



2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Great Is Your Faithfulness

May 1-3, 2026

Kennewick Christian Church | Kennewick, Washington

"My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what was happy.
And I say, "My hope is lost from the LORD."
But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

~Lamentations 3:20-23 NRSV

2026 Annual Fund Campaign:



2026 Regional Assembly Sponsor:





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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Welcome to Kennewick, Washington from the Regional Assembly Planning Team!

Greetings,

We are so happy to welcome you to the fourth biennial assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region. In these uncertain times that seem to change minute by minute, the Regional Assembly Planning Committee looked for a theme that would give hope and assurance. We settled on Lamentation 3:20-23, focusing on God's faithfulness in the past, the present and looking towards the future.

My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:20-23

We have inspirational speakers and thought-provoking workshops. In worship, we will come together as the loving body of Christ.

We want to thank Kennewick Christian Church for hosting us, and we pray that your time at the Assembly is a blessed one.

Your 2026 Regional Assembly Planning Team:

Sarah Almanza (Chair); Matthew Keith (Kennewick CC pastor);
Robin Crabb (Regional Administrator); Annie Carpenter; Mary Larsen;
Chris Snow; Gloria Soja; Rebecca Sumner; Paul Allen (Regional Minister)

Share your experience!



- + Check in and share photos on Facebook ([Northern Lights Disciple - facebook.com/northernlightsdisciples](https://www.facebook.com/northernlightsdisciples)) or Instagram ([nlr.disciple - instagram.com/nlr.disciples](https://www.instagram.com/nlr.disciples)) so we can compile them into an album.

Tag @northernlightsdisciples and use hashtag #RA2026



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Event Schedule (All listings are in Pacific Time Zone) (See Kids & Youth Schedule below)

☺ Children’s programming *Livestreamed w/ Virtual registration **Zoom access w/ Virtual registration

Friday, May 1st *Offering:* Northern Lights Region Annual (General) Fund

- 9:00 am Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation Training (pre-registration required)..... Sanctuary
- 3:00 pm Registration Opens.....Foyer
- 7:00 pm *Opening Event Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm *Worship - Rev. Rebecca Hale (NBA) preaching ☺ Sanctuary

Saturday, May 2nd *Offering:* Lane-Salmon Clergy Emergency & Clergy Scholarship Fund

- 9:00 am *Worship & Remembrance of those who have died in this and other years..... Sanctuary
- 9:45 am David Giron (Global Ministries) ☺..... Sanctuary
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30 am **Regional Business Session ☺..... Sanctuary
- 12:15 pm Lunch Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 pm *Workshops Session 1 ☺ - See Page 8 for locations
- 2:45 pm Break
- 3:00 pm *Workshop Session 2 ☺ - See page 8 for locations
- 4:15 pm Free Time Kennewick
- 4:45 pm All-Assembly Choir Rehearsal Annex
- 5:45 pm Dinner Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 pm *Worship - Rev. Chris Dorsey (DHM) preaching Sanctuary
- 8:00 pm Clergy & Families Fellowship After-Session.....see Matthew Keith for information and to RSVP

Sunday, May 3rd *Offering:* Kennewick CC ministries plus their Little Free Pantry

- 10:00 am Worship - Rev. Paul Allen; Kennewick CC; Nueva Vida en Cristo Sanctuary

ALL may watch this service live & recorded: On the NLR YouTube channel: youtube.com/@northernlightsdoc
OR [Kennewick CC FB page \(facebook.com/KennewickChristianChurch\)](https://facebook.com/KennewickChristianChurch)
OR [Kennewick CC YouTube Channel \(youtube.com/@kennewickchristianchurch5007\)](https://youtube.com/@kennewickchristianchurch5007)

Children & Youth Programming Schedule ☺

Kids' Room

Friday, May 1

- 6:45 pm - Parent sign-up & Kids drop-off
- 7:00 pm - Songs, Intros, & Games

Saturday, May 2

- 9:00 am - Kids in Worship
- 10:25 am - Kids drop-off
- Worship & Wonder: Mustard Seed
- 12:15 pm - Lunch w/ parents
- 1:25 pm - Kids drop-off
- Worship & Wonder: Good Shepherd

- 4:15 pm - Down time
- 5:45 pm - Dinner w/ parents
- 7:30 pm - Kids in Worship

Sunday, May 3

- 10:00 am - Kids in Worship



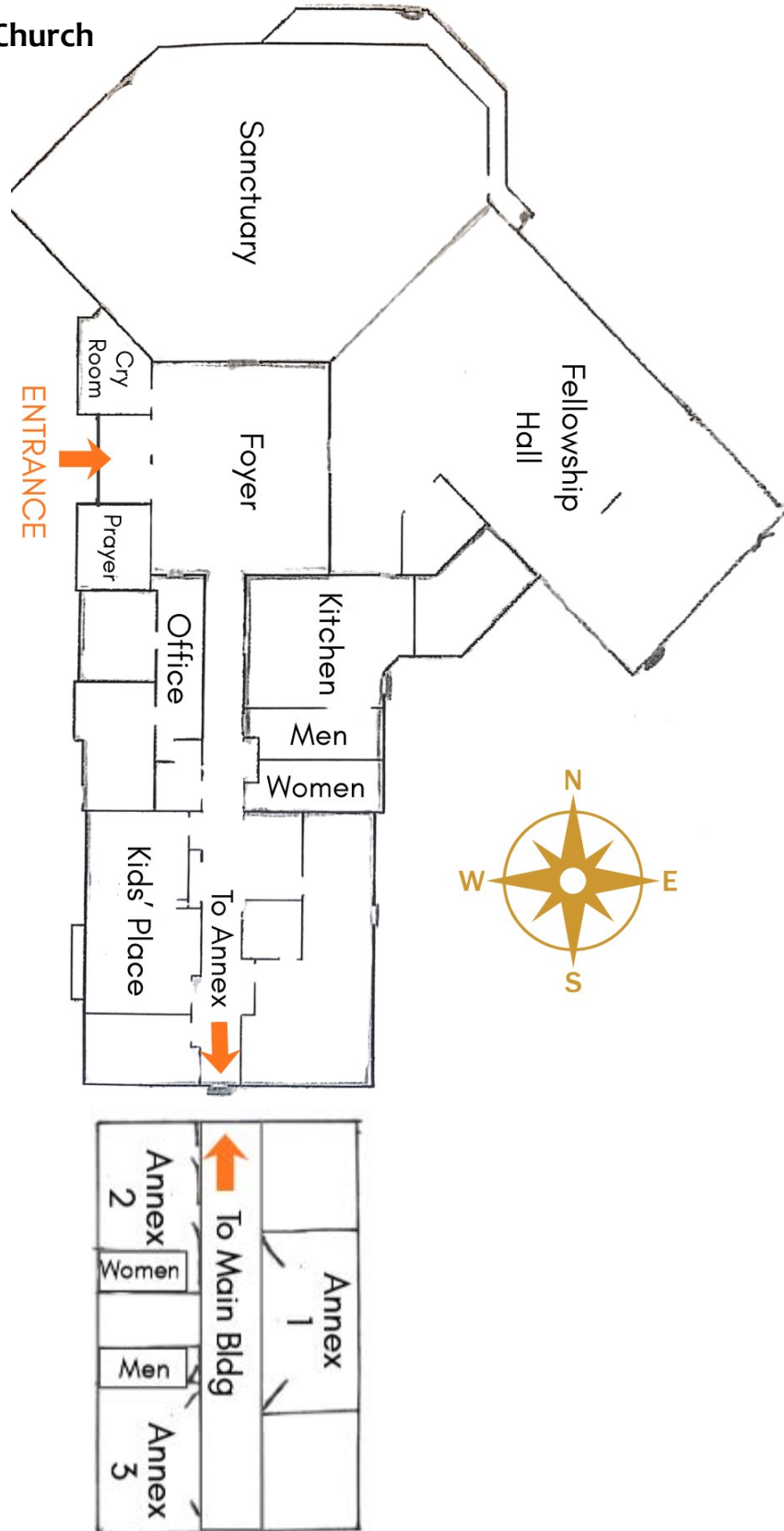
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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Our Venue and Gathering Spaces

Kennewick Christian Church

1921 S Olympia St
Kennewick, WA 99337





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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Around Kennewick



Around Kennewick: www.go2kennewick.com

Meals in Kennewick: <https://tinyurl.com/nearbymeals>

Kennewick local resources

Medical, Personal, Emergency, Veterinarian, Helpful Resources

There may be personal and/or medical needs that arise that the Regional Assembly Planning Team may not be equipped to handle. Below you may find a list of resources that are local to our host site of First Christian Church in Kennewick, WA.

