

Annual Report

Disciples Christian Church 2010-11



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Moderator

During my term as moderator, the congregation worked hard to take the Growing Disciples Ministry plan further by focusing on the four wheels of worship, outreach, relationships and resources. The most significant outgrowth of that work was also the most significant event of this church year: the move to two services. Having a 9:00 and an 11:00 service allowed us to offer both a contemporary and a traditional service each week. It also allowed for an additional hour of programming between the services that came to be called Prime Time. As was to be expected with any change this big, there were many adjustments to be made and a few difficulties along the way, but ultimately the 9:00 service brought in several new members and grew to nearly match the attendance of the 11:00 traditional service. By the end of the church year the overall attendance had increased from the previous year.

The church year brought other changes as well. There were several adjustments to personnel, but I will leave those details for the personnel report that follows. The sanctuary saw the addition of a ceiling mounted projector and screen. Although the contemporary service was the driving force behind this addition, the screen's potential for both services soon became clear and it is now a regular part of worship.

This report would not be complete without making note of the financial difficulties we found ourselves in this

year. A global recession coupled with changes in the giving pattern of some members, led to the need to make a significant withdrawal from the church's endowment fund in order to meet our yearly expenses. This was not something any of us were comfortable with, but it could not be avoided without significantly cutting staff and with them, many of the programs and the momentum that we had worked hard to develop. It is the hope of all of us that the work that we accomplished by accessing this money will prove to be fruitful and pleasing to God who is ultimately the reason for all that we do as a church.

The nominating committee started work in May and they also focused their work around the four wheels. Led by Holly Coughlin, they redesigned the committee/ministry structure, returning some groups who had previously been eliminated, and refocusing or redirecting the work of others. As a result of their efforts, several new faces have been recruited to take on leadership roles and there is a renewed sense of excitement among some of the more established groups.

I'd like to conclude by giving my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated church staff and all of those who gave of their time and talents during this last year. It is a true privilege to serve and worship among so many wonderful and giving people.

Lauren Wicks, Moderator 2010/2011

Pastor

The transformation continues.

We learned what it's like to worship in two different styles on Sunday mornings, as we approach the one-year anniversary of our weekly 9:00 Connections contemporary worship. We have increased our worship attendance by an average of 20% as compared with the previous year. Attendance has increased by 40% this summer over last when we continued Prime Time programming in the summer, as well as continuing our two worship services. I am reminded of the line from a movie, if you build it, they will come - if you offer year-round quality program and ministries, people will attend and participate!

Staff: The transformation continues as Kathy Smith approaches her one year anniversary with us as Young Disciples Director. Linda Walling was called to be our Director of Music in May after serving in that position as an Interim Director since January. Our CIM student interns participate in both our Praise Chorus at 9:00 and Chancel Choir for 11:00 Traditional, learning while making beautiful music together with our paid soloists and church members. Amy Campbell, Anne Ward, Judy Griffith, Issac Glover, and Adrian von der Lippe make up the rest of the staff team with their able, faithful, and creative work.

Congregation: The transformation continues when we greet first time visitors with a gift bag while also

saying good-bye to longtime members in meaningful memorial services. God has welcomed Bob Yocum, Margaret Beer, Frank and Averno Jayne, Richard Troha, Mildred Austin, Betty Zimmer, Jim Runyon, Ralph Harold, and Violet Radomilovich, into his kingdom this year.

We welcomed these new Disciples who joined either by profession or recommitment of faith: John Gummadi, Kyle Anthony, Lori and Kristofer Calhoun, Christie Harrison, Yolanda McWilliams and children Jaide, Soilé, and Jason Talmadge, Michael Arnold, Mary-Kay Moore, Stephanie Ford, Marie Batteiger, Derrick Hall, and Marla Berg. After participating in Pastor's Class during Lent, we baptized 6 - Jaide, Soilé, and Yolanda, Brent Bell, Evan Ritchey, and Paige Campbell.

I lead a "Learning about Disciples" class each month during the Community Meal. This is an opportunity for anyone who is interested in knowing more about us as a church and a denomination, designed for recent visitors, persons considering membership, and our newest members.

Professional Growth/Greater Church: I continued my leadership position with the Disciples District 2 Clergy group. I was one of two keynote speakers at the Pre-Assembly Transformation event at the Regional Assembly in October 2010. I also led a workshop that day about our Growing Disciples Ministry Plan. I am active in

the Coaching Initiative through the Christian Church in Ohio, acting as a coach to a Disciples pastor in the Cleveland area.

