

TITLE: Report of the Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM)/Global Ministries

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Effective January 1, 2008, the Disciples' Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) and Global Ministries, our common witness with the Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ (UCC), launched a Five-Year Strategic Plan, as approved by our Board of Directors on November 11, 2007.

The Strategic Plan for the years 2008-2012 is a new milestone in Global Ministries' journey; a necessary look into the future after decades of ecumenical dialogue, joint work experiments, and, since 1995, a formal partnership in mission in which Disciples and UCC share common staff, common budget, common programs/projects, and common governance in our presence and witness throughout the global community. A fruit of a 12-month discernment process – involving board members, international partners, home-based staffs, missionaries, and other UCC/Disciples constituents – Global Ministries Strategic Plan begins by affirming once again our ecumenical “mission commitment to a shared life in Christ, and to an ecumenical global sharing of resources and prophetic vision of a just, sustainable, and peaceful world order, joining with God's concern for the poor and the oppressed.”

Inspired by that mission commitment as a fundamental guiding principle, the Strategic Plan establishes concrete goals, objectives and activities/programs/projects to implement what, in 2004, Global Ministries had adopted as its Critical Presence strategic approach in mission; that is, “to be timely and appropriately meeting God's people and creation at the point of deepest need: spiritually, physically, emotionally, and/or economically.”

It is understood, however, that that Critical Presence is not something new in Global Ministries' mission journey, but an ingredient that has always been part of our global presence and witness. What is new with its adoption is that, as our main strategic approach in mission, priority is intentionally given to programs, projects, and ministries of “acompañamiento” (that is, being there in various forms and modes of presence) to, and with, people in critical situations and needs, especially:

- a) pastoral ministries related to fear and hopelessness where people are desperate for meaning; dangerous or life-threatening situations related to social, economic or political realities;
- b) partners living in countries wherein the Christian faith is a minority faith;
- c) supporting, encouraging and accompanying in interfaith relations;
- d) conflict transformation and resolution;
- e) places where capacity-building and health care are our primary focus;
- f) facilitating the engagement of local congregations and other church settings in global mission and ministry; and/or
- g) exploring and implementing economic alternatives which empower the powerless within the human community, giving priority to the poorest communities and those in turmoil.

The Strategic Plan is divided into the four natural components of Global Ministries' daily work, that is: (1) Global Partnerships; (2) Mission Education and Advocacy; (3) Resource Development and Finance; and (4) Administration and Governance. A goal for each of these natural work components has been defined, as follows:

Goal I – Global Ministries and its partners will experience together mutual empathy and trustful “acompañamiento” at the point of deepest need;

Goal II – Church members, congregations, regions, conferences, and other constituencies will grow in their understanding of God's mission and engage faithfully and effectively in that mission globally with the “acompañamiento” of Global Ministries;

Goal III – Global Ministries will have a comprehensive financial plan and adequate financial support to undergird its mission through church members, congregations, regions, conferences, and other constituencies affirming global presence and witness as a priority in stewardship decisions; and

Goal IV – the Common Global Ministries Board of Directors and staff will be faithful and effective stewards of resources in the implementation, evaluation, communication, and oversight of the mission.

In line with the Strategic Plan's goals, but especially designed to respond to the Disciples of Christ priorities, in 2008 DOM/Global Ministries is launching the following four new initiatives designed to affirm the current imperatives of our church regarding the formation of new congregations, development of leaders, and renewal of congregational and regional life:

1. The design and implementation of "Be A Global Mission Church Training Events" for coaches (Barnabas) and pastors/leaders of new Disciples congregations, in coordination with the Disciples New Church Ministries Team. The first of these events has already been planned for May 2008, Bethany, West Virginia.
2. The design and implementation of "Be A Global Mission Region Immersion Trips" for Disciples regional ministers committed to affirming and incorporating global mission as a key component of their regional transformation strategy. The first immersion trip will be to the Disciples of Christ Community of the Congo, Africa, scheduled for September 2008, with the participation of ten regional ministers and led by Global Ministries' area executive for Africa, Sandra Gourdet, and the executive for Mission Interpretation and Constituency Relationships, Bob Shebeck.
3. The appointment of three Disciples of Christ seminarians enrolled in Disciples seminaries, or through a Disciples divinity house, to serve for ten weeks as College of Mission Summer Interns, from June to August 2008. The three summer interns will each be assigned to work with one of the following DOM/Global Ministries offices, based in Indianapolis: Mission Interpretation and Constituency Relationships; Africa office, and Latin America/Caribbean office.
4. Design and implementation of People to People Study Trips for Disciples Seminarians who have completed at least two years of theological education at a Disciples seminary or through Disciples divinity house. Eleven seminarians will participate in the first Study Trip which will be hosted by the Evangelical Pentecostal Union of Venezuela, Maracaibo, June 15 through June 25, 2008. This first study trip, led by Global Ministries Mission Personnel executive, Julia Brown Karimu, will also include the participation of the Latin America/Caribbean executive, Felix Ortiz, and missionary Carmelo Alvarez. The purpose of this fourth initiative is to (1) to equip a new generation of pastors to become global mission partners capable of developing global mission congregations; (2) to help empower Disciples of Christ seminaries to become global mission seminaries; (3) to respond to the mission imperative of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) by developing leaders with a commitment and passion for God's mission in the world; and (4) to identify individuals interested in serving as missionaries through Global Ministries.

AFRICA

There were many challenges and concerns facing the Africa Office in 2007. At the same time, with decreased funding and a reduction in missionary and home-based staff, Global Ministries and partners in 14 African nations worked together to meet many critical needs and served as a presence to each other. Churches and individuals in the USA and Canada became involved in the lives of our global partners through visits to the Continent, their prayers and financial support of crucial programs and projects identified by partners. Global Ministries' partners were present with us through their gifts, their thoughtful insight during our strategic planning process, their messages of hope, their personal sharing during visits to regions and conferences, at board meetings, and during the Disciples Assembly and UCC Synod. We are grateful to the regions, conferences and congregations for supporting the 40 global partners in the 14 nations listed below at the point of their deepest needs.

For several years, our presence in Angola has been felt through the peace building initiatives of the Council of Churches and the rebuilding/rehabilitation programs of the Evangelical Congregational Church of Angola. The socio-economic programs we support provide a firm basis for increasing the livelihood of many people, both in rural areas as well as in cities.

Theological education is a priority for our partners at Kgolagano Theological College, and we have responded by providing missionary personnel and supporting some of their key programs, one of which is a prison ministry. Critical presence for the Council of Churches has meant being involved with their HIV/AIDS program, as well as

their recovery program for orphans and vulnerable children. For the Botswana Synod, it has meant supporting their skills training for unemployed youth and young adults.

This country, which is one fourth the size of the USA, faces immense problems that are ignored by the media and international community. The war raging in the Great Lakes area of eastern Congo near Rwanda and Burundi has had far more people to die than in Darfur, Sudan. Our partners in Kinshasa and along the Congo River in Equatorial Congo, although geographically isolated from the war, have been greatly affected. Global Ministries has supported the medical work, leadership development, and agricultural programs.

The Church of the Disciples of Christ in Congo was founded in 1995 as a mission of the Disciples of Christ in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and became an autonomous church in 2003. This young church has grown phenomenally given that the country was socialist before 1997. It has distinguished itself by its accomplishments within a short timeframe – formation of leaders in all sectors, participation in ecumenical activities, establishment of short and long-term viability programs, and addressing the problems of HIV/AIDS and education for women and girls.

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church Ghana has built a very strong HIV/AIDS program with a major emphasis on youth education. The critical need for water in rural communities was met as a result of partnerships formed with churches in the United States. Our journey with the Christian Council of Ghana has been with their interfaith initiatives – a key component of their work.

The end of 2007 saw Kenya, a very stable and progressive country, in turmoil. A contested presidential election set off riotous events which led to the death of more than 600 people and the displacement of several thousands. A divided church surfaced confirming a critical need for long-term healing and reconciliation in the country. Our partners at the All Africa Conference of Churches took the lead in bringing political parties and church leaders together to begin the peace process.

With its worst drought in 30 years and with one of the world's highest HIV rates, 2007 left this mountainous kingdom of Lesotho struggling to cope. There were glimmers of hope as the government and aid agencies responded to the crises. Global Ministries participated by providing personnel to assist with theological education and other academic subjects, while providing assistance for their HIV/AIDS program.

Churches have taken the lead in promoting peace in the country. The Transforming Arms into Tools Program that exchanges weapons for equipment such as sewing machines, bicycles and building material sponsored by the Christian Council of Mozambique is one initiative that has had great success.

Global Ministries' partners in Namibia are focused on issues of HIV/AIDS, rights of farm workers and land reform. The Christian Council of Namibia assists with large numbers of refugees in the country. We have had the privilege of sharing with them in their ministry with the marginalized San people of the Kalahari Desert.

Under the leadership of the current general secretary, the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA) has presented its vision plan which offers hope for improved leadership through the establishment of a training academy to serve its synods in the five neighboring countries, increase the economic sustainability of the denomination and provide social and spiritual renewal for its many members. Our partners, Theological Education by Extension College (TEEC), have placed great emphasis on a ministry to prisoners. Our support of the South Council of Churches has allowed it to provide critical training within its member churches throughout the country. Our missionaries have been a critical presence in the area of education, community organization and development, and HIV/AIDS.

Global Ministries' support to the Swaziland Council of Churches has been in the area of HIV youth training. Our support to the Kukhany' Okusha Zion church has been in the area of capacity building and support to orphans and vulnerable children.

Togo, one of west Africa's most prosperous states until the 1990s, held peaceful elections in October with a new cabinet being named in December. This paved the way for major donor assistance which had been suspended for

many years. Global Ministries worked with the Togo Council of Churches to assist member churches with HIV/AIDS programs.

