



2014

# Annual Report of the United Church of Christ

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been weaving God's message of love and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that create change and bring hope to communities in our nation and around the world.

Here are just some of the highlights of the witness and work of the UCC's national setting in 2014:

- **Responding to UCC leaders in Ferguson, St. Louis, and throughout the nation**, we have met as clergy, youth leaders, and church leaders with great concern on issues of racial justice, leading to the recent *UCC Pastoral Letter on Racism: A New Awakening*. Sacred conversations on race and bold theology of anti-racism work and action continue across UCC settings, at annual conference meetings, seminaries, local churches, associations, and regional networks.
- **Nineteen new and renewing congregations** were given grants totaling \$380,000 and the UCC's Center for Progressive Renewal, funded annually with \$250,000, continued to innovate, train and undergird new ways of being church in the 21st century.
- **Through the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network**, more than 14,000 actions were taken to support justice and advocacy, and 32,000 letters were generated to policy decision-makers through 50 action alerts.
- **We engaged UCC congregations to pledge** more than 3,000 Church World Service Gifts of the Heart School Kits for displaced families globally.
- **The UCC's Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship** has been fully shaped and staffed to support and sustain the national setting of the United Church of Christ and provide stewardship and fundraising resources to congregations and Conferences.
- **The first completely online UCC Data Hub** is now available to make key statistical information available immediately for Associations, Conferences, and the national setting; representatives of all 38 Conferences have been trained in using the system.
- **We worked with over 400 pastors and lay leaders** in 70 congregations and 10 Conferences to assist churches making major decisions about their futures through the New Beginnings Assessment Program.
- **In 80 countries, with more than 300 partners and 140 mission personnel**, we engaged in worldwide mission, sponsoring over 1,000 children; offering humanitarian support to Syrian, Iraqi, Gazan, and Palestinian refugees and displaced peoples; partnering with the United Church of Christ in the Philippines in the response to Typhoon Haiyan; and giving attention to the Ebola health crisis in western Africa.
- **We led the denomination to a re-formatted UCC Ministerial Profile** and a completely new portal for profile distribution with 4,529 users, including 2,218 ministers enrolled in the new system.
- **We offered 41 trainings** in Conference or cross-Conference settings for Committees on Ministry, Response Teams, and Member in Discernment events.





- **Stoking the Fires of Justice**, 150 UCC members attended the first regional justice leaders gathering with advocates from the Central Pacific and Pacific Northwest Conferences, national staff, and United Church of Christ Board members. Staff visits followed to 11 congregations in Oregon, and Washington Sunday worship connected with more than 1,500 UCC members.
- **We organized four Stillspeaking Worship Events** in Minneapolis, Denver, Chapel Hill and Buffalo, bringing more than 100 leaders together to experience first-hand innovative and inspiring models of local church ministry.
- **The Reading Changes Lives all-church initiative** has engaged hundreds of UCC churches in literacy-related programming in the hope of impacting the lives of the 1 in 5 persons in the United States who are functionally illiterate.
- **We raised over \$55,000 for unaccompanied child refugees** fleeing Central America, for UCC-led groups of congregations and agencies, for Church World Service toward legal assistance for deported families, and to help staff an Immigrant Care Coordinator in the Southwest Conference.
- **We embarked on the planning and training stages for an ecumenical Disaster Recovery Support Project** to develop long-term recovery groups and engage disaster recovery earlier.
- **Hundreds attended four immersion experiences** at Franklinton Center at Bricks, a UCC Center for Education and Social Transformation. Almost 10,000 people attended programs there, including two remarkable UCC Leadership Conferences.
- **Global Ministries' Congo Initiative** focused on the Democratic Republic of Congo, with people-to-people exchanges, justice advocacy projects, and educational materials for individuals and churches.
- **UCC Conferences and staff across the national setting** engaged in collaborations on training and educational resources, including Our Whole Lives, Just Peace Church and seminary partnerships, Church Building and Loan Fund, Our Faith Our Vote, the UCC Policy Briefing Book, and the Environmental Justice Centers with Pacific Northwest Conference and Connecticut/Massachusetts Conferences. ♡

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT

OGMP provides common services for the national setting of the church; cares for relations with Conferences, other faith traditions and racial/ethnic constituencies in the church; provides platforms for communication; manages the UCC's publishing houses (The Pilgrim Press and United Church Press) and distribution services (UCC Resources); and assists the national setting in financial development.

## JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES

JWM helps local congregations and all settings of the church respond to God's commandments to do justice, seek peace, and effect change for a better world. The work of JWM is guided by the pronouncements and resolutions approved by the UCC at General Synod.

## LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES

LCM supports local congregations in their concerns about growth, finances, liturgy, and education; supports ordained and lay ministers in their vocations; and manages research services for the church.

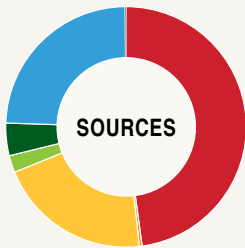
## WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES

WCM supports congregations and the other settings of the church in developing relationships with a wider church that is global, multiracial and multicultural, open and affirming, and accessible to all. WCM is in partnership with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Common Global Ministries — the worldwide mission program of both denominations.

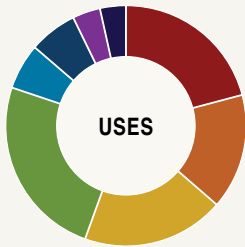
# 2014 Sources and Uses of Funds

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT

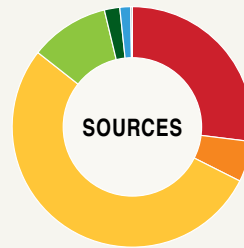


OCWM-National Basic Support	47.86%
OCWM-Special Support	0.36%
Draw on Investments	20.64%
Trusts and Gifts	2.29%
Reimbursements	4.37%
Resource Sales/Fees	24.37%
Other	0.12%

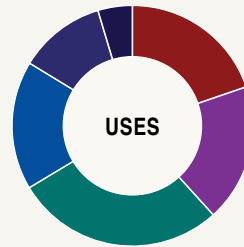


Administration	20.86%
Fundraising	15.52%
Publications, Identity and Communication	19.14%
Pilgrim Press and United Church Press	24.63%
Office of the General Counsel	6.16%
Conference and Ecumenical Relations	6.47%
General Synod	3.74%
Grants and Other Program Initiatives	3.48%

## LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES

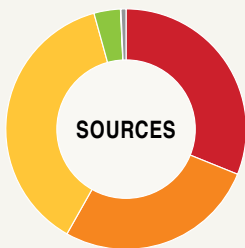


OCWM-National Basic Support	26.96%
OCWM-Special Support	5.47%
Draw on Investments	53.18%
Trusts and Gifts	10.64%
Reimbursements	2.07%
Resource Sales/Fees	1.46%
Other	0.22%

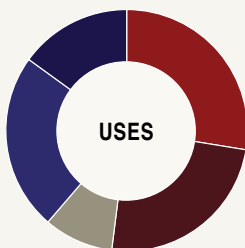


Administration	19.75%
Fundraising	0.00%
Congregational Assessment, Support and Authorization	18.52%
Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization	28.12%
Faith Formation	17.31%
Center for Analytics, Research and Data	11.67%
Grants and Other Program Initiatives	4.63%

## JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES

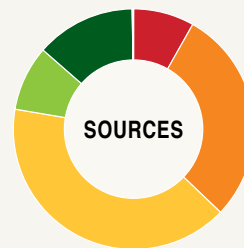


OCWM-National Basic Support	31.12%
OCWM-Special Support	27.06%
Draw on Investments	37.52%
Trusts and Gifts	3.56%
Reimbursements	0.00%
Resource Sales/Fees	0.06%
Other	0.68%

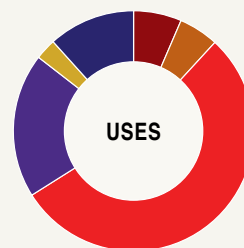


Administration	27.57%
Fundraising	0.00%
General Synod	0.00%
Public Life and Social Policy	24.42%
Health and Wholeness Advocacy	9.31%
Education and Advocacy and Field Teams	23.68%
Grants and Other Program Initiatives	15.02%

## WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES



OCWM-National Basic Support	8.19%
OCWM-Special Support	28.96%
Draw on Investments	40.51%
Trusts and Gifts	8.77%
Reimbursements	13.40%
Resource Sales/Fees	0.01%
Other	0.16%



Administration	6.46%
Fundraising	5.36%
Overseas Programs	54.23%
Global Sharing of Resources	19.45%
Local Church Relations	2.83%
Grants and Other Program Initiatives	11.67%