

No. 1110

**Report of the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM)/Global Ministries**

**David A. Vargas, President of DOM and Co-executive of Global Ministries  
Division of Overseas Ministries Report – December 2010**

The Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM)/Global Ministries is preparing for a transition in leadership, effective August 1, 2011. David A. Vargas announced his intention to retire after serving 8-1/2 years as President of DOM and Co-executive of Global Ministries, and a total of 28 years of service in overseas ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Following the executive search model, a Search Committee was formed with directives to bring forth a name to the April 2011 DOM Board meeting.

By the end of 2010, the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) and Global Ministries (a common witness in mission with the Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ) was half way in the implementation of a five-year strategic plan that was a result of a comprehensive evaluation process. For DOM/Global Ministries, the main challenge in mission is how to engage in *critical presence* witness “to the ends of the earth,” with the understanding that *critical presence* means to timely and appropriately meet God’s people and creation at the point of deepest need, whether that deepest need be spiritual, emotional, physical, or economical.

As a priority in mission, *critical presence* is not limited to only one mode of presence, but it expresses itself in different modes, in different moments, in different places and different circumstances. Today, *critical presence* through DOM/Global Ministries is expressed in four modes of presence:

1) **Sending and receiving persons in mission**, including missionaries, short-term and long-term volunteers, Global Mission Interns (supported by Week of Compassion), overseas associates, People-to-People Pilgrimages, summer missionaries-in-residence, and world missionaries to the U.S. and Canada. These persons in mission serve as educators, pastors, theologians, medical personnel, environmentalists, social justice advocates, media specialists, counselors, social service providers, etc.;

2) **Nurturing and developing partnerships with churches and ecumenical organizations in the global community** through a mutual ministry of “acompañamiento” in the midst of challenging social, economic, religious, and/or political realities. These include pastoral ministries related to fears and hopelessness where people are desperate for meaning; dangerous or life-threatening situations related to war, natural disasters, health pandemics, religious, gender and racial discrimination and human rights violations;

3) **Advocacy** as the act of witness on behalf of the poor and marginalized which seeks to influence change in public policy and resource decisions within political, economic, and social systems and/or institutions; and

4) **Mission Interpretation and Education** with the goal of equipping congregations, regions and constituencies of the church to claim the identity of a Global Mission Church. The “Be A Global Mission Church” initiative is how DOM/Global Ministries responds to the Disciples priority of congregational transformation. As a result of this initiative, 580 Disciples Ministries and Mission Interpreters (MMIs) have already been trained, and an additional 820 are expected to complete their training by 2012. Of 33 regional ministers, 28 of them and the three racial ethnic executives have participated in global immersion trips to Latin America/Caribbean, Africa, Middle East and Asia, and plans are underway for a last trip in May 2011. Eighteen out of 33 regions have voted to become a Global Mission Region and new global partnerships have been established throughout the world. In the summer of 2010, four Disciples seminarians served for 10 weeks as College of Mission Interns in DOM/Global Ministries area/program offices in Indianapolis, Indiana, namely: William Almodovar, a Master of Divinity student at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana; Lisa Grace, a Master of Divinity student at Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri; Chesla Nickelson, a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy dual degree student at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana; and Kimberly Proctor, a Master of Divinity student at Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Kentucky. As part of this educational experience, the 4 interns had the opportunity to visit church partners in Zimbabwe, South Africa and Swaziland.

The rest of this report is a summary of DOM/Global Ministries’ work as implemented through the stated four modes of presence.

## **AFRICA OFFICE**

An elder of a partner church in Mozambique expressed the sentiment of many partners on the African continent when he stated, “Please tell our brothers and sisters in Christ in America that we are praying for them and with them. Tell President Obama that the church in Mozambique knows he is facing many difficulties and disappointments, but we are praying for him so that he can accomplish some of his goals. However, he and others must also know that the world financial crisis is killing us. People here are suffering and many are dying because of the crisis but we will continue our ministry”. In many ways these words highlighted the Africa Office’s critical presence mandate for 2010 – prayer and accompaniment during difficult times.

Our global partners execute a variety of ministries across the continent. A common issue in many countries this year surrounded the use or misuse of natural resources both domestically and internationally. Africa is endowed with a plethora of resources coveted by the international community, warlords and despotic leaders – gold, diamonds, oil, coltan, uranium, water, tropical forests, to name a few. In the midst of this wealth, some of our global partners have been challenged by increased poverty,

HIV/AIDS and other diseases, environmental degradation, injustice, civil unrest and many other problems that are often overwhelming. This has been exacerbated by the global economic crisis. In the midst of this, they continue to grow numerically and spiritually and offer to us examples of true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. Our physical and financial presence during these difficult moments has been a mutual blessing.

The Council of Churches in Zambia has been under fire by the Zambian government for questioning the government's capacity to mine uranium in a responsible way that will be beneficial, rather than detrimental, to the population. Upon completion of a very thorough study of uranium mining in the country, the Council launched a report that uncovered the dangers to which the people in the areas earmarked for mining are exposed. Although the leadership of the Council was threatened by its government, the Council stood in firm solidarity with the people. At a time when the Council needed moral support, a Global Ministries' delegation was present to pray with and encourage those who stood on the frontline.

The discovery of a huge cache of diamonds in mines in Zimbabwe has not resulted in improved life for the majority of the people in Zimbabwe as expected. Police brutality and massive displacement of people characterized the government takeover of the mines. At the same time, the discovery of gold at a school owned by one of our global partners in Zimbabwe was a time for the church to reflect on how to exploit the mine so that it will be beneficial for the entire population, not just a few. Seminarians that visited the church partners in July 2010 witnessed how there can be suffering in the midst of so much wealth. Throughout the discussions held at schools, churches and seminaries, these seminarians were challenged to be faithful to their call to stand with the hurt, the abused and the exploited in Zimbabwe while being informed advocates in the United States for the marginalized around the world.

The serious crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo continues as greed for coltan and other natural resources fuels a war that results in rape, human trafficking and environmental and human degradation. Global Ministries' partners struggle to provide social services for people who have been directly or indirectly affected by this crisis. The Global Ministries delegation that participated in the dedication of the Bolenge hospital in February, 2010 witnessed the pains of the people and the concerted efforts to bring healing in seemingly hopeless situations. In solidarity with the people of Congo, an educational symposium was held in May for churches and interested individuals in the USA, which brought together leading scholars on the Congo to highlight the plight of the Congolese population and to implore people in the USA and Canada to make a commitment to "hear the cries of the people of Congo and to reach out and respond on their behalf".

Our partners in Angola and the Republic of Congo minister to those suffering from HIV/AIDS and other diseases, provide opportunities for feeding programs, rebuild war-affected schools and churches while oil is exported and the profits enjoyed by only a few people. Global Ministries was able to walk with church leaders as they worked to

rebuild some of the infrastructure enabling them to continue their ministries of education, healing and development.

Mozambique is endowed with many rivers and it lies adjacent to the Indian Ocean. Yet, it has had to struggle with water being both life-giving and destructive. Global Ministries worked with partners in that country to make water accessible to people who, in the past, had to walk up to 40 kilometers daily to get clean water.

Scholarships and other learning opportunities were extended to many of our partners. Leadership development has been a priority of the Africa Office for many years and has been a remarkable investment.

Global Ministries supported phenomena micro-credit programs in 2010. Many are small but the impact is huge. Participants take ownership and work judiciously to succeed, thus debunking the myth that the poor have outstretched hands waiting for handouts.

Partnership nurturing this year has meant not only sharing in the suffering of our partners through presence, grants, letters of support but also extending invitations to them to come and share their stories of survival. Women from both countries of the Congo made three thousand handbags for the Disciple Women's Quadrennial. They, along with a guest from Ghana, were invited to share in churches and at the Quadrennial their stories of survival and resilience.

