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Glossary and Contact Information

*Language/Terms/Alphabet Soup Common to
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

General Units of the Church

CE - Church Extension: Provides a variety of funding services to congregations including establishment of new congregations. Responsible for administration of all capital campaigns.

Phone: 800-274-1883

E-mail: bce@churchextension.org

Web site: www.churchextension.org

CBP - Christian Board of Publication: Publishing house (Chalice Press) located in St. Louis. Produces and distributes Disciples Women *New Day* magazine and study materials.

Phone: 800-366-3383.

E-mail: customerservice@cbp21.com

Web site: www.cbp21.com

CCF - Christian Church Foundation, Inc.: Provides Disciples with opportunities to make a lasting difference in the life of the church and discover the joy of serving Christ through the sharing of their accumulated resources.

Phone: 800-668-8016

E-mail: jcullumb@ccf.disciples.org

Web site: www.disciples.org/ccf

CFC - Church Finance Council, Inc.: Carries the responsibility of receiving financial contributions, dividing and distributing the contributions, keeping records of all giving to Disciples Mission Fund, Week of Compassion and Reconciliation and providing information regarding financial matters. Provides stewardship education.

Phone: 317-635-3100

E-mail: jedmundson@cfc.disciples.org Web site: www.churchfinancecouncil.org

CCU – Council on Christian Unity, Inc.: Founded in 1910, this unit is charged with working for the unity of God’s fragmented church and world within Disciples and the entire ecumenical movement.

Phone: 317-713-2586

E-mail: rozanne@ccu.disciples.org Web site: www.disciples.org/ccu

Disciples of Christ Historical Society: Located in Nashville, Tenn., this unit is responsible for keeping the church’s archives, fostering community of historians, providing historical resources, fostering understanding within the Stone-Campbell Movement, and interpreting that movement to others.

Phone: 615-327-1444

E-mail: mail@dishistsoc.org Web site: www.dishistsoc.org

DHM - Disciples Home Missions: Formerly known as the Division of Homeland Ministries, this unit is committed to connecting and strengthening congregations and leaders to make a difference in the world. Emphasis is on congregational life and vitality, leadership development and Christian vocations. The Office of Disciples Women (ODW) is a ministry of Disciples Home Missions.

Phone: 888-346-2631

E-mail: homelandministries@dhm.disciples.org

Web site: www.homelandministries.org

DOM - Division of Overseas Ministries: In partnership with the United Church of Christ, enables Disciples to share in effective and wide-ranging ministries of evangelism, witness, and service around the world. The common work is known as **Global Ministries**.

Phone: 317-635-3100

E-mail: dom@disciples.org Web site: www.globalministries.org

HELM - Higher Education and Leadership Ministries: Headquartered in St. Louis, this unit carries responsibility for the health and effectiveness of the relationship between the church and its related institutions of higher education. Its stated purpose is: “to nurture men and women – lay and clergy – for transformational leadership in the church and the wider human community in partnership with the church’s institutions of higher education and with its congregations, regions and general ministries.”

Phone: 314-991-3000

E-mail: dhe@dhedisciples.org Web site: www.dhedisciples.org

NBA - National Benevolent Association: The social and health services division of the church. Located in St. Louis, this unit operates facilities and programs that provide services to neglected and abused children, mentally challenged adults, and older persons.

Phone: 314-993-9000

E-mail: nba@nbacares.org Web Site: www.nbacares.org

Pension Fund: Provides benefits such as the pension plan for ministers, missionaries, lay employees and other related organizations. Serves as the Board of Ministerial Relief and Assistance.

Phone: 317-634-4504

E-mail: pfcc1@pension.disciples.org Web site: www.pensionfund.org

More Denominational Terms and Organizations

DMF - Disciples Mission Fund: The budget and funding process for the entire denomination. (Formerly known as BMF, Basic Mission Finance). Administered by the Church Finance Council (CFC).

CHI RHO: Name of the fellowship group designed specifically for middle-school or junior high school age young people. Chi and Rho are the first three letters in *Christos*--the Greek word for Christ.

CWS – Church World Service: The relief, development, and refugee assistance ministry of thirty-six Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations in the United States.

COCU - Consultation On Church Union: Nine denominations, including the Disciples of Christ, who work together to nurture Christian unity and who agree upon a theological statement about the nature of the church, membership, confessing the faith, worship, and ministry. Oversight provided by the Council on Christian Unity (CCU).

College of Regional Ministers: The body comprising all Regional Ministers.

Convocation: The official name of this instrumentality is National Convocation of the Christian Church. It provides a forum for issues related to African American church life and works toward strengthening African American congregations' involvement in the total mission of the church.

CPOHM - Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries: Provides pastoral care to Hispanic Disciples ministers, congregations, and lay leaders; serves as a resource on Hispanic ministries to the regions, units, and offices of the church; and advocates for the rights and full participation of Hispanic Disciples.

CYF - Christian Youth Fellowship: Designed for young people in grades 9 through 12.

