



# The NTACC

Vol. 18 No. 6 A publication of the North Texas Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) November 2007

## Larry's Latest

### Rev. Irie Session Called as Associate Area Minister



At its November meeting, the North Texas Area Cabinet accepted the unanimous recommendation of its Associate Area

Minister Search Committee and issued a call to **Rev. Irie Session**. I am so excited to begin working with a colleague who has already demonstrated exceptional gifts and graces for ministry, including the launch of a new church, New Life Christian Church, which she will continue.

As Associate Area Minister, Irie will work closely with the Camp and Conference ministry, Disciples Women throughout the Area, and program initiation and planning. Since her church meets in the afternoon, she will be available for some speaking at Area churches. And since this is a part-time ministry, she will also continue to work some with "New Friends New Life," which ministers to women seeking to leave adult entertainment industries.

Irie is a recent graduate of Brite Divinity School, where she won many honors for preaching, theology and student pastoral ministry. She graduated from Oklahoma Christian College in 1982 and immediately began a career in social work before God called her into ministry.

I am grateful to those on the search committee for their hours of long work. There were many highly qualified candidates from the Area and elsewhere. I was encouraged to discover that the Area's reputation for a servant-leader approach attracted so many deeply talented ministers to apply.

I encourage NTA churches to get to know Irie as soon as they can. She is an energetic, passionate, caring and listening soul, and will help the

*continued on page 2*

## 2008 Leader Event

### More Feasting, More Sharing!

### Saturday, January 19

#### Central Christian Church, Dallas

*The spirit of General Assembly 2007 continues in the 2008 NTA Leader Event. A feast of opportunities to worship, learn and fellowship so that we might better share the good news of Jesus Christ.*

#### **Rick Morse, Vice President for New Church Ministry and Mission Initiatives will be the key leader.**

Rick has been a crucial part of the New Church Ministry team since 2001. Rick's experience with new church planting, his ability to create and communicate a viable vision and his passionate leadership have helped transform the new church movement into a vital, God-led ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In addition, Rick now leads the denomination's *New Beginnings*, a consultation ministry created by Church Extension to assist local congregations.

#### **New for 2008! Prayer Breakfast -**

Join us at 8:00 a.m. to pray together for the ministry of the church in the North Texas Area and beyond. Rick Morse will lead us.

#### **Three Workshop Sessions -**

Excellent continuing education for clergy and laity. A variety of workshops will increase our enthusiasm *to be and to share the good news of Jesus Christ*. These sessions will improve our skills to grow *true community, deepen our Christian spirituality* and help us focus our *passion for justice*. Workshops begin at 9:30 a.m.

**Lunch** will be provided. Rick Morse's key note presentation will engage us in "table conversation" that will further discussion about the how's and why's of church planting and congregational transformation.

**Closing Worship** at 3:00 p.m. You won't want to miss this!

#### **New for 2008! Post-Event Evangelism Practicum -**

"Sharing the Feast with Others"

**Come for all or part of the day.** Watch for registration opportunities very soon. Share this information with everyone in your church and put the date on your calendar. Call the NTA office and offer to help. This is one of the many ways the North Texas Area supports the ministry of our local congregations.

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The NTACC  
is published bi-monthly by  
the North Texas Area of the  
Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
in the Southwest

Lyn T. Robinette  
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NTACC Deadlines  
January 4, 2005  
March 1, 2005  
May 3, 2005  
July 5, 2005

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## Search and Call

The following congregations are in  
various stages of the Search and  
Call process for ministerial staff.  
Please keep them in your prayers:

First, Anna  
Midway Hills, Dallas  
Oak Cliff, Dallas (P/T)  
Rosemont Center, Dallas  
(Associate)  
First, Denton  
First, Ennis  
First, Paris  
Uniting Church, Richardson

## Regional Office Building Sale Creates CCSW Legacy

An unsolicited offer to purchase the existing CCSW Regional Office in Fort Worth was received early this summer. The Executive Committee engaged an “expert” property task force of persons with much real estate experience, as well as Disciples connections to investigate its merit. After many hours of work and conversations with Area Ministers and the Regional Council, the Property Task Force recommended that the Regional Council’s Executive Committee go forward with the sale.

On Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, the Regional Council voted to go forward with the sale of the Regional Office Building. The Property Task Force completed the negotiation with the oversight of the Executive Committee and the sale will be final in early December.

Preceding the decision on the sale of the building, the Regional Council approved a *Permanent Fund Policy for Property* which invests the corpus of this sale for ministry and mission. The approximate \$1.2 proceeds from the sale will yield interest income to ensure physical space as well as provide dollars for mission in the Region and in the whole church.

This is a rare opportunity that enables us, as CCSW, to transform what we have been given into a legacy for the future and provide ministry & mission support far in the years ahead.

The new physical address (as of Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>) will be 2501 Parkview Dr., Suite 450, Fort Worth, TX 76102. And the mailing address will be P.O. Box 1689, Fort Worth, TX 76101.

The Trinity-Brazos Area office will be moving to Riverside Christian Church as the church has offered its building for a Ministry Center. The Trinity-Brazos Area joins the Bluebonnet and North Texas Areas who also have moved into churches and use the buildings for mission work in the community as well as worship space for congregations.

## Disciples Women/CWF News

The Area women are in the process of getting Christmas gifts for the residents of the Pearl Nordan Care Center at Juliette Fowler. The presidents or church representatives will meet at the home of **Gayle Hurst** for business and a brunch on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Our January meeting for all women of the Area is going to be on January 26<sup>th</sup> at First Christian Church of Allen. “Surviving Thru Faith”, a true story will be presented by **Liz Zsohar**. The retreat committee is meeting and has plans well underway for our next exciting retreat at Disciples Crossing, Athens. The retreat will be April 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> and is open to all women of the Area.

