

2018 Annual Regional Assembly

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region



"Transforming Us to Transform the Church"

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."

Romans 12:1-3—NKJV

Saturday, May 5, 2018 ~ 10:00 AM
Triumphant Temple of Praise Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
3497 West Pasadena Avenue, Flint, Michigan
Keynote Speaker
Rev. Teresa Hord Owens
General Minister and President
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in the United States and Canada



Priorities for the Michigan Region for the biennium 2016—2018 are:

- ◆ Refresh, Renew, Revitalize, Transform our congregations: actively strengthening our leadership through the commissions of the region and Regional Elders.
- ◆ Resource congregations and pastors for Conflict Management.
- ◆ Endeavor to build unity while understanding and respecting our diversity.
- ◆ Resource congregations to be missional.
- ◆ Commit to training, mentorship and educational opportunities focused on our youth as our future and current church and denominational leaders.

Greetings from our Regional Minister



Welcome to the 2018 Regional Assembly! We are gathered as people of God to join in worship, share in fellowship, and be about the business of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region. We are grateful for your presence and participation, which makes this all possible.

We are blessed and honored by the presence of our General Minister and President, the Rev. Teresa Hord Owens who was elected and installed at the 2017 General Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana last July. She is a gifted preacher, which we will experience when she brings the keynote sermon during worship, illuminating the theme of this Assembly **“Transforming Us to Transform the Church.”**

Please be sure to visit the displays to gain further knowledge about the Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries and the Christian Church Foundation.

We take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to Pastor Frank Gilliard and the members of Triumphant Temple of Praise Christian Church for the tremendous work they have done in preparation for the Assembly and are doing as they serve as our hosts. God bless you!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene James".

Eugene James, Regional Minister

Our Keynote Speaker

Reverend Teresa Hord Owens



Rev. Teresa “Terri” Hord Owens was elected General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in July 2017. She is the first person of color and second woman to lead the denomination. A descendant of one of the oldest African-American free colonies in Indiana and a Disciple since young adulthood, Hord Owens was dean of students at the University of Chicago Divinity School and pastor of First Christian Church of Downers Grove, IL prior to her election.

Hord Owens’ resume includes more than 20 years in corporate America leading diverse data management teams in the health care and other industries before she entered seminary. After ordination, she served 15 years at the University of Chicago Divinity School, shepherding a varied student body in both background and theology.

Hord Owens is widely sought after as a preacher, speaker and workshop facilitator. Her ministry and intellectual interests include a theology of reconciliation, cultural intelligence, developing inclusive and multi-cultural congregations, and the mentoring of young adults. She marked three decades of marriage with Walter Owens, Jr., prior to her election. They are the proud parents of an adult son, W. Mitchell Owens, III.

"Transforming Us to Transform the Church"



OPENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Living Sacrifices to God
 12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Serve God with Spiritual Gifts
³For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Opening Devotions

Gathering song "This Is the Day"

This is the day,
 this is the day that the Lord has made,
 that the Lord has made.
 I will rejoice,
 I will rejoice and be glad in it,
 and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
 I will rejoice and be glad in it.
 This is the day,
 this is the day that the Lord has made.

Call to Worship Pastor Arnold Lakes

Scripture

Prayer

Meditation Hymn "I Surrender All"

All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
 I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live.

I surrender all, I surrender all;
 All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, make me, Savior, wholly Thine;

Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit, truly know that Thou art mine.

I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, let Thy blessing fall on me.

I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

Business Meeting

Lunch



BUSINESS
MEETING

Roll Call of Churches

Business Meeting

Review and approval of May 2017 Assembly Minutes

Reports

Moderator's Report

Regional Minister's Report

Commissions

Church Growth and Vitality

Crystal

Ecumenism

Ministry

Personnel

Stewardship and Finance

Constituencies

Women's ministry

Men's ministry

Reconciliation

CCMR Website

Districts

East

West

North

Representatives and Partners

General Board Representative

General Ministry Partner

Election of Officers

Questions & Answers

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region
Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Regional Assembly
Central Woodward Christian Church (DOC)
May 6, 2017

Vice Moderator John Martek called the Regional Assembly's business meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Opening Prayer

Roll Call of Churches:

Ann Arbor, Journey of Faith Christian Church

Dr. Jon Lacey, Rev. Shirley Martinson

Arcadia, Blaine Christian Church

Rev. Robert Larimer, Russ Tiller

Luther, Church of Christ

Lisa Martek

Cadillac, Clay Hill Christian Church

Rev. John Martek

Canton, Beacon Hill Ministries

Dr. Wayne Ten Roberts

Coral, Cowden Lake Christian Church

Rev. Julie Drews, Rev. Robert Oliveira

Dearborn Heights, St. Paul's UCC

Rev. Linda Anderson, Dorothy Sutherland,
LaRue Palmer

Detroit, Bethany Christian Church

Carole Enwright, Rev. Nora Shumake

Detroit, Full Gospel Christian Church

James Tripp

Detroit, United Christian Church

Rev. Greg Bryant, Lena Harvey, William
Luse, Stonewall Pace

Ferndale Christian

Susan Klepsch, Rev. Mitzie VanDongen

Flint, Triumphant Temple of Praise

Rev. Frank Gilliard

Flushing, New Covenant Christian Church

Clarence Courts, Jr., Rochell Courts, Rev.
Arnold Lakes, Rev. Angelete Lakes, Tish-
yca McNeal

Grand Rapids, Cascade Christian Church

Rev. Armand Aronson, Rev. Steve Carigon,
Barbara Dykhuizen, Chuck Dykhuizen,
Pam Dykhuizen, Rev. Jill Forton, Pat
Howe, Tim Howe, Carl Moushon, Lori
Powers, Grace Powers

Grand Rapids, Central Christian Church

Rev. Neil Topliffe

Hastings, Woodgrove Brethren Christian Parish

Rev. Randall Bertrand

Hazel Park, Serenity Christian Church

Diana Allen, Rev. John Harvey, Andrea

Tate, Twanda Thompson, Brandon Wright

Ionia, First Christian Church

David Cook

Kalamazoo, Christian Church

Barbara Hemphill

Lansing, First Christian Church

Rev. Rick Boyd, Jerry McAllister

Saginaw, First Christian Church-West

Irving Burt, Rev. Jean O'Brien, Rev. Barba
ra Pratt, Rev. Keith Roberson

Swartz Creek, Unity Christian Church

Rev. Brenda Etheridge, Richard Harmon

Troy, Central Woodward Christian Church

Rev. Robert Cornwall, Ray Cross, Marge
Hamann, Rial Hamann, Nancy Kennedy,
Anne McCauslin, John McCauslin, Rev.
Susan Menko, Russell Menko, Kate Mills,
Maggie Mills, Rev. Rick Modglin-Green,
Diana Payton, Sarah Beth Simonds

Staff

Rev. Eugene James, Regional Minister

Mike Lipsey, Bookkeeper

Geraldine Moore, Clerk

Beverly Peeler, Administrative Assistant

Guest

Rev. Scott Seay, Professor, Christian Theological
Seminary.

Review and approval of May 2016 Regional As-
sembly Minutes:

Correction: Brenda Etheridge was also pre-
sent from Unity Christian Church, Swartz Creek.

Moved to accept as amended—Brenda

Etheridge

Seconded and motion passed.

Reports:

Moderator's report: Jerrolynn Hockenull—
Absent. Written report.

Regional Minister: Rev. Eugene James. Written
report.

Eugene discussed the financial crisis that the Region is facing. He mentioned the task force that has been established to look at financial concerns including the possible sale of part of Crystal Camp and Conference Center. He listed congregations who are the top givers to the region: Troy, Central Woodward Christian Church; Arcadia, Blaine Christian Church; Grand Rapids, Cascade Christian Church; Lansing, First Christian Church; Traverse City, First Christian Church; Hastings, Woodgrove Brethren Christian Parish; Ann Arbor, Journey of Faith; Dowagiac, First Christian Church; Grand Rapids, Central Christian Church; Ionia, First Christian Church; Saginaw, First Christian Church – West; Wayland, United Church of Wayland and Ferndale, Ferndale Christian Church. Each of these congregations gave more than \$1,000 to the Michigan Region.

Rev. James also announced that he would be moving to half time due to the financial situation in the Region. He felt that sacrifice is necessary.

Commissions:

Church Growth and Vitality: Brenda Etheridge. Written report. Brenda also pointed out leadership training that will be coming. She also said additional dates are available if other congregations would like to host.

Crystal: Russ Tiller. Written Report. Summer camps were promoted as well as sale of t-shirts & sweatshirts.

Ecumenism: Jerry McAllister. Written report. Jerry also pointed out the work of Rippling Hope—Gospel In Action Detroit as our regional ministry opportunity. He announced that the former bank building that was donated is being remodeled for the headquarters and will be dedicated on June 3, 2017, 5:00-8:00 pm. Rippling Hope is also beginning a Capital Campaign with a goal of \$80,000.

STEM—Classes are scheduled see Anne McCauslin for materials.

Ministry: Rev. Robert Cornwall. Written report. Bob pointed out upcoming ordinations of: Vickie Wright at Bethany CC on May 7 at 3:00pm; Kevin Greenwald, Saginaw First Christian Church West, has had his ordination council and will be

ordained this summer; Steve Carigon, Cascade CC has been approved for his ordination council; Susan Menko, Central Woodward Christian Church, commissioned for ministry of Christian formation.

Regional Elders: Shirley Martinson. Written report. Shirley pointed out the need for the Regional Elders to redefine their role and work to support the Regional Minister.

Personnel: Rev. Julie Drews. Written report.

Stewardship & Finance: Ray Cross. Written report. Ray pointed out the continued financial crisis of the region and the deficit that Camp Crystal faces each year. A slide show of where funds come from and the expenses were presented for both the **Region and Camp Crystal**. **Crystal's income is derived** from camper fees, facility rental, shirt sales, and drawing funds from the Crystal Fund. Sarah Beth Simonds discussed the possibility of selling a portion of Crystal Camp and Conference Center.

Discussion was opened and centered on the possibility of selling a portion of Crystal. Several people told of the importance of camp in their spiritual formation and some for their call to ministry. Others discussed the need for funds from the asset that would not affect the portion used as Camp Crystal.

Seeing no motion on the floor the Vice Moderator moved to the next report.

Constituencies:

Reconciliation: Rick Boyd. Written report. Rick also encouraged everyone to view the movie/**documentary, "13th" on Mass incarceration.**

Women's Ministry: Sarah Beth Simonds, Consultant. Diana Payton. Written report.

Men's Ministry: Rial Hamann. Written report. Rial pointed out the retreat and also gave a plea for direct giving to the region.

Historian: Rev. Nora Shumake. Written report.

Representatives and Partners:

Representative to the General Board: Dr. Barbara Hemphill. Written report. It was pointed out

that the General Church is also facing financial issues similar to those of the region.

General Ministry Partner: Rev. Enrique Ocasio.
Written report on Region's investment and account balances.

Representative from the United Church of Christ: Campbell Lovett, Conference Minister, Michigan Conference. Written report.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Bylaw revision: The following addition is recommended by Cascade Christian Church and the Crystal Commission; both recognized entities of the Michigan Region of the Christian Church – Disciples of Christ.

To Section: II. B.7.

Add Subpart a.

"In no case shall the Regional Board nor the Executive Committee nor any others, sell or encumber any part of the property known as the Crystal Conference Center/Camp Crystal without the explicit, specific, prior approval of the Regional Assembly."