Local Pharmacies

- Yoke's Fresh Market (Fri 9-7, Sat 9-4, Sun Closed) - 1410 W 27th Ave
- Fred Meyer (Fri 9-1, 1:30-8, Sat 9-1, 1:30-6, Sun 10-1, 1:30-5) - 2811 W 10th Ave
- Walgreens (Fri 9-1:30, 2-9, Sat 9-1:30, 2-6, Sun 10-1:30, 2-6) - 4000 W 27th Ave
- Walmart (Fri 9-7, Sat 9-7, Sun 10-6) - 2720 S Quillan St
- Providence Infusion & Pharmacy (*Appointment only*) - 911 S Washington St
- CVS (24 hour pharmacy) - 101 N Ely St

Urgent Care, E.R., and Crisis Hotline

Hospitals

- Trios Health Southridge Hospital - 3810 Plaza Way / 509-221-7000
- Kadlec Freestanding ER - 3290 W 19th Ave / 509-946-4611
- Lourdes Health - 520 N 4th Ave / 509-547-7704

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Kennewick & local resources (continued)

Urgent Care, E.R., and Crisis Hotline (continued)

Urgent Care

- Trios Urgent Care - Columbia Center, 7201 W Grandridge Blvd / 509-221-6900
- Kadelec Urgent Care - 4804 W Clearwater Ave / 509-942-2355
- BestMed Urgent Care - 3601 Plaza Way, Suite 110 / 509-236-0391

Crisis Hotline

- Local Crisis Center – 509-783-0591 (comprehensive healthcare)
- Crisis Text Line – Text “NAMI” to 741741
- Washington Recovery Help Line – 1-866-789-1511

Grocery stores

- Yoke’s Fresh Market (5 am- 12 am) - 1410 W 27th Ave
- Fred Meyer (6 am- 11 pm) - 2811 W 10th Ave
- WinCo Foods (open 24 hours) - 4602 W Clearwater Ave
- Grocery Outlet (8 am- 9 pm) - 1325 W 4th Ave
- Safeway (5 am-12 am) - 5204 W Clearwater Ave
- Kennewick Red Apple Market (7 am-10 pm) - 902 S Washington St
- Natural Grocers (8:27 am-8:36 pm) - 751 N Columbia Center Blvd

Veterinary office, emergency vet & pet stores

- Mid-Columbia Pet Emergency Services - 8913 Sandifur Parkway / 509-722-2540
- Pet Emergency Clinic - 21 E Mission Ave / 509-326-6670

Medical Equipment stores and organizations with rental fees

- Bellevue Healthcare - Tri Cities (Medical supply) (M-F 8 am-5 pm) - 223 W 1st Ave / 509-586-2778
- Maxcare Medical (Med supply) (M-F 9 am-5 pm) - 7103 W Grandridge Blvd / 509-619-1498
- Discreet Supplies (Med supply) (M-F 8 am-5 pm) - 5215 W Clearwater Ave, #106 / 509-491-3266
- Performance Home Med (O2 equip) (M-F 8:30 am-5 pm) - 515 N Neel St, #C-102 / 866-687-4463
- Lin Care (Medical equipment) (M-F 8:30 am-5 pm) - 6818 W Kennewick Ave / 509-374-5775
- Howard’s Medical Supply (O2 equip) (M-F 9 am-5 pm) - 846 Stevens Dr / 509-392-4422
- Apria Healthcare (Home health) (M-F 9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm) - 6503 W Hood Pl, #A / 509-783-8413
- KC Help Tri Cities (Hospital supplies lending library) - 324 W Margaret St #3717 / 509-212-0900
www.knightscommunityhospitalequipmentloanprogram.com



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Our Speakers



Rev. Rebecca Hale serves as Executive Vice President of National Benevolent Association (NBA). Prior, Rebecca served as VP of Mission and Ministry. Her role with NBA continues to adapt to the needs of the organization and the church. Prior to serving the NBA, Rev. Hale worked in congregational and regional leadership for the Disciples church in Pennsylvania, Northwest Region, and Florida. She was called to serve as Transitional Regional Minister and President in both the Northwest and Florida regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Her denominational commitments also include working as the Transformational Partner for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana and she served for three years as chairperson for the Week of Compassion Advisory Committee.



Rev. Chris Dorsey is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciple of Christ) serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of Disciples Home Missions since 2022, previously as President of Higher Education and Leadership Ministries (HELM). Also as a Professor of Theology & Preaching at Western Theological Seminary and Vice President of Development & Marketing at Chicago Theological Seminary. Chris served as Chaplain and Director of Religious Life at Clark Atlantic University, Atlanta and Senior Pastor at Woodlawn United Methodist, Chicago.



Rev. Paul Allen was affirmed as Regional Minister by a body of voting representatives from across the Northern Lights at a special Regional Assembly in December 2023. He began his call in March, and was installed at the May 2024 Regional Assembly. Paul is honored to be called to this role, serving the Region and its congregations. Paul was born in NC, and moved to KS at 10. Both of his parents were Disciples church pastors and Regional Ministers. He attended Barton College (1993–1997) and Lexington Theological Seminary (1997–2001) and was ordained in 2001. Paul has served churches in North Carolina, Kansas, and Alabama. He is married to Patti, a RN. They reside in Davenport, WA with daughter Abby and son Joe.



David Giron serves as the Global Relations Minister for Latin America and the Caribbean for Global Ministries. He brings a breadth of experience in international diplomacy, human rights advocacy, and cross-cultural collaboration through his service with the Dept. of Labor, USAID, and the Dept. of State. Through his career, David has demonstrated a commitment to justice, equity, and the dignity of marginalized and displaced communities. His work has centered on ensuring protections for vulnerable populations and addressing systemic human rights challenges across Latin America and the Caribbean. A son of Salvadoran immigrants and a native of California, he has a B.A. in International Relations from the U of California-Davis and an M.A. in International Affairs from Texas A&M.



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Regional Assembly Workshop Options (Saturday, May 2nd)

Most workshops will be recorded and available post-Assembly at the [NLR YouTube Channel](#).

SESSION ONE — 1:30 pm Pacific

***National Benevolent Association (NBA) and Silver Chalice: Rebecca Hale**

Sanctuary

Information will be shared about Silver Chalice: Older Adult Ministries and updates from the National Benevolent Association.

Trauma Informed Worship: Rebecca Sumner

Annex 1

Trauma feels big and intense, but it's common. Research suggests most of us carry it: loss, shame, racism, violence, spiritual harm, medical crisis, long-term stress, vicarious trauma from helping work. Or maybe we just watched the news. More and more we're learning trauma isn't just something that happened to you. It's something that keeps happening in you. It shapes how we hear scripture, respond to sermons, and experience hymns. In this interactive, reflective workshop, we'll explore what trauma is, how it impacts us and others, and how churches can either wound or heal God's beloved. Practical resources will empower your congregation to choose the healing path, so that Good News truly feels like good news.

AllianceQ (Disciples LGBTQI+ Alliance): Jermell Witherspoon

Annex 2

The Power of Equity, Justice & Intentional Refreshing & Reforming in Our Churches: Fairness, Faith & the Call to Center the Margins for the Liberation of All. A mix of teaching and interactive engagement including a brief activity that invites participants to reflect together.

SESSION TWO — 3:00 pm Pacific

***Woman-to-Woman Worldwide trip to Kenya: Jennifer Jacobson**

Sanctuary

Jennifer will share stories and images of her Fall 2025 trip to Kenya - Woman-2-Woman Worldwide W2WW, an annual joint educational venture sponsored by the International Disciples Women's Ministries and administered by the Disciples Women's Ministries staff in conjunction with Global Ministries. Included in the presentation will be wildlife pictures from the Great Rift Valley and stories of the women who traveled and the women they encountered. This immersion experience involves deep, active listening to our sisters from other countries so we may learn from them what it means to be a woman of faith in their context.

Planned Giving – Creating Streams of Income for Your Ministry: Monica Greenberg

Annex 1

Christian Church Foundation - Could your church or ministry use an extra stream of income to support your mission in the community and world? Learn how to change the culture of your church around planned gifts. You will learn how to encourage such gifts in effective, non-threatening, meaningful, uplifting ways.

Disability and Accessibility: Chris Snow

Annex 2

We'll take this time to explore why it's important for churches to be mindful of issues of accessibility and also provide resources of common areas we can improve accessibility in our property and ministries. Materials will be made available, from church accessibility audits, event planning checklists, and why this work is important.



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Ministry & Partner Display

Fellowship Hall

- + AllianceQ--Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance
- + NLR Faith Formation Ministries
- + NLR Camp Ministries
- + Cane Ridge West Conf & Retreat Ctr
- + Gwinwood Retreat Center
- + Disciples Church Extension Fund
- + Ctr. for Indigenous Ministries (DoC)
- + National Benevolent Association including Silver Chalice Ministry
- + Disciples Seminary Foundation
- + Faith Action Network
- + Christian Church Foundation
- + Global Ministries
- + The Fig Tree Magazine

Special Offerings During the Assembly

Friday pm: Northern Lights Annual Fund - northernlightsdisciples.org/donations



(Select “Annual Fund” under the Designation Dropdown List)

The Annual Fund is the year-round general fund. Individual contributions to the Annual Fund are a key piece of the funding of the ministry we do together as the Northern Lights.

Give during Friday evening Worship or at northernlightsdisciples.org/donations any time. Make checks to “Northern Lights Region” with memo noting “Annual Fund.”

Saturday pm: Lane-Salmon Clergy Emergency & Scholarships - northernlightsdisciples.org/lane-salmon

(Select “Lane-Salmon Clergy Scholarship” under the Designation Dropdown List)



The Northern Lights Region understands our call to care for our clergy. The pastoral calling is one of great joy and fulfillment, and can also be a challenging and difficult journey. Lane-Salmon Clergy Emergency and Clergy Scholarship Funds allow the NLR to assist clergy during times of crisis and to help strengthen clergy by providing funds for continuing education.

Give during Saturday evening Worship or at northernlightsdisciples.org/donations. Make checks to “Northern Lights Region” with memo noting “Lane-Salmon.”

Sunday am: Kennewick Christian Church - kennewickchristian.org/give

Sunday morning’s offering will benefit our gracious host congregation, Kennewick Christian Church!

There are several ways to support this lively and faithful congregation:



- **Give in person** during Sunday morning’s Worship service to support Kennewick Christian Church’s ministries and life in their community.
- **Text “GIVE” to 833-738-0256** and follow prompts to give to the congregation.
- **Support their Little Free Pantry** with canned protein and veggies any time. Since 2021 they’ve shared over 100,000 lbs. of food, hygiene items, and other needs to under-fed and under-housed neighbors, often restocking as many as four or more times per day.



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Preamble to the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

As members of the Christian Church,
we confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.

In Christ's name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness
and service to all people.

We rejoice in God,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in God's covenant of love
which binds us to God and to one another.

Through baptism into Christ
we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.

In the communion of the Holy Spirit
we are joined together in discipleship
and in obedience to Christ.

At the Table of the Lord
we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.

Within the universal church
we receive the gift of ministry
and the light of scripture.

In the bonds of Christian faith
we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One
whose kingdom has no end.

Blessing, glory, and honor be to God forever.
Amen.





Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

We Value...

- + Our identity as Disciples of Christ, including our shared history and traditions.
- + A spiritual life that is God-centered, Jesus-led, and Spirit-filled.
- + Enthusiasm and commitment to the new thing God is calling us to do and be.
- + Diversity and inclusion in recognition of God's love for and welcome of all people.
- + Ministries of justice and compassion, both locally and globally.
- + The practice of responsible stewardship of time, talent and treasure.
- + The development of strong relationships and connections among individual believers, congregations, denominations and faith communities.
- + Sustainability and excellence in our structures and practices.

