

**General Assembly
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Including the Office of the
General Minister and President**

Sharon E. Watkins, General Minister and President

Regina Morton, Moderator

Susan Diamond; First Vice Moderator; Rick Ikeda, Second Vice Moderator

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada
130 East Washington Street, PO Box 1986, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1986
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***We are Disciples of Christ***, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

*As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table  
as God has welcomed us.*

**Our Vision** is to be a faithful and growing church that demonstrates  
true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. *Micah 6:8*

**Our Mission** is to be and share the good news of Jesus Christ,  
witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth. *Acts 2:8*

**Our Imperative** is to strengthen congregations for this mission

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*The Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP) leads, serves, inspires,
nurtures and facilitates the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as one church in many
expressions.*

The senior staff of the OGMP, led by Associate General Minister and Vice President, Dr. Todd A. Adams, consists of Sharon Coleman, Assistant Vice President for Operations; John Goebel Assistant Vice President for Finance; Cherilyn Williams, Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communication; Beth Sullivan, Executive Assistant to the General Minister and President. Dr. Timothy James, Associate General Minister and Administrative Secretary to the National Convocation, completes the senior staff team. Chris Higgins serves as Director of Digital Media and General Assembly Production. Assisted by dedicated administrative professionals, this team supports work of the General Assembly (GA), General Board (GB), and Administrative Committee (AC); interprets, promotes, receives and receipts Disciples Mission Fund (DMF); coordinates general church communication; and undergirds the ministry of the General Minister and President (GMP).

Highlights

New urgency emerged to "re-set" for mission at a smaller size. Acknowledging the reality of fewer members and dollars, the College of Regional Ministers (CRM) and the Cabinet (comprised of General and Racial/Ethnic Ministry executives) looked to collaboration across ministry lines as a way forward. The mission to be and share the good news of Jesus Christ is beyond the scope of any one ministry. Working together among multiple ministries makes possible the mobilization of new combinations of gifts

and wisdom in fulfilling God's mission. In 2013, the Cabinet and CRM planned to meet as a joint table for the first time in several years.

Also working across ministry lines, the Justice Table has continued to give focus and visibility to Disciples' justice and advocacy work. The Table published the "Justice Primer" with study guide in three languages, to help congregations reflect on justice-making as an integral part of discipleship. Disciples Home Missions published it as part of their church-wide newspaper "The Advocate." The Justice Primer is also available on the disciples.org web site. The Table named four areas of focus: women and children, hunger and poverty, creation care and immigration reform; understanding that all four areas would address issues of systemic racism as part of the Church's Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism priority. The Justice Table, convened by the GMP, is comprised of executives of general ministries which have justice and advocacy as part of their ministries. Also participating are the racial/ethnic ministry executives, a representative of the College of Regional Ministers, the Disciples Center for Public Witness, Disciples Women, Reconciliation Ministry and Week of Compassion.

The General Minister and President's Vision Advisory Committee of the General Board conducted a survey and brought a report responding to the question, "Why do we meet?" The purpose was to discover why Disciples choose to attend (or not attend) General Assembly and other meetings and to determine if a less frequent General Assembly would be desirable. The committee came to the conclusion that the biennial pattern should continue. They recommended that a new "Moderator-elect" position be added to the moderator team, to help solve the issue of the short period for a moderator to learn his/her role.

The Covenantal Dialogue Committee of the General Board, staffed by Robert Welsh, President of the Council on Christian Unity, conducted its first round of dialogues with general ministries. Intended to help the GB understand better the work of the ministries and to enable the ministries to fulfill appropriate accountability to the whole Church through the GB, the process was much appreciated. One outcome was to schedule a conversation on "Covenant" for the General Board's 2013 meeting.

One of the challenges of the biennium was the departure of fourteen Hispanic congregations from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northeastern Region to form a separate evangelical Hispanic and bilingual community in the Stone-Campbell tradition. The region is supporting the congregations and leaders who remain in reorganizing the Hispanic and bilingual Disciples presence in the Northeastern Region.

The OGMP under the leadership of Todd Adams planned and implemented the third GMP's Pastors' Conference in St. Louis with Phyllis Tickle as speaker and Otis Moss III and Amy Gopp as preachers.

The GMP continued her work convening the Cabinet and meeting with the College of Regional Ministers, representing the Church in the Racial/Ethnic assemblies of 2012,

meeting with boards of various ministries, counseling with regions in transition, communicating with the Church through personal visits, blog and social media presence. In a context of renewed conversation across the Church about sexual orientation and gender identity, a mid-year 2012 pastoral letter to the Church called all Disciples to tables of respectful dialogue and service in the spirit of the Lord's Table where all are welcome.

Addressing another issue affecting many Disciples in the U.S., several OGMP staff traveled to the Mexico/US border to gain a better understanding of how US immigration policy affects Disciples, and how our Church ministers to people on both sides of the border. They witnessed firsthand how ministries of wholeness and welcome are making a difference in communities and the lives of individuals both in Mexico and the US.

In 2012, a delegation of Disciples, including Todd Adams, joined President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter in Nanjing, China to unveil a statue of Canadian Disciples missionary Dr. William Macklin and dedicate a new wing at the Nanjing Drum Tower Hospital. The Drum Tower Hospital began as an opium addiction clinic in 1892 with an initial gift of \$5,000. Carter praised the Christian mission personnel who opened the hospital, while also honoring nine Disciples' missionaries who remained on the ground during the Japanese invasion in 1937-1938. The trip highlighted the importance of the ministry of presence. Because our mission personnel were in place before the invasion, they were able to respond heroically. Even more important than our response to disasters is our presence - and relationships - built before natural and human-caused disasters occur.

Ecumenically, Sharon Watkins and Robert Welsh gave leadership to the National Council of Churches visioning and restructure.

Public letters to elected officials (in cooperation with ecumenical and inter-faith partners) included a particular push to keep economically vulnerable people protected from deep budget cuts in the US. Due in part to this "Circle of Protection", several important public programs were spared deep cuts - at least for 2012.

Administration

OGMP continues to seek avenues for administrative streamlining and cost savings. This includes contracting with the ministries of the Disciples Center to provide reception and building management services. The resulting relationship has provided a savings of \$200,000 per year, offsetting increases in rent and operating expenses.

In 2013, OGMP began working under a revised employee handbook. The OGMP Anti-Racism team conducted a review of the new policy. The anti-racism review indicated that OGMP provides an appropriate work environment, with sensitivity toward needs of non-executive employees. In particular, the team noted that new policies and practices have been put in place for receiving, processing and acting upon employee concerns.

OGMP is also examining internal efficiencies and work habits, including a move from “presenteeism” to a results oriented work environment (ROWE). Presenteeism is the understanding that a person is paid to be present between particular hours. ROWE acknowledges how, when and where people work. OGMP executive staff works non-traditional hours and schedules. In addition to routine travel schedules, the staff is fully accessible via their desk phones, servers and e-mail at any location around the globe. ROWE recognizes the electronic shift in work culture and emphasizes an employee’s contribution to the organization’s ability to achieve its mission through results, rather than the number of hours at a desk in a fixed location.

In 2012-13, OGMP staff provided leadership to a team of Chris Dorsey, Dawn Fleming, Darryl Trimiew, Soo Yun, Dani Loving Cartwright, and David Vargas to update the Executive Search Model. The team was supported by Regina Morton, Moderator; Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President; April Johnson, Minister of Reconciliation; and Todd Adams, Associate General Minister and Vice President. A special word of thanks is offered to Chris Dorsey who served as the drafter of the document. The updated Executive Search Model will be forwarded to the Administrative Committee for action.

Communication Ministries

Communication Ministries has adopted a weekly schedule for Disciples News Service (DNS) e-newsletters with content ranging from congregational successes to whole-church conversations. In addition, organizations that are listed in the Yearbook have been invited to advertise in the publication with funds offsetting the cost of the e-mail service. (To sign up for DNS, visit www.disciples.org under the Disciples News Service link in the gold bar.)

Our in-house video production included several messages from Sharon Watkins for various regional assemblies and the Grace-Full table. In addition, the advent video message and General Assembly promotional videos were produced by the director of digital media and General Assembly production, Chris Higgins.

The General Ministries provided funding to update disciples.org. The website was redesigned with new navigation in an updated look and feel. The intent of the updated navigation is to help site visitors find information without needing to know the structure of the ministries. Worship resources and other links for congregational information continue to be added on both disciples.org and disciplesmissionfund.org as needed. Facebook continues to be a place for Disciples to connect, discussing issues and sharing good news, both on the main organizational page and the General Assembly group page.

General Assembly promotion continues with mailing of posters in the fall and a magazine-style program planning guide in the winter. Twenty-nine pages of advertising supported the production of the magazine. Promotional materials also include a downloadable PowerPoint and video to support traditional printed materials. The webcasting of General Assembly worship services will be sponsored by a number of

ministries including Disciples Church Extension Fund, Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation, Disciples of Christ Historical Society and Lexington Theological Seminary.

In cooperation with the Council on Christian Unity (CCU), Communication Ministries is focusing on an identity initiative for the Church. CCU is producing several videos focused on the concepts of wholeness, table, welcome and movement, echoing the Disciples identity statement. Communication Ministries will be supporting the effort to disseminate the videos and accompanying study materials in addition to providing support for congregations that wish to tell the Disciples story locally.

