



Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ)

DISCIPLES **C**ONNECT AND **E**QUIP

2023 Regional Gathering

2023 DCE Regional Gathering Planning Team:

Chair: Cal Williams, 1st Vice-Moderator
Salina, First Christian Church

Ruby Brower, Moderator
Manhattan, First Christian Church

David Dubovich, Moderator Elect/KLC Liaison
Hutchinson, Park Place Christian Church

Josh Leu, Keynote
Great Bend, First Christian Church

Etienna Mertel, Pastor
Clearwater, First Christian Church

Hosts: McPherson First CC

Lynn Scott, Pastor
Jodi Heim
Nelva & Ed Lewis

CCK Staff:

Tom Stanley, Co-Regional Minister & President
Ken Marston, Co-Regional Minister
Becki Kisslinger, Executive Secretary

Jessica Marston, Communications Specialist
Steve Hart, Communications Director

Carla Pearson, Disciples Women
Luis Mendez, Disciples Men

DATE: June 7, 2023

TO: Churches and Pastors
in the Christian Church in Kansas (Disciples of Christ)

FROM: The Disciples Connect and Equip Planning Team

We invite you and your churches to participate in our annual regional gathering, Disciples Connect and Equip, on Saturday, Aug. 12, at McPherson First Christian Church, 101 S. Walnut St.

Accompanying this letter are promotional materials. Feel free to share, post, and distribute as appropriate to your congregation. All these materials and more are available for download at www.kansasdisciples.org/dce.

The day begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration check-in and fellowship time followed by an opening gathering at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be a make-your-own hamburger bar, with potato salad, baked beans, desserts, and a drink. The day concludes with closing worship at 2:30 p.m. and a benediction at 3:30 p.m.

Our theme is "Sustaining our Movement for Wholeness: Reclaiming our Identity as Disciples of Christ." We will focus on what it means to be a movement for wholeness in terms of physical, spiritual, and relational wholeness. Inspirational 2022 workshop leader and senior pastor at Great Bend First Christian Church, Rev. Josh Leu will keynote this year's event.

Kansas Leadership Center's Ed O'Malley and Julia Fabris McBride will lead the morning workshop session. Tentative afternoon workshop topics include The Church Narrative Project Storytelling Moment, The Covent Project, and The Benefits of KLC Leadership Training.

Children and youth activities for those 5-18 years are currently being planned. Children and youth are encouraged to come and reconnect with their camp friends and learn about the Disciples' "movement for wholeness." Childcare will be provided for children under 5 years. Pre-registration required

The registration fee is \$25 per adult, \$10 per youth (5-18 years), and children under 5 years are free. Disciples Connect and Equip event t-shirts are \$15. Other CCK Merchandise will be available for sale at the event. Exhibitor space is available for CCK and DOC ministries. Cost is \$100 per six-foot table space or \$50 per three-foot table space.

For those needing Friday night lodging, CCK has a block of rooms reserved at the Fairfield Inn, 2270 E Kansas Ave, McPherson, KS 67460. Please call [620-504-5353](tel:620-504-5353) to book your stay.

Online registration will close Friday, July 28. Registrations will only be accepted by phone (316-775-1236) after July 28 at event organizers discretion.

We look forward to seeing you in August!