

FROM SAFE CENTERS TO EXCITING EDGES ...

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 2000



Those who seek a daring faith, engaging in risk, following the path of the Evangel from safe centers to exciting edges, creatively relating the faith of the church through time and across space to new demands unimagined even a generation ago, these persons have few options. I believe the United Church of Christ must shape itself for neighbors such as these.

— John H. Thomas, General Minister and President, United Church of Christ



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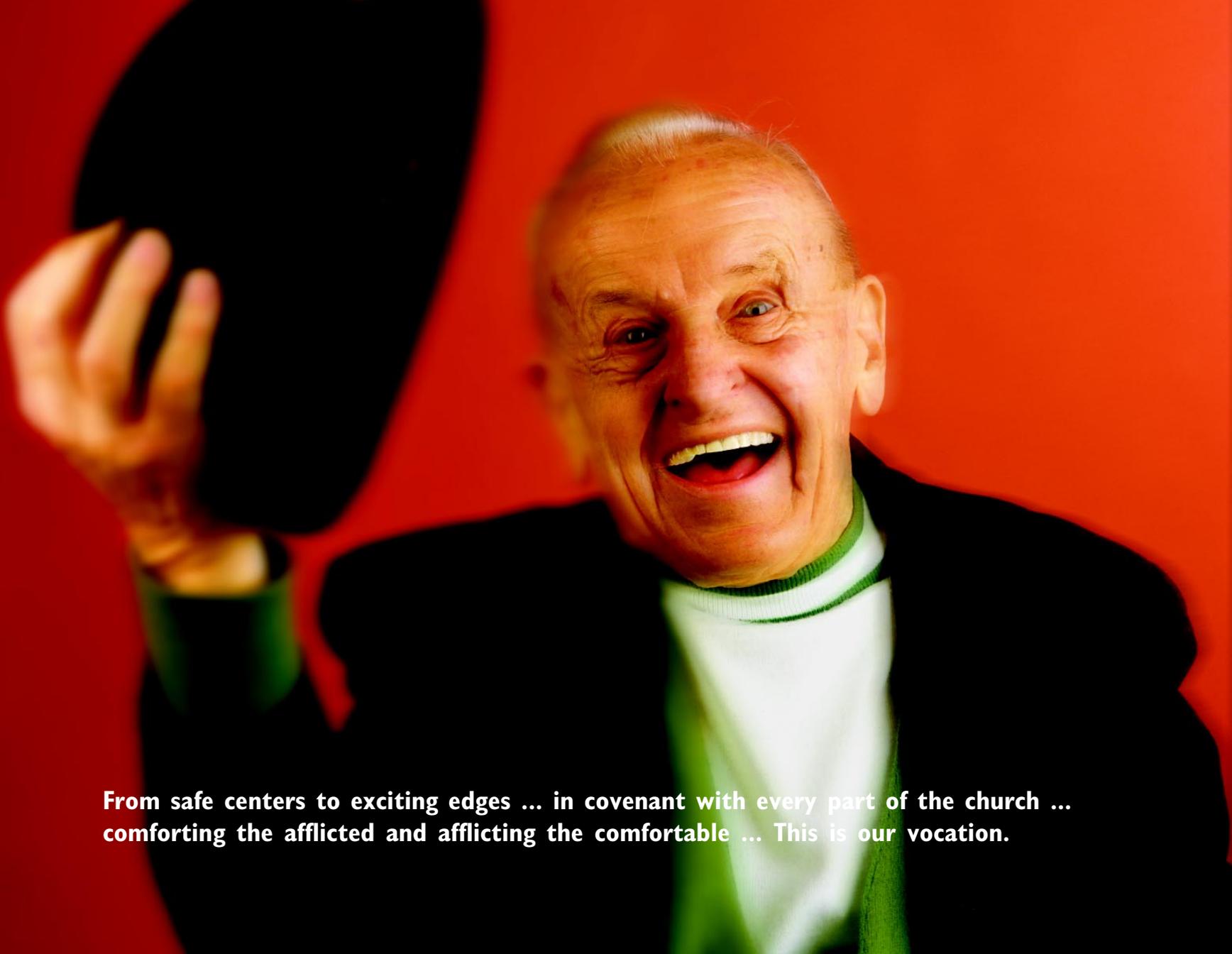
Welcome to the 2000 Annual Report of the United Church of Christ. Throughout these pages, you will read about the ministries of the national settings of the church. But you also will glimpse the stories of church members who call the United Church of Christ home: members for whom our denomination's gift of being "the early church" has meant profound spiritual changes.

For we are, indeed, "the early church." Being "early" echoes a faithful legacy: the courage of the women at the tomb; the faithfulness of first-century Christians; the daring of those who published the truth (Pilgrim Press, established in 1608); the vision of those who came early to North American shores; the dignity of those who were here even earlier; the commitment of those in the vanguard for peace, inclusivity and social justice; those who first had the insight to see mission as a partnership with indigenous churches around the globe; the will of those who have advocated for public education and health care.

Being "early" has often meant being controversial. And as a church committed to being in covenant, it also has meant affirming and respecting divergent voices. This is a core value within the life of the United Church of Christ, and enables us to move into new areas of mission and ministry.

Another part of our heritage is reshaping ourselves in response to God's call. We exist for God's mission. But the demands of new generations, the explosion of the information age and changes in economic patterns require that we adapt if we are to continue as a prophetic presence in today's unfolding reality.

