



# Disciples Christian Church

2009-2010 Annual Report





Above: Blessing the Garden of Blessings, June 2010

*On the cover:*  
Patrick Reed, Pastor Kris, and Hannah Ladaika 2010 Baptisms  
Garden of Blessings  
Prayer Shawl Ministry



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## Moderator

The 2009/2010 church year has been an exciting one with the development and adoption of our Growing Disciples Ministry Plan! This work, expertly led by David Eggert and Janie Morrison, with support from Pastor Kris and input from many interested members of our church, is a significant achievement in the life of our congregation. The Growing Disciples retreat in August 2009 was attended by almost 30 members who helped facilitate the development of the plan. The Board approved the new ministry plan in our January board meeting. I encourage you to read more about the details of this process in the Growing Disciples entry in this annual report. It is now influencing how we work to grow our ministries and share our faith.

### Bylaws and Constitution Changes

- In June 2009, the congregation approved the following amendment to our Bylaws:  
*In the absence of the moderator and the moderator-elect, the moderator's responsibilities will go to the immediate past-moderator and in their absence, the previous past-moderator and so on.*
- The September 2009 Board approved the use of our official name, Disciples Christian Church, in our Bylaws and Constitution.
- In March 2010, the Board approved the amendment to change the quorum number in the Board meetings from 21 to 12. The congregation also approved the change in a called meeting in April.

Our November 2009 Board voted to make the chairpersons of the "No Strings Attached" Puppet Ministry and our "Meet the Neighbors" Community Meals Ministry members of the Board. They also approved the "Hunger for Music/ Music for Hunger" benefit for the Heights Hunger Center that was held in May 2010.

Our Stewardship co-chairs, Toni and Bill Laursen, organized a beautiful campaign around the scripture John 15:5, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Abide in me... Bear much fruit" The tie-in to our Holy Communion was a wonderful tribute to our faith and an inspiration to serve despite the challenging economic recession in our nation.

On a snowy evening in January, our Board meeting made church history as we went through several steps to establish a quorum to vote on the new budget and the Growing Disciples Ministry Plan. First, Elaine Mates went forward before the meeting to profess her statement of faith and become an official member of the church. This immediately made her a voting member of the board since she is chair of the Fellowship Ministry! David Burton attended as a CYF Diaconate and could be the first youth member of the board to attend and vote at a meeting. Then, discussion surrounded the use of an email vote and a proxy vote. It was approved to allow the email vote only for this meeting and to not allow the proxy vote. After all this, we did make a quorum and approved both motions.

With our Vice Moderator, Don Ehrlich, working in Mexico all year, Ed Kidd, as past Moderator, stepped in to work with the Nominating Committee to fill leadership positions for the next church year. Having dinner meetings regularly, the committee worked hard and ate well as we filled all the positions (and our stomachs!)

The May Board approved the following motion from the Nominating Committee:

*We move that for one year, the committee structure at Disciples Christian Church will be modified in order to explore new and developing ministry opportunities.*

In June, the congregation met after worship in a Town Hall-style meeting in Fellowship Hall for a presentation and discussion concerning our worship services and the idea of going to two services every Sunday in the Fall of 2010. It was well attended with a lively and enthusiastic discussion. Though it was not an official congregational meeting, the attendees were overwhelmingly in favor of moving forward with the new service structure and in support of the church leaders and interested volunteers working out the details. It was voted on and approved. This support led to our two weekly Sunday morning worship offerings with new times for both services.

So much more happened in the life of our congregation this past year! Please read the various reports that follow and celebrate the dedication and hard work of our staff and the many people who volunteer their time and talents at Disciples Christian Church.

A special thank you to those who worked on and chaired committees and ministries this past year. I appreciate the office staff; Toni, Amy, Judy, and Anne who helped me so much throughout the year in many ways, and Isaac for setting up the Chapel for Board meetings. I want to especially thank Ed Kidd, Carol Edwards, and Pastor Kris for the support and advice they offered me. It was an honor and privilege to serve this congregation!

Respectfully Submitted,

**Sue Curtis**, Moderator 2009/2010

## Senior Minister

I begin this report as I began last year's: *The transformation continues at Disciples Christian Church*. On Sunday, September 20, our congregation began a monthly practice of two Sunday morning worship services, when we launched Connections casual and contemporary worship at 11:30. The theme for that morning was "Revive Us Again!" Attendance that morning was 120 in our 10:00 traditional worship and 65 for Connections. It was a great way to begin the fall season.

**Staff:** The transformation continued as we welcomed Rev. Tim Fitch to our staff in the newly created position of Associate for Family and Youth Ministries. Called to this half-time position, Tim was given the charge to build volunteer networks of support and programming for our children and youth. Bill and Susan Schoeffler, in addition to their work with the Chancel Choir and soloists, began building a student intern music ministry and youth and adult singers and instrumentalists for Connections worship. Amy Campbell continued to enlarge and expand our year-round reach into the community, creating new ministry opportunities together with and alongside volunteer leaders. Toni Laurensen retired from the Office Administrator position for health reasons, and after a brief interim period, we recently hired Anne Ward to fill that position. A recent graduate of Cleveland State University with a degree in Religious Studies, we are excited about the possibilities Anne brings to this position. We added Disciples member, Ron Werman, to our staff on a part-time basis, filling in for Judy Griffith during her surgery recovery and now during her chemotherapy. Judy continues to be here when she is able, and we are praying for her complete recovery. Issac Glover and Adrian von der Lippe continue their work with our building and grounds during the week and on Sunday mornings.

