

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for...

- *the millions of Africans who are HIV positive and are living with AIDS, as well as their families and their communities.*
- *those who are trapped in cycles of violence and war in the Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, Angola, and those communities permanently displaced by war.*
- *clergy and evangelists of African partner churches who have no pensions or personal property and receive as little as \$10 US per month.*
- *the establishment of systems of government in Africa that respond to the basic needs of the population.*
- *refugees in Africa who cross borders fleeing oppressive governments, economic deprivation and natural disaster.*
- *the continued faithfulness of growing African communities of faith.*
- *the plight of women and children especially those orphaned by HIV/AIDS*
- *our 38 African partnership organizations (for a listing, please email dom@disciples.org)*
- *North American Christians to learn from African brothers and sisters the value of community and the importance of thinking of the common good.*



Africa

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To Make a Gift Online:

www.globalministries.org

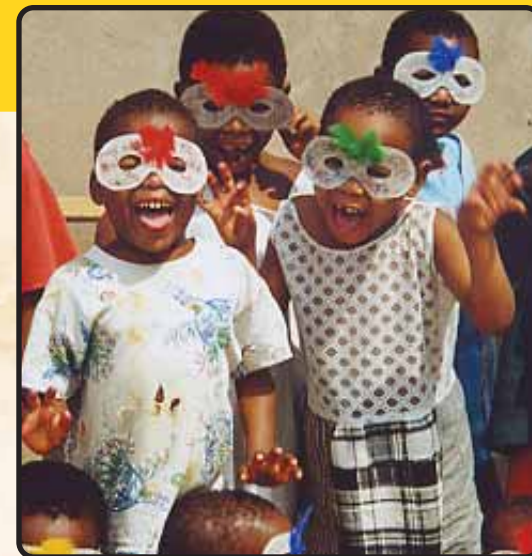


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Africa



GLOBAL MINISTRIES

A common witness of the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ

VISION / MISSION PRIORITIES

Like a beautiful multicolored West African kente cloth, the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North America are woven in partnership with African Christians. In the 19th century predecessors of the Common Global Ministries Board witnessed to God's faithful actions, opened educational institutions, provided medical services, and established successful income-generating projects. Today, partner churches, councils and agencies in fourteen countries continue this work. We are linked to their ministries through the sending and receiving of personnel, prayer, visitation and exchange of financial resources. And all of this to God's glory!

Church Relations

Christianity in Africa is a growing faith. We work with our partners to nurture a vibrant African church.

One example...

Rev. Boetsa Djou of the Disciples of Christ Community of the Democratic Republic of the Congo ministers deep inside the equatorial rain forests of his country. He travels to the locations by canoe and on foot. He conducts two month training sessions for remote village pastors who have no access to continuing education. Rev. Boetsa's ministry is supported by both Global Ministries and his own denomination

We also engage in promoting development projects related to agriculture, empowerment of women, leadership development, as well as ministries to and for children.



Regional Conflict

The Africa Office continues to monitor with deep concern the on-going saga of violence, war and atrocities throughout Africa. Though the UCC and Disciples do not have historic bilateral or ecumenical institutional partnerships in Sierra Leone or Sudan, the enormity of the tragedies there cannot escape our attention.

One of the priorities confronting the office is to support peace efforts and the promotion of reconciliation in Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We work closely with the councils of churches and interfaith organizations to promote religious dialogue and understanding.

Children's and Women's Ministries

The Africa office is striving to work intentionally and diligently in supporting children's and women's ministries in Africa. Through a variety of programs we support orphans, women's empowerment programs and providing training and skills, as well as educational support, for children.

HIV/AIDS

For many years, the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have demonstrated concern for health and wholeness in Africa. Now we seek to respond to the devastation of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in this most marginalized region of the world.

AIDS ministries are considered a top priority, especially in Southern Africa where the pandemic is most pronounced and where we have historic relationships.

The focus is supporting projects related to AIDS ministries with our partner churches. For example, there are youth AIDS programs in Kinshasa, Congo and Ghana.

Debt Cancellation

Awareness of the debt of the world's poorest countries, most of which are in Africa, began in the 1980's. The Africa Office understands the international debt of African countries to be immoral and illegitimate because the original loans never promoted the people's development. In order to pay back the debts and service them, most African countries have had to curtail such social services as education and health care. The Africa Office advocates unconditional cancellation of the debt of African countries.

Global Ministries continues to work closely with African partners in programs to alleviate poverty, and also support self-sustaining development projects.