Graced by prayer and faithfulness to the ministry, our partners find strength and wholeness during periods of suffering and financial crises. This is a gift offered freely to us. When received with humility and recognition of the sacrifice made, our own joy is made complete. They suffer but they remain committed to the ministry of serving the people. This is the message to President Obama and to our churches.

## **LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The most significant events in the ministries of churches and ecumenical partners in the Latin America and Caribbean geographical region that reflect a "movement for wholeness in a fragmented world" were the response to the earthquakes of Chile and Haiti, the new partnerships between Disciples and United Church of Christ congregations with churches in the region, and the response to the increase in human rights abuses in Honduras.

**Chile** - As a response to the February 27<sup>th</sup> 8.8 magnitude earthquake and tsunami, the Pentecostal Church of Chile (IPC) and its Shalom Center offered a holistic response by constructing emergency housing units and providing basic emotional and spiritual attention. The emergency houses were called "Blessing Cabins". Two hundred houses were constructed, to serve the same amount of families from the local congregations and their communities. On March 16, the first house was dedicated by Bishop Ulises Muñoz in a very meaningful service. As a sign of the IPC's commitment to the people,

they gave priority to the people's need for shelter and then they gave attention to the rebuilding of the churches.

Another significant project of the IPC through the Shalom Center is Doors of Hope. Just before the quake, the Shalom Center offered the first STAR (Seminars in Trauma Awareness and Resilience) Training. The participants in the first Star Training were able to prepare a handout with instructions on how to offer emotional first aid to adults and children. This material was shared widely throughout the IPC as well as other institutions. The number of people trained as of last July 2010 is 155. The number of local churches represented in the training was 69.

**Haiti** - On January 12, 2010, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake devastated Haiti, with a death toll of 230,000 people, plus thousands of people missing and innumerable people displaced or homeless. One of every three buildings in the devastated zone was destroyed or uninhabitable. Global Ministries' partners in Haiti, House of Hope and the National Spiritual Council of Churches of Haiti (CONASPEH), were severely affected. Twenty-five hundred local congregations out of the total membership of 6,700 CONASPEH congregations are in the affected zone. CONASPEH's national office building collapsed at the time of the quake, while there were two nursing classes inside. Twenty people were unable to escape. That building housed the national archives, the Saint Andrew Theological Seminary, the school (kindergarten through high school with 450 students), the medical clinic, the Karen Yount Nursing School, the Computer Training Center (40 computers) and the library (17,000 titles). Generators, files, desks, chairs and other provisions were also destroyed. House of Hope lost their educational building.

On March 26-28, the following church leaders participated in a pastoral visit to Haiti: Rev. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. and Canada; Rev. Geoffrey Black, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ in the U.S.; CGMB Co-Executives Cally Rogers-Witte (who is also Executive for UCC Wider Church Ministries), and Rev. David Vargas (who is also President of the Division of Overseas Ministries of the Disciples). The delegation had the opportunity to participate in the memorial service for the victims of the January earthquake, including those who perished in CONASPEH's central office building.

By April 2010, 618 students were able to begin classes using 10 tents as temporary classrooms. A provisional room was erected to serve as CONASPEH's central office. After the demolition and removal of the rubble where CONASPEH's central building was located, workers began to construct the foundation of the first building of the new CONASPEH Center. Plans were underway to hold the dedication service at the end of 2010.

House of Hope, the program of the Ecumenical Foundation for Peace and Justice that ministers to children laboring as domestic servants, moved to a new site in the same Carrefour area. House of Hope is in the process of completing renovations which include adding additional bathrooms and repairing the roof. The new site is a house

that provides at least five times more space for the daily activities, including Christian education, human rights for children, the literacy program, vocational training, elementary and middle school equivalent training, music and dance, and a delicious hot meal. There will also be space provided for a garden. House of Hope plans to add more vocational courses, such as computer, ironwork, sewing, beautician training, and small business administration.

In June, four representatives from the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) led by Rev. Kim Jong-Soung, Vice Moderator, visited House of Hope and CONASPEH. During the visit, the Korean leaders met with leaders of CONASPEH and reflected on the challenges they face as they carry out God's mission. In the case of the Korean church, they shared about the militarization of their country, the quest for reunification of the divided Korea, respect for their own culture, and the affirmation of a theology that includes all aspects of life. As for the Haitian churches, they found similarities in their occupied country, the division of the Hispaniola Island by two colonial powers, the quest of the churches to work to improve the relationship between the people of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and their affirmation of a holistic approach to live from a liberating theology perspective. Both church bodies affirmed their willingness to establish a partnership.

The following month, the General Pastor of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Puerto Rico, Rev. Esteban González, and the President of the Adventist Church of Puerto Rico, Rev. José Rodríguez visited Haiti along with the LAC Area Executive. During their visit, they had the opportunity to meet with CONASPEH leaders and leaders of the Adventist Church in Haiti and their diaconal organization, ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency). CONASPEH received tools from ADRA, and 40 out of the first 80 houses that the Adventist Church of Puerto Rico plans to send to Haiti, are going to be used by CONASPEH.

**Honduras** - In the months after the coup d'état in Honduras and the November 2009 elections, there has been an increase in human rights violations. According to the U.S. State Department, since January 2010, nine journalists have been killed and several more have been kidnapped, tortured, and have experienced death threats. As targeted assassinations and human rights abuses escalate, the U.S. has reinstated full military cooperation with the government of Honduras, fueling the current crisis.

During the Regional Assembly of the Alabama-Northwest Region in April 2010, the Region approved the initiation of a partnership with the Christian Commission for Development (CCD) and their Theological Community, as well as the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Honduras (IERH). They agreed to work together to train pastors and lay leaders in both countries on how to carry out God's mission in today's world, and to support each other as they work on advocacy issues related to racism, migration, human rights, and hardship created by the economic crisis.

**Mexico** - The Joint Table for Mission Development which includes the Alliance of Evangelical Christian Churches of Mexico (AICE), the Fraternity of Evangelical Christian

Churches (CICE), and the Christian Congregational Churches of Mexico (ICCM), agreed on the establishment of a partnership with the Arizona Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). At the end of August, Regional Minister of Arizona, Dennis Williams and Alex Dely from Arizona's Global Mission Team, traveled to Aguascalientes, Mexico along with the LAC Area Executive to reaffirm their commitment to the partnership with the three national churches of Mexico. The representatives from the Joint Table and the Arizona Region shared the challenges they face, including stewardship, church mission for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, ecumenical relations, violence in Mexico, the new anti-immigration laws and economic difficulties. They also shared about possible methods of mutual accompaniment in areas such as evangelism, stewardship, training church leaders, microcredit projects, border issues and worship. The Rev. Manuel Tovar, President of AICE, Rev. Josué Martínez, President of CICE, and Mr. Miguel Villa, Superintendent of ICCM participated in the Arizona Regional Assembly in October 2010.

## **SOUTHERN ASIA**

The region of Southern Asia hit the world news several times this year with natural calamities and communal riots. The threat of 'Quran burning' by a Florida pastor did long lasting damage in Southern Asia where the majority of the world's Muslim population lives. Whether he really burned the Quran or not did not matter. The very thought, talk, and posturing to desecrate the holy scripture of a large number of the people of Southern Asia was enough to trigger violent demonstrations in different parts of the region. The demonstrations claimed several lives and caused damages to Christian institutions and churches, in places like Kashmir, Afghanistan, and parts of Indonesia. Global Ministries' partner, the Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) has expressed very serious concerns about the backlash that the minority Christian community there is threatened with.