Discussion was opened. Discussion centered on the need for the bylaw revision, the financial situation of the region and what a sale might mean to the camp and the region.

Barbara Hemphill moved to amend the motion on the bylaw revision to read:

"In no case shall the Regional Board nor the Executive Committee nor any others, sell or encumber any part of the property known as the Crystal Conference Center/Camp Crystal without a 2/3 vote of the Regional Assembly's voting delegates."

Jerry McAllister seconded. Motion was open for discussion. Discussion centered on why and how a regional assembly would be called if needed as well as discussion on the value of the camp, the **Region's financial situation and the desire for the whole assembly to make a decision if the property were to be sold rather than a smaller group.**

Amendment passed.

Barbara Hemphill moved to amend the motion on the bylaw revision to read:

"In no case shall the Regional Board, nor the Executive Committee nor any others, sell or encumber any real property of the Christian Church Michigan Region without a 2/3 vote of the Regional Assembly's voting delegates."

Jerry McAllister; Seconded

Discussion was opened: Discussion centered on the inclusion of the only other real property owned by the region, the regional office building.

Amendment passed.

Motion to approve the bylaw change as amended: Motion seconded by Jerry McAllister and passed to read as follows:

"in no case shall the Regional Board, nor the Executive Committee nor any others, sell or encumber any real property of the Christian Church Michigan Region without a 2/3 vote of the Regional Assembly's voting delegates."

To Section: II. B.7.

Add Subpart a. of the Regional Bylaws.

Election of Officers:

John Martek asked that his and Lisa Martek's names be removed from nomination slate.

The vote was called for the remaining slate of officers. The openings for Moderator and Member at Large are referred back to the nomination committee for suggestions of names for possible appointment by the Regional Board/Regional Minister. Passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm and Closing Worship began.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Modglin-Green, Acting Secretary



REPORTS

Moderator's Report—Rev. Mildred “Mitzie” VanDongen

Regional Minister's Report—Rev. Eugene James

Commissions

Church Growth and Vitality—Rev. Brenda Etheridge

Crystal—Russ Tiller

Ecumenism—Jerry McAllister

Ministry—Rev. Robert Cornwall

Personnel—Rev. Julie Drews

Stewardship and Finance—Sarah Beth Simonds

Constituencies

Women's ministry—Sarah Beth Simonds, Consultant

Diana Payton, President

Men's ministry—Rial Hamann

Reconciliation—Rev. Richard Boyd

Districts

East—Rev. Andre Powell

West

North

Representatives and Partners

General Board Representative—Dr. Barbara Hemphill

General Ministry Partner—Rev. Enrique Ocasio

Nominations Committee—Rhonda Moore-Lewis

Moderator's Report—Rev. Mitzie VanDongen

Serving as Moderator has been a very enriching experience. Meetings by phone and in Lansing with Pastor Eugene James and the Executive Committee has been a very worthwhile education.

Thank you to everyone for helping me

"moderate!" I'm so glad to be a part of this region which has so many caring and dedicated members. I am optimistic that all of your hard work will make for a better future for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) - MICHIGAN REGION!

Regional Minister's Report—Rev. Eugene James

Faithfulness knows no difference between small and great duties.

John Ruskin

One thing I have learned during my years in ministry is that every task is important even though **some tasks may be more critical than others**. I'm grateful to God for those who work faithfully at whatever they are called upon to do for the ministry of the Michigan Region. Paul encourages us: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is **the Lord Christ you are serving.**" (Colossians 3:23-24)

There are very positive actions occurring this year for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region. We are blessed that the Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens, our **General Minister** and President, is the keynote speaker for the Regional Assembly. She is an excellent preacher and has demonstrated tremendous leadership during these first eight months of her time in office. Under the able leadership of Pastor Tim Murtaugh, plans for the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Crystal Conference Center July 6-8, 2018 are moving right along, reservations are already coming in to the Regional office. The Rev. Dr. Rick Lowery, President of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society, will be the featured speaker, sharing from his vast knowledge as a college professor and church historian. Plan now and encourage others to participate in these events. Seventy people have registered as of April 12, 2018.

The Festival of Faith is a partnership event of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region and the Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ. It features workshops, key-

note speakers, opportunities for dialog, and worship. For 2018, instead of gathering for the event an invitation was extended to congregations to choose from among locations in Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Benzie County to volunteer for community service opportunities.

The location in Detroit was Rippling Hope which had projects at three locations in their service area. Grand Rapids had opportunities at HQ, Family Promise, and Habitat Restore. In Benzie County there were opportunities planned for Benzie Area Christian Neighbors, Grow Benzie, and Michigan Legacy Art Park.

Most of the work began at 9:00 AM and concluded between 12:30 and 2:00 PM. Tasks included painting, mudding and sanding, minor repairs, cleaning, straightening up storage areas, yard work, hauling debris away to the dump and other incidental activities. There was consensus among participants at each location that they enjoyed working together on the projects. It was an excellent opportunity for meeting new friends and fellowship in a meaningful way. The contact persons expressed their gratitude for all the help they received from the volunteers. Good deeds bearing fruit.

We are appreciative of the efforts of Carl Zerweck in facilitating the work in Detroit, Steve Carigon for coordinating the group in Grand Rapids, and Tim Murtaugh for leading the group in Benzie County. Thanks also to Beverly Peeler and Lisa Soulliere for the administrative assistance they provided.

The Stewardship and Finance Commission has worked diligently in addressing the financial challenges of the Region. It has expanded online giving opportunities, greatly improved financial reporting, and is working in partnership with the Strategic Ministry Planning Committee to increase individual giving to the Region on a monthly basis.

Our bookkeeper has submitted his resignation effective March 1, 2018. Mike Lipsey has truly been faithful in his service, passing on receiving his salary for eighteen months. His wife Pat recently had surgery and I ask that you remember them when you pray. The Stewardship and Finance Commission will be making recommendations as to how the responsibilities will be handled.

The health and welfare of our clergy is very important to me and critical to the vitality of our congregations. The Clergy Retreat held April 9-11, 2018 at the St. Francis Retreat Center was very beneficial to those who shared in this time of rest, renewal, and fellowship with other clergy persons. **I'm grateful to Pastor Jill Forton for her tremendous effort in organizing the Retreat and to Pastor Bob Cornwall for facilitating a deeper insight into**

who we are as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The number of participants was lower this year, **but I'm hopeful that more of our clergy will be present next year.** Please urge pastors and other clergy to take advantage of this opportunity and do all you can to support them.

I praise and thank God that Cowden Lake Christian Church continues as a congregation affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It **has been a trying experience for them but God's** grace is evident as he blessed the efforts of Pastor Julie Drews and other congregational leaders who are working hard and praying mightily to sustain this historic ministry. In his role as a Regional Elder Pastor Bob Oliveira and his wife Kelly gave tangible support. I rejoice that Rev. Peter Morgan is sharing his gifts and experience to undergird the endeavors of the congregation to live into ministry to which God is calling them.

I returned to full-time status officially on February 1. I did not realize just how stressful working part-time was for me until I returned to working full-time. To God be the glory for the things he has done and the hope he provides for the future.

Commissions

Church Growth and Vitality—Rev. Brenda Etheridge

Commission members: JoElla Coles, Rev. Rick Modglin-Green, Rev. Shirley Martinson

The commission provided scholarships for churches to attend the stewardship workshop held at First Christian - Lansing in the spring of 2017. We offered scholarships for clergy to attend the clergy retreat, and for members to attend the Church Growth and Vitality workshops held at First Christian - Lansing on September 30th and Unity Christian - Swartz Creek on November 11th. We brought Rev. and Mrs. J. Thomas Johnson of Dayton, OH to assist members to discover and use our spiritual gifts in ministry. Thirty persons were in attendance at the two workshops, representing five Michigan congregations. Additionally we have supported Central Christian Church of Grand Rapids to participate in the New Beginnings program with Hope Partnership in the amount of \$1,500 in financial support. The chairperson went with the Regional Minister and Moderator to visit Cowden Lake Christian Church as they discerned God's call in their congregation.

We would like congregations and leaders to tell us what will be helpful training or materials to enhance their ministries.

We bring no actions or recommendations to the Assembly at this time.

We plan to offer Scholarships to clergy and lay-leaders to attend Disciples-sponsored educational events (clergy retreat, preaching camp, and other Disciples-sponsored training) that promote church growth and vitality. Our plans also call for a place on the Regional website where congregations can identify and/or select Disciples leaders that can provide them assistance with issues that they face in their particular congregation; leaders that can provide best practices and/or come to a congregation and provide them specific assistance.

Crystal—Russ Tiller

Committee/Commission Members: Dave Cook, Rev. Jill Forton, Brady Larimer, Jennifer Murtaugh, Eric Strommer, Vickie Wright

Our Commission reports:

1. Engagement with United Camps, Conferences and Retreats for Marketing and Promotion in 2018.
2. Camp schedule and dean approvals for the 2018 camping season.
3. Website updates, including fee structures and marketing information/forms
4. The administering of the Fuller Scholarship Fund by Crystal Commission member Dave Cook.
5. Finalized 2018 operating budget for Crystal Conference Center.
6. The Commission accepted the Property Sale Task Forces Report (*see Future Projects Under Consideration*)
7. The Commission received an updated report and information from Neil Topliffe on Kick Start '18.

Our concern at this time is achieving budgeted income from new sources to help balance the income budget.

We bring the following actions and/or recommendations to the Assembly:

1. The Crystal Commission recommends that the Regional Assembly approve entering into a Facility Management Agreement with United Camps, Conferences and Retreats (UCCR) to assume responsibility to manage Crystal Conference Center beginning in 2019. This motion was voted on and approved by the Regional Board at the Regional Board Meeting of March 3, 2018.
2. Crystal Commission recommends that the Regional Assembly approves drawing \$28,000 from the Oakland Endowment Fund of Camp Crystal as operating capital to UCCR for cash

flow purposes to operate Crystal Conference Center. This motion was also voted on and approved by the Regional Board at the Regional Board Meeting of March 3, 2018.

3. As part of the packet we have included in this report a UCCR Q&A sheet for information on these motions

Future projects under consideration:

Property Sale Task Force Recommendation:

1. The Crystal Commission voted on and unanimously accepted the report from the Property Sales Task Force. It is meaningful to know the current, estimated value of the land that was under consideration. For 2018, the Crystal Commission is currently engaged with the

marketing and promoting services of United Camps, Conferences and Retreats (UCCR). Parts of these services may involve greater use of the camp property for nature and environmental exploration. However, the Crystal Commission will continue to carefully evaluate and act in the best interest of a possible sale of camp property after consulting with UCCR and within our committee. We will also consider other possible sale options that may be worthy for future exploration, and if a sale is made, how the money will be used.

