

# The Great River Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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September 4, 2019

Dear Great River Region Congregations:

Did you know that the Great River Region (GRR) is composed of 106 Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi?

Did you know that we employ a staff of three – Dr. Rev. Nadine Burton, our Executive Regional Minister; Wendy Paquette, our Regional Administrator; and Kaycee Young, our new Part-time Regional Youth and Young Adult Pastor? Did you know that financial support from Pinnacle Outreach Ministry allows Rev. Miles Cook to provide support as our Regional Elders Coordinator? Here are some of the ministries that benefit you and your congregation:

- Help with ministerial call for part-time, full-time, and interim ministers
- Develop strategies for new church starts throughout the GRR
- Oversight of camping program for the children and youth of GRR
- Spiritual leadership for GRR Disciples Women, Men, and Youth
- Maintain Social Media (Regional Website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter)
- Development of the GRR Training Institute - Offering clergy and lay trainings such as Anti-Racism, Reconciliation, Boundaries and Elders
- Counsel congregations faced with transition, conflict, and upheaval
- Provide pastoral care and support to pastors and their families
- Provide opportunities for clergy fellowship clusters
- Assist congregations whose deeds/mortgages are held by the GRR
- Continue to develop our Future Story & Long Range Strategies

The GRR has been operating at a deficit for the last four years. That deficit averages \$30,000/year. Out of 106 churches, approximately 30% are giving congregations meaning those 30% carry the weight of the financial support for the whole ministry as well as the 70% of our congregations who do not support the ministry.

We are ever so grateful for your stewardship to the GRR. Thank you! Your congregation and the members within it are a very necessary part of our Future Story – but the Region needs your help. Could you do more? Does your congregation give to the GRR Operating Fund on a regular basis? Could that amount be increased by 1% this year? If your congregation does not contribute on a regular basis, could you start by giving \$100 a month? \$50 a month?

Here in the GRR, we have a future story calling us to move forward together. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us by giving to the GRR. We need financial resources to be a viable ministry for you and all our congregations. Your support will enable us to continue and expand our ministries for future generations. Will you join us in what God is doing in the GRR?

In Christ we remain,

*Finance Team of the Great River Region*

June Vander Molen, Robert Palmer, Rob Robuck, Jason Ferguson, John Goebel,  
Nadine Burton and Wendy Paquette