Disciples has been asked to host a Growing Disciples Transformation Conference on Saturday, November 5. We are co-sponsors with the Christian Church in Ohio. This is a major event on the Region's calendar, and much work has already been done in securing our keynote speaker, Rev. Randy Spleth from Geist Christian in Indianapolis, and workshop leaders from churches in Northeast Ohio. Linda Walling and I will co-lead a workshop, "What's Worship Got to Do With It." I continue this year as the Team Leader for the Transformation Team of our Ohio Region.

I attended the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Assembly this summer in Nashville, Tennessee.

Pastoral Reflection: As I write, the building is buzzing with activity. Several of our Young Disciples are here watering and weeding the Garden of Blessings, as they have committed to one day each week during the summer. The Prayer Shawl Ladies are knitting as they always do on a Tuesday afternoon. Earlier this morning, several Disciples attended a memorial service as support for a member - they were together in a small group and have grown close to each other in special friendship. For as important as Sunday morning attendance is, church is also about expressing our love and tending to our

faith on Tuesdays. Even in the heat of the summer.

It is my privilege to serve such a dynamic congregation and people who are open to exploring who God is calling us to be as a 21st century church. I am especially appreciative that we recognized the need to be year-round church, committing ourselves to a full summer of ministry. Our efforts have been successful, but even more importantly than that, we are being increasingly faithful as followers of Jesus.

Together with God's Holy Spirit as our guide, our transformation will continue,

Rev. Kristine Eggert

Membership

We had over 50 people who identified themselves as first-time visitors during the 2010-2011 year according to the attendance sheet records. Several of these first-timers became frequent visitors, and we welcomed 15 people into membership. Dennis Miller moved to Parma. Our church family continues to grow!

Anne Ward, Office Administrator

Music

Staffing: William and Susan Schoeffler served as Co-Directors of Music through the end of December 2010. Rev. Linda Hanna Walling assumed the position of Interim Director of Music in January 2011, and became the Director of Music in May 2011. Cecelia Smith, who served as a soloist for the Chancel Choir for nearly 30 years, retired at the conclusion of the choir's program year in June and was honored with a generous monetary gift from the congregation, a crystal vase and a bouquet of flowers. Marisa Buchheit, who sang with us as a student musician for three years, concluded her time after graduating from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Connections Worship: A significant change in our music program was the addition of weekly Connections Worship, beginning in September 2010. Because much of what distinguishes contemporary and traditional worship services is the music, attention has been given to identifying contemporary music styles that meet the spiritual needs of both the Connections participants and the musicians. The growing Praise Ensemble welcomes members of the congregation, and professional musicians provide vocal and instrumental leadership.

Traditional Worship: Since January, there has been a focus on assessing what kinds of music help members of the congregation really worship. What

is clear is that even in traditional worship there are diverse musical preferences - from the classics to gospel artists; from the soulful and/or joyful renderings of jazz and spirituals to the introspective refrains of the Taizé community; from Fannie Crosby hymns to contemporary praise songs. Attention is given to addressing this diversity in the selection of a variety of congregational hymns, choral selections, and instrumental accompaniments.

Our musicians: We are blessed to have talented volunteers, professional musicians, and student interns that make a high-quality music program possible. We continue to work on building a music program for both services that includes more volunteer members of the congregation.

Our financial resources: We are grateful for the general budget support which sustains our music library, four professional section leaders for traditional worship, and two vocalists and two instrumentalists for Connections worship. We are grateful, as well, for special designated funding for student intern musicians. Reserve funds that have been established over the years make it possible to use guest instrumentalists from time to time, and the rental income from Sing and Swing helps close the gap between budgeted funds and actual expenses.