2. Studying and implementing the Criterium Engineering Infrastructure Report
3. Participating in the Centennial Celebration for Crystal Conference Center July 7-9,2018



**HOW DID WE GET HERE
PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP
WITH UCCR
AND CRYSTAL CONFERENCE
CENTER**



- June-September Crystal ad hoc Phone Conference brainstorming group – 6-8 people
- July – August Conversations with Tina Heck of UCCR at Disciples General Assembly – 3 people
Telephone conference call with Mike Carr/Tina Heck with 4-5 CCMR/Crystal folks
- August Approval by Regional Board for UCCR Feasibility Study
Data and information on 33 questions/items from UCCR collected by CCMR and Crystal staff and submitted to UCCR
- September Three-day visit by Mike Carr to Lansing to interview staff etc. & Crystal to tour the facility with Brenda and Russ, meeting with Crystal Commission members and CCMR reps.
- October Contract with UCCR Marketing dept. to do marketing of Crystal in 2018
- December 70+ page Feasibility Study document presented to Crystal Commission and CCMR Execs.
Presentation of UCCR Feasibility study by Mike Carr to Crystal Commission
- January 20 Crystal Commission meeting to review and discuss the proposal, identifying further questions to explore
- February 6 Telephone Conference Call with UCC Ohio Conference representatives who moved their conference centers to UCCR management in 2013-14. Crystal Commission prepared 15 questions for them. Desire was to talk to group who made this change for due diligence in considering UCCR.
- February 10 Crystal Commission, after discussion, voted to request Regional Board to approve the management of Crystal by UCCR beginning in 2019.
- March 3 Regional Board approves engaging UCCR in an initial 2-year contract to manage Crystal Conference Center beginning in 2019.



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT WILL IT MEAN TO HAVE A PARTNERSHIP WITH UCCR TO OPERATE CRYSTAL CONFERENCE CENTER?



1. Question: What is UCCR?

Answer:

- A. Began in 1970 when California ecumenical group looked at how to be more economically efficient and a provide stronger opportunities for residential camp/conference experiences. N. California Disciples helped lead the way.
- B. UCCR is a not-for-profit 501(c) co-op organization with the member groups making up the organization. Each member group has TWO representatives as part of its Owners Council
- C. They manage 13 locations across the country currently, providing Planning, Reservations Department, Financial Services, Human Resources, Risk Management & Regulatory Compliance, Marketing, and other services in the process of operating a facility
- D. They provide a site manager, maintenance and other staff necessary to operate the Crystal Conference Center during its 5-6-month season, including interviewing, hiring, background checks, salaries, and benefits. UCCR would not be providing deans or counselors for individual camps or groups.
- E. They would oversee the purchase of food, supplies and maintain healthy meals and snack options with a variety of menus
- F. They have a full-time booking staff that would be booking groups for use of facilities. UCCR would not be taking registrations for individual camps – each group including CCMR would be responsible for their own programs and registrations etc.
- G. Marketing focuses on other non-profits in the area to use the facilities for their groups, when Disciples Camps/Retreats are not using the space. Disciples block out their dates in advance of Crystal being available to others. UCCR provides a website, Facebook page, print materials, social media promotions etc. to reach groups.
- H. UCCR provides an annual site report summarizing guest demographics, year-end financial report and complete projects.

2. Question: What does our Conference Center lose or give up by having an outside manager?

Answer:

- A. Crystal Conference Center will always be the property owners. We would continue to own it. UCCR will only serve as managers of the facility.
- B. The contract with UCCR can be ended – 2 years initially, annually after that.
- C. With 48+ years of experience handling the Financial, purchasing, staffing, licensing, routine maintenance, marketing to groups, booking facilities, UCCR can do it more efficiently
- D. What it means for CCMR is we can focus on our program – camps, retreats etc. without trying to handle operations, bookings, licenses, staffing, operations

3. Question: How do we know what is going on with UCCR, their decisions etc.

Answer:

- A. There is at least twice a year phone conference calls with UCCR and CCMR to discuss concerns, updates, etc.; that usually happens more frequently
- B. UCCR is very cognizant that Crystal is CCMR's largest asset and thus UCCR would be very responsible for being the managers and caretakers of that asset, including being responsible neighbors to those around us.
- C. The UCCR Owners Council meets twice a year with CCMR having two representatives involved in the oversight of the organization.

4. Question: Who is responsible for any annual deficits in the operation of Crystal?

Answer

- A. CCMR would be responsible for any operating deficits.
- B. However, UCCR, who set the budget and determine the per day meal and per day resident fees, working hard to keep cost controls.
- C. In the Feasibility Study, UCCR estimated a possible deficit the first year or two but they had very limited financial information to work with so built cautious budgets for 2019 and 2020. The budget projection for Crystal was bare bones, based upon our occupancy the previous few years. That would change once there was an increase in groups using the facility.
- D. UCCR would be working with CCMR and UCCR marketing office to increase the use of Crystal that would make a difference. Currently, all other UCCR managed facilities are breaking even or doing better than that.

5. Question: What would be the timeframe for UCCR assuming responsibility of Crystal?

Answer:

- A. CCMR Regional Board and CCMR Regional Assembly approval
- B. UCCR Board would receive Feasibility Study Report and vote on approval May 10
- C. Reaching mutual Statement of Agreement and signed – June or July
- D. UCCR Marketing would continue in 2018 (a separate contract that began 2/2018)
- E. UCCR assume Crystal operations by Mid-January 2019
- F. UCCR have a camp administrator on site April through October; interview and hire staff beginning in April; very open/preferring to hire past staff but go through UCCR application and hiring process.

6. Question: Explain to us the Financial costs and process for you operating the facility for CCMR:

Answer:

- A. Administrative Fee: Our normal administrative fee for providing all the services to plan, manage and maintain a facility is to be negotiated but will be 24% or less of bookings income. Crystal being only 5-6-month operation, UCCR will negotiate with CCMR a lower fee.
- B. UCCR requires from CCMR a \$28,000 Operating Capital payment that will be used for start-up costs and cash flow needs during the operating season. This one-time operating fund would be drawn upon as needed. Past UCCR experience is that the balance maintains itself from year to year. This fund would be returned to CCMR if the contract with UCCR was terminated.
- C. UCCR each year reviews the cost for food services and costs for per person per day operations of the camp. They compare the fees to that of other competitors in the area and aim to set a fair, mid-range rate for Crystal. The Per Person rates are set by the UCCR board and reviewed by the Owners Council and CCMR. This is all done in October of the previous year. That per day rate is reflected in the annual operating budget share with UCCR

- D. UCCR Finance Office is in weekly contact with the site manager, monitoring expenditures with expenses.
- E. DISCIPLES CAMPS/RETREATS Booking Fees: they would be the same per day per person as any other group booking facilities. However, Disciples would be given an owner discount of 12%, with payment for camp use being due in September, not at the time of camp. Also, an additional 5% rebate would return to CCMR the following March for all charges that were paid by CCMR for the use of the facilities for their camps/retreats.

7. Question: What happens to our Crystal Camps for children, youth, families and retreats?

Answer:

- A. We will continue to control and be responsible for organizing, promoting, registering and staffing our Michigan Disciples camps as always. We will maintain responsibility and decision making on programs as we have been doing for decades. Registrations for our camps will continue to be handled by the Regional Office.
- B. We will have first choice in booking the weeks/days when we wish to have our camps held at Crystal.
- C. We will pay for use of the camps/retreats at the per day per camper rate less 12%.
- D. If we find a need to expand our use of Crystal for Michigan Disciples camps, we will have first opportunity for requesting the time and dates.
- E. UCCR will assist us in promoting and marketing Michigan Disciples camps along with their overall marketing of Crystal to other non-profit organizations.

Ecumenism—Jerry McAllister

Activities:

As usual for Disciples, the Michigan Region partners with other church traditions and community groups to work in ecumenical ways.

Gospel In Action:

Gospel In Action is a program of the Region which coordinates active mission work within the Region. It functions by creating local committee groups to identify and respond to needs of their area. The local groups develop projects in partnership with other local churches and community groups and invites volunteer groups and individuals as well as agencies and businesses to contribute work and resources for addressing the needs of the projects. Currently three communities are being served in the Region. They are Flint, Detroit and Benzie County. Also work is being done in the Grand Rapids area but I don't think that a specific GIA committee has been set up there yet.

In Detroit, Gospel In Action partners especially with Rippling Hope but also with other Detroit based groups to work in blighted areas of Detroit. They participated in Rippling Hope moving in to a building donated by Chase Bank to be used as a headquarters and work station.

Carole Enwright has submitted a flyer with pictures which serves as a summary report from the Detroit Gospel In Action and Rippling Hope. I refer your attention to this report.

GIA-Flint was very active with distributing water and food, a part of the response to the water crisis there. It has now shifted much of its efforts from water and food distribution to advocacy, encouraging responsible agencies to get the water pipe repairs done, support people, especially children, who have been affected by the water disaster (and scandal) and address other infrastructure issues.

STEM:

There is a separate report by Anne McCauslin, the STEM dean and I refer you to that report. STEM continues to support the congregations of the Region by providing training experiences for local congregational leaders and active church participants. It continues to be important for pastors and other church leaders to be aware of persons in their congregations who would benefit from the STEM training and apply it in their local church activities.

Festival of Faith:

The Festival of Faith this spring became "Festival of Service" as three areas coordinated special day-long work projects (April 21) in three areas of the Region (Conference). The main units were Detroit, Grand Rapids and Benzie County. In each area work groups split up to work on several projects. This was done jointly with people from UCC churches and other community groups.

Relations with the UCC:

Relations with the UCC in Michigan continue to be active. Joint planning between Eugene James, our Regional Minister and Campbell Lovett, the UCC Conference Minister is a highlight.

Needs:

The main need for each of these programs is always for local leaders and pastors to bring these activities and events up in their congregations and encourage people to participate. The pastor is the best potential contact and support for these types of activities plus the local churches will experience the benefit as people learn skills and grow their faith.

Of course material and funding support is always needed, but volunteers and participants are the big need. It would be good for the ecumenical nature of these programs to be lifted up when they are discussed.

STEM – Systematic Training for Effective Ministries – Anne McCauslin, Dean

Advisory Board Members: Rev. Shirley Martinson, Rev. Deborah Glazier, Barbara Hemphill (Chairperson), Jerry McAllister, Linda Gawlik

STEM reports that 2018 has had a slow start due to weather cancellations and rescheduling. STEM will be offering classes on Worship, Faith Development, Church Administration, Church Development & Evangelism, Stewardship, Mission, Covenant and Self Care. STEM will be offering two Workshop Trainings, one on Community Creating Change in February and Telling Our Stories in September.

Our concern is to enlist more participation for our Lay Leadership Development and Continuing Education Workshops. Increasing our student body. STEM is looking for new members for the STEM Advisory Committee.

We ask that Pastors continue to encourage Lay

Members to seek additional education and training through the resources offered by STEM.

STEM will continue to support the on-line forum for lay education being developed by the Lay Education Task Force. Our local churches and the wider community continue to benefit from the **STEM students' and graduates' strengthened leadership skills and their stronger faith sharing experiences in STEM.** The STEM Board continues to work on revising the program curricula to ensure that STEM will offer programming that is pertinent to the needs of our church leaders. STEM participates with other UCC Regional Theological Education Programs in developing an Assessment Tool designed to advance Best Practices for Education.

