

BE A GLOBAL MISSION REGION



DISCIPLES *IDEAS FOR ACTION* AND *COMMITMENT*



GLOBAL MINISTRIES

A common witness of the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ

Be a Global Mission Region: *Ideas for Action*

We are glad that you have accepted the challenge to be a Global Mission Region. You are about to begin a transformative journey as God extends your relationships beyond our national boundaries to the ends of the earth. Here are some steps to consider:

STEP 1: GATHER a team to coordinate the Be a Global Mission Region process. Is there an existing mission committee in your region or can you gather a few individuals who have a passion for global mission? *(See page 3 of the “Be a Global Mission Church” booklet for more initial questions to consider.)*

STEP 2: LEARN about Disciples global mission heritage and current mission strategy. How much do you know about what Disciples are doing around the world in global mission? Have you seen the *Connecting Threads* DVD which gives an overview of that work? *(See pages 4-6 of the “Be a Global Mission Church” booklet to read a short history of Disciples global mission involvement with some discussion questions.)*

STEP 3: EVALUATE your current global mission involvement and discern your region’s launching point. What is your region already doing in global mission? What are the strengths and weaknesses? What should you continue? What new areas would you like to investigate? *(See pages 7-11 of the “Be a Global Mission Church” booklet for more Global Mission Evaluative Questions and the three different launching points which are offered.)*

STEP 4: CREATE your package of global mission involvement by completing the checklist of ideas for action which follows. How will your evaluation and new interests shape the ideas that you want to pursue in this next phase of global mission? Here is how to proceed:

- **Start** by checking off the list what your region is already committed to doing in global mission. Notice that there is an “other idea” line under each category which enables you to include commitments that are not listed, but that are important to your region.
- **Continue** by choosing a few ideas for action that seem to be realistic for your region at this point on your journey.
- **Finally**, don’t forget to give yourself a challenge or two that really push you out of your comfort zone and to the ends of the earth.

STEP 5: COMMIT to a specific plan of action in partnership with Global Ministries by completing the commitment statement at the end of this document. Consider working on these ideas for action over the next three years. You will need to establish measurable objectives for the implementation of each idea, including target dates and names of the people who will be responsible for carrying out the objectives. At the end of the three year period, you will want to plan an evaluation and begin another cycle.

Global Ministries would like to recognize your region with a certificate presented in person during a regional assembly/board meeting and to celebrate this important step in the life of your region. Contact Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 or bshebeck@dom.disciples.org to talk about possible dates. We look forward to walking with you on this journey.

Checklist of Ideas for Action for a Disciples REGION

Name of Region: _____ Date: _____

Region contact person: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

A Global Mission REGION...

Checklist of Ideas for Action for Disciples REGIONS

A Global Mission REGION...

1. PRAYS regularly for partners, missionaries and the world.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

- ___ a. Create a global mission page on the region's website with prayer information and regular updates on the missionaries, international partners and global mission projects of the region, as well as a link to www.globalministries.org.
- ___ b. Use the region's all-church e-mail distribution list to send out periodic Global Ministries updates, along with a reminder to download the monthly global mission bulletin inserts from the Global Ministries website.
- ___ c. Other prayer idea:

Staff Contact for 1 a: Marcy Dory 216-736-3209 dorym@ucc.org

Staff Contact for 1 b: Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 bshebeck@dom.disciples.org

2. EDUCATES its members about global issues from preschool age to adult.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

- ___ a. Use a column in the region's newspaper for regular news and reflections from the region's missionary(ies) or international partners, or mission stories from the Global Ministries website and print materials.
- ___ b. Invite Global Ministries to participate in your regional assembly, area/district gatherings or other regional events by having a global mission theme, keynote speaker, worship leader, display, and workshop topics.
- ___ c. Other educational idea:

Staff Contact for 2 a & b: Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 bshebeck@dom.disciples.org

3. SEEKS JUSTICE for the “least of these” in the international community.

What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

- ___ a. Establish or revitalize a regional global mission committee/team empowered to coordinate involvement in global mission through Global Ministries in the region, and encourage local congregations to enter into the *Be a Global Mission Church* process.
- ___ b. Choose a global advocacy issue for the entire region and develop a plan to educate and mobilize your congregations around this issue for the year.
- ___ c. Other advocacy idea:

Staff Contact for 3 a: Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 bshebeck@dom.disciples.org