Another cooperative venture of Communication Ministries includes intentional collaboration by the communicators of the general ministries. Meeting monthly, the group discusses common challenges and coordination of communication vehicles. The forum expects to be unveiling a new e-letter soon to better deliver information for local congregations.

Treasury Services and Finance

OGMP-Treasury Services (TS) offers opportunities to regions and general ministries for consolidated treasury management (integrated accounting). It is an outgrowth of **GA 0734** *“Concerning the Reorganization of Governance/Accountability, Church Treasury Services, Stewardship Education and Promotion.”*

In 2012, OGMP-TS provided integrated accounting for Council on Christian Unity, Christian Church Services, College of Regional Ministers, and the regions of Florida, Indiana, Greater Kansas City and Upper Midwest. In 2013, OGMP-TS will begin providing services to Kentucky, Illinois-Wisconsin, and Northwest along with six entities of the Mid-America region and National City Christian Church Foundation. Ministries are saving between \$3,000 and \$40,000 per year through this service.

The Administrative Committee will receive the 2012 Audit at the spring meeting. Janet Long, Pastor of Washington Avenue Christian Church in Elyria, OH chairs the Audit Committee.

In addition, the OGMP staff has negotiated three vendor service agreements that are accessible to congregations, regions and general ministries. PayCor is a payroll service. Vanco is an online / e-giving tool. Staples Advantage is an office supply ordering system. In each case, the denomination has an umbrella agreement providing for individual account access for congregations, regions and general or racial/ethnic ministries. The total sum of all purchases or transactions is utilized to determine pricing, yet each entity has its own account.

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General Assembly

The 2013 General Assembly will gather July 13-17 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Preachers for the Assembly are: Dr. Glen Miles, Rev. Julian DeShazier, Dr. Sharon E. Watkins, Rev. Feliberto Pereira, Dr. David Anderson and Sweet Honey in the Rock.

The 2013 Assembly will feature many new options, beginning with seating. The hall setup will allow us to experiment with seating in the round. This will place participants closer to the stage and allow for greater visual enhancement of the worship space.

The education model for the Assembly is being revamped.

- Sunday School - ministries of the church are offering more than 20 learning opportunities on Sunday morning in a traditional Sunday School format.
- Learning Communities - The assembly is invited to meet in one of five learning communities. The goal of each is to practical application and resources on specific topics from people in the field. The five learning communities are: Sacred Conversations; Stewardship; Missional Transformation; Media and Art in Worship; Spirituality.
 - Sunday afternoon, each learning community will be begin with a CORE lecture by a known author of theologian in the field of study.
 - Successive opportunities within each of the topics will be available on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Youth planning team has been hard at work, coordinating their plans with the Council of Colleges and Universities and the General Youth Council. The youth program includes: learning communities, Disciples Got Talent, and a special program through Walt Disney World, "One World, Many Cultures" teaching respect for diversity. The Disney program is an additional charge, but scholarships are available thanks to the generosity of regions and general ministries.

The Children's program has three components. The daytime children's program will focus on ***Lord Teach us to Pray-Children and Prayer-A journey with the Divine.*** Children will immerse themselves into a journey with God. We will explore the faith practice of prayer through the sacred stories in Children Worship & Wonder, Praying with Color, Dream-Walking, and Labyrinths. They will have time to immerse themselves in the work of prayer through yoga, art, drama, music, and dance with trained facilitators. The new phenomena of Pop-up Adventures will be incorporated into our time together. "Play the joy of discovery" is the theme of these adventures.

The second component is the family-friendly space offered in business and worship. Resources will be available in three different areas of the plenary space for children and

their parent(s) to interact during business and worship. There will be supplies, worship themed materials and other resources.

Finally, several special guests under the master puppetry of David Ruby will make appearances throughout the assembly, including the children's sermon, to help connect with children and the assembly.

Several special events are scheduled for Young Adults. On Sunday evening, magician and illusionist Ron Diamond will perform. On Monday evening Andra Moran is offering a special concert hosted by Disciples Justice Action Network. Additional age appropriate plans are unfolding for attendees 18-35 years-old.

For those wishing to take advantage of a destination assembly, OGMP staff has coordinated discount tickets to Walt Disney World, Sea World, and Universal Studios. You may also purchase meal tickets, housing and register for education events on the website.

See www.disciples.org/ga for more information.

The General Assembly Team coordinated by Todd Adams includes:

- Worship: Sharon Watkins, Timothy James, Bill Thomas, Susan Diamond, Gary Duncan (Liturgical Decoration), David Duncan (Music) and Greg McGuirk (Music)
- Logistics, Local Arrangements, Meals and Housing: Sharon Coleman and Chandra Haskett
- General Assembly Production: Chris Higgins
- Marketing and Communication: Cherilyn Williams
- Treasury Management: John Goebel
- Business Items: Beth Sullivan
- Education and Exhibitors: Todd Adams
- Youth Coordinator: Michelle Harris Gloyer
- Children's Program Coordinators: Lisa Engelken and Pat Barton
- Family Friendly Space Coordinator: Kaye Edwards

Other Reports

Included next are reports of the various committees, commissions and organizations which report to the General Assembly through the Office of General Minister and President as well as the minutes of the Administrative Committee and General Board.

Christian Church Services, Inc.

130 E. Washington Street,
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

Christian Church Services functions as a holding company related to the operation of the Disciples Center. The duties and responsibilities include managing day to day operations, providing the lobby receptionist, negotiating shared services and the interfacing with the building owners and management company. These duties are currently contracted to the Office of the General Minister and President.

The General Minister and President serves as the President of Christian Church Services. Gary Kidwell, President of the Christian Church Foundation is the board chair for 2013-2014. The board members include the president or chief executive of each ministry leasing space in the Disciples Center.

The Center for Faith and Giving
Bruce A. Barkhauer, Minister for Faith and Giving
Director of the Center for Faith and Giving

Standing Committee: Katie Hays (Chair), Dennis Williams, Robin Hedgemen, Ana Rivera-Acevedo, Sam Colson, Sharon Watkins (ex-officio).

Our Vision: *To create a culture of generosity across the life of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

Our Mission: *To provide educational and resource material that teaches stewardship as a spiritual discipline and whole life response to the abundance of God.*

Our Commitment: *To base our work on faithful biblical understanding with theological integrity.*

Our Accountability: The Standing Committee oversees and evaluates the work of the Center's Director. The Director of the Center reports to the Administrative Committee, the General Board and the General Assembly *through* the Office of General Minister and President. The Five members of the standing Committee serve five year terms without the privilege of direct succession. These members are selected by the Administrative Committee in consultation with the Director of the Center, The General Minister and President, and the Standing Committee.

Our Resources: Financial resources for the Center for Faith and Giving come primarily from your generous gifts to Disciples Mission Fund. These gifts, however, do not completely underwrite this ministry. We also rely on reserve funds that were set aside for the creation of this office (prior to its establishment); the Easter "special day" offering; field receipts offered to assist in covering travel costs; honorariums; income from Center sponsored events; contract payments from specific partnerships; grants; and Center for Faith and Giving Ambassadors (individuals who make designated gifts to this ministry). Our best resources, however, come from the creativity, wisdom, energy, guidance, and prayers of the people we serve. The nature of God's economy is that we always receive more than we have offered.

Our Recent Work: Operating from the guidance of our five year strategic plan, the Center continues to pursue avenues for the sharing of resources that teach stewardship in ways that are easily accessible, readily available, provide for maximum impact, and that can be adapted for broad use across the whole church.

Here are some highlights:

- Our website (www.centerforfaithandgiving.org) is now fully operational and is growing in the depth of available resources every week. It features book reviews of recent publications on the subject of stewardship; study resources suitable for small groups and for Sunday school; sermon support, including samples for reading, viewing, and listening along with text suggestions;

worship resources, including weekly lectionary based materials; administrative resources, including “how to” instructions for best practices; general resources for connecting you with other ministries that support stewardship work; and short videos that can be used as discussion starters and meditations.

- We have launched into social media with a page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/centerforfaithandgiving) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/faithandgiving). Here you will find regular posts focusing on fresh approaches to the stewardship conversation, links to articles and ideas via the web, and weekly stewardship thoughts as well as news from the Center.
- The Faith and Giving Academy has begun, in partnership with Lexington Theological Seminary, to teach stewardship “in-depth” so that the message and ministry of the Center can be deployed more broadly into Regions. This course of study is offered both to clergy and to laity, and may be used by some Regions to assist Apprentice Track candidates for ministry to achieve competency in the areas of stewardship and finance. Those who complete the course of study will be recognized as “teaching partners” of the Center. We are grateful to both LTS and to the Oreon E. Scott Foundation for resources they have committed to this project.
- The director is teaching stewardship as a required part of the M-Div. curriculum at Lexington Theological Seminary, and as a part of the Austin Project at Disciples Seminary Foundation. We believe that successful congregational stewardship practice begins with the pastor and key church leaders.
- Regions and congregations continue to take advantage of the expertise of the Center for workshops, consultation, equipping, and instruction in both the biblical/theological aspects of stewardship and the related best practices of the fundraising school that when properly combined, create an environment for generosity to thrive.
- Christian Church Foundation has become a faithful partner with the Center to bring together clergy and laity within geographic areas to think about stewardship in terms that reach beyond the simple annual campaign. A pilot program has been developed and tested and should reach into each of the 7 Zones of the Foundation by the end of 2014.
- The Hope Partnership is now utilizing the teaching ministry of the Center as a part of its Leadership Development Initiative as well as within the Antioch Project.