As a staff team, we grieved the loss of Nancy Kidd who had recently retired and who died on October 22, 2009. Anticipating a tight budget for 2010, the staff agreed to several changes that had personal financial impact. I gave up the mortgage subsidy that was part of my salary package when I came in 2007. Toni Laurensen and Issac Glover accepted reduced hours to 4 days weekly. And, Amy Campbell and Judy Griffith stepped in to cover the office some additional hours.

**Professional Growth:** The transformation continued as I took on a leadership role with the District 2 Disciples Clergy group in planning monthly programs. After serving on the Ohio Region's Transformation Team since I arrived in Cleveland, in February 2010 I assumed leadership of that Team. Along with Growing Disciples leader, David Eggert, I led a workshop at Legacy Christian Church in Harrison, Ohio – *How to Develop a Ministry Plan* – to 50 clergy and lay leaders of Disciples' churches in transformation. We have been asked to repeat the workshop at the Regional Assembly in Columbus on October 15, when I will also be one of the keynoters for the pre-Assembly Friday morning event.

**Congregation:** The transformation continues as it does each year in the life of the church, as we say good-bye in

meaningful memorial services to some of our longtime faithful members – Lucille Hylton, Nancy Kidd, Vera Girard, and Ruth Percy. On Palm Sunday, we welcomed two of our children into full membership as they completed Pastor's Class and entered the waters of baptism. Patrick Reed and Hannah Ladaika, and their families, indeed made this a special day. We received into membership Elie McBride, Elaine Mates, Christine Ontko and Mark Rogers-Berry (who has entered the ordination process in the Christian Church in Ohio).

Throughout this annual report, we see ministries of service in the name of Christ to each other, to our community, and in our world. David Eggert and Janie Morrison continued their leadership of developing a ministry plan, Growing Disciples, that was adopted by the Board in January 2010. Aided now by a "Vehicle for Growth" model, this living document is guiding our steps into the immediate future with a weekly Connections worship, as well as our traditional service, and many new opportunities for personal growth that are in development for Disciples Hour and other times beginning in the fall.

**Pastoral reflection:** As I write, I hear the melodies of the wrens who have made a home in the birdhouse our children made for me that hangs right outside my study. The birdhouse-making day led by Mark Ritchey was a multi-generational event – which was a joy to all who participated and a gift that keeps on giving to those of us who were given the birdhouses. Nearby in a corner outside the Oak Ridge education wing, a new flower garden is being dug and planted by Elaine Mates and Lauren Wicks. Later this afternoon I will join the Prayer Shawl Circle to knit while also praying for the needs of our congregation and blessings the shawls that will be given away. Yesterday I was on an extended pastoral phone call, which I took while seated in the newly-planted Garden of Blessings. I just received word that a bicycle rack is being installed soon in our parking lot – for those hardy souls who ride to church and meetings, are served at our Hunger Center, and anyone who is trying to care for the environment by driving less and riding more!

Any one of these things seems small when separated from the others, but together they show a commitment to the on-goingness of serving Jesus Christ as his disciples. We recognize that our growth must continue – just as the baby birds will successfully fly from their first home soon, the vegetables will nourish children who need their nutrients, and our newest Disciples who may arrive on bicycle rather than in a car. All these ministries come wrapped around those we serve much like a Holy Spirit prayer shawl! These efforts and more will help us to be growing disciples.

Our transformation will continue if our focus as Disciples continues to be outward – beyond those who are already here. Our transformation will continue as long as we call upon the renewing energy the Holy Spirit brings to all that we do.

**Rev. Kristine Eggert**

## Music

The Music Ministry Program has finished its second year under the direction of William and Susan Schoeffler.

The Chancel Choir continued to explore a variety of choral repertoire as it contributed to Sunday worship.

Cantata Sunday was a major undertaking for all musicians involved with the presentation of a majority of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah.

This year also saw the establishment of an Intern program to help to support our choir in their mission, and also extend outreach to the students in the University Circle Community as well as providing an educational opportunity for qualified students at CIM. Both our students in the choir and our paid soloists contributed throughout the church year as both section leaders in the Chancel Choir and also as soloists during Sunday service.

The summer months brought an opportunity to analyze our current library with an eye to expanding our library and broadening our repertoire. This expansion includes using music already in our library but not used to date, as well as purchasing new selections.

The Praise Ensemble was established to contribute music at the monthly Connections worship service.

The summer months focused on building a library of suitable music for this worship service in anticipation of a weekly service schedule in the fall of 2010.