The Two-fold Regional Church Mission

1. To gather as a community of communities for the purpose of:

- + Creating relationships and sharing gifts between congregations and leaders;
- + Worshipping, praying together, & welcoming each other to the Table as Christ has welcomed us;
- + Becoming an anti-racist, pro-reconciling church;
- + Equipping, shaping, and sending leaders, both lay and ordained;
- + Creating learning communities where we grow in faith and discipleship, including camps, conferences, retreats;
- + And making real God's beloved community through education, witness, stewardship, advocacy, and action.

2. To undergird congregational life within a certain geography by:

- + Nurturing, credentialing, ordaining, commissioning, and supporting ministers;
- + Assisting in Search and Call;
- + Providing Healthy Boundary and Anti-Racism Training for Clergy;
- + Nurturing and Receiving New Churches;
- + Accompanying stable and declining congregations and aiding those that decide to close;
- + Resourcing and supporting vital and transforming congregations seeking to share God's good news with a fresh voice and a new song;
- + Providing guidance to congregations and pastors in times of transition and trouble;
- + Celebrating congregational milestones and life.



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Regional Minister & President

#26-1

Greetings Northern Lights family!

The 2026 Northern Lights Regional Assembly ends my second year as your Regional Minister. In the past year, I have driven over 20,000 miles, visited 43 churches, two campgrounds, attended three College of Regional Minister meetings, three General Board meetings, the General Assembly, three Pride Parades, four Ecumenical Worship services, and countless meetings over Zoom or in person.

We have several pastors moving through the Committee on Ministry, three seeking commissioning, four seeking ordination, two of which will be celebrating their ordination later this year. We have one congregation in Search and Call, and three about to enter the Search and Call process. We have established a Regional Elders pilot program and a New Church Formation Ministry Team, and we have reworked our Camping Ministry Team into a Faith Formation Ministry Team, which focuses on Regional Christian Education for all ages.

Our camping programs went very well in 2025. We had more youth and kids at our camps in 2025 than we have since before the pandemic. The finances for our camping program also look better than in years past. Gwinwood Retreat Center has completed negotiations with its insurance company after the lodge and dining area were destroyed in a fire. They are now beginning a capital campaign to rebuild the lodge.

In 2024 the Regional Board gave its approval for entering into a three-year process of congregation-information with Broadway Community Dinner Church in Seattle, pastored by Rev. Michael Cox.

This was followed in 2025 by another congregation deciding to affiliate with the Disciples of Christ denomination and the Northern Lights Region. Nueva Vida en Cristo in Kennewick, Washington, began this process in 2025, and we look forward to celebrating their progress in moving toward full affiliation at our Regional Assembly.

We continue to emphasize connecting with our congregations across a large geographic region. The Northern Lights Region is looking to expand its ministry through a Regional Elders program and is calling on the Commission on Ministry to contact ministers and chaplains to provide support and care.

Our region is financially sound and is committed to revising the role and scope of regional ministry and covenant relationships. We have ministers providing fresh ideas of congregational life and worship, and are looking for new ways to reach out to communities that are quite different, given the size of our region. What works in one area will not work in another.

We have congregations that have reassessed the use of their buildings and properties in ways that direct their focus outward, addressing the challenges in the communities in which they are a part. These vital ministries are breathing new life into their active participants.

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Continued

There are challenges as well. On the west side of Washington State, traditional congregations or existing church models are not what new church seekers are looking for. We are looking for new models of worship and church structure that will help build community and provide mission opportunities, rather than seeking to build a conventional congregational structure.

Together we give thanks for the efforts we have begun, the work that continues, and the new realities that God calls us to.

Accomplishments from 2025

The Northern Lights Region is celebrating the affiliation of a new congregation, Nueva Vida en Cristo, in Kennewick, Washington. We are celebrating the launch of the new Regional Elder pilot program, the reformation of the New Church Ministry Team, and the restructuring of several existing Ministry Teams. We have provided several grants for congregations, including a technology grant, a food insecurity grant, grants to attend General Assembly, reconciliation grants, and transformation grants. New opportunities for Ordained and Commissioned ministers, Chaplains, other Ministry Professionals, and Retired Ministers to join retreats, educational opportunities, and collegial support groups have been provided.

Hopes for 2026

- To continue to make personal visits to our 45 congregations in this Region during the next year
- Reimagining our Regional Assembly structure, leadership terms, etc., in response to the changes in our General Assembly meetings.
- Supporting the Regional Elder Pilot Program.
- Meeting the changing needs of our congregations.
- Providing support for local Pastors, Chaplains, and those engaged in other ministries.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Allen, Regional Minister-President

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Regional Elders Pilot Program

#26-2

We are very excited to share that a Regional Elders pilot program will be starting very soon. These elders will be a support system for the Regional Minister and an avenue of communication and caring to congregations and clergy across our demographically large region.

We are pleased to introduce you to the elders:

Salish Sea: John Williams Tahoma: Tom Yates Columbia: Ron Green Big Sky: Gene Hill

Watch for more information as this new ministry gets underway!



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Treasurer & Finance Ministry

#26-3

Through February 2026, the most recent available reporting period, the Region remains financially stable, with a strong balance sheet and substantial net assets. Year-to-date results reflect a modest operating deficit, while expenses are generally tracking close to budget. As we are still early in the fiscal year, year-to-date trends may evolve in the months ahead. The Region remains well-positioned to support ministry as we continue to steward financial resources thoughtfully throughout 2026.

Operational Snapshot (as of February 28, 2026)

Net Operating Income / (Deficit): **-\$30,202** compared with a budgeted **-\$26,890** and prior-year **-\$23,923**.

Total income through February: **\$20,743** (under budget by \$3,652)

Total expenses through February: **\$50,946** (under budget by \$340)

Through February 2026, results reflect some softness in income across several giving and allocation categories, while expenses remain well managed and close to budget.

Giving Performance

Congregational / Allocation and giving income totaled \$19,243 against a year-to-date budget of \$24,396 (\$5,153 under budget).

Key line items include:

- Disciples Mission Fund: \$11,415 (-\$914 vs. budget)
- Designated Operating Contributions: \$4,560 (+\$11 vs. budget)
- Annual Fund: \$550 (-\$1,095 vs. budget)
- Christmas Offering: \$2,683 (-\$3,155 vs. budget)
- DMF Contributions via CCF: \$35 (on target)

Expense Picture

Total expenses through February were \$50,946, compared with a budget of \$51,286. Overall, expenses remain well controlled and closely aligned with budget expectations.

Program Activity

Net program activity through February reflects a net loss of \$2,833, consistent with planned, mission-first program activity, as expenses at times occur ahead of related income during the year.

Financial Position (as of February 28, 2026)

- **Total Assets:** \$5,281,124
- **Total Liabilities:** \$3,396
- **Total Net Assets:** \$5,277,728
- **Cash:** \$184,962

Net Assets

- Without donor restrictions: \$1,339,580
- Board-designated: \$419,712
- With temporary donor restrictions: \$1,307,260
- With permanent donor restrictions: \$2,211,176



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

As of February 28, 2026, the Region’s total financial position reflects \$5,281,124 in assets, offset by \$3,396 in liabilities, resulting in \$5,277,728 in net assets. This strength is supported by stable operations and strong long-term investments, with significant resources available to support both current ministry and long-term commitments.

Investments

Total long-term investments as of February 28, 2026: \$4,819,353

Breakdown:

- Church Extension (DCEF): \$144,733
- CCF – Turner Lectures: \$73,980
- CCF – Other (General Fund & Special Programs): \$2,468,587
- CCF – For Operations: \$2,132,052

Investment income and withdrawals provide important support for operations and special programs when giving fluctuates.

2025 Year-End / 2026 Outlook

Finance Team: LeAnn Budeski, Monica Greenberg, Douglass Anne Cartwright, Paul Allen, and Chris Snow.

The Northern Lights Region 2026 budget was proposed by the Finance Team and approved by the Regional Board in November 2025. The approved budget reflects:

- Total operating income of approximately \$324,500
- Total operating expenses of approximately \$343,432
- A projected operating deficit of approximately \$18,932

The Region concluded 2025 with a strong financial foundation and enters 2026 and Regional Assembly supported by stable operations and solid investment performance, positioning it well for the year ahead.

The **2025 Christmas Offering**, “The Work of Christmas,” directed 100% of gifts to regional ministry. This special offering invites congregations and individuals to give directly to the work of the Region, highlighting the impact of ministry across our shared life together. We are grateful to all who contributed stories and to all who gave.

The Finance Team has been working on the **2026 Annual Fund Campaign**, “Great Is Your Faithfulness,” highlighting snapshots of regional ministry impact. We are grateful to those who contributed materials and stories.

A video sharing these stories will be available online to support congregations in communicating and promoting the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund provides ongoing, year-round support for the Region’s ministries and operations, sustaining the infrastructure of ministry and inviting shared responsibility across congregations, including through recurring and sustaining gifts. We invite you to consider a one-time or recurring gift.

[Fund Giving Page](#)





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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Upcoming Giving Opportunities / Special Offerings

- [Annual Fund](#) Campaign – *Great Is Your Faithfulness*
- Pentecost Offering – [Love in Action](#) (May 17 & 24, 2026)

Thank You

Service as Treasurer began in 2022, with the guidance and support of former Treasurer Bill Jennison, who later served as Moderator. Earlier same year, Robin also stepped into her role, and together we navigated a season of significant transition. I offer special thanks to Interim Regional Minister, the Rev. Bill Robey, whose leadership helped guide us into our new roles.

In 2024, Paul Allen was called as Regional Minister and Doug Garner began serving as Moderator. I am grateful for their leadership, and for the collaborative work we shared in building a common understanding of the Region’s financial life.