DAWN - Disciples Advocacy Washington Network:- Local group in the Washington, D.C. area that coordinates legislative network.

DisciplesWorld: A recognized organization of the Church, DisciplesWorld publishes a magazine under the same name (see Publications).

DJAN - Disciples Justice Action Network: Network of individuals and group representatives related to justice issues.

DOC - Disciples of Christ: The name of our denomination is Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. In many places we are simply referred to as *DOC* or *Disciples*.

DPF - Disciples Peace Fellowship: A fellowship of people who believe that war is “pagan, futile and destructive of the values for which the Christian faith stands.” Membership is by subscription.

DWM - Disciples for Women in Ministry: Name for the network of clergywomen, licensed and ordained, that is committed to the support, nurture, and advocacy of women in ministry.

GMP - General Minister and President: The elected minister who serves for six years to nurture the relationships and promote the flow of information among the various units, organizations, and congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The office is referred to as the OGMP (Office of the General Minister and President). The bi-annual General Assembly is administered from this office.

KAM – Kentucky Appalachian Ministry: A joint ministry between Disciples Home Missions and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky to provide intentional ministry with fifty Disciples congregations in the Appalachian region of Kentucky.

NAPAD – North American Pacific/Asian Disciples: Under the guidance of Geunhee Yu, Executive Pastor, this office is a ministry of Disciples Home Missions (DHM), providing leadership, support, education, and bi-annual assembly opportunities to a diverse constituency of Asian cultures and traditions.

NEA – National Evangelistic Association: Provides motivation and methods that help congregations become more effective in accomplishing Jesus' Great Commission to "go and make disciples." Offices located in Lubbock, Texas.

WOC – Week of Compassion: The relief and development organization for the church. WOC provides emergency and relief assistance to people around the world. Johnny Wray is the director.

Disciples Women Terms

Blessing Box: An over-and-above offering to the church's outreach ministries, a portion of which supports women's ministries through International Christian Women's Fellowship (ICWF). Individual women contribute through placing coins into specially designed boxes available through the Office of Disciples Women or by making a donation via credit card online. Funds are sent to and distributed by Church Finance Council (CFC).

Cabinet: Also referred to as the ICWF Cabinet, this is the combined group of Staff Fellowship regional leadership and regional women's ministry presidents.

This group meets every other year in January for leadership development and curriculum education.

Circle/Group: A gathering of women within a congregation who meet at designated times for fellowship, study, mission, and program.

CWF – Christian Women’s Fellowship: See ICWF. CWF is the name given to women participating in monthly fellowship and study groups in congregations. Some groups and regional bodies have recently adopted the names Disciples Women or Women’s Ministries.

CWSF - Christian Women’s Staff Fellowship: Regional staff persons (paid/volunteer/part time/full time) who coordinate Disciples Women’s ministries and program (including CWF) in all the regions. They are part of the ICWF Cabinet (see Cabinet) and meet separately following Cabinet meetings and alone on alternate years.

CWU - Church Women United: A grassroots national organization of Protestant, Orthodox, and (in some places) Roman Catholic women. World Day of Prayer in the United States is managed and directed by CWU.

Executive Committee: The elected officers and leaders who serve as the central steering committee for ICWF.

GWC – Global Women Connecting: Formerly World Christian Women’s Fellowship (World CWF), this organization comprises women from churches around the world who are affiliated with the Stone-Campbell movement.

ICWF - International Christian Women’s Fellowship: Established in 1949, the purpose of ICWF is “to provide opportunities for spiritual growth, enrichment, education and creative ministries to enable women to develop a sense of personal responsibility for the whole mission of the church of Jesus Christ.” The

organization is governed by an Executive Committee elected for a four-year term at each Quadrennial Assembly. By virtue of membership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), all women in the United States and Canada are members of ICWF.

Inter-Regional: A leadership development program designed to train regional Disciples Women's leaders. Inter-Regional designates the grouping of regions which attend the trainings.

ODW - Office of Disciples Women: Creates, directs, coordinates, administers, and supports program for women of the church in partnership with ICWF. Provides financial oversight for the ICWF budget, serves on the ICWF Executive Committee, and interfaces with units of the general church on behalf of the women.

PORTG - Program Organizational Resources Task Group: A partnership between Disciples Home Missions (DHM) and Christian Board of Publication (CBP) to design, develop, and promote the use of program resources and organizational materials for women of the church.

Quadrennial Assembly: A gathering of Disciples women held every four years over a five-day period. Open to all women in the church and usually with participation of 3,500 to 5,000 women, this event has been described as a "cross between a revival, camp, and a family reunion." Sponsored by ICWF, this event funds Disciples Women ministry for a four-year period.

Regional Cabinet/Commission/Department: Names assigned to regional structures responsible for planning, leader development, networking, and resourcing women.

Retreat: An eight- to thirty-six hour event for women that allows them to move away from their daily routine and concentrate on spiritual development.

Service/Action: One of the basic necessities for a healthy, well-balanced women's ministry, service/action is best defined as "that which is done for or with persons other than ourselves."