LCMP CLASS SCHEDULE 2018

All classes are held at the Offices of the Michigan Conference UCC unless noted otherwise

2018

Jan. 12/13	Mission	Rev. Alex McCauslin
Feb. 9/10	Worship I	Rev. Sameera Shareef
TBD	Worship II	Rev. Jean Obrien
Apr. 13/14	Sacraments	Rev. Penny Lowes
May 11/12	Faith Development (Location to be determined)	Rev. Jeffrey Dick
June 8/9	Church Administration	Rev. Ron Sinclair
Aug. 10/11	Church Dev. & Evangelism	Rev. David Stout
Sept. 7/8	Stewardship & Mission	Bruce Barkhauer
Oct. 12/13	Covenant	Rev. Herman Haller
Nov. 9/10	Self Care	Rev. David Moffet-Moore

LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Feb.24	Community Creating Change	Luke Allen
TBA	Immigration and Refugee Settlement	National Office Staff

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Sept. 22	Biblical Storytelling Central Woodward Christian Church, Troy, MI	Rev. Penny Lowes
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3-YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE STEM LCMP:

<u>2017/2020</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Intro to UCC/DOC	Mission	Faith Formation
OT	Worship I	Family Systems
NT	Worship II	Leadership/Conflict Mgt.
Bible & Interp. I	Sacraments	Spirituality
Church Hist.	Faith Development	Spiritual Formation
Preaching I	Church Administration	Theology I
Bible & Interp. II	Church Dev/Evangelism	Theology II
Preaching II	Stewardship/Mission	Contemp. Theology
Ethics	Covenant	Issues in Theology
Pastoral Care	Self Care	Theology of Ministry

10 classes per year – January through June and August through November (Dates and locations of classes may change.)

COSTS - LCMP

Annual Tuition Fees of \$1,500. Classes taken individually are \$150 each.
Payment plans available upon arrangement with the Dean.

TO REGISTER FOR ANY CLASS OR WORKSHOP –
CONTACT ANNE MCCAUSLIN – DEAN
annemccauslin57@gmail.com
248-821-4669

Rippling Hope

Connecting Communities...Channeling Hope... Changing Lives...

THANK YOU to all of our Volunteers, Individuals , Faith Communities, Corporate, Civic, Service Groups & Donors for 2017

Calvary Lutheran Church, Clarkston, MI
 First Christian Church, Wilmington, OH
 Chester Friends, Wilmington, OH
 First Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, OH
 Zion United Church of Christ, Burlington, IA
 Highland Community Church, Wausau, WI
 St. John's Anglican, Tillsonburg, ON
 Messiah Lutheran Church, Fairview Park, OH
 Youth Energy Squad, Ecoworks, Detroit, MI
 AAA True Value Hardware, Detroit, MI
 Arise! Detroit, Detroit, MI
 Cowden Lake Christian Church, Coral, MI
 First Congregational Church, Rockford, MI
 Living Water Ministries, MI
 First United Methodist, Northville, MI
 Waynesville United Methodist, Waynesville, NC
 First Christian Church, Hoopston, IL
 Capital Hill Christian Church, Des Moines, IA
 Chariton Christian Church, Chariton, IA
 St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN
 Christ Church Anglican, Lakeside, ON
 Club General Motors, Detroit, MI
 Christian Church DOC, MI
 GM Global Propulsions Systems
 Bob & Carol Stewart Foundation, Ft. Worth, TX
 Chevy Chase United Methodist, Chevy Chase, MD
 Davis Memorial Christian Church, Taylorville, IL
 First Presbyterian Church, Taylorville, IL
 Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, MI
 Woodridge Christian Church, Wichita, KS
 Washtenaw County Solid Waste Program, MI
 United Way of Southeastern Michigan, MI
 American Dental Society, Wayne State Univ.
 Congregational Church of Birmingham, MI

Bethany Christian Church, Detroit, MI
 Central Woodward Christian Church, Troy, MI
 Shelton Memorial Christian Church, Ulysses, KS
 Northwood Christian Church, Beaumont, TX
 United Christian Church, Yakima, WA
 University Christian Church, Ft Worth, TX
 First United Methodist Church, Royal Oak, MI
 Pre-Professional Medical Soc, Wayne State Univ, Detroit
 First Congregational Church, Chelsea, MI
 St. Paul's UCC/DOC, Dearborn Heights, MI
 Birwood House, Detroit, MI
 Schoolcraft Improvement Association, Detroit
 Great Lakes Chapter of RCI Inc., MI
 Whitcomb Block Club, Detroit, MI
 South/Plymouth Community Assoc., Detroit, MI
 Northwestern Christian Church, Detroit, MI
 Desoto Ellsworth Block Association, Detroit, MI
 Forrer St. Block Club Association, Detroit, MI
 General Motors Foundation, Detroit, MI
 Southport Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN

THANK YOU TO OUR 55 Block Clubs,
 Neighborhood Associations
 and Community Organization Partners

We appreciate our ongoing collaborative efforts with
 City Council District 1 & 7 District Managers &
 Councilmen Leland & Tate!
 Also with State Representatives Sylvia Santana &
 Sherry Gay-Dagnogo

BY THE NUMBERS	2017	7 yr total
Neighborhoods served	55	64
Households served	265	2230
Home Repairs Completed	493	4743
Volunteers hosted	1379	5379
Volunteer Donated hours	9767	97017
Value of Donated time	235,775	2,225,775
States & Provinces	11	41



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Connecting, Channeling, Changing	3
Non-profit information	4

SUMMER INTERN POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Rippling Hope is looking for interested young adults to serve as summer interns. This is an opportunity to be part of our leadership team working with volunteers doing home repairs, and also generally providing leadership to create an exceptional mission experience for volunteers. Come be part of a life changing opportunity for service! If you are interested in finding out more, or being considered for a position, please contact, Carl Zerweck, Executive Director, 512-619-0575, carl@ripplinghope.org, or visit our website: www.ripplinghope.org for a job description and application.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2018

Rippling Hope offers year round service opportunities. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Youth groups are encouraged with one adult leader per 7 youth is recommended. Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals and groups for just a day, weekend, or a full week. For more information and/or to register, please contact Carl or Robin, or visit the website: www.ripplinghope.org and go to the Volunteer Information and Registration tabs.

SATURDAY WORKDAYS

Rippling Hope offers monthly Saturday service opportunities. Workdays typically begin at 9:00AM and usually go until 2:30 or 3:00PM or earlier if projects are finished. Bring your lunch & a water bottle. Half days are available too. OR make arrangements for another date more convenient for you. Phone Carl Zerweck at 512-619-0575 or 313-704-1230 to register and find out further details.

- February 10 April 14 April 28 May 12 May 19 June 9 July 14
- October 6 December 1
- August 4 - ARISE DETROIT NEIGHBORHOODS DAY
- Sat-Mon, September 8-10 Weekend of Commemoration of 9/11
- October 6
- October 27 (NATIONAL MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY)
- November 10 (IN HONOR OF VETERANS)
- December 1



CORPORATE WORKDAYS



Rippling Hope is happy to setup special weekday or Saturday service opportunities for corporate or other groups.



Connecting Communities



"We wanted to thank you all for giving us the opportunity to unite with you in doing the Lord's work this past summer. It was a truly rewarding and unforgettable experience...What you are doing with Rippling Hope is truly wonderful. The pride, love, contentment and kindness of the people of Detroit prove that just because a task is small doesn't mean it is not the entire world to someone else."

Volunteers,
First Presbyterian Church, Taylorville, IL

Changing Lives

"What an amazing trip to Detroit and an experience that I will remember and treasure always! Thanks for all you did for our church team. This trip was different than others we have taken and in part that is because of the Rippling Hope organization! What great work and relationships we developed! As our Pastor reminds us-what a privilege to be the hands & feet of Christ wherever that might take us! "

Volunteer, Wichita, KS



Channeling Hope

FROM THE DIRECTOR



One of the most common words we hear these days from our neighbors, partners and volunteers is "HOPE." It is becoming a word that defines the collaborative efforts of organizations like Rippling Hope, and those we serve and serve with here in Detroit. In the midst of much despair, darkness, abandoned buildings, vacant properties and a declining population, and a lot of negativity, people are searching for hope.

But I am here to tell you that in spite of those realities, hope IS alive! And it is especially alive in neighborhoods where we are privileged to live and serve. One great example of the spirit of hope that is sweeping through neighborhoods is captured in a newly released documentary by Arise! Detroit. Rippling Hope is proud to have been featured as one of the groups serving in neighborhoods to bring hope and revitalization to Detroit. We encourage you to check it out at arisedetroit.org. Then let your heart be moved to plan a mission experience here in Detroit and to be part of the hope that is sweeping across the city!

Peace, Carl



Luther Keith
Founder,
ARISE DETROIT

"Special thanks to Rippling Hope for all of the work done to help our community with the beautification of the community and our homes!" Forrer Community Block Club Association



Rippling Hope is a non-profit ministry that depends on volunteers, community leaders, partners, and donations. We serve neighbors in need through your support. Through that support and your prayers, communities are being connected... hope is being channeled and lives are being changed.

The ministry of Rippling Hope is supported and grows through the generous donations of individuals, churches and corporate partners. To make a donation through PayPal please visit our website:

www.ripplinghope.org; or send a check to: **Rippling Hope** (address below)

Please consider connecting with Amazon Smile to support Rippling Hope by using the following link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/gp/f.html?>

[C=GHX59XMR10T2&K=2DP1YGIKD313L&M=urn:rtn:msg:20171106150101bead54dcf54a40b4b2d805635650p0na&R=1SXL3G4B3GKGB&T=C&U=http%3A%2F%2Fsmile.amazon.com%2Fch%2F46-1266821&A=R29M3IY0UXWAH2ATUTVSNPMAKUGA&H=0OPWKGKHG1OANLKSVM5EGN0GBECA](https://smile.amazon.com/gp/f.html?C=GHX59XMR10T2&K=2DP1YGIKD313L&M=urn:rtn:msg:20171106150101bead54dcf54a40b4b2d805635650p0na&R=1SXL3G4B3GKGB&T=C&U=http%3A%2F%2Fsmile.amazon.com%2Fch%2F46-1266821&A=R29M3IY0UXWAH2ATUTVSNPMAKUGA&H=0OPWKGKHG1OANLKSVM5EGN0GBECA)

Rippling Hope Board	
*Jeff Kerns, IA	(2019)
Carole Enwright, MI	(2018)
**Don Fleischmann, MI	(2019)
Lisa Jeffreys, MI	(2019)
Rev. Kelly Gindlesberger, KS	(2020)
Bill Kabrich, WA	(2020)
***Debby McGinnis, MI	(2020)
Joe Gwynn, MI	(2020)
Rev. Brice Hughes, IA	(2020)
Dr. Michael Price, FL	(2020)
*President	
**Treasurer	
***Secretary	

RH Vision Statement: The ministry of Rippling Hope enables hope to be reborn in communities through deepening relationships.

RH Mission Statement: Rippling Hope provides mission experiences that connect communities, channel hope, and change lives.

Rippling Hope is a 501(c)(3) charitable, non-profit organization. Your gift is tax deductible.

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Website: www.ripplinghope.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 27499, Detroit, MI 48227 **Phone:** 313-704-1230

Staff: Rev. Carl Zerweck, III Executive Director 512-619-0575 carl@ripplinghope.org
 Robin Zerweck Adm./Hospitality Director 512-619-0782 robin@ripplinghope.org

2018 RIPPLING HOPE SATURDAY WORKDAYS

- Saturday, May 19
- Saturday, June 9
- Saturday, July 14
- Saturday, August 4 ARISE DETROIT NEIGHBORHOODS DAY
- Saturday, September 8, Sunday, September 9 & Monday, September 10
 SERVICE WEEKEND IN COMMEMORATION OF 9/11
- Saturday, October 6
- Saturday, October 27 NATIONAL MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
- Saturday, November 10 SERVICE DAY IN HONOR OF VETERANS
- Saturday, December 1

Workdays typically begin at 9:00AM and usually go until 2:30 or 3:00PM or earlier if projects are finished. Bring your lunch & a water bottle, ½ days are also available.

