



THE NEW CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

www.gadisciples.org

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October 2005

Georgia Disciples Celebrate a 'New Creation' at 156th Regional Assembly

Georgia Disciples will gather November 11 and 12 at Ray of Hope Christian Church in Decatur, Georgia, for their 156th annual Regional Assembly. This year's gathering with its theme, "*Behold, There Is a New Creation*", rather than focusing on what has happened in the past will direct participants toward the future to which God is leading the church. Regional Minister, Rev. Dr. Ray Miles, expresses his understanding,

"It is going to be a time when we focus on what God is setting in front of us as we look into this new chapter of our life together." He noted that "sometimes we get so caught up with the problems of the past and the issues we currently face that we find ourselves stalled. This Assembly, while it will deal with current issues such as budget and finance decisions and election of officers, will spend the majority of the time focused on worship, on hearing God's word, and celebrating what we see as the vision for the Region in the next years."

Friday evening, those assembled will be off to a powerful start as General Minister and President Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins preaches on the call of God. Saturday morning, Dr. Richard Lowery, one of our denomination's preeminent biblical scholars, will lead us in discovering God's call into the future as it resounds in the Old Testament. Our closing worship will be led by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale, Senior Pastor of our host congregation, who will send us forth renewed to respond to God's call.

Disciples are urged to share in this special time of inspiration and unity as we celebrate being the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Georgia.

A complete schedule of the Assembly and registration information may be found on page four of this *Messenger* and on the Region's website www.gadsicples.org.

156th Regional Assembly

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in Georgia

November 11~12, 2005

*Behold, There is
a New Creation*

2 Cor. 5:17



Ray of Hope Christian Church
2778 Snapfinger Road
Decatur, Georgia 30034
Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Senior Pastor



Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale
156th Regional Assembly Host
Ray of Hope Christian Church



Rev. Dr. Sharon E. Watkins
General Minister and President
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Dr. Richard (Rick) H. Lowery
Professor of Old Testament
Phillips Theological Seminary



Dr. Ray Miles
Regional Minister of the Christian
Church (Disciples of Christ) in Georgia

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 22

Volunteer Seminar
Sandy Springs Christian Church,
Atlanta

October 24

Reconciliation Task Force
Meeting

First Christian Church of Atlanta,
Tucker

October 26

NW Minister's Meeting
First Christian Church,
Decatur

October 30

All Seminarians meet with
Commission on Ministry
Brookhaven Christian Church,
Atlanta

November 5

Disciple Men Commission
Meeting
Regional Office,
Macon

November 5

Disciple Women Commission
Meeting
Regional Office,
Macon

November 6

Atlanta Youth Event
Sandy Springs Christian Church,
Atlanta

November 7

NE Minister's Meeting

November 11-12

Regional Assembly
Ray of Hope Christian Church,
Decatur

November 11

Regional Board Meeting

November 12

YAC Meeting
Ray of Hope Christian Church,
Decatur

December 5

NE Minister's Meeting

December 25

Christmas

January 1, 2006

New Years Day

January 13-15

Youth-A-Palooza
Epworth By the Sea,
St. Simons Island

January 20-22

Young Adult Ski Weekend
Christmount,
Black Mountain, NC

Michael's Memo

by Rev. Michael Weeks

Last weekend my daughter and I were filling the bird feeders in our backyard. Two year-old Ruthie is very enthusiastic about feeding the birds. She tends to spread the seed liberally around on the ground in addition to getting some into the feeders. We both have fun watching and looking at the different species that come into our yard. We also dodge bugs and bees while we are working. That is how I got this big knot on my leg. I irritated the bee enough, keeping it away from Ruthie, that it stung me.

The life of the bee is an interesting one. The queen bee lays her eggs and packs them into the hive. When the eggs hatch, the baby bees have to eat their way out in order to survive. They create tiny slits from which they emerge. As the bee escapes, the wax membrane on its wings is rubbed off and it can fly. If it escapes too easily, it will not be able to fly and will not survive.

All of us face adversity in our lives. Instead of thinking of adversities as obstacles, what if we viewed them in the way the bee does: a way toward growth? Adversity can help us uncover new resources, develop strengths, and stimulate tenacity we would not otherwise have realized we have within us.