Staff Fellowship – See CWSF

Stewardship: The second basic necessity for a healthy women's ministry, stewardship helps to define time, talent, and treasure and discover ways to be responsible and giving Christians.

Study: A third component and basic necessity for a healthy women's ministry, a well-balanced study includes the Bible, personal enrichment, current issues, and mission.

Spring Conference/Workshop/Event: Some of the names used to identify the annual leadership development events held within each region. The events focus on introducing women's ministry themes/studies, the sharing of ideas, fellowship and leadership skill training.

WAW – Women's Action Web: A program administered by the Office of Disciples Women which provides a learning and training experience for Disciples women. The event takes place bi-annually and involves a week-long traveling experience somewhere in North America to visit and learn about hands-on mission supporting local communities.

WEF – Women's Endowment Fund: Established in 1990 to give women the opportunity to contribute to a permanent fund that benefits the work of women in the church. The fund is administered by the Christian Church Foundation (CCF)

with promotion and grant distribution oversight administered by the Office of Disciples Women.

Worship: The fourth basic necessity for a healthy women's ministry.

W-T-W or WWW - Woman-To-Woman Worldwide: A program that puts North American women in personal contact with women in other countries around the world. Journeys/experiences to the country of the upcoming geography study are offered in the fall of each year. Administered by the Office of Disciples Women and Global Ministries in partnership.

Structural Terms

Area/Cluster/District: A geographic designation for a group of congregations within a region (or occasionally across multiple regions). Leadership of the area provides structures/networks and oversight for the region's ministry and program.

General: A term used to refer to one manifestation of the church that relates to the entire denomination. Examples include General Assembly and general units. Seven of the general church offices are in Indianapolis, three in St. Louis, one in Nashville.

Local: One of three manifestations of the Disciples of Christ generally referring to a single congregation.

Region: A third manifestation of the church referring to a grouping of congregations, determined largely by geography. There are thirty-three regions in our church, one of which is Canada.

Publications

DisciplesWorld: Monthly magazine with offices located in Indianapolis.

Phone: 317-375-8846. Web site: www.disciplesworld.com

Leadership Resources: Annual leadership resources prepared by the Office of Disciples Women for Disciples Women leaders. One hard copy and one CD is supplied to every regional women's ministries staff person and president, and materials are posted on the Disciples Women Web site: www.discipleswomen.org

NetWork News: Quarterly newsletter prepared and posted on the Disciples Women web site by the Office of Disciples Women.

Ecumenical Alphabet Soup

BFW - Bread for the World: Christian citizens' movement in the United States organized to influence policy about issues of hunger.

CDF – Children's Defense Fund: Nonprofit organization that lobbies for children, especially poor, minority, and disabled children.

CEFR - Community Education and Fund Raising Program: A subunit of Church World Service and Witness. CROP Walks, blanket kits, and layette programs are among the sponsored events.

CORA - Commission On Religion in Appalachia: A church and community partnership to assist and resource economic transformation in Appalachia.

CWSW - Church World Service & Witness: The relief, development, and refugee assistance arm of the National Council of Churches with offices in New

York and Elkhart, Ind. Includes the Committee on Global Education, a program that networks and promotes education.

ECPAT - End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism: Global campaign to address the prostitution of children. With 1 million children in prostitution in Asia alone, ECPAT was the 1992-94 mission emphasis for World CWF. The U.S. offices are headquartered in New York; international offices in Bangkok, Thailand.

FTI - Faith Trust Institute: Formerly the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence, this is an interfaith project that provides resources on sexual and domestic violence from a faith perspective. Headquartered in Seattle.

JWWG - Justice for Women Working Group: A committee of the National Council of Churches that addresses pay equity, health concerns, and a wide variety of issues regarding women.

MTMM - Mother To Mother Ministry: An ecumenical, volunteer program that brings together women of adequate income and mothers with low income in order to increase understanding across economic and racial barriers.

NCCC - National Council of Churches of Christ: A cooperative organization of thirty-two churches in the United States seeking to promote ecumenism, work for justice, and promote causes consistent with Christianity. Offices in New York.

PCEM - Program Committee for Education in Mission: An ecumenical structure of fifteen Protestant churches in the United States and Canada whose purpose is to develop, write, and provide a variety of resources for all ages on health and wholeness, human rights, world peace, cross-cultural understanding, and ecumenical mission efforts.

UCC - *United Church of Christ*: A denomination formed from Evangelical, Reformed, Congregational, and Christians (those who did not sign on with Campbell and Stone in 1832) who are in partnership (mutual recognition of ministry, mission, and members) with Disciples. The Disciples Women Quadrennial Assembly and UCC National Women's Meeting will come together in 2006 for a one-time partnership event.

WCC - *World Council of Churches*: A cooperative organization of more than three hundred churches from all over the world seeking to promote ecumenism, work for justice and promote causes consistent with Christianity. Offices in Geneva, Switzerland.