

**Celebrating  
Our Different Journeys**



# National Benevolent Association

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

## Celebrating Our Different Journeys

In preparation for the 1999 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the National Benevolent Association began a two year process of gathering information and photographs celebrating the diversity of the denomination. Several hundred historic and contemporary photographs, as well as chronologies, were collected depicting the Hispanic-American, Asian-American, and African-American Disciple heritage. While this collection is by no means exhaustive, it does provide us with a valuable collection of information.

In appreciation for all the time and effort of those who contributed to the collection of these materials, and particularly, in appreciation of the leaders and peoples depicted in these images, we have prepared this collection of 4 photographic CDs containing 132 photographic images, and the accompanying photographic descriptions and chronologies. Each image has been stored in five different resolutions for your convenience.

Copies of this CD collection are being given to the Disciples Historical Society, the Office of Communication of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and the Disciple magazine. A fourth set is available on loan from the communications department of the National Benevolent Association. Additional disks can be obtained at cost, (approximately \$45 per disk, or \$180 per set). Additional copies of the descriptions and chronologies are available on request.

Every effort has been made to accurately identify individuals and events depicted in these photographs. We apologize if an error has occurred, and ask that you contact the Communications Department, National Benevolent Association, if you have corrections or additional information. (email [wcmauk@nbacares.org](mailto:wcmauk@nbacares.org).)

William C. Mauk  
Director of Communications  
National Benevolent Association  
January 7, 2000



11780 Borman Drive • St. Louis, MO 63146-4157 • (314) 993-9000 • FAX (314) 993-9018 • [www.nbacares.org](http://www.nbacares.org)



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## Celebrating Our Different Journeys As We Attain the Unity of Faith

Eph 4:13

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is on an exciting journey, as “we all attain to the unity of the faith” (Eph 4:13) To help us appreciate this journey, the National Benevolent Association has prepared this brief overview of three converging journeys: the African-American Disciples, the Hispanic-American Disciples, and the Asian-American Disciples.

The journeys we have found begin as early as 1820, with evidence of African Americans attending pioneer Disciple churches, including both Cane Ridge, Kentucky, and Brush Run, Pennsylvania. Definitive work among the Chinese-American is noted in 1889 in Portland, and among the Japanese-American in Berkeley, California, in 1904. The first Spanish language church in the Disciples’ lineage is believed to be the start up of Mexican Christian Church in San Antonio, noted in records of 1899.

Prepared as part of our 1999 General Assembly exhibit, titled “Celebrating Our Different Journeys,” we have collected the following chronologies, noting key dates and events. If you would like additional copies of this information, please call, write, or email us, and we will be happy to provide them for you.

This research and display is one of the results of a special Diversity Dialogue convened at the Disciples Historical Society and sponsored by NBA, in October 1997. Three researchers volunteered to assist in the research, and in particular, to secure photographs that could be used to illustrate the respective ethnic cultures.

Anna Bradley- Anna focused her efforts among African-American Disciples, concentrating particularly on recent years (adding to existing display materials gathered by Patricia Clark, who had prepared an earlier Convocation exhibit which NBA presented in 1991-3). Anna received a master of divinity degree from Vanderbilt Divinity School in May. She also holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Virginia State University, and an M.B.A. from the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College. Anna says she feels called to ministry focused on issues of economic justice and economic empowerment.

Tim Sang Lee- Tim’s research focus was among the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples. Tim is a Korean-American who immigrated to America at age 12. His home for 20 years was in Chicago, and he is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. In 1996, he received a Ph.D. in church history from the University of Chicago Divinity School and was ordained at Chicago Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In 1991, he moved to Southern California, and currently teaches Korean history at the University of California, Los Angeles, and serves as interim minister of Filipino Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Jessica Vazquez- Jessica's work was in bringing together information and photographs concerning Hispanic-American Disciples. Jessica received a bachelor's degree in 1994 from the University of Central Florida, and completed a master of divinity from Christian Theological Seminary in 1998. She has worked with a number of General Units of the church. She served the Division of Overseas Ministry in the People to People Pilgrimage Program, on the board of trustees of the Division of Higher Education, and on the Affirmative Action Task Force of the National Benevolent Association. Jessica currently is the Assistant for Transformation and Reconciliation in the Office of the General Minister and President.

NBA would also like to thank everyone who has assisted in the conception, design, research, and verification of the information and exhibit brought together in this project. Those participating in the Diversity Dialogue include: Ben Bohren, Norma Ellington-Twitty, Peter Morgan, Della Washington, K.David Cole, Lucas Torres, Tim Lee, Jessica Vazquez, Timothy James, Grace Kim, Duane Moon, Stan Brown, Geunhee Yu, Janet Casey-Allen, J. Thomas Johnson, John Foulkes, Leon Whitney, Ferdinand Garcia, Bill Lee, and Cindy Dougherty. Further assistance has come from Raymond Brown, William Fox, Joe Nagano, Katie Burckhalter, Jeff Marquart, Mary Ruth Crawford, Larry Casey-Allen, Janet Casey-Allen, and Fred Robinson. We thank all of these people very much for their assistance and counsel.

Considerable effort has been made to identify major historical events among these respective ethnic cultures, and to obtain the photographs which best depict these milestones. Obviously, there have been many other significant events and people who have contributed to the rich tapestry we call the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). If you do identify a significant oversight, please do call it to our attention, as this display will be replicated and presented in future venues.

On behalf of the National Benevolent Association, we are pleased to present this exhibit to our fellow Disciples.

William C. Mauk  
Director of Communications  
National Benevolent Association  
Project Coordinator

Prepared for the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1999

NBA CD-#1

Duplication Disks: 3504, 3507, 3509, 3344, 3506

Diversity of the Disciples Photos

January 6, 2000

### Image Description

1 The first general convention of black Disciples of Christ was held in Nashville, TN, in August 1917. It brought together 40 people from 12 states - black leaders and members as well as white administrators of mission work for blacks. Regardless of the noble reasons given for this new organization, it was essentially a protest meeting. Black Disciples desired a greater voice in the determination of their own religious destiny.

E. J. Dickson was chosen as the first executive secretary of the convention. Their intention was to coordinate the mission effort made among black people by the American Christian Missionary Society, the Christian Women's Board of Missions, and black leadership in various states. The convention did more.