God designed this struggle to give the bee new life. I trust God to provide growth and opportunity to me as I face the challenges that lie ahead. As we face the challenges that lie ahead of our Regional Church, please join with me in this kind of thinking. How can these adversities help us grow? How can they help us continue the work of building the kingdom?

I look forward to seeing many of you at Regional Assembly and in the days and weeks ahead.

Women's Ministry News

by Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert

- October 7-9, 140 women attended Georgia's annual women's retreat, this year at Epworth-by-the-Sea. New commission members were elected and installed and began "diving into" their positions. Ana Guardiola (Fayetteville Community), Cecelia Glosson (Waycross 1st), and Valerie Alexander (Decatur 1st) will fill the coordinator positions of study, worship, and service vacated by Frances Shumake, Cathy Moorehead, and Barbara Powell. Frances moves over to serve as Northeast District Coordinator. How blessed we are to have dedicated, creative, and faithful women in this ministry!

- We will celebrate our unity in Christ by gathering with our United Church of Christ sisters in Indianapolis June 21-25, 2006 for the "Mix in '06." See www.dreamonsisters.com, and start dreaming up ways to get there! I've already registered and am even more excited after returning home from a planning meeting in September. Music, dance, art, inspiring preaching, relevant workshops, laughter, faith, and fun will be plentiful. Register online, or call the regional office for a form.

- Georgia may send two stewards (young women, ages 16-22) to the Mix in '06. They must be ethnically diverse from one another and active in the Christian Church, have demonstrated leadership potential in the church, and be willing to share the experience upon their return. The purpose of the steward program is to make possible attendance and service at the Mix and to develop leadership abilities in young women. Contact Betty Brewer-Calvert for information and an application form. The deadline for applying is November 18th. Georgia stewards will be chosen by December 18th.

- Georgia has been approved to host an international visitor through the Woman-to-Woman program as she travels to or from the Mix in '06. More details are forthcoming, so stay tuned; and be ready to extend our famous southern hospitality!

- Latest book club title: Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*

CHURCH FOCUS: RAY OF HOPE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, *Excellent Congregation, Spiritually Alive*

by Rev. Byron Wells



Trying to capture the dynamic ministry of Ray of Hope Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in a 400-word article is like trying to capture the Atlantic Ocean in a Coca-Cola bottle. The task, indeed, is next to impossible. With wide ranging programs striving to meet the various spiritual and physical needs of its world and community, Ray of Hope's witness shares the love of Christ with people in creative and powerful ways. At the core of Ray of Hope's witness is a deep spiritual and prayer life that strengthens all its endeavors. Offering programs that range from after-school tutorial sessions for youth and children to health screenings to biblical financial programs to activism and social justice forums, Ray of Hope offers Christ's hope to our world as the congregation seeks to transform our world into God's kingdom.

Starting over 18 years ago with four faithful people interested in starting a church in DeKalb County which would reflect the light of



God's love and grace, Ray of Hope now has over 3500 active members and averages well over 2000 people in worship on Sunday morning. Today Ray of Hope sets the pace in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in new member additions, in baptisms, and in contributions to the Disciples Mission Fund. The congregation has been recognized in the book "Excellent Protestant Congregations: The Guide to Best Places and Practice," one of only three churches in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to be so honored. Everything the congregation does is firmly rooted in its deep spiritual and prayer life. Ray of Hope seeks excellence worthy of the God and Savior the congregation proclaims in all its ministries.

The vision that Ray of Hope offers to the world begins with its senior pastor, the Reverend Doctor Cynthia Hale, who has offered the congregation dynamic leadership since the congregation's inception. A trailblazer in her own right, the recipient of multiple awards and honors, and a highly sought-after preacher and seminar speaker, Dr. Hale continues to challenge the congregation to be open to the vision that Christ offers, seeking to transform the world and their individual lives in new and exciting ways.

Ray of Hope will be holding its Fall Revival October 30th until November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. each night. The congregation will also be hosting our Regional Assembly November 11th and 12th. These are two excellent opportunities for our Region to experience the vitality and spirituality of this amazing church of Jesus Christ.