- The director has been privileged to lead workshops at the North American Conference on Christian Philanthropy and Ecumenical Stewardship Center's Stewardship Leaders Forum.
- The Center created and presented the symposium: "Preaching Stewardship as Good News" featuring Dr. James A. Forbes, aimed at resourcing those charged with speaking about stewardship from the pulpit. Our partners included Christian Theological Seminary, The Christian Church Foundation, The Ecumenical Stewardship Center, and the College of Regional Ministers. A similar event with different leadership is being planned for 2014 at Brite Divinity School.
- This ministry has the primary leadership role in the 2013 General Assembly Stewardship Learning Track.

Our Future: Plans are being made with Chalice Press for a "small book series" on stewardship, ideally to be utilized by congregations for small group study and transformation. Conversations have begun regarding the creation of a camp curriculum that focuses on stewardship for all levels of camp and conferences with a projected availability for the summer of 2015. We hope to extend our teaching ministry into all of our Disciple Seminaries and Divinity Houses by the time this Assembly gathers in Columbus, OH, in 2015.

Reconciliation Ministry
Rev. April G. Johnson, Director

Mission Statement –

Reconciliation Ministry advances the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)'s journey toward wholeness by empowering each expression of the Church to implement structural change to address historic fractures caused by racism and the systems that perpetuate it.

Ministry Highlights:

To the end of addressing our mission and the Church's journey toward wholeness, we are delighted to share the following highlights which address our ministry's strategic goals.

Regional Engagement:

Regions continue to bear witness to the ministry of Reconciliation this year through increased requests for clergy education and leader development. Five regions have hosted educational events for clergy, board members and other regional leadership representatives affecting a broader reach of Regional participation in Anti-Racism values. By the end of the first quarter of 2013, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois/Wisconsin, Mid-America and Alabama/Northwest Florida regions will have participated in a one or two-day clergy/leadership educational event. We are grateful to these Regional partners for their collaboration with our trainers to develop opportunities that are both informative and relevant to their respective regional and congregational contexts.

General Ministry Engagement:

Another of our strategic goals is to deepen our partnership with General Ministries. Momentum in this goal is evidenced in our partnership with Council on Christian Unity and Higher Education and Leadership Ministries offering young adult leaders access to programmatic opportunities that allow them to envision a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural Church uninhibited by the sin of racism. Their interactions through Disciples Leadership Institute and Babel Table inform our broader interpretation of an increasingly diverse 21st century mission field.

In addition to the partnerships with CCU and HELM, current leaders who represent the Anti-Racism mission priority within their General ministry expression gather monthly over lunch to share wisdom and ideas in a joint effort to live into our Church's pro-reconciling/anti-racist identity. These monthly gatherings allow us to experience an appreciation for the distinctiveness of each ministry's mission, while offering an affirmation for our church-wide need to promote racial justice and inclusion.

Congregational Engagement:

We continue to laud the efficacy of congregation-based organizing with regard to transformation. Congregational leaders tell us consistently that these local campaigns help their members find meaning for mission. There are currently over 300 congregations who participate in congregation-based organizing whose efforts have racial and social justice impact in their communities. We are especially grateful for this tangible resource to connect membership to mission and mission to meaning.

Fund Development:

We are experiencing growth in our interactions with our Church membership. We see growth in our annual fund with more individuals giving this current year. We ended our 2102 on a significant upswing due to generous giving to the Annual Fund, increased congregational giving to the Special Offering and good stewardship on behalf of the Reconciliation Ministry Commission. It is our intention to continue to broaden our efforts to maintain this momentum.

Looking forward:

We celebrate the opportunity afforded Reconciliation Ministry to begin leader development of women of color through an initial grant from the Oreon E. Scott Foundation. The Women of Color Leadership Institute will have its inaugural meeting in May of 2013.

We are also grateful for all of the support we have garnered to move forward our strategic goals which inherently are consistent with our four mission priorities of transformation, leader development, New Church and Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism. We look forward to identifying new strategic goals for the upcoming year.

Submitted by,

April Johnson
Minister of Reconciliation
February 2013

WEEK OF COMPASSION COMMITTEE
Melinda Wood, Chair
Amy Gopp, Executive Director
Brandon Gilvin, Associate Director
Dawn Barnes, Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206
317-713-2442
www.weekofcompassion.org

To describe not only what Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee and development mission fund, does, but also *who* Week of Compassion *is* in one phrase, it would be: "Compassion in action." For almost seven decades WoC has demonstrated compassion's power, challenging the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to respond compassionately to human need and suffering as we share the Good News of Jesus Christ from all corners of this country to the very ends of the earth. Compassion: *con passio*, from the Latin root, "to suffer together with" is indeed what drives our work and witness. WoC has been offering the opportunity to respond with compassion to a church that could have otherwise felt overwhelmed by all the needs of our world. WoC will never be at a loss for understanding our mission, which has remained the same for 69 years, just as Paul described it in 1 Corinthians 12: "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." Our mission is not only pertinent, it is significant.

WoC is there when disaster strikes, poised to respond, uniquely positioned to respond not only through our own Disciples networks but also through our ecumenical structures. Whether or not Disciples are personally affected, we will respond to *anyone* in need. Furthermore, we are there to respond to the chronic "disasters" of poverty, displacement, disease, systemic injustice, ignorance, and increasingly, the results of climate change. Not merely the "natural disaster" responder, WoC funds the work of Disciples Volunteering and Refugee Immigration Ministries within DHM as well as the Global Mission Intern Program of DOM as well as devotedly directing funds to sustainable development projects and programs across the globe.

As has historically been true, WoC is only as successful as our donors are generous. Our task thus, continues to remain, that of inspiring sharing. Sharing our compassion by sharing our resources so that the whole world might have what they need. Our ministry of sharing compassion builds up the Realm of God, bringing it ever closer to shalom, wholeness, and everlasting peace. What we do through WoC *makes a difference* because when we transform our compassion into action, things change; lives change; lives are actually saved.

Yet our world, our church, and our culture are rapidly shifting. WoC has been impacted by these economic, ecclesial, ecological and cultural shifts, specifically: climate change; a changing geopolitical and economic landscape worldwide; ever-changing technological and communications; a shrinking political space for civil discourse; and ongoing challenges of an interreligious world where, most ironically, many Americans are now identifying themselves as “spiritual” but “not religious.” From the global perspective of WoC based on a myriad of experiences with communities in need across the world, it is clear that we as the Church are transforming. Mainline Protestantism is changing, and we seem to be moving ever faster toward a radically different world. Nonetheless, if we stay true to our mission to serve God, to put compassion in action, to live out our Gospel faith in the One who is the Alpha, the Omega and the Beginning and the End, we will continue to do exactly what we have been called to do, and to do what we do best.

Internationally, WoC has been consistently responding to the crises in the Middle East, notably Syria. Through the Middle East and Europe Area Office of Global Ministries, the ACT Alliance, and CWS, WoC has channeled significant funding to this humanitarian plight. Throughout 2012, WoC gifts allowed us to respond significantly to the drought and subsequent famine and food insecurity across the Sahel Region of West Africa. Our work in post-earthquake Haiti also continues, where we were instrumental in training thousands of pastors and laypeople in trauma resilience and recovery through the “Wozo” Trauma Awareness and Resilience Program of Eastern Mennonite University’s Center for Justice and Peacebuilding. WoC also supports the on-going recovery and development work of Agricultural Missions, Inc., Church World Service and the ACT Alliance in Haiti in the form of food security, agricultural assistance, children’s education and protection, and support for people with disabilities.

Through our primary health and medical partner organization, IMA World Health, WoC has helped make possible major advances in cervical cancer prevention in Tanzania and other parts of East Africa. We have also been major funders in helping us bring an end to Burkitt’s lymphoma, a childhood cancer found only in the Great Lakes Region of Africa. WoC has also helped make possible the strengthening (and, in some areas, the creation) of health systems and medical structures in some of the most challenging places on earth: Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We have also been a founding member of the We Will Speak Out campaign of IMA, a U.S. Coalition of faith-based organizations working together to end sexual and gender-based violence. The Women’s Empowerment Fund of WoC has been yet another channel of funds for the education and training of girls and women to become self-sufficient, safe, and equipped to make a difference in their own lives, the lives of their families, and their communities. WEF grants in 2012 were made to women across Africa and the Balkans.

WoC remains faithful to our commitment to the World Council of Churches Roundtable as one of the “Specialized Ministries” involved in relief, refugee and development operations where we represent the denomination each year. Thanks to WoC gifts, Disciples are still one of the highest contributors to the WCC and thus visibly committed to the ecumenical movement.

WoC’s domestic impact was also significant in 2012. Our disaster response partners reached out in significant ways, and we continued to support congregational engagement with Week of Compassion partnerships in new, creative ways. In response to the tornados that struck Joplin, Missouri and the Birmingham-Tuscaloosa area, WoC partnered with Disciples Volunteering and three committed local congregations, South Joplin Christian Church, First Christian Church, Tuscaloosa, AL, and Cottdale Christian Church, Cottdale, AL, to set up mission stations for housing volunteers supporting long term recovery efforts in those communities. WoC also provided grants to long term recovery organizations coordinating work for Disciples volunteers.