2 Preston Taylor, born in slavery in 1849, is symbolic of the early black Disciples of Christ heroes of the faith. He was hired as national evangelist by the General Christian Missionary Convention in 1884, and helped struggling churches win members and secure meeting houses in Ohio and Illinois.

At least eight congregations, claiming 350 members, were established in Kansas by the end of 1899. The work moved forward notably in Missouri where A. B. Miller and E. F. Henderson evangelized effectively. Woodland Avenue Church was established in 1876 in Kansas City, and its membership was built rapidly under a succession of able pastors. By the end of the century, Missouri had approximately 40 churches with about 2,000 members and 25 preachers, and a state convention, which met yearly from 1874.

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4 Mrs. Mary Ann Alphin was an instrumental figure in the establishment of Jarvis Christian Institute.

5 Angélica González received this certificate in 1930 from her father, the superintendent of schools, Artaro González. (Mexican Christian Church)

6 The four National Hispanic Pastors (Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations), from left: Luis Ferrer (1984-92), David Vargas (1978-84), Domingo Rodriguez (1969-72) and Lucas Torres (1973-77, 1993-Present).

- 7 Interim General Minister and President C. William Nichols presents David Vargas as the new National Hispanic Pastor to the 6th National Hispanic Assembly, on July 12, 1992, in Orlando.
- 8 The first Hispanic Youth Council, convenes in July 1996 at the 8th National Hispanic Assembly at Hofstra University in Long Island.
- 9 Lillian Del Pilar at the 6th National Hispanic Assembly, in Orlando, July 1992.
- 10 Ferdinand García of La Hermosa Christian Church, at the 8th National Hispanic Assembly, July 1996, in Long Island. He stands beside the icon for the assembly, Somos Uno, which he built. A layman, he has served on the General Board of the Christian Church, and currently serves on the Hispanic Commission.
- 11 Dr. Sebetha Jenkins, president of Jarvis Christian College, was recognized on this cover in a special feature on African-American education.
- 12 Jarvis Christian College began when Major James J. and Mrs. Ida VanZandt Jarvis deeded 456 acres for the establishment of a Disciples school for Negroes in Hawkins, Texas, 1910. The Jarvis Christian Institute was founded in 1912, opening elementary classes the following year. It was recognized as a state high school in 1924, a Junior College in 1927, and became an accredited senior college in 1941.
- 13 Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX.
- 14 A stained glass window honors pioneer leaders in African- American education. Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX.
- 15 The inauguration of Edward L. Wheeler, fifth president of Christian Theological Seminary, 1997. President Wheeler is also the first African-American educational administrator to serve one of the denomination's seminaries as president.
- 16 The 5th Anniversary and sanctuary rededication service for Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, September 20, 1998. Bethel's pastor is Dr. Geunhee Yu. Shown is Jeri Sias, moderator for National American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD).
- 17 Members of Filipino Christian Church, Los Angeles, entertain at the 1996 American Asian Disciples Convocation at Chapman University.
- Some Disciples may be surprised today to note that there are three bilingual congregations in Canada which are predominantly Filipino.
- 18 The future looks bright at Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996.
- 19 Young people of Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996.
- 20 Ric La Paz, John Lau, Daniel Chiang and Geunhee Yu, at the 1991 General Assembly in Tulsa, OK.
- 21 A break in the meetings during the Second Korean Disciples Ministers' Retreat, December 1996.

- 22 The ordination of Daniel Chiang (3rd from right, front row), pastor at First Christian Church, Alhambra, CA, June 1994.
- 23 Young people perform a community work project during the 1996 Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries of the United Church of Christ/American Asian Disciples (PAAM/AAD) Joint Convocation, at Chapman University, July 1996.
- 24 Prior to beginning the day's work and celebration, participants of the Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries of the United Church of Christ/American Asian Disciples (PAAM/AAD) Joint Convocation scheduled time for this exercise of body, mind and soul. July 26, 1996.
- 25 The first Korean Disciples Ministers' Association Assembly was held in Hot Springs, CA, in January 1998.
- 26 Pastor Daniel Chiang (far right) with the youth of First Chinese Christian Church, Alhambra, CA.
- 27 The pause for nourishment is welcome at the 1995 General Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. From left: Daniel Chiang, Manuel Tamayo, Dong Gook Roh, Jeris Sias, unknown, Hakyu Hyun, Luz Bacerra, Geunhee Yu, Nobe Kaneko and John Lau (center, front).
- 28 The Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries of the United Church of Christ/American Asian Disciples (PAAM/AAD) Joint Convocation, held at Chapman University, July 1996.
- 29 5th Anniversary and Sanctuary Dedication, Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996. Pastor Geunhee Yu.
- 30 Communion during the rededication of the sanctuary and 5th Anniversary of Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996.
- 31 Bella Vista Christian Church, Brownsville, TX: Rev. Pablo Cotto and his wife, Fanny Cotto, with the first Sunday school class.

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NBA CD-#2

Duplication Disks: 3505, 3351, 3352, 3353, 3345

Diversity of the Disciples Photos

January 6, 2000

Image Description

- 1 A panel presentation at the 1986 American Asian Disciples (AAD) convocation. From left: Aron Sato, Royal Morales, Maureen Osuga and Wally Kuroiwa.
- 2 Young people of Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996.
- 3 1995 General Assembly. Shown are Manuel Tamayo, John Lau, Dick Hamm and Geunhee Yu.
- 4 1995 General Assembly. From left: Hakyu (First Korean woman pastor in Hawaii), Jim Osuga, Lyle Predmore, Hiroko Predmore, John Lau and Geunhee Yu.
- 5 Sinai Christian Church, Brooklyn, during the 8th National Hispanic Assembly, July 1996.
- 6 7th National Hispanic Assembly, Orange, CA, July 1994
- 7 The 84th Anniversary of Iglesia Cristiana Betel, established in Rothschild, TX, in 1912.
- 8 In 1970, the National Consultation on Hispanic Ministries, organized by Domingo Rodriguez, called for greater opportunity for the Hispanic-American Disciples to be heard and represented.

The consultation eventually led to the First Hispanic Assembly, convened by David Vargas in Indianapolis in 1981, and that led to the creation of the position, Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations in the Division of Homeland Ministries. Ultimately, this representation led to the creation of the Central Pastoral Office and the National Pastor for Hispanic Ministries, in 1992. David Vargas served as the first National Pastor for 10 months, and then Lucas Torres began his first service in 1993.