**Afghanistan:** Global Ministries' partner in Afghanistan, the International Assistance Mission was devastated by a major tragedy this summer in which ten of its workers were brutally killed by some unidentified assailants while returning from conducting an eye camp in the remote northeastern village of Nuristan. This killing was strongly condemned by the local communities including the local Taliban and the Afghan government. It is learned that the killers were outsiders and the motive is suspected to be robbery.

**Bhutan:** The Church in Bhutan is less than three decades old. The tiny Christian presence there was confined to a great extent to the immigrant communities from Nepal, with smaller yet growing number of converts from ethnic Bhutanese. Until a few years ago, the Church there remained underground and in the last four to five years it is slowly becoming visible. The newly formed National Christian Council of Bhutan has applied to the government for registration as a religious body which would allow them more freedom and is eagerly awaiting the government's response. Among the issues faced by the people of Bhutan are extreme poverty in rural and remote parts of the

country, lack of educational opportunities, and the denial of citizenship to ethnic Nepalese who have been living there for generations are serious ones.

**East Timor:** The Protestant Church of East Timor (IPTL) continues its efforts to reorganize its administrative and program priorities so as to revitalize the local congregations. Our missionaries Carlos Madrazo and Tom Liddle are assisting in the implementation and monitoring of the various programs. Monica Liddle works at the Los Palos medical clinic. This clinic receives on an average 120 outpatients a day, most of them children brought from far off remote villages. Until our missionary Monica started working there, the clinic had no doctor but only a male nurse who wasn't even able to complete his nursing training. Monica's presence as a medical doctor meets one of the deepest needs in this area of East Timor. The Lisa Dila school project, started in 2004 under the partnership with the Northern Plains Conference of UCC, continues to progress well. Plans are being made to expand this school with a high school and vocational training sections.

**India:** In March, the leaders of the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) went on a two weeks mission exposure trip to India along with Bob Shebeck and James Vijayakumar. They participated in a seminar organized by the Church of North India (CNI) on "Dalit and Tribal Pastoral Praxis" which was aimed at highlighting and addressing the issues faced by the Dalit and Tribal minorities in India. The other places visited by the group were the Mission Hospital in Mungeli where Global Ministries missionaries Anil and Teresa Henry are working; Jackman Memorial Hospital in Bilaspur; the Madras Diocese of the Church of South India; Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, Unemployed Young Peoples' Association, Inba Illam and CREATE in Madurai; the tsunami rehabilitation and housing projects through the Peace Trust in Kanyakumari district; and Marathi Mission institutions in Mumbai.

**Indonesia:** Two major disasters hit Indonesia in October, first a devastating earthquake followed by a tsunami that killed more than 300 people in the western part of Sumatra Island. Several hundred people are still missing and many more are displaced. Almost simultaneously the Mount Merapi volcano in the Java Island erupted, killing almost a hundred people and displacing several thousands. There have been at least two successive eruptions causing more damage and displacement. Our partner, Church World Service, has been assisting the victims in both these disasters with emergency relief.

**Laos:** The afterschool programs at the Children's Development Centers which were developed and are being coordinated and supervised by Global Ministries missionary Xuyen Dangers continues to grow. The first batch of twenty social workers coming from these centers graduated from the university in July 2010. Also in 2010, two much needed secondary boarding schools were built with support from Global Ministries in the northern provinces of Odumxai and Pongsalay.

**Pakistan:** In the middle of July 2010 most parts of Pakistan were hit hard by heavy floods which were the worst in the known history of Pakistan. Several thousands of

people were killed, houses, crops, and properties were lost or damaged and millions rendered homeless. Our partner CWS –P/A continues to provide relief and recovery assistance.

**Sri Lanka:** After the end of the civil war in May 2010, the northern and eastern parts of the country are in need of reconstruction and rehabilitation. Thousands of people still continue to live in the relief camps. The Church of the American Ceylon Mission, Global Ministries' partner in that region has started repairing and reconstructing some of the houses and community centers in the Wannu region in the east. They are also providing counseling and essential supplies to people in some of the relief camps.

## **MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE**

“Tell it!” In the Middle East and Europe, there were many times in 2010 when Global Ministries has been present and met God’s people and creation at the point of deepest need. Mainstream media offers us a limited perspective on the realities throughout these regions, but Global Ministries’ work and partnerships offer a wider vista—providing alternatives to promote better understanding and opportunities to respond.

First, through visits to the Middle East, Global Ministries staff could visit partners and stand in solidarity. The presence of Global Ministries staff has a significant impact on the sense of partnership and extends the relationship between our churches and our partners. Such trips are also an opportunity to learn about the context of partners’ ministries—political, economic, and social, including interfaith, as well as to make a pastoral visit to our mission personnel. Visits to historical and Biblical sites, especially in Israel/Palestine, in addition to the spiritual journey, afford particularly poignant opportunities for theological reflection on Christian response to the contexts of our partners. Encounter with many partners included work Global Ministries supports among Palestinian refugees in Lebanon; Iraqi refugees in Syria; primary and university education with Armenian Protestants, theological education in Beirut at the Near East School of Theology; meetings with ecumenical and interfaith partners throughout the region; and a better understanding of the current realities in Israel/Palestine.

One such visit to the Middle East took place at the time when President Obama convened a meeting of Middle East leaders to re-launch Middle East peace talks, on September 2, 2010 in Washington. US Jews, Christians and Muslims, including the UCC and Disciples, are engaged in advocacy with the US administration to be a fair and persistent party to negotiations, particularly through the National Interreligious Leadership Initiative (NILI) and Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP). Later in September, NILI colleagues met with administration and State Department officials in Washington to voice support for peace and concerns about the urgent need for peace and the continuing deterioration of circumstances. Such advocacy and concern comes from 2000 years of Biblical/Christian history in the region, 162 years of mission ties and presence dating back to the appointment of Rev. Dr. James and Julia Barclay as missionaries to Jerusalem, current relationships with Middle Eastern Christians and others, and our church’s concern for peace and justice in the world. The Disciples

continue to be active in this issue, and to promote a peaceful and just resolution to the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For Palestinians, the most important initiative has been the *Palestine Kairos* document entitled, “A Moment of Truth.” In the Kairos document, which was launched in December 2009, Palestinian Christians call on the church to speak truth, stating that the Church’s mission is to pray, serve, and be prophetic, speaking for the oppressed, proclaiming the “Kingdom of God, a kingdom of justice, peace and dignity.”

A pastoral letter by Sharon Watkins and Geoffrey Black in April 2010 invited our churches to make a “Kairos Commitment” which involves the following action steps: commit to read, study, and reflect on the “Message of Hope” with your fellow church members; commit to visit the region to learn more about the situation on the ground; commit to advocate with the US government; and commit to support denominational partners in Palestine, and to avoid products that are produced in illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

The Disciples are also engaged deeply in interfaith dialogue, particularly with the Jewish community and the Muslim community. In 2010, there was renewed—and negative—attention on Islam when Terry Jones issued his call to burn the Qur’an, and the debate over Park51. There was concern around the world among Christians who live in majority-Muslim contexts that there would be serious repercussions against the Christian community as a result of Jones’ call. In fact, one of the first statements issued against Pastor Jones in early August was from the Egyptian Protestant Churches. A few days later, the Interfaith Relations Commission of the National Council of Churches in the US, issued a statement entitled, “As the observance of Ramadan begins, a call for respect for Muslim neighbors.” The statement read, in part, “We as Christians are troubled by fellow Christians in the United States who are expressing intolerance against Muslims in words and deeds.... Such open acts of hatred are not a witness to Christian faith...They contradict the ministry of Christ and the witness of the church in the world. We ask all Christians to promote respect and love of neighbor, and to speak out against extremist ideas, working with Muslims as appropriate, in order to live out the commandment to love our neighbor, and to promote peace.” Valuable interfaith resources, and recommended readings on many topics related to interfaith relations and the Middle East are available on the Global Ministries Middle East and Europe website [[www.globalministries.org/mee](http://www.globalministries.org/mee)].