Several members of the 2008- 09 Children's Choir made the transition to our Connections Praise Ensemble during this past year and we are now looking at ways to re-establish a regular music experience for the other age groups of children at DCC.

The Joyful Bells contributed during the Advent and Easter seasons. There is continued interest in this group and we look forward to highlighting them in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bill and Susan Schoeffler**, Music Ministers

## Creative Ministries

- Planned a Youth Mission Trip with Geist Christian Church from Indianapolis, June 2009. Our kids combined with their youth and adults resulted in 45 people staying in our building that week. I organized the schedule and created opportunities for the kids to work at the Heights Emergency Food Center, The Cleveland Food Bank, 2100 Lakeside, Hope Gardens, and Cleveland Christian Home.
- Organized and recruited donors for Red Cross Blood Drive in July of 2009.
- Supported the Growing Disciples initiative by researching locations and organizing breakfast and lunch for the Board Retreat in August of '09.
- Organized the Youth's Fall Retreat in Chautauqua, NY along with Pastor Tim.
- I am the staff point person for Connections – our casual and contemporary worship service. We launched a monthly service in September of 2009. Also helped with the technology and coordinated the worship participants.
- Planned and held a Ministry Team Leader meeting with Toni Laurenson and Judy Griffith.
- Participated with Children's Ed and Pastor Tim in the planning of the Spooktacular in October and the Advent Event in December.
- Created a bulletin board and other visuals for the exit area of Journey to Bethlehem.
- Organized the Disciples Christmas boot and snow pants gift for all the Bhutanese children under the age of 18. We organized a party for them during coffee fellowship the week between Christmas and the New Year.
- Helped to organize the youth Super Bowl Sub sale.
- Participated with Children's Ed on the Bunny Lunch and egg hunt on Palm Sunday.
- Organized a Spa Day to spruce up the church for Easter.
- Organized and recruited donors for a blood drive on Maundy Thursday.
- Gathered volunteers to build and plant a garden; the produce to be given to the Heights Emergency Food Center. Special thanks to Gail and Tom Haverdill for their hard work, and Mahala and Richard Huff for their expertise.
- Attended a Brian McLaren conference with Pastor Kris and Pastor Tim.
- In the summer of 2010 we planned for 6 Summer Mission Mondays. We worked at the church and at Hope Garden.
- Spent much of the summer preparing for the launch of our new Sunday schedule and Prime Time educational hour.

In addition to the above, I've also attended various committee meetings as a liaison between the Ministry Teams and staff, written articles for Church Life on a monthly basis, helped with office functions, and made Board reports.

**Amy Campbell**, Creative Ministries Director

## Growing Disciples

This was the first full year of Growing Disciples, and a full year indeed. As 2009-10 began we were just finishing our "Discovery Sessions" and developing the directions for our ministry plan. Janie Morrison and David Eggert continued to organize and facilitate the effort. In August we convened a retreat at which we explored spiritual growth and the "marks of a disciple" with a core group of interested church members.

Some of those same members met together in the fall to define marks of a disciple and to construct the key elements of our Growing Disciples Ministry Plan. By November we had a first draft of the Plan to present to the Board and the membership.

Meanwhile, the theme of Growing Disciples, Ourselves, Our Church, Our Community, Our World was adopted by the Stewardship Committee through the leadership of Toni and Bill Laursen. And the theme also became the format for Church Life.

After a month of presentations and discussions, our Board adopted the Growing Disciples Ministry Plan on January 11, 2010. The overall goals of the ministry plan are as follows.

- Alignment of current and new ministries with marks of discipleship, specifically, transformation and servanthood;
- Establishment of a systematic curriculum focused on biblical study and discipleship for children and adults; and
- Setting personal and congregational spiritual growth goals and opportunities for evaluating our progress.

After adoption we began a year of discernment and first steps for implementation of the Plan. Pastor Kris designed a "Vehicle for Growth" presentation emphasizing the four wheels of relationships, resources, outreach, and worship. Work has begun on each of these wheels. Under relationships, a group has begun to focus on two spokes in particular: educating for growth (for both adults and children), and developing a small group ministry. A first new class, "A Prayer Primer" was offered during Lent and taught by Pastor Kris. This class was well received and Pastor Kris is prepared to offer it again in the future. An alpha class, a Bible study, and other education options are also being explored. A vibrant new small group also formed, the "Prayer Shawl Ministry." This group meets weekly, knitting prayer shawls and growing spiritually through their discussions.

The worship wheel is turning as our traditional and Connections services move forward. A committee is considering plans for Connections Worship as well as our traditional worship. Our ongoing outreach ministries and our resources are just now beginning to consider connections with the Ministry Plan.

Disciples Christian was honored with an invitation to present a workshop on developing a ministry plan at the "Ignite Your Congregation Conference" at Legacy Christian Church, Harrison, OH, in April. Pastor Kris and David

described the work-in-progress at DCC to pastors and laypersons involved in churches in transformation. We have another invitation to present the workshop at the Ohio Regional Conference in October.