In the spring of 2012, multiple tornados struck communities in southern Illinois, southern Indiana, and eastern Kentucky. In each situation, WoC provided support for hands-on response and long-term recovery, as well as solidarity grants for Disciples congregations and members. Autumn brought Hurricanes Isaac and Sandy. WoC provided solidarity grants in both situations, organized pastoral visits with Disciples Volunteering and each region’s Regional Pastors, and has explored collaborating with Disciples Volunteering, the Northeast Region, and local congregations to establish mission stations to respond to Hurricane Sandy damage.

WoC’s longstanding partnership with Church World Service also provided a means for the delivery of material goods such as blankets, hygiene kits and clean up buckets to communities struck by disasters. Likewise, this partnership provided long term recovery training in communities interesting in mounting community-based and volunteer responses.

Through WoC’s partnerships with Equal Exchange, Prosperity Candle, and Foods Resource Bank, Disciples congregations had new opportunities to support food security, fair trade, microcredit, and economic opportunities for vulnerable populations including smallholder farmers and recently resettled women refugees.

In 2012, undesignated giving to WoC totaled \$1,876,745—a slight decrease from the prior fiscal year. Designated giving remained strong at \$837,940. Income from WoC’s endowment program and other funds in the Christian Church Foundation equaled \$188,559, a slight increase from \$184,089 in 2011.

Claiming the abundant life that Christ promised all of us: WoC allows all those who participate in this ministry of sharing to claim the abundant life for themselves precisely because they are able to give, while at the same time offers a more abundant life for those who are in desperate need. Thus, WoC remains a profound expression of what it means to be whole church—an integral part of the movement for wholeness in a fragmented, suffering, fragile world. Even more importantly, WoC offers a mechanism for the whole church to respond to the overwhelming needs of that world by living out the Gospel, putting faith into action, and serving Christ through serving those in need. WoC is a concrete way for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to make a difference in the world—from our own doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

**College of Regional Ministers
Report to the General Board
April 7-9, 2013**

William Edwards, President
President-Elect, Denny Williams
First Vice President, Teresa Dulyea-Parker
Second Vice President, Paxton Jones
Secretary, Sotello Long

"The College of Regional Ministers was formed in response to the theological and ecclesiological imperatives attendant to the office of regional minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)."... the office of regional minister is "one of the clearest areas where the ministry of oversight (episcopate) finds expression within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)." – Preamble of the Constitution of the College of Regional Ministers

The College of Regional Ministers (CRM) meets annually for study and discernment to address items of fundamental importance for the church's mission, faith, order and practice. The College shall also meet for a working meeting on issues that are urgent and important in the life of the church and the world.

Most recently, through spiritual discernment and guided dialogue, the College has reached consensus that journeying together into a deeper spiritual and intentional collaborative partnership, is the most important way in which we can be more effective in our calling, and more supportive of one another as colleagues in strengthen our congregations. In light of that direction, the College has shaped its meetings with the intentional practicing of spiritual disciplines in our work together. As a part of commitment to this effort, the College will spend a day together in spiritual retreat with the General Cabinet just prior to this General Board meeting.

In even-numbered years, CRM meets in conjunction with the meeting of the *Forum of Regional Moderators* (FORM). August 23-24, 2012, FORM met in Indianapolis for sharing and networking of common concerns of Regional Ministry.

The College continues to work closely with the General Commission on Ministry (GCOM), to coordinate the implementation of the Theological Foundations and Policies and Criteria for the Ordering of the Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) approved by the General Assembly in 2009. In the CRM 2012 meetings, the College provided feedback and support to GCOM's work on revising the Search and Call Ministerial Profile.

The College continues to work with our general ministry partners in the mission priorities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to establish 1,000 new congregations by 2020; to transform existing congregations for future ministry; to develop leaders; and be an anti-racist/pro-reconciling church. We continue prayerfully, to lead our regions and the church toward being a community of faith that welcomes all persons to the table of our Lord.

EUROPEAN EVANGELISTIC SOCIETY
PO Box 24560
Indianapolis, Indiana
www.eesinc.org
317-299-0333
Tony Twist, President
2013 General Board Report

For nearly 60 years the European Evangelistic Society (EES), founded by Earl and Ottie Mearl Stuckenbruck, has been a witness for the Christian gospel at Tübingen University in Germany.

The vision for the future is to develop high capacity Christian leaders for significant service. This vision reflects the common mission priorities of the Disciples of Christ as a movement for wholeness that welcomes all to the Table and shares the Good News of Jesus Christ from “our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.”

The mission of EES is focused on this concern of leadership development necessary to realize the Four Priorities of the Church as outlined in the 2020 Vision of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). EES is working to serve leaders from a broader geographical area. This includes leaders from Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East, Russia, and beyond. In 2012 the Board of Directors of EES approved a bold, new plan which will require an increase in income of \$60,000. To implement this plan, 15 students needing ministry training have been identified and selected as recipients of EES scholarships (\$4,000 annually per student). In faithfulness to the historic mission of EES, these students are actively involved in preaching, church planting, and/or international mission ministry.

Through the Institute for the Study of Christian Origins in Tübingen, Germany, working in cooperation with the Protestant Faculty at the University of Tübingen, EES is actively involved in research supervision and publication. In conjunction with the Protestant faculty, a doctoral colloquium is offered in which international doctoral students have the opportunity for research supervision at a major European University. This mission expresses itself in three primary areas of ministry:

- To develop international leaders through advanced studies;
- To assist emerging leaders in researching and publication of relevant national articles, books, and other materials;
- To help encourage the establishment and development of churches, colleges, and agencies focused on evangelism and disciple making.

At the present time, the educational ministry at The Institute for the Study of Christian Origins, led by Interim Director Dr. Beth Langstaff, continues to function in cooperation with the Protestant Faculty of Eberhard Karls University, in Tübingen, Germany. The Institute has a long and productive relationship with the prestigious and influential

University. The influence of this ministry has been felt all over the world, as international students have come to the University for academic purposes and have been a part of the Institute. It pursues basic New Testament research, offers colloquia through the academic year, and engages in continuing dialogue with professors and students from around the world.

EES seeks to promote the cause of reconciliation throughout the world by developing leaders who will demonstrate our commitment to the idea of a faithful, growing church that exhibits true community, deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice. The work of EES in Germany in partnership with the University of Tübingen is truly a multi-cultural community. Since 2000, doctoral colloquium presentations have been given by visiting professors and doctoral students from Australia, Canada, Germany, Finland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Africa, The United Kingdom, and the United States. EES seeks to be an international witness for the Christian gospel in one of the most significant theological settings in the world. Students who are recipients of the EES scholarships are from Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Central Asia, Czech Republic, Moldova, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine. In keeping with the original vision of the European Evangelistic Society, the goal is to see churches thriving and flourishing throughout the world by equipping capable leaders to serve.

EES continues to sponsor the Walker Lecture series at different venues such as the General Assembly, the World Convention, and the North American Christian Convention. In 2012, Dr. Gary E. Weedman, President of Johnson University, presented a lecture titled, "Reading Ephesians from the New Perspective on Paul." This lecture series is a demonstration of the potential for Christian unity among Stone-Campbell churches.

EES is characterized by a deep and abiding interest in the oneness of the Body of Christ. That interest has not changed with the passing of over sixty years of ministry. The European Evangelistic Society is one of the few ministries among Stone-Campbell churches that has historically sought to work among all three streams of the American expression of this ideal. For over half a century, the dream of a united Church, bound by its commitment to the New Testament as the revelation of God about the person of Jesus Christ, has been the focus of its mission.

THE GENERAL COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Dani Loving Cartwright, Chairperson

The General Commission on Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is composed of up to sixteen members appointed by the General Minister & President in consultation with various constituencies across the life of the church. In odd-numbered years, the General Minister and President may present a slate of members to the General Board for confirmation.

In 2012, the following persons served on the General Commission on Ministry: **Howard Bowers**, Office of General Minister & President, staff; **Dani Loving Cartwright**, Regional Minister, Christian Church in the Southwest; **Jinsuk Chun**, Executive Pastor of the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples; **Jorge Cotto**, pastor, Central Christian Church, Coral Gables, FL; **Ron Degges**, DHM President; **Ann Dotson**, Pastor, First Christian Church, Rowlett, TX; **Bill Edwards**, Regional Minister, Christian Church in Ohio; **Jacque Foster**, pastor, Compton Heights Christian Church, St. Louis, MO; **Richard Guentert**, Retired Regional Minister, Iowa; **John M. Imbler**, Seminary Representative, Phillips Theological Seminary; **Timothy James**, Associate General Minister & Administrative Secretary of the National Convocation; **Paxton Jones**, Regional Minister, Christian Church in Kansas; **Sotello Long**, Regional Minister, Christian Church in South Carolina; **Sandy Messick**, Regional Minister, Northwest Regional Christian Church; **Sandra Michael-Bowers**, Pension Fund Representative; **Holly MillerShank**, UCC Representative; **Huberto Pimentel**, National Hispanic Pastor, Central Pastoral Office of Hispanic Ministries; **Rossy Ricart**, laywoman, Iglesia Hermandad Cristiana, Indianapolis; **Sharon Watkins**, General Minister & President, serves as an ex-officio member and **Howard Bowers** has been the Commission's administrative staff person. In addition, **Warren Lynn**, Director, Office of Christian Vocation, were added to serve on committees to share information directly from his work.

GCOM met at Disciples Center in Indianapolis on August 20-22 to resume its work: GCOM will continue to monitor how the church is using *Theological Foundations and Policies & Criteria for the Ordering of Ministry* and discern whether there are opportunities for “tweaks” as we move forward. There is some learning curve for both GCOM and for Regions as they use this document.