Our partners are addressing many issues that concern the community. In the words of the Copperbelt bishop, "The church can only be holistic when it is addressing social, economic and spiritual issues." Ministers have been asked to reinforce from the pulpit the training and teachings on HIV/AIDS that have been given in workshops and informal settings by preaching at least quarterly sermons on the subject. When the church is vocal on the subject, the message has more impact. Economic empowerment, gender equity, increased education for women and the girl child, and protection of children are also high on the agenda of partner organizations.

The situation in Zimbabwe continues to deteriorate. Global Ministries' partners suffer as they live with the political and economic instability existing in the country for several years now. The inflation rate has spiraled out of control making it the highest in the world and affecting every phase of life. Although churches are speaking out, there is division among them on how to face the crisis. Our prayers and a critical presence with our partners are needed as the church and others face the fact that the struggle will be long and painful, and certainly Zimbabwe will not change overnight.

With more than 200,000 people estimated to have been killed, according to United Nations reports, and at least 2 million displaced from their homes in Darfur since 2003, Sudan was one of the major advocacy issues during 2007. The ad hoc Sudan Committee (composed of some Disciples and United Church of Christ national staff) has done tremendous work to highlight the plight of the people in Darfur. The Committee is currently working with the Tents of Hope campaign whose goal is to draw attention to the increasing number of displaced people in Sudan.

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

In early January 2008, the 8th National Conference of the Three Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) /China Christian Council (CCC) concluded in Beijing and the names of the new leaders have been announced. Rev. Gao Feng is the President of the China Christian Council (CCC) and Elder Fu Xianwei, from Shanghai, is now the Chair of the National Committee of the Three Self Patriotic Movement. Rev. Kan Baoping was chosen as the General Secretary of the CCC and Rev. Xu Xiaohong, the General Secretary of the TSPM. This marks the passing of the torch to a new generation of leaders whose average age is around 50. More than half of the new leaders are in their 40s and 50s. There were six vice-presidents elected to the CCC and six vice-chairs to the TSPM.

During late January through the beginning of February 2008, 17 provinces and municipalities, including Anhui, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Guizhou, Shannxi, Jiangsu and Guangxi, have been affected by heavy snow and icy rain for more than 15 days, affecting a population of 60 million. The Amity Foundation, a long-time CWS partner, reported that at least 240,000 people have had to leave their homes, with some 149,000 homes collapsed and 602,000 homes damaged. The poor weather and storms caused serious shortages of electricity and reduced coal supplies in the affected areas. One high-priority example detailed by Amity is that over 239,000 persons in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in southern China are having trouble accessing drinking water. More than 16 million acres of crops have been damaged and the losses to agriculture and the economy are estimated at 53.8 billion Yuan, or about US \$7.5 billion, the Associated Press (AP) news agency has reported. One Great Hour of Sharing and Week of Compassion have responded to this emergency by supporting Amity's efforts.

Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC), Global Ministries' partner and regional human rights NGO located in Hong Kong, seeks to create messengers among the media for human rights advocacy and education by organizing press conferences, arranging interviews and maintaining and expanding contact with the media in Hong Kong.

Press conferences were held at the AHRC office and Foreign Correspondents Club to launch reports by the AHRC on International Human Rights Day, December 10. This conference provided a platform for partners in the region to update and analyze serious human rights issues in their country (i.e. the government crackdown of demonstrations in Burma, the state of emergency in Pakistan and extrajudicial killings and disappearances in the Philippines). AHRC's weekly columns appear five days a week on the Asia web site of United Press International (UPI) at www.upiasiaonline.com regarding human rights issues in Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Lastly, the Hong Kong Campaign for the Advancement of Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines (HKCAHRPP) sent the second Hong Kong fact-finding mission to the Philippines in October 2007, including meetings with both the victims and their families, and senior government officials. Bruce Van Voorhis, CGMB missionary, editor, writer, and convener who is responsible for the organization's media relations, has a key role in assisting with the AHRC's publications and events.

Asia Inter-religious Conference on Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution and Peace in Asia was held November 29 through December 1, 2007, in Tokyo, Japan. Cally Rogers-Witte, David Vargas and Xiaoling Zhu attended the conference. Japan, as a nation, forever renounced war as the Introduction of the Constitution clearly states. "We, the Japanese people resolve that never again shall we be visited with the horrors of war through the action of government" (Introduction of the Constitution). Article 9 is a firm pledge to the people in Okinawa and Asia not to wage war and military invasion ever again. It is a commitment based on the repentance of the aggression committed during the Asia Pacific war. Article 9 is a law that binds the government of Japan not to wage war under any circumstance. Since September 11, there have been significant reflections of Article 9. Doubts of retaining Article 9 are grounded in concerns of Japan's security in view of China and North Korea's increasing military and nuclear arms proliferation. Japan continues to spend an estimated 50 billion US dollars each year to maintain the second largest defense capability in the world. Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, an initiative convened by the United Nations, refers to Article 9 in the context of the challenges of arms reduction and demilitarization in North East Asia. "Japan should strictly abide by and preserve Article 9 of its Constitution. Any revision of this provision would form a threat to peace and stability in the region." Peace-loving people in the world expect Japan to keep Article 9. The conference issued a statement to promote the movement for non-violence and peace, not only in Japan, but also in Asia and in the world. The appeal to the Japanese government would constitute stopping construction of a new military base in Okinawa, withdrawing troops deployed abroad, acknowledging responsibility, and apologizing for past aggression against the people of the Pacific region.

February 5-7, the associate for Global Advocacy and Education, Derek Duncan represented U.S. churches as part of a panel addressing the topic: "The Role of the Churches regarding Peace, Unification and social Development on the Korean Peninsula." He was a guest of Global Ministries' partner, the Evangelical Church in Hesse-Nassau, Germany, at a Korean-German Seminar on South and North Korean Unification. The issue of peace, development and unification is a high priority of Global Ministries' partners on the Korean Peninsula, including South Korean Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) and North Korean, and the Korean Confederation of Churches (KCF). Both the PROK and KCF were represented by delegations at the seminar.

February 7-8, the Korean-German seminar was followed by a meeting of the Ecumenical Consortium for Peace-building and Social Development on the Korean Peninsula. The main focus was how the ecumenical community can advocate Korean re-unification and support Korean churches and communities in the process. Both topics remain urgent issues for Global Ministries' partners in North and South Korea. The National Council of Churches in Korea is planning a delegation to U.S. partner churches to encourage more vigorous lobbying by U.S. churches and aid in the reform of current U.S. policy.

Union Theological Seminary in the Philippines invited Rev. David Vargas to participate in the seminary's Grand Centennial Celebration, November 20 through 23, 2007. Due to a schedule conflict, Nancy Molin, a Global Ministries' missionary, attended the event to receive the Union Seminary's Gawad Pasasalamat (Award of Gratitude) for the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

In March 2007, a delegation of heads of Filipino Catholic and Protestant Churches visited international government leaders to present a report, "Let the Stones Cry Out," extensively documenting the systematic extrajudicial killing and other human rights abuses against the Church and community groups in the Philippines.

Cleveland associate for Global Advocacy Derek Duncan, serving as co-chair of the Philippine Working Group of the CWS-related Asia-Pacific Forum, participated in the International Ecumenical Conference on Human Rights in the Philippines in Washington, D.C., March 12 through 14. The delegation's visit was a follow-up on advocacy issues with ecumenical and grassroots partners.

UCCP Bishop Eliezer Pascua was part of the high-level delegation invited to present testimony to the U.S. Senate South Asia and Pacific Foreign Affairs Sub-committee. Many members of Congress were surprised to hear evidence of the human rights violations linked to the Philippine government, Army and police forces, including a

report from the Philippine government's own Melo Commission investigation. Bolstered by a new resolution on the Philippines situation passed at UCC General Synod in June, a Global Ministries campaign "Stop the Killings! In the Philippines" was initiated to continue education on the human rights situation, increase advocacy against the government's actions and raise support for church-related victims and their families. Global Ministries' staff and the United Nations have joined ecumenical efforts to petition the international community to intercede.

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Global Ministries continues to participate in ministries of critical presence with partners in Latin American and the Caribbean by supporting the priorities of the partners through the presence of missionaries, project grants, leadership development programs and people to people pilgrimages.

In April 2007, the Commission of Restoration, Life and Peace Council (CRVP) of the Evangelical Churches of Colombia (CEDECOL) celebrated its general assembly with the participation of 59 people, including national and regional leaders and leaders of the Women's Network. The presidents of 11 denominations and members of CEDECOL, also participated. The area executive and Michael Joseph, missionary to Colombia, were present at the event. During the Assembly, people reflected on the role of the churches and CRVP in light of the present situation in Colombia. In September 2007, the Christian Center for Justice, Peace and Nonviolent Action, and CRVP of CEDECOL presented the second edition of: A prophetic call: Colombia churches document their suffering and their hope. This report documents human rights violations committed against evangelical and protestant people in Colombia. It also highlights several significant social and peace-building initiatives undertaken by these communities as contributions towards a non-military solution to the armed conflict. It offers testimonies and highlights the rights of churches to participate in government processes to promote peace, as provided for in the Colombian constitution. In order to address the underlying factors which cause and allow unacceptable violence to continue, the churches call for targeted changes in Colombian, U.S., Canadian, and European policy. The report also spells out internal initiatives needed to restore Colombia's social fabric and hope for cooperative development.