As we prayerfully continue our discernment, including efforts to pull resources together for all of the efforts described above, we are seeing very visible changes in ourselves, our church and beyond. And that is what Growing Disciples is all about, a determination to grow personally with the expectation that our growth will lead to growth in the church, the community and the world.

**David Eggert and Janie Morrison**, Co-chairs

## Children and Youth

Last August I joined the staff here at Disciples Christian Church and we began an exciting journey together. I started my ministry working with Gail Ritchey and Carol Reed in setting up Sunday school for the fall. We stayed with Rock Solid curriculum for our children. We also started a new Chi Rho Sunday School class using *Live It* curriculum. Over the following months that class would also begin to decorate their room as a permanent space in the building for them. In September, I went with Amy Campbell, a group of volunteers, and the Chi Rho/CYF kids to Chautauqua where we spent time getting to know each other. The following Sunday we started CYF meetings at 11:30 on Sunday.

With Fall programming started, we went on a youth bowling outing, planned a Spooktacular, and got ready for Journey to Bethlehem. Christmas season also brought us the Advent Craft workshop when our children not only made crafts for themselves but also for shut-ins.

In January, the Chi Rho kids painted and played at church. We started Lent with an intergenerational Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and despite the snow, it was well attended. During Lent, the youth helped at the Homeless Stand Down, had a lock in, and started our Peace Jam Club. In April, nine of us went to Kalamazoo to meet Betty Williams at the Great Lakes Peace Jam Conference.

We had two fundraisers, the desert raffle and Super Bowl sub sale, which helped fund our Peace Jam trip.

**Pastor Tim Fitch**, Associate Minister Children and Youth

## Adult Education

### Chapel Presentations

- Robin Phillips "How Does the Early Christian Church Get to Cleveland, Ohio?"
- Bonnie Goldner and panel "A Conversation with our Friends from Bhutan"
- George Matejka, PhD., (Chair of the Philosophy Department at Ursuline College) "The Pearls and Perils of Paul's Letters"
- Toni and Bill Laurenson presented an informational session on the stewardship campaign
- Randy Wicks "A Preview of DCC's 2010 Operating Budget- Q&A"
- Janice Ziegler (church member and Educational Director of the Western Reserve Historical Society) presented several sessions from Ray Vander Laan's "Life and Ministry of the Messiah"
- Amy Jill-Levine (of Vanderbilt Divinity School) presented, via DVD, the Book of Judges from "The Great Courses" series
- Al Kean (retired Disciples minister) gave a talk on the topic "What Do You Believe?"
- Kim Ehrlich and Mark Ritchey presented DVDs by Rob Bell, pastor of Mars Hill Church, Grand Rapids, MI, and facilitated a discussion

### Small Group Discussions

- Paul McElroy led a study on the Book of Esther
- Bill and Carol Edwards led a discussion of the book by Joseph Telushkin, *Words That Hurt, Words That Heal*, a treatment on the decline of civility in our world

Other opportunities for spiritual growth (not necessarily during Disciples Hour) included:

- Richard Burlingame's "Men of Disciples" Wednesday night study of the book *More Than A Carpenter* by Josh McDowell
- Pastor Kris' Lenten study "Prayer Primer" held after the midweek worship service during Lent
- Growing Disciples Team – Discussions (i.e. what are the marks of a disciple of Christ?), Ministry Planning, and vote on accepting the resultant Ministry Plan.

Thanks to everyone who gave their time, talent, and knowledge to enhance our church's spiritual growth

**Mary Griffith and Kim Ehrlich**, Co-Chairs

## Elders

Ed Kidd and Pat McNeilly served as chairpersons of the Elders this past year.

At our first meeting of the church year, the elders discussed how we view our roles as elders and after much meaningful thought and prayer, it was decided that we would propose two areas of change. To reduce the frequency of formal Elder's meeting, they would be scheduled according to the needs and wishes of the group. It was decided that task-based groups would be formed which would allow the elders to choose a group or groups where they felt their individual talents could best be used. Four circles were suggested: Visitation, Prayer, Care, and Cards and Letters. Elders would be encouraged to participate in the circles in which they felt most comfortable. At the November 9, 2009 Board Meeting, Pat McNeilly presented the new Elder's plan. In April, the Elders met to evaluate the new process and discuss ways to fortify our leadership through prayer providing the help, guidance and spiritual vision necessary to meet the needs of our congregation.

One very effective plan was to provide elders to meet after church with any members or visitors who felt the need for special prayers or guidance. In the spring, inserts were put in the bulletin asking members of the congregation if they would volunteer to provide meals or transportation to church members in need. We continue to serve at the communion table each Sunday. Visits to home-bound members continued and Christmas gifts and Easter plants were also delivered.

We are pleased to welcome Janie Morrison and Karen Walsh as new elders. May God continue to bless and guide us to become strong leaders who are patient, gracious and accepting while remaining clear and firm in our Disciple's beliefs and provide for the needs of our congregation.

