

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL BOARD MEETING
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in West Virginia
March 15, 2008**

The meeting of the Board of the West Virginia Region was convened at the Regional Center at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 15, 2008. Moderator Gary Lyons called the meeting to order. Rev. Thad Allen led the Morning Worship with members listing various prayer requests.

A Silent Roll Call was conducted and our office secretary, Laura Foust who was attending her first board meeting, was welcomed. The minutes of the previous November 17 meeting had been sent by e-mail and stand as presented.

STAFF REPORTS

The Regional Minister presented his report (attached) which had been sent by e-mail to the board prior to this meeting. He highlighted and emphasized many aspects of his report. He shared information about each staff person and some of their responsibilities:

Laura Foust is the Secretary to the Regional Minister working the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Parris Witte is the Staff Secretary and her hours are 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

David Chafin is the Full Time Associate to the Regional Minister. His expertise is in the areas of Communications, Reconciliation and its Ministries, Stewardship and Mission interpretation, and working with Interim Pastorates.

Youth Ministry Associates will be **Rev. Andrea Brownlee, Kevin Snow and Kenny Hardway.**

Jennifer Allen will be the Editor of the *West Virginia Christian*.

Mary Uhl and **Joel Potts, III** continue with their excellent work in Women's and Men's Ministries, respectively

Mary Uhl presented her report as the **Coordinator Of Women's Ministries** (attached). She highlighted plans for the Spring Events, the staff meeting she attended in Houston, and the days of silence to be held in August. She will also be attending a retreat at Christmount in May. She and David Chafin are working on a flyer about the Women's Endowment Fund so that churches can understand what this fund is about.

Joel Potts presented his report (attached) as the **Coordinator of Men's Ministries**. Events in which he will be involved are the Retreat in September in which Steven Smith will be the facilitator, the Disciples Men's luncheon at the Regional Assembly, CYF Conference at Bethany, and the Annual NERF gathering at Bethany.

Associate to the Regional Minister **David Chafin** could not attend the board meeting due to conducting a funeral in Huntington. His report (attached) shares many of the tasks he has been doing since the first of the year. His expertise in working in the area of Communications is evident in the number of electronic type media that he has done. The St. Albans Church is also benefiting from his time as their interim pastor.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Gary Lyons announced that he will be attending the General Board Meeting in April. General Board members are elected for a three year term now instead of a two year term. A concern was raised about David Chafin's house not being sold as of this date. The Regional Minister had thought about having a secondary signature of a mortgage of a house in Parkersburg for the Chafins. It was decided that the Executive Committee and Trustees would address this matter of having David move to Parkersburg where he would be closer to his work. A motion was made by Don Snyder and seconded by Carol Grimes that the "region handle this matter in the most expeditious way possible to have the Associate to the Regional Minister move to Parkersburg." The motion PASSED.

The Moderator announced that Kathy Stemple is unavailable to fulfill her term as Vice-Moderator. A motion was made by Jim Trader and seconded by Lynn White that "Kevin Bowers fulfill Kathy's term through the time of the Regional Assembly." The motion PASSED.

The Nominating Committee needed two members to be appointed. A motion was made by Jim Trader and seconded by Lynn White "that Carol Vincent and James Brumfield be added to those already on the nominating committee." The motion PASSED. It was suggested that this committee meet by Conference Call.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Christian Formation – Angel James, Chairperson, had sent a written report in which she emphasized the success of the 2008 Mid-Winter Youth Retreat. Other youth events will be held this year and their dates were listed. A College Retreat will be held following CYF Conference at Bethany.

Leader Development and Church Life – Chairperson, James Brumfield, stated that this department had not met but one of their goals of having the regional newsletter on our website had been accomplished.

Mission and Stewardship – Chair-elect Maggie Sebastian stated that they had been meeting with David Chafin and hope to make Stewardship and Mission more visible. Krista Johnson has been serving as a missionary and will be available in May to visit churches in our region. It was noted that West Virginia has seven of the biggest mission giving congregations among the largest givers in our denomination.

A motion was made by Jim Trader and seconded by Don Snyder "to permit our Regional Minister to request a larger portion of our share of the funding amount from Church Finance Council at the appropriate time in the future. The motion PASSED.

FELLOWSHIP GROUP REPORTS

Disciples Women Report (attached) was presented by Helen Edge. Spring events are the next priority for the women in the region. The annual Fall Retreat plans are progressing for September 5 – 7 at Cedar Lakes.

Disciples Men Report – The men have just completed their Spring Lenten gatherings held throughout the region with a large attendance and an excellent speaker, Tom Jewell, Regional Minister of Oklahoma.

COMMISSIONS

Personnel - Betty Beeson, Chair, praised the Regional Staff for setting goals for the future.

Property – Jim Trader, Chair, had no report because there had been no property issues.

Ministry –William Chambers, Chair, presented his written report (attached) listing those who are under the care of our region. The Roster of Ministers in our region was approved. A motion to ordain Kevin Snow was PASSED. Plans are being made for his ordination on May 31 at Vinson Memorial Christian Church in Huntington.

Finance – In the absence of Brenda Keyser, Chair, Mr. Allen presented a summary page showing the region’s investments, designated funds, with a total of each. This is a simplified effort to show the types of funds we have, where our investments are located and the types of designated funds that have come about through the years. It is hoped that some of the designated funds, which have been in place for a number of years, can be researched to see if any of them can be combined.

A motion made by Jim Trader, seconded by Betty Beeson, to update the current signatures on our bank accounts, was PASSED. The board secretary signed this resolution:

Be it resolved by the Regional Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in West Virginia, at a regularly called meeting of the board on March 15, 2008, that the Secretary to Regional Minister and the full-time Associate to the Regional Minister be added to signature cards of demand accounts. This is to ensure and expedite the check writing needs of the church.”

A Deposit Statement was provided showing the assets of \$8,931.19 which are being invested in the Campbell Multi-Strategy Fund with the Christian Church Foundation. Quarterly distributions will begin in June 2008. It was noted that the proper title when depositing funds is the “Christian Church in West Virginia William B. Allen Fund for Ecumenical Ministry.”

COMMITTEES

Disaster Response - The Moderator announced that the government funding for disasters has been released for New Orleans.

Regional Assembly – Bill Chambers reminded everyone to register soon for the April Assembly.

OTHER ITEMS

The Regional Minister stated that promotional materials for special offerings will be coming to churches earlier than they have recently. Christmas Offering materials will be printed in our general offices with a page for regions to add their information.

It was approved by consensus to make Arnold Nelson a “West Virginian” at the Regional Assembly in Huntington.

The Regional Calendar was provided to all board members.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Trader, Secretary