

# New Ways

# into the World

## Helping Disciples answer 'What's Next?'



**C**ongregations are at the heart of meeting the physical and spiritual needs of those God has given us to love. Local

churches bring people together to connect with God and each other, then send them into the world to touch people with God's Good News.

This practice evolves with every generation as times and needs shift. Yet, in recent years, our faith communities experienced change at an unprecedented, accelerated pace.

As a global pandemic drove us out of our shared spaces and into isolation from one another, we felt the trauma of separation. When a long-overdue racial reckoning opened our eyes to injustices that have existed around us for hundreds of years, we felt the pain of complicity and righteous indignation. As climate change has continued to increase catastrophic weather events around the globe, houses of worship were not spared.

As we continue to experience the uncertainty of this season, one thing remains true – especially in times like these – the Church is *still* called to touch people with God's Good News.

At Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF), we face this crucial moment in

the life of the Church with hope. Disciples Church Extension Fund was built for this moment.

For 140 years, DCEF has been a trusted partner for church leaders as they make faithful decisions about positioning their people, property, and finances for faithful ministry.

DCEF is built to help congregations **innovate** for ministry.

We **connect** with congregations to discern the best path forward, calling forth their best ideas and solutions to today's challenges.

We help church leaders leverage their assets to **resource** the future and empower transformational ministry.

In times like these, DCEF needs to take our ministry to the next level. ●



“Your compassion and sympathy was reassuring, and sharing your experiences helped from the onset... The realization that we weren't alone and that we weren't the only church that had gone through such catastrophe buoyed our confidence and commitment.”

— Kathy Simpson, First Christian Church, Washington, NC



**DCEF announces a three-year,  
\$4.5 Million Endowment Campaign to drive the  
renewal and rebirth of Disciples congregations.  
We're focused on three key areas:**



## 1 New Churches

For decades, DCEF has hosted the Disciples new church movement on behalf of the whole church. After reaching our 2020 Vision Goal of “starting 1,000 new churches in 1,000 different ways,” the church is right to ask, “What’s next?” In response, New Church Ministry continues to train, equip, assist, and multiply new and affiliating ministries, now focusing on leadership development through DisciplesNEXT. This framework fosters faithful communities by grounding their leaders in the Disciples identity as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

## 2 Building Disaster Response

As climate change continues to impact our world, our congregations and the neighborhoods they serve increasingly find themselves picking up after disaster. “What’s next?” Our Building Disaster Response Service helps congregations secure damaged facilities, sort through insurance claims, and decipher construction jargon. Through the generosity of our donors, we offer this service at no charge to congregations as they focus on their ministry.

## 2 | **New Ways** INTO THE WORLD

## 3 Ministry Planning Services

As our established congregations emerge in a pandemic-informed context for ministry, the ways we have operated no longer feel faithful, effective, or relevant. “What’s next?” Disciples Church Extension Fund’s Building, Capital, and Ministry Services team helps these faith communities take stock of all they bring into this new season of ministry – their people, their property, and their finances, as they move forward in ministry. Further, we strive to address inequities that have neglected ministries in some of our most vulnerable neighborhoods.

These funds will ensure our congregations get a useful response when they ask, “What’s next?” A response that considers their building needs, financial health, and ministry in surrounding neighborhoods. Thanks to generous supporters like you, DCEF will be ready and able to be the partner that our churches need – now and into the future – as they make bold decisions that lead to faithful, effective, and innovative ministry. ●



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## KEY AREAS OF SUPPORT

### \$1.6 MILLION THE NEW CHURCH MINISTRY ENDOWMENT WILL:



- Generate approximately \$64,000 annually
- Ensure that new church organizers continue to have access to empowerment. Our framework, DisciplesNEXT, provides spiritual, organizing, and ministry guidance from mentors and colleagues at Leadership Academy, IMPACT webinars and blogs, and through our expert NCM coaching network
- Keep NCM nimble and entrepreneurial in meeting the ever-changing needs of new churches and their leaders

### \$450,000 THE BUILDING DISASTER RESPONSE SERVICE ENDOWMENT WILL:



- Generate approximately \$18,000 annually
- Financially address a need that will increase in the future
- Allow staff to provide more on-site support to congregations following a building disaster

### \$2.45 MILLION THE MINISTRY PLANNING ENDOWMENT WILL:



- Generate approximately \$98,000 annually
- Reduce fees to make our services more accessible to the congregations that need them the most
- Allow DCEF to continue innovating to meet the evolving needs of Disciples congregations



“It was a great comfort to us to have DCEF’s support when we were feeling rather vulnerable in those early days [of the pandemic].”

— Pastor Linda McCrae,  
Central Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN

We invite you to join in the vision to help our congregations find renewal and rebirth as they rise to ministry in a changing context. We invite you to be part of the answer to the ministry question, “What’s next?” •



Start your gift conversation now.  
[www.NewWaysDCEF.org](http://www.NewWaysDCEF.org)



## CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

New Church Ministry	\$ 1,600,000
Building Disaster Response Service	\$ 450,000
Building, Capital, and Ministry Planning Services	\$2,450,000
<b>Campaign Total</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>