We had a very fruitful discussion of “Covenant” in our August meeting led by Dr. Robert Welsh. We were engaged deeply in thinking through what this means in our lives as Disciples. We had some learnings from our conversation: We can't take the risk out of covenant; How we live out “covenant” requires accountability; personal accountability as well as building structure to support accountability. We need mutual correction and mutual accountability; In the Body of Christ, we are interdependent; We need to be careful of the use of the word “covenant” and not misuse it in our documents to mean “contract” or “agreement”. We may need to find another word that will fit better in certain circumstances. In covenant, we are allowed to stumble and go on; in contract – when it is broken, it's broken.

GCOM also clarified background check processes for persons who have served/are serving in Canada; Approved two new requests for GCOM standing; reviewed the GCOM webpages on the Disciples website and made changes; Held an in-depth discussion of what happens to clergy files when pastors are deceased and began work on a policy for that handling; Held a conversation regarding psychological testing as part of a candidate process for ordination – the discussion will continue; planned a workshop at General Assembly about “Closing A Pastoral Ministry” – a resource for congregations and clergy about making the transitions between pastors.

As always, we welcome your input, comments, questions, ideas, concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Dani Loving Cartwright, Chair

NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

Richard L. Hamm, Chairperson
Stephen W. Gentle, Senior Minister

5 Thomas Circle, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: (202) 232-0323; Fax: (202) 797-0111

Web site: www.nationalcitycc.org

National City Christian Church was created to live out Alexander Campbell's vision: to uphold a momentous church facility in the city known for its national and world leaders so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ might be proclaimed. National City Christian Church Foundation is honored to be one of the recognized organizations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The Foundation holds in trust the ownership of the church property and its facilities on behalf of the wider church. It is led by a national Board of Trustees and reports to the General Assembly. The Foundation is yoked in partnership with the congregation of National City Christian Church to provide a national facility for worship, study, ministry, and mission in the U.S. capital.

National City Christian Church Foundation exists for the purpose of maintaining the financial and physical assets of the Foundation so that the congregation(s) and/or ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) may pursue mission at 5 Thomas Circle. In order to accomplish this, the Foundation shall: preserve and grow the endowment; manage its facilities and property to maximize its use by tenants whose purposes are consistent with the values of the Foundation and its donors; and maintain the facilities in a manner that protects the Foundation's assets and honors perpetual care agreements.

Richard L. Hamm is leading the Foundation as the chairperson of the Board of Trustees. For Dr. Hamm's invaluable knowledge and bold leadership, the Foundation is very grateful. National City Christian Church is appreciative and truly humbled by the tremendous and generous leadership of its chairperson and the faithful support of its Foundation trustees, congregational leadership, and Disciples support from around the world. The Foundation is grateful to Senior Minister Stephen W. Gentle, the staff, and lay leadership that continue to work tirelessly in ministry and mission.

National City Christian Church Foundation celebrates with the congregation as it has completed its second year in a five-year strategic plan. Fifty new members have joined the congregation in 2011 and 2012. Over two hundred new individuals came to one of the worship services for the very first time, with nearly half of them returning. A Disciples 101 class was launched for new members, along with the class called Spiritual Practices 101. Significant connections were made each and every week with young professionals, persons within the LGBT communities, and multicultural families, the congregation's three top demographics for outreach. The new congregational bylaws are in place as it right-sized the congregational governance board and established the

ministry partnership for coordinated congregational program planning. Over a hundred lay persons have invested themselves wholly in the volunteerism of the congregation. There are volunteers giving significant portions of their time to the staffing of the front desk, the food pantry, yard work and gardening, cleaning the sanctuary, counting money and maintaining financial records, development work, and hospitality at music events, to name just a few areas.

In addition, the facilities of National City Christian Church continue to be a gathering place in the U.S. capital for Disciples of Christ and ecumenical partners. Some of the gatherings and events have included:

- Hundreds of young people “bunked” down at National City to experience a life-changing trip to Washington, D.C., including First Christian Church, Edmond, Oklahoma; First Christian Church, Rockwood, Tennessee; First Christian Church, Troy, Michigan; Florence Christian Church, Florence, Georgia; Ohio Valley Teen Group; Disciples Men of Tennessee; Dalton State College; Calvary Baptist Church, Denver, Colorado; Cascade Christian Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Visiting Organists from France; Barton College; Bethany College; Trinity DC Encounters; YSOP, Augusta, Georgia; Community Christian Church, Canton Ohio; Hillyer Memorial Christian Church, Raleigh, North Carolina; Hiram College; and Trinity United Methodist Church, Hackettstown, New Jersey.

- Bethany College was hosted on Heritage Sunday with President Scott D. Miller and Chaplain Scott C. Thayer speaking. Professor Emeritus Larry Grimes spoke at a lecture regarding the Wilfley Wayside Chapel, patterned after Alexander Campbell’s study. Peter M. Morgan, Bethanian and Disciples of Christ Historical Society President Emeritus, was the lead organizer.

- Partnering with Regional Minister Lari Grubbs and the Christian Church Capital Area, National City held a special Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., memorial worship service, with Minister of Reconciliation April Johnson preaching. The worship service was held in conjunction with the regional leadership event Salt and Light.

The Foundation created liturgical and prayer materials for the occasion of the 2012 U.S. elections and shared them with congregations in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States.

-

- Free Friday organ concerts welcomed hundreds of music lovers with recitalists coming from Israel, Germany, France, New York City, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Florida.

- National City hosted five two-day Heritage Festival USA choral adjudication events with hundreds of high school groups traveling from across the United States to sing in the sanctuary.

-Music groups from around the District also performed in the sanctuary, including the 120-voice Congressional Chorus, The Washington Sinfonietta, Fessenden Chamber Ensemble, The Heritage Signature Chorale, Thomas Circle Singers, and the Children's Chorus of Washington, D.C.

-The annual interdenominational worship service of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was in the sanctuary as law enforcement officers and officers' families from around the country were honored.

-National City opened its doors to share with neighbors who were hungry (distributing 10,000 bags of food), to welcome hundreds of people with popcorn, water, and hospitality following the Capital Pride parade, and to celebrate with neighborhood pet owners and their canine companions for the community blessing of the animals on the portico steps.

-Several of the unique ministries of National City continued to thrive, including the Hispanic congregation led by Pastor Noemi P. Mena, the young adult fellowship (Yada) led by Pastor Beau Underwood, the LGBT Fellowship led by Moderator Steven Baines, the Disciple's Men study led by Pastor Beverly Goines, the Disciples Women meetings led by President Kathleen Swihart, the community children's playgroup led by Pastor Alyssa May, and the music ministries led by Minister of Music Charles Miller and Gospel Music Director Valeria Foster.

-With nearly 500 in attendance at Easter, and then again on Christmas Eve, National City Christian Church celebrated with two of its largest numbers in worship.

As a multiracial, multicultural, bilingual, open and affirming congregation, National City Christian Church enjoys greeting and worshiping with Disciples from all around the world each and every Sunday. National City is *your* church in the U.S. capital. Tours of these facilities are available during the week upon request. All are invited to learn more about this unique Disciples witness by checking out www.nationalcitycc.org or visiting in person your Disciples facility in the U.S. capital.

THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Julia Brown Karimu, President

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The United Christian Missionary Society (Society) continued to furnish financial support for the Division of Homeland Ministries, dba Disciples Home Missions (DHM), and the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM), by investing and managing its endowment and permanent funds for the benefit of the two Divisions.

During 2012, there were 4 gift annuities and 1 life income agreement released for a total of \$6,670.22 of residual value distributed. When gift annuities or life income agreements are released, the funds are either distributed outright to DHM and DOM or added to the permanent endowments of the Society depending on the beneficiary designation. The Society did not receive any restricted bequests.

The Society continued to be involved with ethical issues which related to its investments and was active with the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (ICCR). ICCR is an ecumenical organization of 17 Protestant denominations and approximately 200 Roman Catholic orders which cooperate concerning ethical and social concerns as expressed by actions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The Society, which has eight trustees and four officers, has no active employees. Beginning in 1993, the Society contracted with the Christian Church Foundation, Inc. to perform the treasury services for the Society. The current officers of the Society are as follows: Julia Brown Karimu, President; Ronald J. Degges, Vice President; Jennie A. King, Corporate Secretary, and Lonna Owens, Corporate Treasurer. Four trustees are nominated by each of the two Divisions served by the Society. They are elected by the General Board of the church and serve a term of four years. Their responsibilities are to oversee and determine policies concerning the investments of assets owned by the Society. The protection as well as the income realized from these assets is of paramount concern for the trustees. Their invaluable service is recognized and this report is submitted on their behalf.

The Society distributed the following from the investment pool in 2012: DHM - \$607,235; DOM - \$825,747; and other entities - \$47,509.

WORLD CONVENTION
(CHRISTIAN - CHURCHES OF CHRIST - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Gary Holloway Executive Director/General Secretary

PO Box 50998, Nashville, TN 37205-0998 USA

Phone/Fax: +1 (615) 298-1824 Email: office@worldconvention.org

Home Page: <http://www.worldconvention.org>

The highlight of our work this year was experiencing almost 4000 Christians from around the world who met in Goiania, Brazil for fellowship, worship, preaching, and learning in the 18th Global Gathering of the World Convention, July 25-28, 2012.

