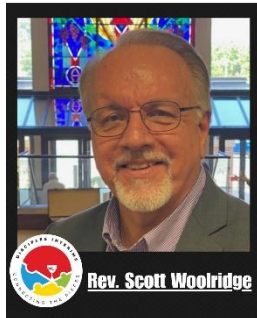




**January 5, 2026**

## **Disciples Interims Announces Transition in Leadership**



Disciples Interims announces an upcoming leadership transition as **Rev. Scott Woolridge**, Director of Disciples Interims, prepares for retirement.

In keeping with best practices for healthy leadership transitions, Disciples Interims has developed a thoughtful and intentional succession plan. Over the coming months, Rev. Woolridge's responsibilities will gradually diminish while new leadership is brought fully into place. This plan is designed to ensure continuity, stability, and faithful stewardship of the ministry's mission.

As part of this transition, **Rev. Dale Matherly**, Interim Executive Regional Minister of the Central Rocky Mountain Region, an experienced interim minister and current member of the Disciples Interims Executive Team, will assume the duties of Director during the transition period. An overlap of leadership responsibilities will allow for mentoring, collaboration, and a smooth transfer of institutional knowledge.



Disciples Interims recognizes that congregations across the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are increasingly exploring faithful models for pastoral and leadership transitions. Succession planning is one such model already in use by many congregations, and Disciples Interims is pleased to model this approach within its own organizational life. The organization remains open to learning from the wisdom and insights of its partners and constituencies during this time.

Throughout the transition, Disciples Interims will share milestones and updates as the succession plan unfolds. All current programs, services, and partnerships will continue without interruption. At the same time, the organization is actively engaged in a visioning process—an approach familiar to those trained in intentional interim ministry—as it looks toward the future.

Rev. Scott Woolridge reflected on his tenure, saying:

“It has been a great joy to serve with Disciples Interims for several years. We have trained hundreds of church leaders and gained many faithful partners in ministry. I retire from this ministry and gladly put the administrative responsibilities in the hands of many capable, committed leaders. I’m thrilled to see the bright future for Disciples Interims. I thank you for the opportunity to serve.”

Disciples Interims gives thanks for Rev. Woolridge’s leadership and looks forward with confidence and hope as this next chapter begins.

Rev. Dale Matherly shares gratitude for Rev. Scott Woolridge’s leadership and his excitement for this new season:

“Scott Woolridge’s leadership has positioned Disciples Interims at a moment of deep possibility. His vision, faithfulness, and commitment to excellence have shaped a ministry grounded in trust and wisdom. I am honored to build on that work as we continue equipping leaders and congregations to engage the sacred work of change with care, integrity, and hope for what God is already bringing to life.”

Disciples Interims is excited to partner with Rev. Dale Matherly in this next season of ministry, as together we discern how Disciples Interims can continue to equip congregations to cultivate cultures of courageous discernment and transformational faithfulness.