Shown: (Front , L to R)1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. David Moreno, 3. Eufrazio Perez, 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Ana Cordova, 7. Miguel Angel Morales, 8. Domingo Rodriguez, 9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Apolonio Melecio, 11. Pablo Maysonet, 12. Hector Garcia. (Back Row) 1. Lucas Torres, 2. Juan Figueroa, 3. \_\_\_\_\_, 4. Manuel Luis Rivera, 5. \_\_\_\_\_, 6. Lope Diaz Lopez, 7. \_\_\_\_\_, 8. Carlos Avila, 9. Eliseo Rodriguez, 10. Jose Fidel Martinez, 11. \_\_\_\_\_, 12. Miguel Angel Rodriguez, 13. Fidel Reyes, 14. \_\_\_\_\_, 15. \_\_\_\_\_, 16. Ramon Melendez, 17. Marcelino Pollock, 18. Pablo Cotto, 19. Dan Kuhn

- 9 Sinai Christian Church, Brooklyn, during the 8th National Hispanic Assembly, July 1996.
- 10 Iglesia Cristiana Bella Vista, Brownsville, TX
- 11 Fourth National Hispanic Assembly, Miami, July 1988.

- 12 Rev. Lucas Torres conducts a child dedication at Iglesia Cristiana Hispana de Orlando. The first pastor was Fidel Martinez, who started the church in 1979.
- 13 Rev. Lucas Torres and Rev. Elías Vásquez offer communion at the 8th National Hispanic Assembly, Sinaí Christian Church, Brooklyn, NY, July 1996.
- 14 In 1982, Iglesia Cristiana Hispana de Orlando was “restarted” by Lucas Torres, and the congregation met in Winter Park, FL. The congregation moved to Orlando in 1984 and dedicated this building in 1989.
- 15 First Spanish Christian Church, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 16 Coro Mayor (ninos y jovenes), La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City, 1976-78.
- 17 New sanctuary at Iglesia del Pueblo Christian Church, Hammond, IN - a bilingual congregation.
- 18 In July, 1978, an “Asian Dialogue” was convened by the department of Evangelism and Membership, Division of Homeland Ministries. From left: Aaron Sato, Lydra Ganaden, Bill Hannah, Cesar Paniamogan, Peter Suk and Harold Johnson. The first consultation of American Asian Disciples, held in Indianapolis, was named FAAD, Fellowship of American Asian Disciples, to be renamed AAD in 1979.
- 19 A youth discussion during the 10th North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD) Conference, held at Mills College in Oakland, CA, August 1998.
- 20 A focus group at the American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation, 1996, held at Chapman University. Jeri Sias (center, left) is the newly elected moderator of National American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD).
- 21 Korean musician, Young-sook Yang, plays the Kayagum (Korean Zither) at Glendale Korean Christian Church, Glendale, CA, during cultural night at the 1996 American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation. (L to R) Yeahwa C. Lee, Donggook Roh, Jong Hong, Paul Park, and Woon Joo Baek and his wife.
- 22 Debra Thompson and Dr. Geunhee Yu in a discussion during the American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation in 1988.
- 23 Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock addresses the 1995 General Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. Dr. Brock contributed much to the formation of NAPAD.
- 24 The 10th North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD) Conference, held at Mills College in Oakland, CA, August 1998. Jeri Sias, newly elected moderator, is being congratulated by a well-wisher.
- 25 Manuel Tamayo, pastor of Indian Lake Community Church, Russell Point, OH, at the 1996 American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation at Chapman University. Rev. Tamayo has served at the local, regional, and national levels of the church, including serving on the board of trustees of the National Benevolent Association.

- 26 Rev. Sun Joon Choi, pastor of New Covenant Christian Church, Lawrenceville, GA, August 20, 1995.
- 27 A meeting of the executive committee at the American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation, July 1986. From left: Harold Johnson, Dan Calderon and Joanne Kagawada.
- 28 5th Anniversary and Sanctuary Dedication, Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996. Pastor Geunhee Yu.
- 29 5th Anniversary and Sanctuary Dedication, Bethel Christian Church, Indianapolis, 1996. Pastor Geunhee Yu.
- 30 Lorraine Jacobs
- 31 The first Convocation of American Asian Disciples (AAD) was held in Indianapolis, October 1980. David Kagawada was elected the convener. (David Kagawada continued to play a major role in American-Asian Disciples growth, until his death in 1985. A scholarship continues his name as a servant to all people.)
- 32 Youth and young adults pause during the 10th North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD) Conference, held at Mills College in Oakland, CA, August 1998.
- 33 Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock shows her renown enthusiasm at an August 1986 meeting of American Asian Disciples (AAD). Dr. Brock is a well-known feminist scholar and director of the Bunting Institute at Harvard University.
- 34 Janet Casey-Allen and Larry Casey-Allen assist a visitor to the American Asian Disciples (AAD) exhibit at the 1993 General Assembly in St. Louis.
- 35 An early brochure produced by Christian Woman's ministry regarding the Chinese mission.

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NBA CD-#3

Duplication Disks: 3343, 3355, 3357, 3358, 3354

Diversity of the Disciples Photos

January 6, 2000

Image Description

- 1 Grace Kim, convener of the second American Asian Disciples Convocation, and Soongook Choi, pastor of Chicago Christian Church, at an executive committee meeting of the American Asian Disciples (AAD) Convocation, August 1986.
- 2 David Kagawada leading a convocation gathering.
- 3 William Hannah, foreground, and Harold Johnson, rear, during the formative years of AAD.
- 4 (L to R) Deborah Thompson, Soongook Choi, Janet Casey-Allen, Grace Kim, Maureen Osuga, John Lau, and Robert Bates.
- 5 Grace Kim showing a chinese lantern to visitors at the AAD/NAPAD booth during one of the General Assemblies.
- 6 David Kagawada leading a convocation gathering.
- 7 The 2nd Korean Disciples Ministers' Retreat was held in December 1996. Shown are Rev. Randy Kuss (Division of Homeland Ministries), Rev. Sung Up Chung (Hollywood Korean Christian Church) and Rev. Geunhee Yu, executive pastor for North American Asian Ministries.
- 8 "Caliz de Bendiciones", the first Spanish language Disciples Hymnal, is introduced at the 8th National Hispanic Assembly in Long Island, in 1996. It was a joint project with the Methodist Church, with Conchita Delgado serving as editor of the Disciples version. From left: Charles Lamb (Regional Minister, Northeastern Region), James Suggs (President of Christian Board of Publication), Dick Hamm (General Minister and President) and Lucas Torres (National Pastor for Hispanic Ministries).
- 9 Dr. Seres S. Myers, president of the National Convention (1945-48) Myers entered the ministry in 1922 and served as pastor to Woodland Avenue Christian Church, Kansas City, 1932. That evolved into West Paseo Christian Church, where he served until 1974, when he "retired."  
  