**Ed Kidd and Pat McNeilly**, Co-Chairs

## Personnel

It has been a busy year with adding to our Staff. We welcomed Rev. Tim Fitch in Childrens ministry. Then lost our Office Administrator, Toni Laurenson, to poor health. We added to our Staff Anne Ward to the position of Office Administrator starting in May. Our year ended with the loss of Rev. Fitch.

Respectfully submitted by  
**Edward Kidd** Chair of personnel

## Journey to Bethlehem

Date of event – December 13, 2008

Committee Members/Significant volunteers:

Lauren Wicks, Mark and Gail Ritchey – co-chairs

Elaine Mates – Food Coordinator

Carol Reed – costumes

Judy Griffith, Donna Beckner – committee members/  
volunteers

Cathy Ausperk, Dale Ausperk, Greg Beckner, DJ  
Dohanyos, Tom Haverdill, Bill Laurenson, Pat Lake,  
Calvin and Rosalyn Belle – Sets and set up/Tear down

Ron Werman – publicity

Number of people participating – 111 adults and  
approximately 16 children

Number of people attending approx. 900

Submitted by:

**Lauren Wicks**

## Stewardship

The Stewardship Team worked hard on the 2010 pledge drive. Randy Wicks presented the details of the budget in a Town Hall meeting before the budget was approved in January. Toni and I would like to especially thank Randy and Judy for the many hours they put into preparing the budget. We would like to also thank the rest of the members of the team for their talents and input during this campaign.

In summary: 90 pledging units in the congregation have pledged compared to 91 last year. Of those 90 pledges, nine were individuals or family units that had not pledged in the past. There were 34 increased pledges, 31 that stayed the same, 16 that decreased and ten that did not renew their pledge.

**Toni and Bill Laurenson**, Co-chairs

## Communications

Chairperson: Ronald Werman

Member: Thon Alicia-Burlingame

During the past year, the Communications Committee has worked to communicate church events and services to the community.

An ad promoting our first Connections service was submitted to the *Heights Observer's* September issue as well as editions of the *Sun Press* and *Sun Messenger*. The ad was beautifully designed by Thon Alicia-Burlingame.

An article was printed in the October edition of the *Heights Observer* about our Connections service. It not only gave the information about the upcoming Connections service but also talked about the September service and indicated how our outreach connects to the community. An ad was printed in the October 15th edition of the *Sun* papers promoting the Connections service.

Ads were printed in the *Sun* papers as well as the *Heights Observer* promoting the "Message and Music" during the fall of 2009. Flyers were also distributed to various community businesses as well as CIM.

Dates for the Community Meal as well as the Connections service were printed in the Calendar column of the *Sun* papers as well as the online calendar of the *Heights Observer* during most of the year.

Four photos taken by Sue Curtis at the "Spooktacular" Halloween party were submitted to the *Sun* papers to be printed. Two photos were published with captions about our event.

December, 2009 saw an article in the *Heights Observer* telling of the upcoming Journey to Bethlehem event. In addition, with the graphic help of Thon Alicia-Burlingame and assistance from Judy Griffith, e-mails and flyers were sent to organizations and churches telling of the upcoming Journey to Bethlehem. Again, with the graphic help of Thon Alicia-Burlingame, Journey ads were also in the *Sun Press*, *Sun Messenger* and the *Plain Dealer*. In December, 2009, an ad was put in the *Heights Observer* as well as the *Sun Press* and *Sun Messenger* promoting our Christmas Eve service. In March and April, 2010, ads were put in the *Heights Observer* as well as the *Sun Press* and *Sun Messenger* with information about our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services.

Some photos of Disciples members at the Homeless Stand Down were taken by Barb Pennington of the Cleveland Photographic Society. I submitted the photos and wrote an article about our participation at the Homeless Stand Down for the *Heights Observer*. The article was printed in the April issue and the article and all submitted photos were shown in the online edition.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ronald Werman**

## Membership

We started the year by putting together a goody bag to welcome new visitors with homemade jam and information about our church and denomination. Dozens were distributed and well received by our visitors.

White coffee mugs were printed with our logo for distribution to new members and also available for \$5 to anyone who would like one.

Membership provided the hams for the Palm Sunday celebration luncheon.

A special thanks to Amy Campbell and Toni Laurenson for their support and assistance throughout the year!

**Trish Burton**, Chair

## Meet the Neighbors Community Meals

Our free, monthly "Meet the Neighbors" Community Meal has continued during 2009-2010 on the last Friday of each month. In total, we've served more than 3,000 meals in the past two years. More importantly, though, we've made friends within our community and outside our walls. Some of our guests have come to church, some have not. Others have brought family members along or invited their neighbors. Several of our dedicated volunteers who help month after month do not even attend church here! They just want to make a difference and help others. Throughout our membership, many people support this ministry with their time, their food and their energy. There are simply too many people to thank. The tables are decorated, the room is festive, the food is delicious and the night is filled with Christian fellowship. It's truly a demonstration of God's love.

We'd like to thank each and every person who supports this wonderful ministry.

**Cathy Ausperk and Carol Reed**, Co-Chairs

## Outreach

*I feel like a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world.*

– Mother Teresa

Thank you for responding in so many generous ways with your time, talent, and treasure.

