

Mission Link

Central Area of the Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

in the Southwest Region

Abilene, Texas

April – 2009

Central Area Assembly

It is not too late to attend our neighborhood introduction and celebration. “Won’t You Be My neighbor? Mister Rogers Neighborhood” is scheduled for May 2 at First Christian Church in Abilene.

CANN (Central Area Neighborhood Network) is the emphasis. Come see! Deadline for registration is Monday – April 27. Cost is \$12 per person, \$7 per child for childcare - \$10 late fee after April 27. Bring your youth so they can meet others in their neighborhood. The next neighborhood gathering will be fellowship event on August 30. Each neighborhood will make plans for a get-together – you can start planning on May 2.

Contact us at cea@ccsw.org to make reservations for Area Assembly on May 2.

Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat’s Celebration Banquet

“Because of You...We’re Celebrating!” is the theme for the celebration banquet at LBCR. You are cordially invited to attend – invite your family and friends.

Date: Saturday - May 16, 2009

Time: Registration 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Activities 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat

R.S.V.P. Deadline: You **MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS** by May 12

Call 325/784-5133 to R.S.V.P.

Summer Camp

Registration materials are posted on the Central Area Web Site at:

www.central-area.org/PDF/CampEventPacket.pdf

June 7-13	CYF Conference at LBCR
June 28 – July 4	8 th Grade Youth Conference at Ceta Glen – Happy, Texas
July 12-16	JYF Camp at LBCR
July 12-17	Chi Rho Camp at LBCR
July 17-19	New Beginnings Camp at LBCR



Sharon E. Watkins

GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT NAMED TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

General Minister and President Sharon E. Watkins has been named to President Barack Obama's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Watkins, who is among 25 faith and community leaders appointed to the Council, was in Washington, D.C. earlier this week to attend the group's first meeting.

"I am glad to be part of such a diverse group that is seeking common ground where we can make a real difference in the lives of people," said Watkins. "It's good to see the government connecting with faith-based and community organizations to help meet people's needs."

The Advisory Council is part of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. In a press release from the White House, that office is described as "a resource for nonprofits and community organizations, both secular and faith based, looking for ways to make a bigger impact in their communities, learn their

obligations under the law, cut through red tape, and make the most of what the federal government has to offer." To read the White House press release, go to:
www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/President-Obama-Announces-Additional-Members-of-Advisory-Council-on-Faith-Based-and-Neighborhood-Partnerships.

To read the news release from DisciplesWorld, visit:
www.disciplesworld.com/newsArticle.html?wsnID=15056



CHURCH EXTENSION ADVANCED \$22.25 MILLION IN LOANS IN 2008

During a period when many financial institutions curtailed their lending, Church Extension advanced \$22.25 million in loans to Disciples of Christ congregations in 2008.

This brings to \$148.5 million the total in active loans that Church Extension has in place with congregations in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, as of December 31, 2008. Loans disbursed by Church Extension are funded by investments and contributions from Disciples congregations and individuals. For more information see:

www.churchextension.org/about/upload/Church-Extension-2008-Results.pdf