

No. 0908
Disciples of Christ Historical Society

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Our Vision

At Disciples of Christ Historical Society we envision the unity of all persons of faith through shared understanding of individual histories and creeds.

Our Mission

The mission of Disciples of Christ Historical Society is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by preserving the heritage and telling the story of the Stone-Campbell tradition.

As a general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and as a servant to all expressions of the Stone-Campbell movement, Disciples of Christ Historical Society is the primary archive, library, and collective memory for congregations throughout the world. We serve professional historians in need of research materials, as well as those who for reasons, both personal and spiritual, wish to learn more about Christian history.

Our purpose, however, is not only to collect and maintain data and artifacts. We are a repository and we are more. The Historical Society is an agency of proclamation. We cherish the teachings of our founders and we share their vision of unity among all people of faith. Our mission, then, is to insure that the ideal which was delivered to us – an open and welcoming Church – will remain available for the generations to come.

Recent Activity

- o Promotion of the celebration of the bicentennial of Thomas Campbell's "Declaration and Address" through a special website GreatCommunion.org.
- o Re-furbishing of exhibit hall in the Thomas W. Phillips Memorial named in honor of Oscar Haynes. Dedication in July 2008.
- o First annual exhibit in the new Oscar Haynes Exhibit Hall opened in July 2008. The exhibit on the history of the National Convocation will be on display until the fall of 2009.
- o Distribution of 120,000 "Disciples Identity" cards to over 450 congregations.
- o On-line Sunday School curriculum, *Streamers*, on the history and beliefs of Disciples available for free download on DisciplesHistory.org. Over 400 congregations have used the material thus far.
- o Plans underway to re-furbish and name our reading room in honor of Evelyn and Harold Watkins. Dedication in early 2010.
- o Several books published under the Historical Society imprint, Polar Star Press.
- o Into second year of publication of redesigned *Discipliana*, our journal of Stone-Campbell history.
- o Biennial Reed Lecture held in 2008 at Pepperdine University, Mark Noll of Notre Dame presenting; biennial Kirkpatrick Lecture scheduled for May 16, 2009 at Southport Christian Church (DOC), Indianapolis, Keith Watkins presenting.
- o Funds being raised for addition of All Persons Access to front of our building. A partial grant given by the Beasley Foundation.
- o Stone-Campbell World History Project underway, with 14 historians producing the first-ever comprehensive and contextual history of the movement. Publication expected in 2012. The Project is a joint venture of Disciples of Christ Historical Society and Chalice Press.
- o Aided a record number of persons from around the world in 2008 in research on Stone-Campbell history.

Disciples Mission Fund

Disciples of Christ Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the receipt of DMF monies in 2008, which represented 12% of our overall budget.

The General Board reviewed report No. 0908
of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society.
The report is submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and discussion.
No action is required. (Discussion time is 12 minutes)