I also offer sincere thanks to the members of the Finance Team who served during both terms - Bill Robey, LeAnn Budeski, Monica Greenberg, and David Helseth in the first term, and LeAnn Budeski, Monica Greenberg, Douglass Anne Cartwright, Chris Snow, and Paul Allen in the second. I am grateful as well for the Regional Board representatives of both the 2022-2023 and 2024-2025 boards for their partnership and support.

I offer my deepest gratitude to Robin Crabb, Regional Administrator, whose exceptional dedication, attention to detail, and steady, faithful work have consistently gone above and beyond in support of the Region. Her partnership, wisdom, and care, and friendship have been invaluable.

Over these past four years, the Northern Lights Region has been served well by many faithful leaders in the stewardship of its financial life, as well as by the many individuals and congregations whose generosity—past and present—continues to sustain and strengthen its ministries. Through this care and commitment, a strong foundation has been built for continued and expanding ministry and for the ongoing work of healing and wholeness in the Northern Lights Region, as we continue in shared mission and ministry, doing together that which we cannot do apart.

It has been a privilege to serve as Treasurer, and I am deeply grateful for the trust, collaboration, and shared commitment to the Region’s ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Palmer,
Treasurer, Northern Lights





Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Northern Lights Regional Christian Church Financial Dashboard 3/31/2026

Profit and Loss	Thru March 2026	Thru March 2026 Budget	Thru March 2025
Contributions **	23,228	23,352	19,913
Individual Giving	1,493	2,542	2,317
Congregational Giving	11,803	11,340	10,437
CCF Income	1,058	957	962
Investment Income *	47,605	40,000	39,958
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-
Salaries & Benefits	(58,779)	(59,446)	(50,911)
Regional Office Expenses	(8,431)	(12,722)	(13,394)
Board & Committee Expenses	-	-	-
Professional Services	(3,000)	(3,000)	(2,850)
Wider Church Ministries	(5,000)	-	-
Net Healthy Boundaries	-	-	-
Net Clergy Retreat	-	-	-
Net Operating income (loss)	9,977	3,023	6,432

* Investment Income - withdrawals from our investments to cover regular regional expenditures

** Contributions include DMF, Christmas, and Staff Field Receipts

Investments	Thru March 2026	Thru March 2025
<i>(only updated quarterly)</i>		
General Fund & Special Programs		
Cost Basis	1,912,887	1,813,750
Market Value	2,394,134	2,072,940
Accumulated Appreciation (decline) in Value	<u>481,247</u>	<u>259,191</u>
Turner Lectures		
Cost Basis	58,810	55,339
Market Value	72,600	63,244
Accumulated Appreciation (decline) in Value	<u>13,789</u>	<u>7,905</u>
University CC, Seattle Fund		
Cost Basis	1,500,000	1,500,000
Market Value	2,071,262	1,896,268
Accumulated Appreciation (decline) in Value	<u>571,262</u>	<u>396,268</u>

NOTE: The General Fund & Special Programs investments help cover regular expenditures that are not yet covered by other income sources, along with Special Programs such as New Church Development, Transformation, Camps/Outdoor Ministries, Reconciliation, Youth Retreats and other special projects.

Congregational Support	Thru March 2026	Thru March 2025
DMF (Disciples Mission Fund)	30,157	22,088
Special Offerings		
Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving	4,300	2,298
Christmas	2,983	5,077
Reconciliation	570	363
Week of Compassion	19,730	29,473
	<u>57,740</u>	<u>59,298</u>
Returned to the NLRCC	<u>44,278</u>	<u>34,749</u>
% Increase (decrease)	27.42%	

Funds returned to the NLR include a percentage of DMF (67% when given from former NWR churches, when given from former Montana (2021 93%, 2022 85%, 2023 75%, 2024 67%), Pentecost (New Church) (50%) & Reconciliation (50%).
100% of the Christmas offering supports the region.

Programs	Thru March 2026	Thru March 2025
Turner Lectures Event Income		
Turner Lectures Event Expense		
Camping Income		
Camping Expense	(3,130)	(630)
Youth Retreats Income		
Youth Retreats Expense		
Regional Assembly Income	12,955	-
Regional Assembly Expense	(480)	
New Church Income	403	63,826
New Church Expense	(3,000)	(3,000)
Reconciliation Income	1,840	181
Reconciliation Expense	(6,368)	(5,000)
Net Program income (loss)	\$ 2,220	\$ 55,377



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Northern Lights Region Statements of Financial Position

	As of		Increase (Decrease)	As of
	03/31/2026	03/31/2025		12/31/2025
Assets				
Current Assets				
Cash held by (due to) OGMP	454,575	211,663	242,912	146,941
CCF Distributions in Transit	56,460	49,957	6,504	78,675
Prepaid Expenses	369		369	21
Total Current Assets	511,404	261,619	249,785	225,637
Investments - Long-term				
Investments held at Church Extension	144,733	404,740	(260,007)	419,652
Investments held at CCF - Turner Lectures	72,600	62,934	9,666	73,980
Investments held at CCF - Other	2,394,134	2,072,940	321,194	2,468,587
Investments held at CCF - For Operations	2,071,262	1,868,101	203,161	2,132,052
Total Investments	4,682,729	4,408,715	274,014	5,094,272
Fixed Assets				
Furniture & Equipment	10,906	10,906		10,906
Accumulated Depreciation	(10,906)	(10,906)		(10,906)
Total Fixed Assets				
Total Assets	5,194,133	4,670,334	523,799	5,319,908
Liabilities and Net Assets				
Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	4,498	9,720	(5,222)	6,344
Deferred Revenue		24,529	(24,529)	
Total Liabilities	4,498	34,249	(29,751)	6,344
Net Assets				
Without Donor Restrictions	1,312,070	1,087,067	225,003	1,369,783
Without Donor Restrictions Board Designated	423,941	395,669	28,272	416,891
With Temporary Donor Restrictions	1,242,447	942,172	300,275	1,315,715
With Permanent Donor Restrictions	2,211,176	2,211,176		2,211,176
Total Net Assets	5,189,634	4,636,085	553,550	5,313,565
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	5,194,133	4,670,334	523,799	5,319,908



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Northern Lights Region

Detailed Net Asset Activity

Assets less Liabilities representing Fund Balances

	Beginning of year	Income	Expenses	Unreal Gain/ (Loss) on Inv.	As of 3/31/2026	Total Liabilities	Total Assets	AR/ Prepays	Cash	Investments CE	Investments CCF
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS											
Operating	1,369,785	85,187	(75,210)	(67,689)	1,312,073	(4,498)	1,316,570	56,829	448,785	144,734	666,222
Total Unrestricted	1,369,785	85,187	(75,210)	(67,689)	1,312,073	(4,498)	1,316,570	56,829	448,785	144,734	666,222
Board Designated											
Transformation Fund	122,978	-	-	-	122,978	-	122,978	-	-	-	122,978
Turner Lectures Event	(9,781)	-	-	-	(9,781)	-	(9,781)	-	-	-	(9,781)
Turner Lectures Endowment	73,980	-	-	(1,380)	72,600	-	72,600	-	-	-	72,600
Vehicle Replacement Fund	14,000	-	-	-	14,000	-	14,000	-	-	-	14,000
Albright Youth & Outdoor Minist	35,649	-	(3,130)	-	32,519	-	32,519	-	-	-	32,519
Regional Assembly	6,372	12,955	(480)	-	18,847	-	18,847	-	-	-	18,847
Global Ministries Projects	1,408	-	-	-	1,408	-	1,408	-	-	-	1,408
Regional Mission Trip	7,500	-	-	-	7,500	-	7,500	-	-	-	7,500
Regional Minister-Transformation	22,415	-	(750)	-	21,665	-	21,665	-	-	-	21,665
Peterson Technology Fund	29,590	-	-	-	29,590	-	29,590	-	-	-	29,590
Global Ministries Partner Project	16,032	-	(165)	-	15,867	-	15,867	-	-	-	15,867
UW Campus Ministry Fund	40,420	-	-	-	40,420	-	40,420	-	-	-	40,420
Acting Reg Minister for Sabbatic	2,800	-	-	-	2,800	-	2,800	-	-	-	2,800
Zephyr Heritage Fund	52,044	-	-	-	52,044	-	52,044	-	-	-	52,044
Women's Retreat	1,484	-	-	-	1,484	-	1,484	1,484	-	-	-
Total Board Designated	416,891	12,955	(4,525)	(1,380)	423,941	-	423,941	-	1,484	-	422,457
Total Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	1,786,676	98,142	(79,735)	(69,069)	1,736,014	(4,498)	1,740,511	56,829	450,269	144,734	1,088,679

Northern Lights Region

Detailed Net Asset Activity

Assets less Liabilities representing Fund Balances

	Beginning of year	Income	Expenses	Unreal Gain/ (Loss) on Inv.	As of 3/31/2026	Total Liabilities	Total Assets	AR/ Prepays	Cash	Investments CE	Investments CCF
NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS											
New Church	241,993	403	(3,000)	-	239,396	-	239,396	-	-	-	239,396
Disciple Women	1,722	-	-	-	1,722	-	1,722	-	1,722	-	-
Camp & Retreat Scholarships	123,191	5,138	(636)	-	127,693	-	127,693	-	-	-	127,693
Regional Education	16,167	-	-	-	16,167	-	16,167	-	-	-	16,167
Regional Transformation	5,636	-	-	-	5,636	-	5,636	-	-	-	5,636
Lane-Salmon Clergy Emergency Assistance Fund	26,017	-	(690)	-	25,327	-	25,327	-	-	-	25,327
Reconciliation	22,182	1,840	(6,368)	-	17,654	-	17,654	-	-	-	17,654
Bellevue Camp	18,000	-	-	-	18,000	-	18,000	-	-	-	18,000
Bellevue CC Legacy Fund	85,470	-	(5,000)	(1,764)	78,706	-	78,707	-	(9,108)	-	87,815
Clergy Education Scholarship Fund	31,591	-	(2,400)	-	29,191	-	29,191	-	-	-	29,191
Growth of Univ CC Perm Fund	632,052	-	-	(60,790)	571,262	-	571,262	-	-	-	571,262
<i>Supported by Bellevue Gift Agreement:</i>											
Technology Coordinator	6,668	-	-	-	6,668	-	6,668	-	6,668	-	-
Youth Ministries Coordinator	5,024	-	-	-	5,024	-	5,024	-	5,024	-	-
<i>Permanent for Operations</i>											
University CC, Seattle Fund	1,500,000	-	-	-	1,500,000	-	1,500,000	-	-	-	1,500,000
Peterson/Origin Legacy Gift	89,241	-	-	-	89,241	-	89,241	-	-	-	89,241
Northwest United Protestant Church Legacy Fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Endowment for Operations	621,935	-	-	-	621,935	-	621,935	-	-	-	621,935
Total Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	3,526,889	7,381	(18,094)	(62,554)	3,453,622	-	3,453,623	-	4,306	-	3,449,317
Total Net Assets	5,313,565	105,523	(97,829)	(131,623)	5,189,636	(4,498)	5,194,134	56,829	454,575	144,734	4,537,996