Staff Contact for 3 b: Angela Balfour 317-713-2550 abalfour@dom.disciples.org

4. RECEIVES the gifts of the global church.

At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality. 2 Corinthians 8:14

- ___ a. Develop a process for regular communication with the region’s missionary(ies) and have a designated person or group responsible for coordinating the missionary relationship and eventual visits in the region.
- ___ b. Establish or renew a long-term relationship with one of Global Ministries international church partners or organizations.
- ___ c. Other receiving idea:

Staff Contact for 4 a: Julia Brown-Karimu 317-713-2566 jkarimu@dom.disciples.org

Staff Contact for 4 b: Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 bshebeck@dom.disciples.org

5. GIVES to the work of global mission.

Just as you excel in everything...see that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:7

- ___ a. Make giving to global mission a priority through the Disciples Mission Fund (DMF) formula (or some other formula) and with the promotion of the Special Day Offerings and Week of Compassion.

___ b. Consider using “over and above giving” in the region to help fund a missionary appointment or a special project through Global Ministries.

___ c. Other giving idea:

Staff Contact for 5 a & b: Jane Sullivan-Davis 317-713-2558 janed@dom.disciples.org

6. SENDS its members into the world to share the Good News of Jesus.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, Your God reigns! Isaiah 52:7

___ a. Send a group from the region on a People-to-People Pilgrimage - the Global Ministries group mission trip program. Consider visiting your region’s missionary and the international church partner with whom he or she serves.

___ b. Send at least one person from your region to be a volunteer missionary or Global Mission Intern who can serve with an international partner or missionary through Global Ministries.

___ c. Other sending idea:

Staff Contact for 6 a: Maria Cruzado 317-713-2565 mcruzado@dom.disciples.org

Staff Contact for 6 b: Angela Balfour 317-713-2550 abalfour@dom.disciples.org

7. GROWS in sharing the story of God’s mission with others.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

___ a. Organize a meeting with the appropriate UCC Conference staff or committee to share what your region is doing in global mission and talk about how you might start or continue to work together

___ b. Develop a strategy for a Ministries and Mission Interpreters (MMI) network in the region and organize a joint region/conference and MMI training for the purpose of equipping the regional mission committee members, as well as the pastors and mission chairs of local congregations throughout the region.

___ c. Other growing idea:

Staff Contact for 7 a, b, & c: Bob Shebeck 317-713-2571 bshebeck@dom.disciples.org

List your implementation objectives, target dates and responsibilities here:

Please return a copy of the completed criteria checklist to:



*Bob Shebeck
c/o DOM/Global Ministries
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1986
317-713-2571
bshebeck@dom.disciples.org*

Be a Global Mission Region: *Commitment*

Global Ministries staff commits to walking with your region as it seeks to be a Global Mission Region within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Bob Shebeck, Executive of Mission Interpretation and Constituency Relationships, will be your primary contact person as you have questions and seek to discern how God would have you engage in global mission with Global Ministries, and encourage each of the congregations in your region to be a Global Mission Church.

Each staff contact will be responsive to your inquiries and help your region take the necessary steps to engage in a particular program area. The work of Global Ministries' five area offices will facilitate connections with international partner churches and organizations.

Upon completion of this commitment form, Global Ministries will recognize your region with a Certificate of Recognition during an in-person presentation at your regional board meeting or regional assembly (if possible). Your region will also be listed as a Global Mission Region on the Global Ministries website. We pledge our on-going support in your global mission efforts.

David Vargas
President, DOM and
Co-executive, Global Ministries

Date

Bob Shebeck
Executive, Mission Interpretation
and Constituency Relationships

_____ Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) commits to being and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth, and also to receiving that same Good News from Global Ministries' missionaries and international partners around the world in a reciprocal relationship.

We have prayerfully discerned how God would have us be involved in Christ's global mission in covenantal partnership with Global Ministries and have chosen ____ ideas for action to implement over the next three years. We also commit to encouraging the congregations in our region to enter into a process of becoming a Global Mission Church.

We have empowered the appropriate people in our region to lead us in these ideas for action, and to ensure the necessary on-going contact and follow-up for each idea. We will maintain open communication with Global Ministries' staff as we seek to live out our commitment to being a Global Mission Region.

Regional Minister

Date

Regional Moderator

Region contact person: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please return a copy of the completed commitment card to:



*Bob Shebeck
c/o DOM/Global Ministries
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1986
317-713-2571
bshebeck@dom.disciples.org*