

The Wind and Waves

Newsletter of The Coastal Plains Area
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest



11750 Memorial Drive • Houston, Texas 77024 • 713.789.8822

MAY, 2011 • Vol. 9, Issue 4

CAMP CALENDAR

- June 19-25 ____ CYF Conference
- June 26-July 2 __ Eighther's Camp
- July 6-9 ____ Beginner's Camp
- July 27-23 ____ Chi Rho Camp
- July 24-29 ____ Junior Camp

See pages 5 & 6 for more details

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PUBLISHED BY THE COASTAL PLAINS AREA
Marilyn Duncan, Administrative Manager

CPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Andy Brink, Moderator
Rev. Brenda Warren, Moderator-Elect
Ms. Lynne Haley, Treasurer
Rev. Dr. Judy Allen, Secretary

A Great Day at Area Assembly



Fantastic music, a wonderful worship service and great fellowship brought together friends from approximately 32 Coastal Plains Area member congregations on May 1st for the Coastal Plains Area Assembly. The CPA is especially grateful to First Christian Church, Houston, for hosting this annual event, and to all the many planners and participants.

NEW LEADERSHIP ELECTED

At the annual meeting of the CPA Council, the 2011-2012 slate was elected. This group of volunteers will be meeting together regularly to pray and plan. The detail work of the ongoing CPA programs falls to the people who serve in the positions listed below. We ask that you support these Disciples with your prayers, and let them know how you may be able to help by serving on their Ministry Teams, or by providing support in other ways. The Coastal Plains Area is grateful to these leaders for sharing their gifts, and doing so with the heart of a servant and a great love for God and God's people.

2011-2012 SLATE

EXECUTIVES

MODERATOR (2011-2012).....ANDY BRINK
MODERATOR ELECT (2011-2012).....BRENDA WARREN
TREASURER LYNNE HALEY
SECRETARY..... JUDY ALLEN

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

CHILDREN AND YOUTH.....SCOTT MILLER
CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY Currently Open
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY SHARON HART
CHRISTIAN ACTION & OUTREACH CYNTHIA MYERS
STEWARDSHIPBRAD STAGG
NEW CHURCH MINISTRY TOM LYDA
.....
DCCI REPRESENTATIVESHERBYE MURRAY
..... MADELLA WILLIAMS

Please see page 3 for news from around the Area.



Notes from the Journey

by Andy Brink, CPA Moderator

May 17, 2011

Rhona and I love to go on vacation. Part of the fun for us, is the planning. We normally plan months in advance, researching options for entertainment, accommodations, and local points of interest. We also try to make sure we have enough money set aside to do what the plan calls for. Finally, the day arrives and we go with great joy and anticipation. Gratefully, incredible memories are always made.

When we return from vacation we are invariably exhausted. We struggle with the thought of having to return to work and a semi-normal life. We lack energy and feel a need to hibernate for about three days. Unfortunately, we rarely have that luxury. So, we unpack, get organized, roll up our sleeves and get on with the business at hand – all while planning our next vacation!

While nothing close to a vacation, the Coastal Plains Area dialogue and subsequent annual assembly were certainly much anticipated events. They required incredible planning and significant hours of dedication by many. In the end, both were met with great joy and celebration. Significant memories were engrained into our minds as this most definitely represented a new place in the Coastal Plains Area history.

Now, the event is over and many of us have once again felt a strong desire to go into hibernation and come back out when school starts back up in August. Despite that, we know that is not what we are called to do. It's time to roll up our sleeves and begin this new phase in the life of the church. So, we begin summer camps; we add to our ministry planning teams; we schedule our business meetings; we plan our Men's and Women's retreats; we continue our stewardship efforts and we send off our new Area Minister profile to the region for candidates. Ministry continues, love is shared and service to each other is given – all in anticipation of living life in the presence of God.

May each of us find ways this summer to rejuvenate our spirits and our bodies to continue the work to which we have been called in Christ. God bless you as you travel and as you work.

Blessings,
Andy

2011 CCSW Women's
Assembly

Make It Happen!

June 10-12, 2011

Hilton DFW Lakes
In Grapevine TX, just
north of DFW Airport!

