# OFFICE OF GENERAL MINISTRIES



THE REV. JOHN H. THOMAS, GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT, AND MS. EDITH A. GUFFEY, ASSOCIATE GENERAL MINISTER

he Office of General Ministries work includes the nitty-gritty essentials of the national setting, including common services, human resources, financial services, affirmative action and diversity initiatives, research, archives, communications, financial development, and Conference and ecumenical relations.

Clearly, the UCC 50th anniversary was a primary focus during 2007. Working with a special anniversary committee, OGM not only facilitated the landmark General Synod, but also produced church-wide webstreaming events, a commemorative book and DVD, an oral history archives project, and a traveling 50th-year exhibit. Our Research Services team partnered with

Hartford Seminary to conduct an anniversary-year "State of the Church" survey.

The Proclamation, Identity and Communication Ministry introduced a new look and feel for ucc.org that included expanded video, blogging and interactive functions. PIC also increased the church's networking presence on Facebook, Myspace, and other social networking sites. The Stillspeaking Ministry saw an infusion of new staff leadership, even as it continued to promote the UCC's "extravagant welcome" through edgy marketing and the promotion of creative, grassroots hospitality.

United Church News, the nation's largest denominational newspaper, saw its subscriptions climb by 10 percent to 206,000 households! More than just size, it also can claim stature. In 2007, the Religion Communicators Council named it the nation's best national religion newspaper.

The Financial Development Ministry continued to cultivate greater support for ministries across every setting of the church. The UCC's capacity for promoting and receiving online gifts has never been stronger, and the UCC continues to utilize new technologies to harness enthusiasm and support for our ministries.

The Office of General Ministries continues to work behind the scenes to reinforce the essential work of our Covenanted Ministries.





# **JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES**



THE REV. M. LINDA JARAMILLO EXECUTIVE MINISTER

Justice and Witness Ministries' commitment to ministries of justice and peace emphasizes members' personal involvement at every level of the church. During 2007, we focused on the theme of Jubilee Justice in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the United Church of Christ. The biblical mandates of Jubilee were lifted up at board meetings, General Synod, through interpretive resources, and the Neighbors in Need offering.

The Board of Directors endorsed a new three-year strategic plan called "Framing the Future," which includes new vision and mission statements and guiding principles for JWM's work. A high priority was given to building and strengthening relationships with conferences, seminaries, and other partners.

A new formal covenant has been signed between JWM and the UCC's Southern California Nevada Conference to open Romero Center for Border Ministry or "Centro Romero," in San Ysidro, California. The center hopes

to raise an awareness of U.S. and Mexico "border realities" in an effort to provide a deeper understanding of immigration issues.

New relationships are being formed in the Gulf Coast Region with Louisiana Justice Institute and All Congregations Together. JWM has worked very closely with Wider Church Ministries' Disaster Ministries Office, Local Church Ministries' Evangelism Team, Beecher Memorial UCC in New Orleans, and the South Central Conference of the UCC.

Legislatively, Justice and Witness has worked with ecumenical partners in Washington who successfully advocated for Head Start reauthorization, the 2007 Energy Bill, and restoring domestic discretionary funding to 2005 levels, plus inflation, for Section 8 housing vouchers, low-income heating assistance, and nutrition funding for children and mothers.

Along with our partners in the development of the "Our Whole Lives" curriculum, JWM celebrates the completion of our age-span sexuality resources. Starting with kindergarten-aged children, these materials embrace the values of self worth, responsibility, health, justice, and inclusivity.

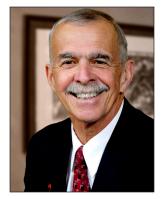
"Hospitality House II" at the UCC's Franklinton Center at Bricks in Whitakers, N.C., was dedicated in August 2007, offering motel-like accommodations, with 22 double rooms and conference space to meet the increasing demand for conferences and retreats.