Mix in '06 Women's Event
Indianapolis
Indiana Convention Center
June 21-25, 2006



Register Online Now!
For the historic combined gathering
of the United Church of Christ
National Women's Meeting and the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Quadrennial Assembly

www.dreamonsisters.com

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A Higher Calling

by Rev. George H. Bennett
Regional Moderator

We are submitting to you at the Regional Assembly a budget that is substantially under funded. However, the Regional Board could not make the painful decision to eliminate either youth or women's ministries for 2006. Therefore, it was decided to submit to you a budget that would include both but require substantially increased giving on the part of Georgia's churches. We cannot minister beyond our means.

I believe the churches in Georgia will choose to tithe that we might remain faithful to the greater mission of God; for if we do not, we will continue to trim off vital ministries: new church development, youth and children's ministries, women's and men's ministries. With the level of support we currently experience, we will be forced to eliminate ministries to youth, camps and conference, and women and men. We cannot make such a choice.

When I first began this column, my first instinct was to state in a self-righteous manner that the churches I have shepherded tithed to the greater ministries of the church. I implied that if your congregation doesn't tithe to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), your church is not as responsible as the ones I have served. I implied that somehow I have been a more responsible servant of Christ than ministers who serve churches that don't tithe. That is a questionable proposition!

At my baptism in 1950 in First Christian Church, Valdosta, I heard the call of Christ to a higher way. I confess two things. First, I have never been very faithful to that higher call. I have always failed. Fear often grounds me. Second, I have an aversion to guilt and shame-driven theology or motivation. If guilt and shame have failed to motivate me to be a good steward, why should I believe they would work on you? All I can do is point you toward the higher call to which I responded 55 years ago.

Why do I tithe? Why would a congregation tithe? I tithe because I have been asked to. I remain under the higher call of God. Yes, I have encouraged congregations I have served to tithe. Most of them have, although few individual members did. We need to tithe because it moves us out of the self-centeredness that envelops us. Individuals and congregations are thus healthier and truer to the great commission.

If the support of the congregations in Georgia continues on its current path, we will be forced to take drastic action before the end of the year. Will the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Georgia decide to tithe to the higher calling of Christ's great commission?

Regional Assembly Schedule

Friday Nov. 11

4:00 pm
Regional Board meeting
6:00 p.m.
Dinner in the Family Life Center
7:00 pm
Opening Session
Installation of Ray miles as Regional Minister
State of the Region
Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins preaching

Saturday Nov. 12

9:00 am
Bible Study - Dr. Richard Lowery
10:45 am
Mission Celebration
Business Session
12:00 pm
Lunch in the Family Life Center
1:00 pm
Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale preaching

Regional Assembly Registration Form

Name _____
(Print name as you would like it to appear on badge)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone # _____

E-mail address _____

Church you are representing _____

City _____ State _____

Voting Delegate Non-Voting Delegate Youth

Registration Fee: \$35.00 per person (5 years and older)
(Registration fee includes dinner on Friday for the first 250 delegates, and lunch on Saturday)

Registration is also available online at www.gadisciples.org
(Credit card payments available online only)

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____
 Cash Check Money Order

Please return completed registration form and payment to:

Christian Church in Georgia
2370 Vineville Ave.
Macon, Ga. 31204

For more information please contact Pam Mikovitz, Administrative Assistant of the Christian Church in Georgia at



2006 BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Board of Directors at its September meeting considered the budget and recognizes that the budget summary below is not in balance and that the funds to meet the deficit are not in reserve. It is forwarded to the Assembly with the understanding that significant fundraising efforts will be made to increase income by at least enough to cover the deficit. Those efforts are in process and the outlook is very good that funds will be available to cover the deficit we have projected and the budget will indeed be balanced. The following is a summary of the budget. Should anyone desire a more complete line item budget, please feel free to contact the Regional Office or look at a full copy online at www.gadisciples.org/reports/.

