

General Ministries Survey

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1. Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP)

Led by Rev. Terri Hord Owens, this office serves as the main leadership center for the Disciples of Christ. It provides spiritual, pastoral, and administrative guidance, helping unite the vision, mission, and work of congregations, regions, and ministries.

2. National Convocation

Led by Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Audra Kenebrew, this ministry supports African American congregations through worship, leadership training, and advocacy. It connects churches to work together in ministry and mission.

3. Obra Hispana

Led by Rev. Lori Tapia, this ministry strengthens and connects Hispanic congregations in the U.S. and Canada. It provides leadership training, supports new and growing churches, and works on shared mission efforts in Spanish-speaking settings.

4. NAPAD (North American Pacific/Asian Disciples)

Led by Rev. Chung Seong Kim, this ministry serves Pacific Islander and Asian congregations in the U.S. and Canada. It supports leadership, celebrates cultural heritage, and connects 13 ethnic groups speaking over 19 languages in more than 100 churches.

5. Reconciliation Ministry

Led by Rev. April Johnson, this ministry works to end racism and promote justice through teaching, dialogue, and action. It offers training, resources, and grants to support anti-racism work in the church.

6. Week of Compassion

Led by Rev. Vy Nguyen, this is the disaster relief, refugee, and development arm of the church. It partners locally and globally to help communities recover and rebuild.

7. Chalice Media Group (Christian Board of Publication)

Led by Brad Lyons, this ministry creates resources to grow faith in churches and homes. It offers books, Bible studies, and other tools for worship and mission.

8. Disciples Home Missions

Led by Rev. Chris Dorsey, this ministry helps churches in evangelism, mission, leadership, and faith development. It provides programs and resources for leaders and congregations.

9. Disciples Women

Led in the Southwest Region by Sally Green, this ministry gives women ways to lead, learn, and serve. It organizes retreats, gatherings, small groups, and mission projects.

10. Disciples Men

Led in the Southwest Region by Nathan Higginbotham, this ministry offers retreats, small groups, training, and service opportunities for men. It helps men grow as leaders and serve their communities.

11. Children and Youth Ministries (Across Generations)

In the Southwest Region, led by Rev. Heather Reed, this ministry organizes camps, retreats, and service projects for children and youth. It focuses on faith growth, leadership skills, and mission involvement.

12. General Commission on Ministry

In the Southwest Region, ministerial standing and credentialing are handled by the Regional Commission on Ministry. The General Commission provides guidance and resources to keep these processes consistent across the church.

13. Global Ministries

This ministry partners with churches and organizations worldwide to work for justice, peace, and reconciliation. It links U.S. and Canadian congregations with global partners through relationships, education, and shared projects.

14. Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministries

Led by Rev. Paul Tche, this ministry builds relationships with other Christian denominations and faith traditions. It offers resources and coordinates shared worship, service, and dialogue.

15. Disciples Historical Society

Led by Rev. Dr. Joel Brown, this ministry preserves and shares the history of the Disciples of Christ. It maintains archives and provides educational resources for churches and researchers.

16. Higher Education and Leadership Ministries (HELM)

Led by Rev. Tamara Rodenberg, HELM supports Disciples-related colleges, universities, and seminaries. It offers scholarships, leadership training, and partnerships with schools.

16a. HELM Leadership Fellows Program

A four-year program for first-year Disciples undergraduates. It includes annual retreats, mentoring, a global awareness trip, and scholarships, focusing on community, transformation, and leadership.

17. National Benevolent Association (NBA)

Led by Mark Anderson, this ministry supports health, social service, and justice efforts. It partners with local groups to address housing, healthcare, and community needs.

18. Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF)

Led by Rev. John Powell, this ministry provides loans, fundraising help, and consulting for church property needs. It assists in planning, funding, and maintaining spaces for ministry.

19. Pension Fund of the Christian Church

Led by Rev. Dr. Todd Adams, this fund manages retirement, savings, and benefits for clergy and church staff. It offers financial services and planning support.

20. Christian Church Foundation

Led by Rev. Matt Rosine, this ministry manages endowments, funds, and planned gifts for Disciples ministries. It provides investment services and guidance for churches and individuals.

Deep Dive: Children and Youth Ministries (Under Disciples Home Missions)

The Disciples Youth ministry, an initiative of Disciples Home Missions, stands as a reimagining of youth formation. Its mission is not confined to Sunday mornings, but rather, it seeks to spark an intergenerational community rooted in the radical love of Jesus Christ. In their words, “We are dreamers and doers, advocates and allies, seekers and sojourners-all journeying together toward a deeper understanding of God, self, and community.”

(discipleshomemissions.org/ministry-programs/disciples-youth/)

Disciples Youth is a ministry of Disciples Home Missions, which was formed in the late 1960s and early 1970s during the major denominational restructuring that transitioned the United Christian Missionary Society into separate ministries for domestic and international work. Since then, Disciples Youth has continued to evolve as part of DHM’s mission to equip and inspire leaders for ministry with young people across the United States and Canada.

(discipleshomemissions.org/about)

To empower youth leaders-whether seasoned pastors or volunteers just beginning their journey-the ministry offers creative spiritual formation tools, a thoughtfully curated resource hub (complete with adaptable lesson plans, curriculum guides, and digital content), and interactive leadership workshops. Topics span from intergenerational dialogue and mental health awareness to digital discipleship and community organizing, all delivered within a framework that honors authenticity and inclusivity. (discipleshomemissions.org/ministry-programs/disciples-youth)

In the Southwest: CCSW’s Youth Ministry Landscape

In the Christian Church in the Southwest (CCSW) which spans Texas, New Mexico, and the Panhandle of Oklahoma-youth ministry is woven into a rich tapestry of regional efforts, informed by shared vision, grants, camps, and leadership roles.

Camps and Retreats are central to this ministry expression. Youth gravitate toward immersive experiences at places like Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat, Disciple Oaks Camp & Retreat, and Disciples Crossing Camp-locations where outdoor adventures intertwine with spiritually reflective sessions designed to deepen both faith and community. (ccsw.org/youth)

A significant anchor for youth growth is the Youth Leadership-CYLS program, which intentionally cultivates leadership skills through hands-on workshops, mentorship, and group projects. These initiatives enable young participants to become intentional church leaders and community advocates. (ccsw.org/youth)

In 2021, CCSW called Rev. Heather Reed as their Community Regional Minister for Children and Youth. Her leadership helped shepherd camps and conferences through the challenges of the pandemic, ensuring youth engagement and safety across the region. (Reconnecting Community Docket CCSW Regional Assembly 2022)

Conclusion

Disciples Youth offers a nationally resourced, intergenerational vision for ministry that equips leaders with tools for justice-oriented, reflective faith formation. In parallel, CCSW brings that vision to life on the ground-through camps, leadership programs, service, and intentional spiritual formation-guided by regional ministers like Rev. Reed who translate the energy of Disciples Youth into tangible, local ministries.