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Northern Lights Region Budget Report & Prior Year Comparison

	As of		Over	Annual Budget	As of
	03/31/2026 Actual	03/31/2026 Budget	(Under) Budget		03/31/2025 Actual
Income					
Disciples Mission Fund	20,245	17,082	3,163	80,000	14,836
Designated Operating Contributions	6,803	6,340	463	26,000	5,437
Annual Fund	1,493	2,542	(1,049)	15,000	2,317
Christmas Offering	2,983	6,270	(3,287)	11,000	5,077
DMF Contributions via CCF	1,058	957	101	13,000	962
Bellevue CC Legacy Gift	5,000	5,000		5,000	5,000
Total Allocation Income	37,582	38,190	(609)	150,000	33,628
Joint Investment Trust Income	46,104	40,000	6,104	160,000	39,958
Interest Income	1,501		1,501	14,500	
Total Other Income	47,605	40,000	7,605	174,500	39,958
Total Income	85,187	78,190	6,996	324,500	73,586
Expenses					
Salaries	50,322	51,013	(691)	204,051	44,222
Pension	6,271	6,809	(538)	27,234	5,347
Payroll Taxes	1,737	1,625	112	6,500	1,323
L&I Expense	302		302	1,200	19
Continuing Education	147		147	1,500	
Total Salaries & Benefits	58,779	59,446	(667)	240,485	50,911
Field Expenses	1,352	7,500	(6,148)	30,000	6,132
Total Travel	1,352	7,500	(6,148)	30,000	6,132
Storage Rental	300	300		1,200	744
Insurance Property & Liability	1,642	1,625	17	6,500	1,579
Total Facilities	1,942	1,925	17	7,700	2,323
Mobile phone/Internet	935	925	10	3,700	934
Postage		125	(125)	500	90
Equip Maint & Upgrade	2,159		2,159	4,200	2,182
Office Supplies	85	250	(165)	1,000	94
Yearbook Assessment				1,050	
Credit Card Fees	61	100	(39)	400	83
College of Reg Min Dues	1,897	1,897		1,897	1,457
Miscellaneous Expense				500	100
Total Office Expenses	5,137	3,297	1,840	13,247	4,939



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Northern Lights Region Budget Report & Prior Year Comparison

	As of		Over	Annual	As of
	03/31/2026	03/31/2026	(Under)	Budget	03/31/2025
	Actual	Budget	Budget		Actual
Regional Board				5,000	
Commission on Ministry				1,500	
Regional Elder Pilot Program				10,000	
Regional Reps to Gen Church Events				1,000	
Total Board & Committee Expenses				17,500	
Treasury Services	3,000	3,000		12,000	2,850
Total Professional Services	3,000	3,000		12,000	2,850
Ecumenical Exp:Faith Action Network				1,000	
Global Min Partner Project Support				1,000	
Center for Indigenous Ministries DOC				1,000	
Disciples Seminary Foundation				2,500	
Alaska Child & Family				1,000	
Repairers of the Breach				1,000	
Food insecurity assistance grant	5,000		5,000		
Refugee Relief				5,000	
Total Wider Church Ministries	5,000		5,000	12,500	
Total Expenses	75,210	75,168	42	333,432	67,155
Clergy Retreat					
Clergy Retreats Income				600	
Clergy Retreats Expense				600	
Total					
Total					
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	9,977	3,022	6,955	(8,932)	6,431



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Faith Formation Ministries

#26-4

Background

If you have never heard of the *Faith Formation Team*, you may perhaps have heard of our previous name, *Outdoor Ministries*. Since the last Regional Assembly, the team realized that there were various ministries that had been bundled with Outdoor Ministries after the setbacks we experienced in 2020. Because we wanted to be intentional about these ministries, we began the process of re-organizing into a team that could support current programs and explore new opportunities. After some deliberation, the name Faith Formation (a more flexible name than Christian Education) was chosen as it reflects the ministry we are working on.

Work of the Team

The Faith Formation Team is intentionally operating with the idea of team vs committee as it implies that our work is work of action. Our structure that we are working to build up is that the primary team serves as a hub for sub-teams to create opportunities for faith formation in the Northern Lights Region. One of our major programs are Summer Camps, which lead to the formation of a Camp Team (see separate report). The Faith Formation Team is now looking to form other sub-teams to work on projects of faith formation in the region. A current project is assembling a team to focus on building a program to fill the gap left by the *Turner Lecture Series* in the former Northwest Region. At this time, we are seeking Clergy and Lay Leaders to join our team to discuss what would be beneficial to our region.

In addition to the work on camps and developing a new program, we are working to connect the efforts of existing regional ministries and helping to create opportunities for gathering, growing, and faith in the Northern Lights Region. Examples of existing and potential future opportunities are

- Retreats - Women's*, Men's, Clergy*, Elders, Laity (* denotes an already existing opportunity)
- Activity & Faith Events - Fishing, Camping, Boating, Hiking, etc....
- Children Worship, Wonder, and Welcome Training
- Resources for Congregational Materials
- Travel Experiences for Faith Formation
- Other opportunities brought forward by persons/congregations in the NL Region

This team will continue forward in faith, seeking ways in which we can assist in our continued growth in faith as a region. If you have an idea or are interested in serving on a team/sub-team. Please connect with us at our table at the assembly or email Pastor Mat Goodrich (minister@fccmissoula.org). Please start subject line with 'NL Faith Formation'

Respectfully submitted,
Mathew Goodrich,
Faith Formation Ministry Team Chair



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Camps Team

#26-5

The camps ministry of the Northern Lights Region seeks to connect us more deeply to Creation and our Creator.

Camp is a vital ministry of our region and of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Whether kids and youth have a church home or not, they are included and cared for at camp. Whether kids and youth consider themselves Christians or not, they experience the love and joy of God and community at camp.

In our new structuring of the Camps Team, thus far our team is made up of three Cane Ridge West representatives: David Carringer, Mathew Goodrich, and Diana Kostecki; and two Gwinwood representatives; Annie Carpenter and Brenton Nundahl. We are always open to additional team members or volunteers to discuss and engage with our Camps Ministry.

We are in early stages of organizing with our emphasis for the season on Camp 2026, look out for registration information:

Camp Gwinwood in Lacey, WA

Kids Camp (entering 2nd & 3rd grade): Monday to Thursday July 13-16

Junior, Chi Rho & CYF Camps (4th grade through 2026 Grads): Monday to Saturday, July 13-18

Camp Cane Ridge West in Lincoln, MT

Disciples Adult Camp: Friday to Sunday July 17-19

Kids, Junior, ChiRho, CYF (2nd grade through 2026 Grads): Monday to Saturday, July 20-25

This summer we will explore "In the Wilderness"

"In God's hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being." Job 12:7-10

God has lovingly created everything on earth; all the creatures, plants, and environments. At our Cane Ridge West and Gwinwood venues, we welcome everyone into the sanctuary of camp, a holy and wild place. We invite each other to listen for the wisdom of wilderness, allowing these sacred spaces to teach us and restore us. We celebrate the beauty and power of our Creator and Creation, which includes us!

If you are interested in supporting the ministry of camp whether in funding or volunteering, please contact Rev. Annie Carpenter: annie@qaccweb.org

The work continues, thank you for your support of this awesome ministry.

Rev. Annie Carpenter,
Camps Team Lead



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation Ministry

#26-6

The **Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering** is collected annually in congregations on the last Sunday in September and the first Sunday in October. Half of the offering remains in the Region, while the other half supports the general church's Reconciliation Ministry. The Northern Lights Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation (AR/PR) team seeks **grant proposals** for projects that further the work of **dismantling racism** and promoting **justice in a spirit of reconciliation**. Successful proposals should address systemic issues of race within local communities, churches, and the global context. In alignment with **General Assembly Resolution 0731 (2007)**, entitled Recommendations Concerning Reconciliation Mission, the goals for these grants include:

- **Eliminating racism**
- **Empowering racially marginalized communities**
- **Fostering multiracial/multiethnic communication**

Grants are available to recognized congregations within the Northern Lights Region, as well as to not-for-profit agencies partnering with Disciples congregations. **Recognized regional ministries** and commissions are also eligible to submit proposals. All grant requests are subject to final approval by the **Regional Board**.

Team Activity in the last two years: Since the previous Regional Assembly, the AR/PR team has focused on reviewing grant applications, planning for AR/PR training, and discussing the broader goals and future direction of the reconciliation efforts within the Region.

Grant Applications Funded: 2024-2026

- **Country Homes Christian Church, Spokane:** *English Language School*
Purpose: Advertising for tutors and transportation assistance, and to give more opportunities for the students to learn English, and provide a safe space.
- **Englewood Christian Church, Yakima:** *2025 Bilingual Projects*
Purpose: Update the signage throughout the church building to include bilingual signs and begin a Conversation Cafe program for English speakers to practice conversational Spanish. The goal of this program would be to help ECC grow in confidence and ability to communicate with the 50% of our community members whose primary language is Spanish.
- **First Christian Church, Anchorage:** *2025 New Chance Inc. United Relief Project*
Purpose: This project enables our congregation to partner in refugee ministries by hosting staff, providing office and storage space, contributing to needed household necessities for new families, and providing opportunities for fellowship and development of relationships.