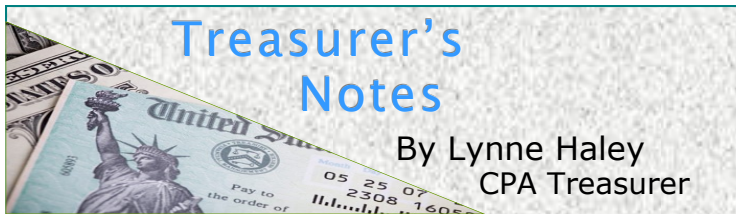
Please call the hotel at
1-800-984-1344
(mention the CCSW room block)
To make your own
reservations!

Rooms will be \$119 per
night and their \$20
breakfast buffet is now
available to us for
only \$12!

The Hilton also offers
free shuttle service
from DFW Airport if
you plan on flying!

*We will be having
a POOL PARTY
after session
on Friday evening
so bring your swim
suits and join us
at the beautiful
outdoor pool!*

**Please see ccsw.org for
registration forms and
information about the
service project.**



SPOTLIGHT ON: AREA FINANCES

RICE FUND

The Area response to the need for rice at Good Samaritan Ministries was heartwarming. Or as Filiberto said this morning "There are no words for how thankful we are. Send my blessing to all in the Area and tell them how grateful we are."

A truckload of rice, about 45,000 pounds at a delivered price of 23 cents per pound, was sent to the Valley this past weekend. We were able to do this because of donations from individuals as well as women's groups dedicating an offering, from our large churches as well as our smaller churches. This was truly an Area-wide effort and we give thanks.

Please don't stop now. Let's start the fund for the next shipment that will be needed in about 8 months.

AREA GENERAL FUND

The Area's financial position has been steadily improving. Excitement has been growing about new ways of doing ministry in the Coastal Plains Area, and it is showing in our giving. We will need about \$10,400 per month to fund the ministry model that was unveiled at the Area Dialogue meeting, and that number was reached in April. Although that does not mean we can reach that number every month, it certainly is a sign that we are on our way to a stronger Area ministry and all the churches are getting involved.

A special thank-you to all the churches who have completed pledge cards for this year. You are really making a difference.

- Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Kyle Dennis, Senior Minister of First Christian Church, Huntsville, upon receipt of his D.Min in Arts & Theology, on May 9, 2011.

- Congratulations to these first-time licensed ministers in the CPA:

- Frank Allen, Minister of Biblical Studies—University Christian Church;
- Karl Decker. Minister of Men's Ministries—Cypress Creek;
- Kristopher Humble, Pastor—First, El Campo;
- Ray Miller, Director of Youth Ministries—Cypress Creek;
- Marshall Smiley, Director of Youth Ministries— Kirkwood South.

- Congratulations and best wishes to these congregations and their new ministers!

- First Christian Church, Alvin, has called Rev. Charles Smith as their Senior Minister.
- First Christian Church, Texas City, has called Rev. G. Todd Williams as their Senior Minister.

- Congratulations and best wishes to these congregations and their new Transitional Ministers.

- Rev. Dick Maddox has been called by Heights Christian Church to serve as their Interim Senior Minister.
- Rev. Fred Banda has been called by Kirkwood South Christian Church to serve as their Interim Senior Minister.
- Rev. Linda Hopkins has been called by Oaks Christian Church to serve as their Interim Senior Minister.



African American Disciples to 'Rejoice' in Houston in 2012

HOUSTON, Texas -- "...Yet I Will Rejoice!" This will be the theme as the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) convenes here for its 22nd Biennial Session.

African American Disciples from congregations across the United States will gather July 26-30, 2012 in the Bayou City for five days of worship, fellowship and study around the theme, taken from Habakkuk 3:17-19.

The Rev. Dr. Timothy James, Associate General Minister and Convocation Administrative Secretary, and the Board of Trustees are already hard at work designing the Biennial program and planning a rich schedule of activities. Accommodations and activities will be at the Hilton Houston North at Greenspoint.

In addition, a local arrangements committee, chaired by the Rev. Marilyn Fiddmont, is rounding up volunteers to assist with registration, ground transportation, publicity, youth activities and other facets of the program. Fiddmont currently serves as Vice President, Southwest Zone, for the Christian Church Foundation, and is based in Houston.

"We ask you to take some time out of the day each Tuesday, to specifically pray, asking the Lord to bless the planning, preparation and implementation of the 22nd Biennial Session,"

"We ask you to take some time out of the day each Tuesday, to specifically pray, asking the Lord to bless the planning, preparation and implementation of the 22nd Biennial Session," said the Rev. Dr. Dale Braxton, president, National Convocation Board of Trustees. Braxton is senior pastor of Snow Hill Christian Church, Ft. Deposit, Ala., and associate regional minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Alabama/Northwest Florida.