You can also make arrangements for another date that is more convenient for you and/or a group. Please call Carl Zerweck at 512-619-0575 or 313-704-1230 to register and to receive additional information and details.

Commission on Ministry – Robert Cornwall

Commission Members: Jean O'Brien, John Harvey, Maggie Mills, Chuck Dykhuizen

We are currently working with several candidates for ministry, one of whom is near completion of requirements for ordination. We have met with several persons who are not Disciples who have been called to serve congregations. We are working with them to help connect them with the Disciples.

We have discovered that many of our clergy are out of date on their Boundary Training. We are working to set up training events in three locations across the state so people can get requalified. We need to make sure that all clergy who did not complete Boundary Training before 2014 do so before the end of the year. We will be informing all clergy that they will need to be up to date before we reaffirm standing for 2019.

As noted above we need to make sure everyone is up to date in their anti-racism and boundary training. We will be discussing questions regarding retired clergy who still serve congregations or the region in some capacity.

We have no actions or recommendations at this time.

In the future we will again revisit our policies for commissioning and ordination, to make sure they are appropriate.

Regional Elders – report prepared by Barbara Pratt

The Regional Elders meet quarterly, with occasional teleconferences in between.

Shirley Martinson and Barbara Pratt have retired from the Regional Elders.

Several of the churches in the western and northern parts of the state have been visited recently in order to let the churches know that the Region likes to remain in contact. Other visits are planned for the spring. Regional Elders, along with our Regional Minister, have helped with special concerns in at least 2 churches. Confidentiality prevents further statement.

Our current Regional Elders are:
John McCauslin
Rev. Robert Oliveira
Rev. Wayne Ten Roberts
Rev. Terry VanHeyningen

Personnel Commission – Julie Drews

Commission Members: Richard Boomer, Barbara Pratt, Jerrolyn Hockenhuil

Our Commission reports that we are discussing future of the Regional Personnel, relooking at job descriptions and meeting with present personnel to make sure that those are correctly understood and met.

Our concern at this time is the uncertainty of whether we will need to look at all present positions and the lack of financial information we have to work with if possibly looking to replace positions.

There are no actions or recommendations at this time.

In the future we plan to revise job descriptions after meeting with present Regional Personnel to bring to the Regional board.

Finance and Stewardship—Sarah Beth Simonds

Commission Members: Mike Lipsey, Ray Cross, Rick Boyd, Bonnie Simerly

Our current YTD Dashboard and balance sheet summary are included in your packet. Summary financial results and narrative summary are also included. (through March 2018)

Detailed financial reports are available upon request.

Audit for 2016 is completed. We will not engage for an audit for 2017.

Budget for 2018 was approved by the Board. This budget restored the Regional Minister to full time status. This is the budget that we are currently operating under.

Accounting functions will be transferred to Treasury Services in the OGMP as soon as possible. Fees for accounting services estimated at \$9,600. This

is less than the budgeted amount for a local bookkeeper and audit. We will be covered by the audit that Treasury Services engages.

Monthly giving by individuals is approximately \$2,000. We need approximately another \$2,000 monthly to be sustainable long term.

Current year is slightly favorable to budget, but income is front-end loaded on the year, while expenses occur toward the end of the year.

We are still in need of additional support for the region to be sustainable long-term.

We bring no actions or recommendations, and we have no projects under consideration.

Christian Church (DOC) Michigan Region Dashboard Mar 2018



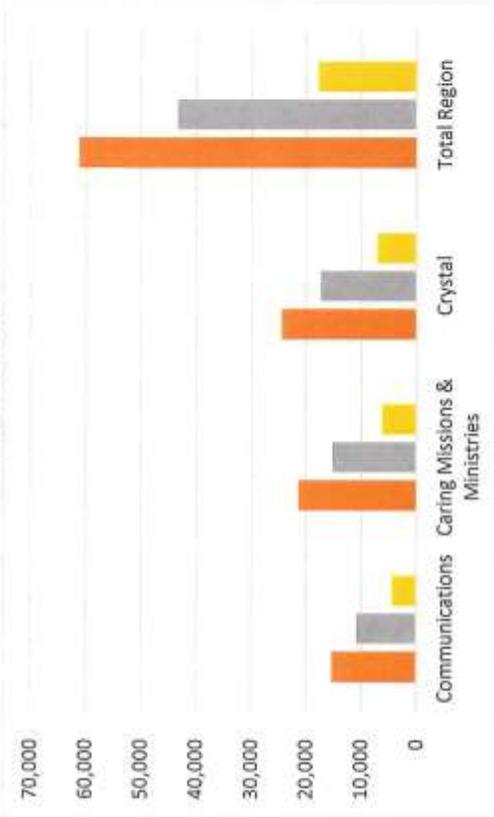
Christian Church Michigan Region - Disciples of Christ
 Balance Sheet by Fund
 March 31, 2018 unaudited

	Regional Operations	Crystal Operations	Disciples Women	Reconciliation	STEM	Church Growth & Vitality	CTS Seminarian Scholarship Fund	Other Funds	Grand Total
ASSETS									
Cash	\$ 484,045	\$ (331,495)	\$ 440	\$ 7,292	\$ 6,498	\$ 18,190	\$ 21,258	\$ 3,115	\$ 219,342
CCF Investments	11,775	429,168		5,305		220,241			686,480
Prepaid Expenses	5,844								5,844
Accounts Receivable	2,320								2,320
Notes Receivable	-								-
Property & Equipment	52,816	298,300							352,116
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 566,800	\$ 396,964	\$ 440	\$ 12,596	\$ 6,488	\$ 238,431	\$ 21,258	\$ 3,115	\$ 1,246,102
LIABILITIES									
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Land Contract Payable	-								-
Loans Payable	-								-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FUND BALANCES	\$ 566,800	\$ 396,964	\$ 440	\$ 12,596	\$ 6,498	\$ 238,431	\$ 21,258	\$ 3,115	\$ 1,246,102
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 566,800	\$ 396,964	\$ 440	\$ 12,596	\$ 6,498	\$ 238,431	\$ 21,258	\$ 3,115	\$ 1,246,102

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region
Narrative Summary of Financial Results
FY 2018 March YTD

3 BIG ROCKS (STRATEGIES)				
	Communications	Caring Missions & Ministries	Crystal	Total Region
Income	15,288	21,403	24,461	61,152
Expense	<u>10,830</u>	<u>15,163</u>	<u>17,329</u>	<u>43,322</u>
Income/(Deficit)	<u>4,458</u>	<u>6,241</u>	<u>7,132</u>	<u>17,831</u>

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region
Narrative Budget Summary
FY 2018 March YTD



Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region
 Summary of Financial Results
 FY 2018 YTD

INCOME

Fund #	Fund Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total YTD
3000	Regional Operating	17,138	5,683	12,336	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,157
3010	STEM	30	7,517	270	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,817
3020	Women's Ministry	140	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	140
3102	Fuller Scholarships	249	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	249
3103	Congregational Grth/Vitality	2,029	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,029
3104	Crystal	3,225	4,040	8,305	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,570
3105	Reconciliation	264	(102)	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191
3110	CTS Seminarian Fnd	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total All Funds	23,075	17,138	20,939	-	61,152								

EXPENSE

Fund #	Fund Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total YTD
3000	Regional Operating	7,366	9,045	12,624	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,036
3010	STEM	937	1,388	938	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,263
3020	Women's Ministry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3102	Fuller Scholarships	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3103	Congregational Grth/Vitality	-	-	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350
3104	Crystal	3,394	3,515	3,765	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,673
3105	Reconciliation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3110	CTS Seminarian Fnd	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total All Funds	11,697	13,948	17,677	-	43,322								

INCOME/(DEFICIT)

Fund #	Fund Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total YTD
3000	Regional Operating	9,772	(3,363)	(289)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,121
3010	STEM	(907)	6,129	(668)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,555
3020	Women's Ministry	249	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	140
3102	Fuller Scholarships	2,029	-	(350)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	249
3103	Congregational Grth/Vitality	(169)	525	4,540	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,679
3104	Crystal	264	(102)	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,897
3105	Reconciliation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191
3110	CTS Seminarian Fnd	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total All Funds	11,378	3,190	3,263	-	17,831								

Constituencies

Disciples Men's Ministry—Rial Hamann

Our Crystal retreat Sept of 2017 was successful!

Our Men's Ministry shares the concern of giving aid in the preservation of Camp Crystal and develop men's ministry to be involved in more than its retreat

Reconciliation—Rev. Richard Boyd

Since Reconciliation is part of the mission of the Christian Church (DOC) Michigan Region, this report begins with a conversation.

It's between former neo-Nazi skinhead Christian Picciolini as he talks to Johnny Holmes, the man who helped turn his life around. (Listen to the conversation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDn9X4bKQ3g>)

Here is a transcript:

Christian: I put you through hell

Johnny: You were rough

I mean there were fights, there were words that we had those years that I was there. The one that I remember, I kind of ushered you into the dean's office.

I remember and I remember she put her arms around you, to calm you down and you were like -- excuse the language -- You so and so, get your filthy hands off of me and I live to see the day when people like you are hanging from street lamps in this town. Now in my younger days, we would have been fighting until tomorrow but my philosophy was, be the parent away from home. You were a 16-year-old kid. I knew you had been brainwashed. and I remember saying to you, Christ, how can you be filled with so much hate? You play on the same football team as my son.

Right

We bring no action or recommendation at this time.

We are presently working on planning of our 2018 retreat. A speaker/leader has been obtained. He is Carl Zerweck who is the head of Rippling Hope. Carl is an ordained Disciples minister of many years standing who has many interesting stories and a wickedly good sense of humor.

And so I wanted the opportunity to get through to you.

It did get through to me. I want you to know that. And it was that compassion when I didn't deserve it that eventually stuck. You know, I got out of what I was involved in, but I still didn't have the courage to tell people about my past.

Many years later, I was working for IBM, and I was terrified because of all the millions of places IBM could have put me for my first day of work, it was at my old high school, and of course, within the first five minutes, as I standing in that hallway, here comes you walking right in front of me.

And I didn't know what to do, you didn't see me, but I decided I was going to follow you to the parking lot, and tapped you on the shoulder and you took a step back.

Because I knew you as you were.

I didn't have words for you, because I knew all the hell that I put you through. And all I could say to you was, "I'm sorry." But the one thing that you told me that day, you were like a prophet, you said, "This isn't about just some white kid who goes into a Nazi group. This is about every young person who feels vulnerable and is looking where to belong. And because you did that, I'm doing what I do now.

And you've been doing a wonderful job. Because look at what's happening now. Reaching people. Getting people on the straight and the narrow.

Trying.

That was one incident with us. Look how it's multiplying.

Yeah. I want to say thank you, because I'm sitting here now because of you.



Action completed: The region has made a commitment to donate \$500 a year for three years to the Disciples Immigration Legal Counsel. This is a ministry of our denomination. It provides free legal representation to Disciples regions and congregations for pastors that petition the Department of Homeland Security for R-1 visas and green cards. The Counsel has been busier than ever, and we support them in their work. <https://www.disciplesimmigration.org/resources/religious-workers/>

Actions under consideration: Here are two state-wide projects that cry out for involvement from the missions committees in our Michigan churches:

1) *The Good Neighbor Project* in Michigan to connect people in and out of prison. The best way to introduce this ministry is to listen as Pastor Ron Simpson-Bey of the American Field Service Committee explains the letter-writing ministry in a short video: <https://www.afsc.org/video/good-neighbor-project-connect-people-inside-and-outside-prison>

2) A letter writing campaign in support of *Youth Behind Bars*, the movement in Michigan to end the incarceration of juvenile prisoners in adult prisons. Over 20,000 Michigan youth have been placed in adult probation, prison or jail over the past decade. Currently about 74 Michigan teens are serving their sentences next to some of the state's roughly 45,000 adult prisoners, sometimes in the same cells.