In August 2007, the Evangelical Pentecostal Union of Venezuela (UEPV) celebrated the Second Evangelical Pentecostal Bolivarian Congress and their 50th Anniversary. The first Evangelical Bolivarian Congress took place in 1978 with the objective of uniting the countries under the Bolivarian ideal to address the situation of marginalization and poverty caused by dictatorial governments. UEPV has been in partnership with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) during 46 of those 50 years, and with the United Church of Christ through Global Ministries for the last 16 years. Bishop Julio Murray, President of the Caribbean Council of Churches, Rev. Israel Batista, General Secretary of CLAI, Dr. Violeta Rocha, Rector of the Latin American Bible University, Carlos Ham, from the World Council of Churches, as well as missionary Carmelo Alvarez and the Global Ministries area executive, participated in panel discussions. Global Ministries' co-executive, David Vargas, preached on the second night of the event. During the event, UEPV reaffirmed their commitment to social justice and transformation as a response to the Gospel. At the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Evangelical Pentecostal Union of Venezuela (UEPV) in August 2007, there was a moment of affirmation for the 10-year anniversary of the Global Partnership between UEPV and the Central Rocky Mountain conference of the UCC and the Central Rocky Mountain region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Twenty-four people from the Rocky Mountain region participated in the anniversary celebration, including the regional minister, Rev. Dr. Ron Parker, and the conference minister, Rev. Tom Rehling. During those 10 years, there have been 21 mission visits to UEPV involving 131 people from 21 UCC congregations and 8 DOC congregations. (Several people took more than one trip, so a total of 112 people from the Rocky Mountain region have visited Venezuela.) There have also been five mission visits from UEPV to the Rocky Mountain region

In October 2007, the President of the National Spiritual Council of Churches of Haiti (CONASPEH), Rev. Patrick Villier participated in a consultative meeting of Haiti, Congo and African American church leaders to promote an ubuntu/acompañamiento experience in the common quest for justice. The idea of the consultation was to set the foundation for more collaborative efforts in the search for reconciliation and conflict transformation, taking into consideration the history of enslavement and racism. Rev. Bolanga Eliko, President of Community of Disciples of Christ Church in Congo, Dr. Timothy James, Associate General Minister and Administrative Secretary of National Convocation, Dr. Sharon Watkins, Rev. Cally Rogers and Rev. David Vargas also participated in this meeting.

Global Ministries also is facilitating the encounter of South to South leaders. The General Pastor of the Evangelical United Church of Puerto Rico (former UCC conference), Rev. Edward Rivera, participated as keynote speaker at the

General Assembly of the Congregational Church of Mexico in January 2007. Also in January 2007, Joel Hernandez of Mexico participated in a retreat for a month at the Shalom Center of the Pentecostal Church of Chile.

Financial support has been provided to the following theological schools in the Latin American and the Caribbean area: Evangelical Seminary of Matanzas, Cuba; Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico; Theological Community of Honduras; Latin American Bible University, Costa Rica; Martin Luther King Jr. Evangelical University of Nicaragua; St. Andrew's Seminary of Haiti; the Institute of Graduate Theological Studies (ISEDET) in Argentina.

Response to Emergencies

With the support of One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC) and Week of Compassion (Disciples of Christ), Global Ministries responded to emergencies caused by Hurricane Dean in Jamaica (September 2007); Hurricane Felix in Nicaragua and Honduras (September 2007), Tropical Storm Noel in Dominican Republic and Haiti (November 2007); the Peru earthquake (August 2007) and a Colombia volcano eruption (May 2007).

MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE

In her 2007 Advent meditation, the Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins reflected on her first visit to the Middle East as General Minister and President. She commented: "On our recent visit to the Holy Land, someone said to us, 'We do not have the luxury of losing hope.' And so we hope—because God is faithful." How true it is: both that Middle Eastern Christians can't give up their hope for peace, justice, and reconciliation; and that God is indeed faithful.

Over the course of 2007, the Middle East and Europe office of Global Ministries sought to be a vehicle of critical presence, attempting "to be timely and appropriately meeting God's people and creation at the point of deepest need," fostering relationships of people, churches, and organizations that create communities of resistance and hope. When Palestinian residents of the Nahr al-Barid refugee camp in Beirut, Lebanon, were in desperate need of assistance and relief as the camp became the battleground in a confrontation between the Lebanese government and a criminal faction, our coordinated response with Week of Compassion to the crisis enabled our partner, the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue to supply basic needs such as food, medical supplies and clothing. The Forum is a Christian organization that actively seeks conflict transformation and reconciliation through inter-religious dialogue and networking.

In May 2007, that crisis highlighted Lebanon in the U.S. media. It was especially fortuitous then that Ms. Alexa Abi Habib, the coordinator of the Middle East Council of Churches' Justice, Peace, and Human Rights Program (and herself a Lebanese national), was able to be present at the General Assembly. Representing one of our long-standing partners in the Middle East, Alexa communicated with passion and insight the role and witness of Christians in the Middle East, where they are a minority. She also discussed the Lebanon crisis, as well as work that the MECC is doing in the field of human rights and the development of reference resources endorsed by church leaders on theology and human rights. Alexa shared the importance of sensitive and meaningful support for the Middle East Christian community by the global Christian community. Alexa spoke eloquently on the floor of the Assembly about the resolution on Iraq.

Also at General Assembly was Cathy Nichols, a Disciples member from Arizona who is currently serving as a Global Ministries missionary with the Sabeel Ecumenical Theology Center in Jerusalem. Cathy was passionate in her presentation of the difficulties the Palestinian community faces on a daily basis, highlighting the particular obstacle to reconciliation presented by Israel's construction of the separation barrier and the continued expansion of settlements. Cathy has served with Sabeel for five years, and was commissioned at General Assembly for her new term.

The ministries of both Alexa and Cathy take place in situations where Christianity is a minority faith—the Christian population of Lebanon is estimated at 30-35% of the country's total; and Palestinian Christians make up a little less than 2% of the population. For the entire Middle East and North Africa region, with a total population of about 300 million, only roughly 15 million are Christian while the majority is Muslim. Europe—an historically Christian region—is increasingly described as "post-Christian" referring to the secularizing trend, but this terminology does not reflect the increasing immigrant community which has contributed to the diversification of Europe's religious fabric, an increase in a diversity of Christian presence there. For example, Tim Rose serves Global Ministries with the Reformed Church of France. In Aubervilliers, a suburb of Paris, Tim works closely with migrants and new refugees, most coming from francophonic Africa, and who are struggling with life in a new place. The congregation

of the Reformed Church of France to which Tim is assigned is a haven for people in such situations, offering educational and legal services, as well as community and fellowship.

Not all of the migrants and refugees are Christian though, so interfaith engagement is of high priority in the Middle East and increasing importance in Europe. Many of our partners include interfaith work as a part of their program, such as the community development work (including health care and economic development) of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services in Egypt, which serves communities in Egypt that are mostly Muslim. Others, like the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, teach Christian theology in a context of pluralism and, therefore must wrestle with questions of appropriate Christian response to people of other faiths in such a context—actively engaging it intellectually and in daily life—while developing leaders for their ministries as clergy or laypeople. For some of our partners, including the Arab Group for Muslim-Christian Dialogue, it is the essence of their mission. Our support contributes to important Christian witness among an active engagement with people of other faiths, particularly Muslims.

In the United States the religious landscape is notably diverse, and Global Ministries can often bring the experience of international partners to bear on the efforts of local congregations to engage in interfaith relations locally. We are also often asked to serve in leadership roles for inter-religious dialogue in the ecumenical context. For example, the Middle East and Europe executive also represents the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) on the National Council of Churches Interfaith Relations Commission, which meets twice a year. This ecumenical Christian setting is a main forum for discussing interfaith matters and for dialogue itself. The executive also represents the Disciples on the national Jewish-Christian dialogue table, which has focused primarily on Israel-Palestine and the differing narratives and partners each group brings to the table; and is a co-convenor of the national Muslim-Christian dialogue table, which in 2007 took important steps toward constituting a pattern and process of meeting, particularly following a planning meeting in September.

In the place where the three Abrahamic faiths intersect, Israel and Palestine, 2007 marked the 40th year since the 1967 war and the occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights. On the occasion of that remembrance, Sharon Watkins and David Vargas, with their United Church of Christ and Global Ministries counterparts, issued a statement entitled, “1967-2007: The ‘Seventh’ Day Has Meant No Respite.” That statement concluded with the following reference, “We reiterate our commitment to a resolution to this enduring conflict, and to an end to the occupation. Our occupation should be the pursuit of peace with justice for all of God’s people.” It was a message to the world, and especially to Palestinian Christian partners that we indeed hear their concerns and cries, and wish to support them through the public witness ministry of *acompañamiento*. By adding our voice to our partners’, we indeed can make a difference.

Through active partnerships and relationships, missionary appointments, receiving and hearing directly from global partners visiting the US, and by visiting them ourselves, the Middle East and Europe office continues to exert efforts to be a critical presence and to understand the critical presence of partners. During her Middle East visit in October, Sharon Watkins met with Leila, Sahira, and Ranna, three Iraqi refugees in Beirut. She remembered the conversation. “We hear the women’s stories.... ‘We owned our own shop. Now we have nothing.’ Tears are welling in all our eyes now.” There are nearly four million refugees and internally displaced Iraqis, and the Disciples continue to support relief efforts. An MECC colleague in Damascus told us during that trip, about the relief response, “The people are so grateful,” he says. “You see the relief in their faces. Besides, this is what Jesus would do. We have to respond. We must keep going.”

SOUTHERN ASIA

The critical presence of Global Ministries with our partners in the region of Southern Asia at the point of their deepest needs has been quite significant during the year of 2007. It was significant that we were not only able to share their pains but also their joys. For instance, the **Christian Conference of Asia** (CCA), our regional ecumenical partner, celebrated its 50th anniversary in March, in which Global Ministries was represented. In March 1957, in Parapt, Indonesia, CCA was the first regional ecumenical body to be formed under the WCC, with the initial name ‘East Asia Christian Conference.’ The last day of the celebrations witnessed a joyous gathering of about 200,000 people in the city of Medan in Indonesia, a predominantly Muslim country. Many Muslims and government leaders also joined, participated in and supported the celebrations, and that was remarkable.