A bridge-builder, Myers had an extraordinary ability to cross racial lines and bring people together in fellowship and faith. Ray Brown describes Myers as the architect of the merger.
- 10 Mrs. Ida VanZandt Jarvis, who is said to have convinced her husband of the need for a school for black youth. The Jarvises gave a gift of 456 acres to the Christian Woman's Board of Missions on the condition that it "keep up and maintain a school for the elevation and education of the Negro race...in which school there shall be efficient religious and industrial training."

- 11 Mrs. Mary Ann Alphin was an instrumental figure in the establishment of Jarvis Christian Institute. Two years after marrying William Alphin and moving with him to his new pastorate in Waco, TX, Mary was elected state president of the Womens Missionary Society.  
While raising funds throughout the state, she learned that Maj. and Mrs. Jarvis were considering a gift of land. She and others were successful in persuading the Jarvises that appropriate funds would become available, and the gift was made.
- 12 From left: Rev. Dr. John Compton, Dr. John Paul Jones (president of Jarvis Christian College, 1971-1976), and Dr. Emmett J. Dickson
- 13 James Nelson Ervin, president, Jarvis Christian College, 1914-1938.
- 14 Rev. Domingo Rodriguez and his wife, Esther. He was pastor of La Hermosa Christian Church in New York City, from 1953 to 1956. He later became Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations in the Division of Homeland Ministries from 1969 to 1972.
- 15 Five early leaders in the Hispanic-American Disciples community, from left: Rev. Marcelino Pollock, Rev. Doroteo Alaniz, Rev. Vazquez, Rev. Samuel G. Rocha and Rev. Pablo Cotto.
- 16 The first church building of La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City. La Hermosa ("The Beautiful") was started by Pablo Cotto, a self-appointed missionary from Puerto Rico, in 1938.
- 17 Chapel services at Jarvis Christian Institute, circa 1920-1930. Note the customary seating arrangement with young men seated on the right, and young women on the left.
- 18 Rev. Miguel A. Morales, pastor of La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City, 1957.
- 19 Japanese Americans were relocated to various camps during World War II, leaving their homes and jobs behind them. They sought to preserve their dignity and spirits throughout the ordeal. (Rower Relocation Camp)  
  
We have been told that while many of their homes and possessions were gone when they returned from the camps, some were pleased to find that other members of the church had purchased their homes to hold and sell back to them on their return.
- 20 Part of the 26 member choir of Mexican Christian Church. Circa 1950s.
- 21 The Japanese Christian Church, 936 Wall Street, Los Angeles, was dedicated in 1919. Rev. Teizo Kawai, called to the church in 1908, is third from the left on the back row.
- 22 Dr. Delores Carpenter, who was recognized in 1997 by Ebony magazine as one of the nation's Top 15 Black Women Preachers.
- 23 Sunday School children of Japanese Christian Church, 936 Wall Street, Los Angeles, circa 1920.
- 24 Daily Vacation Bible School, conducted by Rev. Pablo Cotto and his wife, Fanny Cotto, at Bella Vista Christian Church, Brownsville, TX

- 25 This photo, from Unroll the Scroll (a history of Jarvis Christian College by Venita Corney Waddleton) is captioned "Transportation between 1912 and the middle 1930's"
- 26 Royal Morales and daughters Faith and Vikki, Filipino Christian Church, Los Angeles. This photograph was included in the program celebrating the 65th Anniversary of the church in 1998.
- 27 Mexican Christian Church, San Antonio, TX, Pastor Samuel G. Rocha, 1952.
- 28 An afternoon meeting of the Japanese Christian Church, Los Angeles, 1948. This church continues its rich history today, now known as All Peoples Christian Church.
- 29 The wedding of the Wakamatsu family is celebrated at Japanese Christian Church, Los Angeles, in 1922.
- 30 Royal and Ann Morales, Filipino Christian Church, Los Angeles. Royal is the son of Rev. Sivestre Morales, seasoned minister and preacher who organized the Filipino fellowship. The church was supported and maintained by the members, who were inspired by Dr. Royal J. Dye and Mrs. Eva N. Dye and several American friends. Royal, named after his father's friend, Mr. Dye, studied social work at Chapman College, and had a very active social ministry, including a class he taught at UCLA on the Filipino American Experience.
- 31 The combined choirs of Segunda Iglesia Cristiana and La Hermosa Christian Churches.
- 32 The Christmas Program at Japanese Christian Church, Los Angeles, 1935. Rev. Chuck Severns was a student pastor from Chapman College.

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NBA CD-#4

Duplication Disks: 3346, 3349, 3348, 3347, 3350

Diversity of the Disciples Photos

January 6, 2000

Image Description

- 1 Bella Vista Christian Church, Brownsville, TX. This church was started in 1950 in Brownsville by Rev. Pablo Cotto, who also started La Hermosa in New York City (1938).
- 2 A men's quartet from Eastern Seminary entertains and glorifies God in the sanctuary of La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City.
- 3 Major James J. Jarvis
- 4 E. Toy Fletcher was the first African American to serve as an NBA board officer, serving two terms as vice president (1979 and 1981).
- 5 David Kagawada
- 6 Charles Albert Berry, Sr. was working in a good job in a print shop in Jackson, MS, when J.B. Lehmann, president of Southern Christian Institute called him, saying "go to Texas and join Prof. T.B. Frost and help him build a school for the Christian Brotherhood."  
  