From safe centers to exciting edges, we faithfully discern and respond to God's call. In this pivotal year in the life of the national settings of the United Church of Christ, we are living into this evolving vocation. These pages tell our story.



**From safe centers to exciting edges ... in covenant with every part of the church ...
comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable ... This is our vocation.**

I DON'T WANT TO BE LEFT BEHIND

As I reached my 80s, I had to see a new place for myself in a new world with new faces in the church I had grown up in. Because of the covenant created in baptism, I knew I could speak my mind and ask questions when I needed to — something I really cherished as I got older. A lot of people talk down to people my age instead of talking with us. How is that any different from the way we talk down to a child or talk against people who are different?

But I kept talking. And I kept growing, and living, and contributing. My church treats me with honor, and I honor my church. I'm committed to keeping the door to my mind and my church open.

— Pete

OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES (OGM)

Behold I do a new thing. Watch it spring forth. Do you not perceive it? — Isaiah 43:19

While understandably concentrating on the day-to-day *stuff* of operations, OGM looks also to the big picture, focusing not only on the ties that bind us in our national offices, but also to other settings of the UCC. We are building and refining an administrative operation that responds to our employees and our membership with increasing efficiency.

Nearly half of our 80-member staff is new to 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, so we have worked to develop cohesion among our diverse teams. From planning and execution of General Synod to building relationships with our seminaries ... from financial development to covenantal relations ... from publishing the award-winning United Church News to maintaining the denomination's award-winning website (www.ucc.org), our tasks at OGM are both particular and broad. Record-keeping, common financial services, research, meeting planning, mailroom operations and greeting visitors are as much a part of our life as restoring a sense of theological and sacramental identity to our church. The grand and the mundane together bring the word "covenant" to life.

Vital to our task is the forging of strong bonds and active partnerships among national, Conference, Association and seminary leadership. During the past year, we have worked with our church's leaders to find new ways of collaboration, new avenues of mission ... in both the safe centers and the exciting edges of our church and world.



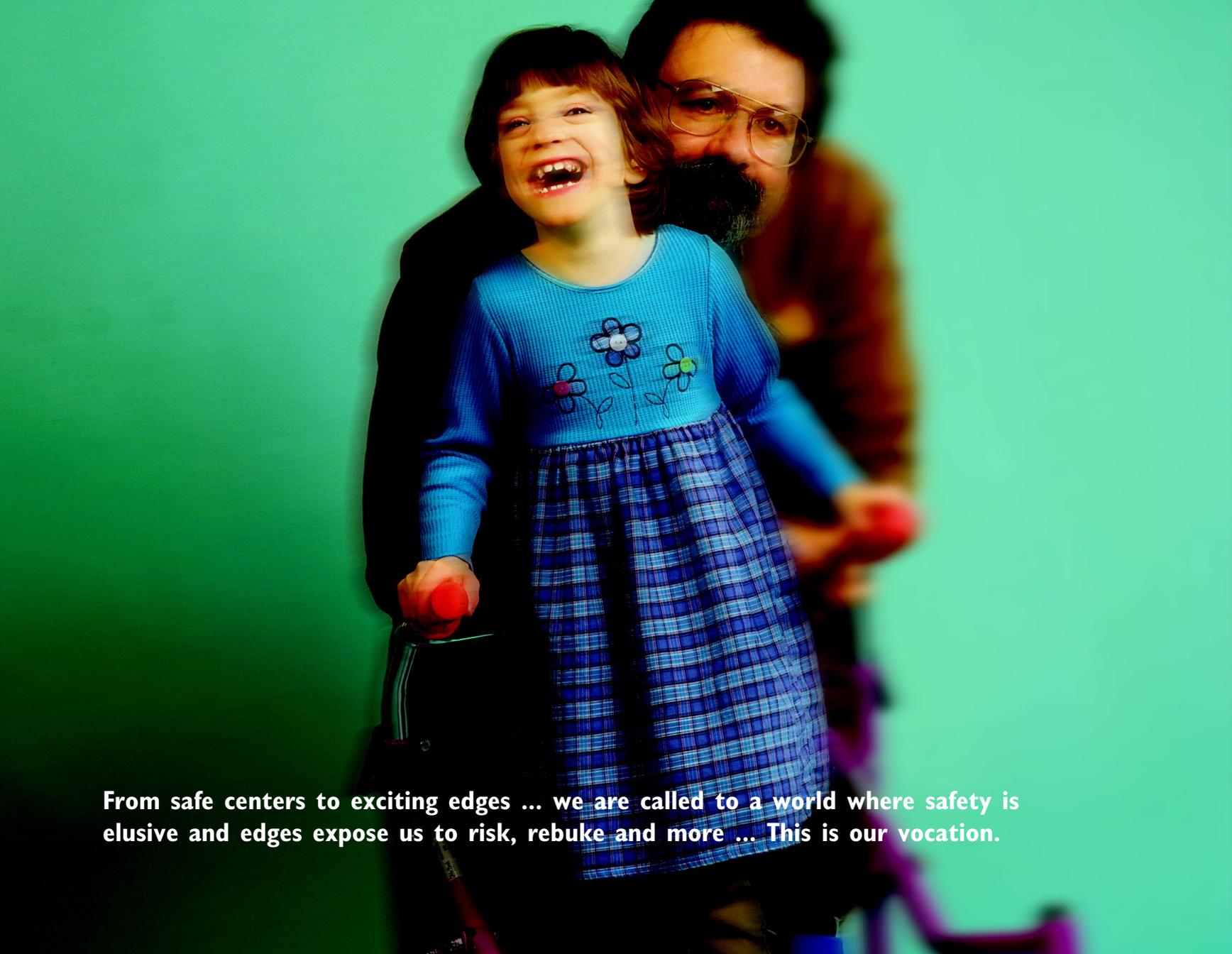
Developing a good infrastructure has been the major task of the past year. Emphasizing hospitality, collaboration and cooperation, the Office of General Ministries worked to evoke a new kind of culture in the national setting.