A piece of good news from **East Timor** is that the Lisa Dila School project initiated more than four years ago through the partnership of the Northern Plains Conference of UCC has finally been completed and the school was inaugurated in late August. The ethnic conflicts in East Timor had delayed the completion of the construction and the starting of the school for almost two years. This is a vocational training school established in the western mountainous region of East Timor with the hope of serving the rural population in that region without having them go to the capital city of Dili for such training. Our partner, the Protestant Church in East Timor (IPTL) has established a separate foundation called the DIDACHE Foundation for the management and running of this school. In addition IPTL has also initiated the reopening of a Christian University in the eastern city of Bacau. The Moderator of IPTL, Rev. Francisco de Vasconcelos has been appointed as the President of this university, which is an honor for the Protestant Church in East Timor. He hopes to start a theological faculty at this university soon. Dr. Carlos Madrazo, our missionary in East Timor has been very instrumental in the completion and inauguration of both the school and the university. The political situation in East Timor is somewhat calm at the moment after some initial violent conflicts following the election of a new president in June.

In **Sri Lanka**, the ethnic conflict and the civil war that have been going on for the last twenty five years continue to cause much distress to the people. Sadly, in addition to that, our partner church, the Jaffna Dioceses of the Church of South India has also been going through much turmoil for the last two years over the appointment of a new bishop and has now suffered a split. Fifty-two out of the 58 congregations refuse to accept the new bishop as they feel he was imposed upon them by the CSI leadership in India over against their will and right to elect their own bishop. In July, these 52 churches severed their relationship with the Church of South India and formed a new church called the Church of the American Ceylon Mission. Recently, a lawsuit has been filed by the disputed bishop's group against the leaders of the CACM on issues of their identity and control of institutions and properties. Along with the 10 leaders of CACM, three from our side have also been included as defendants in the lawsuit. They are: Wider Church Ministries Board, Rev. John Thomas, General Minister and President of UCC, and Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte, Executive Minister of WCM and Co-Executive of Global Ministries. The background to their inclusion is a constitutional requirement for the American Ceylon Mission, the property holding body of the Jaffna Diocese, that its body corporate, namely the Chair, Secretary and the Treasurer, be appointed by Wider Church Ministries. This requirement, which was part of the original charter in 1908, still remains unchanged for various reasons, all arising from the side of JDCSI in spite of WCM's best desires to the contrary. Attempts are in progress to resolve this crisis.

In **Myanmar** the struggle against continuing military dictatorship reached a crisis point. In February, a protest, the largest in about 20 years, was sphere headed by the coalition of the Buddhist monks and was joined by thousands of people all over the country. The government forces responded harshly and there were reports of many deaths. Eventually the government overpowered the protesters, and an uneasy calm continues to prevail. Many human rights groups have raised serious concerns, and advocacy efforts in which Global Ministries also participates are in progress.

Nepal which has been going through major political changes from monarchy to democracy has held parliamentary elections in November. A major disappointment is that the Maoist group that joined the mainstream politics and the government after the overthrow of the monarchy last year, later withdrew from the government because of the alleged failure of the other partners in the government to fulfill some of their promises prior to the November election. This has caused much anxiety to the people about political stability and peace in the country. Our partner, the National Council of Churches in Nepal (NCC) continues to work with the political leaders and leaders of other faith communities towards communal and political harmony and participation of all parties in the election process to form a stable government. In addition, the NCC Nepal continues it capacity building program for pastors and lay leaders to strengthen the various regional councils of churches which have been formed in the last two to three years. In October, co-executive Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte and the executive participated in one of NCC's capacity-building programs.

In **India**, the Church of South India (CSI) celebrated its 60th anniversary on September 27. At this moment there are some concerns in our relationship with the Church of South India because of the crisis in the Jaffna dioceses of CSI and our expectation and the pending request to the Synod leadership to bring a just and acceptable solution to the crisis. Other ecumenical partners from around the world are also kept informed of this situation as most of them also have expressed similar concerns to the Synod leadership.

MISSION PERSONNEL

Through Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ, missionaries are participating in a ministry of Critical Presence. Missionaries work along side overseas partner church members sharing their gifts and receiving gifts from those they accompany. Missionaries 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 147 missionaries served in 44 countries in 2007, which included 69 fully-supported missionaries, 9 global mission interns, 10 long-term volunteers, and 59 associates. In addition, 20 individuals served as short-term volunteers.

Nineteen persons, including seven reappointees, were appointed 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 3; East Asia and the Pacific 2; Europe 1; Latin America and the Caribbean 6; Middle East 4; and Southern Asia 3.

The three new global mission interns supported by Week of Compassion funds are: Kevin Howe, Honduras; Sandra Lee-Takei, Japan; and Amirtha Vijayakumar, Switzerland.

The long-term volunteer (one year and longer) appointed in 2007 receiving limited financial assistance was John Wallace, Chile.

There were 21 short-term volunteers (2 weeks to 11 months) appointed in 2007. 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 involving a ministry in accordance with the mission principles of the Common Global Ministries Board. There were two new associate appointments in 2007: Elizabeth Barnum, Australia, and Jonathan Pia, Philippines.

Fourteen individuals completed their service with the Common Global Ministries Board in the category of regular appointees: Larry and Tim Colvin, South Africa; Adora Lee, South Africa; Art Mehaffey, Congo; Susan Moore, Lesotho; Wayne and Ingrid Wilson, Swaziland; Elizabeth Eliason, China; Karen Haworth, China; Sam Pearson, China; Jorge Bardeguez, Nicaragua; Daniel Gourdet, Haiti; and Tim and Diane Fonderlin, Singapore.

No individual resigned from service with the Common Global Ministries Board in the category of regular appointee.

Two individuals completed their terms as global mission interns: Kim Harris, South Africa, and Ruth Edens, Lebanon.

One individual resigned her service as a global mission intern: Thandiwe Gobledale, India.

Two individuals completed their service as long term volunteers (1-2 years) with the Board: Dean Cornwell, Congo, and Tracy Hughes, Colombia.

Twenty individuals completed short-term volunteer assignments (ranging from 2 weeks to 11 months) in 2007. A list of names is available upon request.

Missionary-in-Residence

Yinxia Li, Xinyuan Zhang, and Jinhuan Wang from the HIV/AIDS Village in Henan, China, participated in United Church of Christ youth camps in southern California and a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) youth camp in Ohio. The Missionary-in-Residence Program provides opportunities for youth campers to receive the gifts and leadership of young adult leaders from our overseas church partners. Also, this program has the possibility of expanding the youths' understanding of God's mission in the world and their role in that mission.

Missionary Relationships

From January 1 to December 31, 2007, 15 missionary units were involved in a ministry of critical presence through missionary visits and relationship building: Cathy Nichols, Palestine (4 months of interpretation); Wayne and Ingrid Wilson, Swaziland (4 months of interpretation); Tim and Diane Fonderlin, Singapore (4 months of interpretation); William and Veronica Kyle, South Africa (4 months of interpretation); Adora Iris Lee, South Africa (4 months of interpretation); Elena Huegel, Chile (4 months of interpretation); Daniel Gourdet, Haiti (3 months of interpretation); Alison Stendahl, Turkey (1 month of interpretation); Art Mehaffey, Congo (4 months of interpretation); Jorge Bardeguez, Nicaragua (4 months of interpretation); Anil Henry, India (2 months of interpretation); and Xuyen Dangers, Laos (3 months of interpretation). Of those visits, 155 were to UCC congregations and 153 to Disciples congregations (24 congregations were visited per missionary unit). A total of 541 missionary presentations were done (25 presentations were given per missionary unit with an average of 15 presentations per month of interpretation).

People to People Pilgrimages

The interest of the congregations in the People-to-People Pilgrimage program continues to grow. There were 74 facilitated trips in 2007. By area, the trips were to: Africa, 17; East Asia and the Pacific, 1; Latin America and the Caribbean, 50; Middle East and Europe, 3; and Southern Asia, 3.

The following countries received groups: Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Angola, Swaziland, Mozambique, China, Philippines, and Thailand.

FINANCE

The Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) 2007 operating fund change in net assets is estimated to be over \$50,000. The total revenue from all sources is estimated at \$9.1 million. Of this, 35% is designated giving for special programs, projects, capital, and new church funding. \$1.6 million (or 18% of total revenue) 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 comes from Disciples Mission Fund (DMF), investments of DOM, United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS) endowment distributions, Christian Church Foundation (CCF) permanent fund distributions and operating fund gifts and income. Of the total revenue, DMF (including the special day offerings) make up 18% of this revenue. The balance was from DOM, UCMS and CCF endowment revenue for 22% and 7% from other operating fund revenue.

The DOM Endowment assets are invested with the CCF in the Beasley Growth 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 2007, this draw was \$572,328.

An independent audit is performed annually of the financial records and accounting systems of DOM. A complete audit will be provided for the Yearbook once the auditors 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 2007 salary (including housing allowance) of the president at \$97,390. Home-based staff and missionaries did not receive any increase in salaries in 2007.

MISSION INTERPRETATION AND CONSTITUENCY RELATIONSHIPS

Weekly Prayer: In September 2007, the weekly prayer format of the Global Ministries website was reworked and reintroduced to encourage regular prayer for Disciples and UCC partners around the globe. Each week a country is highlighted through a short four to six sentence prayer that is linked to one of the lectionary texts for that Sunday. Specific information about Global Ministries' partners and missionaries in the country of the week are also shared, along with any specific prayer requests that are known at the moment for the ministries which are represented.

