-425-5245 or via email at alnwfl@aol.com for more information, or use the form below.

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THE ALABAMA-NORTHWEST FLORIDA ANNUAL FUND

The **Annual Fund** is.....

.....an invitation for individuals to give additional financial support for the ministries of this Region. While the Region is supported through the Disciples Mission Fund and through the Christmas Offering, these dollars alone will not maintain current ministries and develop new ministries that are envisioned.

.....an opportunity for individuals to make a difference in the lives of children, youth, young adults, men, women, pastors, and students. Gifts to the **Annual Fund** directly impact people right in your own congregation and in neighboring Disciples of Christ congregations.

.....an opportunity to undergird this Region so that we can achieve excellence in everything we do. Nothing less is worthy of the Christ we serve.

-----Please clip and return-----

Enclosed is my/our gift to help the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region continue its current ministries with excellence and to develop exciting new ministries which will strengthen congregations for mission and ministry.

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Congregation _____

Amount of Gift \$ _____

Payable to: Christian Church in Alabama-NW Florida, 861 Highway 52, Helena, AL 35080

Thank You for Your Support!!!