Michigan is one of ten states that allows this kind of close contact. Both male and female teens are being subjected to sexual and psychological assault at the hand of adult inmates and prison officers. In 2015, eleven juvenile offenders filed a lawsuit alleging such mistreatment.

A current court case involves allegations from inmates aged twelve through seventeen. Placing young offenders among adult populations does not "scare them straight," it only exposes them to more danger. The costs are huge to these youth. A prison record initiates a cascade of consequences affecting education, employment, housing and relationships. The prison system should be more preventative than punitive.

The solution is to move juvenile inmates into a separate facility. This will only happen if churches and public groups get the word out and write letters to apply pressure on State lawmakers.

The Michigan League for Public Policy has started a project, *Raise The Age*, to bring this issue to the attention of the public as well as to state legislators. Go to www.raisetheage.org to read fact sheets, to see a list of endorsing organizations (both religious and secular) and to contact your state representative and senator. This would be a great project for the missions committee of your church, to encourage all church members to participate.

It would be great if the CCMR Regional Assembly would vote to allow the Christian Church (DOC) Michigan Region to join the list of endorsing religious organizations.

Proposal: The Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC) Michigan Region endorses the Raise The Age campaign to raise the age of juvenile incarceration from seventeen to eighteen in the State of Michigan, and encourages Disciples in Michigan to contact their state legislators to support the relevant legislative bills:

(HB 4607, 4653, 4662, 4664, 4676, 4659, 4685, 4789, 4744, 4753, 4696, 4741, and 4677-4678)

Here is a summary of what to say to your state legislators:

Raise the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to age 18 to align with 40 other states and the national standard.

Remove all youth from adult prisons and jails and place them in youth-serving systems.

Require judicial review of all transfer cases and report oversight of youth in the system.

Develop policies and procedures to reduce over-representation of youth of color.

Here are some links to some academic studies on this issue:
<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/01/the-cost-of-keeping-juveniles-in-adult-prisons/423201/>

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258194434_Comparison_of_Correctional_Services_for](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258194434_Comparison_of_Correctional_Services_for_Youth_Incarcerated_in_Adult_and_Juvenile_Facilities_in_Michigan)

[r Youth Incarcerated in Adult and Juvenile Facilities in Michigan](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258194434_Comparison_of_Correctional_Services_for_Youth_Incarcerated_in_Adult_and_Juvenile_Facilities_in_Michigan)

<https://wdet.org/posts/2015/04/21/80260-juveniles-in-michigans-prisons/>

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/bja/182503.pdf>

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/07/05/michigan-juveniles-adult-prisons/86735400/>

<https://www.scribd.com/document/228983678/MCCD-Youth-Behind-Bars-Full-Report>

<https://www.raisetheagemi.org/youth-behind-bars>

COMMUNICATION—Neil Topliffe eNews, Facebook, Website Michigan Disciples, Website Crystal Conference Center, Regional Print Brochures etc.

Electronic Michigan Disciples eNews: In the past 12 months 15 Michigan Disciple eNews were delivered via email to a mailing list of 430. Approximately 1/3 of emails delivered are opened at any one time. The open rate is a discouraging reality.

Michigan Disciples Web Updates: 23 email updates were delivered to 130 inboxes, updating recipients of all calendar events, news items and Regional Minister blogs posted on the Michigan Disciples website. Approximately 25-30% of these emails are opened.

Michigan Regional Office Emails: Email information of events, personnel news etc. also is delivered to ministers and local church leaders.

OBSERVATION: Duplication of similar information may be impacting the readership of our various email communications.

MichiganDisciples.org Website: The website is now 7 years old with minimal updating and, therefore, very dated. Finding church locations is the most active web page. Posting events, news, and blogs provide regular updates. However, the format, style and dated content has impacted activi-

ty, with a noticeable drop in use. Most active users (77%) are under 45 years in age, with half accessing it from mobile/tablet devices. Our site is not designed for these new formats.

CrystalConferenceCenter.org Website: This site also suffers from even more age and design limitations but does allow for giving critical information to prospective campers and facilities users, including increased online registration use. The past quarter has seen a noticeable upward bounce in activity for the Crystal 100 anniversary page and the Crystal Facilities Use page. The latter increase has been generated in part by promotion being done by United Church Camps and Conferences who we contracted with to do marketing of Crystal to other not-for-profits in 2018. 67% of users are under 45 years of age.

Facebook – Michigan Disciples: A new Facebook page was launched in November 2017. The growth to date has been very modest with 85 users following our Page. To date we have included 95 posts. Our promotion of the Regional Assembly has reached 852 users.

Facebook – Camp Crystal: Michael Dirksen oversees this Facebook page with several hundred fol-

lowers, maintaining conversations between past Crystal campers.

Mailings: The Regional Office has continued to send event brochures and other print information to our congregations, ministers and leaders.

Our concern at this time:

We need to build a process that engages our congregations in sharing the significant events, mission, education and stories with one another for all to share

We need YOU to suggest members of YOUR congregation who have a sense and/or experience as communicators, especially with social media

skills, to join a CCMR Communicators Team. Send your suggestions to ntopliffe@comcast.net.

For the third year we note that the two websites need to be redesigned and updated if we are going to successfully build a stronger Communications Big Rock

We have no actions and/or recommendations at this time.

Under consideration we have a dream to form a Communicators Network of persons in our congregations that would work together online to increase the two way flow of information amongst our congregations and the region.

Strategic Ministry Planning Task Force—Neil Topliffe Committee Members: Armand Aronson, Dave Cook, Chuck Dykhuizen, Brenda Ether-

We have held 6 meetings since the May 2017 Regional Assembly. We visited 9 churches in 2017, making 15 presentations, sharing a PowerPoint **slideshow**, “*Kickstart '17*”, engaging in discussion with congregational leaders in their expectations for the Michigan Region moving forward.

From those meetings and input we moved forward with our proposal for Michigan Disciples church members declare their Statement of Intent to support the Regional ministries with monthly recurring gifts.

A new presentation, “*Kickstart '18*” has been presented 8 times since January to six congregations and three Regional groups, inviting participants to make Statement of Intent responses. The latest version will be shared during the Regional Assembly.

To date 30 individual Disciples members have committed “**Statement of Intent,**” intentions in giving \$1,030 annually in new support, toward a needed \$2,820. This represents 38% of the minimum needed to reach a 2018 Regional balanced budget. In addition, one 2018 annual Statement of Intent of \$10,000 bumps us up to \$22,997 (68%) for 2018, of the needed \$33,840. It is important to note that 15 of those who made Statement of

Intent commitments have already begun to contribute NEW monthly gifts to the Region.

Some observations:

It has been a slow start to this campaign. The number of visits to churches by committee members has been limited but committee members remain committed to visit with as many Michigan Disciples congregations/members as possible in 2018, toward reaching the minimum financial support necessary for us to provide an effective Regional witness and partnership with our congregations.

Participation by key stakeholders/leaders of the Region and local church leaders – Board, Commission, Committee members has been encouraging. We realize this is a totally new undertaking and more work needs to be done in more effectively communicating the urgency of full participation by we leaders of the Region and congregations. As one of our committee members observed, one of **the Table of Gifts options is only “10 cents a day – who can’t afford that!”** We even have a short video clip to reinforce that reality.

We need to strongly reinforce that our *Kickstart '18* vision is for individual giving “Above and Beyond” the support already being made to our home

congregations.

Kickstart '18 Version 2 will be presented at the May Regional Assembly and then made available via Internet access and a Packet for congregations to use, in addition to visits by Strategic Planning members and volunteers.

Kickstart '18 is a new PowerPoint presentation, moving us to now tell all Disciples members how they can support the Region financially and why it is significant for our shared ministry together.

Other resources have been revised including Statement of Intent – opportunity to make individual intent to give donations to the region Online Donation site - bit.ly/disciplesgive provides several options for individuals to make monthly donations via credit or debit card.

Our concerns at this time:

Our committee respectively believes that the original Vision Statement we presented to the Regional Board March 3 reflects a VISION, in contrast to that revised and approved by the Regional Board which now is a statement of who we are, not a VISION, lacks inspiration, brevity and values. Our

East District—Rev. Andre Powell

We gathered together on November 12, 2017 at Journey of Faith Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Ann Arbor. Congregations represented were Journey of Faith, New Covenant of Flushing, Unity Christian Church of Swartz Creek, Vermont Christian Church of Flint, Bethany Christian Church of Detroit, Ferndale Christian Church, Serenity Christian Church of Hazel Park, The Word Christian Church of Detroit, United Christian Church of Detroit and Central Woodward Christian Church of Troy.

During the course of our Business Meeting it was decided that \$400 would be taken from our Treasury and given to the Region. The collected offering for the day would be directed to Gospel in Action.

The Assembly suggested that all churches need to work together and fellowship more in the future. Possibly holding an annual day of fellowship at Camp Crystal.

original: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region Vision - “**To be a Christian community living in the love of God, supporting one another as the Holy Spirit acts among us.**”

We continue to look for broader participation in helping the Region seek its Vision (different from Priorities being worked on elsewhere). To that end, we hope to engage Assembly participants in sharing what your Vision might be for the Region in the coming years.

We as a Task Force need to meet soon to consider at what point have we have completed our work as a specially appointed Task Force and/or what responsibilities may need to be moved to other Commissions/Committees to continue the work needing further pursuit.

Future projects under consideration:

1. **Kickstart '18 visits and presentations with Disciples congregations** in coming months
2. **Preparation Kickstart '18 resources available** via Internet and social media
3. **Preparation of Kickstart '18 updated print and media resources** to share with all our churches toward reaching a renewed sense of covenant

We received words of encouragement from our Regional Minister, Rev. Eugene James. We then settled back and received the Word from our special Guest Preacher, Rev. Dr. Deborah Conrad, Sr. Pastor of Woodside Church (United Church of Christ and the American Baptist).

Following the inspiring message we adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for a meal. We departed with sharing the Peace of Christ with one another.

Thank you Journey of Faith Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) family and Pastor Alex for your prayers and generous loving hospitality in hosting the East District Assembly.