Global Ministries' weekly updates: These weekly updates, which highlight four or five stories or information from partners and missionaries, continues to grow in quality, as well as the number of constituents being reached. At the end of 2007, over 8,000 e-mail addresses received this weekly update.

Ministries and Mission Interpretation (MMI) trainings: In 2007, Global Ministries offered the first decentralized region/conference training in Nebraska. This event brought together almost 20 participants who went through 4 sessions that led to the formulation of an individual action plan. This experience provided valuable information for the multiplication of these types of day-long MMI trainings in other locations. A national MMI training was once again held in October 2007, with over 70 individuals attending. This event brought together almost 20 racial ethnic constituents and also included a staff person from New Church Ministries with the idea of proposing a modified version of this training to the New Church Start pastors during their future training events. Another exciting aspect of the MMI training was the first training offered on the front end of a People-to-People pilgrimage to India. Twelve trip participants on the Passage to India trip met the day before their departure in Chicago for a day-long event training them in the basics of telling the story, and also gave them an orientation for their journey to India. Each of the Global Ministries sponsored group trips will now include this type of training the day before at the site of the departing international flight.

Be a Global Mission Church initiative: In 2007, the Be a Global Mission Church booklet was revised. It now includes a simple five-step process for a congregation and Disciples region to be identified as a Global Mission congregation or region. During the General Assembly in Fort Worth, the Global Ministries display was organized around the seven marks of a Global Mission Church allowing participants to explore all the different ways their congregation could connect with global mission, with the accompaniment of Global Ministries. In late 2007, plans were made to launch the first ever Be a Global Mission Region Immersion Trips for Regional Ministers. The first trip will be in September 2008.

Connecting Threads DVD: In 2007 the individual Connecting Threads videos were combined into one DVD with an easy to use seven week study guide that could be used in the context of a Sunday School class with adults or youth. This resource was the main item given away at the General Assembly in Fort Worth.

Global Ministries' staff pairing with Disciples regions: In late 2007, Global Ministries' staff was consulted to determine two or three regions with which they each could be paired. The purpose was to establish more of a presence and an ongoing relationship in each Disciples region. The staff person would attend the Assemblies of their assigned regions and nurture relationships with regional staff providing information, as needed, and encouraging participation in the Be a Global Mission congregation/region initiative. Each staff member would check in with the regional minister periodically and provide resourcing in global mission, as needed.

Transformation and New Church Start movements: Global Ministries continues to partner with the two initiatives flowing from the Disciples 2020 Vision. The Be a Global Mission Church initiative has been offered as a way for transforming and new congregations to build global mission involvement in their DNA. Trips for New Church pastors and pastors/leaders involved in transformation continue to be an effective way for these two movements to be connected to the global church and experience the energy that these relationships can bring to their individual congregations.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

In 2007, Gift Income to Global Ministries through Wider Church Ministries and Division of Overseas Ministries totaled approximately \$3.9 million in direct gifts and gifts to DOM and WCM endowment/permanent funds. This is an approximate 19% increase over year 2006 special gifts in the same categories. Of the direct gifts to DOM and WCM, approximately \$500,000 was unrestricted in nature, signifying a 5% increase in this category over 2006 unrestricted gifts.

Approximately 2,000 individuals, 256 Disciple congregations and judicatories, 470 UCC congregations and judicatories and 80 organizations, foundations, and churches of other denominations contributed special gifts to Global Ministries in 2007.

In 2007 an approximate total of \$302,000 was received designated for missionary appointments and long-term volunteer support. This compares with the total in 2006 for this category of approximately \$154,000.

The Office of Resource Development continues to promote its online giving feature on the Global Ministries website. In the period January – December 2007, there were 163 online gifts totaling \$43,201.17. This compares to 136 gifts given online in 2006, an approximate 17% increase in the number of gifts given online. The Office of

Resource Development also works with donors wishing to make recurring monthly gifts. Currently there are three donors who give recurring monthly gifts via credit card and one donor who gives monthly through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Since last report, one permanent fund was established for the work of Global Ministries. The Congo Pastors' Pension Endowment Fund was set up by the Division of Overseas Ministries at the request of partner church, the Community of the Disciples of Christ in Congo (CDCC), the Global Ministries Africa Office, and several U.S. Disciple constituents with long-standing links with ministries in Congo. The Fund will provide critically needed revenue to the CDCC as it administers pensions to its retired pastors, widows, and children. By December 31, 2007, 26 individuals or households and 3 congregations contributed a total of \$6,392.00 to the Fund's establishing principal. These donors were named as "Charter Members" of the Fund in the permanent fund agreement. Reverend Sandra Gourdet, Global Ministries' area executive for Africa, secured the appropriate signatures for the permanent fund agreement from CDCC authorities.

The 2007 Global Ministries' Spring Appeal was mailed in May to 20,935 households. The mailing was segmented to the following groups: donors who gave larger amounts in the previous year, other donors during the previous year, persons who gave in the past but not in the previous year (lapsed donors), and persons who have never given a gift. There were a total of 326 gifts to the Spring Appeal totaling \$54,828.23, as compared to a total of 263 gifts to the 2006 Spring Appeal totaling \$37,539.00. Of 2007 gifts, 54 were from new donors and 72 from lapsed donors.

The 2007 Indianapolis Year-End Appeal was mailed to 12,246 households of Disciple constituents, constituents from denominations other than UCC or Disciple, and constituents for whom no denominational affiliation is known. There were a total of 199 to the Indianapolis Year-End Appeal totaling \$164,819.31 as compared to a total of 189 gifts to the 2006 Indianapolis Year-End Appeal totaling \$59,784.50.

The Office of Resource Development promoted special giving opportunities for Vacation Bible School and youth camp programs in 2007 spring and summer. There were a total of 9 gifts received in this category in year 2007 totaling \$2,886.18. These gifts were largely designated for Global Ministries' partner projects involving children and youth.

The Office of Resource Development promoted Alternative Christmas giving opportunities in 2007, with 88 donor Alternative Christmas gifts totaling \$14,359.17 generated through this campaign during 2007, compared to 60 donors who gave \$9,973.00 in 2006. The Office of Resource Development was asked to send materials out to 26 persons and congregations; others got their information from the website. The 88 donors honored 182 persons with their Alternative Christmas gifts. Each honoree received a Global Ministries Christmas card announcing the gift and a 4x6 photograph of a Global Ministries partner project.

Associate for Resource Development: On January 1, 2007, Reverend David Owen of Austin, Texas, and former Global Ministries' missionary, continued his work with Global Ministries on a full-time basis as Associate for Resource Development. David works from his office in Austin with mostly Disciple constituents and congregations in matters of major and planned/deferred gifts.

Program Associate for Resource Development: Sarah E. Riester, of Indianapolis, began in the position of Global Ministries Program Associate for Resource Development, located in the Global Ministries Indianapolis office, on August 1, 2007. She is working with UCC and Disciples congregations who contact Global Ministries about special giving opportunities for the work.

Summer Volunteer Intern: During the period July 2 – August 28, 2007, CGMB member and seminarian Tabitha Knerr supported the Office of Resource Development in research on potential foundation sources and the elaboration of several preliminary funding requests to foundations.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

The Child Sponsorship Program is the international children's ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. With Global Ministries' partners, we share the responsibility of caring for children struggling for justice and human dignity in their countries. As Christians, sponsors demonstrate the church's critical presence by ensuring children at risk, abandoned, orphaned, and refugees who are separate and distinctive

individuals yet are able to maintain their own community, culture and faith. An article by World Vision stated it is common to say that children represent the future. Staff uses this same statement to describe the children in the sponsorship program. Nevertheless, both organizations agree that the future for children in developing countries with severe poverty, conflict, and health care -- today is their future because of the uncertainty beyond this moment in time. The main motivation of the program is to reach the poorest of the poor ~ one child at a time. The program's primary goal is to provide financial assistance to children ensuring a difference in the lives of the children and their families.

Sponsorships

More children than ever are currently being sponsored. The program averages 800 – 900 sponsored children annually and thousands have received support since the start of the program. During 2007, more than 160 children were assigned to new sponsors. Many individuals and local churches are supporting more than one child. Sponsorships are one-on-one relationships with a child and an individual, group or church. Sponsors receive bios and photos of their children once they are assigned. It is our hope that sponsors will receive at least two letters and/or progress reports during the year from their child. Many children write often, however, sometimes there are instances when a sponsor does not hear from the child they are supporting. This does not mean there is not a need. We ask sponsors to let their faith prevail and trust that their assistance is making a difference in someone's life. A sponsored child wrote to thank his sponsor for their kindness and to let the church members know that without their help, he would never be so happy. He stated, "You make me believe that I'm approaching a brighter future!"

Donations

For a dollar or less a day, sponsors can support a child. Additionally, 100% of all designated donations go to the children and their centers. There was a fundraising event at the United Church of Christ General Synod and almost \$4,000.00 was raised where proceeds were used to help defray the administrative cost of the program. More than \$19,000 was collected during the year to support the program cost from sponsorship constituents and compassionate friends of the program. Perpetual Child Sponsorship gifts added more than \$11,000 in endowments during the year and, more importantly, through the Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program, over \$229,000 was received for children and their centers participating in the program.

Mission Trip

The first Child Sponsorship trip was taken in the fall of 2007. A group of 15 participants traveled to India with the sponsorship administrator and the executive for the Southern Asia office. The mission trip focused on the participating sponsorship center, the Family Village Farm (Pannai) in Vellore, India, and visits to various projects in southern Asia. Participants were able to see first-hand the critical importance of the work being accomplished with our partners through the international ministries of the churches. Upon request, DVDs are available of the Passage to India mission trip.