Special concerts: We were blessed with several special concerts in the

Spring of 2011. Our student musicians offered a benefit concert for Race for the Cure in which they raised over \$300 for cancer research. DCC's Music and Outreach Ministries collaborated to hear special guests Shiho Saito and Joshua Vogel in a Duo Piano Lecture-Recital that raised \$1,065 for Japanese earthquake relief through the Week of Compassion. In addition, our Connections percussionist, Dylan Moffitt, performed at the Heights Emergency Food Center benefit concert.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Linda Hanna Walling,
Director of Music*

Creative Ministries

- Participated in the Fall Youth Retreat with Kathy Smith at Chautauqua, NY
- Helped with the planning and implementation of the new worship schedule
- I am the staff point person for Connections – our casual, contemporary worship service. We launched a weekly service in September of 2010 – I also coordinated the worship participants.
- Worked with Janice Ziegler on kicking off Prime Time with several All Church events
- Worked with the Deacon Ministry Team Leaders to be sure there were deacons for the new weekly contemporary service
- Planned (or helped to plan) the fall brunch, December 26th worship in Fellowship Hall, Fat Sunday brunch, The Bunny Lunch, Go Global brunch, and July 5th picnic
- Worked with Don Ehrlich on the 5th annual Hunger Center Benefit
- Worked with the Red Cross to hold 3 blood drives
- Attended Adam Kukuk's - Four Doorways conference with Kathy Smith, Linda Walling and Lauren Wicks
- Organized the planting and maintenance of the Garden of Blessings. Many thanks to our gardeners: Stephanie Ford, Elaine Mates, Chi Rho and CYF, the church staff, Mary-Kay Moore and Michael Arnold, Pat Hartmann and Mary Sayre.
- Worked with Janice Ziegler and Pastor Kris on the implementation of Disciples Go Global summer programming
- Worked with Pastor Kris, and the board to implement the new Board Structure
- Reorganized the the deacon and tech team scheduling for the 2011-2012 church year where each person serves once a month each month
- Organized and ran Deacon School and Cookout with the Deacon Ministry Team Leader, Amy Cohn

*Amy Campbell,
Creative Ministries Director*

Young Disciples

It's difficult to believe that I have been at Disciples Christian as the Young Disciples Director for one year. I am pleased with the progress and growth that has happened with various programs. I have decided to breakdown my report into four sections; worship, mission, education and fun.

Worship

The young disciples participated in worship not only in the young disciples' moments, but as part of the service as well. They participated in the Ash Wednesday service, Pentecost, Palm Sunday, served as deacons and sang as a youth choir. On Mother's Day, Young Disciples along with CYF created their own youth services.

I developed a youth chapel that is used every Sunday morning. The short service usually includes videos, music, liturgy, communion and prayer. The content focuses on that day's lesson and is a "mini" version of the Contemporary Service. I find this is a reflective time for the young disciples.

Mission

Throughout the year, Young Disciples participated in mission projects. During the holidays, the youth created Christmas greeting bags for members at home, as a reminder that they are still part of our church family. All ages also participated in, helped set up, or both, in our always outstanding Journey to Bethlehem. All ages participated in the Homeless

Standdown, a memorable event that had all ages serving the homeless a lunch. The young also participated in Week of Compassion by collection change in the provided change boxes. One of our ongoing missions is the emergency kits that provide hygiene care for those facing natural disasters such as flooding. This summer the Young Disciples worked on the Garden of Blessings that provides food for our own food bank.

Education

Although mission and worship can certainly be a part of a young disciple's education, we did have curriculum that we followed on Sundays. This curriculum is a DOC curriculum called Gather 'Round. The curriculum focused on the Hebrew Bible's Genesis for the first months followed by New Testament teachings. The summer curriculum focused on Jesus' parables.

As always, a shout out goes to our volunteer teachers who help these young disciples learn about our faith - THANKS!

Fun and Road Trips

Although we have fun on a regular basis, there are a few highlights to be mentioned. First there were two lock-ins during the winter months, one for the CYF youth and one for the Chi Rho youth. During both lock-ins, we participated in a movie concerning diversity followed by discussion. We also had games, food and lots of laughs. The younger 3rd and 4th

graders had their own cosmic bowling night with pizza and video games.

There were many road trips on our agenda this past year. As always Chi Rho and CYF enjoyed a chilly, but fun trip to Lake Chautauqua. Being that it was my first trip, I got to discover first hand why the youth love this weekend. We enjoyed a planning, picnic and hiking evening at Hinckley Ledges. There we made tentative plans for the year. Another weekend was spent at Regional Assembly in Columbus, where a lock-in was enjoyed plus a feel for the General Assembly that was to come in the summer.

Palm Sunday's Bunny Lunch was a hit as always. We hunted for eggs and had a great brunch as we celebrated the baptisms of 5 of our young disciples.

A year would not be complete without our annual sub sandwich fund raiser. We made around \$400 and had delicious fun while doing so!