Representatives and Partners

Representative to the General Board—Dr. Barbara Hemphill

General Ministry Partner—Rev. Enrique Ocasio

Christian Church in Michigan Region



Account # 361

Investment began on 9/8/1989

Years	Deposits	Withdrawals	Year-End Market Value	Effective Distribution Rate	Common Balanced Return by Year
1989	\$ 125,000.00	\$ (25,000.00)	\$ 100,000.00		21.51%
1990	\$ 115,000.00	\$ (10,381.93)	\$ 217,560.33	10.4%	3.44%
1991	\$ -	\$ (11,872.02)	\$ 253,431.56	5.5%	21.67%
1992	\$ -	\$ (11,199.28)	\$ 261,884.68	4.4%	7.86%
1993	\$ -	\$ (3,660.05)	\$ 273,648.46	1.4%	10.95%
1994	\$ 10,576.89	\$ (10,157.86)	\$ 266,240.16	3.7%	-2.63%
1995	\$ 505.17	\$ (11,537.21)	\$ 305,688.87	4.3%	18.74%
1996	\$ -	\$ (11,874.44)	\$ 327,805.85	3.9%	11.08%
1997	\$ 51,579.00	\$ (16,725.76)	\$ 351,423.25	5.1%	11.50%
1998	\$ 1,693.55	\$ (21,645.81)	\$ 444,426.62	6.2%	15.40%
1999	\$ 1,385.79	\$ (22,084.38)	\$ 463,719.27	5.0%	9.34%
2000	\$ 1,300.16	\$ (22,335.36)	\$ 433,063.83	4.8%	-2.08%
2001	\$ -	\$ (20,684.86)	\$ 403,818.53	4.8%	-1.95%
2002	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (18,639.37)	\$ 357,359.89	4.6%	-10.50%
2003	\$ -	\$ (18,551.61)	\$ 411,870.87	5.2%	22.57%
2004	\$ -	\$ (16,546.70)	\$ 437,935.45	4.0%	10.77%
2005	\$ -	\$ (17,311.04)	\$ 440,816.30	4.0%	4.63%
2006	\$ -	\$ (17,876.30)	\$ 463,015.24	4.1%	9.30%
2007	\$ -	\$ (18,842.95)	\$ 468,082.10	4.1%	5.21%
2008	\$ -	\$ (16,796.65)	\$ 332,112.26	3.6%	-26.07%
2009	\$ -	\$ (109,709.61)	\$ 275,296.21	33.0%	23.37%
2010	\$ -	\$ (91,847.64)	\$ 213,350.13	33.4%	13.56%
2011	\$ -	\$ (26,325.46)	\$ 184,714.11	12.3%	-1.47%
2012	\$ -	\$ (77,901.67)	\$ 126,654.43	42.2%	12.19%
2013	\$ -	\$ (74,460.67)	\$ 66,071.64	58.8%	13.72%
2014	\$ -	\$ (42,087.10)	\$ 26,995.36	63.7%	3.52%
2015	\$ -	\$ (10,858.67)	\$ 15,215.96	40.2%	-5.75%
2016	\$ -	\$ (5,419.61)	\$ 10,800.58	35.6%	10.01%
2017	\$ -	\$ (422.18)	\$ 11,775.19	3.9%	13.15%
	\$ 317,040.56	\$ (762,756.19)			

Total Value Added \$	457,490.82
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Total Value Added is the gain due to investment results in the market since the inception of the fund.

**Christian Church in Michigan Region
Russell & Barbara Fuller Camp Scholarship Fund**



Account # 1452

Investment began on 1/25/1999

Years	Deposits	Withdrawals	Year-End Market Value	Effective Distribution Rate	Common Balanced Return by Year
1999	\$ 24,830.01	\$ (686.45)	\$ 26,336.09		9.34%
2000	\$ -	\$ (5,001.73)	\$ 20,805.30	19.0%	-2.08%
2001	\$ 250.00	\$ (1,005.12)	\$ 19,627.03	4.8%	-1.95%
2002	\$ -	\$ (894.34)	\$ 16,905.95	4.6%	-10.50%
2003	\$ -	\$ (877.65)	\$ 19,484.75	5.2%	22.57%
2004	\$ -	\$ (782.80)	\$ 20,717.81	4.0%	10.77%
2005	\$ -	\$ (818.93)	\$ 20,854.10	4.0%	4.63%
2006	\$ 4,082.42	\$ (976.16)	\$ 26,138.77	4.7%	9.30%
2007	\$ -	\$ (1,063.74)	\$ 26,424.81	4.1%	5.21%
2008	\$ -	\$ (948.22)	\$ 18,748.86	3.6%	-26.07%
2009	\$ -	\$ (784.31)	\$ 22,237.04	4.2%	23.37%
2010	\$ -	\$ (1,703.54)	\$ 23,385.12	7.7%	13.56%
2011	\$ -	\$ (934.68)	\$ 22,134.44	4.0%	-1.47%
2012	\$ -	\$ (931.47)	\$ 23,865.90	4.2%	12.19%
2013	\$ -	\$ (994.51)	\$ 26,085.75	4.2%	13.72%
2014	\$ -	\$ (1,057.27)	\$ 25,946.49	4.1%	3.52%
2015	\$ -	\$ (1,009.92)	\$ 23,490.01	3.9%	-5.75%
2016	\$ -	\$ (964.82)	\$ 24,834.23	4.1%	10.01%
2017	\$ -	\$ (970.78)	\$ 27,075.18	3.9%	13.15%
	<u>\$ 29,162.43</u>	<u>\$ (22,406.44)</u>			

Total Value Added \$ 20,319.19

Total Value Added is the gain due to investment results in the market since the inception of the fund.

* Includes a transfer of \$3,830.01 to account #1827

**Christian Church in Michigan Region
Congregational Transformation & Development Fund**

Account # 1453



Investment began on 1/25/1999

Years	Deposits	Withdrawals	Year-End Market Value	Effective Distribution Rate	Common Balanced Return by Year
1999	\$ 54,480.84	\$ (2,489.33)	\$ 57,132.66		9.34%
2000	\$ 4,083.27	\$ (2,781.08)	\$ 57,186.52	4.9%	-2.08%
2001	\$ 19,551.92	\$ (3,356.50)	\$ 71,869.86	5.9%	-1.95%
2002	\$ -	\$ (3,274.92)	\$ 61,905.85	4.6%	-10.50%
2003	\$ 11,073.15	\$ (3,673.10)	\$ 84,622.61	5.9%	22.57%
2004	\$ -	\$ (3,399.67)	\$ 89,977.82	4.0%	10.77%
2005	\$ -	\$ (3,556.71)	\$ 90,569.71	4.0%	4.63%
2006	\$ -	\$ (3,672.85)	\$ 95,130.69	4.1%	9.30%
2007	* \$ 128,827.53	\$ (4,506.51)	\$ 224,423.18	4.7%	5.21%
2008	\$ -	\$ (8,055.86)	\$ 159,230.13	3.6%	-26.07%
2009	\$ -	\$ (6,660.83)	\$ 188,854.56	4.2%	23.37%
2010	\$ -	\$ (22,144.13)	\$ 190,224.66	11.7%	13.56%
2011	\$ -	\$ (7,603.14)	\$ 180,051.08	4.0%	-1.47%
2012	\$ -	\$ (7,577.13)	\$ 194,135.54	4.2%	12.19%
2013	\$ -	\$ (8,089.98)	\$ 212,192.79	4.2%	13.72%
2014	\$ -	\$ (8,600.39)	\$ 211,059.92	4.1%	3.52%
2015	\$ -	\$ (8,214.77)	\$ 191,077.90	3.9%	-5.75%
2016	\$ -	\$ (7,848.16)	\$ 202,012.35	4.1%	10.01%
2017	\$ -	\$ (7,896.47)	\$ 220,241.24	3.9%	13.15%
	<u>\$ 218,016.71</u>	<u>\$ (123,401.53)</u>			

Total Value Added \$ 125,626.06

Total Value Added is the gain due to investment results in the market since the inception of the fund.

* Deposit includes a transfer of \$84.54 from account #1454 (closed - 12/31/2007)

**Christian Church in Michigan Region
North Oakland Endowment Fund for Crystal**



Account # 1827

Investment began on 6/28/2000

Years	Deposits	Withdrawals	Year-End Market Value	Effective Distribution Rate	Common Balanced Return by Year
2000	* \$ 137,846.48	\$ -	\$ 137,758.56		-2.08%
2001	\$ 19,089.55	\$ (2,514.21)	\$ 152,508.63	1.8%	-1.95%
2002	\$ -	\$ (4,063.78)	\$ 130,087.12	2.7%	-10.50%
2003	\$ 24,849.32	\$ (6,450.71)	\$ 181,893.61	5.0%	22.57%
2004	\$ -	\$ (7,842.80)	\$ 192,241.98	4.3%	10.77%
2005	\$ -	\$ (7,139.61)	\$ 193,722.47	3.7%	4.63%
2006	\$ -	\$ (7,436.46)	\$ 203,394.54	3.8%	9.30%
2007	\$ 513,180.19	\$ (7,705.44)	\$ 717,958.29	3.8%	5.21%
2008	\$ -	\$ (14,748.11)	\$ 522,420.30	2.1%	-26.07%
2009	\$ -	\$ (23,350.74)	\$ 613,881.06	4.5%	23.37%
2010	\$ -	\$ (85,649.13)	\$ 600,839.18	14.0%	13.56%
2011	\$ -	\$ (47,446.99)	\$ 546,912.00	7.9%	-1.47%
2012	\$ -	\$ (42,951.30)	\$ 567,560.85	7.9%	12.19%
2013	\$ -	\$ (47,253.13)	\$ 592,221.30	8.3%	13.72%
2014	\$ -	\$ (52,616.14)	\$ 560,101.17	8.9%	3.52%
2015	\$ -	\$ (72,865.53)	\$ 459,944.11	13.0%	-5.75%
2016	\$ -	\$ (73,568.60)	\$ 424,767.92	16.0%	10.01%
2017	\$ -	\$ (71,188.91)	\$ 402,083.24	16.8%	13.15%
	<u>\$ 694,965.54</u>	<u>\$ (574,791.59)</u>			

Total Value Added \$ 281,909.29

Total Value Added is the gain due to investment results in the market since the inception of the fund.

* Includes a transfer of \$3,830.01 from account #1452

**Christian Church in Michigan Region
Reconciliation Fund
Account # 3075**



Investment began on 10/29/2007

Years	Deposits	Withdrawals	Year-End Market Value	Effective Distribution Rate	Common Balanced Return by Year
2007	\$ 12,223.18	\$ -	\$ 11,876.86		5.21%
2008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,780.74	0.0%	-26.07%
2009	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,832.92	0.0%	23.37%
2010	\$ -	\$ (618.00)	\$ 11,627.11	5.7%	13.56%
2011	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,455.99	0.0%	-1.47%
2012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,852.43	0.0%	12.19%
2013	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,616.14	0.0%	13.72%
2014	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,130.85	0.0%	3.52%
2015	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,261.47	0.0%	-5.75%
2016	\$ -	\$ (10,000.00)	\$ 4,688.08	70.1%	10.01%
2017	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,304.68	0.0%	13.15%
	<u>\$ 12,223.18</u>	<u>\$ (10,618.00)</u>			

Total Value Added \$ 3,699.50

Total Value Added is the gain due to investment results in the market since the inception of the fund.

Committee Reports

Crystal Camp and Conference Center Property Sale Task Force—Doug Morgan

We met on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at the CCMR Office. Members present were Rev. Eugene James, Doug Morgan, Chairperson, Dale Arnold, Sarah Beth Simonds, and Russ Tiller. Russ Fuller was absent.

The Task Force is charged with proceeding with the recommendations included in the October 28, 2017 report Task to the Regional Board from the Task Force for Exploration On Property Sale At Crystal Camp and Conference Center. A copy of the report is included in this report.

The Task Force reviewed the recommendations and discussed other possible property sales and/or easements.

We have set a meeting with Randy Dye, Associate Broker, with RE/MAX Bayshore Properties in Frankfort, MI for 1:00 Friday, May 18, 2018, to discuss proceeding with listing of the parcels identified in the report. We also voted to provide copies of the 2008 property survey and title search to RE/MAX to assist with the property listing.