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

Accountants' Report and Financial Statements

December 31, 2007 and 2006

**Division of Overseas Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

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Independent Accountants' Report on Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

Board of Directors
Division of Overseas Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.
Indianapolis, Indiana

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc. (DOM) as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of DOM's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc. as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

BKD, LLP

March 13, 2008

**Division of Overseas Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.**
Statements of Financial Position
December 31, 2007 and 2006

Assets

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cash	\$ 2,490,408	\$ 2,971,608
Receivables		
Church Finance Council, Inc. - Disciples Mission Fund	258,597	262,254
Wider Church Ministries	6,784	27,035
Christian Church Foundation, Inc.	168,620	155,633
Contributions receivable	155,940	20,710
Other	2,595	2,988
Total receivables	<u>592,536</u>	<u>468,620</u>
Prepaid expenses	7,842	7,466
Investments	16,512,188	15,099,029
Furniture and equipment - net of accumulated depreciation of \$265,742 and \$263,487	26,734	40,449
Beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation	995,516	984,421
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	<u>23,568,036</u>	<u>22,971,911</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 44,193,260</u>	<u>\$ 42,543,504</u>

Liabilities

Missionary deposits	\$ 2,705	\$ 10,197
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	31,105	42,189
Capital lease obligation	6,975	10,592
Wider Church Ministries	202,995	259,865
Amounts held for others	115,183	112,414
Annuities payable	17,205	18,455
Postretirement healthcare liability	<u>123,459</u>	<u>133,494</u>
Total liabilities	<u>499,627</u>	<u>587,206</u>

Net Assets

Unrestricted		
Budget fund	177,984	146,495
Special fund	2,965,950	3,274,182
Annuity fund	48,628	66,796
Capital	205,017	205,888
Board restricted endowment fund	<u>14,941,362</u>	<u>13,547,042</u>
Total	<u>18,338,941</u>	<u>17,240,403</u>
Temporarily Restricted		
Special fund	30,187	30,187
Endowment fund	50,558	98,138
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	<u>2,789,635</u>	<u>2,416,028</u>
Total	<u>2,870,380</u>	<u>2,544,353</u>
Permanently Restricted		
Endowment fund	710,395	691,498
Beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation	995,516	984,421
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	<u>20,778,401</u>	<u>20,495,623</u>
Total	<u>22,484,312</u>	<u>22,171,542</u>
Total net assets	<u>43,693,633</u>	<u>41,956,298</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 44,193,260</u>	<u>\$ 42,543,504</u>

**Division of Overseas Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.
Statements of Activities
Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	2007			Total
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	
Revenue, Gains and Other Support				
Disciples Mission Fund Distributions from Church Finance Council, Inc.	\$ 1,677,048	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,677,048
Other offerings and contributions	2,078,607	-	-	2,078,607
Offerings - Week of Compassion	629,538	-	-	629,538
Distributions from United Christian Missionary Society	973,334	-	-	973,334
Wider Church Ministries	1,632,199	-	-	1,632,199
Contributions and bequests	971,096	-	13,273	984,369
Investment income	898,452	55,933	-	954,385
	<u>8,860,274</u>	<u>55,933</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>8,929,480</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	43,253	(43,253)	-	-
Total revenue, gains and other support	<u>8,903,527</u>	<u>12,680</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>8,929,480</u>
Expenses				
Program expenses				
Mission Personnel Office	669,622	-	-	669,622
Africa	2,166,237	-	-	2,166,237
East Asia and Pacific	610,413	-	-	610,413
Latin America and Caribbean	1,433,370	-	-	1,433,370
Middle East/Europe	567,269	-	-	567,269
Southern Asia	684,366	-	-	684,366
General program	591,448	-	-	591,448
Capital and New Church	27,626	-	-	27,626
Total program expenses	<u>6,750,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,750,351</u>
General and administrative	841,453	-	-	841,453
Resource development	293,990	-	-	293,990
Total expenses	<u>7,885,794</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,885,794</u>
Change in Net Assets From Operations	<u>1,017,733</u>	<u>12,680</u>	<u>13,273</u>	<u>1,043,686</u>
Other Changes				
Change in interest in United Christian Missionary Society	-	313,347	282,778	596,125
Change in beneficial interest in assets held by CCF	-	-	11,095	11,095
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	98,973	-	5,624	104,597
Change in value of split interest agreements	(18,168)	-	-	(18,168)
Reclassification of donor restrictions	-	-	-	-
	<u>80,805</u>	<u>313,347</u>	<u>299,497</u>	<u>693,649</u>
Change in Net Assets	1,098,538	326,027	312,770	1,737,335
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>17,240,403</u>	<u>2,544,353</u>	<u>22,171,542</u>	<u>41,956,298</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 18,338,941</u>	<u>\$ 2,870,380</u>	<u>\$ 22,484,312</u>	<u>\$ 43,693,633</u>

2006			
Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
\$ 1,844,651	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,844,651
1,847,735	-	-	1,847,735
662,764	-	-	662,764
910,614	-	-	910,614
2,058,569	-	-	2,058,569
699,112	-	-	699,112
801,917	50,886	-	852,803
<u>8,825,362</u>	<u>50,886</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,876,248</u>
30,171	(30,171)	-	-
<u>8,855,533</u>	<u>20,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,876,248</u>
724,383	-	-	724,383
2,282,604	-	-	2,282,604
622,633	-	-	622,633
1,624,089	-	-	1,624,089
463,584	-	-	463,584
734,368	-	-	734,368
411,349	-	-	411,349
43,893	-	-	43,893
<u>6,906,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,906,903</u>
837,115	-	-	837,115
244,551	-	-	244,551
<u>7,988,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,988,569</u>
<u>866,964</u>	<u>20,715</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>887,679</u>
-	378,092	1,062,105	1,440,197
-	-	52,518	52,518
683,832	-	37,588	721,420
1,573	-	-	1,573
-	(931,903)	931,903	-
<u>685,405</u>	<u>(553,811)</u>	<u>2,084,114</u>	<u>2,215,708</u>
1,552,369	(533,096)	2,084,114	3,103,387
<u>15,688,034</u>	<u>3,077,449</u>	<u>20,087,428</u>	<u>38,852,911</u>
<u>\$ 17,240,403</u>	<u>\$ 2,544,353</u>	<u>\$ 22,171,542</u>	<u>\$ 41,956,298</u>

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

**Statements of Cash Flows
Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Operating Activities		
Change in net assets	\$ 1,737,335	\$ 3,103,387
Items not requiring (providing) cash		
Depreciation	17,759	25,110
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	(104,597)	(721,420)
Loss on disposal of furniture and equipment	1,380	386
Deferred retirement expense	(10,035)	(915)
Changes in		
Receivables	(123,916)	36,641
Prepaid expenses	(376)	391,751
Beneficial interest in assets held by CCF	(11,095)	(52,518)
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	(596,125)	(1,433,696)
Missionary deposits	(7,492)	7,061
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(11,084)	(18,938)
Wider Church Ministries payable	(56,870)	212,126
Annuities payable	(1,250)	(2,452)
Amounts held for others	2,769	7,236
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>836,403</u>	<u>1,553,759</u>
Investing Activities		
Purchase of office equipment	(5,424)	(8,089)
Purchase of investments	(1,331,712)	(982,108)
Sales and maturities of investments	23,150	541,236
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,313,986)</u>	<u>(448,961)</u>
Financing Activity - payment on capital lease	<u>(3,617)</u>	<u>(3,490)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(481,200)	1,101,308
Cash, Beginning of Year	<u>2,971,608</u>	<u>1,870,300</u>
Cash, End of Year	<u>\$ 2,490,408</u>	<u>\$ 2,971,608</u>

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

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2007 and 2006

Note 1: Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

The Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc. (DOM) was incorporated and commenced operations as a not-for-profit organization on January 29, 1973, under the laws of the State of Indiana. DOM is a general administrative unit of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) (Church) and is responsible for overseas personnel, relationships with churches, and ecumenical organizations and for global mission issues and interpretation.

The College of Missions was formed around 1909 to train missionaries for overseas service. Over the years, its function has evolved to provide educational and cross-cultural opportunities that enable pastors, teachers of the Christian faith and Christian lay persons to understand global ministries. The College of Missions supported educational and cross-cultural opportunities for a total of \$5,908 in 2007 and \$5,503 in 2006. The activities of the College of Missions are included in the financial statements of DOM.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of the revenues, expenses, gains, losses and other changes in net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash

Cash consists of bank deposits in federally insured accounts. At December 31, 2007, DOM's cash accounts exceeded federally insured limits by approximately \$2,402,000. However, they were maintained in an investment sweep account.

Investments and Investment Return

Investments in equity securities having a readily determinable fair value and in all debt securities are carried at fair value. Investment return includes dividend, interest and realized and unrealized gains and losses.

Investment return that is initially restricted by donor stipulation and for which the restriction will be satisfied in the same year is included in unrestricted net assets. Other investment return is reflected in the statements of activities as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted based upon the existence and nature of any donor or legally imposed restrictions.

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

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2007 and 2006

DOM maintains pooled investment accounts for its endowments. Investment income and realized and unrealized gains and losses from securities in the pooled investment accounts are allocated quarterly to the individual endowments based on the relationship of the fair value of the interest of each endowment to the total fair value of the pooled investments accounts, as adjusted for additions to or deductions from those accounts.

Furniture and Equipment

Furniture and equipment and items which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets are capitalized at cost and depreciated on the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives which range from five to ten years.

Temporarily and Permanently Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are those whose use by DOM has been limited by donors to a specific time period or purpose. Permanently restricted net assets have been restricted by donors to be maintained by DOM in perpetuity.

Contributions

Gifts of cash and other assets received without donor stipulations are reported as unrestricted revenue and net assets. Gifts received with a donor stipulation that limits their use are reported as temporarily or permanently restricted revenue and net assets. When a donor stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Gifts and investment income that are originally restricted by the donor and for which the restriction is met in the same time period are recorded as temporarily restricted and then released from restriction.