Plenary speakers from Brazil, the United States, Australia, South Korea, Ghana, and Portugal gave challenging lessons focused on the theme of "Sharing the Love That Unites." Heart-felt praise to God in song was led by Ken Young with singers and musicians from the United States and Brazil. Teachers from eight countries led workshops on the Bible, Christian history, and worldwide ministries. Global Women Connecting had encouraging meetings for planning and learning together.

This was the first Gathering to be held in the Global South, after previous meetings in the United States, England, Australia, Canada, Scotland, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Jamaica, and New Zealand. The Gathering was ably led by World Convention President B.J. Mpofu from Zimbabwe and organized by Vice President Victor Hugo Queiroz from Brazil. In the words of Victor Hugo, "The churches in Brazil will never be the same."

Plans are underway for the next Global Gathering in Seoul, South Korea in 2016.

Although our Global Gatherings are times of excitement and great blessing, the World Convention is a ministry that serves in the name of Jesus every day.

How does World Convention work to connect these churches worldwide? Through our website <worldconvention.org>, through our monthly email newsletter, *ChristiaNet*, through *Facebook* and other social media, through informative mailings each year, and by personal visits. In 2012, we made the following visits.

Promoting visible unity among Christian Churches, Disciples of Christ, and Churches of Christ in the United States:

- In April, we were part of a significant meeting (sponsored by the Missions Resource Network) in Dallas of leaders in Churches of Christ who discussed where our communion is headed. It was a positive and encouraging meeting where we were able to tell many about the role of World Convention in promoting unity.
- We experienced an enlightening and helpful meeting of the Stone-Campbell Dialogue in Arlington, Texas joining Christians in all three American groups in service and worship.
- In June we attended the Christian Scholars Conference in Nashville.

- In June we presented at the Oregon Christian Convention that has served all three streams for over a hundred years.
- In November, Julia Keith represented us at the International Conference on Missions in Indianapolis.
- In all, we visited churches in ten of the United States this year.

Promoting Unity with other Christians:

- We represented our churches at a marvelous meeting in Memphis, Tennessee of Christian Churches Together in the USA. That meeting focused primarily on justice issues stemming from the Civil Rights movement.
- We represented our churches at the annual meeting of the Secretaries of World Christian Communions in Geneva, Switzerland in October.

Looking Toward 2013

In 2013, we will continue to plan and promote the Global Gathering in South Korea. President Kang Lee plans to visit the United States in July and speak at various lectureships, conventions, and assemblies.

Also in 2013, we will begin an online discussion among the board about the future direction of this ministry. How can World Convention serve our churches worldwide in our contemporary culture? That discussion will lead into our next board meeting, April 1-3, 2014 in Nashville.

Invited Observers from World Convention will attend the 10th Assembly of the World Council of Churches that will take place in Busan, Republic of South Korea, from 30 October to 8 November 2013.

Year Book and Directory
Office of General Minister and President
130 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206
Howard E. Bowers, Editor
hbowers@disciples.org

The Year Book and Directory provides the annual listing of ministries recognized as part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Year Book also maintains a listing of those congregations, regions, general ministries, and Disciples' related organizations and institutions and certifies to the Internal Revenue Service that they are capable of receiving tax deductible contributions.

Each year, the Disciples are augmented by new congregations recognized by their respective regions. In 2012, 20 new congregations were officially recognized. The following are the number of new congregations per region:

Arizona	1	Nebraska	2
California, North Nevada	4	Oregon	1
Canada	4	Pacific Southwest	3
Illinois-Wisconsin	1	Upper Midwest	1
Kansas	1	Virginia	1
Mid America	1		

The Year Book also works with regions to maintain an accurate listing of congregations by acknowledging congregational losses in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). During 2012, 99 congregations were removed from the official list of congregations: one was a duplication of a new congregation, 71 congregations were closed (26 in formation), 3 congregations merged with existing congregations, 2 congregations merged to form a new congregation, 13 congregations withdrew, 3 congregations had the region withdraw recognition of their formation status, 6 groups determined they were not forming a congregation.

The Year Book also lists ministers with standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This listing is provided by the Office of Search and Call in Disciples Home Missions. 6,948 ministers were listed with denominational standing. Of that number, 2,070 (30%) were listed as retired and 2,320 (slightly more than 1/3) are listed as pastors of the more than 3,500 congregations.

**MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
OCTOBER 28 – 29, 2011**

Indianapolis, Indiana

Hilton Garden Inn Downtown

Regina Morton, Moderator

Friday, October 28, 2011

First Vice Moderator Susan Diamond led the Committee in an opening worship service which was recorded and posted to the web for General Board Member viewing and reflection. Following worship, Moderator Regina Morton called the Administrative Committee meeting to order and opened with introductions and an ice breaker exercise to introduce members to each other.

Business of the Administrative Committee

Agenda

VOTED to approve the agenda of the meeting

Consent Agenda

VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items listed below

Minutes of the 2011 Spring Administrative Committee Meeting

AC-11-2124 Election of the Corporate Officers

AC-11-2125 Confirmation of Parliamentarian for 2011-2013 Biennium

AC-11-2126 Maintaining 501(c) 3 Tax Status with the IRS

AC-11-2128 Establishing the 2012 Year Book Price

AC-11-2129 Audit Engagement

AC-11-2131 Election to Fill Vacancies on the Faith and Giving Advisory Committee

AC-11-2145 Amendment to the Week of Compassion Standing Rules

Adjourned into Committees

Lunch with the Office of General Minister and President staff at Disciples Center

Reconvened into Plenary at Disciples Center

RECEIVED AC-11-2123 Office of General Minister and President Report

RECEIVED Addendum to OGMP Report

MOTION **AC-11-2147** Faithful Conversations Model

VOTED to approve: The Administrative Committee commends the faithful conversations initiative to the Office of General Minister and President as a model in its continued work to develop new approaches for engaging the General Assembly for addressing potentially divisive issues within the life of the church

MOTION **AC-11-2148** Request to the Council on Christian Unity, Disciples Peace Fellowship and the College of Regional Ministers

VOTED to approve: The Administrative Committee requests that the Council on Christian Unity, working in partnership with the Disciples Peace Fellowship and the College of Regional Ministers, carry the administrative leadership in developing and designing a church-wide process for engaging congregations and regions (leading to the Orlando General Assembly) around the issues of unity, war and peacemaking in a “faithful conversation process.”

Adjourned into Executive Session at the Hilton Garden Inn

VOTED The following business items were approved during the Executive Session of the Administrative Committee

AC-11-2138 GMP 2012 Compensation

AC-11-2139 Clergy 2011 Housing Allowance (Modification)

AC-11-2140 Clergy 2012 Housing Allowances

Reconvened into Plenary Session

Finance Committee Report

VOTED The following budgets were approved by the Administrative Committee for 2012

AC-11-2132 OGMP 2012 Consolidated Budgets

AC-11-2133 General Assembly Budget

AC-11-2134 Year Book & Directory Budget

AC-11-2135 Center for Faith and Giving Budget

AC-11-2136 Reconciliation Ministry Budget

AC-11-2137 Week of Compassion Budget

AC-11-2146 OGMP Reserves Policy

VOTED to approve maintaining an amount equal to six months of the OGMP budget for Fund 00 as reserves, in either cash or part of the

short or long-term investments as guided by the OGMP Investment Policy, with annual reports made to the Administrative Committee as part of the budget process

Policy, Planning and Personnel Committee Report

AC-11-2127 Authorization of “Other Organizations for the *2012 Year Book & Directory*”

VOTED to approve the list of “Other Organizations” for inclusion in the Directory section of the 2012 Year Book & Directory, including a new organization for the list, the Rambo Committee, sponsored by the Division of Overseas Ministries

AC-11-2130 Amendment to the Standing Rules of the Center for Faith and Giving

VOTED to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Rules of the Center for Faith and Giving as stated in the red-lined document

AC-11-2141 Revisions to the Executive Search Model

VOTED to authorized the General Minister and President and the Moderator to appoint a task force to revise the current Executive Search Model with the updated search model ready for approval by the General Board when it meets in April 2012

AC-11-2143 Amendment to the Administrative Committee Standing Rules

VOTED to approve the amendment to the Administrative Committee Standing Rules, section 9.3.2, clarifying the process by which the Pastoral Commission for Hispanic Ministries is named

2011 General Assembly Evaluation Review and the 2013 Update

VOTED to receive the report

Conversation on the Role of the Administrative Committee at General Board Meetings

RESULT a webinar will be given prior to each General Board meeting to train Administrative Committee members as to their role at the meeting

Saturday, October 29, 2011

The Administrative Committee began their morning in worship led by First Vice Moderator Susan Diamond, which included time in prayer and reflection while walking a labyrinth.

Reconvened into Plenary

AC-11-2144 Report from the Committee on Counsel and Mediation Regarding the Appeal in the Northeast

VOTED to receive the results of the Committee on Counsel and Mediation's research and acknowledge the long history and complex circumstances involved.
The Administrative Committee notes, in accordance with paragraph 29 of *The Design*, "a new region may not be created without mutual consent from the Region and participating parties." Therefore, the Administrative Committee upholds the decision made the Northeastern Region that La Convención may not become a separate region.
The Administrative Committee instructs the General Minister and President to notify all parties involved.

AC-11-2142 Open Meetings Policy

VOTED to approve the policy as amended in the Policy, Planning and Personnel Committee and during the Administrative Committee plenary session. The policy will be implemented on behalf of the General Board in 2012 and submitted as a General Assembly resolution in 2013 for adoption.