Berry recalls that it took every fiber of courage within him to leave an excellent paying, white collar position in a friendly community, and join Frost in the clearing of land and building of buildings. But go he did, and Jarvis stands today as a monument to their dedication and conviction.
- 7 T. B. Frost, Central Christian Institute, Kentucky. When the Jarvis family made a gift of land in Hawkins, TX, President J.B. Lehman of Southern Christian Institute was asked for a man with pioneering capabilities and potentials to lay the foundation work for the school. He recommended Tommy Frost. Arriving in January, 1912, Frost worked alone, clearing a snake infested swamp. He was joined later by his family and still later by C. A. Berry. Both men also had to cut and sell railroad ties in order to have enough income to survive. When the school was opened, his wife, Mattie Frost, was the first teacher.  
  
Jarvis Christian Institute (now Jarvis Christian College) was the last missionary institution established by the Christian Women's Board of Missions. It began in 1912 under the guidance of Thomas B. Frost, who was succeeded the next year by J. N. Ervin. Under Ervin, it enjoyed phenomenal growth and became the only accredited four-year missionary institution established for the descendants of slaves. It is the only missionary institution established by the church for the training of blacks still in existence.
- 8 Dr. Walter D. Bingham, moderator of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1971, and retired pastor of Third Christian Church in Louisville. He was the first black president of the Kentucky Association of the Christian Churches.
- 9 Jarvis Christian College, 1921. President Ervin, center; Coach John Sutton, second row, right; and Arthur "Coot" Rand is #5.

- 10 Rev. Daisy Machado speaks at her ordination. She is the first <sup>Protestant</sup> Hispanic-American woman <sup>in the U.S.</sup> to obtain a doctorate in divinity in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), doing her work at ~~University of Chicago~~ <sup>(Brite) - 1996.</sup> <sup>Tcu</sup>
- 11 Second Christian Church, Bronx, New York, used by Spanish Church in the afternoons.
- 12 Parsonage and Sanctuary, Bridgeport Christian Church, Bridgeport, CT.
- 13 Ferdinand Garcia is a carpenter, mentor and active layman. At age 77, he continues to serve his church with gladness, building displays and sharing the wisdom of his age. He attends La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City.
- 14 In December, 1976, the first committee on Black and Hispanic Church concerns met, leading towards additional representation for Hispanic concerns. From left: Hector Casteneda, Lucas Torres, Angel C. Bonilla, Ferdinand Garcia, and José Avaya. Seated, from left: David Moreno, Feliberto Pereira and Omar D. Rios.
- 15 Sinaí Christian Church, Brooklyn, NY, 1962.
- 16 In 1977, UCMS officially transferred the property titles to the churches in New York.
- 17 The first church building of La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City. La Hermosa ("The Beautiful") was started by Pablo Cotto, a self-appointed missionary from Puerto Rico, in 1938.
- 18 Daniel Gourdet, current missionary in Zimbabwe Synod, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
- 19 Phyllis Byrd, current missionary in Nairobi, Kenya.
- 20 Rev. Jack Sullivan, Jr., installed as Regional Minister of the Northwest Region in 1998, becoming the second African-American leader to serve the denomination as a Regional Minister.
- 21 Sandra Gourdet, serving with Daniel Gourdet as a missionary in Zimbabwe Synod, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
- 22 The English-speaking congregation at West Adams Christian Church, Los Angeles, 1956. West Adams was one of at least nine Japanese congregations in the Los Angeles area that ceased to exist in 1942 when many Japanese-Americans were forced to move to "relocation camps" during World War II. West Adams reorganized in 1948 when its members were allowed to return to their homes. The church was dedicated in 1950, under the leadership of Rev. Kojiro Unoura.
- 23 Rev. Enrico La Paz, Filipino Christian Church, Los Angeles visits with Joel M. Santos at General Assembly, 1991.
- 24 Rev. David Unoura and his wife, Mary, at West Adams Christian Church in 1955. (All of these exceptional historic photos from West Adams Christian Church have been provided by Joe Nagana, member and historian for the church.)



- 25 Rev. Kojiro Unoura presides at the dedication service of West Adams Christian Church, in Los Angeles on July 9, 1950. The church was reorganized in 1948, when members were able to return to their homes from the relocation camps established during WWII.
- 26 Rev. Teizo Kawai and his family. Rev. Kawai was called to pastor at the Japanese Christian Church, Los Angeles, at its formation in 1908. He served until 1923. The only other known early Japanese gathering was initiated by a group of students in 1904 in Berkeley, CA. The Berkeley Japanese Christian Church was established in 1914.
- 27 Rev. Pablo A. Jimenez has been called to become National Pastor for Hispanic Ministries on January 1, 2000
- 28 Soongook Choi has been very active among the American Asian Disciples. He was first exposed to the Disciples while he was at Vanderbilt, but returned to Korea after receiving his education. When he returned to the U.S., his church, Chicago Christian Church, was established in October 1974, and recognized by the Disciples region in 1985. He was also a trustee of Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago.  
  
The Soongook Choi Scholarship was established in his honor of ministry at the time of his retirement in 1997.
- 29 Titus H. James, Sr. was the second African American to serve as president of the board of trustees of the National Benevolent Association (1995-96). Rev. James is pastor of North Heights Christian Church in Wichita.
- 30 1940 Baseball Team, La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City.
- 31 The first church building of La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City. Rev. Pablo Cotto sits on the front row.
- 32 La Hermosa Christian Church, New York City, dedicates a new sanctuary, Feb. 1961.
- 33 Bella Vista Christian Church, Brownsville, TX. In the 1950s, barracks served as both classroom and sanctuary.
- 34 Thomas Griffin, campus chaplain of Jarvis Christian College from 1978-1981.

Note: Every effort has been made to accurately identify individuals and events depicted in these photographs. We apologize if an error has occurred, and ask that you contact the Communications Dept, National Benevolent Association, if you have corrections or additional information. Please email [wcmak@nbacares.org](mailto:wcmak@nbacares.org).

About our research-

Considerable effort has been made to identify major historical events, and to obtain the photographs which best depict these milestones. Obviously there have been many other significant events and people who have contributed to the rich tapestry we call the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). If you do identify a significant oversight, please do call it to our attention, as this display will be replicated and presented in future venues.

Contributing researchers:

Anna Bradley, Nashville, TN, (African-American History)  
Pat Clark, St. Louis, MO (prior research of African American History)  
Tim Sang Lee, Torrance, CA (American-Asian history)  
Jessica Vasquez, Indianapolis, IN (Hispanic-American history)

Our research was done in consultation with

Dr. Geunhee Yu  
Dr. Raymond Brown  
Dr. Lucas Torres  
Dr. William Fox  
Dr. Norma Ellington-Twitty  
Dr. Ben Bohren  
Fred Robinson, and many others.  
We thank all of these church leaders for their great assistance.

