Disciples Men Activities at General Assembly

Disciples Men’s Luncheon & Program

Wednesday, July 13
12pm-1:45pm
Location: First Baptist Nashville Church
(One block away)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Tom Jewell, Regional Minister

Full Meal $17.00

* All men must register for GA & luncheon online, under “meals & events”.
There may be several tickets available during General Assembly at a ticket booth located near the registration area.

Conversation: Future Direction of Men’s Ministries

Wednesday, July 13
1:45pm-2:45pm
Location: Chapel at First Baptist Nashville Church

Leadership Resource Group

Wednesday, July 13
3pm-4pm
Location: Fisk Room - Renaissance Hotel
Presenter: Jim Easter, Past President GCDM

GCDM Annual Meeting

Wednesday, July 13
4pm-5pm
Location: Fisk Room - Renaissance Hotel
We had a levee breach near the Iowa line - everybody north of the Nishnabotna River are on mandatory evacuation. There is another levee breach in Holt county.

Go to the below Atchison Co page to see images and information about Holt Co. The Atchison Co breach will affect Hamburg, IA and possibly Hwy 2 that goes to Lincoln, NE.

We have a stop light installed by MODOT at US 136 and I-29 on / off ramps (preparing for possible closure of I-29).

Bye for now!
Rodney Hopper
GCDM Executive Committee, Pastor Counselor

Contacts to keep up on the Missouri River Flooding:

http://www.facebook.com/AC911  Atchison County Emergency Management (images of Levee Breach in Atchison County, MO)

US Army Corp of Engineers Flood Response 2011 Missouri River System

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mbrfc/
National Weather Service River Forecast Center

Missouri River in Atchison County, MO Federal Levee Breach L-575 – currently 300 feet wide, broke on June 13th along with a levee in Holt County, MO (county just south of Atchison County). First Christian Church of Mound City, MO is Red Cross Shelter for Holt County.

Photos of Rock Port First Christian Church CMF members working on securing community from flooding – other church members are in the photos.

Submitted by Rodney Hopper
“Christianity Embraces Young Leaders – Why Attend This Discussion?”

Jim Easter
Nashville, TN

This discussion on July 13th may be one of the most important discussions you participate in during your entire church life. Why, you ask, prove it! When you become an ACTIVE CHRISTIAN embracing God’s call for leadership you want to read John 17 early in your quest for skills and “start to understand” its meaning. My Wednesday Morning Bible study, led by Charlie Fentress, is studying the book of John and , you guessed it, Chapter 17 was our topic last Wednesday morning. A really important message. Beth and I re-read that wonderful prayer this morning before heading off to Donut Den and then on to church. I also read Vernon Magee’s interpretation of this wonderful “leadership message from John” and I was reminded that this is truly the greatest statement of Discipleship one can pray. Yes, this is the Lord’s Prayer and that almost slipped by me. Read and re-read this wonderful message, it brings us all to ACTION, don’t you agree? Maybe men and women’s work is about this prayer. I suggest we all re-read it before the Assembly…possibly a prayerful meditation would help as well.

If our LEADERSHIP DISCUSSION at the Renaissance Hotel in the Fisk Room (3 – 4 PM, Wed, July 13th) is to have value then what should we hope to gain from the discussion. I think we will all learn that true church leadership is really about “saying Lord send me”, it’s also about saying, “yes, Lord, I’ll be glad to help out, thanks for asking”. You’ll also learn that church leadership is a gentle calling that comes through informed prayer. Prayer is the “cell phone or twitter to God through Jesus”. Maybe that’s a sacrilegious way to describe it (sorry), but in some ways it is appropriate, what would the children say, does it have contemporary meaning? Prayer is also the “quiet time” we spend with ourselves in sensitive meditation, thoughtful conversation, and hopeful listening. Leadership is really about HOPEFUL LISTENING and that may be hard for some of us to do. I pray that I have YOUR ATTENTION, men and women, young and old, and here is the challenging question:

Would you be willing to take a chance on this Session being worth your time, would you be willing to risk a few moments, to explore a “working and proven” church direction?

The opportunity to share with you is exciting and I’ve decided to use the many, many examples found during my time as chairman of the The General Conference of Disciples Men (GCDM). Things that seem to be working for some of our churches, might be worthy of use by other churches. The great leadership of many men and women has manifested itself into some really superb success stories. So many great leaders and so many wonderful examples from our past have value for our future. This July leadership discussion will touch on a few of the “stories and the examples” of what has worked and what God calls us to do as TRUE, EFFECTIVE DISCIPLES. Leadership ain’t for sissies, it doesn’t always come with awards, recognition, applause and acclamations of power and successful outcomes. Leaders can expect to work hard for no pay, receive many complaints, plenty of criticism and a bountiful supply of “helpful” suggestions (usually without volunteers to help out with the actions).