MOTION **AC-11-2149** Affirmation

VOTED to affirm the work of the Northeastern Region, Northeastern La Convención, Interim Regional Minister Mary Anne Glover and Hispanic National Pastor Huberto Pimentel, as they work towards resolution of these historic challenges and encourages them to continue in a spirit of reconciliation to move forward towards living into our identity as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world, welcoming all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us.

As there was no further business before the Administrative Committee, the meeting was adjourned with the partaking of communion.

**MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
April 20-21, 2012**

Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis Marriott East

Regina Morton, Moderator

**Susan Diamond, First Vice Moderator
Moderator**

Rick Ikeda, Second Vice

Overview

The Administrative Committee, led by Moderator, Regina Morton, met for the 1 ½ days prior to the 2012 General Board Meeting. First Vice Moderator, Susan Diamond kept the Committee in a spirit of worship and prayer throughout the meeting.

Much of this meeting was spent listening and in discussion.

Gary Kidwell, President of the Christian Church Foundation, made a presentation, "Establishing Benchmarks for the Four Priorities of the Church," to the Committee. Our current model (Input/Activities/Output/Outcome/Goals, Mission) is too subjective - arises out of a fundamental disconnect between the church and the changing giving patterns of today.

Gary challenged us to reframe the question - to tell our story in a more objective and measurable way. We need to clearly define our mission, and then calibrate our goals, etc. to that mission. We need to strengthen our partnership and communication between the general/regional/local expressions of the church on the implementation of that mission.

- Mission – real clarity of mission. If not clear, anything/everything becomes our mission.
- Goals - break down your mission into goals (strategic plan) by stakeholders.
- Outcomes – what are the desired results of our goals. Defining the culture of the stakeholders.
- Activities – what kind of things do we need to be doing to achieve the outcomes. Need to learn to speak the language of mission (not alphabet soup).
- Output – to determine number of seminars/electronic or print etc. Make sure your audience is ready for what you are about deliver.
- Input – budget implication/staff implication. Realize that we will never have enough to go around. Need to decide on where we choose to spend our resources.

During her report to the Committee, Sharon Watkins discussed her intention to re-engage the church in the discussion about sexual orientation. She is aware of one or possibly two resolutions coming to the 2013 General Assembly in Orlando. Sharon does not feel this dialogue would be benefitted in anyway by a vote. It is not something that can be legislated from the general expression of the Church.

Amongst Committee members, it was felt that a pastoral letter would be the best way to re-engage this conversation, complete with online resources to help congregations in their discussions of the issue. Concern was raised that the church not slide into a “don’t ask - don’t tell” way of dealing with sexual orientation, especially as it pertains to ordination. A call was made to the Committee to surround both the issue and Sharon, as General Minister and President, as she moves this dialogue out into the open.

Business of the Administrative Committee

Agenda

VOTED to approve the agenda of this meeting

Minutes

VOTED to approve the minutes of the 2011 Fall Administrative Committee meeting

AC-12-2150 Update on the Open Meetings Policy

VOTED to receive the verbal update on the Open Meetings Policy, including a description of the calendar which has been posted on the disciples.org website. This calendar lists the meetings of the church. As we update and redesign disciples.org, calendar will be moved to a more prominent place on the website.

AC-12-2151 Designation of the General Board Offering

VOTED to evenly divide the General Board offering between Disciples Mission Fund, Reconciliation Ministry and Week of Compassion

AC-12-2152 Audit Report

VOTED to receive the Audit Report, presented by Janet Long, chair of the Audit Committee.

As part of the Audit report, a decision by the Week of Compassion (WOC) Committee to use 2% of all gifts to cover processing fees (credit card fees), was discussed. The Audit Committee would like WOC to review their decision and limit fees to only credit card gifts and not include gifts from churches or checks. Should the WOC Committee choose not to revise their policy, our auditors, Capin/Crouse will require full public disclosure.

AC-12-2153 Amended OGMP Investment Policy

VOTED to adopt the OGMP Investment Policy as amended. The policy, adopted in 2009, was amended permitting gifts being received from other Christian Church Foundation accounts to be transferred in kind, and not liquidated.

AC-12-2154 OGMP Endowment Policy

VOTED to adopt the OGMP Endowment Policy which includes: a) working with the Christian Church Foundation (CCF) when a donor expresses interest in establishing a permanent fund for the benefit of OGMP; b) encouraging donors to make the gift to CCF for the benefit of OGMP; c) transfer ownership of all current funds listed as permanently restricted to CCF; d) when an unexpected gift is made, working with the donors and/or estate representatives to transfer ownership of that gift to CCF for the benefit of OGMP.

Report of the General Minister and President

VOTED to receive this report

Covenantal Dialogue Process

Robert Welsh oriented the group to the process being undertaken at General Board and what their involvement would be as members of the Administrative Committee.

Orientation for Beyond 2020 Vision Process

Sharon Watkins and Todd Adams explained to the group the visioning process to take place at General Board and what their roles would be as members of the Administrative Committee.

There being no additional business before the Administrative Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
APRIL 21 - 24, 2012**

Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis Marriott East

Regina Morton, Moderator

Susan Diamond, First Vice Moderator

Rick Ikeda, Second Vice Moderator

Overview of the General Board Meeting

Being a non-Assembly year, the 2012 General Board meeting provided time for members to participate in a visioning process. The members met in small groups to discuss the vision of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) beyond the 2020 Vision process adopted in 2001. The scriptural basis of that discussion was Matthew 5: 1 - 16, salt and light, which Rev. April Johnson, Minister of Reconciliation brought to us in her sermon on Sunday morning. The small groups spent time Sunday afternoon studying this passage, then used the gleanings from that study to continue our visioning process on Monday afternoon. Each small group reported out their thoughts and ideas on Monday evening to the entire Board.

The GMP Vision Advisor Committee also utilized this time together as General Board to gather input about questions that arose from the survey Why Do We Gather, about the frequency and purpose of gathering for General Assembly. Each General Board committee was given questions that pertained to their area of focus - responses to which were reported out to the full Board on Tuesday morning.

Business of the General Board - Saturday, April 21, 2012

Agenda

VOTED to approve the 2012 General Board Agenda

Consent Agenda

VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda

- 2011 General Board Minutes
- General Ministry Reports
 - GB-12-1202 Central Pastoral Office of Hispanic Ministries**
 - GB-12-1203 Christian Board of Publications**
 - GB-12-1204 Christian Church Foundation**
 - GB-12-1205 Disciples Church Extension Fund and Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation**

GB-12-1206 Council on Christian Unity
GB-12-1207 Disciples of Christ Historical Society
GB-12-1208 Disciples Home Missions
GB-12-1209 Disciples Women
GB-12-1210 Division of Overseas Ministries
GB-12-1211 Higher Education and Leadership Ministries
GB-12-1212 National Benevolent Association
GB-12-1213 National Convocation
GB-12-1214 North American Asian/Pacific Disciples
GB-12-1215 Pension Fund

- **Regional Reports**
 - GB-12-0763 Alabama-Northwest Florida**
 - GB-12-0764 Arizona**
 - GB-12-0765 Canada**
 - GB-12-0766 Capital Area**
 - GB-12-0767 Central Rocky Mountain**
 - GB-12-0768 Florida**
 - GB-12-0769 Georgia**
 - GB-12-0770 Great River**
 - GB-12-0771 Greater Kansas City**
 - GB-12-0772 Illinois-Wisconsin**
 - GB-12-0773 Indiana**
 - GB-12-0774 Kansas**
 - GB-12-0775 Kentucky**
 - GB-12-0776 Michigan**
 - GB-12-0777 Mid-America**
 - GB-12-0778 Montana**
 - GB-12-0779 Nebraska**
 - GB-12-0780 North Carolina**
 - GB-12-0781 Northeastern**
 - GB-12-0782 Northern California-Nevada**
 - GB-12-0783 Northwest**
 - GB-12-0784 Ohio**
 - GB-12-0785 Oklahoma**
 - GB-12-0786 Oregon**
 - GB-12-0787 Pacific Southwest**
 - GB-12-0788 Pennsylvania**
 - GB-12-0789 South Carolina**
 - GB-12-0791 Southwest**
 - GB-12-0792 Tennessee**
 - GB-12-0793 Upper Midwest**
 - GB-12-0794 Virginia**
 - GB-12-0795 West Virginia**

VOTED to affirm the organizational change which forms Church Extension Financial & Missional Resources, Inc. (CEFMR) with the two presidents of the separate underlying ministries, Disciples Church Extension Fund and Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation serving as co-executive and CEFMR being the entity which reports to the wider Church. Chief administrative officers and other officers are to be identified through the Disciples search process outlined in *The Design*, and the General Board will confirm Directors of CEFMR, Hope Partnership and Disciples Church Extension Fund.

GB-12-0796 **2013 General Assembly Update**

Report received

GB-12-1201 **General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Including the Office of General Minister and President - State of the Church**

Report received

Business of the General Board - Sunday, April 22, 2012

GB-12-0800 **Amendments to Christian Church Foundation Articles of Incorporation**

VOTED to approve the amendments to the Christian Church Foundation Articles of Incorporation, which include minor language form and style changes and elimination of the Oreon E. Scott Foundation chairperson as a voting member of the Christian Church Foundation's Board of Directors.