Continued on next page



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Continued

- **North Hill Christian Church, Spokane:** *2026 Widening Doors for Ministry*

Purpose: Remodel three doorways to improve accessibility for teachers and students in their U.S. Citizenship classes and other educational programs housed in the church buildings.

- **Englewood Christian Church, Yakima:** *2026 Justice Library Expansion*

Purpose: To expand the library with books focused on justice, diversity, anti-racism, and inclusion, including adult, young adult, and children's books.

Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation (AR/PR) Training:

- **Date & Details:** The training is set for **Friday, May 1, 2026**, and will be led by **Chris Dorsey**, President/CEO of Disciples Home Missions, a qualified trainer in anti-racism education.
- **Funding:** Chris Dorsey's expenses will be shared by both the AR/PR team and the Regional Assembly.
- **Future Training:** The team discussed planning for additional AR/PR training, including an in-person option for the Regional Board training in the fall. A potential partnership with a local congregation was mentioned as a way to facilitate this.

Future Goals: Expanding Reconciliation Efforts

- The committee continues to explore a broader focus beyond education to include **community organizing** and practical implementation of anti-racism work, creating more opportunities for local leaders to engage in community issues and make tangible changes.
- **Support Systems:** The need for support systems to help faith leaders translate reconciliation goals into action within their local contexts.
- **Regional Partnerships:** The potential for collaboration with AR/PR teams in other regions, aligning with denominational changes, particularly with the ongoing search for a new leader for anti-racism initiatives.
- **AR/PR Training:** The committee is exploring transitioning to a three-year training cycle, though this decision is still pending.

For more information about the Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation ministry in the Northern Lights Region, visit northernlightsdisciples.org.

Respectfully Submitted by
Rev. Miriam Gentle,
Chair, Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation Team



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Commission on Ministry

#26-7

Commission on Ministry members met faithfully via Zoom each quarter during the two years since the Regional Assembly in 2024.

Currently, three candidates are in care for ordination, with a fourth starting in August; and two are in care for commissioning. We look forward to celebrating ordinations in the coming months for those who completed the in-care process with their committees and were approved for ordination by the COM.

The COM met with one pastor seeking to transfer standing from another denomination. They were given provisional standing and taken in care to work towards (and gained) regular standing.

In addition to meeting with candidates, COM created care groups from all clergy in the region for each COM member to connect with at least once a year. In June 2025, an article explaining what COM is and does was published in the regional newsletter. COM also updated the Amorous Relationships Policy (approved by the Regional Board at their February 2026 meeting.)

Each year in February COM reviews standing renewal forms for all clergy and follow up with those expressing concerns, asking questions, needing to complete Healthy Boundaries training and/ Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation training, and those who have not yet completed a standing renewal form. We also notify clergy who do not complete requirements that their standing has lapsed.

Deep gratitude to all COM members. Those highlighted (*) end their service in 2026.

*Jeff Foster	Big Sky
*Diana Kostecki	Big Sky
*David Helseth	Columbia
Sandy Crowley	Columbia
Paul Boling	Salish Sea
*Marsha Gresham	Salish Sea
Mitch Becker	Tahoma
*Robin Crabb	Tahoma
Annie Grogan	Salish Sea
Karrin Lewis	Tahoma
Paul Allen	Regional Minister

Respectfully submitted,
Karrin Lewis,
Chair, Commission on Ministry



Great Is Your Faithfulness

2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Global Ministries Committee

#26-8

We have had an exciting time with Global Ministries since the 2024 Regional Assembly!

We did not plan a People-to-People Pilgrimage to Colombia after Xiomara Cintron Garcia and Pablo Moreno visited us in Wenatchee because of staff changes in Global Ministries and challenging conditions in Colombia. Instead, we focused on preparations for hosting our mission co-workers, Alex Maldonado Lizardi and Xiomara Cintron Garcia, following their term of service. In creating their schedule in cooperation with our Global Ministries staff, we were able to accommodate every request for their presentations.

Thanks to all who provided hospitality, transportation, recreational opportunities, and space for rest and discernment for our mission co-workers during their itineration in the Northern Lights Region.

Alex and Xiomara experienced the urban areas of Seattle (plus whale watching) and the rural areas of Central and Eastern Washington (including the Colville and Spokane Indian Reservations) and the mountains and plains of Idaho and Montana. We even got these Boston Red Sox fans to two Seattle Mariners games.

I believe that together with the Pacific NW Conference of the United Church of Christ we experienced authentic mutual partnership of giving and receiving during the month we hosted Alex and Xiomara.

These two faithful servants put a lot of effort into keeping their presentations, sermons, and worship leadership fresh and appropriate to the varied places they visited.

My wife, Ruth Fletcher, and I were able to spend a day with Alex and Xiomara in Puerto Rico where they are both teaching school and working towards graduate degrees with Christian Theological Seminary.

Meanwhile, our Region's Global Ministries Partnership continues with CEDECOL and JustaPaz in Colombia as we seek out new ways to connect. We have resumed our monthly Zoom calls that provided more support to Alex and Xiomara and our mission partners than I realized.

The Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ is in a transition with leadership so at this time there is not a Co-Chair from our partner denomination. We don't currently have anyone from the Disciples Northern Lights Region or the UCC Conference serving as a mission co-worker through Global Ministries. When we do have one of our own serving "overseas," we connect with them through regular communication and support them with prayer.

We are privileged to have David Giron, our Global Relations Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean, participating in our Regional Assembly. David is working with us and our mission partners to coordinate a People-to-People Pilgrimage to Colombia in June of 2027.

Please continue to support Global Ministries spiritually with your prayers and advocacy as we support our partners financially through the Disciples Mission Fund.

Humbly Submitted,

Ronald C. Greene, Co-Chair, Global Ministries Committee



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

Personnel Committee

#26-9

It has been a pleasure working with Robin through the transition from Interim Regional Minister to Regional Minister Paul Allen. She has been an incredible asset to the Region and has made my role as Personnel committee of one a simple task. During my time on this committee we worked with Robin, Regional Minister Paul Allen, and the Regional Board to establish an updated job description. We are still working with Robin to discern what duties could be shared with either a volunteer or a part-time staff person, and what could be returned to committees for work.

The challenge for the new Personnel Chair will be to continue this discernment process. I do believe that a Personnel committee should have more than one representative and would encourage the new committee to consider having at least three members. I would also encourage the Region to consider capacity for adding a part-time staff person to assist.

It has been a pleasure working with Robin, the Board, and RM Paul Allen, and I look forward to continuing these relationships.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Soja,
Personnel Chair

2026 Regional Assembly Sponsor:



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Report

2026 Bylaws Revisions

#26-10

The current Bylaws for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region were adopted for the Region's inauguration in 2020. The Bylaws itself calls for regular review to continue to reflect governance procedures which support and enhance the ministry and mission of the Northern Lights Region.

Moderator Doug Garner asked me to take the lead in reviewing the current Bylaws and proposing changes for the Regional Board to consider. The primary focus of these revisions was to consider how the Regional Assembly should mesh with the changes to the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in moving to an in-person General Assembly every three years. While there were several options presented, the revised Bylaws move the Region to a Regional Assembly every three years. That change then led to the obvious changes in times of election and terms of office for officers and members of the Commission on Ministry.

During our review we also took the opportunity to make some changes in nomenclature to align the Bylaws with common usage in the Region. The most noticeable of these changes is to make references to the Regional Board consistent throughout the Bylaws. We also added language to make it clear that unanimous consent actions of the Regional Board can be made by electronic means (an important legal necessity). The discerning eye may also notice some corrections of punctuation and spelling in the document.

The documents which guide our life together are important legally and for the efficient operation of our Region. However, they are only valuable if they facilitate our faithful work together in ministry as the people of God in the Northern Lights Region.

I thank all those who participated in this process. A special word of gratitude is offered to Robin Crabb who offered many valuable insights and did the hard work of making sense of the suggested changes.

Bill Jennison
Chair, Bylaws Revisions

1 BYLAWS

2
3 CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
4 IN THE NORTHERN LIGHTS REGION
5
6

7 ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP
8

9 The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region (the Region) is the regional
10 expression of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada (the General
11 Church) made up of congregations engaged in ministry together in Alaska, Montana, North Idaho,
12 and Washington. The Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) delineates the relationship
13 between congregations, the Region, and the General Church.
14

15 Members of congregations recognized in the annual Yearbook of the Christian Church (Disciples of
16 Christ) are also members of the Region.
17

18 ARTICLE II – VALUES AND MISSION

19 ***We Value...***

- 20 • *Our identity as Disciples of Christ*, including our shared history and traditions.
- 21 • *A spiritual life* that is God-centered, Jesus-led, and Spirit-filled.
- 22 • *Enthusiasm and commitment* to the new thing God is calling us to do and be.
- 23 • *Diversity and inclusion* in recognition of God’s love for and welcome of all people.
- 24 • *Ministries of justice and compassion*, both locally and globally.
- 25 • *The practice of responsible stewardship* of time, talent and treasure.
- 26 • *The development of strong relationships and connections* among individual believers,
27 congregations, denominations, and faith communities.
- 28 • *Sustainability and excellence* in our structures and practices.

29 ***The Two-fold Regional Church Mission:***

30 ***1. To gather as a community of communities for the purpose of:***

- 31 • *Creating relationships and sharing gifts between congregations and leaders;*
- 32 • *Worshipping, praying together, and welcoming each other to the Table as Christ has*
33 *welcomed us;*
- 34 • *Becoming an anti-racist, pro-reconciling church;*
- 35 • *Equipping, shaping, and sending leaders, both lay and ordained;*
- 36 • *Creating learning communities where we grow in faith and discipleship, including camps,*
37 *conferences, retreats;*
- 38 • *And making real God’s beloved community through education, witness, stewardship,*
39 *advocacy, and action.*

40 **2. To undergird congregational life within a certain geography by**

- 41 • *Nurturing, credentialing, ordaining, commissioning, and supporting ministers;*
- 42 • *Assisting in Search and Call;*
- 43 • *Providing Healthy Boundary and Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training for Clergy;*
- 44 • *Nurturing and receiving new churches;*
- 45 • *Accompanying stable and declining congregations and aiding those that decide to close;*
- 46 • *Resourcing and supporting vital and transforming congregations seeking to share God's good*
- 47 *news with a fresh voice and a new song;*
- 48 • *Providing guidance to congregations and pastors in times of transition and trouble;*
- 49 • *Celebrating congregational milestones and life.*

50
51 **ARTICLE III – REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

52
53 The Region shall gather in assembly at least once each ~~bitriennium, normally in even years,~~ at a time
54 and place determined by the **Regional** Board ~~of Directors~~. The members of the Region shall receive
55 at least thirty (30) days' notice of the time and place. This gathering will be for the purpose of
56 worship, fellowship, discussion, resource sharing, and the discernment of the ministry of the Region.

