

GB-21-1165
Florida Disciples Regional Church

Contact

Christian Church in Florida
Dba Florida Disciples Regional Church
6455 E Silver Springs Blvd
Silver Springs FL 34488
Phone: 352-438-0340; FAX 352-236-2101
Email: regionaloffice@fldisciples.org
Website: www.fldisciples.org

Leadership

Rev. Dr. Betsy Goehrig, Regional Minister
Rev. Mary Beth Harper, Director, The Retreat at Silver Springs
Rev. Selena Reyes Martinez, Regional Support Pastor
Brenda Turrentine, Administrative Assistant

GEOGRAPHY The state of Florida except for the northwest panhandle (west of Tallahassee).

General Board Report 2021

OUR VISION is to be one Church in Christ, open to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, intentionally making new Disciples, respecting diversity and showing Christian love for all people. **OUR MISSION** is to build upon the relationships necessary to empower and motivate congregations for ministry and mission.

We strive to affirm and connect the cultural, theological, and ecclesiological relationships which make up our Florida Disciples Regional Church family. Our congregations, racial/ethnic, and fellowship organizations are geographically and culturally diverse, including their ideas about church and mission. We strive to deepen and expand a regional church perspective and relationship around identity and mission.

FINANCES

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Support & Revenue	\$ 303,089	\$ 288,009	\$316,346	\$302,064	\$354,400
Total Expenses	\$ (332,112)	\$ 227,099	\$256,851	\$251,509	\$245,881
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (29,023)	\$ 60,910	\$59,495	\$50,555	\$136,019

Over the past four years, we have strengthened and stabilized our region spiritually, relationally, and financially, as well as living into our Strategic Plan for our future story. We moved our Regional Office to The Retreat at Silver Springs in 2017, which not only helped us financially, but it has put us in the center of activities held at the

Retreat. This past year, with COVID, we were able to do much of our usual travel responsibilities virtually, which kept us connected to our clergy and congregations which are spread out around the Region and helped us keep our expenses down.

Even amidst the challenges of COVID, the Region has continued to operate debt free these past four years, with surplus budgets for 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. We have added a contract ministry Regional Support Pastor, Rev. Selena Reyes-Martinez, initially at 10 hours/week in 2020 and now at 20 hours/week in 2021, to assist in regional ministry. The change of our structure from a regional board to a leadership council, consisted of representatives from each congregation, continues to be a very positive experience for us, with a stronger sense of connection as regional church and with a deeper spiritual emphasis.

Rev. Dr. Betsy Goehrig, our Regional Minister, plans to retire February 1, 2022. She will be celebrating 40 years of service as an Ordained minister with Disciples of Christ this summer and will turn 65 in June of this year. She will have served the Florida Region for 8 years total: 3 as Associate Regional Minister, 1 as Interim Regional Minister, and 4 as Regional Minister. She has also pastored in established congregations, established and pastored in new church plants, served as a Police Chaplain, Hospice Chaplain, and Director/Chaplain for a bereavement ministry. She is a lifelong Disciples of Christ member and was called into ministry at church camp at the age of 15. After receiving her M.Div. from Lexington Theological Seminary, she was Ordained on June 7, 1981, at her home church First Christian in Frankfort, KY. She later received her D.Min. at Columbia Theological Seminary. Having tragically lost their daughter Brittany this past year, she and her husband Kevin intend to move to the Tallahassee area to assist their daughter Christy and son-in-law Jeff who are raising 5 children (including Brittany's 2 babies). Their daughter Jamielee is a teacher in Austin, and their youngest daughter Kerri is attending Barton College, a Disciples school in Wilson, NC. She plans to continue serving part-time in some capacity after retirement. Betsy's mission throughout life has been to be a strong Christian presence in the Church, community, and world, as a messenger of God's love, grace, compassion, and hope.

We are planning our **2022 Regional Assembly** to be held **Friday—Saturday, January 28-29**, in Jacksonville, hopefully in person, along with online viewing/participation. There will also be a sermon provided for congregations for Sunday, January 30. We moved our Assembly from fall to winter, to get away from hurricane season and to also include our winter residents. Celebration of Dr. Goehrig's retirement will be at the Regional Assembly, as well as passing of the torch, with the potential Installation of the next Regional Minister for Florida.

CAMP GROUND

The Retreat at Silver Springs
6455 E Silver Springs Blvd
Silver Springs FL 34488
Phone: 352-236-2302; FAX 352-236-2101
Email: info@theretreatatsilversprings.com

Website: www.theretreatatsilversprings.com

RELATED MINISTRIES

Florida Christian Center

Rev. Kimberly Weir, Executive Director
1115 Edgewood Ave. S, Jacksonville FL 32205
Phone: 904-981-3095
Email: director@flchristiancenter.org
Website: www.flchristiancenter.org

Garden of Eden Health Center, Jayuya, Puerto Rico

Alicia Rodriguez Davila, Founder/CEO
2833 Eagle Eye Court, Kissimmee FL 34746
Phone: 407-414-5511
Email: gardenofedenhealthcenter@outlook.com
Website: www.gardenofedenhealthcenter.org

Citrus Gardens (Disciples Housing Inc)

1301 Citrus Gardens Dr, Orlando FL 32807
407-282-2700

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CONGREGATIONS - 73

African American	4	<u>Listed as "in formation"</u>
Euro/Anglo/Blended	51	0
Haitian	3	0
Hispanic/Latino	9	5
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	67	1
		6

TOTAL MEMBERS 9,500 (approximation)