These are just a few of the ways the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries has worked to inspire, interpret and involve our congregations in the ongoing commitment to "frame the future."





# LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES



THE REV. STEPHEN L. STERNER EXECUTIVE MINISTER

The UCC's Local Church Ministries affirms that individual congregations are the foundation for personal spiritual formation and corporate ministry. A high priority in 2007 for all LCM ministry teams has been the development of supporting resources and programs for the Congregational Vitality Initiative, for "God is Still Speaking," for increased use of our seeker website "i.ucc," and the creation of an interactive display area at the 50th anniversary General Synod.

"Shine, God's People" collected data and stories from across the denomination about how we were living out our shared identity and vitality as a multiracial, multicultural, open and affirming, accessible to all church.

Our Worship and Education ministry team, which established a Praise Song Book Advisory Team, launched a praise song contest that received over 400 entries. The youth-focused 50-for-50 program became the catalyst for bringing more than 1,000 young people to General Synod.

During the past year, our Evangelism Team held the first New Church Leadership Institute, a training program for new church planters and coaches. This program, partially funded by the Carpenter Foundation, is a partnership with the Southeast Conference, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and Candler School of Theology.

Throughout the year, the Parish Life and Leadership Ministry hosted multiple partnership events, including regional seminarian gatherings; a convocation for UCC History, Theology and Polity teachers; new Conference Ministry orientations, faith-group breakfasts for our chaplains, pastoral counselors and educators; and the biennial search-and-call gathering.

The Publications, Resources and Distribution Team had several highlights. Our General Synod bookstore saw record sales, while our Distribution Center shipped more than 1.65 million items in 2007. The Pilgrim Press book sales were up by 11 percent, and United Church Press launched its promotion of "Gather" Round," a new Bible-based curriculum.

"Stewards in the Household of God," a resource for holistic year-round stewardship, and "The Gifting God," a small-group stewardship study, were created by our Stewardship team. In coordination with The Church Vitality Initiative and i.ucc.org, Stillspeaking devotionals were posted online. Throughout the year, the Stewardship Ministry coordinated the Financial Ministries Table and the Special Mission Offerings Committee.

Local Church Ministries continues to develop new ways to partner with pastors and laypersons as they seek to fulfill their call to ministry.





# WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES



THE REV. CALLY ROGERS-WITTE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

ider Church Ministries affirms that we are indeed, part of a family — a global family that strives to maintain a critical presence in places of greatest need around the world.

Throughout 2007, Hurricane Katrina relief continued as a high priority through Wider Church Ministries' commitment to aiding under-insured and under-served individuals and families; the empowerment of faith congregations in the devastated area; and offering counseling and support in affected communities.

Our Volunteer Ministries program enabled thousands of UCC members to travel to disaster areas to assist in rebuilding efforts. Some individuals volunteer to serve a year or more to effectively coordinate work groups and prioritize relief efforts.

The United Church AIDS Network (UCAN) was reformulated to establish a supportive network for addressing HIV/AIDS concerns in the US, and to help provide training and resources for local churches to minister in their communities.

Our Refugee and Immigration Ministries program has helped promote greater awareness and concern for homeless Iraqi citizens, thereby enabling the resettlement of a growing number of Iraqi refugees with the help of UCC communities.

WCM continued its international peacemaking efforts by sending delegates to The Interfaith Peace Conference in Tokyo. In developing a new relationship with churches in Nepal, faith communities have been encouraged to continue peace talks with the government and extremist groups.

In response to the war in Darfur, a new initiative was launched at General Synod with One Great Hour of Sharing to respond to the tragedy that has killed nearly 400,000 Darfurians while displacing 2.5 million others. "Tents of Hope" challenges groups and congregations to create a simulated refugee tent to raise awareness and funds.

Nearly 400 UCC and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) members have participated in Global Ministries' training events on mission interpretation and advocacy activities. The "Be a Global Mission Church Project" was re-launched at Synod enlisting congregations to prioritize efforts to become certified global mission churches.

