



# Tres Rios Area News

## April 2008

### Area News

---

**Area Assembly**  
**April 25 – 26**  
**El Paso**  
**First Christian Church**

Area Assembly is now set to be held in El Paso at First Christian Church on April 25 - 26.

The theme is God's New Day - New Direction: Transforming Your Church, Our Area and Our Region.

On Friday guest speakers will be the **Rev. Doug Pfeiffer**, a Transformational Pastor who is currently serving at Faith Christian Church in Omaha Nebraska and the **Revs. Donna & Bill Rose-Heim** who are Co-Area Ministers in the Northwest Area of the Mid-America Region.

One of our own, **Art Tambur**, from First Christian Church in El Paso will also give an afternoon workshop on Multi-Media Worship.

Friday evening we will celebrate with a Heavenly Banquet and a Creative Transformational Worship Service.

Saturday will be spent celebrating what we have accomplished this last year as an Area and participating in the next step of the Regional New Day - New Direction Discovery process.

For more information, the schedule and registration packet, please go to [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org) or ask your church office for copies.



### Licensed Ministry Resources

**LM Training**  
**May 16 – 17**  
**Church Family Systems**  
**High Plains Area**  
**Ceta Canyon Camp**  
**Happy, TX**

Information for the next training event, along with 2008 Licensed ministry documents are now available on our website [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org). Point cursor on "Ministries" and the on the drop down menu you'll see "Licensed Ministry".

The calendar on the website can be filtered to see just Licensed Ministry dates. Use the box on the upper left-hand side of the calendar to select "Licensed Ministry".

The May 16 – 17 event in the High Plains Area is a repeat of the training that took place in El Paso, February 29 and March 1, with Area Minister, Charlotte Hoppe leading. If a licensed minister missed that event but would like to receive this training, they may register by calling the HPA office at 806-358-8590.

---

2008 Camp Dates



**BLACK RIVER CENTER FOR LEARNING - CARLSBAD, NM**

JUNE 8 - 13, 2008    CYF CONFERENCE  
JUNE 16 - 19, 2008    NEW BEGINNINGS CAMP  
JUNE 16 - 20, 2008    CHI RHO CAMP & JUNIOR CAMP

**CIRCLE 6 CAMP - STANTON, TX**

JUNE 16 - 21 - CREATED TO BE ME - EIGHTERS' CAMP

Costs and forms can be found at [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org) under "Ministries" – "Camps"

---

CYF Mid-Winter



On January 19 - 21, 34 youth and 7 adults gathered at Black River Center for Learning, to fellowship, study and work together. The theme was *Do What Jesus Would Do* and in light of that, the group focused on service and completed several service projects around the campgrounds. They picked up fallen tree limbs and cut them into smaller pieces to be used for firewood. They also cleared the volleyball court from weeds and treated the shower heads with vinegar to remove the hard water deposits. The dance had a Retro theme and the youth could dress up in costumes from the 20's to the 90's, to bring home the message that Jesus accepts everybody. The time together ended on Sunday night with a memorable campfire.

---



Our Area Minister, Charlotte Hoppe, now has a blog on our website at [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org). If you want to just see her latest message and where she's been the past month or so, point to "News" and choose "Charlottes' blog" from the drop down menu. If you wish to see all her messages or respond to her latest one, point to "News" and choose "Forum" from the drop down menu.

Charlotte hopes this venue can become a better way for her to communicate what's going on in the Area and to hear from you about what you are thinking.

---

2008 Men's Retreat



**Lift Up Your Hearts In Praise!  
Transforming Worship for Today's Generation**

Twenty-one men from the area fellowshiped and participated in an uplifting retreat on March 7-9, led by the Rev. Rick Linn, minister of First Christian Church in Portland, TX and Dr. Otis Lloyd, co-director of the South Dallas Concert Choir,

---

**New Day New Direction  
Regional Transformation  
Journey**

**Discovery Conferences**



This spring, as a part of the on-going region-wide conversations to discern how Regional/Area ministries can be an even more effective and faithful partner in ministry with the congregations in the CCSW, eleven Discovery Conferences are being held through all eight Areas. These conferences are designed to bring about the widest possible cross-section of leaders and members in our CCSW churches to build a shared understanding of our concerns and priorities.

People attending these Discovery Conferences will have a chance to see and hear, as well as consider and discuss:

- Data gathered so far from across the region about the current status of our Regional/Area ministries
- Initial reflections and thoughts concerning this data from the New Day New Direction Task Force, the CCSW regional council, and Dale Ziemer, our consultant from the Center for Parish Development
- Proposed strategic issues that have been identified which must be addressed as we move forward, as a region, discerning God's new vision for our Regional/Area ministries

The Tres Rios Area will be engaging in their Discovery Conference as a part of their Area Assembly, the morning of April 26, at First Christian Church, El Paso, TX.

Following these Region-wide Discovery Conferences, congregations will be asked to engage in Bible study in preparation for a fall season of visioning for the future of the CCSW and the TRA. The CCSW Regional Assembly, October 17-19, will in part be a Vision Retreat for the future of our ministries together.