The Disciples Quadrennial Assembly (QA) was held in Greensboro, NC, July 23-27, 2010. The Middle East and Europe office facilitated the presence of four international sisters: Raysa Soylemez (Turkey), Josipa Mihajlovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Jovana Savic (Serbia), and Maha Shehadeh (Palestine). Each of these four women spoke at the Global Ministries’ booth and presented something about their work and ministry contexts at workshops during the QA, as well as participating fully throughout the Assembly. Raysa and Maha also had the chance to itinerate in Disciples’ Regions in conjunction with their time in the US—Raysa in Kentucky, and Maha in the Illinois and Wisconsin Region. The Regions also contributed generously toward covering the

expenses associated with the women's participation. From all accounts, the presence of the international sisters was meaningful and very impactful.

Global Ministries welcomed two new board members from the Middle East and Europe this year. Representing long-standing partners, Dr. Mira Rizek is the General Secretary of the YWCA of Palestine, and the Rev. Balázs Ódor is the Ecumenical Officer of the Reformed Church in Hungary. Both began their terms on the Global Ministries Board of Directors in 2010.

In Global Ministries' ongoing effort to "Tell it!," the work highlighted above, and the work of partners and mission personnel throughout the region, help to tell stories and inform our churches about the contexts and responses of churches in Poland and Hungary, the United Kingdom and France, Italy and Germany, as well as Lebanon and Syria, Israel/Palestine, Turkey and Egypt, Iraq, and throughout the Middle East and Europe. It is up to Disciples in the US and Canada to hear it, and to respond through critical presence.

## **EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION**

In the last six months, there have been many natural disasters, struggles, and challenges in East Asia and the Pacific: the Philippines had a peaceful election, but extrajudicial killings are still going on; North Korea was blamed for a South Korean naval vessel sank in March 2010, and US military exercises at sea around the Korean Peninsula have escalated, churches on both sides work hard for the reunification of North and South Korea; natural disasters occurred in many provinces in China and the northern part of North Korea, and many thousands of people have been left homeless; several partners had their general assemblies and elected their new leadership; and the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK), Global Ministries' partner in East Asia, joined us to support sisters and brothers in Haiti;

### **East Asia**

The Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) held its 13th Triennial General Assembly, April 14-21, 2010, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Rev. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang from Indonesia was elected as the General Secretary of CCA. She is the first woman to be elected to this position since CCA was founded at the Malayan capital in 1959.

### **Pacific**

The Fourth Pacific Church Leaders Meeting was held in Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, August 6-13, 2010. Delegates examined the theme of "the Cry to Sing the Lord's Song in Oceania" from the perspectives of ecumenism, climate change, governance and human rights, HIV and AIDS, women and youth. The North American Asia and Pacific Forum Delegation visited Fiji on November 15-21, 2010, including the participation of Xiaoling Zhu and James Vijayakumar, Global Ministries area executives. Ecumenical partners discussed future opportunities to work in mission together. Mr. Aaron Wiggins will serve as mission personnel for the Pacific Council of Churches (PCC) for the next 4 years.

## **Australia**

In solidarity with Palestinian Christians, the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) has asked its member Churches and the wider Australian community to consider a boycott of goods produced by Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

## **China**

China Christian Council (CCC) hosted a seminar on Reconstruction of Theological Thinking and Building-up Harmonious Churches in Nanjing, July 28-29, 2010. A 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit Yushu, Qinghai, northwest China's Province on April 14, 2010. As of April 20, 2010, 2,064 people were killed and more than 10,000 injured. Since July 2010, floods in China have left more than 740 people dead with hundreds of people missing. On August 7, 2010, Zhouqu, Gansu Province had mudslides, which resulted in the death of 1,117 people, 76 injured, 267 missing, 200 families left homeless,. The government has transferred 45,000 people to safer areas. Through The Amity Foundation, our partner in China, Global Ministries participated in disaster relief activities.

## **Hong Kong**

Hong Kong Christian Council (HKCC) actively promotes ecumenism and resource sharing on local, regional and international levels. In June and July 2010, the HKCC ran the annual Ecumenical Summer Institute for university and theological students to expose them to the ecumenical movement with opportunities for involvement in justice and social concerns. August 24, 2010, a 21-member Hong Kong tour group aboard a bus was hijacked by a dismissed Filipino policeman in Manila. Eight people were killed and 7 wounded due to the poor handling of this situation by Manila police.

## **Taiwan**

Since 1965, there has been a steady population shift in Taiwan; people from the countryside have been migrating to big city centers, especially among indigenous people. The tribal congregations are being most affected by this migration. Leaders of these congregations are working to help churches in the city centers to understand the customs and encourage their financial support. Many have done so and have enjoyed the fellowship between city and indigenous churches.

## **Micronesia**

The bi-annual General Assembly of the Micronesian Council of the United Church of Christ (MC-UCC) was held April 28-29, 2010, in Kosrae at the Lelu Church. The assembly is concerned about the health care in Hawaii and passed a resolution calling for a MCUCC Women's Assembly. The Assembly elected the leadership of MCUCC for the next two years: Rev. Shelton Neth, Moderator, Rev. Wie Fiti, General Secretary, Lawson Matouto, Treasurer, and Nena Kilafwasru, Secretary.

## **Philippines**

Presidential election, legislative elections and local elections in the Philippines were held on Monday, May 10, 2010. Benigno Aquino III was elected as the President of the Philippines. The elections were peaceful, but extrajudicial killings are still going on. The National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) has elected Rev. Fr. Rex Reyes of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines as Secretary-General. The United Church of Christ had a successful 9<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Assembly at Silliman University Church, May 25-29, 2010. The Rev. Bishop Reuel Norman O. Marigza was elected as General Secretary for the term June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2014. The General Assembly also decided to add Middle Luzon Jurisdiction to join the original six Jurisdictions.

### **South Korea**

The Ecology Community Movement Center (ECMC) of the Presbyterian Church of Republic of Korea (PROK) has been praying and working for the realization of God's life, peace, and justice in South Korea through its various programs and advocacy work for the protection and sustainability of the environment. The major advocacy work of the ECMC is focused on opposing the Four Rivers Project that will transform the four major rivers in South Korea into transport and business waterways connecting Seoul City to Pusan City.

### **South and North Korea**

This region has become extremely unstable at this time due to the recent artillery barrage by North Korea that targeted Yeonpyeong Island in South Korea killing 4 and injuring many others on November 23, 2010. On November 24, 2010 PROK (Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea) issued a statement urging the two Korean authorities not to extend the vindictive situation but to resolve it peacefully. On December 1, 2010, PROK began its signature campaign to gather support for the making of a Peace Treaty, and as of date has more than 12,000 signatures. Global Ministries fully supports the PROK position that the Korean people should have the right to make their own decision for the future of their country and for the peace of the Korean peninsula. Global Ministries stands with our brothers and sisters in solitary for a better and peaceful future.

## **MISSION INTERPRETATION AND CONSTITUENCY RELATIONSHIPS**

**Be a Global Mission Church Workbook Revision.** A revised version of the Be a Global Mission Church workbook was completed. The booklet was improved by adding some of the content of the Guide to Global Ministries as well as a program staff listing. A photocopied version that saves money and allows for continued updates has been in circulation. A Spanish version of the newly revised Be a Global Mission Church workbook was produced and used during the Hispanic gathering in July 2010. The response to this new Spanish resource was very positive.