Unconditional gifts expected to be collected within one year are reported at their net realizable value. Unconditional gifts expected to be collected in future years are reported at the present value of estimated future cash flows. The resulting discount is amortized using the level-yield method and is reported as contribution revenue.

Income Taxes

By virtue of its inclusion in the group exemption ruling of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), DOM is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code. DOM is not considered to be a private foundation.

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

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2007 and 2006

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of supporting the various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Certain costs have been allocated among the program services, general and administrative, and resource development categories based on the actual direct expenditures and cost allocations based upon estimates of time spent by DOM personnel.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2006 financial statements to conform to the 2007 financial statement presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on the change in net assets.

Note 2: Affiliated Organizations

The Church consists of general administrative units and other organizations which are individually incorporated and function separately with their own Board of Directors. As such, each entity is independent and is responsible for its own personnel policies, financial matters, program activities and other corporate matters which are affiliated by the common cause of the Church. Below is a list of the various affiliated organizations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

Christian Board of Publication	Division of Homeland Ministries
Christian Church Foundation	Division of Overseas Ministries
Church Extension	The National Benevolent Association
Church Finance Council, Inc.	Office of General Minister and
Council on Christian Unity	President of the General Assembly
Disciples of Christ Historical Society	Pension Fund of the Christian Church
Higher Education Leadership Ministries	

In addition, DOM is affiliated with other organizations as listed in the Annual Yearbook and Directory of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

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

**Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

Note 3: Investments

DOM has invested available funds with the United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS), Church Extension, Christian Church Foundation (affiliated organizations), and the Ecumenical Development Cooperative Society. Investments are summarized as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Beasley Growth Fund of the Joint Investment Trust of the Christian Church Foundation, Inc.	\$ 16,127,801	\$ 14,700,461
Common Balanced Fund of the Joint Investment Trust of the Christian Church Foundation, Inc.	34,869	34,498
United Christian Missionary Society	68,248	86,416
Ecumenical Development Cooperative Society	100,000	100,000
Church Extension of Disciples of Christ - certificates of deposit	<u>181,270</u>	<u>177,654</u>
Total investments	<u>\$ 16,512,188</u>	<u>\$ 15,099,029</u>

The Beasley Growth Fund's asset mix at December 31, 2007 and 2006 is as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
All cap growth equities	0%	16%
Large cap equities	32	16
Mid cap value equities	10	10
Small cap growth equities	9	10
International equities	20	21
Intermediate duration bonds	10	9
Church Extension investment notes	2	2
World bonds	11	10
Alternative investments	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

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

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2007 and 2006

Note 4: Beneficial Interest in Assets Held by Christian Church Foundation

As part of its ministry, the Christian Church Foundation (CCF) receives and holds assets that are restricted by the resource provider for the benefit of organizations affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including DOM. At December 31, 2007 and 2006, these amounts included in beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation were \$995,516 and \$984,421, respectively. DOM receives distributions of income from all of the funds annually.

During 2006, DOM reclassified its beneficial interest in assets held by Christian Church Foundation. As a result, \$931,903 was reclassified from temporarily restricted net assets to permanently restricted net assets.

Note 5: Interest in United Christian Missionary Society

The declared purpose of United Christian Missionary Society (UCMS) is to support DOM and the Division of Homeland Ministries (DHM). The by-laws of UCMS limit its activities to those that are beneficial to DOM and DHM and state that funds made available by UCMS shall support the general budgets of DOM and DHM without any designation by UCMS other than those that have been made by donors. Additionally, DHM and DOM have an ongoing economic interest in the net assets of UCMS. Since DOM and UCMS are financially interrelated organizations, DOM has adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 136, *Transfers of Assets to a Not-for-Profit Organization or Charitable Trust That Raises or Holds Contributions for Others*. DOM recorded an asset of \$23,568,036 and \$22,911,651 at December 31, 2007 and 2006 representing its interest in the net assets of UCMS. DHM has also recorded its interest in the net assets of UCMS in its financial statements.

Net assets of UCMS are classified in its financial statements as follows:

	2007	2006
Unrestricted	\$ 3,840,822	\$ 3,380,783
Temporarily restricted	1,192,519	972,213
Permanently restricted	37,250,854	36,742,472
	\$ 42,284,195	\$ 41,095,468

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

**Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

Note 6: Annuities Payable

DOM has been the recipient of several gift annuities which require future payments to the donors or their named beneficiaries. The assets received from the donor are recorded at fair market value. DOM has recorded a liability at December 31, 2007 and 2006 of \$17,205 and \$18,455, which represents the present value of the future annuity obligations. The liability has been determined using a discount rate of 7%.

Note 7: Leases

DOM is obligated under a new capital lease for office equipment that expires in 2009. The gross amount of office equipment and related accumulated amortization recorded under these capital leases is as follows:

	2007	2006
Office equipment	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
Accumulated amortization	(11,025)	(7,350)
	\$ 6,975	\$ 10,650

Amortization of assets held under capital leases is included with depreciation expense.

During 1994, DOM approved, along with certain other affiliated organizations, a guaranty to a lease agreement entered into by Christian Church Services, Inc. As a guarantor for its pro rata share of the obligation, DOM will sublease operating facilities from Christian Church Services, Inc. under an operating lease arrangement. The lease commenced on February 15, 1995 and expires July 14, 2010. The lease also provides an option to extend the lease for two additional five-year terms. Rental expense for this lease included in the statements of activities for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 was \$69,918 and \$70,086, respectively.

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

**Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

Future minimum lease payments under operating leases and the present value of future minimum capital lease payments are as follows:

	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2008	\$ 3,936	\$ 70,086
2009	3,280	70,086
2010	-	35,043
2011	-	-
2012	-	-
	7,216	\$ 175,215
Total minimum lease payments	7,216	\$ 175,215
Amounts representing interest	(241)	
Present value of net minimum capital lease payments	\$ 6,975	

Note 8: Net Assets

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are available for capital expenditures and overseas ministry purposes of DOM as follows:

	2007	2006
Program Purposes		
Capital Promotion Program	\$ 48,276	\$ 39,611
Overseas Program	32,469	28,454
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	2,789,635	2,476,288
	\$ 2,870,380	\$ 2,544,353

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

**Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

Permanently Restricted Net Assets

The income on permanently restricted net assets from investments in perpetuity is expendable to support overseas programs of DOM and to support the operations of DOM, as follows:

	2007	2006
Investment in perpetuity, the income of which is expendable to support		
Overseas Program	\$ 231,557	\$ 216,813
Capital Promotions Program	478,838	474,685
Beneficial interest in assets held by CCF	995,516	984,421
Interest in United Christian Missionary Society	20,778,401	20,495,623
	\$ 22,484,312	\$ 22,171,542

Net Assets Released From Restrictions

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes.

	2007	2006
Purpose restrictions accomplished		
Capital Promotion Program	\$ 20,403	\$ 19,339
Overseas Program	22,850	10,832
	\$ 43,253	\$ 30,171

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

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2007 and 2006

Note 9: Postretirement Health Care Benefits

DOM provides postretirement health care coverage to certain eligible retirees through its participation in the churchwide health plan, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Health Care Benefit Trust, administered by the Pension Fund of the Christian Church, an affiliated organization. DOM continues to fund benefit costs on a pay-as-you-go basis, and, for 2007 and 2006, DOM made benefit payments to the Churchwide health plan totaling \$19,152 and \$19,562 for each respective year. DOM expects to make benefit payments of \$19,152 to the plan in 2008.

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation for retirees was \$123,459 and \$133,494. This liability was calculated using premium costs rather than claims experience, based on the nature of the churchwide plan.

The weighted-average discount rate used in determining the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation was 7%. Since DOM has accepted a "fixed" obligation, it is not affected by an increase in the trend factors.

Note 10: Wider Church Ministries

DOM and the Wider Church Ministries (WCM) work together in carrying out the overseas ministries programs of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. The WCM contributions for DOM-administered overseas ministries programs totaled \$1,632,199 and \$2,058,569 in 2007 and 2006, respectively. The WCM contributions are included in income in the accompanying statements of activities. DOM is responsible for the administration and disbursement of the funds which are included as expense in the accompanying statements of activities.

Additionally, DOM shares in certain expenses incurred by WCM. Amounts paid to WCM for shared expenses were \$1,285,095 in 2007 and \$1,235,514 in 2006.

Note 11: Pension Plan

All of the employees of DOM, who meet certain eligibility requirements, participate in a noncontributory defined-contribution retirement plan of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Payments made annually to the plan are 14% of the base salaries of employees participating in the plan. Pension expense for 2007 and 2006 was \$257,690 and \$294,861, respectively.

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

**Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2007 and 2006**

Note 12: Concentrations

For the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, approximately 20% and 27% of total contributions were received from one donor. In addition, approximately 30% and 31% of total revenue was earned from two affiliated organizations during 2007 and 2006, respectively.

