



The Christian Church of Mid-America (Disciples of Christ)

Dear friends,

Your church in the [Christian Church of Mid-America](#) (CCMA) is busy this year, providing mission and ministry opportunities for everyone in the Region!

Here's just a sample:

- 20 [summer camps](#)
- Regional [CRY Festival](#) in Springfield
- Support by the four-person Regional Ministry Team to 240 Disciples congregations
- Pastoral support to our congregational pastors (our regional ministry team functions as our pastors' pastors traveling throughout our far-flung region while on call to serve)
- Coordinating annual [Persons in Ministry Retreat](#) designed to give our congregations' ministers rest as well as continuing education
- [New Beginnings](#) program (congregational assessment, transformation and revitalization)
- Regional [Commission on Ministry](#) (assessment and support to those who are entering the ministry)
- [Women's](#) and [Men's](#) Ministries
- [Global Ministries](#) support
- Cluster meetings, [Regional Gathering](#) (October 2017 in Sedalia)
- Training programs ([Boundary](#), [Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism](#))
- Weekly [online news updates](#) reporting what's happening throughout our region.
- Providing our link to [news and communications](#) from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Our Regional [Communications Ministry](#) offers a myriad of resources online to ministers, lay leaders and congregations
- Lay Leadership Development
- [Disciples Care Team](#)
- [Search and Call](#) support for congregations

Funding comes from the [Disciples Mission Fund](#), individuals, Christmas offering, endowment income and various other sources. **But the bulk of the funding for these important ministries must come from congregational support of the Region.**

Each Area Ministry formerly was supported primarily by congregational support in the Areas. That no longer exists, yet the mission and ministry continue. Many, if not most, congregations in the Region have eliminated either their former financial support of their Area or the Region, in the mistaken assumption that it is not needed. Because of that, we seem headed this year to a sizable financial deficit if we don't increase our income. We do have some limited reserves, but losses cannot be sustained indefinitely. If your congregation has reduced its financial support of the Region in the mistaken assumption

that such support is not needed, please re-consider and encourage your members to prayerfully consider increasing their support of the Region's mission and ministry. We need you!

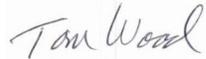
Congregations can choose to continue their giving as designated gifts to the Region, not subject to the Disciples Mission Fund (DMF) allocation formula. Designated gifts do not have a negative impact on the region's distribution via DMF. Congregations also may, and are encouraged to, make gifts to DMF, a percentage of which comes back to the Region.

What congregations have given in the past to their Area needs to be continued (and enhanced if possible). On the "[remittance form](#)" that is provided to all congregations to send to OGMP Treasury Services in Indianapolis, the line "Mid-America Ministries (formerly known as Area Support)," will ensure that 100% of those gifts are returned to the Mid-America region for the ongoing support of those ministries formerly associated with our Areas.

We all need to pitch in. Because surely we all, individually and congregationally, benefit by having a viable regional ministry with its support, mission and ministry. Conversely, we all lose if we are unable to support the mission of the Region.

Thank you for your prayers for, and financial support of, the [Christian Church of Mid-America](#).

Blessings,



Tom Wood, Treasurer and Finance Chair
CCMA

See what's happening on our social sites