— Edith Guffey, Associate General Minister

Values like equity and excellence, collaboration and the embrace of diversity, communication and collegiality are signs which point beyond themselves to the purpose of all creation. Embodying them, even in a process called *restructure*, becomes a vehicle of mission.

— John Thomas, General Minister and President





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we are called to a world where safety is elusive and edges expose us to risk, rebuke and more ... This is our vocation.

A CHURCH ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

When I was younger, the other guys at my church and I would take turns carrying Lynn, one of our wheelchair-bound members, up the old steps of the church. Lynn organized rummage sales to get the lift chair she and the church needed. Little did I know I'd need that chair one day. My daughter, Molly, was born with cerebral palsy, and she's now using the same electric lift chair that Lynn helped secure. Every Sunday, Molly glides into a church where she is loved and accepted. I know there is a community there to support her and that makes me want to support it back even more.

God calls all people. It is our mission to be a blessing to others ... through the church, my family feels accepted, nurtured and cared for — we feel whole.

— Bernie

JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES (JWM)

Let justice flow down like waters and righteousness like an everflowing stream. — Isaiah 5:24

Critical to the work of Justice and Witness Ministries is the question that prompts our priorities and program involvements: “How can we empower Conferences and congregations to do justice in *their* communities and regions?” In JWM, we are here to support the justice agendas articulated in our churches, and to equip those “justice-seeking” congregations who want to initiate such emphases.

Working in partnership — for example, with Wider Church Ministries on international issues or with the Evangelism or Worship and Education Ministry Teams to integrate justice issues into the life and worship of congregations — is a dynamic expression of a new culture in the national settings of the church. It is also an attempt to make visible what we profess to be true: that justice is not merely a political agenda, but central to *our vocation* as faithful disciples.

Despite being in three locations — Cleveland, Washington, D.C., and Whitakers, N.C. — and the fact that 40 percent of our staff is new, the streams of righteousness flow more freely now as our diverse work emerges out of a common ministry. The list is long: racial justice, economics, the rights of women and persons with disabilities, corporate responsibility, criminal justice and penal reform, public education, eco-justice, sexual and domestic violence, immigration, and ethics in the media are only some of the issues we currently address. A clear sense of urgency abounds. Justice, both in the centers and at the edges of our lives, keeps us ever vigilant to God’s call as individuals and as a church.



What is energizing and exhilarating about this new structure is that the justice ministry work that we are doing is at the core of who we are. It has always been there, but now we've named it as central to our identity as the United Church of Christ.

— Bernice Powell Jackson, Executive Minister, Justice and Witness Ministries





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we honor our baptism, extend a welcome to the Lord's Table, celebrate the ministry of the whole church ... This is our vocation.

THAT I BELONG

They call me Joan, but in Japanese my name is *Chiaki*, which means “sun and moon together,” or “a thousand brightnesses.” My last name means “stone bridge.” I guess I am a bridge. I am a bridge to heal the past in order to serve in the present. I am a bridge that brings transformation in the face of discrimination. Today, working as Executive Associate for the Office of Wider Church Ministries, I witness the transformation of what it means to serve people around the world — without destroying their culture. I am ... a bridge to helping hearts around the world establish their own *place called home*.

When we receive communion in our church, we bridge our hearts to God and to each other. My comfort, in life and in death, is that I belong — body and soul — not to myself, but to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the UCC, we all belong.

— Joan

LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES (LCM)

“There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all.” — I Corinthians 12:4-6

The local church is foundational to our mission and ministry in the United Church of Christ. Local Church Ministries is charged with equipping more than 6,000 congregations across the land. One increasingly exciting edge is found in new church starts: approximately 13 in 2000, which demonstrate the vitality of our denomination. Many new churches are in racial/ethnic communities, and in our denomination we have an increasing number of multi-racial, multicultural churches.

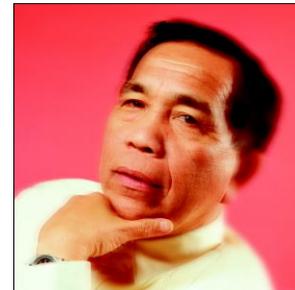
With a staff of more than 100, one-third of whom are new, LCM is also home to The Pilgrim Press — the oldest continuous publishing house in the United States — and creators of books on religious, social, and cultural issues; United Church Press, offering curricula and worship supplies; and United Church of Christ Resources, which distributes the wide array of books and resources produced by the national setting of the church.

New congregation or old, church “growth” includes a deepening spirituality and commitment to mission among our members. One focus at LCM is on small-member congregations: understanding and meeting their particular needs. Through the Cornerstone Fund, churches can invest money or secure low-cost loans to expand or repair their facilities. In a world filled with fear and uncertainty, the local church is often the only place where truly safe space is found. In evangelism, worship, stewardship, education, parish life and leadership development, LCM designs and distributes resources to nurture congregations, so that everywhere the UCC may be a welcoming place, reflective of Christ’s compassionate love, accessible to all.