William C. Mauk  
Director of Communications  
National Benevolent Association  
January 6, 2000

NBA CD-#5

Duplication Disk: #1282

Diversity of the Disciples Photos

May 1, 2000

Image Description

- 1 Teachers of the First Bible School of Methods
- 2 Officers of the First National Christian Women's Board of Missions. The General Christian Missionary Convention, the national mission organization of Disciples formed in 1869, took a particular interest in the work among freedmen in Mississippi. It sent hymnals, Bibles, and various materials; and it paid some funds toward the support of Woods and Owen. Its 1873 report claimed twenty congregations, nine preachers, four meeting houses, and 3,000 members in Mississippi.
- 3 Dr. William K. Fox and Ozark Range at Convocation. Rev. Range presently serves the national church in the Department of Ministry.
- 4 Ozark Range and Samuel Hylton
- 5 Rosa Campbell was born March 6, 1829 in Fayette, Colorado. She was married to Elder Alexander Campbell, a former slave in Midway, Kentucky. He bought his wife's freedom and together they worked in the Kentucky churches. She is pictured here at the age of 81 years.
- 6 Early picture of P. H. Moss, Vance G. Smith and Bessie Chandler. Bessie Chandler of Nashville, Tennessee, was the elementary superintendent for negroes in the Department of Religious Education. She was on staff for the Laboratory Training School (of the National Convention [Disciples of Christ]). Others who worked with Bessie Chandler were Carrie Hancock and Ms. Euband.
- 7 Rosa Page Welch, born in Port Gibson, Mississippi, attended Southern Christian Institute studying voice and piano. She was a staff member of the United Promotion department and worked as the Director of Interpretive Services promoting outreach causes and stewardship. She was a graduate of Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi. She traveled since 1937 singing around the world. In 1952-1953 was the Ambassador of Goodwill.
- 8 Emmett Dickson, former UCMS director of church relations and executive secretary of NCMC. From 1917 to 1969 the National Christian Missionary Convention, Inc., served as a means for developing churchmanship, leader training, employment of professional staff, and interaction with other agencies of the Church on a peer basis. It also developed recommendations which were submitted to the United Christian Missionary Society and/or the International of the Christian Church.

Member congregations accepted goals for giving and the causes of mission received special visibility and promotion in the annual assembly.

- 9 The Liberation Award, established by NCCC to recognize church leaders who have played a major role in achieving the affirmative action goals of the church, is presented to Dr. William T. Gibble, president of the National Benevolent Association, 1980.
- 10 In 1961, National Benevolent Association began the Home Service Program for Older Negro Disciples, using NBA funds, and funds from the Crusade for a Christian World. Black pastors identified individuals in need of assistance. Shown is Anna B. Green, a St. Louis widow, who received the first monthly grants.
- 11 Dr. William K. Fox
- 12 Cindy Dougherty, NBA President, since July 1, 1986
- 13 Richrard R. Lance, NBA President, 1982-June 30, 1986
- 14 Henry Herod was born January 8, 1875, in Millersburg, Kentucky, the son of slave-born parents. He attended Hiram College. He served as pastor of Second Christian Church from 1898 until his death in 1935. Over the years he worked as an editor for The Indianapolis Freeman, a negro newspaper, and as a social worker. Rev. Herod was the first negro to be appointed to the board of managers of the United Christian Missionary Society.
- 15 Geneva Townes was the first woman to serve on the board of Second Christian Church, and the first negro woman elected to an office in the Indianapolis Council of Church Women, was the National President of Missionary Organization of NCMC.
- 16 Dr. Norma Ellington-Twitty became Vice President for Program, Planning, and Evaluation for the National Benevolent Association in 1985, making her the first African American vice president in the organization initially started by six women in a prayer circle. In September, 1999, Dr. Ellington-Twitty was named CEO of the National Benevolent Foundation, a new corporation of the NBA.
- 17 John R. Foulkes, Sr., is Associate General Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and Administrative Secretary of the National Convocation.
- 18 Cleo Blackburn was a president of Jarvis Christian College, head of Flanner House, and the Board of Fundamental Education in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 19 P. H. Moss (1877-1935) was the superintendent of negro bible schools and national director of religious education for UCMS with the negro churches in 1921. The latter part of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth witnessed a change in the education of blacks. Before this, meager efforts had been made to help the blacks through programs to propagate the gospel. Now

the strategy shifted toward the building of institutions for the training of ministers and church leaders. The first Disciple institution of this kind was Louisville Bible School, organized in 1873 under the leadership of P. H. Moss. The school remained in operation for only four years.

- 20 Blair Hunt was the pastor of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church for over 40 years. He was president of the National Convention of Christian Churches and an educator in the city schools of Memphis. The city commissioner named a street in this honor-- Blair Hunt Drive. The first gymnasium for colored was named Blair Hunt Gym. He was the first negro to serve on the County Board of Education.
- 21 Deetsy Blackburn, the first United Christian Missionary Society children's worker for Colored Bible School's, born in Mississippi, worked as a teacher at the Alabama Christian Institute and Piedmont Christian Institute prior to going to Kentucky.
- 22 Rev. Lloyd Lincoln Dickerson (1900-1968), the first negro in the United States to be elected president of a state-wide integrated protestant church convention, the Ohio Association of Christian Churches. He was secretary 17 years of NCMC, also vice president and president; editor. Christian Plea, five years; "Shepherd of Distinction" award from NCMC for pastoral services and meritorious service in civil rights. Led Woodland Christian Church in a 3-year fight against restrictive covenants which was carried to the U.S. Supreme Court-- the "first" court case recorded in the United States; the church was attempting to purchase a parsonage. (Father of Ann Dickerson and his wife was Philandria).
- 23 Mrs. Sarah Lue Bostick was born May 27, 1868 and died May 1, 1948 at age 80. She was an advocate of world-wide missions. Her home church, Mount Sinai Church (Arkansas) was unfinished at the time of her death. She was buried from Pearidge Church. Her second husband, M. M. Bostick was ordained to the Christian Ministry the same day they married, April 24, 1892. Sarah became an ordained minister in later years and was as a field worker for the Christian Women's Board of Missions and United Christian Missionary Society for the black churches of Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. She worked 40 years until her retirement in 1938. In 1904, as the National President of the Negro Women's Board of Mission, Sarah Lue was invited to the National Convention where the idea for Jarvis Christian College was born.
- 24 Rosa Brown Bracy, national field worker for the Christian Church and promotional secretary of the 1920 "Emergency Campaign" of the National Convention which raised \$76,000. Mrs. Bracy served as Dean at Alabama Christian Institute, Lum, Alabama; she was first general secretary of missions and served almost 25 years under United Christian Missionary.
- 25 Viola Ruth and Rev. K. David Cole, retired pastor of Swope Park Christian Church, visit with Tom Johns, retired executive director of NBA Foxwood Springs Living Center, Kansas City.