Ordinary Income/Expense	2004 Actual	Jan 1 - Sept. 1, 2005	2006 Proposed
40100-DMF regular offerings	558,689.53	332,404.68	505,000.00
Total Income	743,972.41	472,959.95	601,300.00
Expenses			
Disciples Mission Fund	235,241.04	127,907.54	233,500.00
Grants and Assistance	2,792.95	1,034.48	2000.00
Salaries and Housing	212,159.12	164,041.20	188,569.00
Employee Benefits	46,612.58	39,315.30	53,200.00
Continuing Education	1,115.00	62.58	0.00
Event registration fees	941.00	1,082.00	1,000.00
Payroll taxes	5,725.22	4,186.17	4,631.25
Professional fees	21,292.35	7,167.44	16,328.00
Program Expense	131,555.37	116,984.83	0.00
Facilities	25,671.31	2,539.05	3,512.00
Utilities	9,967.29	3,735.20	8,740.00
Insurance	15,119.65	8,201.35	15,375.00
Licenses and permits	425.00	305.00	300.00
Membership dues	369.00	60.00	60.00
Telecommunications	9,272.37	6,881.11	9,400.00
Books and Publications	2,601.47	498.18	0.00
Printing & duplicating	13,274.32	9,527.76	9,000.00
Postage and delivery	8,610.06	5,858.69	7,375.00
Travel expenses	43,848.57	28,178.04	28,425.00
Office expenses	24,799.82	12,152.55	11,350.00
Flowers & Gifts	277.30	436.78	200.00
Finance charges	70.18	49.81	150.00
Late fees	0.00	32.49	100.00
Interest on Long-term Notes	3,631.20	3,879.45	0.00
Interest on vehicle	800.00	0.00	4,500.00
Pay Pal Fees	68.33	0.00	0.00
Bank charges	337.87	181.00	200.00
Depreciation expense	2,380.00	3,423.05	9,000.00
CCCC Subsidy	13,882.17	0.00	22,500.00
Uncategorized Expenses	0.00	0.00	95.00
Total Expense	839,340.54	552,283.54	628,510.25
Net Ordinary Income	-95,368.13	-79,323.59	-27,210.25
Other Income/Expense			
Net Other Income	13,432.81	-22,117.19	-11,000.00
	-81,935.32	-101,440.78	-39,210.25



Miracles Just Keep On Happening

by Rev. Linda Whitmire

By the time you receive this issue of the *Messenger*, another miracle in Georgia will have occurred! It happened October 15 at Hiltonia Christian Church in Sylvania as Disciples from churches all over Georgia joined together to repair and build, fellowship and worship, celebrate and grow Christ's church with joy and a good measure of sweat.

Volunteers worked on the Education Wing and helped to provide an "Extreme Makeover" for the church. This was Georgia's fourth Miracle Day with previous miracles performed at El Aposento Alto in 1999, United Christian of Dublin in 2001, and Camp Christian in 2002. Of course, the real 'miracle' comes with the participation of all of us in the building of the covenant between us to be Christ's church.

The responses for donations for Miracle Day 2005 are still coming in. You may still play a vital part by contributing to help offset the cost of Miracle Day. Send donations to the Regional Office or over the web at www.gadisciples.org where pictures from the October 15 miracle at Hiltonia may be found.

Dr. Craddock Continues to Cultivate the Preaching Art

by Rev. Bill Thompson



Twice a year, Cherry Log Christian Church is the host to a preaching seminar. A full house of visiting clergy from states in Southern Appalachia sit in rapt attention as Dr. Fred Craddock entertains them with stories and wisdom about preaching in 21st century America. On October 3rd, the topic for discussion was "The Authority of the Preacher." The next seminar is scheduled for March 6, 2006. At the

March event, Dr. Craddock will be making available some books from his ministerial library free for the asking. It might be time to get your name on the list!

The popular seminar is one of many that Dr. Craddock conducts as part of the ministry of the Craddock Center (www.craddockcenter.org). The web site states that these workshops are being held in Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia. Ten annual workshops are scheduled around the southeast. A recent addition to the program schedule invites groups of up to 12 to come to the Craddock Center for small group seminars on preaching. Two are coming in October.

When Dr. Craddock retired from Candler School of Theology, he decided that one of the things he wanted to do in retirement was to continue to educate ministers in how to preach effectively. He does this through the Craddock Center. He also is the founding minister (now Emeritus) of Cherry Log Christian Church. Many preachers in the southeast are glad that he has continued this ministry. Sign up on the web site for updates on future workshops.

