



NATIONAL CONVOCATION
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
26th Biennial Business Session

Virtual
Business Session

BUSINESS ITEM
Strategic Vision and Mission Plan
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NATIONAL CONVOCATION
Of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Vision and Mission Plan
Provisional

Our Vision Plan

Vision Statement: *The vision of the National Convocation is to be a leaven in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) under One God as One Church with One Mission in the world; as a voice promoting pertinent issues related to the African American Church, carrying out the biblical mandate, and to transform lives.*

Vision Plan: The International Convention adopted the “Principles for Merger of the National Christian Missionary Convention, the United Christian Missionary Society and the International Convention of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).” As a result of the adoption of the “Principles” document, the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was formed to “nurture a realization of the merger vision.” The National Convocation is an expression of the church that is positioned to promote reconciliation, social justice concerns, and transformative congregations, equip and train clergy and laity leadership and empower congregations to do mission and ministry for 21st century. To accomplish these objectives the NCCC will empower and promote congregations in the following nine goals:

1. Leader Development and Faith Formation – (Ephesians 4:11-13)

NCCC endeavor to see others reap the riches of heaven necessary to transform the world around them. We strive to guide leaders to the source of ultimate power; the Holy Spirit and Word of God. Deeply rooted in scripture we desire to share our belief that leaders are formed from within. Genesis 1:26, 28 reveals that we were created for the task of leadership. As authentic leaders, our lives must affirm our devotion to Christ so that others long to know our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.

- Conflict Resolution & Management (for both Clergy & Congregations)
- Strong & healthy congregations
- Disciples Women’s Ministry
- Transformational leadership
 - Clergy & Laity
- Disciples Men’s Ministry
- World Missions & Ministry projects
 - Global Ministries [DOM]

2. Model Oneness through the Merger Process- (John 17:21, Ephesians 4:11-12)

As NCCC move toward being a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world and being a Church that is part of the one body of Christ who welcomes all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us we must endeavor to conserve the deep Christian

concerns and faithful expression of Churchmanship in such areas as: Evangelism, Stewardship, Christian Education, and Missions. The merger staff of Disciple Home Missions (as well as Administrative Secretary) in partnership with all General church and regional church staff will have the responsibility of aiding local Disciples congregations in achieving:

- Stronger/Healthier Connections with All Local Congregations and State Conventions
- Diversity in communication
- Teaching of the Merger Agreement and Disciples History
- Biennial Session
- Support for the Administrative Secretary's office
- Support of the work of the Merger Staff position as well as all African-American staff in the general and regional church
- Open Table

3. Promote Faithful, Vital and Healthy Congregations- (Acts 1:8, Romans 12:1-2)

The NCCC is commissioned and are sent for the conversion of many throughout the world to be equipped to use the power of the Holy Spirit through faith to restore God's people back to the place of originality, by taking its place of leadership to promote faithful, vital and healthy congregations; to persuade people to become Christians or revive their commitments to discipleship; to transform and re-emerge into a new and relevant life cycle through a process of profound and sometimes radical changes that orients the NCCC into a stronger, global church.

- 21st century context for mission & ministry
- Evangelism and Church Growth Strategies
- Growing congregations
- Congregations in transformation

4. Ministerial Recruitment and Nurture- (1Timothy 2:5-8, Philippians 4:13, 14)

General Assembly Resolution 7147 provide nurture and training for African-American Ministers through working with lay and ordained ministry candidates in their identification and mentoring through development which involves consulting with regional commissions on ministry, colleges and seminaries. The Administrative Secretary along with the Merger staff will aid with conflict management, assistance in placement and enabling renewal through the Black Ministers Retreat.

- Strong & healthy clergy
- Long-term care of our clergy
 - Pension Fund
- Female and Male clergy
- Specialized ministry
 - Chaplaincy

5. Develop and Sustain New Congregations- (1 Peter 2:5, Matthew 28:18-20)

It is our desire, call and commitment to build up spiritual houses of worship for the praise and worship of God. We endeavor to build houses of worship that will allow persons to be knitted together and built up with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to transform lives in their communities, cities, this nation and the world.

- New congregations

6. Promote and Support Transformational Ministry- (Romans 12:2)

As NCCC strives to be a transformational ministry within the life of local congregations, our total mission and ministry focus shall be to encourage all congregations to be beacons for ministries to all generations:

- Children
- Youth
- Young Families w/Children
- Young Adults
- Adults
- Seniors

7. Promote and Support Reconciliation and Social Justice- (Micah 6:8)

The mission of Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church is to plan and implement strategies to dismantle and eradicate racism within each expression of our Church. The Pro-reconciliation/Anti-Racism Initiative was founded upon the need to make visible God's beloved community. It invites all NCCC congregations to

- Listen to the once silenced voices of its racial/ethnic communities,
- Learn from their wisdom and gain insight from their leadership.
- It calls the church to discernment and prayer, study of the scriptures and reflection, dialogue and table fellowship.
- Seek out opportunities to partner with other Disciples organizations, affiliated agencies and congregations through community service and social justice work.

8. Promote and encourage good stewardship – (Galatians 6:7)

As the NCCC we recognize and honor the fact that God has created the world and all the abundance therein. Thus as people of God we recognize the need to give out of a sense of abundance and not scarcity. As the NCCC we endeavor to be examples and teachers of this principle to assist the church to sow and reap with a Spirit of Abundance.

- Stewardship
 - Financial Health & Tithing
- Long-term care of our clergy
 - Pension Fund
- Support of Disciples Mission Fund and Outreach Funds
 - Reconciliation & Week of Compassion offerings
- Professional Education for clergy
 - Star-Supporter Fund

9. Strengthen the Biennial Session

The Biennial Session will intentionally develop and promote ministry geared toward reaching, building and spiritually uplifting folks in the four generations listed below in the hopes of strengthening and building strong Disciples congregations locally and collectively.

- Ministry to Generation Y
- Ministry to Generation X (Millennials)
- Ministry to Next Generation (Born after 2000)
- Ministry to Baby Boomers

THE MISSION PLAN FOR 2017-2020

In our quest to spark change within congregations and communities associated with the National Convocation, we shall strive to equip our congregations to be agents for mission and ministry by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe God calls us to:

OUR MISSION:

To build meaningful and personal relationships with the people of our communities and other bodies essential to transforming congregations to do mission and ministry in a **current and emerging** context. **(Romans 12:9-21) (Isaiah 43:19)**

OUR IMPERATIVE:

To intentionally support our congregations in being transformational communities of faith doing relevant mission and ministry in a current and emerging context. **(Romans 12:1,2)**

To accomplish this, we shall:

OUR STRATEGIES:

1. Promote and support transformational Ministry in our local congregations.
2. Promote and support reconciliation, social justice and move our congregations toward being pro-reconciling/anti-racism communities.
3. Strengthen and transform the Biennial Session

OUR COVENANT

In accepting our Vision, Mission and Imperative, we affirm our need to: be relevant, thriving, and vibrant Disciples congregations of the National Convocation, preparing ourselves for mission and ministry in the 21st Century. We commit to continuous study of scripture in the renewing of our minds; training leaders through faith formation and transforming congregations. We shall strive to do mission and ministry to all generations within our communities and seek to be a conduit of God's unconditional love to all people.