When our mentor, Dean Washington Jarvis speaks to us during this “leadership and sharing” afternoon (through his wonderful book), he will speak about COPING WITH STRESS and PRESSURE. His book is so richly rewarding, with all these little nuggets of knowledge…many found quietly resting in our Bibles, but, Dean Jarvis does such a great job of clarification, for example; Dean Jarvis, suggests that “prayer always begins with a recognition of our weaknesses. When we pray we offer up all the things we cannot change and we ask for the strength to live gracefully with our own limitations and with the things that we observe about others that disappoint us”.

He goes on to say that “happiness in life is not the absence of pressure and stress. Happiness in life is finding a way to deal with the inevitable pressures of life”. He goes on to say that “ultimately we are drawn to prayer”. He says that is why the Psalmist wrote Psalm 84, for example, he quotes;

“Happy are those whose refuge is in thee, whose hearts are set, as pilgrims, on searching for thy way, as they pass thirsty through dry valleys, they will find water from a spring, for the Lord provides, even to those who lose their way, pools of water to quench their thirst. O Lord of Hosts, happy is the man who trusts in thee!”

Does this have some meaning to those of you who, by chance, read this wonderful “Voice of Disciples Men”? Do you trust that we are all drawn to prayer and do you “feel a calling to join us” for a few minutes to share and compare ideas. Do you believe that the role of an Elder or a Deacon or a church Committee Member or just a plain old Member has great divine inspirational value? Are you willing to consider how the following spiritual concepts have unique meaning in each of our lives:

• A Leadership Team Of Energized People...Can Change Our World One Person At A Time.
• A Focused Mission and A Vision...Grows The Objective Beyond Anyone’s Imagination.
• Leadership Training...Can Be As Eleganty Simple As Listening To A Song.
• A Small Group Mentality...Means You Belong And Someone Cares About You.
• A Passion For People...Even The Dull, Ignorant and Unlovable are God’s Children.
• A Spiritual Base...Not Perfection, Remember Church Is For Sinners, Like You and Me!
• Biblical Research...Is Bigger Than All Us Men, But So Much Fun.
• Preaching and Praying...and Praying...and Praying...and Listening.
• Living The Religion...Ain’t For Sissies.
• American Idols...Are In Your Own Family and Just Around The Corner.

*Here are some IMAGES, some FIRST IMPRESSIONS and some EXAMPLES of SUCCESSES! I dare you to show up and bring a friend or a “perfect” stranger!"
AROUND TU-IT
A new Disciples Men’s program will be coming soon to your state or area!

For more information and to get a copy, visit the Disciples Men’s booth at the DHM exhibition area or join us for the Disciples Men’s Luncheon at General Assembly. Also, go to https://www.discipleshomissions.org/pages/Men-Resources to download a copy. More details on the next issue.
After a successful BBQ Chicken Luncheon fundraiser, the Christian Men’s Fellowship at Southwood Memorial Christian Church in Kinston, NC recently purchased an enclosed trailer. The trailer will be used in conjunction with the church’s twelve passenger van by the CMF, CYF and CWF when participating in local and regional mission projects. The groups will be able to transport equipment, materials, tools and supplies needed for projects such as building, cleaning, repairing homes and mowing lawns and trimming shrubs and bushes and cleaning debris for the elderly, disabled or those suffering loss from natural disasters. For more information and more photos visit www.southwoodmemorial.com.

Bruce Williamson, CMF President
Southwood Memorial Christian Church Kinston, NC
252.559.3484

Tell us about upcoming events, gatherings and retreats. And don’t forget to send us pictures as well!

October
October 7-9, 2011
The Sixtieth Anniversary Disciples Men’s retreat at Cedar Lakes Camp and Conference Center in Ripley, West Virginia. Darwin Collins, Vice-President of the Christian Church Foundation will be our speaker.

Tell it!

July
July 9-13, 2011
Disciples General Assembly
“Tell it!”
Nashville, TN

September
September 16-18, 2011
Southwest Region Disciples Men’s annual retreat. At Lake Brownwood, TX. With a theme of “The Church has Left the Building,” two outreach/mission-oriented speakers were chosen to match the retreat theme.

They are: Rev. Feliberto Pereira, Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries director in Los Fresnos, TX and Rev. Laurie Feille, Senior Minister at Azle Christian Church in Azle, TX.
New Disciples Men Lapel Pins

These new Disciples Men’s Lapel Pins will be available at General Assembly. They come in Gold or Silver and can be purchased for $2.00 each during the Men’s Luncheon or at our exhibit booth. These new Disciples Men pins can be used in many ways: on your suit coat, shirt collar, as a gift, or maybe purchase several for the men in your church.

Men’s Gathering 2012
At this gathering which will be held at Bethany College in Bethany, WV from July 13 through 15, 2012, men of all ages will come together to enrich their spiritual lives, enjoy great fellowship and make a difference in the lives of others. See you there!

Go to https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/pages/Men-Gathering2012 for promotional videos and poster.