**Weekly Global Ministries Updates.** These e-mail updates are reaching over 12,000 constituents and providing a tangible link to the work that Disciples and UCC members are doing around the world through Global Ministries. According to statistics from the

company who sends the Global Ministries updates, approximately 75% of those e-mails are being opened. This is a very encouraging percentage.

**Mission LIVE Webinars.** The Mission Interpretation offices in Cleveland and Indianapolis have had quite a bit of success using the webinar technology to allow returning missionaries and area executives who have visited partners to tell the story of how Disciples and UCC are involved in God's mission. During a webinar a PowerPoint presentation is seen on the computer screen. Participants can see the presenter in a video window and hear the person's voice as they share their PowerPoint. At the end of the presentation, participants can ask questions through the chat window.

**Be a Global Mission Church Pilgrimage for Disciples Racial/Ethnic Constituent Leaders.** On March 7-22, 2010 the Disciples racial/ethnic constituent leaders, (Timothy James – National Convocation, Huberto Pimentel – Hispanic Ministries and Geunhee Yu – North American Pacific Asian Disciples (NAPAD), traveled to India for a Be a Global Mission Church pilgrimage. During the pilgrimage conversations were planned to determine ways to better resource racial ethnic congregations in global mission.

**Haiti Videos.** In partnership with the Disciples Communication Ministry, two video clips were produced on Haiti. The first was an interview with Felix Ortiz after his first trip to Haiti after the earthquake. The second was an interview with Kim and Patrick Bentrout during their debriefing time in Indianapolis shortly after they left Haiti. An initial brainstorming session was held to discuss the next big Global Ministries video project and plans were made to begin the project with a Haiti video. The project is unique in that it has built into it a capacity building component. National Council of Spiritual Evangelical Churches of Haiti (CONASPEH) will identify key leaders to receive training in operating Flip video cameras. Five cameras have been purchased and the PIC video team filmed the trainees as they used the cameras to tell their story and the story of the people and CONASPEH communities that they represent during their visit in November.

**Ministries and Mission Interpreters.** At the writing of this report, there are 1,000 trained UCC (420) and Disciples (580) MMI's. In July of 2010 an e-mail survey was sent out to 921 MMIs (522 Disciples and 399 UCCs). The intent of the questionnaire was to see how the MMI training and network communications could be improved. The results will be used to plan the next phase of the MMI initiative. A total of 120 Disciples and UCC gathered in Cleveland, Ohio for the national MissionWorks/MMI training event on October 7-10, 2010. Several other decentralized training events were held during the course of 2010: Fort Worth, TX in May and San Diego in September.

**Be a Global Mission Region Immersion Trip Follow-up Consultation.** Global Ministries was invited to meet with the College of Regional Ministers to hear the testimonies of how the Immersion trips have impacted the ministries of the Regional Ministers and to brainstorm about how to continue the momentum and follow-up on the global mission commitment in each Region. The meeting was extremely positive. To date 26 out of 33 regions have participated in the pilgrimages. It was decided that there

will be one more Immersion Trip to enable the Regions who weren't able to participate to do so. This trip is planned for Central America in May of 2011.

**Staff Pairings with Disciples Regions and Summer Events.** The staff pairings with Disciples Region continued through the 2010 regional assemblies cycle. Staff was present at 26 of 33 events. They were involved in various ways during these gatherings throughout the year. Their presence is appreciated and expected. The Mission Interpretation Executive attended seven Regional Assemblies. The display area and workshops at Quadrennial were organized by the Mission Interpretation Office. The display area provided an opportunity for International sisters to tell the story of their ministries and interaction with Quadrennial attendees. The workshops were well attended. The Executive also resourced the Racial Ethnic events that were divided up amongst the staff and attended the NAPAD Convocation.

**College of Missions Summer Intern.** Kimberley Proctor served as a College of Mission Summer Intern with the Mission Interpretation Office. Her main project was in the area of developing short video mission moments and training the staff to use Flip Video Cameras for interviews during Overseas trips. Kimberley interviewed staff and posted those interviews on YouTube and linked them to the Global Ministries website. Her presence and skill in video work has greatly increased the capacity of staff to use video equipment. The Mission Interpretation Office is now producing video interviews of missionaries and partners who come through the Indianapolis office for posting on the Global Ministries website.

**Disciples Communicators Forum.** The Council on General Ministries asked that a regular Forum of the Communicators from all the General Units work on implementing some of the suggestions that were given by an outside firm who audited Disciples General Ministries Communication at the request and expense of the Council on General Ministries. The Mission Interpretation Executive has participated in the meetings and work of the Forum.

**Advocacy - Congo.** Global Ministries, the Center for Research on the Congo (Urbana, IL) and the Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis sponsored a Symposium in Indianapolis, IN entitled —Resource Wars in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and their Impacts on Women and Children" that was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 21-22. The symposium was organized to educate participants and mobilize them for possible advocacy on several but interrelated fronts, including: (1) cessation of the pillaging of the country's natural resources; (2) cessation of crimes against humanity committed on Congolese women and children in the process of predatory economic practices by certain proxy states in cohort with a number of companies in the industrialized world; (3) exposure of the leaders of the elite network on the looting of DRC natural resources and in the killing of innocent Congolese, especially women, children, and the elderly; and (4) the development of participatory democracy in D.R.C. under the rule of law and the reconstruction of a strong economy that reflects the country's immense resources. Plenary presentations were given by Professor Georges Nzolgota-Ntalaja (professor emeritus of African Studies, Howard University,

Washington, D.C.), Mr. Keith H. Snow (award-winning independent journalist and photographer), and Ms. Muadi Mukenge (Regional Director for Sub Saharan Africa, Global Fund).

**Advocacy - Human Trafficking.** Global Ministries have started conversations with the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries and Disciples Women Ministries on ways to partner to strengthen the two denominations education and advocacy on Human Trafficking. Both associates are currently gathering educational and advocacy resources that will be on the web by the end of the year and evaluating trafficking campaigns that Global Ministries can invite local congregations to support.

**Advocacy - Bi-Lingual National Border's Conference.** Global Ministries staff is working with other leaders of the UCC and Disciples of Christ to plan a Bi-Lingual National Border's Conference in San Diego, CA, February 10-13, 2011. Global Ministries, UCC Justice and Witness, Disciples Home Mission, and the Central Office for Hispanic Ministries are co-sponsoring the event. The event is entitled, —Turning Walls into Tables...A BORDER Experience. It will be held at Casa De Oración (Disciples of Christ) Church. The goals of the conference are to help Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ congregations to better understand the Mexico and United States border issues, to equip participants as advocates for immigration reform and provide a platform for partners in mission, including Mexico partners, to share their experience and testimony of the border. The conference will have plenary presenters and workshops from partners in mission who are working on Mexico/United States border concerns in Texas, Arizona, and California. Church partners in Mexico will share their understanding of the border and how the United States immigration law impacts their ministries and communities. The Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Program staff responsible for Washington, DC Policy, Jen Smyers, will give a presentation on immigration policy and the work of the ecumenical community on immigration reform. The Romero Center will lead the group on a one day immersion trip to the San Diego/Tijuana border. The visit to the border will provide participants with the opportunity to encounter the wall of separation and to hear from Mexican leaders about the impact of the United States immigration law on their country. The visit to the border will be designed to encourage meaningful conversations about immigration patterns and about NAFTA, with its problems and responses that directly impact the immigration concerns of the United States.

**Honduras Immersion into Ministry Pilgrimage.** In coordination with the Latin American and Caribbean area office, the Indianapolis Program Associate for Advocacy and Education organized a Honduras Immersion into Ministry: Exposure and Advocacy Fact Finding Pilgrimage for newly ordained African Americans Disciple (ordained between 2005-2010). The purpose of the pilgrimage is to develop a new generation of leaders with a holistic approach to mission, expose participants to the economic, political, social and religious realities of the Evangelical and Reform Church in Honduras and the Christian Commission for Development, and motivate participants to be advocates for Honduras in their local congregation and community. This trip is being

funded by a grant from the Disciples Black Leadership Grant and Global Ministries. The pilgrimage will be January 12-19, 2010.