The National Convocation is a forum of African American members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), founded in 1969 following the merger of the National Christian Missionary Convention, the United Christian Missionary Society, and the International Convention of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

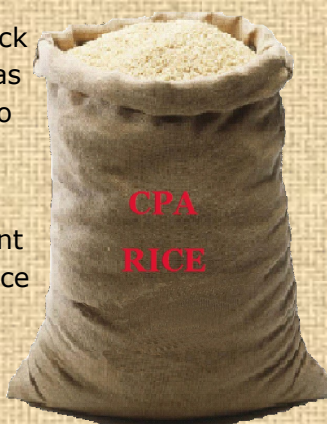
Clifford L. Willis, Publicity Committee Co-Chair

When Did We See You Hungry?

As you know, the people of the Coastal Plains Area have generously helped feed hungry people in the Valley for many years now. The shipments of rice we send go far to aid in the nourishment of people who are desperately in need of a helping hand.

In these challenging economic times, we've all needed to cut back on spending. Imagine if there was no place in your budget to cut; no Starbucks, no stopping by for a burger on the run.

Having recently funded a shipment of rice, the Coastal Plains Area Rice Fund is now depleted. Please consider making an extra gift to the CPA rice fund.



Pentecost Special Day Offering

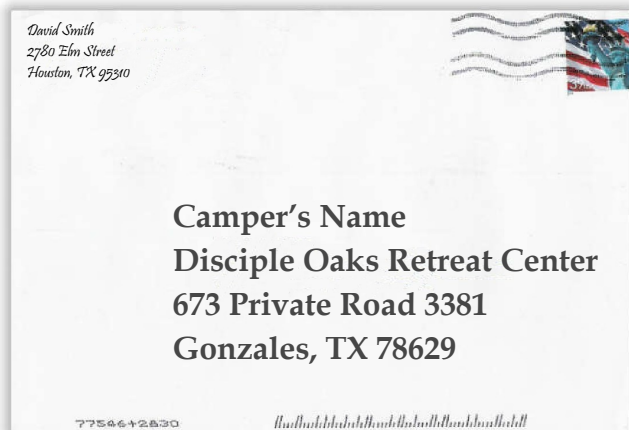
Received in most congregations
on June 5 & 12, 2011.

Coastal Plains Area Children and Youth Ministry Team

The Children and Youth Ministry Team reminds all of our youth, sponsors, and churches to get your forms into the Area Office on time; the deadlines are listed on the following page. Remember also to send a check with the forms you are turning in. These deadline dates are very important to our directors.

Also, we are beginning to work on the weekend retreat schedule for next school year and the camp schedule for next summer. We hope to have it released soon; we know it is an important piece of information for scheduling of church activities.

Scott Miller, Chair
CPA Children and Youth Ministry Team



Send mail to your Campers!

- Send mail & packages the week before so they have time to get there! Gonzales mail can be a little slow :-)
- Campers love to get mail & we encourage you to send it, but they are not allowed to store food or eat in the dorms.

PLEASE Do not send chocolate or anything that melts!

CPA Disciples CAMPS



Summer – 2011

CYF Conference *Time 10:11*..... **June 19-25**

Directors: Kim Johnson and Ray Miller

Completed grades 9-12

\$280 by 5/19 — \$320 by 6/3*

Eighter's Camp..... *Created to be Me* **June 26-July 2**

Directors: Scott Miller and Randy Frye

Completed grade 8

\$280 by 5/26 — \$320 by 6/10*

Chi Rho Camp *Come to the Water* **July 17-23**

Directors: Madella Williams and Maggie Mosler

Completed grades 6 or 7

\$280 by 6/17 — \$320 by 7/1*

Junior Camp *Our Incredible Journey*..... **July 24-29**

Directors: John Malget and Cari Fowler

Completed grades 4 or 5

\$250 by 6/24 — \$290 by 7/8*

Beginners Camp..... *Searching for Treasure*..... **July 6-9**

Directors: Steve Cloyd and Beth Graham

Completed grades 2 or 3

\$165 by 6/6 — \$205 by 6/17*

** These are postmark deadlines. Registrations will not be accepted for any camp after the final deadline for that camp has passed. For forms & more information, please go to www.cpadisciples.org*