GB-12-0798 **Adoption of Revisions to the Pension Plan of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

VOTED to confirm and ratify the amendments to the Pension Plan document which include enhanced pension and survivor benefits in a number of areas.

GB-12-0797 **Report of the General Nominating Committee Regarding Boards, Committees and Commissions**

VOTED to elect the nominees for each of the following committee, commission and General Ministry boards:

Christian Church Foundation Board
Council on Christian Unity Board
Reconciliation Commission
Week of Compassion Committee

VOTED to confirm the following members to the following General Ministry boards:

Christian Board of Publication
Church Extension Financial and Missional Resources
including its subsidiaries Disciples Church Extension Fund
and Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation
Disciples of Christ Historical Society
National Benevolent Services
National Christian Missionary Convention
National Convocation
Pension Fund

VOTED to elect the Administrative Committee's Class of 2014

GB-12-0802 Council of Colleges and Universities

Report received

GB-12-0803 Council of Theological Education

Report received

GB-12-0804 Lexington Theological Seminary Update

Report Received

Business of the General Board - Tuesday, April 24, 2012

GB-12-0799 Update to the Ministerial Code of Ethics

VOTED to approve the three amendments to the Theological Foundations and Policies and Criteria for the Ordering of Ministry document. These amendments were minor additions geared toward bringing more specificity to three sections of the document.

Reports from the Committees of the General Board

Committee on Counsel & Mediation

Time was spent orienting the new members of the committee to the type

of work assigned to the committee including a brief overview of current concern with the Northeastern Region.

Covenantal Dialogue

Gleanings from the reports submitted from dialogue process:

- Suggestion that an entire General Assembly be devoted to Global Ministry presence around the world and for that matter also around the Council on Christian Unity seeing as Christian Unity is a key dimension to wholeness.
- Collaborative work being done among the General Ministries and Racial/Ethnic Ministries does not appear to be inherent in the organizational system but rather result of the broad thinking of a few individuals.
- Offered a two-directional, authentic engagement that provided insight to both the board members and General Ministry leaders.

Recommendations going forward include:

- Process be replicated in regions and congregations.
- Successors to this round at future General Board meetings include Regional Ministers (utilizing cluster groupings), Councils of Colleges/Universities and Seminaries as well as the General Ministry partners.
- The 2013 General Board meeting include significant time spent on what it means to be in covenant and how that provides the context from which to work on General Assembly Resolutions.

General Assembly Committee

Cities under consideration for 2017 are: St. Louis, Washington DC, Louisville, Las Vegas, Indianapolis, and Sacramento.

Assignments made to committee members for updates on 2011 General Assembly resolutions.

GMP Vision Advisor Committee

Reviewed results from the survey conducted earlier in the year. Trends are beginning to emerge - most importantly - that the General Assembly should remain a biennial event. Will be testing these trends with the Cabinet, College of Regional Ministers, the participants of the three racial/ethnic constituencies meeting this summer, then deciding as a committee where we go from here.

Governance Committee

Reviewed and worked on *The Design* paragraphs 43 and 59. Began to discuss the difference between Recognized and Other Organizations.

Eric Brown raised the question about *The Design* and the systemic racism encoded therein and have we looked at that. Suggested that a subcommittee/task force/reconciliation table be established by the Administrative Committee to do just that - resulting with a statement of confession.

Mission Finance Committee

Discussion of special day offering promotions. Asked that the General Board put together a task force to review how these offerings are promoted - how do we utilize technology, how do we connect our identity to the promotion of these offerings. Need to do some research into how we connect with those congregations who do not attend regional or general church functions - do not have the relationship which would prompt them to give.

**MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
October 26 - 27, 2012**

Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis Marriott East

Regina Morton, Moderator

Susan Diamond, First Vice Moderator

Rick Ikeda, Second Vice Moderator

Overview

Led by Moderator, Regina Morton, the Administrative Committee met for 1 ½ days. First Vice Moderator, Susan Diamond guided the Committee in worship and reflection throughout the meeting.

Prior to the meeting of the Administrative Committee, the Finance Committee and the Personnel, Policy and Procedure Committee met via conference call to conduct their business. By doing so, the Committee was able to engage in more discussion of presentations made during the meeting.

Administrative Committee Orientation

Associate General Minister and Vice President, Todd Adams, led the Committee through an orientation presentation of their role and functions. The orientation included defining the Administrative Committee as a governance board, discussion of the responsibilities, duties and membership composition of the Committee and best practices. The presentation concluded with a more in depth look at the three roles of the Administrative Committee: Board of the Office of General Minister and President; their relationship with and duties for the General Board; and their relationship with and duties for the General Assembly.

General Minister and President Report

Sharon Watkins highlighted several of her foci of the past six months as General Minister and President during the review of her report. These included: how do we assess the outcomes of the four mission priorities; how do we fulfill God's mission for us in this time - what is the real sense of who we are and what is God's call for us so we can move forward; the renewed energy regarding structural change; communicating and further defining the Welcome Table - how the welcome is Christ's welcoming of us, not our welcome of each other; updates on pastoral concerns of the church; updates on letters she has signed along with our ecumenical partners.

Statistical Analysis of the State of the Church

Todd Adams made a second presentation to the Committee of a Statistical Analysis of the State of the Church. This provided a realistic look at the membership of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) (CCDOC) beginning post restructure in 1969 through 2012 including how the decline in membership and congregations has affected the outreach giving and mission of the church as well as the structure of the church. Questions and comments which resulted from this presentation and ensuing discussion included:

- How do we define member in 2012?
- How do we define congregation in 2012?
- Average worship attendance versus participating membership versus total membership - which number is most realistic? How are those numbers arrived at?
- What about those who participate without becoming a member of a congregation?
- Emergence congregations - more interested in mission than in a building or institutional church - how do we reach out to them?
- Does the idea of covenantal relationship need to be reintroduced to congregations?
- How do we measure success in a congregation/region/denomination?
- Is success more about membership or mission?
- How does this impact our seminaries and seminary students?
- How do we gather information in a format that is more appealing to the local congregation, making them want to provide that information?
- How do we talk about what it means to be a Disciple? Quantitative versus qualitative - numbers versus story - what is the right tool to do this?

Small Group Discussion

On Saturday, the Committee was divided into small groups to consider the following two topics. One group was tasked with review and discussion of **AC-12-2173 Vision Advisory Report**. The second group continued the visioning discussion begun during the 2012 General Board meeting. The reports from the two small group discussions are attached to the end of the minutes.

Business of the Administrative Committee

Friday, October 26, 2012

Agenda

VOTED to approve the agenda of this meeting

Consent Agenda

VOTED to approve the following items from the Consent Agenda

	Minutes of the 2012 Spring Administrative Committee
AC-12-2156	Establishing Price for the 2013 Year Book and Directory
AC-12-2157	Audit Engagement
AC-12-2172	Election to Fill Vacancy on the Faith & Giving Advisory Committee

AC-12-2155 Report on Maintaining 501(c) 3 Tax Status with IRS

VOTED to approve the list of member churches, church agencies and institutions as amended for submission to the IRS as part of the 501(c)3 status of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

AC-12-2158 Authorization of "Other Organizations" for 2013 Year Book and Directory

VOTED that the list of "Other Organizations" are authorized for inclusion in the directory section of the 2013 Year Book and Directory of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

AC-12-2159 Report of the General Minister and President

RECEIVED the report of the General Minister and President with the request that an update on the Northeastern Region and La Convención be added to the report

AC-12-2174 GMP's 2013-2014 Sabbatical Proposal

VOTED to approve the General Minister and President's sabbatical, to be taken in two parts, July 29 - September 8, 2013 and February 24 - April 6, 2014

The following budgets were approved with one vote.

VOTED: to approve:

AC-12-2160	2013 OGMP Budget
AC-12-2161	2013 Communication Ministries Budget
AC-12-2162	2013 Promotion Budget
AC-12-2163	2013 Treasury Services Budget
AC-12-2164	2013 Year Book and Directory Budget

AC-12-2165 2013 Reconciliation Budget

VOTED to approve the 2013 Reconciliation Ministry budget

AC-12-2166 2013 Center for Faith and Giving Budget

VOTED to approve the 2013 Center for Faith and Giving Budget

AC-12-2167 Audit Committee Charter Update

VOTED to approve the change to the Audit Committee charter, clarifying that a member may serve 2 - three year terms

AC-12-2168 Housing Allowance Approval Process from Capin Crouse

VOTED to approve the recommended process for approving housing allowances, recommended to us by Capin Crouse

AC-12-2169 Approval of Updated OGMP Employee Handbook

VOTED to approve the Updated OGMP Employee Handbook

AC-12-2170 Report from the Executive Search Model Task Force

RECEIVED the verbal report as presented by Todd Adams

The Administrative Committee adjourned into Executive Session

VOTED The following business items were approved during the Executive Session of the Administrative Committee

AC-12-2171 GMP's 2013 Compensation

AC-12-2175 2013 Clergy Housing Allowances

The Administrative Committee reconvened into Plenary Session

Saturday, October 27, 2012

AC-12-2173 Vision Advisory Report

RECEIVED the Vision Advisory report after the Saturday small group discussion. Notes from the small group discussions may be obtained from the Office of General Minister and President.

As there was no further business before the Administrative Committee, the meeting was adjourned with the partaking of communion.

The General Board has reviewed Report No. 1301 from the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Including the Office of the General Minister and President. The report is submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and discussion. No action is required. (Discussion time 12 minutes)