General Assembly

This fits under all of the other titles. There we learned about our denomination, made friends and experienced worship. We did mission at the local Dismus House where we sorted donated clothing and ate dinner with ex-convicts who were trying to transition to the outside world. The kids along with Pastor Kris were a prayer station for an immigration march which proved to be a moving experience. We came back happy and exhausted! Next Assembly is in Orlando - do you think we will be going??

I would like to thank everyone at Disciples Christian Church who helped in the education of our young, who helped me feel welcomed in my new position and displayed the love of Christ on a daily basis. With this foundation, this program will continue to grow as it has during this past year. Blessings and thank you!

*Kathy Smith,
Young Disciples Director*

Personnel

It was an active year with several personnel changes. Kathy Smith was hired July 2010 to lead children and youth education and she has done an outstanding job with our young Disciples over the past year! Bill and Susan Schoeffler, our music directors, left in December 2010. We hired a member of our congregation and an ordained Disciples minister, Linda Walling, as an interim music director until after Lent. After Lent, we hired Linda full time since she has worked out so well leading both Connections and Traditional services' music.

*Respectfully,
Susan Curtis, Personnel Chair*

Elders

As we began the new Church Year, the Elders met and prayerfully discussed how best to serve our congregation with the plan for an additional church service on Sunday mornings. It was decided that we would have one elder serve at each service. Previously two elders served at the traditional service, one offering a prayer for the bread and one for the wine. Now the serving elder offers a prayer for both the bread and the wine and the new plan has been a success.

The Disciples Elders have enjoyed sponsoring Mark Rogers-Berry for the past two years as he studied to become a minister. On March 20, 2011, Mark became a Disciples Christian Minister at his Ordination Ceremony held at our church. The Elders took part in the service in the laying of hands and presented Mark with a robe. A reception was held after the service in Fellowship Hall. We are so proud of Mark's accomplishments and know God will continue to guide him in his pastoral counseling work.

The elders continued to share prayer requests with Pastor Kris, the prayer chain, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Visits to at home members continued and Christmas gifts and Easter flowers were delivered to those members who are unable to attend church.

The Elders gifted the congregation with Lenten Devotional Booklets - Fellowship of Prayer, and they were

well received. In May we discussed adding more Elders to our present list. With the two services some of the elders have asked to serve at one or the other services specifically because of choir commitments, length of travel time to church especially in bad weather and other concerns. We are very pleased to welcome Mark Rogers-Berry, Susan Curtis, David Eggert, Gail Haverdill and Toni Laurensen as new elders. We now have 22 elders in our roster and are grateful for their loving and dedicated service.

Lauren Wicks will serve as Elder Chair in the 2011-2012 church year. A retreat is being planned for the fall of 2011 to review the role of the elders and to discuss how we may better serve the needs of this congregation.

Ed and I wish to thank Pastor Kris, our fellow elders and the congregation for their faith, love and support the past two years. May God continue to bless our congregation and their families.

*In Christ's Service,
Ed Kidd and Pat McNeilly*

Journey to Bethlehem

December 12, 2010

I first would like to start this report with many thanks: To the youth group who pulled a good deal out of storage during their lock in. To everyone who stayed on Sunday to help get more than half of fellowship hall setup by 2 o'clock. To everyone in the church office for the behind the scenes work. To Lauren for the many phone calls made to people. To the Schoefflers for organizing entertainment for the sanctuary. To Dale and Karen Schmauder and the No Strings Attached Puppeteers for their hard work and dedication. To everyone who helped finish setting up on Friday night and Saturday morning. To everyone in costume. To everyone not in costume. This special day would not happen if it weren't for all of you who lent a hand in some way.

A few side notes include:

- Number of visitors totaled 550
- Donations given by our visitors totaled \$384 which was donated to the Hunger Center
- More help is needed on Sunday after Journey to take down the area that is in the Hunger Center so they are ready for Monday morning
- Mark and I are looking for someone to co-chair with us this year, with the understanding that the co-chair would be in charge for 2012

I would like to share some of the comments left on the surveys by our visitors: Most people heard about

Journey from friends who have been in the past. Our website, the Sun Newspaper from last year, one person mentioned she heard about us 18 years ago from the Sun Newspaper and we are on her calendar every year. Other comments include it was awesome, wonderful, very uplifting, everyone thanked us. One family included that they appreciate this on a yearly basis because it helps put them in the mood for the coming of the Christ child.