The following was presented to the Regional Board at the meeting of October 28, 2017:

Our committee was appointed to explore the possibilities for selling a portion of CCMR's property on Crystal Lake. We asked Tim Murtaugh to assist us in contacting a realtor in Frankfort who could advise us on market opportunities.

Our Recommendation should the Board decide to sell any of the property. Please see map.

- I. Parcel A does not seem favorable to sell at this time. Further study of the sinkhole and access matters should be explored first.
- II. Parcel B does seem a good possibility for sale. If the Board wishes to sell this land, we recommend that the Board follow the suggestion of the Dyes and offer: the Portion south of Lobb Road at \$70,000, and the Portion north of Lobb at \$200,000. Should offers for only parts of either section be received, the Board would have to decide on such offers at that time.

- III. We have had good help from the Dyes and recommend that the Board release copies of our 2010 survey and title search to them for their further counsel, and that the Board make use of their services if a decision to sell is made.

Rationale Behind Our Recommendations

- I. In considering the matter, we looked at the map and boundaries of the land there, which had been surveyed for us in 2010. Two sections seemed most likely to be saleable without greatly disturbing our asset and program there.

- A. This is a section of some 26 acres on the west end of our property. It extends south from the properties at the foot of the bluff, and on the west reaches to Robinson Road and the small section we gave up several years ago to cottagers who had been using it as access to their land.

This section could not be offered with any beach rights. Further it contains the infamous sinkhole and the ravine that leads down the bluff. This is an enormous barrier to accessing most of the land which might be sold along the bluff.

- B. This section is on the northeast of our land, where around 1960 we purchased 40 acres on the south of our original land. Lobb Road dissects this portion. A small triangle of it is on the south of Lobb Road with the balance on the north Lobb Road is on a bend to the west here as it goes up the hill.

We have long thought of giving up the section across Lobb, since we have not used it in any way for years. Several homes had been built along Lobb Rd further up the hill in recent years.

Thanks to Tim Murtaugh, we received help from Randy and Carol Dye of the Frankfort REMAX

office. They sent us information about the zoning and other details, plus a first consideration of the parcels. In the light of that help, Tim set up a meeting with them to answer further questions. Doug Morgan, Tim and I met with them on August 28th. We had many questions and they were generous with their time and counsel. We learned many things. Consider the map

Regarding Section A:

Lots along the bluff might be attractive, but we can offer no access to the water.

The sinkhole poses a significant problem in getting to such lots. A survey from 1961 does show **an old roadway put in by the CCC in the '30's** from Lobb Road to Robinson. I can remember **when we were planning for the "new" dining hall** that Eric White and I hiked through the woods from Lobb west. It was then easy to follow the trace of that cut. We basically used it to install Morro Rd. But beyond where Morro turns north, I could never find the trace on to the west. My guess would be that it bent to the south to avoid the sinkhole as it neared Robinson. It could have begun with the road leading west past the climbing tower. The Dyes offered to see if there is any **record of it as a "dedicated roadway" on more modern maps.**

The Dyes felt that if the access matter could be solved, this portion could be offered for \$140,000, but prospects for sale are not great without lake access.

Regarding Section B:

On the south side of Lobb Road, current zoning calls for lots of no less than 2.5 acres. Depending on the width of the Lobb Road right of way, it is not certain if there are 5 full acres for two lots, but one is clearly possible.

On the north side—most of the parcel—zoning calls for 5 acre lots.

No lake front can be offered, but there is proximity for the Lobb Road boat launch.

The Dyes felt we could offer the entire portion on the south side of Lobb for \$70,000, and the northern portion for \$200,000. It is of course possible

that someone might offer to buy only a part of either section. Someone with adjacent land might want to purchase a section as a buffer for their property.

Brenda advised me that the land north of our section B (some 40 acres divided by Lobb Road) is owned by the firm or people owning the land east of our land (formerly used by Crystalair Camp.) She believes they are also relatives of the family who are cottagers in the CBCA. She felt it might be wise to see if they would be interested in part or all of Portion A.

QUESTIONS TO HELP US KNOW WHETHER THE REGION MIGHT GAIN FROM SELLING SOME OF ITS CRYSTAL PROPERTY

Concerning the 40 acres on the south of our property—"B"

- I. Would there be a likely market if we sold off **the southern or eastern half of the 40 "B"** as a whole? Any idea of the value?
 1. Lobb Road cuts through the southern edge of the plot-"B" **There have recently** been homes built off Lobb Road just south of our property.
 2. If we were to subdivide the Southern one-third to one-half ("B-22) into lots for homes facing Lobb Road on either side, would they be marketable? What likely value? What would be the best size for such lots?

Considering the plot on the west, marked "Gov't Lot 1" (A)

- II. Some facts: We have no ability to offer any lake access for sales in this area. There may be boat ramp at the foot of Robinson Road, but I believe the area all belongs to Robinson Resort.

Most of this land is high, with a bluff down to the houses, road and lakeshore.

- III. **There is a "draw" down the bluff through our property.** It connects to the swampy area in **the middle of "A", and it has rather high sides.** I do not know how far the western edge of the draw is from our western boundary line, so I am not sure how many lots might be possible on that side.

IV. To access the eastern side of the draw would require that we could connect it to the "T" of Robinson Road, and some sort of roadway or bridge over the draw. Or (less possible); a roadway around the south. The difficulty here would be getting through the swampy area.

1. Now, in light of these realities, would sale of any of the western part of "A"

likely to be marketable? What size lots? Value?

Finally, should answers to the above seem favorable, could Randy do an assessment for us, or tell us who to contact for one?



2018—2020 Priorities for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region

The Priorities Committee recommends that we continue the 2016—2018 priorities for the next biennium of 2018—2020.

The proposed priorities for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Michigan Region are:

- ◆ Refresh, Renew, Revitalize, Transform our congregations: actively strengthening our leadership through the commissions of the region and Regional Elders.
- ◆ Resource congregations and pastors for Conflict Management.
- ◆ Endeavor to build unity while understanding and respecting our diversity.
- ◆ Resource congregations to be missional.
- ◆ Commit to training, mentorship and educational opportunities focused on our youth as our future and current church and denominational leaders.

In addition the Strategic Ministry Planning Committee offers the following which allows them to maintain focus:

#1 GOAL: Re-energize Christian Church Michigan Region in 2018

STRATEGY: Focus on “Three Big Rocks”:

1. Communications

Engage our congregations, members, and Region in a partnership by strengthening our communication and connection with each other so that we build a sense of wholeness in a fragmented world.

2. Caring Missions and Ministries

Create and build on our encounters with Christ in our Regional efforts to grow spiritually, engage in mission and witness, and proclaim the power of Christ with our events, programs, and regional pastoral care so that we, together, might improve lives and congregations.

3. Crystal Conference Center

Create events and opportunities at our Conference Center on Crystal Lake that impacts the spiritual faith and depth of children, youth, and adults, drawing upon the natural setting for fun, reflection, and spiritual growth, that they might experience and demonstrate the Koinonia of Christian life and the blessing of life together.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate for regional offices, chairpersons of standing commissions, and members-at-large of the Regional Board. **First term nominations are in red.**

Moderator—Mitzie VanDongen (on 2017)
Vice-Moderator—Arnold Lakes, Sr. (on 2017)
Secretary—Rick Modglin Green (on 2017)
Treasurer—Sarah Beth Simonds (on 2017)

COMMISSIONS

Finance and Stewardship—Sarah Beth Simonds (on 2017)
Commission on Ministry—Robert Cornwall (on 2016)
Crystal Commission—Russ Tiller, Jr. (on 2015)
Personnel—Julie Drews (on 2014)
Church Growth and Vitality—Brenda Etheridge (on 2016)
Ecumenism—Jerry McAllister (on 2014)

CONSTITUENCIES AND COMMITTEES

Women's Ministry—Diana Payton (on 2015)
Men's Ministry—Rial Hamann (on 2015)
YACF—
East District—**Andre' Powell (on 2015)**
West District—
North District—Glen McIntyre (on 2014)
Reconciliation Committee—Rev. Richard Boyd (on 2017)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Randall Bertrand (on 2013)
Yvonne Christopher (on 2017)
Richard Harmon (on 2016)
Patricia Howe (on 2018)
Glen McIntyre (on 2018)

GENERAL MINISTRY PARTNER

Enrique Ocasio-Miranda

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GENERAL BOARD

Barbara J. Hemphill (on 2015)

REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE United Church of Christ

Campbell Lovett

If you would like to be considered for future positions, please notify the chair of the nominating committee or the regional minister, Rev. Eugene James.

Archives Survey

Christian Church Michigan Region (Disciples of Christ)

The direction of the development of our future ministries is essential if we are to continue to be a vital presence within the religious community. Therefore, the purpose of this survey is to get your feedback on the future direction of your congregation to help us know what we essentially hold in common so as to strengthen our ties and build our congregations. Since each congregation was established for a specific purpose at a specific time, how best can we embrace the old English adage, you don't know where you're going until you know where you've been" By completing this survey, you will help our Region better serve individual congregations.

1. What is the name and city of your congregation? _____

2. What year was your congregation established? _____

3. Why was it established? _____

4. Where did your congregation originate? _____

5. Throughout its history what has your congregation been known for? _____

6. What is the unique culture of your congregation? _____

7. How is the congregation relevant and significant for the community in which it presently resides?

8. Is the history of the congregation documented in oral or written form? (If in written form, please attach a copy.) _____

9. What has been the significant events-good or bad in the life and history of the congregation? _____

10. How has ministry of the congregation evolved and differs from when the congregation was first established? _____

11. If your mission has changed how has it changed? What kind of effect has it had on your congregation?

12. What material if any has been sent to the Archives of the Disciples Historical Society? _____

These questions are by no means an attempt at an exhaustive list, however, they are a start to assist in how best we can provide ministry in a variety of diverse situations. Please

Thank You,

*Rev. Nora Shumake, Historian
Christian Church (DOC) Michigan Region*

*"Transforming Us to
Transform the Church"*



CLOSING
WORSHIP
SERVICE

Gathering song "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, shine, shine
Let it shine!

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, shine, shine
Let it shine!

All up in my house, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, shine, shine
Let it shine!

Out there in the dark I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, shine, shine
Let it shine!

Let it shine, shine, shine, let it shine! (3x)
Let it shine, shine, shine
Let it shine!

Installation of Officers Pastor Eugene James

Introduction of Guests

Presentations by Guests Kelsey Cameron, Division of Overseas Ministry
Rev. Enrique Ocasio, Christian Church Foundation
Kevin Greenwald, Christian Theological Seminary

Song “The Church’s One Foundation”

The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heav’n He came and sought her to be His holy Bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

’Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace for evermore;
Till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, in love may dwell with Thee.

Introduction of General Minister and President Pastor Eugene James

Selection Praise Team of Triumphant Temple of Praise

Message Rev. Teresa Hord Owens

Altar Call

Communion..... “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees;

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Benediction



"Transforming Us to Transform the Church"



SCHEDULE

9:00 – 9:50 AM	Registration
10:00 – 10:20	Opening Devotion
10:20 – 11:50	Business Session
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00	Guest Presentations Global Ministries Christian Church Foundation Christian Theological Seminary
2:00 – 3:00	Closing Worship with Reverend Teresa Hord Owens, Preaching

Living Sacrifices to God
12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Serve God with Spiritual Gifts
³For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