This is your Disciples Women in action.

Linda Morrow, Chair

## Larry’s Latest

*continued*

### Associate Area Minister Called

North Texas Area serve the churches in an even more excellent way! One of her references described her as, “A natural leader by virtue of her command of language, scripture, and understanding of human nature.”

**Remember to put  
January 19 on your calendar for  
the 2008 Leader Event!**

*In Christ,*




## Disciples Men/CMF News

There were 45 men present at the Mens Breakfast in Garland. This breakfast was the kick-off for the Mike’s Kids Ministry. We have already filled 3 banana boxes. Churches are asked to collect toys, clothes, food (rice and beans) until Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, for this ministry. Collected items may be taken to collection points (listed at [www.mikeskids.org](http://www.mikeskids.org)) where items will be picked up on December 12.

2008 International Day of Pancakes is March 9. The theme this year is *Project “Hands On” for Youth*. Information is available at [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org).

The next Area men’s breakfast will be held at First Christian Church, 203 S. Main St., Duncanville on February 2 at 8:30 a.m.

Bob Counts  
President

# Youth News



## 2007 CYF FALL Rally Lock-in



*Natalie Attaya was the  
keynoted speaker.*



*2008 Summer  
Camp and  
Conference dates  
are listed on the  
Area web site -  
[www.ntacsw.org](http://www.ntacsw.org).*

### ***Mid-Winter Dates***

***CYF***                      ***January 25 - 27, 2008***

***Chi Rho***                ***February 8 - 10, 2008***

*Check with your youth minister or sponsor for forms or  
the Area web page - [www.ntacsw.org](http://www.ntacsw.org) soon.*

# North Texas Area Bulletin Board

## Disciples Crossing Planning a Celebration!

Disciples Crossing (Camp Underwood, Christian Youth Foundation, The Camp at Athens) is planning a celebration to mark 60 years of outdoor ministry to much of North and East Texas.

The date is **May 10, 2008**; the place is Disciples Crossing at Athens, Texas.

The planning committee is looking for people whose connection to the camp fall into several different categories. We are looking for ministers who received God's call while participating in camp or conference. We are looking for people who were there when it began. Were you in that first CYF Conference? Did you serve on the Camp Board at some time? Were you part of a work crew? Have you been to every retreat your Area women or men have ever had? Were you a camp counselor or director? Ever been employed at the camp? This is your chance to get in on the ground floor to receive information as it is available.

Send your contact information to **Reba Gibson**, 124 W. Harvard, Garland, TX 75041 or e-mail to [rcgibson1@verizon.net](mailto:rcgibson1@verizon.net). You may also call the following phone numbers: (972) 840-2818 or (214) 287-8339. I will be waiting to hear from you!

## DISCIPLES MINISTRIES REACH OUT TO TROOPS IN WAR ZONE

Two Disciples from Texas are directing ministries that offer support to troops serving in the war zones. **Carol Neal**, a member of Memorial Drive Christian, Houston, heads up a program at her church that sends care packages to soldiers each month.

In another effort, Navy chaplain **William Fauntleroy** directs the "Warrior Transition Program," which helps sailors who are on their way home from the combat zone readjust to civilian life. Fauntleroy, who is a member of Central Christian, Dallas, is stationed in Kuwait. "Medical science has shown us how the trauma of combat changes the human brain," said Fauntleroy. "We want to change it back in accordance to the divine design." For more, visit: [www.disciples.org/dns/Releases2007/07174.html](http://www.disciples.org/dns/Releases2007/07174.html)

## Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

### JOYS

Sachse Christian celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 10.

Western Heights Christian, Garland celebrated 43 years of ministry on October 28 and their new ministry it's creating with First Christian, Richardson as they join together.

### Church Groundbreaking



First Christian, Anna had an exciting and inspirational morning worship service on August 26. **Rev. Don Stockford** read scripture and **Jerry Wynn** gave a statement of purpose, stressing early days of this historic church to their promising future. After a prayer of dedication, those present went outside and broke ground for the new **Jim and Lela Schollenburger Family Life Center**. This church has its beginnings in one of the earliest Christian Churches in Texas and continues to plan for future generations.

## 2008 Leader Event

**More Feasting,  
More Sharing  
January 19, 2008  
Central Christian, Dallas**

## Area Calendar

### November

NTA Office closed for Thanksgiving  
November 22 - 23, 2007

Clergy Advent Service  
First Christian, Carrollton  
November 28, 2007

### December

NTA Office closed for Christmas  
December 25, 2007

### January

NTA Office closed for New Year's  
January 1, 2008

Licensed Minister Training - 8:45 a.m.  
Rush Creek Christian, Arlington  
January 5, 2008

Area Committee on the Ministry  
Area Office, Garland  
January 7, 2008

Stalcup School of Theology for the Laity  
Cynthia Rigby - 8:30 a.m.  
Northway Christian - Dallas  
January 12, 2008

Leader Event - 8:00 a.m.  
Central Christian - Dallas  
January 19, 2008

CYF Mid-Winter  
Disciples Crossing - Athens  
January 25 - 27, 2008

Disciples Women General Meeting  
First Christian, Allen - 10:00 a.m.  
January 26, 2008

### February

Stalcup School of Theology for the Laity  
James Johnson - 8:30 a.m.  
Northway Christian, Dallas  
February 2, 2008

Chi Rho Mid-Winter  
Disciples Crossing - Athens  
February 8 - 10, 2008

Ministers Week  
TCU/University Christian - Fort Worth  
February 11 - 14, 2008

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