Church And Clergy News

What's Going On Around The Region

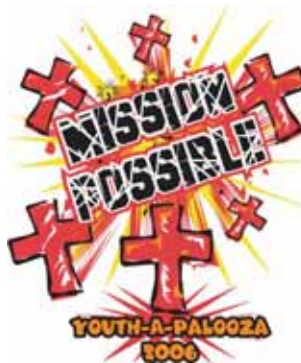
Rev. Elizabeth DeWeese bid farewell to the members of Friendship Christian Church in Athens this last month. She will be joining her husband, Rev. Don DeWeese, in Pennsylvania as he begins his ministry at Lone Pine Christian Church.

Rev. Doug Job and Rev. Diane Bales have submitted their resignations from Union Christian Church in Watkinsville. This will be effective October 16, 2006.

Rev. Joseph Young has been called by Loganville Christian Church to be their Senior Pastor. Congratulations!

During a recent meeting of the Commission on Ministry, several candidates were granted Licensure with the Christian Church in Georgia. They are: Katie Hays (Lawrenceville, First) as she pursues transfer of standing, Carolyn Flemming (Atlanta, Brookhaven), Ed Tiller (Augusta, Central), and Gary Cabbage (Savannah, First). Christopher Goss (Marietta, First) was granted Transfer of Standing and is now an ordained minister in the Christian Church. Our prayers and congratulations go to these faithful servants of God.

Rev. J. LeBron McBride, Senior Minister, First Christian Church of Rome has revised his book: Living Faithfully with Disappointment with the Church. He describes the book as "a practical approach to address spiritually crippling disappointment with the church."



Georgia Regional Youth Assembly January 13-15, '06

Get registration information in your congregation or log onto the regional website: www.gadisciples.org

Disciples Give Generously for Hurricane Relief

In the aftermath of one of the most devastating hurricane seasons in U.S. meteorological history, Disciples are responding generously. By the end of October, Georgia Disciples have given over \$75,000 to Week of Compassion and have volunteered churches as shelters for survivors who are now making their homes in Georgia. Read about the outpouring of congregations at www.gadisciples.org.

In the four weeks since Hurricane Katrina tore into the Gulf Coast region, Week of Compassion has recorded more than \$1.8 million dollars in hurricane contributions. That number is certain to grow past \$2 million in the wake of Rita's wrath. While Rita did not pack the wallop of Katrina, thousands of ranchers, farmers, and others in small towns and rural areas have lost property and livelihoods. You can read about how your gifts are assisting Disciple Congregations and church members online at www.weekofcompassion.org.

Members of First Christian in Athens and First Christian in Lawrenceville have served the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina first hand. Athens First is next door to the Red Cross and has provided meals, clothing and other personal items for those in need. Lawrenceville First is next door to the Salvation Army and provided these services as well as some counseling time for those in need.

2006 Voices Event Announced

Even though it will be relaxing, **Voices** is not a retreat. It is a return: a return to what led you into ministry, a return to the energy, the push, the "really, me?" that some simply describe as The Call. The Rev. Holly McKissick from St. Andrew Christian Church in Olathe, KS will keynote the fourth annual Voices Clergy Retreat, February 7 and 8 at Camp Christian.

Rev. McKissick has been pastor of Saint Andrew Christian Church since its beginning in 1990. She is a contributing writer for the Kansas City Star. Rev. McKissick's commitment to the Christian Church and the larger community is evident in her work with the Council on Christian Unity, the Disciples Peace Fellowship, and the Disciples Caucus for Clergywomen. Rev. McKissick has chaired the Kansas City region's Ecumenical Relations Committee, served on the Religious Affairs Committee of Planned Parenthood and the Kansas City Interfaith Peace Alliance. Rev. Brent Reynolds of Watkinsville First Christian and new chair of the Christian College Christian Vocation Education team, reminds clergy who plan to attend to register by visiting the regional website or calling 1-800-755-0485. Cost is \$40.00 per minister if registration is received by January 30th. Scholarships are available by contacting Dr. Bob Harris of the College at 770-815-9078.

