

Senior Retreat Keynote Speaker: Dean Phelps



Dean Phelps has served in regional ministry with six regions, most recently serving as the interim regional minister with the Oklahoma, Central Rocky Mountain, and Kentucky Regions.

He earned the Master of Divinity degree from Emory University's Candler School of Theology and holds an M.S. in organization development from Georgia State.

Prior to following his ministry vocation, he worked in information technology as a systems programmer and technical manager. Phelps is also an accomplished musician with seven albums to his credit, and he performs regularly around central Kentucky.

To learn more about Dean the musician go to his [website](#): Part blues and part old school country, seasoned with a pinch of gospel, Kentucky-born guitarist Dean Phelps combines the **rhythmic beat of thumbpick guitar** with a **soulful vocal style**. He stirs his guitar and voice into a repertoire of songs from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, creating a style that is **reminiscent of performers like Merle Travis and Doc Watson** with a hint of **Leon Redbone**.

Senior Retreat Keynote Speaker: Deb Phelps



The Rev. Dr. Deborah Phelps is an ordained Disciples of Christ second-career minister who entered ministry after a first career as a secondary school science teacher in metro Atlanta, Georgia. Deb has been serving since 2017 as Pastor of New Union Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Versailles, Kentucky. New Union was founded in 1834 in the cradle of Stone_Campbell/Disciples history (one of Deb's special hobbies and interests).

Deb was born to an Air Force father at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio. The family moved to Palm Beach AFB, Florida, when Debbie and her two sisters were toddlers, then later to Tulsa and OKC, where she spent her childhood. Deb moved as a teenager with her family to metro Atlanta, Georgia, where she attended high school and college, excelled in high school and college sports, attended and counseled at Disciples of Christ camps and conferences, and began her career in teaching science.

Deb has served as workshop leader, mentor, and coach in multiple areas of her expertise including school and religious curriculum, educational bias, disability theology and advocacy, online/internet ministry, and Disciples of Christ history. In her free time, Deb loves gardening, woodworking, reading, learning disc golf, spending time with her niece and her family who live nearby, and serving as a clergy spouse and roadie to her musician-minister husband, Dean