## **MISSION PERSONNEL**

As a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world, the Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries participates in a ministry which attempts to break the divide among God's children by partnering with overseas partner churches in the sending and receiving of missionaries. The exchange of people and gifts serve to help unite people across geographical, racial, gender, and economic barriers. Also, other important aspects of this ministry include the presence of missionaries in congregations as they share the ministries of the partner churches and the people to people pilgrimages, which offer individuals and congregations opportunities to cross boundaries and share the love of God as they receive the love of God from those they encounter.

Missionaries are participating in ministries of Critical Presence in 43 countries around the world. They are engaged in a variety of ministries such as: theological education, leadership development, community and development work, human rights, health ministries, children's ministries, and pastoral ministries.

A total of 126 missionaries served in those 43 countries in 2010, which included 56 fully-supported missionaries, 8 global mission interns, 13 long-term volunteers, and 49 associates. In addition, 14 individuals served as short-term volunteers.

Nineteen persons, including 7 re-appointees, were appointed in 2010 to church and/or church-related institutions around the world. Terms varied from fully supported to long-term volunteer staff. This distribution by area of total appointments was Africa 8; East Asia and the Pacific 2; Europe 4; Latin America and the Caribbean 4; Middle East 1; Southern Asia 0.

The one new global mission intern supported by Week of Compassion funds is: Kristine Tisinger, South Africa.

Five new long-term volunteers (one year and longer) were appointed in 2010: Elizabeth Beach, Swaziland; Marilyn Cooper and Glenn Hebert, Ecuador; Emily Goldthwaite Fries, Jordan; and Ann Nichols, Zambia.

There were sixteen short-term volunteers (two weeks to eleven months) appointed in 2010. A list of names and term dates are available upon request.

The overseas associate category is a recognition normally given to members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ who are serving outside of the United States and Canada with a church, ecumenical institution or project that involves a ministry that is in accordance with the mission principles of the Common Global Ministries Board. There were three new associate appointments in 2010: Bonnie Carenen, Indonesia; Tod and Ana Gobledale, United Kingdom.

Eight individuals completed their service with the Common Global Ministries Board in the category of regular appointees: Donna Dudley, Angola; Patrick and Kimberley Bentrout, Haiti; Justino Perez-Ojeda and Zaida Rivera-Rivera, Mexico; Paul Pierce and Kathleen Kamphoefner, Egypt; Salvador Martinez, Thailand.

One individual resigned his service with the Common Global Ministries Board in the category of regular appointee: Ian Alexander, Israel/Palestine.

Five individuals completed their terms as global mission interns: Emily Christmas and Carla Giger, South Africa; Sandra Lee-Takei, Japan; Erin McKinney, Dominican Republic; Alan Dicken, Honduras.

Fourteen individuals completed short-term volunteer assignments (ranging from 2 weeks to 11 months) in 2010. A list of names is available upon request.

### **Missionary Relationships**

From January 1 to December 31, 2010, fifteen missionary units were involved in a ministry of critical presence through missionary visits and relationship building: Jon and Dawn Barnes, South Africa (5 months of interpretation); Mark Behle, Lesotho (5 months of interpretation); Donna Dudley, Angola (2 months of interpretation); Emily Christmas, South Africa (2 months of interpretation); Carla Giger, South Africa (2 months of interpretation); Elena Huegel, Chile (1 month of interpretation); Laslo and Coralyn Medyesy, Hungary (2 months of interpretation); Sandra Lee-Takei, Japan (3 months of interpretation); Patrick and Kimberly Bentrout, Haiti (6 months of interpretation); Anil Henry, India (3 months of interpretation); Salvador Martinez, Thailand (6 months of interpretation); Michael and Doreen McFarlane, China (4 months of interpretation); Erin McKinney, Dominican Republic (2 months of interpretation); Zoltan Szucs, Hungary (4 months of interpretation), and Alan Dicken, Honduras (1 month of interpretation). Of those visits, 144 were to UCC congregations and 99 to Disciples congregations. (16 congregations were visited per missionary unit.) There were a total of 573 missionary presentations done. (38 presentations were given per missionary unit with an average of 12 presentations per month of interpretation.)

### **People-to-People Pilgrimages**

The People to People Pilgrimage Office organized and/or assisted in the facilitation of a total of 99 pilgrimages in 2010. Five of the 99 were canceled due to major natural disasters and political unrest. There were 13 more trips in 2010 than in 2009. Following is a list of pilgrimages by area: Africa 20; East Asia and the Pacific 6; Latin America and the Caribbean 55; the Middle East and Europe 7; and Southern Asia 6. As of December 2, 2010, 55 People to People Pilgrimages had been scheduled for 2011.

### **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**Special Giving and Ministry with Donors:** In 2010 the Global Ministries Resource Development Office, in close coordination with the Financial Development Office of Wider Church Ministries/Global Ministries in Cleveland, continued to raise direct and planned gifts for the work of Global Ministries. The priorities for special giving categories for both direct and planned gifts are the following: (1) unrestricted gifts; (2) gifts for missionary and long-term volunteer support, including gifts for new missionary appointments; and, (3) restricted gifts for donor-specified partner programs or theme-based designations

In 2010 one notes a significant increase in designated direct gifts. This is in great part due to designated giving for the critical situations in Haiti and Chile in early 2010; in both places Global Ministries has long-standing partnerships with many mission connections to both Haiti and Chile in UCC and Disciple churches and judicatories. The higher level of numbers of donors (individuals, UCC/Disciple churches and judicatories, and other organizations) reported in 2009 as compared to 2008 is maintained for the period 2010 as compared to 2009, especially in the church/judicatory category.

In 2010, the following DOM permanent fund was established in support of the work of Global Ministries, facilitated by the Office of Resource Development:

*The Thomas Newton and Elma Alexander Hill Family Fund for India*, a DOM permanent fund established by Miss Marjorie Hill, former missionary to India, reinforces the legacy of vital contributions of the Hill Family for two generations to God's Christian mission in India; and, at that same time, will provide resources for that work to continue in the future.

**Promotion, Appeals, and Special Campaigns:** In addition to its normally scheduled appeals (Global Ministries Spring Appeal, the WCM Annual Appeal to UCC constituents, and the Indianapolis Year-End Appeal), campaigns (special giving promotion throughout the year and Alternative Christmas campaign), and fundraising/development activities carried out by Indianapolis and Cleveland development staff (donor visits, donor cultivation, solicitation and stewardship activities and events), the Office of Resource Development, together with the Office of Financial Development in Cleveland, carried out the following 2010 special campaigns and appeals:

The ***Critical Presence in Critical Times (CPCT) Special Appeal***, launched in September 2009 for gifts through December 2010 offset the downturn in earnings from WCM and DOM permanent funds through the receipt of approximately \$105,000 over and above gifts from 128 donors. These funds were applied to Global Ministries 2010 operating budgets in Indianapolis and Cleveland.

In 2010 Resource/Financial Development emphasized a specific aspect of special giving each month through their ***Monthly Giving Emphases***. The monthly emphases include: GoodSearch (January); Tribute Giving (February); Wills and Estate Planning (March); Matching Gifts (April); Special Giving for

Vacation Bible School and youth camp summer activities (May); Nonconventional and Innovative Giving Options (June); Child Sponsorship (July); Critical Presence in Critical Times Special Appeal (August); Charitable Gift Annuities (September); Alternative Christmas (October); Tribute giving and social network giving (November); and Special Giving for Missionary Appointments (December). Each monthly emphasis is reinforced through informational paragraphs in gift thank-you letters, specific website information, group emails to Global Ministries constituents, announcements in the weekly email Global Ministries Updates, and through taglines on development staff emails and correspondence.