- 26 W. Claude Langley, NBA President 1951-56 (not full time)
- 27 Orval D. Peterson, NBA's first full time president. 1957-71
- 28 William T. Gible, NBA President, 1971-1982
- 29 Eldridge Williams became the first African-American president of the board of trustees of the National Benevolent Association, 1987.
- 30 Carnella Barnes elected 1st Vice President of the International Convention of Christian Churches in 1961 following a career as a national field worker for the Christian Church. The International Convention was the forerunner of the General Assembly.
- 31 B. C. Calvert, Evangelist from Mississippi. In 1927 he traveled from Jackson to Los Angeles, California, by train to preach a revival at Birch Street Christian Church.
- 32 William Alphin, pastor of Centennial Christian Church and national field worker of the Christian Church. William Alphin issued an invitation for a meeting to be held in Kansas City in connection with the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ. White administrators of black missions objected to the proposed new gathering and spoke against it. Only when black leaders showed great determination to form the new conclave of their own constituency were the white leaders of the International Convention willing to make it an auxiliary group.
- 33 Lorenzo Evans began work as the Director of Education for Ministry Constituencies for DHM in 1960. Prior to that he worked 13 years for NCMC as National Director of Christian Education. He continues to serve the church in a consultant capacity and is one of UCMC's living legends.
- 34 R. H. Peoples became minister of Second Christian Church, Indianapolis, in October 1943. In 1966, it celebrated 100 years of christian service. Second Christian Church is now named Light of the World Christian Church.  
The church began as a Sunday school for blacks conducted by Christian Chapel (now Central Christian Church) in the 1840's. In 1866, Chapel Elders Ovid Butler and D. Orr led in expanding the school to include worship and other usual church functions and called it the Christian Mission Chapel. A frame building at the corner of Second Street and Lafayette Railroad was purchased for \$800 and was used at this location until 1873 when it was moved to Fifth (now Fourteenth) and Illinois streets.  
Through an arrangement with the city of Indianapolis, the first public school education for blacks in that city was carried on in this building. In 1867, the Mission Chapel was constituted as a church, and Rufus Conrad was called as pastor and hired by the city as schoolmaster. The school later became Public School # 23, and the church changed its name in 1869 to Second Christian (African). (Now Light of the World Christian Church)

- 35 Rev. W. H. Dickerson was an educator and preacher. Born in 1865, graduate of Berea College, entered the ministry in 1890. He was president of the Louisville Christian Bible School several years. He pastored in Kentucky and Ohio.
- 36 Advertisement to encourage negro disciples to buy books. Numerous pastors have been authors since that time. R. L. Jordon, former minister at United Christian Church in Detroit, Michigan, authored Two Races in One Fellowship and The Colored Disciples in Michigan.
- 37 Rev. Eldridge Williams and Shadyne Williams are members of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church. 42 Raymond Brown, Sr., First Convocation President. The press for racial integration, and concern that the structures witness to Christian belief in the wholeness of the church, caused discontinuation of National Convention program responsibilities in 1959 and the merger of Convention staff with appropriate departmental staff of the United Christian Missionary Society. In 1969, there was an abandonment of the annual meeting of the National Convention and a merger with the International Convention which led to the present General Assembly. At the same time, there was created the National Convocation of the Christian Church, which holds a biennial assembly in the even-numbered years, when the General Assembly does not meet.
- 38 First Convocation President, Raymond Brown, and Executive Secretary, John Compton. John Compton served the national church for over 30 years. His last post was as president of the Division of Homeland Ministries. He was the first African-American regional minister in the brotherhood.
- 39 Anna Belle Jackson, National Field Worker
- 40 Samuel Hylton, Elizabeth Ennix, and unidentified persons
- 41 Marjorie Parker, National Field Worker
- 42 Raymond Brown, Sr., First Convocation President. The press for racial integration, and concern that the structures witness to Christian belief in the wholeness of the church, caused discontinuation of National Convention program responsibilities in 1959 and the merger of Convention staff with appropriate departmental staff of the United Christian Missionary Society. In 1969, there was an abandonment of the annual meeting of the National Convention and a merger with the International Convention which led to the present General Assembly. At the same time, there was created the National Convocation of the Christian Church, which holds a biennial assembly in the even-numbered years, when the General Assembly does not meet.
- 43 Intense concentration by Convocation's young leaders- Delores Turner, Dana and Bill Lee, and Cynthia Hale
- 44 Site of the First Convocation- Columbia, MO

- 45 Candid Shots- Ozark Range, Daniel Heath, and Kenneth Henry
- 46 S. S. Myers, John Compton, Rosa Bracy Haynes, and Emmett Dickson
- 47 Southern Christian Institute at Edwards, Mississippi, was chartered in 1875 and began operation in 1882 under the leadership of Mrs. Lutitia Fauret. It had a long and glorious history before its merger with Tougaloo College in 1954. Its students and graduates have made great contributions to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and many are still making them.

48 T. Garrott Benjamin and Alvin Jackson in early years

- 49 Mr. and Mrs. Preston Taylor, creators of Greenwood Cemetery, a black disciples-owned burial ground in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1917, Preston Taylor was instrumental in the first National Christian Missionary Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.

This was the one single event of the twentieth century which gave black Disciples of Christ a real sense of national community and purpose.