For the first time in the history of the church, we have stewardship, evangelism, parish life, worship, Christian education, and financial services all in one place. When our staff members visit a church, they can say, “We’ve got whatever you need.”

— Joe Malayang, Executive Minister, Local Church Ministries





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we build a structure responsive to all settings of our church, engaged in the complexities of our world, where Jesus Christ is unabashedly the cornerstone ... This is our vocation.

A LIFE OF WELCOME

I was born in India and adopted at age six into an American family in which there were already two kids. At first, my sister and I fought a lot. Today, we are really good friends and sisters — by choice.

Polio during my early childhood in India left me unable to walk without braces and crutches. I used to wonder why God allowed this to happen to me. I now see ways my life experiences have helped me become a stronger and more confident person. My family and my church community focus on my abilities and they encourage me to share my unique gifts.

Being an artist is one of my gifts. I've designed several UCC Sunday bulletin covers. One was a drawing of the world with a rainbow over it. That drawing says a lot about the way I feel about my family, my church, my God and the ways they relate to each other.

In India, the name *Rajee* means “princess.” My dad is a minister. I've heard him say, “We are God's offspring.” I guess that makes each one of us a prince or princess in God's Realm.

— Rajee

WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES (WCM)

“Do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it might be.” — Deuteronomy 15:7-8

Partnership is the key word for Wider Church Ministries: with other ministry settings in the United Church of Christ, with more than 80 indigenous overseas partner churches and ecumenical councils around the world, and with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Our partnership with the Disciples is expressed through the Common Global Ministries Board, through which we witness to our international partnerships. After an arduous move from New York City, staff, office space and program support are shared among offices in Cleveland and Indianapolis, with one staff member remaining in New York.

Our church’s global vocation is expressed through development aid, disaster response and refugee assistance. At our partners’ initiatives, we offer educational and agricultural training and support to attack the systemic causes of poverty, disease, illiteracy and homelessness. Our Local Church Relationships Ministry provides volunteer services and helps congregations, Conferences, and seminaries become involved with churches outside the United States. These initiatives include sponsoring children overseas, work trips, and connecting our racial and ethnic constituencies with global partners.

We work toward drawing persons ravaged by the “edges of existence” ever closer to the centers of our hearts. So, our new National Disaster Ministries equips conferences with preparedness for disasters occurring *within* the United States; and our Health and Wholeness Advocacy Ministry brings together different mission emphases that focus on HIV/AIDS as a global pandemic, as well as a domestic health issue.



Our relationship with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through the Common Global Ministries Board continues in restructure. We, and our Disciples colleagues, share staff, resources, and a wide range of partnerships with churches around the world. Now we can do more to present a wider variety of opportunities for congregations to connect with global mission.

— Dale Bishop, Executive Minister, Wider Church Ministries





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we are challenged to be a just peace church and, in our many settings, to speak a word of truth to power ...this is our vocation.

BUENAS NUEVAS (GOOD NEWS)

My church is a new church start called *Buenas Nuevas*. It has certainly been good news for my family and me. We came to the United States about a year ago, spoke no English and were jobless. We needed a friendly community where we could feel at home, worship God and sing familiar songs in our own language.

I have promised to do the best I can for my family. With the assistance of the church, I've learned English. I have also been able to get a job and stay on the right path.

We just presented our second child to the Lord at our new church and even found wonderful godparents. I want my children to learn about God first. After that, God will give them the tools they need to carry them through life.

— Edgardo

THE PENSION BOARDS (PB)

Truly, I say to you, even as you have done this for the least of these, you have done it for me. — Matthew 25:40

The Pension Boards: an Affiliated Ministry within the United Church of Christ. Our mission: to provide pastors and layworkers with sufficient financial peace of mind to fulfill their ministries. Our insurance and retirement programs begin with the premise that ours is a lifelong relationship with those who work for the church.

Even during a transition to an entirely new information technology system, we continued uninterrupted administration of the UCC's retirement plan, as well as its program of ministerial assistance, three health benefits plans, a disability income plan, two plans of life insurance, a dental benefits plan, and two plans of supplementation for annuity income and retirees health benefits premiums. All monthly payments in our retirement plan are periodically adjusted to reflect the investment results of the Funds, and many of our 7,500 retirees have experienced increased income that has outpaced the cost-of-living.

We also administer our church's plan supplementing small annuities and health premiums of those who retired after years of church service at very low salaries. Christmas Fund contributions, Our Church's Wider Mission and the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance support this plan. We hold retirement education seminars in conferences and oversee an annuitant visitation program in which retired ministers visit other retired clergy and widowed spouses, providing a message of support in the name of the whole church.



The UCC is blessed by faithful women and men who serve the church. We are privileged to carry out this important ministry of stewardship on their behalf.

— Joan F. Brannick, Executive Vice President, The Pension Boards





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we affirm our distinctiveness as the United Church of Christ — multiracial, multicultural, open, affirming, accessible to all, with Jesus Christ as our head ... this is our vocation.

RAISING CROPS AND SPIRITS

Our family has farmed this land for more than 125 years and we're still here. But when I needed to broaden my experiences beyond the farm, my family supported me. Today, my column, "The Country Wife," shares humorous stories about the lives of farm women and is carried by state farm magazines across the country. Prentice Hall and Harper & Row also publish my work.