The challenges that face us in today's world can seem overwhelming, but by working with our global partners we are able to bring healing and hope in many important ways.







### ${\tt OCWM--BASIC\ SUPPORT}$

2007 / 2006 Comparison by Conference

Note 1:	Information taken from National Receipts
	in Raiser's Edge. Forms not received from
	Conference.

- Note 2: Support sent directly to National by churches or individuals.
- Note 3: No Conference data available, excluded from retention percent.
- Note 4: Different amount than Conference reported based on actual cash received and blue form figures submitted by Conference.
- Note 5: Money received from Conferences from onetime, special giving as a Property Sale, Will & bequests, etc. This is over and above projected goals. Includes money counted by National as current year but counted by Conference as prior year as it was received after National's books closed for prior year.
- Note 6: Wisconsin reported an additional \$170,000 in OCWM income in 2006 but the information was received too late reports were already published and audited.

Where National credited gift in 2007 and Conference credited in 2006, no adjustment was made to "Conference retained" amount or percent.

	2007				
	TO NATIONAL	% of TOTAL	TO CONFERENCE	% of TOTAL	TOTAL
CAL NEV NORTH	173,080	20.0%	692,321	80.0%	865,401
CAL NEV SOUTH	206,959	40.0%	310,439	60.0%	517,398
CALVIN SYNOD (Note 1, 3)	600	100.0%		0.0%	600
CENTRAL ATLANTIC (Note 4)	415,799	35.0%	773,768	65.1%	1,189,567
CENTRAL PACIFIC (Note 5)	83,894	25.0%	252,065	75.0%	335,959
CONNECTICUT (Note 4)	1,372,921	63.0%	806,717	37.0%	2,179,638
FLORIDA	192,699	25.6%	560,573	74.4%	753,273
HAWAII	107,244	38.2%	173,234	61.8%	280,478
ILLINOIS (Note 4)	560,682	29.0%	1,375,644	71.0%	1,936,326
ILLINOIS SOUTH (Note 5)	164,847	30.0%	384,644	70.0%	549,492
INDIANA-KENTUCKY	169,764	19.4%	705,961	80.6%	875,726
IOWA (Note 2, 5)	269,349	36.0%	477,921	64.0%	747,270
KANSAS-OKLAHOMA (Note 5)	71,202	25.5%	208,022	74.5%	279,225
MAINE	161,032	27.8%	418,575	72.2%	579,607
MASSACHUSETTS	1,215,626	60.0%	811,588	40.0%	2,027,214
MICHIGAN	232,188	31.0%	516,808	69.0%	748,996
MINNESOTA	283,469	34.8%	532,269	65.2%	815,737
MISSOURI MID S (Note 5)	220,282	25.0%	660,845	75.0%	881,127
MONTANA N WYOMING	36,418	20.0%	145,670	80.0%	182,088
NEBRASKA	107,366	25.0%	322,100	75.0%	429,466
NEW HAMPSHIRE	356,623	45.0%	435,872	55.0%	792,495
NEW YORK (Note 5)	106,225	12.5%	745,122	87.5%	851,347
NORTHERN PLAINS	12,974	13.0%	86,827	87.0%	99,801
OHIO (Note 5)	425,400	19.3%	1,778,378	80.7%	2,203,778
PACIFIC NW	179,727	29.7%	425,453	70.3%	605,181
PENN CENTRAL	330,000	32.9%	671,867	67.1%	1,001,867
PENN NE	78,584	12.3%	558,625	87.7%	637,208
PENN SE	306,144	24.7%	934,125	75.3%	1,240,269
PENN WEST	41,222	14.7%	239,529	85.3%	280,751
RHODE ISLAND	111,000	35.7%	199,817	64.3%	310,817
ROCKY MOUNTAIN (Note 5)	149,691	30.0%	349,279	70.0%	498,970
SOUTH CENTRAL	44,849	17.3%	213,845	82.7%	258,694
SOUTH DAKOTA	36,000	12.8%	244,383	87.2%	280,383
SOUTHEAST	29,176	11.0%	236,063	89.0%	265,240
SOUTHERN	45,000	9.6%	425,528	90.4%	470,528
SOUTHWEST	103,735	25.0%	311,205	75.0%	414,939
VERMONT	223,182	45.0%	272,778	55.0%	495,959
WISCONSIN (Note 6)	505,000	22.5%	1,738,215	77.5%	2,243,215
(Note 5)	380,626	100.0%	0	0.0%	380,626
MISC (Note 3)	130,393	100.0%	0	0.0%	130,393
TOTAL	9,640,973	32.2%	19,996,075	67.8%	29,637,048



