



AUGUST EDITION OF THE CHRISTIAN PILOT



A Message from the Moderator

Candy Sprick

Changes. Sometimes we love 'em and sometimes we hate 'em.

Since about a year ago, Raytown Christian Church has experienced quite a few changes. Our church was turned upside down after the disbanding of the Praise Band, the departure of our pastor, a large turnover on the General Board, the retirement of our beloved and gifted organist, and the passing of our fearless and inspiring Moderator. Through all of this, one constant held us together, and we can all thank Jenn Wetzel for hanging in when the challenges seemed insurmountable and the changes never-ending. We stayed strong and unified because Jenn stubbornly pushed past her own sorrow to manage day-to-day operations for us and maintained as much normalcy as possible, even as we all mourned losses. Pastor Michael stepped in to deliver the Word, and Suanne deftly moved us from organ music to piano. Lynn found meaningful recorded music for the Praise service. The front desk staff kept their chins up and smiles on in major supporting roles. I personally want to express my gratitude to Pastor Michael, Jenn, Suanne, Lynn & Janelle whose steady presence stabilized a somewhat paralyzing time at RCC. And member volunteers came out of the woodwork to step up to whatever the need. Together, we were able to move forward, welcoming Sisters In Christ and other groups to share our space, which is a blessing for sure. God has been good to us.

Now we find ourselves at the beginning of another season of changes...positive changes! We are pretty much settled in with our business "partners" in the building and operations are flowing smoothly in a synergistic way. Our capital campaign was very, very successful, and building renewal is at hand! Worship services have been evolving with some familiarity, though we are eagerly anticipating the prospect of a new pastor who may usher in some changes. We look forward to having a permanent pastor

and pastoral care for our church family. We look forward to new music makers and exciting transformations in worship. God has been walking with us and has blessed us in so many ways! And I am so proud that RCC has embraced every new thing with such resilience and grace. We asked God to lead us into the future and it is very clear He has a specific plan for us. What that looks like, we still don't know, but for now we now have confidence that any new change He sends us is surely to fulfill His vision for us. Hallelujah!

**KINDOM
OF GOD
WITHIN US
AMONG US**

**MID-AMERICA
DISCIPLES
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY 2023
BUSINESS ITEMS
& RESULTS**

One of the many reasons Disciples attend the General Assembly is to perform the worshipful work of the Church through business sessions. The General Assembly is the general representative body of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and receives and acts upon proposed policy and program, reports and resolutions, and other items of business presented during business sessions.

Business items from this year's General Assembly can be found below (If you would like more information on any of these items, click any of the links below or visit:

<https://ga.disciples.org/business/>

Adopted

[Christian Church Health Care Benefit Trust Closure & Distribution of Assets](#)

Referred

[Recognition of a Truth & Healing Council to Honor our Covenantal Relationship with Indigenous Peoples & to Discern Ways of Reparations for a Path to Reconciliation](#)

Adopted

[Concerning Food Waste, Food Insecurity, and Environmental Justice](#)

Adopted

[Compelled to Witness: Answering the Cry of our Palestinian Siblings](#)

Adopted

[Building on our Church's Commitment to Faith-Based Investing](#)

Adopted

[Calling the Church to Oppose Christian Nationalism](#)

Adopted

[Dissolution of the Pastoral Commission of the Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\) in the United States & Canada](#)

Adopted

[Amendments to the Design of the Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

Adopted

[Re-election of the General Minister & President](#)

Adopted

[Ratify Actions of the General Board](#)

Adopted

[Report of the Time & Place Committee](#)

Adopted

[Report of the General Nominating Committee](#)

Received

[Council of Colleges & Universities Report](#)

Received

[The Report of the Council on Theological Education](#)

Adopted

[Invitation to Opposed Anti-Trans Legislation & Affirm the Dignity of Transgender & Gender-Diverse People \(Emergency Resolution\)](#)

Referred

[Emergency Resolution Concerning Solidarity with the Faith Coalition to Stop Cop City & Defend the Weelaunee Forest](#)



A handbell choir is being reconstituted for the church. Some of the Chalice Bronze wish to continue ringing. If there are former ringers who would like to join us, this is a good time. Rehearsal times will be determined by the participants. If you are interested in ringing, reach out to RCC's Music Director, Suanne Comfort.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS
HELPING PEOPLE SAY YES TO JESUS!
Mindy McDaniel, Chairperson



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE KIDDOS OF RIVER OF REFUGE

Back-to-school supplies are due this Sunday, August 13th. Specific requests are for backpacks and spiral notebooks, but any supplies will be happily accepted and distributed to the kids! There are 22 children at the River of Refuge who are going to school this year.



Dawg Daze of Summer is Coming!

This is a community event and we are hoping for 100+ guests Sunday, August 20th, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Grilled hotdogs, chips, water/sodas, and ice cream cups are on the menu. Many volunteers are needed for the event... Grill Masters to man the hotdog grills, volunteers to create/help with games for kids, set-up and clean-up volunteers, and of course, most importantly...RCC Ambassadors of Christ's love!!! Let's lead people to Jesus here at Raytown Christian Church!



The middle of summer when things get the hottest: traditionally a joke about sweltering. This year is no joke, for record high temperatures that are being broken all across the earth. Many are the highest in recorded history. I pray every day that the human race wakes up to living the dream, listening to the will of God, and will stop abusing our Mother Earth and her children.

On August 3 and again on August 17, the Farmers Market opens at 4pm and last until 7pm. Rice Tremonti house will see a variety of booth spaces, 8801 E 66th. Come support a beginning to a great community feature. First September date is the 7th.

Bring your lawn chairs to the Green Space on August 12 for another Raytown Summer Concert. Lucidity opens at 7:00pm and plays until 9pm. Open meadow for relaxing and listening, while a couple of food rucks can provide dinner.

The 18th Annual Raytown Artists Art Invitational flows from August 18th into the 19th and features a plethora of expression, from paintings to sculpture to jewelry to ceramics. The highlighted reception occurs at 6:30pm on Friday. Go see at St. Paul's, 78th & Blue Ridge Blvd.

Raytown's Festival of Trails starts cooking on Sept 9 and goes from 10-5pm. Buffalo Soldiers will appear, the home has tours, the Windy Hollow band plays, and lots of historical activities celebrate the Rice Tremonti Home. Don't miss our town's addition to the American legacy.

Into golf? The 'Tee Up for Hope" Tournament swings into action on Sept 14 at Adam's Pointe Golf Club in Blue Springs. The 8-noon event raises money for the Hope Network Vehicle Repair Program, to assist with safe transportation for those without a way to move.