The people at my UCC church are also my family. I am free to think my own thoughts and am accepted. When we gather for communion, independent spirits and strong hands join, strengthening the bond among us, lifting my heart to God.

— Pat

UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION (UCF)

Well done good and faithful servant, you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things. — Matthew 25:21

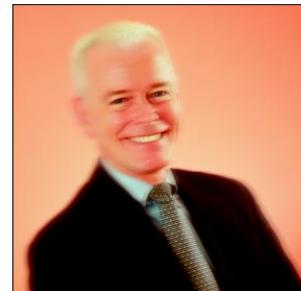
The United Church Foundation is an Associated Ministry of the United Church of Christ. In 2000, we continued to provide professional investment management services to the churches, Associations, Conferences, and other organizations affiliated with the UCC. Through its common investment funds, the Foundation now manages more than \$300 million, enabling congregations and other organizations to maximize endowment and other savings, thereby creating more money for ministry and mission. Local churches account for more than 90 percent of the 800 entities with investments in the Foundation's Common Investment Funds. In 2000, the Foundation welcomed 54 new participants and more than \$26 million in new investments.

An important emphasis of the past two years has been on the education and marketing efforts of the Foundation, intended to create awareness of investment opportunities and to make the Foundation's funds more broadly available. Through its professionally managed portfolios, the Foundation pursues its primary goals of capital preservation and growth while selecting investments with attention to corporate social responsibility policies established by its board of directors and based on General Synod actions.



We want to help churches understand their opportunities to invest, and we want to educate people and churches so that they're able to make wise investment decisions.

— Donald G. Hart, Executive Vice President, United Church Foundation





From safe centers to exciting edges ... we claim a joyful discipleship, celebrating God's abundant creation and living playfully among all the earth's children ... this is our vocation.

SOMETHING WAS MISSING

One night sitting on the side of the bed I asked my wife, “Do you get the feeling that something’s missing from our lives?” We talked about it for a while and decided to try a church where my friend was its newly installed pastor.

When we got there, we saw people were hugging each other. They hugged us, too. Neither of us had ever experienced anything like this and certainly not among so many different types of people. On our way home my wife said, “They actually seemed glad to see us.” That’s when we knew exactly what we had been missing: Community.

— Al

THE 2001 MISSION SPENDING PLAN OF THE NATIONAL MINISTRIES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The pages that follow summarize the mission spending plan of the national ministries of the UCC in chart form, as well as in narrative form. The chart also makes clear the sources of money that make this mission possible. Additional notes on the next page give further explanation. The narrative offers greater detail about each ministry's work.

In each of the church's ministries:

- ▶ Money is used for *programs* that enable the church to meet human needs, provide grants and resources, and gather as the church.
- ▶ Money is used to provide *staff*, who offer ministry, program work, and leadership.
- ▶ Money is used for the necessary *support* of staff and programs.
- ▶ Money is used for *governance*, so that the people of the church can participate in decisions and be accountable for money given and ministry provided.
- ▶ Governance is the work of vision, policy, and evaluation, carried out by boards of directors that are representative of the whole church and elected by General Synod, and that use this money to meet, be guided in its work, and kept informed throughout the year.

FINANCIAL CHARTS

The charts on the following several pages contain 2001 Mission Spending and Income information as well as 2000 OCWM statistics. Here is additional information on the Mission Spending and Income charts:

- ▶ Included in the Office of General Ministries is a separate staffing function, separately governed, that provides for information and technology services, meeting planning, common financial services, human resources administration and common office support systems. The amount in parentheses, \$3,496,143, is the total of the amounts being paid by each participating ministry, so that the services can be provided for their benefit. That amount is also shown in each ministry's column.
- ▶ The Pension Boards — United Church of Christ is an Affiliated Ministry, in part different from the Covenanted Ministries, because almost all of its money is used for membership benefits, as supported by contributions made on behalf of its members and by the investment earnings on those contributions, not from current or prior gifts to the church. As a membership body, that portion of its work is not reflected in this overview. What is reflected is the money received primarily from National Basic Support and Special Support that is used to meet the church's commitment to supplement small pensions of retired church workers and to meet the obligation toward a share of the administrative expenses of the pension plan.
- ▶ The United Church Foundation, Inc., is an Associated Ministry that currently does not receive funding from Our Church's Wider Mission, nor does it have endowments. The amounts reflected in the chart for governance and representation of the Foundation at national settings of the United Church of Christ come from a portion of fees charged against the funds entrusted to UCF to manage. The remainder of its work, providing investment management and marketing, is also supported by those fees but is not reflected in these charts.

