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Minister of Faith and Giving
Office of General Minister and President
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Indianapolis, Indiana

Position Overview

The Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP) seeks a spiritually grounded, dynamic and creative individual, who is able to articulate a theological understanding of faith and giving to serve in the newly created position as the Minister of Faith and Giving. As a senior member of the OGMP staff, reporting to the Associate General Minister and Vice President, the Minister of Faith and Giving will lead and empower the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in creating a **holistic and biblically** based stewardship movement. The successful candidate will be able to clearly **articulate a biblical theology of stewardship** and God's abundance; demonstrate a passion for **stewardship as a spiritual discipline** that orders his or her life and faith journey; be a successful administrator and proven **network builder**, and bring a deep understanding of how to develop, frame and sustain a **culture of giving in racially and culturally diverse settings**.

S/he will equip and empower leaders across the denomination through prayer and study, networking, and resource sharing to shape and frame a theologically grounded movement of generosity. This is an outstanding opportunity for a sophisticated and creative leader with the passion to foster a spiritually-based movement of faithful giving that will shape the church for the 21st century and beyond.

The Office of the General Minister and President

Based in Indianapolis, the Office of the General Minister and President leads, serves, inspires, nurtures, and facilitates the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as one church in many expressions. The staff of the OGMP provides direct support to the General Minister and President (OGMP) in achieving the goals, objectives, and priorities of the church as directed by the GMP and the General Assembly, General Board and/or Administrative Committee.

Grounded in the church's mission **to be and share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth**, the OGMP works on behalf of the whole church and in partnership with congregations, regions, general ministries and institutions of higher education to live faithfully into the vision of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) **to be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice**.

Opportunities and Challenges Facing the New Minister of Faith and Giving

The Minister of Faith and Giving will provide primary oversight in **five key areas of Christian Stewardship**: spiritual disciplines, cultural diversity, congregational resources, personal wealth management and ecumenical partnership. Created via the restructure of stewardship priorities within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), this new position joins the OGMP during an exciting time of churchwide mission realignment. The Minister of Faith and Giving will work in an entrepreneurial environment in developing and creating this new ministry.

With a renewed and sharpened focus on the mission, identity and priorities of the church, the Minister of Faith and Giving will provide responsive leadership to transform the churchwide thinking and conversation regarding stewardship and faithful giving. The new Minister of Faith and Giving will face the following opportunities and challenges in the first 12-18 months:

Fostering a movement rooted in the biblical theology of stewardship by engaging a churchwide conversation regarding the spiritual discipline of holistic stewardship.

The Minister of Faith and Giving will ground the church in a biblical and theologically based emphasis on the spirituality of giving. S/he will work with a stewardship task force, and with other pastors, experts and leadership throughout the church to emphasize year-round and holistic stewardship philosophy, while creating spaces for theological dialogue, prayer and spiritual reflection. S/he will articulate and interpret to the church the GMP's message of serving a God of abundance, who in six days of work created seven days of wealth.

Developing innovative and creative connections between people with a passion for giving and offering them the resources they need.

The Minister of Faith and Giving will connect and mentor people throughout the life of the church who are passionate about equipping stewards and developing a culture of generosity in the church. S/he will build networks using emerging and existing communications to facilitate resource sharing among leaders in the areas of faithful giving and spirituality. The networks will include Regional Ministers and General Ministry staff who work in other areas of faith and giving.

Engaging, empowering and equipping the diverse constituencies of the church in development of culturally and linguistically appropriate stewardship materials.

The Minister of Faith and Giving will work in partnership with North American Pacific Asian Disciples (NAPAD), Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, the National Convocation, and other groups within the church to understand and frame faithful giving within their particular cultural contexts. S/he will develop resources collaboratively that promote these unique giving stories and traditions while promoting spiritually focused, life-long giving to the church.

Providing resources and technical assistance to congregations, regions and other ministry partners.

The Minister of Faith and Giving will assess and facilitate training and educational events in partnership with regional and general church ministries including workshops, learning modules, webinars, and continuing education programs. This person will develop training resources in association with the College of Regional Ministers and OGMP through a grant provided by the Oreon E. Scott Foundation. S/he will promote church-wide stewardship materials and other resources to equip pastors and lay leaders to lead effective stewardship and capital campaigns. S/he will collaborate with regions in transforming congregations to an understanding of year-round stewardship.

Identifying and developing best practices in stewardship and faithful giving to equip congregations, regions and general ministries to foster a culture of grateful giving.

The new Minister of Faith and Giving will orient her/himself to the available resources for stewardship through our ecumenical partners, publishing houses and partner organizations. S/he will serve as a point person for leaders both within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and beyond regarding emerging trends, new models and cutting edge resources for stewardship promotion and spiritually-based giving.

Qualifications of the Ideal Candidate

The successful candidate will envision stewardship as a spiritual discipline and be an articulate and passionate advocate for faith-based conversations around giving. With a keen understanding of emerging technology and how to utilize networks of experts and ministry partners, the Minister of Faith and Giving will inspire and equip the church to create and sustain a culture of giving throughout its diverse expressions. This position will require travel up to 30% of each month. While no one candidate will embody all the traits described below, the ideal candidate will possess many of the following qualifications, experiences and characteristics:

- Hold a Bachelor's degree (Master of Divinity not required) and bring a minimum of seven years experience building, directing, inspiring and equipping individuals, organizations and institutions for healthy giving and toward a culture of stewardship and healthy giving.
- Be able to clearly articulate a biblical theology of stewardship rooted in the understanding of serving a God of abundance and discovering the joy of Christian stewardship.
- Have a solid understanding of the biblical foundations of year-round stewardship; ability to discuss the theological framework with lay people and clergy throughout the church; familiarity with the polity of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the changing landscape of mainline Christianity in the 21st century.
- Capacity, humility and flexibility to communicate with and across widely diverse audiences from rural to urban and across race, ethnicity, class and gender with the savvy to empower and embrace the spirituality of giving in a variety of cultural frameworks.
- Practices giving as a spiritual discipline in his/her personal and family life and understands how to inspire others to explore this faithful practice.
- Proven and creative networker who can bring diverse groups to the table for transformational dialogue and resource development; strong listening and assessment skills to identify cutting edge resources and best practices; and the communications savvy to connect similarly interested groups and people.
- Driven and proven professional committed to the highest standards, willing to bring broad and forward thinking ideas to the table with the passion and follow through to put them into action.
- Strong written, design and verbal presentation skills demonstrated in the ability to develop resources for a wide variety of audiences and settings, including worship resources, workshops, bible study and web materials.
- Comfort with the technical language of stewardship, finances and budgets, including a broad range of investment and giving tools.
- Passion for the church as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world and stewardship as a path to equipping the church for its mission and vision in the world today.

To Apply:

For additional information on the position, please contact Rev. Dr. Todd Adams, Associate General Minister and Vice President at tadams@ogmp.disciples.org or 317-713-2414. A resume and cover letter describing your interest in and qualifications for the position along with relocation papers (if applicable) should be received no later than October 1, 2008 to the Office of the General Minister and President.

Office of the General Minister and President
Attn: Dr. Todd Adams
P.O. Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1986

This search will be conducted using the Executive Search Process as outlined by the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).