Active Centenarian at Liberty

Mrs. Amma Park, a lifetime member of Liberty Christian Church in Newnan, celebrated her 100th birthday on August 7th. Following several other parties in her honor, the church celebrated on August 21st with the morning worship dedicated to "Amma" and with a reception following the service. Amma attends regularly, driving herself six miles to the church. She is still a very independent retired school teacher who maintains her own home, attends to her business, and drives around regularly on errands. She is an inspiration to us all.

Leadership Training to be Offered

The Christian Education Commission of the Region is sponsoring a seminar called "Volunteer Committee Motivation and Management" at Sandy Springs Christian Church on October 22nd, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Contact Michael Weeks to register. See www.gadisciples.org/news/volunteer_seminar.htm for further information.

Messenger Fund Needs Your Support

Our thanks to the 71 donors who have already sent gifts totaling **\$3298.23** to the Christian Messenger fund in memory of the late Billie Hillis. We would like to hear from you with a gift of any size. Support of our readers is essential to the future publishing schedule for the Messenger. Already, we have had to defer publishing the December issue due to lack of funds. Last year, we had 196 donations, so you can see we need to hear from more readers. Have you sent your check? Send to 2370 Vineville Ave., Macon, Ga. 31204.

Century Mark Reached

High Shoals Christian Church, High Shoals, Ga., celebrated 100 years of continuous ministry to the community during the morning worship service Sunday, October 2, 2005. Special music, the church history, and a fellowship meal after the service will highlight the day's activities. Rev. Joe Bennett is pastor of the church.

Northeast District Assembly Held at Watkinsville Union

Union Christian Church at Watkinsville hosted the Northeast District Assembly on September 25 with 11 Churches and 3 students from Disciples on Campus at UGA represented. About eighty people enjoyed Chicken Barbeque cooked by Union's men. About 125 were present for the program.

Choirs from Bogart Christian, Watkinsville First and Union blessed attendees with beautiful music.

Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert encouraged the women present to attend the Ladies Retreat on October 7-9 at Epworth by the Sea. She also encouraged the ladies to consider attending the "Mix in 06" in Indianapolis, June 21-25, 2006.

Dr. Ray Miles, Regional Minister, talked about Miracle Day at Hiltonia Christian Church on October 15 and encouraged anyone who could to come take part in this worthwhile mission project. He also talked about Regional Assembly to be held November 11 and 12 at Ray of Hope in Decatur and shared an energetic and inspiring message about God's vision of a new future for the Christian Churches in Georgia.

Over \$350 in offerings were received to purchase Chalice Praise songbooks for the Camp Christian Conference Center. The assembly was closed with combined choirs singing "Here We Stand Lord."

From Georgia's Regional Minister:

**"...lift up your eyes and see how the fields are already white for harvest"
John 4:35**



Dr. Ray Miles

All my life I have been aware of those words from Jesus. I remember my father and grandmother repeating it until its meaning was written on my heart. This past weekend, driving across southern Georgia, I became aware of that passage in a whole new context. Passing cotton fields, I saw the white expanse indicating they were ready for harvest. I realized farmers would be getting anxious to begin harvesting. All thought would soon be focused on gathering in the harvest. Wherever crops are waiting for harvest, there is an impatience to get it done.

Jesus was referring to the harvest of souls which await us all around. We live in a society filled with people who have not claimed the grace and salvation God offers through Jesus. It's as evident as the white fields I drove past the other day. It should be a time of eagerness and excitement for us as harvesters of the crop of souls.

The problem comes when we are not anxious to get into the harvest. We are sometimes even reluctant to be involved in the harvest. We are hesitant to make the changes needed to do the harvest. We'd rather stay as we are and be comfortable sitting on the porch, hoping somehow the harvest will get done. There is no compulsion to get out and share the story with others. If they come and want to be one of us, they can; but we aren't going to go seeking them, nor are we going to change so we can harvest.

Harvest is a time when all else is set aside so that the crops can be collected. There is a sense of urgency bordering on panic because there is so much to do and so little time. Within the Disciples of Christ we've grown casual about the harvest we are called to perform. We have lost the sense of personal urgency and passion about evangelism and reaching out to others in our community.

The white fields are a reminder to us that we are called to go out and share our faith in Jesus Christ. Time is precious. The task is great. Our calling is to be ready, eager to share the story and grow the Body of Christ. That's why we are here.