MISSION SPENDING PLAN OF THE NATIONAL MINISTRIES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FOR CALENDAR 2001

USES	EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES		JUSTICE & WITNESS MINISTRIES	LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES	WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES	PENSION BOARDS OF UCC	UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION	2001 TOTALS	PERCENT OF TOTALS
		OGM	COMMON SERVICES							
Our Program Ministries	\$188,868	\$2,048,346	\$0	\$2,044,942	\$5,801,359	\$8,634,465	\$1,163,500	\$0	\$19,881,480	43.13%
Our Staff Ministries	0	2,880,366	2,369,626	2,418,776	6,541,039	2,560,969	0	0	16,770,776	36.38%
Our Support of Program & Staff Ministries	19,643	1,019,391	1,131,953	840,647	3,301,992	1,424,650	776,300	92,000	8,606,576	18.67%
Our Shared Ministry of Common Services	19,889	549,268	(3,496,143)	599,573	1,647,613	660,000	19,800	0	0	0.00%
Our Ministry of Governance	450,600	50,000	0	125,000	100,000	100,000	0	13,000	838,600	1.82%
TOTALS	\$679,000	\$6,547,371	\$5,436	\$6,028,938	\$17,392,003	\$13,380,084	\$1,959,600	\$105,000	\$46,097,432	100.00%

SOURCES OF FUNDING THAT SUPPORT THE MISSION SPENDING PLAN FOR CALENDAR 2001

SOURCES	EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES OGM	MINISTRIES COMMON SERVICES	JUSTICE & WITNESS MINISTRIES	LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES	WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES	PENSION BOARDS OF UCC	UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION	2001 TOTALS	PERCENT OF TOTALS
Our Church's Wider Mission	\$499,000	\$2,297,200	\$0	\$2,151,400	\$3,645,600	\$2,932,600	\$874,200	\$0	\$12,400,000	26.90%
Special Support	0	457,340	0	1,643,000	138,600	2,840,000	1,053,200	0	6,132,140	13.30%
Income from Investments	0	1,040,000	0	1,705,392	6,055,636	3,932,000	0	0	2,733,028	27.62%
Funding from Reserves	0	1,517,462	0	407,146	1,400,000	1,393,200	32,200	105,000	4,855,008	10.53%
Sale of Resources & Fees	180,000	656,000	0	0	4,774,667	0	0	—	5,610,667	12.17%
Intra-ministry Transfers	0	211,769	5,436	0	0	0	0	0	217,205	0.47%
Other	0	367,600	—	122,000	1,377,500	2,282,284	0	0	4,149,384	9.00%
TOTALS	\$679,000	\$6,547,371	\$5,436	\$6,028,938	\$17,392,003	\$13,380,084	\$1,959,600	\$105,000	\$46,097,432	100.00%

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST — OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION — BASIC SUPPORT 2000

	National	%	Conference	%	Total	National Gain/Loss	Conference Gain/Loss	Total Gain/Loss
California/Nevada Northern	\$152,715	25.0	\$458,145	75.0	\$610,860	\$4,098	\$15,723	\$19,821
California/Nevada Southern	207,325	40.0	310,987	60.0	518,312	(3,669)	5,222	1,553
Calvin	300				300	100		100
Central Atlantic	429,166	37.0	730,715	63.0	1,159,881	497	(24,261)	(23,764)
Central Pacific	62,748	22.0	222,470	78.0	285,218	(3,719)	(15,234)	(18,953)
Connecticut	1,697,163	63.1	990,712	36.9	2,687,875	63,876	44,309	108,185
Florida	236,145	25.1	703,557	74.9	939,702	(12,597)	55,164	42,567
Hawaii	106,736	28.7	265,423	71.3	372,159	(4,877)	(8,219)	(13,096)
Illinois	654,375	32.1	1,387,188	67.9	2,041,563	(7,169)	85,303	78,134
Illinois, South	329,814	44.7	408,657	55.3	738,471	7,402	6,816	14,218
Indiana-Kentucky	534,921	41.4	755,664	58.6	1,290,585	(4,714)	(6,331)	(11,045)
Iowa	496,800	46.0	583,200	54.0	1,080,000	8,548	(10,887)	(2,339)
Kansas-Oklahoma	90,327	28.1	231,399	71.9	321,726	21,693	25,806	47,499
Maine	128,000	24.0	404,501	76.0	532,501	8,000	19,969	27,969
Massachusetts	1,490,324	65.0	802,479	35.0	2,292,803	20,882	(15,287)	5,595
Michigan	337,572	35.0	627,141	65.0	964,713	10,190	51,051	61,241
Minnesota	329,842	34.8	619,343	65.2	949,185	17,230	42,197	59,427
Missouri/Mid-South	246,958	24.7	754,333	75.3	1,001,291	8,534	10,824	19,058
Montana-N. Wyoming	33,725	20.0	134,898	80.0	168,623	1,314	7,614	8,928
Nebraska	150,036	31.0	333,314	69.0	483,350	5,284	38,782	44,066
New Hampshire	385,758	45.0	471,482	55.0	857,240	5,935	116,025	125,714

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST — OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION — BASIC SUPPORT 2000