57
58 The assembly shall also conduct necessary administrative tasks as stated in these bylaws. All
59 members of the Region present at the Assembly may address any issues placed before the Assembly.

60
61 Each member congregation shall be entitled to two (2) voting representatives. Each congregation
62 will provide the names of its voting representatives and alternates, if any, certified by the
63 congregation's Moderator or pastor to the ~~Secretary of the Regional Board~~ **Regional Administrator**
64 prior to the beginning of the first business session of the Assembly.

65
66 Ministers with standing in the Region who are listed in the Yearbook of the Christian Church
67 (Disciples of Christ) **(ALEX)**, or who are eligible for such listing shall be voting representatives.

68
69 Members of the Regional Board not otherwise qualified shall be voting representatives.

70
71 Efforts will be made to provide meeting access, including the ability to hear each other and to vote,
72 to those who cannot be physically present at the Assembly. Administrative sessions of the
73 Assembly shall be conducted under rules and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors. A
74 quorum of the Assembly shall be those present and voting.

79 ARTICLE IV – ~~BOARD OF DIRECTORS~~ REGIONAL BOARD

80
81 The ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board will conduct the regular, ongoing business of the Region. It is
82 the responsibility of the Regional Board to maintain fiscal oversight of the Region and its various
83 ministries. It shall receive reports from the regional staff, committees, commissions, and those
84 engaged in regional ministry projects.

85
86 An important responsibility of the Regional Board is to encourage and evaluate proposals for
87 regional ministry which arise from the various Areas, clusters and congregational ventures around
88 the Region. The Regional Board, while exercising its fiduciary responsibility, will evaluate funding
89 requests for any such new ministries. The Regional Board may establish committees and task forces
90 as necessary to evaluate and provide oversight to the Region’s varied ministries. The chairs of such
91 committees and task forces shall be ex officio members of the Regional Board, without vote.

92
93 The Regional Board shall consist of at least 19 members including the officers of the Region, two (2)
94 members from each area, two (2) youth/young adult members, and the chairpersons of the
95 standing Commissions and Committees listed in Article VII. At least ten (10) members of the Board
96 will be laypersons. The Regional Minister shall be an ex officio member of the Board with voice and
97 vote. Members shall be elected by the Assembly for a ~~two~~ three-year term upon nomination by the
98 Nominating Committee. Members may be reelected for an additional a ~~two~~ three-year term.
99 Nominations shall reflect our value of diversity within the Region’s membership. Between Assembly
100 meetings, a Board member can be removed from the Board upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of
101 the remaining Board members.

102
103 The Board shall meet at least four (4) times a year. Meetings shall be held at a time and place
104 determined by the Moderator, and Board members shall receive at least fifteen (15) days’ notice of
105 the meetings. Except for the first meeting following election at an Assembly, the meetings may be
106 conducted by conference call or video conference. When necessary, the Region will assist members
107 in attaining the necessary technology to be full participants in meetings. A quorum shall be a simple
108 majority of the membership of the Board.

109
110 Any action which could be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if a
111 written consent setting forth the action taken is signed by all Board members entitled to vote. Such
112 written consent may be provided electronically. The written consent may be signed in two or more
113 counterparts, each which shall be deemed an original and all of which, when taken together, shall
114 constitute the same document, and shall be treated as minutes of a meeting.

115
116 The first meeting of the Board following its election by the Assembly shall be an in-person gathering
117 at a time and place determined by the Moderator, and Board members shall receive at least fifteen

118 (15) days' notice of the meeting. This meeting shall provide for the organization of the Board, the
119 setting of ~~bi~~triennial priorities as reflected by the Assembly, and team building for the Board's
120 membership. The Region shall provide for the expenses of members to attend the first meeting of
121 the Board.

122

123 ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

124

125 The Executive Committee shall be made up of the officers of the Region, two (2) members selected
126 from the membership of the Board, and the Regional Minister.

127

128 Between meetings of the Board, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to act within
129 policies established by the Board to take interim actions on behalf of the Board. All actions taken by
130 the Executive Committee shall be affirmed by the Board at its next meeting following the action.
131 Any vacancies occurring among the officers or members of the Board shall be filled by the Executive
132 Committee with confirmation of the Board. Any officer can be removed by a two-thirds (2/3)
133 majority vote of the Board. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a simple majority of the
134 members.

135

136 The Executive Committee shall perform an annual review of the Regional Minister. The results of
137 the review will be reported to the Board.

138

139 The Region's representatives to the ~~General Board and to the~~ General Assembly of the Christian
140 Church (Disciples of Christ) shall be elected by the Executive Committee and affirmed by the Board.

141

142 ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

143

144 In addition to the Regional Minister-President (See Article IX), the Region shall have four (4)
145 executive officers ~~to be~~ elected by the Assembly ~~in even numbered~~ at its triennial meeting ~~years~~ for
146 ~~two (2)~~ (3) three year terms: Moderator; Moderator-elect; Secretary; and Treasurer.

147

148 The Secretary and Treasurer can be reelected for a second ~~two (2)~~ three (3) year term.

149

150 The Moderator shall chair meetings of the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board and the Assembly.

151

152 The Moderator-elect shall perform the functions of the Moderator in the Moderator's absence and
153 will be expected to become the Moderator for the following ~~bi~~triennium, following an ~~affirmative~~
154 election by the Assembly.

155

156 The Secretary shall maintain a record of the meetings of the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board and
157 Assembly, to be held in the Regional Office, and perform any other tasks which may be required by
158 law. The Secretary shall also serve as the Secretary of the Corporation.

159
160 The Treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee and maintain oversight of the Region’s financial
161 affairs.

162
163

164 ARTICLE VII – STANDING COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

165
166 Standing Committee and Commission chairs will be nominated by the Nominating Committee and
167 elected by the Assembly. The chairs of committees and commissions are members, with vote, of
168 the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board and shall make regular reports to the Board. Between
169 Assemblies, vacancies of the chairs of committees and commissions will be filled upon nomination
170 by the Moderator and affirmation by a simple majority of the Executive Committee. Any chair of a
171 committee or commission can be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the ~~Board of~~
172 ~~Directors~~ Regional Board.

173
174 A. Finance Committee
175 The Finance Committee shall regularly review financial reports provided by Treasury
176 Services; guide the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board in maintaining financial stability and
177 transparency; and manage special regional offering focuses. The Finance Committee shall
178 be chaired by the Treasurer.

179
180 B. Personnel Committee
181 The Personnel Committee shall advise the Regional Minister in the hiring of staff for the
182 Region. The Committee shall assist the Regional Minister in the regular review of the
183 performance of all Regional employees except the Regional Minister. The Personnel
184 Chair/Committee will support the Regional Minister and Regional Board in any updates,
185 research, and creation of employee policies, as well as employee dismissals.

186
187 C. Nominating Committee
188 The Nominating Committee shall present to the Assembly a list with at least one nominee
189 for each elected office. The committee members will include the committee chairperson
190 (elected by Regional Assembly) and the Regional Minister ex-officio with voice and vote.
191 Additional members shall be comprised of one person from each Area, appointed by the
192 moderator, confirmed by the Executive Committee, and affirmed by Regional Board. The
193 committee shall be appointed at least six (6) months prior to the Assembly.

194

195 ~~D. Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Committee~~ Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation Committee
196 As part of our commitment to becoming a pro-reconciling/anti-racist church, the PRAR
197 Committee shall be a standing committee of the region. Its focus will be to lift up the values
198 of diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism, including organizing and/or providing education and
199 training for laity and clergy, overseeing the application process for Reconciliation Grants,
200 and promoting the work of Reconciliation Ministries through the Reconciliation Offering
201 and other avenues.

202
203 E. Commission on Ministry
204 The Commission on Ministry creates and maintains the processes for the ordination,
205 commissioning, and standing of clergy in the Region. The commission **operates in**
206 **accordance with** ~~works within~~ the Policies of the Order of Ministry of the Northern Lights
207 Region and ~~the Policies of the Order of Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)~~
208 ~~in the United States and Canada~~ **Theological Foundations and Policies and Criteria for the**
209 **Ordering of Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) (TFPCOM).**

210
211 The commission shall be responsible for the care of candidates preparing for ministry, the
212 examination and approval of candidates prior to ordination or commissioning, shall
213 establish requirements for ministerial standing, and maintain the list of clergy with standing
214 in the Region.

215
216 The commission shall consist of ten (10) members: two members, one clergy and one lay, from
217 each Area, plus two members, one clergy and one lay, at large. The members will be named
218 by the Nominating Committee and confirmed by the Regional Assembly. Membership shall
219 strive to include equal numbers of women and men and reflect ~~our~~ **the Region's** value of
220 diversity within ~~the Region's~~ **its** membership. The chairperson will be one identified from
221 within the commission membership by the Nominating Committee and confirmed by the
222 Regional Assembly. The members shall serve a term of six (6) years. **One half of the**
223 **membership shall be elected at each triennial Assembly.** ~~The initial terms shall be staggered~~
224 ~~to assure no more than three (3) terms expire at each Assembly.~~

225
226 ARTICLE VIII – AREAS

227
228 For the purpose of geographic representation, fellowship, and mission, the Region is divided into
229 four (4) geographic areas. Congregations and ~~pastors~~ **clergy** are encouraged to find ways in which
230 to support and encourage one another in each area, as well as come together for ministry
231 appropriate to their area.