Mark and I would like to thank all of you for your confidence in us to be in charge of this event. To this day we claim that Journey to Bethlehem is what brought our family to this church, and the people inside is what made us stay. We enjoyed working with all of you on this gift to the community and we look forward to it again this year Sunday December 11th mark your calendars.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Mark and Gail Ritchey*

Communications

During the past year, the Communications Committee has worked to communicate church events and services to the community. In September, 2010, four photos were published in the Sun papers from the Heights Emergency Hunger Center Benefit held in May, 2010.

In the November Heights Observer, an article was printed that showcased our various ministries. Mentioned were "Meet the Neighbors" Community Meal, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, No Strings Attached and our Garden of Blessings. The article included helping the Bhutanese families as well as giving descriptions and information about our two services.

Anne Ward sent the above article to the Sun papers staff and this resulted in an article about our Prayer Shawl Ministry with quite a few photos printed as well.

The Community meal information was printed in the Calendar column of the Sun papers during the year.

An article about "Journey to Bethlehem" was printed in The Buckeye Disciple for the October-December issue. Photos were also submitted.

An article about "Journey to Bethlehem" was printed in the December Heights Observer. Six to eight photos were also submitted and these were all in a slideshow for the online edition.

Ads for "Journey to Bethlehem" were printed in the Heights Observer as

well as the Sun Press and Sun Messenger. "Journey to Bethlehem" information was also printed in the Plain Dealer Religious Calendar on the Saturday before the event.

In addition, with the graphic help of Thon Alicia-Burlingame and help from Judy Griffith and Anne Ward, e-mails and flyers were sent to organizations and churches telling of the upcoming "Journey to Bethlehem".

In December, 2010, an ad was put in the Heights Observer as well as the Sun Press and Sun Messenger telling of our Christmas Eve service. In April, 2011, ads were put in the Heights Observer as well as the Sun Press and Sun Messenger telling of our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services.

In April, 2011, an article was published in the Heights Observer telling of our participation in the Homeless Stand Down. One photo was printed in the print edition and all photos submitted were shown in the online edition.

In June, 2011, a photo was printed in the Sun Press showing all of the volunteers that planted the Garden of Blessings.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ronald Werman*

Property Committee

This past year we have painted our building and made some much needed repairs to the heating and cooling systems - unfortunately our heating system needed to have the boiler and some piping replaced. We have also trimmed the trees on the property and removed a large pin oak from the front of the church yard. We have improved the sump pump facilities and addressed some plumbing problems. New locks and door repairs have been made, and we have added a security system to the office entry door including a camera and remote entry buzzer. A monitor has been added to the A/V system in the sanctuary. During the year we have purchased a new tractor and some yard maintenance equipment. We have added some flower beds and improved our general landscaping. We continue to try to support and maintain the church property. If anyone has some ideas or skill that they would like to share it would be greatly appreciated!

*Respectfully submitted,
Tom Haverdill*

Meet The Neighbors Community Meal

The free community meal, which continues to be held the last Thursday of every month, reached a milestone during our May meal of over 5000 people served. The program was started in August 2008 and is such a wonderful opportunity for our church. We have been blessed with many visitors who first came to our church as dinner guests, returned as volunteers and in some cases became members of the church. Each month, many people volunteer to make this program a success and they all deserve a thank you. Cathy Ausperk will not be able to continue her work with this program, but her idea of not just feeding people, but inviting them in to share a meal with us continues to grow.

Thank you for all your continued support and participation in this ministry.

Sincerely, Carol Reed

Puppet Ministry

No Strings Attached

The 18th year of our Puppet Ministry has been an active and rewarding one for No Strings Attached. This season we were blessed with five new puppeteers. The members of our 2010-2011 team were: Karen and Dale Schmauder (Co-Directors); Kyle Anthony, Paige Campbell, Connor Mates, Emily Reed, Patrick Reed, Courtney Ritchey, Josh Ritchey, Evan Ritchey, Jaide Tallmadge, and Soilé Tallmadge.

This year No Strings Attached:

- Conducted the worship service at Heights Christian Church, Sunday, October 31.
- Performed in the sanctuary for Journey to Bethlehem.
- Led the worship service at Living Waters Church of God in Euclid, Ohio, Sunday, May 20.