	NATIONAL	%	CONFERENCE	%	TOTAL	NATIONAL GAIN/LOSS	CONFERENCE GAIN/LOSS	TOTAL GAIN/LOSS
New York	221,252	21.6	803,067	78.4	1,024,319	(157,386)	165,567	3,754
Northern Plains	13,762	11.9	101,508	88.1	115,270	160	(4,587)	(4,427)
Ohio	1,158,970	37.0	1,973,382	63.0	3,132,352	12,723	87,243	99,966
Penn Central	717,239	49.2	739,422	50.8	1,456,661	(43,933)	19,754	(24,179)
Penn Northeast	205,000	25.0	615,198	75.0	820,198	5,000	20,897	25,897
Pennsylvania Southeast	469,971	36.1	830,671	63.9	1,300,642	14,055	49,443	63,498
Penn West	86,068	17.8	398,647	82.2	484,715	542	6,791	7,333
Puerto Rico	3,000				3,000	0	0	0
Rhode Island	158,395	50.0	158,395	50.0	316,790	2,505	17,017	19,522
Rocky Mountain	150,018	30.0	350,041	70.0	500,059	1,428	3,857	5,285
South Central	54,333	20.0	217,333	80.0	271,666	2,255	10,005	12,260
South Dakota	79,300	25.1	236,259	74.9	315,559	(326)	2,944	2,618
Southeast	23,069	10.8	190,000	89.2	213,069	3,069	5,728	8,797
Southern	64,458	9.7	596,651	90.3	661,109	(6,116)	30,307	24,191
Southwest	79,989	30.4	182,728	69.6	262,717	7,948	(31,469)	(23,521)
Vermont	235,364	50.0	235,353	50.0	470,717	1,604	511	2,115
Washington-N. Idaho	176,983	29.3	426,718	70.7	603,701	5,664	30,152	35,816
Wisconsin	500,000	21.4	1,838,714	78.6	2,338,714	(10,000)	68,651	58,651
Miscellaneous	28,693				28,693	5,509	0	5,509
TOTAL	12,526,614	36.9	\$21,089,695	63.1	\$33,616,309	\$(8,461)	\$927,397	\$918,936
Percentage Change						(0.1)%	4.5%	2.8%

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION — 2000

CONTRIBUTIONS	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	TOTAL
National Basic Support	\$4,408,945	\$8,117,669	\$12,526,614
One Great Hour of Sharing	1,757,643	1,387,007	3,144,650
Neighbors in Need	119,678	1,236,323	1,356,001
Strengthen the Church	37,795	172,611	210,406
The Christmas Fund	419,467	766,368	1,185,835
Directed Gifts	93,724	140,018	233,742
Second-Mile Specials	12,113	19,786	31,899
UCC Hunger Action Fund	24,708	100,624	125,332
Just Peace Appeal	42,564	27,190	69,754
Total Contributions	\$6,916,637	\$11,967,596	\$18,884,233
 BASIC SUPPORT ALLOCATION			
United Church Board for World Ministries	\$1,353,876		\$1,353,876
United Church Board for Homeland Ministries	1,283,322		1,283,322
Pension Boards	444,748	438,976	883,724
Budget of the General Synod	782,920		782,920
Coordinating Center for Women	167,467		167,467
Office for Church in Society	310,502	310,502	
Office for Church Life and Leadership	495,558		495,558

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION — 2000

	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	TOTAL
Office of Communication	429,755		429,755
Commission on Development	86,896		86,896
Stewardship Council	517,785		517,785
Commission for Racial Justice	427,171		427,171
Office of General Ministries		1,404,101	1,404,101
Justice and Witness Ministries		1,080,318	1,080,318
Local Church Ministries		1,830,625	1,830,625
Wider Church Ministries		1,472,594	1,472,594
Total Basic Support Allocation	\$6,300,000	\$6,226,614	\$12,526,614
TRANSFERS OF OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS			
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,172,530	\$1,933,168	\$3,105,698
Neighbors in Need — 1999	647,380	647,380	1,294,760
Strengthen the Church — 1999	67,663	67,663	135,326
The Christmas Fund	413,478	772,357	1,185,835
Directed Gifts	75,298	158,444	233,742
Second-Mile Specials	7,238	24,661	31,899
UCC Hunger Action Fund	23,003	92,874	115,877
Just Peace Appeal — 1999	20,767	20,767	41,534
Total OCWM Transfers	\$2,427,357	\$3,717,314	\$6,144,671

OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES (OGM)

is called to care for the spiritual life, unity, and well-being of the church, and to nurture its covenantal life. This office helps the church focus on theological reflection and facilitate the visioning, financial planning, communication and coordination of the United Church of Christ's total mission.

In 2001, this ministry will use \$6,547,371, including \$2,754,540 given through Our Church's Wider Mission.

Program Ministries

\$2,048,346

Give spiritual leadership to the whole church, guiding faithful visioning and planning

Reflect theologically and witness to the Gospel by telling our story within and beyond the UCC

- ▶ United Church News and the UCC Annual Report
- ▶ Video and television broadcasts
- ▶ www.ucc.org
- ▶ Sharing news and information

Facilitate the work of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ

Promote affirmative action and embrace diversity

Invite financial gifts to the church through special and planned gifts and wills

Undergird covenantal relationships

- ▶ with ecumenical partners
- ▶ with Conferences and institutions of the church
- ▶ with racial/ethnic constituencies

Research and record-keeping

- ▶ The UCC Yearbook and annual Statistical Handbook

OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES (CONT.)

Offer grants to groups in the Council for Racial and Ethnic Ministries, historical councils and ecumenical ministries

Staff Ministries

\$2,880,366 for salaries and benefits

Support of Program and Staff Ministries

\$1,019,391

Shared Ministry of Common Services

\$549,268

Ministry of Governance

\$50,000

Includes financial support for planning and implementing the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

Common Services

The Office of General Ministries also includes Common Services, which provides services for the four Covenanted Ministries and is funded proportionately by each to

- coordinate budget and finance functions for the Covenanted Ministries
- provide information systems and technology services
- plan, negotiate and implement meeting arrangements
- coordinate and implement human resources policies.

Staff Ministries

\$2,369,626 for salaries and benefits

Support of Staff Ministries

\$1,131,953



JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES (JWM)

is called to speak prophetically to the world's realities of injustice and oppression, to work for liberation and transformation of systems and persons, and to engage in direct action for the integrity of creation, justice, and peace. Justice and Witness Ministries enables and encourages collaboration among local churches, Conferences, and the national church to engage in God's mission as a multiracial/multicultural church, accessible to all.