## **FINANCE**

As of October 31, 2010 the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) total revenue from all sources (budget and designated) is estimated at nearly \$5.7 million, up approximately \$254 thousand from 2009. Budgeted revenue was down nearly \$76 thousand and designated giving was up \$330 thousand.

It is projected that the budget revenue as of December 31, 2010 could be down nearly \$187 thousand from the 2010 approved budget. With budget expenses expected to be underspent slightly, DOM is projecting a budget deficit and use of reserves of nearly \$65 thousand.

Of the total revenue thus far in 2010, just over \$2 million or 36% is designated giving for special programs, projects, capital and new church funding. \$1.2 million or 21% is from Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ as part of the funding of our joint work together as Global Ministries. The balance of the revenue, \$2.4 million or 43%, comes from Disciples Mission Fund (DMF), DOM Endowment distributions, United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS) endowment distributions, Christian Church Foundation (CCF) fund distributions, operating fund gifts and miscellaneous income. DMF (including the special day offerings) and the endowment revenues made up 20% and 18%, respectively, of the revenue. The remaining 5% came from the operating fund gifts from individuals and congregations, reimbursements and interest income.

The DOM Endowment assets are invested with the CCF in the Beasley Growth Fund and the Campbell Multi-strategy Fund. Annually DOM takes a draw, which is 5% of the average prior 20 quarter rolling market values of the total investment. This is used to support operations and designated spending based on the restriction of the endowment. In 2010, this draw was \$660,367 (*2009 was \$670,248*).

An independent audit is performed annually of the financial records and accounting systems of DOM. The audit is scheduled for February 2011. A complete audit will be provided for the Yearbook once the auditor's report to the finance committee of the board of directors the financial results of the audit and address any material internal control weaknesses or suggested improvement to internal controls in a management letter. As part of full disclosure and accountability, DOM wishes to disclose the 2010

salary (including housing allowance) of the president of \$107,000 (*no increases given in 2010*)

## **CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

The Global Ministries Child Sponsorship program's vital mission is to make this world a better place for disadvantaged and destitute children around the world. Through sponsorships and working with 15 partner organizations, Disciples and UCC local congregations and members share the responsibilities of aiding more than one thousand needy children around the world at this time. In addition, sponsors in 2010 year have shown their cheerfulness by giving more than \$300,000 through the program for needy international children/centers.

It is the Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program's charge to share in the love of Jesus by providing financial assistant to international partners' children by way of individual donors. Support and love from Global Ministries' sponsors have allowed thousands of children over the years an opportunity to receive life-changing hope. Many of these children never dared to dream of what they wanted in life because they knew their parents or guardians could not afford to provide them with basic meals or routine schooling; however, because of sponsors they can now have hope.

A 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti on January 12, 2010 at 4:43 p.m. It lasted for approximately 35 seconds and was blamed for killing hundreds of thousands and injuring thousands of the three million people living in Port-au-Prince and surrounding communities. Haiti is the western hemisphere's poorest nation and a country with a child sponsorship site. More than \$15,000 was sent to our partners as emergency funds for children. Local Disciples and UCC churches and members provided assistance to approximately 140 Haitian children shortly after the earthquake.

The critical presence through the sponsorship program has been witnessed over and over this year. This is most vividly representative in a letter written by Frankie, an 11 year old boy living in in Manchester, Jamaica. He wrote the following: "I stay at the Mt. Olivet Boys' Home and attend the primary school. The assistance we get is for school stuff, books and school clothes. I want to thank Global Ministries for providing us with food, clothes and money. Things would be a little better for us if we could see our families more. My family lives very far from here and I don't get to see them often. The only time I see them is when I go for the holidays." Mt. Olivet is a small center of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands that provides residential living for boys from problem home situations as well as boys living in the streets.

This fall we had the challenge of finding sponsors for twin girls in Zimbabwe. Nomatter and her twin Rumbidzai arrived at Mt. Selinda Home of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe when they were three weeks old because their mother died of malaria when they were seven days old and their father was unemployed and unable to care for them. Twins are historically considered bad luck and in the past were left to die; however, the social welfare person brought them to the Home. Sponsors were located for the girls

within a week. Many of the children living at Mt. Selinda have been orphaned because of HIV/AIDS and are now suffering from this virus. Sponsors from all of Global Ministries' centers have expressed how proud they are to support children and to be a part of the Child Sponsorship program.

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The General Board has reviewed Report No. 1110 from Division of Overseas Ministries. The report is submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and discussion. No action is required. (Discussion time 12 minutes)

**Division of Overseas Ministries  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.**

**Statements of Financial Position  
December 31, 2010 and 2009**

**Assets**

|   | 2010          | 2009          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Cash  | \$ 2,916,251  | \$ 2,920,586  |
| Receivables   | 529,697       | 453,974       |
| Prepaid expenses  | 359           | 2,502         |
| Investments   | 14,008,624    | 12,952,018    |
| Furniture and equipment - net of accumulated depreciation of<br>\$258,002 and \$241,010 | 54,367        | 46,207        |
| Beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation                       | 889,431       | 828,011       |
| Interest in United Christian Missionary Society   | 18,835,641    | 17,759,118    |
| Total assets  | \$ 37,234,370 | \$ 34,962,416 |

**Liabilities**

|                                       |           |          |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Missionary deposits                   | \$ 12,909 | \$ 3,188 |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | 40,109    | 22,656   |
| Capital lease obligation              | 15,637    | 19,545   |
| Wider Church Ministries               | 105,283   | 209,673  |
| Amounts held for others               | 94,679    | 88,321   |
| Annuities payable                     | 8,863     | 15,923   |
| Postretirement healthcare liability   | 89,687    | 97,477   |
| Total liabilities                     | 367,167   | 456,783  |

**Net Assets**

**Unrestricted**

|                                 |            |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Budget fund                     | 899,967    | 797,497    |
| Special fund                    | 2,843,474  | 2,690,409  |
| Annuity fund                    | 13,693     | 26,446     |
| Capital                         | 143,100    | 189,951    |
| Board restricted endowment fund | 12,591,332 | 11,607,230 |
| Total                           | 16,491,566 | 15,311,533 |

**Temporarily Restricted**

|   |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|
| Endowment fund                                  | 118,692    | 75,098     |
| Interest in United Christian Missionary Society | 15,595,708 | 14,527,496 |
| Total   | 15,714,400 | 14,602,594 |

**Permanently Restricted**

|   |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|
| Endowment fund  | 531,873    | 531,873    |
| Beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation | 889,431    | 828,011    |
| Interest in United Christian Missionary Society                   | 3,239,933  | 3,231,622  |
| Total   | 4,661,237  | 4,591,506  |
| Total net assets  | 36,867,203 | 34,505,633 |

|                                  |               |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 37,234,370 | \$ 34,962,416 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|