We were asked to perform several other times, but unfortunately, we were not able to accept the invitations due to conflicts:

- First Lutheran Church in Strongsville asked us to conduct their worship service on their Kick-Off Sunday, September 12; however it was also DCC's kick-off Service and we wanted to be at DCC.
- First Lutheran Church invited us again for Sunday, December 19 however several of our puppeteers were committed to participating in worship at DCC.
- Heights Christian Church asked us to conduct their worship service for Sunday January 30, the day of the

Homeless Stand Down, and most of our puppeteers had plans to help at the Stand Down.

- Hatcher Chapel AME Church in Cleveland asked us to perform a youth program on Saturday, June 4. Unfortunately, their event room is not large enough to accommodate our stage as well as seating.

Our all volunteer ministry is funded by donations received for performances as well as gifts from friends and fans. All donations we receive are used to support our ministry and the children and youth of our church. A portion of our funds are used to buy new programming, puppets, and equipment, or to maintain and repair the same. The rest of our funds are used for scholarships to help DCC children and youth who need monetary assistance to attend church camp or mission trips, as well as Bibles for youth who complete Pastor's Class, and Children's Bibles to the family when a child is dedicated at DCC.

We take the summer off so our families can enjoy their summer without one more commitment to plan for. We're looking forward to a rewarding and fulfilling year ahead. It is an encouragement and a blessing that we already have requests for the upcoming year.

*Karen and Dale Schmauder,
Co-Director*

Growing Disciples

As the Growing Disciples Ministry Plan draws near its second anniversary of adoption, Disciples Christian Church continues to move forward in implementing the Plan.

Here is a review of some key elements of the plan:

- Alignment of current and new ministries with marks of discipleship;
- Establishment of a systematic curriculum focused on biblical study and discipleship for children and adults; and
- Setting personal and congregational spiritual growth goals and opportunities for evaluating our progress.

The marks of a disciple under the plan are as follows:

Transformational Marks

- Call to Discipleship
- Passion for Christ
- Joy
- Commitment to Prayer/Study
- Witness
- Integrity/Justice/Ethics

Servanthood Marks

- Obedience
- Love
- Faithfulness
- Humility
- Generosity
- Commitment to Community

During the process of preparing the Growing Disciples Ministry Plan, church members gathered together to answer two questions. The first question was, “What will enhance your spiritual growth?” The most common responses were about programming, followed closely by responses about worship ideas and small groups. Our second question was, “What else can we be doing to grow Disciples Christian Church?” The top responses were about attracting others to DCC, with programming and worship ideas again close behind.

In the past year the Growing Disciples effort focused on relationships, resources, outreach, and worship. As we look back, DCC clearly moved forward in these directions. Our Connections Worship service at 9:00 became a vital part of our weekly worship and has attracted its own loyal audience, including new individuals and families who have joined DCC. Our Primetime between services is regularly attracting a substantial audience with new programming, and Disciples Go Global was particularly popular this summer. The Community Meal has served thousands of meals and is a mainstay of DCC’s outreach to community. Newer members are actively engaged in the life of the church, and we commonly see 15 or more children coming forward in the Young Disciples moments in worship.

Some of our ministries are making a greater effort to recognize and reflect about the connections between their

work and the marks of a disciple. Building this element into all our ministries is one of the goals of Growing Disciples. We also hope to continue developing more small groups.

As we look to the year ahead we plan to build on our progress. Plans are already underway for other ministries to reexamine their missions, and evangelism has been identified as an area for renewed emphasis. With God's guidance, we look forward to new directions. Thank you for all your continued support and participation in this ministry.

*Respectfully Submitted,
David Eggert and Janie Morrison*

Fellowship

I have tweaked fellowship several times this year to respond to requests of members. I now serve bagels and cream cheese (for people who don't want something sweet), apples (for those looking for something low calorie and healthy), and cookies and mini muffins (for the children and people who might want something smaller). Even though this is a wider variety of options it costs the same amount as buying only donuts. Getting set up is more involved compared to just serving donuts and takes pretty much a whole hour after I buy the donuts from Dave's Supermarket across the street. But the response has been

overwhelmingly favorable and well worth it. I am still buying the coffee from Equal Exchange since it supports a good cause and is very good coffee that people really enjoy, but I will sometimes supplement that with something from a grocery store if there is a very good sale on something comparable. Since I am there every week I have also taken on the responsibility of kitchen "inspector". I try to take care of things that haven't been put back into their designated place, haven't been washed, or have been left in the refrigerator too long and need to be thrown out. Weekly donations vary greatly, but have been enough to allow me to stay within my yearly budget of \$800.00. I think it is an important part of our church experience to be able to connect with each other in this casual setting. It has been very satisfying to see everyone enjoy the food and each other's company during this time.