Supplementary Information

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

Combining Statements of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2007 With Comparative Totals for 2006

	Unrestricted					Total
	Budget Fund	Special Fund	Capital Fund	Endowment Fund	Annuity Fund	
Revenue, Gains and Other Support						
Disciples Mission Fund Distributions from						
Church Finance Council, Inc.	\$ 1,677,048	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,677,048
Other offerings and contributions	-	2,072,860	5,747	-	-	2,078,607
Offerings - Week of Compassion	-	629,538	-	-	-	629,538
Distributions from United Christian						
Missionary Society	973,334	-	-	-	-	973,334
Wider Church Ministries	1,632,199	-	-	-	-	1,632,199
Contributions and bequests	664,431	-	-	306,665	-	971,096
Investment income	115,665	-	605	782,182	-	898,452
Assets released from designation	155,555	(362,055)	-	206,500	-	-
	<u>5,218,232</u>	<u>2,340,343</u>	<u>6,352</u>	<u>1,295,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,860,274</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	-	22,850	20,403	-	-	43,253
Total revenue, gains and other support	<u>5,218,232</u>	<u>2,363,193</u>	<u>26,755</u>	<u>1,295,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,903,527</u>
Expenses						
Program expenses						
Mission Personnel Office	459,820	209,802	-	-	-	669,622
Africa	1,324,054	842,183	-	-	-	2,166,237
East Asia and Pacific	436,408	174,005	-	-	-	610,413
Latin America and Caribbean	861,074	572,296	-	-	-	1,433,370
Middle East/Europe	406,308	160,961	-	-	-	567,269
Southern Asia	265,822	418,544	-	-	-	684,366
General program	371,806	219,642	-	-	-	591,448
Capital and New Church	-	-	27,626	-	-	27,626
Total program expenses	<u>4,125,292</u>	<u>2,597,433</u>	<u>27,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,750,351</u>
General and administrative	767,461	73,992	-	-	-	841,453
Resource development	293,990	-	-	-	-	293,990
Total expenses	<u>5,186,743</u>	<u>2,671,425</u>	<u>27,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,885,794</u>
Change in Net Assets From Operations	<u>31,489</u>	<u>(308,232)</u>	<u>(871)</u>	<u>1,295,347</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,017,733</u>
Other Changes						
Change in interest in United Christian						
Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	-	-
Change in beneficial interest in assets held						
by CCF	-	-	-	-	-	-
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	-	-	-	98,973	-	98,973
Change in value of split interest agreements	-	-	-	-	(18,168)	(18,168)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,973</u>	<u>(18,168)</u>	<u>80,805</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>31,489</u>	<u>(308,232)</u>	<u>(871)</u>	<u>1,394,320</u>	<u>(18,168)</u>	<u>1,098,538</u>
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>146,495</u>	<u>3,274,182</u>	<u>205,888</u>	<u>13,547,042</u>	<u>66,796</u>	<u>17,240,403</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 177,984</u>	<u>\$ 2,965,950</u>	<u>\$ 205,017</u>	<u>\$ 14,941,362</u>	<u>\$ 48,628</u>	<u>\$ 18,338,941</u>

2007

Special Fund	Temporarily Restricted			Total	Permanently Restricted	Total All Funds	2006 Total All Funds
	Capital Fund	Endowment Fund					
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,677,048	\$ 1,844,651
-	-	-	-	-	-	2,078,607	1,847,735
-	-	-	-	-	-	629,538	662,764
-	-	-	-	-	-	973,334	910,614
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,632,199	2,058,569
-	-	-	-	-	13,273	984,369	705,613
22,850	20,403	12,680	55,933	-	-	954,385	852,803
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22,850	20,403	12,680	55,933	13,273	-	8,929,480	8,882,749
(22,850)	(20,403)	-	(43,253)	-	-	-	-
-	-	12,680	12,680	13,273	-	8,929,480	8,882,749
-	-	-	-	-	-	669,622	724,383
-	-	-	-	-	-	2,166,237	2,282,604
-	-	-	-	-	-	610,413	622,633
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,433,370	1,624,089
-	-	-	-	-	-	567,269	463,584
-	-	-	-	-	-	684,366	734,368
-	-	-	-	-	-	591,448	411,349
-	-	-	-	-	-	27,626	43,893
-	-	-	-	-	-	6,750,351	6,906,903
-	-	-	-	-	-	841,453	837,115
-	-	-	-	-	-	293,990	244,551
-	-	-	-	-	-	7,885,794	7,988,569
-	-	12,680	12,680	13,273	-	1,043,686	894,180
-	-	313,347	313,347	282,778	-	596,125	1,433,696
-	-	-	-	11,095	-	11,095	52,518
-	-	-	-	5,624	-	104,597	721,420
-	-	-	-	-	-	(18,168)	1,573
-	-	313,347	313,347	299,497	-	693,649	2,209,207
-	-	326,027	326,027	312,770	-	1,737,335	3,103,387
30,187	-	2,514,166	2,544,353	22,171,542	-	41,956,298	38,852,911
\$ 30,187	\$ -	\$ 2,840,193	\$ 2,870,380	\$ 22,484,312	\$ -	\$ 43,693,633	\$ 41,956,298

**Division of Overseas Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inc.**
Analysis of Expenses By Department and By Fund
Year Ended December 31, 2007

	2007			
	Budget Fund	Special Funds	Capital and New Church Funds	Total All Funds
Mission Personnel Office				
Overseas staff	\$ 217,147	\$ 36,057	\$ -	\$ 253,204
Overseas personnel office	103,172	-	-	103,172
Missionary relationships	88,452	-	-	88,452
People-to-people pilgrimages	51,049	173,745	-	224,794
Total	<u>459,820</u>	<u>209,802</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>669,622</u>
Department of Africa				
Africa office	170,141	-	-	170,141
Africa regional	50,452	300,925	-	351,377
Angola	98,945	93,188	-	192,133
Botswana	90,244	4,544	-	94,788
Congo	9,000	4,078	-	13,078
Ghana	8,000	36,385	-	44,385
Kenya	56,290	93,223	-	149,513
Lesotho	128,088	20,609	-	148,697
Mozambique	27,500	37,556	-	65,056
Namibia	6,400	400	-	6,800
South Africa	384,720	109,941	-	494,661
Swaziland	62,902	14,421	-	77,323
Togo	2,000	-	-	2,000
Zaire	180,972	55,298	-	236,270
Zambia	6,000	20,450	-	26,450
Zimbabwe	42,400	51,165	-	93,565
Total	<u>1,324,054</u>	<u>842,183</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,166,237</u>
Department of East Asia and Pacific				
East Asia and Pacific office	81,476	-	-	81,476
East Asia and Pacific regional	12,479	107,843	-	120,322
Australia	51,163	-	-	51,163
China	103,214	50,755	-	153,969
Hong Kong	64,554	-	-	64,554
Japan	73,708	-	-	73,708
Korea	484	-	-	484
New Zealand	32,631	1,282	-	33,913
Pacific Islands	5,324	-	-	5,324
Philippines	8,955	14,125	-	23,080
Taiwan	2,420	-	-	2,420
Total	<u>436,408</u>	<u>174,005</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>610,413</u>

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

Analysis of Expenses By Department and By Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2007

(continued)

	2007			
	Budget Fund	Special Funds	Capital and New Church Funds	Total All Funds
Department of Latin America and Caribbean				
Latin America and Caribbean office	\$ 154,369	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 154,369
Latin America regional	31,280	196,380	-	227,660
Argentina	55,500	10,083	-	65,583
Belize	2,500	-	-	2,500
Brazil	33,000	-	-	33,000
Chile	54,964	35,943	1,520	92,427
Columbia	36,596	43,234	-	79,830
Costa Rica	11,000	-	-	11,000
Cuba	7,000	210	-	7,210
Dominican Republic	5,000	3,494	-	8,494
Ecuador	7,500	6,611	-	14,111
El Salvador	18,000	1,500	-	19,500
Guatemala	28,050	27,814	-	55,864
Haiti	41,124	64,802	-	105,926
Honduras	90,765	24,298	-	115,063
Jamaica	15,742	5,000	-	20,742
Mexico	108,666	55,669	-	164,335
Nicaragua	72,724	12,988	-	85,712
Paraguay	10,496	72,957	-	83,453
Peru	4,000	-	-	4,000
Puerto Rico	14,000	-	-	14,000
Venezuela	58,798	11,313	-	70,111
Total	861,074	572,296	1,520	1,434,890
Department of the Middle East/Europe				
Middle East and Europe office	83,039	-	-	83,039
Middle East and Europe regional	9,269	160,761	-	170,030
France	34,050	-	-	34,050
Germany	52,659	-	-	52,659
Hungary	68,699	-	-	68,699
Israel/Palestine	69,761	-	-	69,761
Lebanon	2,735	-	-	2,735
Turkey	86,096	200	-	86,296
Total	406,308	160,961	-	567,269

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

Analysis of Expenses By Department and By Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2007

(continued)

	2007			Total All Funds
	Budget Fund	Special Funds	Capital and New Church Funds	
Department of Southern Asia				
Southern Asia office	\$ 81,476	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,476
Southern Asia regional	18,878	292,526	-	311,404
Bhutan	2,420	-	-	2,420
Burma	484	-	-	484
India	36,678	101,952	-	138,630
Indonesia	55,324	1,290	-	56,614
Laos	-	16,790	-	16,790
Malaysia	18,738	-	-	18,738
Nepal	5,808	762	-	6,570
Sri Lanka	968	3,917	-	4,885
Thailand	28,581	1,307	-	29,888
Vietnam	16,467	-	-	16,467
Total	265,822	418,544	-	684,366
General Program				
Advocacy	93,033	-	-	93,033
Communication and interpretation	164,651	23,451	-	188,102
Local church relationships	32,130	950	-	33,080
Overseas and ecumenical	74,731	-	-	74,731
Racial/Ethnic relations	7,261	-	-	7,261
Total expenses	371,806	24,401	-	396,207
General Administrative				
Board of Directors	39,953	-	-	39,953
Equipment	17,514	7,416	-	24,930
Finance	193,346	-	-	193,346
General administrative	261,977	66,576	-	328,553
General office operations	9,082	-	-	9,082
Information systems	7,910	-	-	7,910
President's office	237,679	-	-	237,679
Total expenses	767,461	73,992	-	841,453
Resource Development				
	293,990	195,241	26,106	515,337
	\$ 5,186,743	\$ 2,671,425	\$ 27,626	\$ 7,885,794