For more information about the Discovery Conference see: (web link)

---

**REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
FOR WOMEN  
JUNE 20-22, 2008**

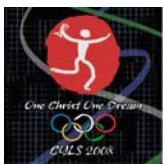
**Shapers & Shakers**

The 2008 Retreat will be held on the TCU Campus/University Christian Church, Fort Worth, TX.



Registration forms, & flyer can be downloaded at [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org) under "Ministries" – "Women"

Presenters for this year are **Dani Loving Cartwright** – Keynote Presenter and Focus Group Leader; CCSW Regional Minister; **Charlotte Hoppe** – Bible Study; Tres Rios Area Minister; **Dottie Cook** – Worship Liturgist; Sr. Minister at South Hills Christian Church, Fort Worth; **Jean Worden** – Pianist and Organist, FCC, Tyler; **Pauline Patterson** – Banquet Speaker; Woman-to-Woman to Haiti/Dominican Republic; Committee Member, Nacogdoches First Christian Church; **Celinda Hallbauer** – Choir Director and Focus Group Leader; Moderator of TBA; Member, Temple Christian Church; **Karen (Stevie)Linn** – Song Leader; director of several Dallas choirs and professional soloist.



**CHRISTIAN YOUTH  
LEADERSHIP SEMINAR  
JUNE 23-28, 2008  
LAKE BROWNWOOD**

The Annual Seminar for Area Youth Council Leaders will be held at Lake Brownwood this year. Registration forms are available at [www.traccsw.org](http://www.traccsw.org) under "Ministries" – "Youth"

---

## Regional News



### **JULIETTE FOWLER HOMES SUMMER MISSION TRIPS!**

Adult & Youth Groups Welcome  
Some weekend hours available  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
June 13, 2008 - August 11, 2008

Possible activities: INDOOR: assist with resident activities, light cleaning, flipping mattresses, decorate bulletin boards, office help, BINGO, crafts, manicures, seasonal party, etc. Teach computer skills. Music entertainment. Suggestions welcome! OUTDOOR: landscape work, trash pick up. Donations for any activities welcome.

Qualifications: Cheerful workers -- adults or supervised groups of youth (11 - 18 years). Recommended Supervision: 1 adult per 5 youth

Fowler can accommodate groups of 5 - 25.

PLEASE SUBMIT REQUEST BY MAY 8 to:  
Cindy Wabner, Volunteer Services Manager  
(Fax) 214-827-7021  
cindyw@fowlerhomes.org  
1234 Abrams Road • Dallas, TX 75214  
214-827-0813 ext. 7106



**Annual Regional  
Men's Retreat**  
September 19-21, 2008  
Lake Brownwood Retreat  
Center

### **"Why Me, Lord?"**

**Keynote speakers:** Dr. Joey Jeter, Brite Divinity School/TCU and  
Dr. Doug Skinner, Northway Christian Church  
**Other Highlights:** Workshops, Pre-Retreat Golf, Saturday Work  
projects

For more information and registration go to:  
[http://www.ccsw.org/DisciplesMen/disciples\\_men.asp](http://www.ccsw.org/DisciplesMen/disciples_men.asp)



**Regional Assembly**  
October 17-19

University Christian Church & Texas Christian University  
Fort Worth, Texas



**Pentecost Offering  
May 4 & 11**

Pentecost Special Offering will be collected June 1 through June 8 this year in most Disciples congregations. The offering divides equally between new-church ministry efforts in the region where it is collected and Disciples New Church Ministry. NCM coordinates the Disciples' training and other church-wide strategies for new-church growth.



**July 17 – 20  
Oklahoma City**

**DISCIPLES MEN WILL MEET AT SESSIONS 2008 THIS SUMMER**  
Sessions 2008 organizers are finalizing plans for the event that will draw Disciples men from the United States and Canada to a unique opportunity for inspiration, fellowship, education and spiritual renewal. The list of speakers includes General Minister and President Sharon E. Watkins, Disciples pastors Mark Briley, William Lee and Rick Lowery, Dean and Academic Vice-President at Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, Ky.

There also will be mission projects with Habitat for Humanity and visits to sites around Oklahoma City. There is still time to register at the "Early Bird" rate. For full information including on-line registration and hotel information, visit [www.Sessions2008.org](http://www.Sessions2008.org) and register today.



**July 20 – 24  
ICYP Pre-Assembly  
Mission Work, California**

**July 24 – 27  
ICYP Assembly, Chapman  
University, Orange, CA**

The International Christian Youth Fellowship (ICYF) is scheduled to convene at Chapman University. Disciples' high school youth gather every four years for worship, discussion and leisure activities.

Chapman, located in Orange, Calif., is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). For more information, contact Lee Yates and Kortni Ingebrightsen, at: [icyfchapman@yahoo.com](mailto:icyfchapman@yahoo.com) or visit the ICYP website at: [www.icyfchapman.org](http://www.icyfchapman.org).



The Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP) has announced that it will convene the 2008 GMP Pastor's Conference in September. The Pastor's Conference will feature Floyd Flake, Will Willimon, and the music of Disciples' own Bill Thomas.

Sharon E. Watkins, General Minister and President, is calling all Disciples clergy to come together for a time of rest, renewal, and rejuvenation Sept. 8-10, 2008. The conference is planned to gather in Chicago, Illinois. For more information and to register go to: <http://www.disciples.org/watkins/news/2007/11/16a.asp>