

*Keeping Alive the Passion for Peace and Justice*

*Disciples Peace Fellowship*

# NEWSNOTES SUMMER

[dpfweb.org](http://dpfweb.org)

Summer 2015

## So you'll know...

### THANK YOU AND GOOD-BYE!

It is with deep gratitude and respect that we bid farewell to three DPFers who are completing terms of service on the Executive Committee, as of the 2015 General Assembly. **Jim Higginbotham** has served for eight years, most recently as co-moderator. His insights, attention to nuance and detail, and humble attitude of service have been great gifts for our organization. **Craig Watts** is also completing ten years of service on the Executive Committee, and has also served as co-moderator. Many of you are familiar with Craig's passionate and prolific writings for the cause of peace. **Jeff Hon** is completing a four-year term; we give thanks for his generous service, especially in bringing our booth to life at General Assemblies and even Quadrennial Assembly! We give thanks for Jim, Craig, and Jeff, and for the time and energy each of them has shared with our church through their service to Disciples Peace Fellowship.

We are also, as of the Columbus gathering, saying good-bye to our volunteer staffer, **Jon Lacey**. Jon has served tirelessly in this role since 2011, giving generously of his time and wisdom to keep the Executive Committee and DPF as a whole on track. Though we will sorely miss him, we know he has more than earned this "retirement" and that he & Melba remain committed supporters of the ministry of Disciples Peace Fellowship. Thank you, Jon!

~Rebecca Littlejohn, co-moderator

**AND WELCOME!** (Returning and New on the Executive Committee) Phoebe Spier, Summer Peace Intern Coordinator; John Brock (Treasurer); Sarahann Callaway; Manny Collazo; LaVece Hughes; Mary Jacobs; Rebecca Littlejohn, CO-Moderator; Catherine Nichols; Katie Russell; Andrew Shepherd; Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez; Paul Veliyathil...other additions and announcements will be forthcoming. Stop by the booth in the exhibit hall and perhaps meet some of the leadership team.



#### To Do List:

- Renew your DPF 2015 membership!! Options: Pay Pal. See Web pg.
- Join one of our online forums: Disciples Peace Fellowship on Facebook; former DPF Intern Forum link from [dpfweb.org](http://dpfweb.org).
- Give a special gift to help support and extend our ministry to youth and young adults through the summer DPF Intern Program—the blue card will allow your direct gift to the Kirby Page Permanent Fund; your white card contribution helps support DPF ministry and mission.



## ASSEMBLY NEWS:

Our DPF Breakfast on Sunday morning—a first ever venture out of our usual weekday slot — **WAS SOLD OUT A WEEK BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY!!!!**

Amy Gopp Vigne brought a challenging message.

What's with the "I Am Kirby Page" and those other ribbons? Am I supposed to hunt down one of the Interns/former Interns and get the info? Is this some kind of info hunt and tag "I'm it"? Try it and find out!!!

Heard of the "Justice Corner"? You can still find out/sign up electronically on your device: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050548a4a62caa8-justice> or come by and ask at the booth.

If someone has handed you this NewsNotes, stop by the booth and make a bracelet, talk with friends, connect up with other sponsored events, meet "Kirby Page."

## Todd Bratkovich Award:

The Disciples Peace Fellowship creates & awards this recognition to a member/members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) whose efforts, like those of Todd, have been *characterized by early actions for peace & justice*. Todd was a compassionate young man, he was a dreamer but didn't wait until he was "grown up" to start living out his dreams. Todd died in an unfortunate skiing accident. Todd's family and DPF remember and honor his faithful witness at each General Assembly. The Award is recognized at the DPF Breakfast and the recognition is accompanied by a gift of \$500 to be used as the recipient chooses.

**2015 Todd Bratkovich Awardee is Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez of Cleveland, Ohio.** The Award was presented by her former pastor, Rev. Allen V. Harris, the newly elected Regional Minister for the Christian Church Capital Area.

A word written by Ken Kennon which might be a dialogue between our two awardees: youthful and seasoned:

"Wisdom that all who would be peacemakers must put into practice. *If you want peace, the first thing you must do is persist. If you want peace with justice, the second thing you must do is persist. The third thing you must do, if you truly want peace is persist.*"

**Ken Kennon, Prisoner of Conscience: A Memoir**

Do not be daunted by the enormity  
of the worlds grief. Do justly now. Love mercy now. Walk humbly now. You  
are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon  
it. The Talmud

## Will Wittkamper Award:

During each General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) the Disciples Peace Fellowship announces the honoree for the lifetime peacemaker achievement award which honors individuals who have dedicated themselves to advancing the causes of peace and justice. The honoree's names are inscribed on a permanent trophy maintained by Disciples Peace Fellowship at the Disciples Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. The honoree joins an illustrious list of previous winners of the award and an announcement of the honor is made at the General Assembly.

Background of Will Wittkamper:

The Award, given every two years since 1981, is named for Will Wittkamper, a Disciples pastor who was active in the struggle for racial equality in the mid-twentieth century in the United States. Rev. Wittkamper was a strong supporter of Clarence Jordan at the interracial community Koinonia Farms in Americus, Georgia. **2015 Will Wittkamper Awardee is Rev. Ken Kennon of Tucson, Arizona**

