



## Matthew Rosine joins Church Extension to lead New Beginnings Service

INDIANAPOLIS, August 18, 2008 — Matthew Rosine, Houston, Texas, has joined the staff of Church Extension as a Congregational Services Consultant to help launch New Beginnings, an assessment service for Christian Church (Disciples of Church) congregations facing issues of future viability.

“I’m excited that Matt has joined our ministry,” said James Powell, president of Church Extension. “His skills in strategic thinking and knowledge of organizational leadership within the Disciples culture will be a great benefit to the New Beginnings service. He also has a great deal of experience helping congregations better use their assets for mission.”

Rosine, an ordained Disciples of Christ minister, will manage the New Beginnings assessment program, working directly with regional partners of the Christian Church. New Beginnings, currently completing a pilot phase, seeks to help congregations assess their strengths, capital assets and possible challenges. The service, a partnership with Church Extension and regions, will help congregations to discover how best to engage in significant ministry in the community.

Rosine has served for the past year as a special consultant for the New Beginnings pilot program that has worked with Disciples churches in partnership with regional leaders. Also, he has been a coach for new pastors in the Disciples New Church Ministry program for four years.

Rosine was senior minister for First Colony Christian Church, Sugar Land, Texas, from 2004 to 2007 and was senior minister of First Christian Church, Grand Prairie, Texas, from 2002 to 2003. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Christian University and a Master of Divinity from Brite Divinity School.

New Beginnings looks at the questions, “*What is God calling your congregation to do and to be in this time and place?*” and “*How can you mobilize your resources for this mission?*” The New Beginnings assessment, along with follow-up recommendations and interpretation with congregational leaders, enables congregations to choose a new path for their future.

“Since Church Extension developed New Beginnings, we have experienced tremendous interest in the service from Disciples churches,” said Powell. “The assessment service has been a great asset to our churches — especially those that have experienced significant decline or those that are located in changing neighborhoods.”

***Church Extension, founded in 1883, offers mission-driven planning and capital-funding services to Disciples of Christ congregations in the context of their culture and stage of life.***

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