



Black Disciples Endowment Fund

Report to the
NCMC Board of Trustees

December 2, ,2021



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BLACK DISCIPLES ENDOWMENT FUND		
Class of 2022 Jan. 1, 2020– Dec. 31, 2022	Class of 2023 Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2023	Class of 2024 Jan. 1, 2022– Dec. 31, 2024
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Patice Holland, V. Chair 5277 Crumpacker Dr. Roanoke, VA (703) 867-8365© paticeholland@gmail.com	John R. Foulkes 5314 Moonlight Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46226 (317) 545-9335 jrfoulkes@aol.com	VACANT
Ex-Officio Members (w/o Vote)		
Marilyn Fiddmont Vice President, CCF 3223 Westheimer Rd. Houston, TX 77098 (713) 524-0964 mfiddmon@ccf.disciples.org	Yvonne Gilmore Corporate Secretary, NCMC P. O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 713-2407 Ygilmore@disciples.org	Gary W. Kidwell President, CCF P.O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 713-2423 gkidwell@ccf.disciples.org

Madame President and NCMC Trustee Members,

It is my honor to represent and report for the Black Disciples Endowment Fund. As I stated in the BDEF 2020 report, The Black Disciples Endowment Fund (BDEF) was in the process of reflecting on and evaluating and restructuring its ministry to continue to undergrid the Black Church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In this 2021 report, BDEF is excited to share it have re-opened its granting ministry as it seeks to affect the lives of other by our ministry.

BLACK DISCIPLES ENDOWMENT FUND

The Black Disciples Endowment Fund is an endowment fund owned by the National Christian Missionary Convention (NCMC) invested with the Christian Church Foundation.

The purpose of the Black Disciples Endowment Fund is to undergird Black ministries within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. This purpose is achieved through grants to ministries of:

- *Leadership Development*
 - Ordained Minister Recruitment, Training, Certification, Placement and renewal;
 - Lay ministry development and training
 - Undergraduate and graduate scholarships to enable Christian vocation.
- *Congregational Growth and Vitality*
 - New Congregation Establishment
 - Congregational Vitality
 - Black Church Work enhancement
- *Response to and advocacy for the wellbeing of African American community;*
 - Proactive ministries of social justice
 - Identification, conceptualization and communication of the gifts of the African American journey to the wholeness of the church
 - Effective response to crisis in the community

The Black Disciples Endowment Fund is administered by a Board of Trustees responsible to the NCMC who:

- Define and review investment strategies
- Articulate the vision
- Advocate for the fund
- Contribute to the fund
- Assess needs and opportunities for allocation of grants
- Developing guidelines for the distribution of earnings from the Fund
- Award, evaluate and celebrate grants from the fund's income

INVESTMENTS

BDEF's funds are soundly invested with the Christian Church Foundation. The Foundations' President and Vice President, Gary Kidwell and Marilyn Fiddmont are ex-officio without vote members on the Board.

MINUTES

The minutes of all 2021 Trustee meetings can be provided by Rev. Yvonne Gilmore upon request.

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENTS AND MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

AACLD

- The African American Clergy Leadership Development Ministry (AACLD) is a development of BDEF.
- BDEF is responsible for AACLD and appropriates an average of \$10,000 yearly to AACLD for the purpose of recruiting African American clergy.

DHM/NATIONAL CONVOCATION

- BDEF donates \$10,000 to financially help undergird the Disciples Home Missions, National Convocation's African-American School of Faith and Life for each biennial session. BDEF is prepared to make the donation if needed in 2022.

LEXINGTON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (LTS)

- In 2019, BDEF committed \$5000.00 each year for three years to Lexington Theological Seminary's Bi-Vocational Ministry Institute that is funded by the Thriving In Ministry (TIM) project. The final installment of the grant has been given this year.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS and INDEMNIFICATION

AS BDEF's custom, Conflict of Interest forms were distributed, signed and collected. Also, indemnification was moved and adopted to indemnify the Trustees and Officers of the Black Disciples Endowment Fund against claims arising out of the good faith performance of their duties, since the last annual meeting.

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

BDEF has had a vacancy for a number of years and now will lose two Board members whose tenure on the Board has expired. The Board is indebted to the class of 2021: Ann Pickett Parker and William Lee for the time, service and leadership each has provided to BDEF over the years. The Board brings before NCMC the following names for approval as BDEF Board of Trustee members in the Class of 2024: Bob Williams, Laity, Texas, Nadine Burton, Clergy, Great River Region, and CaSaundra Silmon, Laity, Alabama.

BOARD CHAIR SUMMARY

The Board of Trustees is indebted to the Interim Administrative Secretary, Rev. Yvonne Gilmore. We are grateful for the work she has done over the past year. She has helped BDEF reinstitute and revitalize our granting process. The Board meets next week to finalize the grant awardees for 2022.

BDEF remains committed to the Black Church, in leadership: clergy and laity, committed to the Black Church in Congregational Growth and Vitality and committed to the Black Church in Response to and advocacy for the wellbeing of the African American community. We seek *“To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”*

~Ephesians 4:12 (ESV)

NOMINATIONS

On behalf of the BDEF Board of Trustees, I nominate to the NCMC Board, the following persons to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Black Disciples Endowment Fund for election to the Class of 2024:

Bob Williams, Nadine Burton, and CaSaundra Silmon.

Also, on behalf of the Board, I nominate to the NCMC Board, Jackie Compton Bunch for President, and Patrice Holland, for Vice President of BDEF for the 2022 year.