### OCWM — BASIC SUPPORT

2007 / 2006 Comparison by Conference

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	in Raiser's Edge. Forms not received from
	Conference.

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Note 6: Wisconsin reported an additional \$170,000 in OCWM income in 2006 but the information was received too late — reports were already published and audited.

Where National credited gift in 2007 and Conference credited in 2006, no adjustment was made to "Conference retained" amount or percent.

	CHANGE GAIN/LOSS	CHANGE GAIN/LOSS					2006
TOTAL	TO CONFERENCE	TO NATIONAL	TOTAL	% of TOTAL	TO CONFERENCE	% of TOTAL	TO NATIONAL
79,511	56,030	23,480	785,890	81.0%	636,290	19.0%	149,600
1,467	907	560	515,932	60.0%	309,532	40.0%	206,400
(	N/A	0	600	(Note 3)		(Note 3)	600
5,440	4,456	984	1,184,127	65.0%	769,312	35.0%	414,815
30,131	20,262	9,869	305,828	75.8%	231,803	23.0%	74,025
8,994	3,579	5,416	2,170,644	37.0%	803,138	63.0%	1,367,506
118,283	47,090	71,193	634,990	80.9%	513,483	19.1%	121,507
-68,907	-45,768	-23,138	349,385	62.7%	219,003	37.3%	130,382
15,929	7,806	8,123	1,920,397	71.2%	1,367,838	28.8%	552,559
10,593	25,378	-14,785	538,899	66.7%	359,266	33.3%	179,633
-27,625	-24,972	-2,652	903,350	80.9%	730,934	19.1%	172,417
661,555	477,921	183,634	85,715	0.0%		100.0%	85,715
-26,428	-35,941	9,513	305,653	79.8%	243,963	20.2%	61,689
18,496	17,464	1,032	561,111	71.5%	401,111	28.5%	160,000
22,221	9,591	12,630	2,004,993	40.0%	801,997	60.0%	1,202,996
-45,948	-31,703	-14,245	794,944	69.0%	548,511	31.0%	246,433
-77,96	-50,604	-27,365	893,706	65.2%	582,872	34.8%	310,833
36,19	27,146	9,049	844,932	75.0%	633,699	25.0%	211,233
1,402	1,122	280	180,686	80.0%	144,549	20.0%	36,137
-9,959	-16,257	6,299	439,425	77.0%	338,357	23.0%	101,068
-18,274	-10,051	-8,223	810,769	55.0%	445,923	45.0%	364,846
-16,362	-23,077	6,715	867,709	88.5%	768,199	11.5%	99,510
5,20-	4,132	1,072	94,598	87.4%	82,695	12.6%	11,903
-18,03	1,506	-19,543	2,221,815	80.0%	1,776,872	20.0%	444,943
-18,25	-10,950	-7,303	623,433	70.0%	436,403	30.0%	187,030
-83,12	75,572	-158,696	1,084,990	55.0%	596,295	45.0%	488,696
-38,57	-47,156	8,584	675,781	89.6%	605,781	10.4%	70,000
9,57	3,429	6,144	1,230,696	75.6%	930,696	24.4%	300,000
-13,513	-14,464	952	294,263	86.3%	253,993	13.7%	40,270
12,644	11,644	1,000	298,173	63.1%	188,173	36.9%	110,000
-76,19	-93,232	17,037	575,165	76.9%	442,511	23.1%	132,654
-3,41:	9,736	-13,151	262,109	77.9%	204,109	22.1%	58,000
-5,32	30,052	-35,374	285,704	75.0%	214,331	25.0%	71,374
16,479	12,179	4,300	248,760	90.0%	223,884	10.0%	24,876
6,154	-8,846	15,000	464,375	93.5%	434,375	6.5%	30,000
16,38	12,287	4,096	398,557	0.0%	298,917	25.0%	99,639
-4,110	-3,273	-842	500,075	55.2%	276,051	44.8%	224,024
435,582	430,582	5,000	1,807,633	72.3%	1,307,633	27.7%	500,000
			193,170	0.0%	(Note 2, 3)	100.0%	193,170
80,172	N/A	80,172	50,221	0.0%	(Note 2, 3)	100.0%	50,221
1,040,390	873,576	166,815	28,409,202	67.9%	19,122,499	32.1%	9,286,703



