

GLOSSARY & CONTACT INFORMATION

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

(January 2016)

GENERAL UNITS OF THE CHURCH

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

Phone: 800-274-1883

Email: info@disciplescef.org

President: Erick D. Reisinger

Web site: www.disciplescef.org

CBP - Christian Board of Publication: Book store/ publishing house (Chalice Press) with multiple office locations.

Phone: 800-366-3383.

Email: customerservice@chalicepress.com

President: Brad Lyons

Web site: www.chalicepress.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

Email: gkidwell@ccf.disciples.org

President: Gary Kidwell

Web site: www.christianchurchfoundation.org

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. Now known as Treasury Services and falls under the Office of General Minister and President.

Phone: 317-635-3100

Asst. Vice President for Finance: John Goebel
in transition

Email: jgoebel@disciples.org

Web site: www.disciplesmissionfund.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

Email: rwelsh@ccu.disciples.org

President: Robert K. Welsh / incoming Paul Tche

Web site: www.councilonchristianunity.org

DBS – Disciples Benevolent Services: See NBA

DHS - Disciples of Christ Historical Society: Located in Nashville, 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. (Facilities being moved to Bethany, WV)

Phone: 866-834-7563

Email: mail@discipleshistory.org

Interim President: Todd Adams

Web site: www.discipleshistory.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. Focused on congregational life and vitality, leadership development, and Christian vocations. Disciples Women work in covenant with Disciples Home Missions.

Phone: 888-346-2631

President: Ron Degges

Email: mail@dhm.disciples.org

Web site: www.discipleshomeissions.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

President: Julia Brown-Karimu

Email: 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. Their 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

President: Chris Dorsey

Email: helm@helmdisciples.org

Web site: www.helmdisciples.org

NBA - *National Benevolent Association:* (*for a short time DBS-Disciples Benevolent Services*) The social and health services division of the church. Located in St. Louis, this Unit operates facilities and programs which provide services to neglected and abused children, mentally challenged adults, and older persons.

Phone: 314-993-9000

President: Mark D. Anderson

Email: nba@nbacares.org

Web Site: www.nbacares.org

PF - *Pension Fund:* Provides benefits such as the Pension Plan and insurance for ministers, missionaries, lay employees and other related organizations. Serves as the Board of Ministerial Relief and Assistance.

Phone: 317-634-4504

President: Todd Adams

Email: pfcc1@pension.disciples.org

Web site: www.pensionfund.org

ADDITIONAL 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 Treasury Department in the Office of General Minister and President.

CHI RHO: Name of the fellowship group designed specifically for Jr. 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 ecumenical arm for 36 Protestant and Orthodox denominations supporting programs of self-help development, disaster response, and refugee services in more than 80 countries. Disciples support CWS through local CROP WALKS, the TOOLS OF HOPE/Blanket Program, and Gift of the Heart Kits, as well as through Week of Compassion. National office is in New York, and the finance and service center is in Elkhart, Indiana; a network of 25 regional offices serves the U.S.

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 comprised of all Regional Ministers.

Convocation: The official name of this instrumentality is *National Convocation of the Christian Church*. They provide a forum for issues related to the African American church life and work towards strengthening African American congregations' involvement in the total mission of the church. Timothy James is the Administrative Secretary.

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. This office is headed by Huberto Pimentel, National Pastor for Hispanic Ministries.

CYF - Christian Youth Fellowship: Designed for high school age young people, grades 9-12.

DAWN - Disciples Advocacy Washington Network- Local group in the Washington DC area which coordinates legislative network.

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

DOC - Disciples of Christ: The correct 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.

GLAD – Gay and Lesbian Affirming Disciples: The GLAD Alliance are members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), called to join in God's work of transforming the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) into a just and inclusive church that welcomes persons of all gender expressions and sexual identities into the full life and leadership of the church. The moderator is Rev. Dan Adolphson.

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. 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. Sharon Watkins is the General Minister and President and is the first female to hold this office.

HOPE Partnership for Missional Transformation

Hope Partnership is a network of ministries, regions, organizations, congregations, educational institutions, and clergy who provide for the stewardship of resources to call, form and support courageous leaders to implement congregational mission.

Phone: 800-274-1883

President: Gilberto Collazo

Email: gcollazo@hopepmt.org

Web Site: www.hopepmt.org

KAM - Kentucky Appalachian Ministry- A joint ministry between Disciples Home Missions and the Christian Church in Kentucky to provide intentional ministry with 50 Disciples congregations in the Appalachian region of Kentucky.

NAPAD – North American Pacific/Asian Disciples: Under the guidance of their Executive Pastor, this office provides leadership, support, education, and bi-annual assembly opportunities to a diverse constituency of Asian cultures and traditions. Past Executive Pastor, Geunhee Yu is serving as the interim leader.

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, TX

Reconciliation Ministries: Reconciliation Ministries is a response to the Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Initiative approved by the July 1998 Administrative Committee and the General Board. The Initiative called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to practice faithfulness with regard to the elimination of racism, which exists in all manifestations of the church, to discern the presence and nature of racism as sin, to develop strategies to eradicate it, and to work toward racial reconciliation. April Johnson is the Director of Reconciliation Ministries.

WOC – Week of Compassion: The relief and development organization for the Church. WOC provides emergency and relief assistance to people around the world. Vy Nguyen is the Director of WOC.