Interfaith Housing Network (IHN) for Homeless Families – in cooperation with our sister congregation Heights Christian, DCC provided dinner and evening interaction with guests for two evenings during October, January, and April.

Cleveland Christian Home (CCH) has been the focus of many projects and countless man-hours during the year – a special gift to the Men's Mentoring program and participation in Walk for Kids at the Zoo.

Our ministry to our friends immigrating from Bhutan has continued and grown. Since we began our work two years ago, 37 families which includes 167 individuals have been resettled nearby. Our new friends are a blessing to us. You have given household items, bedding, clothing, rice cookers, baby car seats, driving lessons, car shopping advice, and huge amounts of love. Thank you to all who have shared in this very hands-on ministry giving countless hours to support the many new families.

### Special Thanksgiving and Christmas Projects

\$1,000 was given to Heights Emergency Food Center (HEFC) to provide a chicken or turkey for each family at Thanksgiving and Christmas

20 Christmas angel gifts for children served by HEFC at approx \$25 each

\$560 to HEFC from Christmas Card Tree

Gifts to our Bhutanese families

\$2,241.13 from Christmas Offering for CCH

DCC Collected 135 baby kits and 17 hygiene kits which were sent by Week of Compassion (WOC) through Church World Service to Haiti following the devastating earthquake.

55 DCC family units gathered at the Cleveland Convention Center on Sunday, February 28 to worship and serve a hot noon meal to more than 600 as part of Interact Cleveland's Homeless Stand Down on a very cold winter day. Thank you to another 50 DCC family units who created homemade meatloaf and beautiful cookies for our meal. You are such a blessing and did smiles abound!

\$2,265.85 was given to our annual Week of Compassion Offering received during Holy Week

A grant of six refurbished computers with software were given to DCC for six Bhutanese families. We hope to obtain more in the future.

Support was also provided for:

- Disciples Mission Fund (Budget line Item of \$1200 per month)
- InterAct Cleveland
- Faithful Reform in Healthcare
- UpCam
- Third World Books
- Bread for The World
- Disciple Peace Fellowship

**Bonnie Goldner**, Chair

## Memorials

I am in the process of sending letters to the families of loved ones who have balances in their memorial accounts. These letters permit the families to indicate their wishes as to how these funds may be used. If they have no particular designation for these funds, they will be used for repairs necessary for the maintenance of the church.

Disciples Christian Church mourned the deaths of the following members this past year.

June Overfield	Vera Girard
Mildred Woods (Visitor)	Ruth Percy
Nancy Kidd	

May God continue to bless these contributions and guide us to use these gifts to strengthen our church.

Respectfully submitted,

**Patricia McNeilly**, Chair Memorial Funds

## Puppet Ministry

### No Strings Attached

The 17th year of our Puppet Ministry has been an active and rewarding one for No Strings Attached. This season we were blessed with a new puppeteer, Patrick Reed, who joined our ministry. The members of our 2009-2010 team were: Karen and Dale Schmauder (Co-Directors); Melanie Cohn, Connor Mates, Gwen Mates, Emily Reed, Patrick Reed, Courtney Ritchey, Josh Ritchey, and Kelly Wittke.

No Strings Attached had an active year of spreading Christian ministry. During Advent we led the worship service at Heights Christian Church. We returned to Heights Christian Church on April 11, Holy Humor Sunday, to lead a Holy Humor worship service. We provided some of the entertainment in the sanctuary for Journey to Bethlehem. On May 11, No Strings Attached provided the program for the All-Daughters Banquet at Church of the Saviour. On June 13, No Strings Attached will participate with Pastor Kris in the worship service here at Disciples Christian Church.

Donations received for our programs and worship services are used to support our ministry and the children and youth of our church. Although we are an all-volunteer group, we do incur expenses for upkeep, repair, and upgrades to our puppets and equipment. We also provide funds to help any children in the church who may need monetary assistance to attend church camp or mission trips. This past year we provided scholarship funds to help four youth go to summer church camp. We also provided Bibles for the two youth who completed pastor's class, and we always provide a Children's Bible to the family when a child is dedicated.

We took the summer off and look forward to a rewarding and fulfilling year ahead.

**Karen and Dale Schmauder**, Co-Directors

## Treasurer

Disciples Christian Church was not immune to the effects of the economic downturn during the 2009-2010 church year. Despite having \$64,000 of bequest income from the Riel/Chapman bequest and another \$11,000 from a one-time endowment subsidy, expenses still outpaced income and left us with a loss of \$7,164 for the year 2009. The major culprit seemed to be the drop in non-pledge income, which had averaged over \$40,000/year the last four years, was budgeted for \$39,000 in 2009 but came in at only \$18,245. Personnel costs and committee expenses were under budget, helping to keep the loss to a minimum while showing good stewardship by the leaders of the church. The cash deficit that was generated by the loss for the year, was covered by cashing in a \$15,000 CD in January '10. The CD was from the Board of Church Extension and was something the church had owned for many years.