In 2001, this ministry will use \$6,028,938, including \$3,794,400 given through Our Church's Wider Mission.

Program Ministries

\$2,044,942

Respond to God's call to do justice from three locations: Cleveland, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; Franklinton Center, Whitakers, N.C.

Challenge the church to address justice issues from a biblical perspective

- ▶ Staff-led seminars and workshops
- ▶ Coordinate networks for more effective witness
- ▶ Speak on behalf of the disenfranchised
- ▶ Help solve societal issues faced by local churches
- ▶ Produce resources to inspire regional justice work

Promote economic and racial justice

- ▶ Urban ministries
- ▶ Racial and economic justice in rural areas
- ▶ Women's health care and total family health
- ▶ The rights of persons with disabilities

JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES (CONT.)

Work for human rights and justice for women

Work for the common good in public life

- Corporate social responsibility
- Conflict resolution
- Criminal justice and penal system reform
- Public education
- The environment
- Sexual and domestic violence
- Immigration issues
- Media ethics

Represent the United Church of Christ in ecumenical and secular settings

Staff Ministries

\$2,418,776 for salaries and benefits

Support of Program and Staff Ministries

\$840,647

Shared Ministry of Common Services

\$599,573

Ministry of Governance

\$125,000



LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES (LCM)

is called to encourage and support the local churches of the United Church of Christ in fulfillment of God's mission, supporting the pilgrimage of our diverse church family.

In 2001, this ministry will use \$17,907,660, including \$3,784,200 given through Our Church's Wider Mission.

Program Ministries

\$6,242,016

Support, encourage, guide and provide resources to local churches

Partner with others in gatherings of the church

- ▶ Youth
- ▶ Training pastors of new churches
- ▶ Leadership training, for lay persons and clergy, in worship, evangelism, mission, stewardship, justice, education and nurture

Partner with others in services to the local church

- ▶ Search and call; connecting ordained pastors and persons authorized for ministry with local churches
- ▶ Guiding churches and Conferences in the work of evangelism

Connect with seminaries

Help churches understand stewardship and implement effective stewardship strategies

Work with Conferences to start new churches and re-vision existing churches

Assist congregations in securing low-cost loans and implementing capital campaign strategies

LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES (CONT.)

Produce resources for the church

- ▶ Faith-based curricula and worship resources through United Church Press
- ▶ Books on faith, justice, and cultural issues through The Pilgrim Press

Assist ministries with and by women, men and youth

Distribute resources through United Church of Christ Resources

Offer grants

- ▶ To UCC-related colleges and academies
- ▶ To ecumenical organizations addressing education, stewardship, and congregational nurture
- ▶ Scholarships to potential leaders in church or society

Represent the United Church of Christ in ecumenical and secular settings

Staff Ministries

\$6,516,039 for salaries and benefits

Support of Program and Staff Ministries

\$3,401,992

Shared Ministry of Common Services

\$1,647,613

Ministry of Governance

\$100,000



WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES (WCM)

is called to support United Church of Christ ministries throughout the world and the nation, as it encourages local churches and Conferences to participate in the global church.

In 2001, Wider Church Ministries will use \$13,380,084, including \$5,772,600 given through Our Church's Wider Mission.

Program Ministries

\$8,634,465

Respond to the expressed needs of 80 partner churches in more than 70 countries as staff of the Common Global Ministries Board of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Coordinate networks through mission partnerships and interfaith dialogues

Produce resource materials that connect local churches to the worldwide body of Christ

Resettle refugees and support economic, agricultural and community development for rebuilding communities ravaged by wars and natural disasters

Develop global-awareness skills in schools and seminaries

Respond to disasters, both international and domestic, with food, shelter, medicine, and money

Support the work of approximately 130 missionaries and 70 mission associates

Advocate for justice and human rights around the world

WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES (CONT.)

Promote health and wholeness

- ▶ Addressing the global needs resulting from the HIV/AIDS pandemic
- ▶ Advocating for health and wholeness concerns in the United States
- ▶ Ministering with persons with disabilities
- ▶ Relating to health and human service ministries of the church
- ▶ Nurturing family life
- ▶ Addressing the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Coordinate voluntary services and provide mission education opportunities, with special focus on youth and young adults and persons of color

Support mutual relationships between U.S. churches and churches overseas

Represent the United Church of Christ in ecumenical and secular settings

Staff Ministries

\$2,560,969 for salaries and benefits

Support of Program and Staff Ministries

\$1,424,650

Shared Ministry of Common Services

\$660,000

Ministry of Governance

\$100,000





From safe centers to exciting edges ... in faith we respond to God's call ... This is our vocation. This is our story.

TO BELIEVE IS TO CARE. TO CARE IS TO DO.

Grandmothers like me usually have a lot to do just taking care of ourselves. I'm also the taxi for my grandkids, I play in my church's bell choir, and I even have adopted a few "bonus sons" along the way. I also became a Stephen Minister to help care for others and, in this role, I receive care as well. Everyone in the church needs care — including the pastors.

I love what I do. It's such a gift to meet so many people and see how we all can help each other. So many hearts just need the same thing: to care and to be cared for.

— Libby
(April 1, 1921 - March 22, 2001)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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