

## Richard Ricks

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**From:** Nancy Fromme <nancy@abcgrr.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 06, 2017 2:35 PM  
**To:** Nancy Fromme  
**Subject:** FW: Great Rivers Region - Area I and Area III

### *Sent on behalf of Rex Rogers:*

Greetings fellow Pastors and Churches of the Great Rivers Region in Areas I & III;

I am honored to be working for the region as the Regional Associate Minister for both Areas I & III. This is something I feel called by God to do for His glory. Evidently the search committee and the Executive Minister also sense the same God's calling on me as well. It is a privilege which I do not want to take lightly.

If you do not know me yet; I look forward to meeting you. I am going to do my best to be at as many Cluster meetings as my schedule will allow. I think the clusters are great places to meet, answer questions, give information and get to know most of you.

I also realize that the Bi-vocational Pastors in Areas I & III will have a more difficult time. Therefore, I would like to arrange a Cyber Cluster for you. Cyber Clusters meet at a designated day and time over the internet through video calls. I want to try and find a time, once a month, that we can meet together via these video calls. All you will need is a good internet connection and a place you can hear and be heard. You can use your phone or computer; however, one with a camera is best. This can be at your office or your home; just not a restaurant because of the background noise. Please contact me and, hopefully, we can find a time for us to gather via the internet.

Another way to meet me is to come to the **Installation Service** being scheduled for **July 30th at FBC Ottawa**. The time is scheduled for **4:00 PM**; which, should give you time before and after for travel. Please save the date and bring as many from your church for this special time to fellowship with others in our areas of the region.

If you ever want to connect with me, you can contact me via my new email address at: [Rex@abcgrr.org](mailto:Rex@abcgrr.org) And please make sure *your* current email address is with the regional office so you won't miss anything in the future. My GRR phone is **779-207-9188**. Both should be included at the bottom of this email/letter.

I have already begun meeting with several churches who have vacancies and have a few church celebrations on my calendar for this summer and fall. If you have a particular celebration you would like for me, or the region, to attend; please, let us know soon as the Sunday's fill up fast. I also understand I will be seeking Area Assistants for both I & III. If you are interested in helping the region in this way, please let me know and we can talk further.

If you do not have the Regional Annual Gathering on your calendar, you should. The Pastor's Conference on Thursday, September 28th will feature Karl Slaikeu talking about church conflict. Of course, maybe you have never had any conflict in your church; but, come so you can be ready when a friend of yours (wink, wink) does and you can be ready to help them. The cost is the lowest it can

be - FREE. We just need to know you are coming, so get it on your calendar and be sure to contact the region office about your attendance.

Then the next two days — September 29 - 30 — is the 50th Annual Gathering of the Great Rivers Region in Chesterfield, MO. Our newly named General Secretary of the ABC-USA, Rev. Lee Spitzer, will be joining us. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, the president of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Plus, our brothers and sisters from Area 5 already have been planning some special activities for this 50th gathering. You can download the flyer and gain more information for the 50th Annual Meeting at the GRR website.

That is probably too much for now; but, I did want to connect with you shortly after my start. I hope to be with and meet most of you soon. It may not be on a Sunday; but let's get together soon.

Rex Rogers

Regional Associate Minister

Great Rivers Region

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Proverbs 17:22

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region. If you feel you have received this email in error or if you wish to change your email options, please reply to this message. You may also call the Region office at 217.726.7366 with your request. For correspondence, you may send mail to: ABC/GRR Box 13457 Springfield IL 62791. Our website is [www.abcgrr.org](http://www.abcgrr.org).

Join us at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly in Chesterfield, Missouri, this September! Details at [abcgrr.org](http://abcgrr.org).