

REPORT TO WEEK OF COMPASSION BOARD OF STEWARDS

The Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) is thankful to the Week of Compassion Board of Stewards for the financial support provided to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) global church partners in relation to natural disaster response, sustainable development, leadership development, as well as the Global Mission Intern Program. The support received from Week of Compassion enables Disciples to accompany global partner churches in ministries of critical presence.

Global Ministries is excited to welcome the new Co-Executive of Global Ministries, the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson. She began her term on August 1, 2019. Jim Moos completed eight years of service as co-executive on July 31. Krista Johnson, former Global Mission Intern and former member of the Week of Compassion Advisory Board, (now known as the Board of Stewards) was selected to serve part-time as the Advocacy Program Associate in the Indianapolis office.

On behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ, Global Ministries relates to 270 partner churches located in 70 countries. The area executives continue to nurture relationships with these partners through presence, mutual exchanges, and by supporting partners' priorities. In addition, Global Ministries continues to receive requests for mission co-workers from global church partners and is unable to respond to the number of requests received due to limited revenue. In recent years, the majority of the revenue received by the Division of Overseas ministries comes from interest earned from endowments, which is a rather new narrative. As of November 2019, the total number of Fully Supported Mission Co-workers will be 29, which is the lowest level we have had in the last 30 years. As of January 2020, there will be nine Global Mission Interns serving with global partner organizations. Cathy Nichols, Mission Personnel Executive has started to recruit Global Mission Interns by cohorts. This means Global Mission Intern candidates undergo training at the same time and have the opportunity to develop as leaders together in each denomination. This has been a good recruitment cycle for Global Mission Interns. In addition to the Fully Supported Mission Co-workers and Global Mission Interns, there are 22 Global Service Workers (long-term volunteers) and 36 Global Associates.

Kaitlan L. Thompson, a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Middletown, Ohio and a graduate of Miami University and Hiatt Allen, a seminary student at the University of Chicago served as College of Mission Interns with the Division of Overseas Ministries. This program is designed to provide a hands-on experience with various programs of DOM/Global Ministries and to assist the students' communities in understanding the global church. The students worked with executives in the area of communications and education, assisted with the preparations for the General Assembly, and participated in a pilgrimage to Guatemala.

Global Ministries continues the area initiatives. The Southern Asia Initiative was launched at the 2019 General Assembly and General Synod. This eighteen-month initiative will highlight the following countries: India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indonesia, East Timor, and Thailand. Congregations will be able to explore topics related to freedom of religion, care for creation, human dignity, and churches as open, just, and inclusive communities. There will be advocacy opportunities, people-to-people pilgrimages, Bible studies, worship materials, videos, and educational resources available to assist congregations in gaining a better understanding of the life and witness of church partners in this region.

Global Ministries introduced a new initiative in 2019. The initiative related to the goal of developing new generations with a passion and commitment to God's mission in the world. In an effort to accomplish this goal, Global Ministries brought one-third of the mission co-workers home to itinerate in summer church camps. Mission co-workers participated in camps in 18 regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and 16 conferences of the United Church of Christ. Global Ministries has already received invitations from regions for mission co-workers to serve in the 2020 camps. There will be an official evaluation of the program over the next several months.

The support received from Week of Compassion enables the church to accompany God's children around the world as we work together towards the vision, "that all of God's people and creation share in God's abundant life."

Julia Brown Karimu, President of the Division of Overseas Ministries and
Co-Executive of Global Ministries

Fall 2019 Week of Compassion Report

Global Mission Intern Program Report

April 2019—October 2019

The Global Mission Intern (GMI) Program continues as a critical leadership program in the church. We continue to see young people who have moved through this program transition to leadership roles across the church – and we are now adding on to each biography of the concluding GMI some brief information about their next plans.

Our cohorts of GMIs together are creating a new generation of future leaders with strong ties. The Mission Personnel Office, together with leadership of Week of Compassion, promotes a deeper understanding about the role of Week of Compassion at the outset and outreach during the program which has also created a stronger affiliation to WOC.

We are in the fourth year where GMIs participate, as their terms conclude, in a local placement following their service that is coordinated with the Disciple and UCC Volunteer offices for a period ranging from three months to a year, specifically tailored to correspond to their responsibilities in their international location of service. This allows them to itinerate in our churches for a longer period, provides a transition space for the interns and does not affect the bottom line of the GMI program as it is done in coordination with the Partners in Service program who cover the interns' stipend and health insurance during this window.

The information below on the thirteen young adults includes three distinct groups of Global Mission Interns – six who begin service during this time period and will continue after October 2019, three concluding their service during this window of April to October, and four who have begun the process and completed some components (applications, references, background checks and the mission conference) but have not yet completed interviews. These names are provided so that there is an accurate representation of projected staff.

We are excited to note that there is a growing interest in the Global Mission Intern Program. This is partially due to a more active recruitment strategy. This summer, in coordination with regions and conferences, Global Ministries positioned mission co-workers in fifty-four camps to promote the program across the country and together a wider effort to create resources specific for young adults, has been encouraging youth to consider mission opportunities. Again, we thank Week of Compassion for this collaboration, as it is truly transformative for all of the participants.