Elaine Mates, Fellowship

Deacons

The Deacon Co-chairs, Karen Friedman and Amy Cohn, thank all of those who stepped up to fill voids in the Deacon schedule due to illness and the addition of a second service on Sundays. Amy Campbell, Creative Ministries Director, worked diligently to fill the vacancies with Deacons on a weekly basis throughout the year. Three additional Deacons were needed for the Connections (Contemporary) Service each week. The Deacons would also like to recognize Trish Burton and Amy Campbell for purchasing and prepping the bread and juice needed throughout the year.

Going forward, changes in the scheduling have been made. Instead of the prior schedule of Deacons serving one full month and then off for two (2) months, they will serve one week each month. This permits ease of travel to see family out of town, allows parents with children with weekend commitments to be less affected by serving, and ensures that the Deacons are seen more frequently in services.

"Deacon School" was arranged by Amy Campbell for new and returning members of the committee. It was held on August 4, 2011 and involved introductions, training, scheduling, and a picnic style meal. It is with our hope that this will start the 2011-2012 year off on solid ground.

Finally, The institution of "The Common Loaf" will also be used in both the Traditional and the Connections Services. The logistics of this will be monitored and modified as needed throughout the upcoming year.

Respectfully Submitted, Amy Cohn

Outreach

Thank you for responding in so many generous ways with your time, talent and treasure.

- Oct 3: Sponsored Community Forum for Faithful Reform in Healthcare
- Brought a motion to Board to split our hunger offering- 50% HEFC and 50% community meal which was adopted
- \$544.00 was given to Reconciliation Offering
- Continued our partnership with Heights Christian to work with IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) providing dinner and support for homeless families at Heights Christian on Nov 9 and 10, 2010 and January 11-12 and March 22-23, 2011. IHN has joined with New Life community to form Family Promise of Greater Cleveland.

Special Holiday Projects:

- \$295 Thanksgiving Offering for Disciple Higher Education
- Collected 76 lbs food for HEFC especially Thanksgiving meal items in low supply
- \$1000 to HEFC to provide turkeys and or chickens for each family during Nov. and Dec.

- 60 Christmas Angel gifts for children served by HEFC at approx \$25 each
- \$412 from Christmas card tree for HEFC and DCC Monthly Community meal
- \$1,554.80 from Christmas Offering for Cleveland Christian Home
- InterAct Homeless Standown January 30, 2011: 650+ homeless guests and providers treated to noon meal. 38 DCC Family units provided chili, beautiful cookies and brownies, 53 DCCers worked at Masonic Auditorium preparing, serving and cleaning up
- \$1851 Week Of Compassion Offering in February
- \$763 Easter Offering to support General Ministries of General church
- Supported April 23 Walk/run for Kids (Cleveland Christian Home)
- \$1065 was raised by Piano concert for WOC Japan earthquake relief. Thank you Shiho Saito, Joshua Vogel, Marguerite Gilbert and Gail and Tom Haverdill for sponsoring the event- it was amazing!
- Collected and mailed 23 HealthKits for Church World Service with continuing collection through summer.

Thank you for all your continued support and participation in this ministry.

Bhutanese Friends:

- Continue our support for families providing rice cookers and other items to new families
- In fall, worked with property to hire a few folks to help with yard work at DCC

- Facilitated a meeting with Hope Gardens (Richard and Mahala Huff) to develop plans for a garden at the Hope Garden Site and provided plants and stakes for new garden.
- 19 Bhutanese families are participating in the garden.
- Developing a needs room.
- \$14,400 Disciples Mission Fund (Budget Line Item)

Gifts made from Outreach Budget:

- \$300 Bread for the World
- \$100 Disciples Peace Fellowship
- \$500 InterAct Cleveland
- \$500 Third World Books for Cleveland Public Schools
- \$500 United Protestant Campus Ministry
- \$25 Sponsor of Fair Trade Conference at John Carroll
- \$500 Global Ministries Construction at Shalom Center in Chile(Our missionary Partner)
- \$258.56 4 tents taken to Shalom Center in Chile by Ohio Delegation
- \$120 to help a family in need
- \$1000 to Christian Church in Ohio in lieu of Special Offering at Christmas
- \$223.10 Homeless Standdown Food
- \$211 Rice Cookers for Bhutanese Families
- \$500 Untied Protestant Campus Ministry
- \$188.85 bedding plants and wooden stakes for Bhutanese at Hope Gardens
- \$37.09 diapers for Bhutanese Family
- \$68.41 Health Kit Mailing and shipping

