

Mission Link
Central Area of the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
in the Southwest Region
Abilene, Texas

May/June – 2009

IT IS NOT TOO LATE FOR CAMP

The summer camping program is well underway at Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat. CYF Conference was held June 7 – 13 and **8th Grade Youth Conference** will take place June 28 – July 4 at Ceta Glen Camp in Happy, Texas.

It is NOT too late to sign up for the following camps:

Chi Rho Camp for youth who have just completed grades 6 or 7

July 12-17 at Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat

Check-in time: 4:00 p.m. Sunday – Camp Ends: 10:00 a.m. Friday

Registration Fee: \$289 or \$304 after June 29

JYF Camp for youth who have just completed grades 4 or 5

July 12-16 at Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat

Check-in time: 4:00 p.m. Sunday – Camp Ends: 10:00 a.m. Thursday

Registration Fee: \$265 or \$280 after June 29

New Beginnings Camp for youth who have completed grades 2 or 3. Each child attending this camp must have one (1) adult family member or designated adult (**grandparents welcome**) accompany them to participate by serving as a counselor.

July 17-19 at Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat

Check-in time: 7:30 p.m. Friday – Camp ends: 10:00 a.m. Sunday

Registration Fee: \$98 for camper or counselor or \$113 after July 6

You may get more information about these camps, registration forms, etc. from your church office or on our website at www.central-area.org. Select Youth Programs on the left hand side of the first page (under our telephone number). Then select the Camp Information Packet. Also, you may call us at 325/676-5796 to get more information.

CANN – Central Area Neighborhood Network – August 30 Fellowship Event

Each neighborhood is being asked to plan a fellowship event for their congregations. In each neighborhood, there is one church marked with an asterisk (*). This congregation is asked to provide initial leadership for the August 30 fellowship event.

HERE ARE THE NEIGHBORHOODS:

Peter:

Wichita Falls, FCC
Wichita Falls, PPCC*

Andrew:

Burkburnett, FCC*
Iowa Park, FCC
Vernon, CCC

James:

Bowie, FCC*
Henrietta, FCC
Nocona, FCC

John:

Abilene, BHCC*
Abilene, FCC
Abilene, WCC

Philip:

Eastland, FCC*
Stephenville, FCC

Bartholomew:

Big Spring, FCC
Midland, CotJ
Midland, FCC
Midland, MCC*

Justus:

Mertzon, FCC
San Angelo, CHCC*
San Angelo, FCC

Matthew:

Brady, FCC
Lampasas, CCC
Mason, FCC
Richland Springs, FCC*

Thaddeus:

Archer City, FCC*
Graham, FCC
Jacksboro, MCC
Olney, FCC

Matthias:

Ballinger, FCC
Brownwood, FCC*
Coleman, UC&P

Thomas:

Colorado City, FCC
Snyder, FCC
Sweetwater, FCC*

Simon:

Albany, FCC*
Breckenridge, FCC
Woodson, FCC

Future CANN – Neighborhood Events:

January 31, 2010 – Neighborhood Pulpit Exchange

August 29, 2010 – Neighborhood Fellowship Event

Clergy Cluster Meetings:

Reminder to Ministers of the Central Area: Clergy Cluster meetings will not be held in June or July. Mark your calendars now for the August schedule:

August Clergy Cluster Meetings:

- 10 Bosque Cluster – Stephenville
- 11 Concho Cluster – San Angelo
- 18 Plateau Cluster – Midland
- 20 Big Country Cluster – Abilene

Central Area Assembly

October 17, 2009

First Christian Church – Abilene



BASE INTEREST RATES SET BY PENSION FUND BOARD FOR REST OF YEAR

The base rate of return to be paid on Tax Deferred and Benefit Accumulation accounts has been set at 3.5 percent and 3.0 percent, respectively, effective July 1. The Board of Directors of the Pension Fund set the new rates at the board's meeting on June 17-19. The base rates will be effective through Dec. 31. During the first six months of 2009, the base rate has been 4.0 percent.

"While the Pension Fund had achieved a positive return through May 31, the approved rates reflected favorably in the current uncertain economic climate," Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Richard Cohee, told the directors. Board policy uses a formula which blends current and historical rates as the basis for its rate determination. It will consider the rate for 2010 at its next meeting in November. For more, see: www.pensionfund.org



Cynthia L. Hale

WHITE HOUSE TAPS DISCIPLES PREACHER FOR FELLOWSHIPS COMMISSION

Cynthia L. Hale, senior pastor of Ray of Hope Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Decatur Ga., has been appointed to the President's Commission on White House Fellowships. Hale will serve on the commission along with such prominent citizens as former Sen. Thomas Daschle, special correspondent for NBC News Tom Brokaw, former NATO commander Gen. Wesley Clark, and renowned artist Maya Lin.

The White House Fellowship is America's most prestigious program for leadership and public service, providing young individuals with experience at the highest levels of the federal government. The commission met in Washington, D.C. last week to recommend the 2009-2010 list of young men and women to the President for selection as fellows.

Hale has been involved with the Obama campaign and administration in a number of ways. She gave the invocation at the 2008 Democratic National Convention, read scripture at the National Prayer Service during the President's inauguration, and served as co-chair for Women in Ministry for Obama.

She will be the Wednesday, July 29 evening worship preacher at next month's General Assembly. To learn more, go to: www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/President-Obama-Announces-Appointments-to-the-Presidents-Commission-on-White-House-Fellowships/

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RESOURCE GROUPS, LEARNING TRACKS AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Disciples who attend the 2009 General Assembly will have an opportunity to help out at one of the Resource Groups or Learning Tracks. Volunteers are needed to greet people and direct participants to the appropriate sessions. They also will assist participants in completing evaluations. These duties can be carried out while the volunteer is participating in a resource group or learning track.

Volunteers will be required to fulfill a three-hour commitment on the afternoon of either Thursday, July 30 or Friday July 31. To volunteer or get more information, contact Amelia Walker with the name of the session you have chosen to serve and the date you will attend, at: butterfly317@comcast.net or 317-507-7077. Volunteers are encouraged to help pass the word about this service opportunity at the Assembly. For more information about the 2009 General Assembly in Indianapolis, Ind., visit: www.disciples.org/ga