232

233 Salish Sea – congregations in Alaska, Island, King (except Kent), San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and
234 Whatcom counties in Washington.
235 Tahoma – congregations in Kent; and in Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap,
236 Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston and Wahkiakum counties in Washington.
237 Columbia – congregations in Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin,
238 Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Lincoln, Okanagan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman
239 and Yakima counties in Washington, and Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah,
240 Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties in Idaho
241 Big Sky – congregations in Montana

242

243 ARTICLE IX – REGIONAL MINISTER-PRESIDENT

244

245 The Region shall call a Regional Minister-President to serve as a spiritual leader-theologian and the
246 chief executive officer of the Region. The personal qualifications and responsibilities of the Regional
247 Minister-President shall be developed by the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board and outlined in a
248 job description approved by the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board. The Regional Minister-President
249 shall serve a term of six (6) years which may be renewed after review and discernment by the
250 Regional Minister and Regional Board. ~~When an additional term is recommended the Regional~~
251 ~~Board shall refer the~~ recommendation of an additional term to a Regional Assembly for affirmation
252 ~~by a 2/3 vote. would require re-affirmation by the Regional Assembly.~~

253

254 Upon a vacancy in the office of Regional Minister-President the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board
255 will develop a process for the search and call of a new person to fill the position. The process will
256 follow the Executive Search Model recommended by the General Church. A Search Committee will
257 be appointed by the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board to conduct the search and to recommend a
258 candidate to the ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board. The ~~Board of Directors~~ Regional Board shall
259 recommend the candidate to the Regional Assembly for ~~its~~ affirmation ~~by a 2/3 vote. Affirmation by~~
260 ~~the Assembly shall be by at least a 2/3 majority vote.~~

261

262 ARTICLE X – ASSETS

263 No part of the assets of the Northern Lights Region shall inure to the benefit of any director, officer,
264 employee of the Region, or any private individual, except that reasonable compensation may be
265 paid for services rendered to or for the Region. No director, officer, private individual, or for-profit
266 organization shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on
267 dissolution of the Region.

268

269 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, no director, officer, employee, or
270 representative of this Corporation shall take any action or carry on any activity, by or on behalf of
271 the Corporation, not permitted to be taken or carried on without penalty, by an organization

272 exempt from taxation, or by an organization whose contributions are deductible under federal
273 income tax laws as they now exist, or as they should hereafter be amended.

274
275 Dissolution of the Northern Lights Region shall require a two-thirds vote of the ~~Board of Directors~~
276 **Regional Board** and shall be affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Regional Assembly.

277
278 The authority for the purchase or sale of real property shall be vested in the ~~Board of Directors~~
279 **Regional Board**.

280
281 In the event of dissolution of the Region, its assets shall be applied and distributed as follows:

- 282
- 283 A. All liabilities and obligations of the Region shall be paid, satisfied, and discharged.
 - 284 B. Any assets held by the Region, upon condition requiring their return, transfer or
285 conveyance which condition occurs by reason of dissolution or liquidation, shall be
286 returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements.
 - 287 C. Any assets remaining shall be transferred or conveyed to the Christian Church
288 (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada headquartered in Indianapolis,
289 Indiana or its successor(s) or successor addresses.
 - 290 D. Should the above-named denominational body be dissolved, any assets remaining
291 shall be transferred or conveyed to one or more domestic or foreign churches,
292 societies, or organizations engaged in activities substantially similar to those of the
293 Northern Lights Region, pursuant to such plan as may be adopted by the ~~Board of~~
294 **Directors Regional Board**.

295
296 All assets must be allocated exclusively to charitable, scientific, or educational organizations then
297 exempt from tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) or any successor section thereto.

298
299 ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

300
301 These Bylaws may be amended by the ~~Board of Directors~~ **Regional Board** at any regularly called
302 meeting of the Board. Proposed amendments must be provided to the members of the Board at
303 least thirty (30) days prior to any action upon them being taken. The Moderator shall appoint a
304 Bylaws Review Committee every two (2) years. The current Bylaws shall be provided in the
305 materials available to participants in the Assembly along with an explanation of any changes made
306 since the last Assembly.

307
308
309 The foregoing Bylaws were adopted by the Regional Board on February 9, 2020.
310 The foregoing Bylaws were adopted by the Regional Board on April 8, 2026.



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Motion

Nominations

#26-MO1

The Northern Lights Region Nominating Committee consisting of Rev. Amy LaCroix (Chair), Kate Ayers, Rev. Chris Snow, and Regional Minister Rev. Paul Allen recommends the following slate of regional leadership to the voting representatives of the Assembly.

Rows in bold represent those being voted on.

Position	Name	Lay/	Gender	Area	Congregation	Term ends
Moderator	Mary Larsen	Lay	F	Tahoma	FCC Puyallup	2029
Moderator-elect	Colin McRaney	Clergy	M	Tahoma	FCC Kent	2029 - 1st
Secretary	Devin Wright	Clergy	M	Tahoma		2029 - 2nd
Treasurer	Bill Jennison	Lay	M	Columbia		2029 - 1st
Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation	Christie Love	Clergy	F	Columbia	Englewood CC	2029 - 1st
Personnel	Jenny Heddin	Lay	F	Tahoma	FCC Olympia	2029 - 1st
Nominating	Amy LaCroix	Clergy	F	Tahoma	Olympia	2029 - 1st
Commission on Ministry	Karrin Lewis	Lay	F	Tahoma	FCC Puyallup	2029 - 2nd
Big Sky Area Rep	Mandy Gosik	Clergy	F	Big Sky	Central CC, Great Falls	2029 - 1st
Big Sky Area Rep	Doug Taylor	Lay	M	Big Sky	Seeker's Harbor, Billings	2029 - 2nd
Columbia Area Rep	Adam Janes		M	Columbia	Othello CC	2029 - 1st
Columbia Area Rep	Jenn Snow	Lay	F	Columbia	North Hill CC, Spokane	2029 - 1st
Salish Sea Area Rep	Barbara Abercombie	Lay	F	Salish Sea	FCC Anchorage	2029 - 2nd
Salish Sea Area Rep	Seungil (Victor) Eo	Clergy	M	Salish Sea	Mannam Korean CC,	2029 - 1st
Tahoma Area Rep	Rachel Crum	Lay	F	Tahoma	FCC Olympia	2029 - 2nd
Tahoma Area Rep	Mitch Becker	Clergy	M	Tahoma	FCC Port Angeles	2029 - 1st
Youth/Young Adult Rep	Sam Boling	Lay	M	Salish Sea	FCC Anchorage	2029 - 1st
Youth/Young Adult Rep	Katee Kostecki	Lay	F	Big Sky	FCC Missoula	2029 - 2nd

Commission On Ministry

Position	Name	Lay/	Gender	Area	Congregation	Term ends
Big Sky Area Rep	Doug Garner	Clergy	M	Big Sky	Central CC, Billings	2032
Big Sky Area Rep	Katee Kostecki	Lay	F	Big Sky	FCC Missoula	2032
Columbia Area Rep	Sandy Crowley	Lay	F	Columbia	Opportunity CC	2030
Columbia Area Rep	Mark Wilton	Clergy	M	Columbia	Chelan CC	2032
Salish Sea Area Rep	Paul Boling	Clergy	M	Salish Sea	FCC Anchorage	2030
Salish Sea Area Rep		Lay		Salish Sea		2032
Tahoma Area Rep	Mitch Becker	Clergy	M	Tahoma	FCC Port Angeles	2028
Tahoma Area Rep	Karen Ferguson	Clergy	F	Tahoma	FCC Olympia	2032
At-Large	Annie Grogan	Clergy	F	Salish Sea	Queen Anne CC, Seattle	2030
At-Large	Karrin Lewis	Lay	F	Tahoma	FCC Puyallup	2028



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2026 Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region

Motion

Open & Affirming Discernment Process

#26-MO2

AGREEMENT FOR THE NORTHERN LIGHTS REGION TO ENTER INTO THE OPEN AND AFFIRMING DISCERNMENT PROCESS

WHEREAS the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Church passed resolution GA-1327 in 2013 that declared, “*recognize itself as striving to become a people of grace and welcome to all God’s children though differing in race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, political stance or theological perspective...*” In addition, in 2019, resolution GA-1929 was passed, inviting, “*... every expression of the church, in collaboration with Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance, to seek, share, and produce resources for biblical theological study, pastoral care best practices, and best practices for institutional inclusion concerning transgender and gender-diverse people and their families.*” In 2023, the General Church passed GA 23-52, which “*reaffirms the historic commitment of this movement to recognize and affirm the sacred dignity of all peoples as all are made in the sacred image of God and deserving of respect and honor...*”

WHEREAS the Northern Lights region, as part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General Church, is rooted in our denominational identity of working for wholeness in a fragmented world and welcoming all to the table.

WHEREAS working with Alliance Q, the regional Open and Affirming process focuses on regional inclusivity that welcomes and affirms all nationalities, immigration statuses, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, economic levels, gender identities, and sexual orientations.

WHEREAS, regional areas and local congregations maintain autonomy within the General Church structure of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Just as no General Church resolutions do not supersede regional or congregational policy, neither would regional resolutions direct congregational practices.

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Northern Lights Region agrees to enter into a Regional Open and Affirming process of exploration, discernment, and conversation to be led by Rev. Gloria Soja and Rev. Dr. Christie Love, who will work with the Regional Minister and the Regional Board to build a team with regional representation from other lay leaders and clergy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution expresses the willingness of this assembly to begin to engage in the exploration and education process, which will last a minimum of three years. This process will include (but not be limited to) in-person regional gatherings for discussion, as well as virtual events and additional educational opportunities for congregations.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that any further action would require additional resolutions to be submitted to the regional assembly for discussion and vote by congregational representatives and ordained clergy.

¹ <https://cdn.disciples.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/06162352/GA1327-BecomingAPeopleOfGraceAndWelcomeToAll-Final.pdf>

² <https://cdn.ga.disciples.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/18224045/GA-1929-An-Invitation-to-Education-for-Welcoming-and-Receiving-the-Gifts-of-Transgender-and-Gender-Diverse-People.pdf>

³ <https://ga.disciples.org/uncategorized/2023/ga-2352>