The endowment fund came back somewhat in 2009, increasing by 7% after the 33% decline experienced in 2008. However the 2009 market value of \$1.35 million has a long way to go to get back to the \$1.9 million value that was attained at year-end, 2007.

The 2010 budget was still able to benefit from the bequests received in 2008 and 2009 from the estate of Nell Rose Riel and her parents, David and Virginia Chapman. This bequest was indeed a blessing as it allowed the church to continue normal operations in tough economic times without significantly tapping into the endowment fund. Ms. Riel's bequest was an even \$20,000 and was received in November of 2008, while the combined Chapman bequest totaled \$106,726 and was received in the first quarter of 2009. The 2009 budget used \$64,000 of these bequest funds, another \$5,000 was donated to Cleveland Christian Home and the balance of \$57,726 will help subsidize the 2010 budget.

Other items of note:

- The number of pledges for 2010 (91) was the same as the prior year, however pledge dollars decreased 6% over 2009.
- Budgeted personnel costs for 2010 decreased 8% as no increase was given to staff and hours were cut for both the office administrator and the custodian.
- In January, 2010, Heights Emergency Food Center agreed to reimburse the church for heating costs, starting with a \$1,000 check to cover 2009 and agreeing to pay \$100/month going forward.
- Through May of 2010, our year-to-date loss stood at \$22,075 due primarily to:
  - Pledge income being about \$7,000 below budget
  - Fund income being \$6,000 below budget, as we elected to take a lower monthly payment to start the year
  - The budgeted one-time endowment subsidy of \$18,000 not yet being utilized

Included in this report are the year-end 2009 income statement and balance sheet as well as the same financial reports for June, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

**Randy Wicks**, Treasurer

# Disciples Christian Church Income and Expense Statement

January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>Current 12 Months</u>	<u>12 Months vs Budget</u>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
<b><u>OPERATIONS</u></b>			
Pledges	\$249,465	\$243,974.66	98%
Non Pledges	39,000	18,344.60	47%
Pledges Prior Year	1,000	1,013.00	101%
Carryover From 2008	15,660	15,660.00	100%
Matching Gifts	8,950	6,385.00	71%
Bequest Income	64,000	64,000.00	100%
Building Rental	1,400	545.00	39%
Miscellaneous Income	3,000	2,762.84	92%
	<u>382,475</u>	<u>352,685.10</u>	<u>92%</u>
<b><u>CAPITAL</u></b>			
Fund Income	69,274	69,273.99	100%
One Time Endowment Subsidy	11,330	11,330.00	100%
	<u>80,604</u>	<u>80,603.99</u>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u><u>\$463,079</u></u>	<u><u>\$433,289.09</u></u>	<u>94%</u>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>			
<b><u>OPERATIONS</u></b>			
Personnel	323,142	306,415.29	95%
Administrative/Office	16,500	17,247.16	105%
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	500	206.93	41%
Library	1,000	1,000.00	100%
Outreach- Denomination	14,400	14,400.00	100%
Outreach-Local	8,750	5,753.84	66%
Adult Education	1,600	1,400.83	88%
Children's Education	4,500	2,512.04	56%
Worship	6,000	5,079.97	85%
Stewardship	500	301.45	60%
Coffee Fellowship	800	727.49	91%
Memorial Receptions	500	84.95	17%
Family Ministry	800	637.18	80%
Journey to Bethlehem	1,355	1,355.00	100%
	<u>380,347</u>	<u>357,122.13</u>	<u>94%</u>
<b><u>CAPITAL</u></b>			
Property	29,706	34,465.39	116%
Utilities	44,259	41,159.71	93%
Capital Maintenance	5,000	5,000.00	100%
Media	2,800	2,174.39	78%
Membership	967	531.11	55%
	<u>\$82,732</u>	<u>\$83,330.60</u>	<u>101%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>\$463,079</u></u>	<u><u>\$440,452.73</u></u>	<u>95%</u>
<b>Budgeted Net Income/Expense</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$7,163.64</b>	