# 2007 MISSION SPENDING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY — Unaudited Statement for the Year Ended December 31, 2007

100%	34,614,466	0	587,343	9,802,092	10,411,287	3,974,314	4,658,206	5,181,224	TOTALS
4.8%	1,649,467	0	0	401,391	7,559	2,213	451,092	787,212	Other
2.8%	956,579	0	0	97,739	579,571	50,000	229,269		Draw on Unrestricted Reserves
11.7%	4,054,038	0	0	11,337	1,944,870	9,019	659,389	1,429,423	Resource Sales/Fees
8.3%	2,866,449	0	0	1,572,163	1,040,613	8,764	244,909	0	Reimbursements
9.3%	3,227,463	0	0	742,482	525,102	259,041	340,840	1,359,998	Trusts & Gifts
23.6%	8,178,392	0	0	2,397,264	3,724,052	1,318,032	739,044		Total Return Draw on Investments
11.7%	4,057,233	0	0	2,886,911	200,177	899,299	0	70,846	OCWM-Special Support
27.8%	9,624,845	0	587,343	1,692,805	2,389,343	1,427,946	1,993,663	1,533,745	OCWM-National Basic Support (NBS)
% of TOTAL	TOTAL	UCF	PB	WCM	LCM	JWM	OGM	EC	MISSION FUNDING *
		(Note 1)	(Note 1)					(Note 2)	

100%	34,614,466	0	587,343	9,802,092	10,411,287	3,974,314	4,658,206	5,181,224	TOTALS
5.7%	1,982,372	N/A	N/A	311,893	736,854	188,707	0	744,918	Grants & Subsidies
9.7%	3,348,497	N/A	N/A	115,774	126,172	134,348	31,320	2,940,883	Ministry of Governance (Includes General Synod)
3.3%	1,143,273	N/A	N/A	179,358	468,116	240,040	245,079	10,680	Church House and Other Facilities
9.0%	3,116,191	N/A	N/A	638,025	824,861	679,739	768,804	204,762	Operating & Support Ministries
7.9%	2,738,656	N/A	N/A	519,695	1,194,221	424,429	525,121	75,190	Shared Ministries (Common Services)
1.4%	487,616	N/A	N/A	487,616	0	0	0	0	Retired Overseas Personnel
6.6%	2,290,720	N/A	N/A	2,290,720	0	0	0	0	Overseas Personnel
29.6%	10,255,007	N/A	N/A	1,721,189	4,142,808	1,929,505	2,192,316	269,189	Staff Ministries
26.7%	9,252,134	N/A	587,343	3,537,822	2,918,255	377,546	895,566	935,602	Program Ministries
% of TOTAL	TOTAL	UCF	PB	WCM	LCM	MWL	OGM	EC	MISSION SPENDING *

EC	Executive Council
OGM	Office of General Ministries
JWM	Justice and Witness Ministries
LCM	Local Church Ministries
WCM	Wider Church Ministries
РВ	Pension Board

UCF United Church Foundation

\* Figures on this statement include interministry transfers. Interministry transfers are eliminated in the combined audited financial statements.