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 IDWM. 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 on-line. Funds are sent to and distributed by Treasury Services.

Cabinet: Also referred to as the IDWM Cabinet, this is the combined group of Disciples Women's Leadership Council consisting of: regional leadership, regional women's ministry Presidents and Constituency leadership (Haitian, Hispanic, National Convocation, and NAPAD).

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 IDWM. CWF is the name used by some women participating in monthly fellowship and study groups in congregations. Some groups and regional bodies have adopted the names Disciples Women or Women's Ministries.

CWSF - Christian Women's Staff Fellowship: See DWLC

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.

DW – Disciples Women: is the shortened form of IDWM and means all the women of Disciples' congregations.

DW staff: is used to describe the women who work in the Indianapolis national office (aka: Disciples Center) and are charged with creation, direction, coordination, administration, and support of programs for women of the church in partnership with IDWM. Provides financial oversight for the IDWM budget, serves on the IDWM Executive Committee, and interfaces with units of the General Church on behalf of the women.

DWEF – Disciples Women's Endowment Fund – Established in 1990 as Women's Endowment Fund, DWEF provides the opportunity for women to contribute to a permanent fund that benefits the work of women in the church in the U.S.A. and Canada. The fund is administered by the Christian Church Foundation (CCF) with promotion and grant distribution oversight administered by the DW staff. The name was changed to better distinguish it from the newly created Women's Empowerment Fund of the Week of Compassion established in 2010.

DWM – Disciples Women's Ministries: used to describe the work of IDWM. The mission statement: "Disciples Women's Ministries is a conduit for diverse connections empowering each woman to find her voice and live out her call. *Micah 6:8*"

DWLC – Disciples Women's Leadership Council: Formerly *Church Women's Staff Fellowship (CWSF)*. Regional staff persons (paid/volunteer/part time/full time) and Constituency leadership who coordinate Disciples Women's ministry and program in all of the regions. They are part of the IDWM Cabinet (see Cabinet) and meet separately each January.

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

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

IDWM - International Disciples Women’s Ministries: Established in 1949 as International Christian Women’s Fellowship (ICWF), the purpose of IDWM 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. By virtue of membership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), all women in the United States and Canada are members of IDWM.

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.

LAP – Leader Apprentice Program: Formerly called *Enablers* was established in 1996 as a leadership development program for African-American Disciples women. It is now aimed at equipping all Disciples women of color to serve in their home congregations, in regional opportunities, and in general areas of church life.

ODW - Office of Disciples Women: see DW Staff

PORTG - Program Organizational Resources Task Group: See WRC.

QA - Quadrennial Assembly: The past gathering of Disciples women held every four years over a five day period beginning in 1957 and ending in 2014. This event has been described as a “cross between a revival, camp and a family reunion.”

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

Retreat: An 8 to 36 hour event for women which allows them to move away from their daily routine and concentrate on spiritual development. Retreat training modules are available for purchase from the Office of Disciples Women.

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 DWLC

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/Convocation: 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 begun and administered by the staff of Disciples Women which provided a learning and training experience for Disciples women. The event took place bi-annually and involved a week-long traveling experience somewhere in North America to visit and learn about hands-on mission supporting local communities. In the late 2000s the execution of these events moved to a regional focus.

WEF – Women's Endowment Fund – See DWEF.

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

WRC – Women's Resource Committee: (formerly PORTG): This committee consists of representation from the ethnic and generational constituencies in order to design, develop, and promote the use of program resources and organizational materials for women of the church.

W2WW or WWW - Woman-to-Woman Worldwide: A program which puts North American women in personal contact with women in other countries around the world. Journeys/experiences to the country of the up-coming geography study are offered in the fall of each year. Administered by the staff of Disciples Women, in partnership with Global Ministries

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 which 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 (proposed moved to Bethany, WV.)

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 33 regions in our church, one of which is

Canada.

PUBLICATIONS

Just Women: Quarterly resource published in magazine format for Disciples Women by Disciples Women's Ministries.

ECUMENICAL ALPHABET SOUP

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

CDF – Children's Defense Fund: Non-profit organization which lobbies for children, especially poor, minority, and disabled children.

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

CWS – Church World Service: The ecumenical arm for 36 Protestant and Orthodox denominations supporting programs of self-help development, disaster response, and refugee services in more than 80 countries. Disciples support CWS through local CROP WALKS, the TOOLS OF HOPE/Blanket Program, and Gift of the Heart Kits, as well as through Week of Compassion. National office is in New York, and the finance and service center is in Elkhart, Indiana; a network of 25 regional offices serves the U.S.

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 '92-'94 mission emphasis for Global Women Connecting (formerly 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 which 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 which addresses pay equity, health concerns and a wide variety of issues regarding women.

MTMM - Mother To Mother Ministry: An ecumenical, volunteer program which 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 32 churches in the U.S. seeking to promote ecumenism, work for justice and promote causes consistent with Christianity. Offices are in New York.

PCEM - Program Committee for Education in Mission: An ecumenical structure of 15 Protestant Churches in the U.S. and Canada whose purpose is to develop, write,

and provide a variety of resources for children, youth and adults 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 came together in 2006 for a one-time partnership event called Mix in '06.

WCC - *World Council of Churches*: A cooperative organization of 300+ churches from all over the world seeking to promote ecumenism, work for justice and promote causes consistent with Christianity. Offices are in Geneva, Switzerland.