# Disciples Christian Church Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2009

<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>			
Checking Account	\$	18,854.12	
Money Market Account		76,692.79	
subtotal			95,546.91
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>			
Land, Building, Equipment			874,665.55
<b><u>SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS</u></b>			
Memorial Fund Savings		14,122.15	
Library Savings		<u>2,408.97</u>	
subtotal			16,531.12
<b><u>ENDOWMENT FUND GROUP</u></b>			
Key Trust Portfolio-Market Value 12-31-09		1,350,362.17	
BCK Memorial Endowment Fund		14,133.67	
Board of Church Ext-C.D.		15,007.50	
subtotal			1,379,503.34
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>			<b><u>\$ 2,366,246.92</u></b>
<b><u>RES. SPEC. PURPOSE FUNDS</u></b>			
Memorial Fund	\$	14,122.15	
Library Fund		<u>2,408.97</u>	
subtotal			\$ 16,531.12
<b><u>PREPAID PLEDGES</u></b>		7,250.00	
<b><u>DESIGNATED RESERVES</u></b>			
Piano Fund		3,269.21	
Nell Rose Riel Bequest		0.00	
David & Virginia Chapman Bequests		57,726.23	
Capital Maintenance Fund		4,585.16	
Accrued Payroll Taxes		1,928.29	
Accrued Prop. Taxes & Insurance		2,767.02	
Youth Groups		1,516.67	
Elders' Fund		262.29	
Special Music Reserve		1,467.40	
Bell Choir Reserve		4,105.75	
Puppet Group Reserve		1,982.88	
Designated Funds		6,512.26	
Designated Gifts		3,223.39	
New Orleans Mission Trip Gifts		3,468.09	
Carryover From 2008		0.00	
Playground Reserve		1,560.07	
Community Meal Reserve		797.80	
subtotal			95,172.51
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u></b>			118,953.63
<b><u>FUND BALANCE</u></b>			
* Fund Balance Account		\$2,254,456.93	
Excess Income/Expense (Budgeted)		-7,163.64	
subtotal		\$2,247,293.29	
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</u></b>			<b><u>\$ 2,366,246.92</u></b>
* includes \$87,614 contingent liability from endowment fund			

# Disciples Christian Church Income and Expense Statement

January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010

			2010 Budget	Current 6 Months	6 Months vs Budget
<b>INCOME</b>					
	<b>OPERATIONS</b>				
		Pledges	\$233,332	\$105,701.00	45%
		Non Pledges	18,000	6,940.00	39%
		Pledges Prior Year	1,000	255.00	26%
		Matching Gifts	6,385	6,525.00	102%
		Bequest Income	57,726	28,863.00	50%
		Building Rental	750	2,925.00	390%
		Miscellaneous Income	2,700	1,253.59	46%
			319,893	152,462.59	48%
	<b>CAPITAL</b>				
		Fund Income	74,270	32,064.76	43%
		One Time Endowment Subsidy	43,165		0%
			117,435	32,064.76	
		<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$437,328	\$184,527.35	42%
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
	<b>OPERATIONS</b>				
		Personnel	298,428	144,428.58	48%
		Administrative/Office	16,500	9,397.61	57%
		Pastor's Discretionary Fund	500	100.70	20%
		Outreach- Denomination	14,400	7,200.00	50%
		Outreach-Local	8,750	961.58	11%
		Adult Education	1,400	604.34	43%
		Children's Education	2,800	641.14	23%
		Worship	2,000	98.38	5%
		Music	3,000	1,143.28	38%
		Stewardship	500	0.00	0%
		Coffee Fellowship	800	252.73	32%
		Family Ministry	750	593.45	79%
		Journey to Bethlehem	1,250	0.00	0%
			351,078	165,421.79	47%
	<b>CAPITAL</b>				
		Property	35,000	16,584.18	47%
		Utilities	43,000	18,567.43	43%
		Capital Maintenance	5,000	2,499.96	50%
		Media	2,500	198.00	8%
		Membership	750	164.87	22%
			\$86,250	\$38,014.44	44%
		<b>Total</b>	\$437,328	\$203,436.23	47%
	<b>Budgeted Net Income/Expense</b>		\$0.00	-\$18,908.88	

# Disciples Christian Church Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2010

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
	Checking Account	\$14,563.36	
	Money Market Account	41,882.09	
	subtotal		56,445.45
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
	Land, Building, Equipment		874,665.55
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS</b>			
	Memorial Fund Savings	14,225.52	
	Library Savings	2,384.12	
	subtotal		16,609.64
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND GROUP</b>			
	Key Trust Portfolio-Market Value 06-30-10	1,261,495.34	
	BCK Memorial Endowment Fund	13,474.42	
	subtotal		1,274,969.76
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>			<b>\$2,222,690.40</b>
<b>RES. SPEC. PURPOSE FUNDS</b>			
	Memorial Fund	\$14,225.52	
	Library Fund	2,384.12	
	subtotal		\$16,609.64
<b>DESIGNATED RESERVES</b>			
	Piano Fund	3,269.21	
	David & Virginia Chapman Bequests	28,863.23	
	Capital Maintenance Fund	9,164.12	
	Accrued Payroll Taxes	1,622.50	
	Accrued Prop. Taxes & Insurance	0.00	
	Youth Groups	990.60	
	Elders' Fund	262.29	
	Special Music Reserve	1,565.65	
	Bell Choir Reserve	4,105.75	
	Puppet Group Reserve	1,972.80	
	Designated Funds	6,628.06	
	Designated Gifts	2,429.13	
	New Orleans Mission Trip Gifts	3,468.09	
	Playground Reserve	1,468.51	
	Community Meal Reserve	679.67	
	Blessing Garden	732.82	
	subtotal		67,222.43
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>			<b>83,832.07</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>			
	* Fund Balance Account	\$2,157,767.21	
	Excess Income/Expense (Budgeted)	-18,908.88	
	subtotal	\$2,138,858.33	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			<b>\$2,222,690.40</b>

\*includes \$87,614 contingent liability from endowment fund



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