Owens, Terri Hord
Rev. Terri Hord Owens is the first woman African-American General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. She is a native of Terre Haute, Ind., and a descendant of one of Indiana’s oldest African-American free settlements.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in Government with a minor in Afro-American Studies from Harvard University. Terri began her professional career in the area of information technology, spending 23 years in the area of management consulting, data management and data warehousing. She previously held senior management positions with IBM, Ernst & Young, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and SBC, consistently earning recognition for excellence and leadership. An active lay leader throughout her youth and adult life, Terri has worked with children and youth ministries, taught Sunday School and Bible study in Christian Education departments, and worked to create drama ministries in several congregations. Despite professional success, she felt God had another assignment, and she accepted her call to ministry under the pastorate of Dr. T. Garrott Benjamin, Jr. at Light of the World Christian Church, Indianapolis, Ind.

Rev. Owens earned the Master of Divinity degree at the University of Chicago Divinity School, where she was a Disciples Divinity House Scholar, and recipient of the John Gray Rhind Award, given to the top M.Div graduate at the Divinity School. She was ordained at Light of the World Christian Church, wearing the robe of her paternal grandfather, the late Rev. Noel Hord. In August of 2005, she was appointed Dean of Students at the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Alongside her work at the Divinity School, Terri served as Senior Minister at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Downers Grove, Ill. She is the first person of color to serve as pastor of this predominantly white congregation.

She is married to Walter Owens, Jr., They are the proud parents of an adult son, W. Mitchell Owens, III.
Black people have made an enormous contribution to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This brochure contains a brief biography of African Americans whose lives are significant parts of our Christian life.

Haynes, Oscar (1916-2014)
Oscar Haynes was born in Rogersville, Tenn., on Jan. 18, 1916. He moved to Washington, D.C., upon graduation from Swift Memorial Junior College and became a member of Twelfth Street Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He attended Howard University and Tuskegee Institute before being drafted into service for World War II (1941-45), serving in Tampa, Fla., India-Burma and Kearns, Utah.

Upon leaving the military, Haynes became a journalist with the Afro American Newspapers. During his tenure, he was part of a team of journalists that did investigative reporting on the Martinsville 7 Trail in Virginia. He was active in the Civil Rights Movement in Washington, D.C. He joined Mary Church Terrell and other activists in “sit-ins at the bus station and local restaurants. He was among the thousands at the March on Washington when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his “I Have A Dream” speech.

Haynes served as president of the Capital Press Club in Washington, D.C.; the National Convocation, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and the Board of Managers of Greenwood Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn. During his tenure as president of the Capital Press Club, he gave President Harry S. Truman an award for desegregating the military.

As a businessman and State & Regional Manager for Fromm & Sichel/Christian Brothers Wines & Brandy, Oscar forged partnerships with the State Department to increase the sale of American wines abroad. When he retired in 1984, Christian Brothers Wines and Brandy were being sold in 28 nations.

Haynes served on numerous boards including: Thurgood Marshall Community Center, Washington, DC; National City Christian Church Foundation; Christian Church – Capital Area Region; Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Nashville, Tenn.; Trustee, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Ky.; United Campus Ministry Board, University of Maryland, College Park Campus; and the Reston Community Orchestra.

Haynes received honors that included: John James Audubon Medal, Audubon Naturalist Society; Public Service Award YMCA, Washington, DC; Diplomate, National City Christian Church Foundation, Washington, DC; Liberation Award, National Convocation, Christian Church 1998; Tribute of Appreciation, Secretary of State, American Businessmen Abroad Committee, July 31, 1967.

In 2008, the Disciples Historical Society of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nashville, TN, named an Exhibit Hall in his honor.

Haynes married his first wife, Lula Mae Smith, in 1949 and they raised five children together. She preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes, Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Central Rocky Mountain; his children: Toni Ross, Oscar Sherwood Haynes (Robyn); Kim A. Atwater (Jay); Donna N. Taylor, and Christina H. Haynes; as well as nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; son-in-law Rev. LeBaron Taylor.

Chambers, Daisy (1936-2017)
Mrs. Daisy R. Chambers, a lifetime resident of Winston-Salem. She was born February 8, 1936 to the late Clarence and Zeola Harris Reed.

Daisy matriculated at Winston-Salem Teachers College (Winston-Salem State University), graduating in 1958 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Primary Education. She received a Master of Science Degree from Indiana State University, and an Education Specialist Degree in Administration from Appalachian State University. Initially teaching for several years in Columbia, SC, Mrs. Chambers returned to her hometown to begin a long career with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. Until her retirement in 1996 she held various positions with the district including Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Personnel Director, Director of Elementary Education, and Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Administration. She was the first black teacher on the faculty at Clemmons Elementary in 1964.

Mrs. Chambers held memberships with numerous professional, civic and social organizations including the National Education Association of Retired School Personnel, Phi Delta Kappa Honorary Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Democracy NC, and the NAACP. She was actively involved with the Rupert Bell Senior Citizens, the Just Us Neighbors (JUNS) Club, WSSU Brown Alumni Chapter and the Winston Lake YMCA. She received various awards, honors, and recognitions.

A founding member of Messiah Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), she served faithfully as an Elder. Additionally, Mrs. Chambers held a number of leadership roles with the Regional, District, and General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Her global service to others included mission trips to China, Zimbabwe, Haiti, and Brazil.

Mrs. Chambers has a daughter, Cheryl Johnson, and a granddaughter, Gabrielle Johnson.

Reed, Norman
Rev. Dr. Norman Reed, Sr. is a native of Indianapolis, Ind. He graduated in 1964 having received a degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. In 1976 he acknowledged his call to the ministry and ultimately graduated from Christian Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 1980. He served as the Treasurer, General Manager and Director of Operations of the historical Greenwood Cemetery, Inc. of Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Reed also served as the long tenured (24 years) Pastor of Alameda Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ) also in Nashville. He served this community of faith called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in various capacities on both the general and regional level expressions of the church.

Over the last twenty-five years Reed has played a part in or helped shape major decisions and movements that make the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) the church community it is today. In 2017 he was the recipient of the Disciples Home Missions Distinguished Leadership Award.

Dr. Reed is a soft-spoken individual who diligently carries out his duties and responsibilities as a faithful minister of the Lord. In his constancy he continues to serve God and His church with dedication and love. He is married to the former May F. Lindsey of Muncie, Ind. They have one son, Norman LaMont Reed, Attorney-at-Law, Indianapolis, Ind., and a daughter, Lynnette F. Reed (deceased-1993).