Note 1: Pension Boards is included to report their distributive allocation of NBS.

United Church Foundation does not receive NBS.

to 2: Figures include the full year operating activity of The Still Speaking Initiative, the 2 year combined General Synod funding and expense, and the 50th anniversary funding and expense information.



# 2008 MISSION SPENDING PLAN

100%	32,008,093	0	586,980	10,331,644	11,024,055	4,147,632	5,103,752	814,030	TOTALS
0.2%	61,945	0	0	25,000	15,000	13,445	8,500		Other
8.6%	2,752,122	0	0	1,073,758	889,224	225,840	563,300		Draw on Unrestricted Reserves
8.9%	2,833,396	0	0	0	2,041,396	2,000	790,000		Resource Sales/Fees
8.5%	2,713,219	0	0	1,445,289	1,069,848	8,940	189,142		Reimbursements
5.5%	1,776,277	0	0	723,277	543,000	135,000	375,000		Trusts & Gifts
26.4%	8,441,782	0	0	2,372,728	3,883,892	1,399,859	785,303		Total Return Draw on Investments
12.9%	4,129,352	0	0	3,000,000	193,860	935,492	0	0	OCWM-Special Support
29.1%	9,300,000	0	586,980	1,691,592	2,387,835	1,427,056	2,392,507	814,030	OCWM-National Basic Support (NBS)
% of TOTAL	TOTAL	UCF	PB	WCM	LCM	JWM	OGM	EC	MISSION FUNDING *
		(Note 1)	(Note I)					(Note 2)	

100%	32,008,093	0	586,980	10,331,644	11,024,055	4,147,632	5,103,752	814,030	TOTALS
3.8%	1,230,608	N/A	N/A	294,019	739,339	197,250	0	0	Grants & Subsidies
2.3%	723,500	N/A	N/A	148,000	120,000	110,000	45,500	300,000	Ministry of Governance (Includes General Synod)
3.4%	1,093,021	N/A	N/A	173,848	458,948	244,804	215,421	0	Church House and Other Facilities
8.3%	2,664,769	N/A	N/A	595,567	876,779	513,153	556,830	122,440	Operating & Support Ministries
9.7%	3,111,876	N/A	N/A	585,000	1,332,589	488,380	705,907	0	Shared Ministries (Common Services)
1.4%	440,000	N/A	N/A	440,000	0	0	0	0	Retired Overseas Personnel
6.8%	2,173,643	N/A	N/A	2,173,643	0	0	0	0	Overseas Personnel
34.8%	11,123,597	N/A	N/A	1,853,473	4,519,556	2,164,295	2,586,273	0	Staff Ministries
29.5%	9,447,079	N/A	586,980	4,068,094	2,976,844	429,750	993,821	391,590	Program Ministries
% of TOTAL	TOTAL	UCF	РВ	WCM	LCM	JWM	OGM	EC	MISSION SPENDING *

EC	Executive Council
OGM	Office of General Ministries
JWM	Justice and Witness Ministries
LCM	Local Church Ministries
WCM	Wider Church Ministries
РВ	Pension Board
UCF	United Church Foundation

\* Figures on this statement include interministry transfers. Interministry transfers are eliminated in the combined audited financial statements.

Note 1: Pension Boards is included to report their distributive allocation of NBS.

United Church Foundation does not receive NBS.

Note 2: Figures no longer include the operating activity of The Still Speaking Initiative and there is no set budget yet for 2009 General Synod.