Global Mission Interns Currently Serving:

Abigail Fate (9/1/19—8/31/20) is a member of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Abi is serving with Melel Xojobal, Mexico which advocates for the rights of children. Abi is providing leadership to young people between ages of 13 to 20 through workshops and events focused on human rights, conflict management, life planning, and health.



Maria "Abi" Hernandez (9/1/19—8/30/20) is a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Orange, California. She has been assigned to serve, thanks to her degree in both Japanese language and peace studies, with the Asian Rural Institute of Japan. Abi will assist the operations and courses at the Asian Rural Institute teaching sustainable agriculture and organic farming to students from across Asia.

Fiyori Kidane (September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020) is a member of Allisonville Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Indianapolis, Indiana, and a recent graduate of Texas Christian University. Fiyori is assigned to serve with the refugee resettlement project of Perichoresis, a program in Katerini of the Evangelical Church of Greece.



Thomas M. Smith IV (8/1/19- 7/31/20) is a member of Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Cherry Log, Georgia. Thomas is a graduate of Columbia Seminary. He began his service with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) and he is currently working with their Ecumenical Relations and Program Ministry.

Kaitlin Thompson (9/1/19 – 8/30/20) is a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Middletown, Ohio, and has both her undergraduate degree and master's degree in social work. She began her work with Proyecto Caminante in the Dominican Republic where she is working with the children of Boca Chica in Caminante's outreach ministry.



Ha-un Priscilla Yang (10/1/17 – 11/30/19) Member of First Christian Church of North Hollywood, Studio City, California, is in her months of service with Reformed Church in Hungary. Priscilla has been working with the Ecumenical Office of the Church, doing outreach and youth work with the Roma ministry, and the refugee ministry.

Global Mission Interns Concluding:



Kearstin Bailey (10/1/17 – 5/31/19) is a member of David's United Church of Christ, Akron, Ohio. She completed her service with the refugee resettlement project of the Perichoresis of the Evangelical Church of Greece. She then spent three months of service connecting refugee resettlement agencies in the United States with updated tool kits for service. She is now in seminary at Brite Divinity School and serving on the Global Ministries board.

Cara McKinney (11/1/17 – 5/31/19) Member of Disciples Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Cleveland, Ohio, completed her service with at Melel Xojobal, a center for children's advocacy in Chiapas, Mexico. Cara served for three months on return with the mission engagement team supporting the global mission church program and curriculum development. She is now doing her master's degree in public health in Boston University.





Nia Sullivan (9/1/17 – 7/31/19) Member of First Christian Church, Reidsville, North Carolina, completed her service with the Council of Churches of Sierra Leone. Nia served with the Girls Access to Education (GATE) program that focuses on empowerment of young women. She followed this work with eight weeks of sharing her story at camps around the country and is now working as a teacher in Finland. At the General Assembly, Nia was awarded the Todd Brakovitch award by Disciples Peace Fellowship for a young leader of the church working on issues of peace.

Global Mission Intern Pending Appointments (contingent upon successfully completing the candidacy screening process):

RJ Howard, candidate for the Pacific Conference of Churches in Suva, Fiji to serve as a program associate working with advocacy and justice issues related to global warming.

Kelsey Riebel, candidate for the Ecumenical Foundation for Integral Development Training and Education (FEDICE) in Ecuador to strengthen the capacity building in the area of health education.

Dustin Riebel, candidate for the Ecumenical Foundation for Integral Development Training and Education (FEDICE) in Ecuador to work on the micro-credit finance project.

Leda Zakarison, candidate for the Forum for Development, Culture, and Dialogue, Beirut, Lebanon to assist in communications and refugee ministries.

September 20, 2019

**Reported Use of Capacity Building Grants from WOC
1/01/19 – 8/31/2019**

Africa

Date	Name	Country & Partner	School & Training	Grant Amount	Explanation of Grant Use
2/14/2019	United Congregational Church of Southern Africa	UCCSA Zimbabwe Synod	ACCA Corporate Business Law and Audit and Assurance	1,574.00	Mqondisi Moyo
			Total	1,574.00	

Middle East and Europe

Date	Name	Country & Partner	School & Training	Grant Amount	Explanation of Grant Use
06/12/2019	The Middle East Council of Churches			1,061.39	Trauma Healing
06/12/2019	Young Women's Christian Association of Jordan			2,500.00	
07/30/2019	Haigazian University			2,000.00	Research Funding
			Total	5,561.39	

Southern Asia

Date	Name	Country & Partner	School & Training	Grant Amount	Explanation of Grant Use
1/11/2019	Claremont School of Theology			328.00	Stefanus Haryono Scholarship
1/11/2019	Yu-shan Theological College and Seminary			1,500.00	Scholarship
03/04/2019	CACM			393.00	Scholarship Support Selvakumar
03/29/2019	Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Gereja Kristen Sumba			3,835.00	Suryaningsi Mila Scholarship
04/24/2019	Sinode Igreja Protestante Timor Lorosae			1,500.00	Leila Virna Scholarship
			Total	7,556.00	

East Asia and Pacific

Date	Name	Country & Partner	School & Training	Grant Amount	Explanation of Grant Use
01/09/2019	Pacific Theological College			6,630.00	Scholarship for Tafue Lusana
02/19/2019	Claremont School of Theology			5,000.00	Scholarship for Rev. Kyungmok Lee
			Total	11,630.00	