Sincerely, Bonnie Goldner

Memorials

In the fall letters will be sent to the families of loved ones who have memorial funds in their names. They will permit the families to indicate how they wish these funds to be used. If they have no specified designation for the memorials, they will be used for special maintenance church needs. We are in the process of reorganizing the Funeral Reception Committees and would like to use some of these funds to set up an account to be used for reception purposes

Disciples Christian Church mourned the deaths of these members this past year:

- Robert Yocum
- Jim Runyon
- Darrell Spivey
- Frank Jayne
- Margaret Beer
- Averno Jayne
- Richard Troha
- Betty Zimmer
- John Ross
- Louise Consilio
- Mildred Austin
- Ralph Harold
- Sophie Wilson
- Violet Radomilovich

I ask for God's guidance to use these gifts in the best way to meet our church needs.

*Respectfully submitted,
Patricia McNeilly,
Chair Memorial Funds 2010 - 2011*

Stewardship

The 2011 Stewardship Campaign was titled "All Hands, All Hearts, One Church; when everyone gives everyone receives".

The goal of the campaign was for 100% participation in membership pledging. The campaign emphasized that our church allows all of us, through our talents, to reach out to others, both within and outside our church family. Our "one church" gives us the community where these ministries can thrive.

We would like to thank Pastor Kris, Randy and Lauren Wicks as well as Judy Griffith and Anne Ward who helped with the pledge campaign and mailings. We would like to thank Randy and Judy for all the work that they did in preparing the budget. We would like to thank Pat McNeilly for the use of her wonderful model church that graced the sanctuary during the campaign. It was a stunning representation of our "one church". We would like to thank Sue Curtis for her logo which beautifully captured the spirit of the campaign. We would also like to thank all of those who shared their stories of their involvement with the ministries of Disciples Christian Church.

*Ron and Marsha Werman and
Bill and Carol Edwards,
Co-chairpersons*

Treasurer

The 2010 income statement for Disciples Christian Church ended up positive, with income exceeding expenses by \$4,578. Income included a withdrawal from the endowment fund of \$43,165, which was budgeted for at the beginning of the year. Pledges came in about \$20,000 below budget but that decline was offset by personnel and utility expenses, which came in under budget by a similar amount. The endowment fund rose 2.5% in 2010, despite the budget subsidy draw.

The development of the 2011 budget proved to be a challenge for the stewardship committee and the board. Pledge income for 2011 came in 14.5% lower than 2010 as the number of pledges declined by 12%. In addition the bequest income from the family of Nell Rose Riel, which had helped subsidize the budgets for the previous two years, ran out at the end of 2010. The decision was made at the January, 2011 board meeting to draw \$137,471 from the endowment to balance the 2011 budget. This was not an easy decision for the board to make and there was much discussion and debate. At the end, the board requested that there be a task force developed to create some sort of long range financial planning, preferably with the assistance of the denomination.

At the September, 2010 board meeting, the property committee came to the board with a list of major expenditures that would need to be done in the next 1-3 years. The cost of these projects was estimated at approximately \$90,000. In addition, there was a technology task force that recommended that a projector and screen be installed in the sanctuary, as well as some upgrades to computers, sound and other technology-related equipment, the cost of which, in total, was estimated to be in the \$10,000 range. A decision was made at that board meeting that the church should enter into some sort of credit agreement in order to finance these expenditures. On November 1, 2010 the church signed an agreement to enter into a \$125,000 revolving line of credit with Key Bank. The agreement is secured by the endowment fund and interest is charged at Prime Rate plus 0.25%, which equated to 3.50%. As of this writing, the church had borrowed \$30,000 on this line and the interest rate was still at 3.5%.

As of July 31, 2011, expenses exceeded income by \$21,750 due to the following:

- The draw on the endowment subsidy, which per the budget should have been \$80,000 through July, was only \$30,000. These funds are only drawn as the cash is needed.
- Non-pledge income has been strong, already exceeding the annual budget.

- Expenses have been well managed. Personnel costs are right on budget while the rest of the expenses are generally under-budget.

Included in this report are the year-end 2010 income statement and balance sheet as well as the same financial reports for July, 2011.

*Respectfully submitted,
Randy Wicks*