**Division of Overseas Ministries  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.**

**Statements of Activities  
Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009**

|   | 2010                 |                           |                           | Total                |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
|   | Unrestricted         | Temporarily<br>Restricted | Permanently<br>Restricted |                      |
| <b>Revenue, Gains and Other Support</b>             |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Disciples Mission Fund Distributions from OGMP -    |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Treasury Services                                   | \$ 1,411,522         | \$ -                      | \$ -                      | \$ 1,411,522         |
| Other offerings and contributions                   | 1,431,561            | -                         | -                         | 1,431,561            |
| Offerings - Week of Compassion                      | 776,318              | -                         | -                         | 776,318              |
| Distributions from United Christian Missionary      |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Society   | 889,393              | -                         | -                         | 889,393              |
| Wider Church Ministries                             | 1,586,747            | -                         | -                         | 1,586,747            |
| Contributions and bequests                          | 443,989              | -                         | -                         | 443,989              |
| Investment income                                   | 609,009              | 11,223                    | -                         | 620,232              |
|   | <u>7,148,539</u>     | <u>11,223</u>             | <u>-</u>                  | <u>7,159,762</u>     |
| Net assets released from restrictions               | 14,337               | (14,337)                  | -                         | -                    |
| Total revenue, gains and other support              | <u>7,162,876</u>     | <u>(3,114)</u>            | <u>-</u>                  | <u>7,159,762</u>     |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                     |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Program expenses                                    |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Mission Personnel Office                            | 586,314              | -                         | -                         | 586,314              |
| Africa  | 1,498,744            | -                         | -                         | 1,498,744            |
| East Asia and Pacific                               | 544,486              | -                         | -                         | 544,486              |
| Latin America and Caribbean                         | 1,659,048            | -                         | -                         | 1,659,048            |
| Middle East/Europe                                  | 519,793              | -                         | -                         | 519,793              |
| Southern Asia                                       | 385,764              | -                         | -                         | 385,764              |
| General program                                     | 436,873              | -                         | -                         | 436,873              |
| Capital and New Church                              | 7,516                | -                         | -                         | 7,516                |
| Total program expenses                              | <u>5,638,538</u>     | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                  | <u>5,638,538</u>     |
| General and administrative                          | 923,630              | -                         | -                         | 923,630              |
| Resource development                                | 336,330              | -                         | -                         | 336,330              |
| Total expenses                                      | <u>6,898,498</u>     | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                  | <u>6,898,498</u>     |
| <b>Change in Net Assets Before Other Changes</b>    | <u>264,378</u>       | <u>(3,114)</u>            | <u>-</u>                  | <u>261,264</u>       |
| <b>Other Changes</b>                                |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Change in interest in United Christian Missionary   |                      |                           |                           |                      |
| Society   | -                    | 1,068,212                 | 8,311                     | 1,076,523            |
| Change in beneficial interest in assets held by CCF | -                    | -                         | 61,420                    | 61,420               |
| Realized and unrealized gains on investments        | 928,408              | 46,708                    | -                         | 975,116              |
| Change in value of split-interest agreements        | (12,753)             | -                         | -                         | (12,753)             |
|   | <u>915,655</u>       | <u>1,114,920</u>          | <u>69,731</u>             | <u>2,100,306</u>     |
| <b>Change in Net Assets</b>                         | 1,180,033            | 1,111,806                 | 69,731                    | 2,361,570            |
| <b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>                | <u>15,311,533</u>    | <u>14,602,594</u>         | <u>4,591,506</u>          | <u>34,505,633</u>    |
| <b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>                      | <u>\$ 16,491,566</u> | <u>\$ 15,714,400</u>      | <u>\$ 4,661,237</u>       | <u>\$ 36,867,203</u> |

## 2009

| Unrestricted         | Temporarily<br>Restricted | Permanently<br>Restricted | Total                |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| \$ 1,490,558         | \$ -                      | \$ -                      | \$ 1,490,558         |
| 1,456,776            | -                         | -                         | 1,456,776            |
| 544,982              | -                         | -                         | 544,982              |
| 1,072,572            | -                         | -                         | 1,072,572            |
| 1,788,576            | -                         | -                         | 1,788,576            |
| 360,783              | -                         | -                         | 360,783              |
| 569,477              | 19,557                    | -                         | 589,034              |
| <u>7,283,724</u>     | <u>19,557</u>             | <u>-</u>                  | <u>7,303,281</u>     |
| 26,598               | (26,598)                  | -                         | -                    |
| <u>7,310,322</u>     | <u>(7,041)</u>            | <u>-</u>                  | <u>7,303,281</u>     |
| 577,372              | -                         | -                         | 577,372              |
| 1,586,844            | -                         | -                         | 1,586,844            |
| 500,647              | -                         | -                         | 500,647              |
| 1,450,874            | -                         | -                         | 1,450,874            |
| 480,023              | -                         | -                         | 480,023              |
| 451,398              | -                         | -                         | 451,398              |
| 440,700              | -                         | -                         | 440,700              |
| 36,404               | -                         | -                         | 36,404               |
| <u>5,524,262</u>     | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                  | <u>5,524,262</u>     |
| 1,034,668            | -                         | -                         | 1,034,668            |
| 356,294              | -                         | -                         | 356,294              |
| <u>6,915,224</u>     | <u>-</u>                  | <u>-</u>                  | <u>6,915,224</u>     |
| <u>395,098</u>       | <u>(7,041)</u>            | <u>-</u>                  | <u>388,057</u>       |
| -                    | 2,446,089                 | 12,444                    | 2,458,533            |
| -                    | -                         | 107,201                   | 107,201              |
| 2,003,394            | 80,539                    | -                         | 2,083,933            |
| 5,019                | -                         | -                         | 5,019                |
| <u>2,008,413</u>     | <u>2,526,628</u>          | <u>119,645</u>            | <u>4,654,686</u>     |
| 2,403,511            | 2,519,587                 | 119,645                   | 5,042,743            |
| <u>12,908,022</u>    | <u>12,083,007</u>         | <u>4,471,861</u>          | <u>29,462,890</u>    |
| <u>\$ 15,311,533</u> | <u>\$ 14,602,594</u>      | <u>\$ 4,591,506</u>       | <u>\$ 34,505,633</u> |

**Division of Overseas Ministries  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.**

**Statements of Cash Flows  
Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009**

|  | <u>2010</u>         | <u>2009</u>         |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Operating Activities</b>                          |                     |                     |
| Change in net assets                                 | \$ 2,361,570        | \$ 5,042,743        |
| Items not requiring (providing) cash                 |                     |                     |
| Depreciation   | 21,956              | 14,289              |
| Realized and unrealized gains on investments         | (975,116)           | (2,083,933)         |
| Loss on disposal of furniture and equipment          | -                   | 314                 |
| Changes in   |                     |                     |
| Receivables  | (75,723)            | 71,066              |
| Prepaid expenses                                     | 2,143               | 6,180               |
| Beneficial interest in assets held by CCF            | (61,420)            | (107,201)           |
| Interest in United Christian Missionary Society      | (1,076,523)         | (2,458,533)         |
| Missionary deposits                                  | 9,721               | 2,538               |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses                | 17,453              | (10,023)            |
| Wider Church Ministries payable                      | (104,390)           | (105,857)           |
| Postretirement healthcare liability                  | (7,790)             | (16,655)            |
| Annuities payable                                    | (7,060)             | (739)               |
| Amounts held for others                              | (455)               | (794)               |
| Net cash provided by operating activities            | <u>104,366</u>      | <u>353,395</u>      |
| <b>Investing Activities</b>                          |                     |                     |
| Purchase of office equipment                         | (30,116)            | (22,117)            |
| Purchase of investments                              | (139,303)           | (84,332)            |
| Sales and maturities of investments                  | 64,626              | 112,991             |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities  | <u>(104,793)</u>    | <u>6,542</u>        |
| <b>Financing Activity - payment on capital lease</b> | <u>(3,908)</u>      | <u>(4,182)</u>      |
| <b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash</b>               | (4,335)             | 355,755             |
| <b>Cash, Beginning of Year</b>                       | <u>2,920,586</u>    | <u>2,564,831</u>    |
| <b>Cash, End of Year</b>                             | <u>\$ 2,916,251</u> | <u>\$ 2,920,586</u> |