- 50 Oscar Haynes and Jackie Bunch, the first laity leaders to become presidents of the Convocation

- 51 Emmett J. Dickson was born May 4, 1909 in Crockett, Texas. From 1945 to 1960 he was Executive Secretary of NCMC. From 1960 to 1974 he was National Director for Evangelism, DHM. At Jarvis he was Professor of Religion and Philosophy; Pastor of Jarvis College Church; Interim Pastor since second retirement. On July 1, 1960, the national program, services, and staff of the NCMC and the United Christian Missionary Society were merged. The then listed 587 negro congregations in 27 states with a total membership of 82,000. The UCMS served a majority of 8,000 churches. The NCMC retained Emmett Dickson as executive secretary within UCMC. It also retained its annual assembly for a fellowship convention.



NBA CD-#6  
Duplication Disk #1063  
Diversity of the Disciples Photos  
May 1, 2000

Image Description

- 1 "Crusade for a Christian World" was a campaign by NBA to build a home for negro children and one for needy negro aged people. Funds collected have been used over the years by the National Convocation and the United Christian Missionary Convention.
- 2 Early Church Leaders
- 3 Early church leaders including William K. Fox, former Convocation executive secretary. He was the first Black to receive the Divinity Disciples House Fellowship as well as a scholarship from the University of Chicago.
- 4 Christian Plea article reflects 1941 concern for "fair play."
- 5 44th National Christian Missionary Convention, 1960
- 6 Sixth National Convention Program, 1922, Indianapolis, IN
- 7 26th Annual National Convention, held in Kansas City, Missouri, 1942.
- 8 Cleveland, Ohio's First Congregation, Cedar Christian Church
- 10 National Convention Leaders including Mrs. Carnella Jamison Barnes who served on the staff of the United Christian Missionary Society as a national field secretary. For 13 years she was executive secretary of the Avalon Community Center, Los Angeles (co-sponsored by the Christian Church and Community Chest). In 1961 she was elected first vice president of the International of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) (first Black woman elected). She was a member of McCarty Memorial.
- 11 Lea Ave Christian Church members (1922), Nashville, TN
- 12 The first general convention of black Disciples of Christ was held in Nashville, Tennessee, August 5-9, 1917. This joyous occasion brought together black leaders and members from all parts of the nation. It was also attended by white administrators of mission work for blacks. Regardless of the noble reasons given for this new organization, it was essentially a protest meeting. Black Disciples desired a greater voice in the determination of their own religious destiny.  
E. J. Dickson was chosen as the first executive secretary of the convention. The forty persons from twelve states who assembled in Nashville that August, 1917,

had a basic intention of coordinating the mission effort being made among black people by the American Christian Missionary Society, the Christian Women's Board of Missions, and black leadership in various states. The Convention did more.

## A Chronological Overview of Asian American Disciples

- 1889 Initial work was begun among the Chinese in Portland
- 1892 Jeu Hawk, a young consecrated Chinese, took charge of the work in Portland.
- 1894 The Chinese Mission in Portland was officially established.
- 1904 Japanese students begin meeting in Berkeley, California
- 1907 Chinese Christian Institute in San Francisco opened
- 1908 Los Angeles Japanese Christian Church formed, later to become All Peoples Christian Church. Rev. Teizo Kawai called as pastor.
- 1914 Berkeley Japanese Christian Church established
- 1919 Japanese Christian Church building at 936 Wall Street dedicated in Los Angeles.
- 1923 Church serving Japanese farmers established in Rocky Ford, CO.
- 1933 Filipino Christian Fellowship established by Rev. Silvestre Morales, with the help of Dr. Royal J. and Eva N. Dye
- 1942 At least nine Japanese Christian Churches had been established, but were closed when the government forced Americans of Japanese ancestry to leave their homes and relocate to internment camps for the duration of World War II. Only West Adams was reorganized when the Japanese-Americans were allowed to return to their homes.
- 1950 Dedication of West Adams Christian Church in Los Angeles, Rev. Kojiro Unoura
- 1978 Harold Johnson called a meeting of selected Asian Disciples, leading to the birth of American Asian Disciples.
- 1978 JoAnne Kagiwadi joined the Division of Homeland Ministry staff as Director of International Affairs.
- 1979 American Asian Disciples (AAD) formed
- 1980 David Kagiwada convened the first convocation of Asian-Americans in Indianapolis, now the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD).
- 1982 Second American Asian Convocation held in Berkeley, CA.
- 1985 David Kagiwada died. A memorial fund is established to provide scholarships for Asian-American seminarians. First recipient was Dong Gook Roh.
- 1992 Geunhee Yu named Executive Pastor for North American Asian Ministries

- 1996 Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries of the United Church of Christ (PAAM) and the American Asian Disciples held a joint convocation at Chapman University in Orange, CA.
- 1997 City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission designated the Filipino Christian Church as an Historic-Culture Monument
- 1997 Vietnamese Alliance Christian Church formed in New Orleans, as the first Disciples fellowship for American Vietnamese
- 1998 First Korean Disciples Ministers Association Assembly

## A Chronological Overview of Hispanic American Disciples

- 1899 Rev. George Ranshaw, secretary of United Christian Missionary Society, met with, preached to, and baptized several people attending a Spanish-speaking church in San Antonio, as noted in *The Christian Standard*, making it the first Spanish language Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States. (It was soon recognized as Mexican Christian Church.)
- 1900 Rev. Ygnacio Quintero called to serve as pastor of the Mexican Mission.
- 1908 Mexican Christian Institute opened in San Antonio.
- 1912 Iglesia Cristiana Betel, established in Rothstown, TX (near Corpus Christi)
- 1914 Altavista Christian Church established in Kansas City, primarily for Hispanic families working on the railroad.
- 1920 Church began meeting at the Mexican Christian Institute under the leadership of Samuel Guy Inman, a missionary from Mexico.
- 1925 Dedication of the Mexican Christian Church building, on Sept 27. Rev. Able Charles served as pastor. The Christian Women of Texas provided funding for the existing building.
- 1938 Beginnings of La Hermosa ("The Beautiful") in New York City, under the guidance of Pablo Cotto, a self-appointed missionary from Puerto Rico.
- 1950 Founding of Bella Vista Christian Church, Brownsville, TX, by Pablo Cotto.
- 1967 First Hispanic Church established in Gary, IN; it later moved to Hobart, IN.
- 1969 Domingo Rodríguez named director of program services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations (Division of Homeland Ministries, 1969-72).
- 1970 National Hispanic Ministries Consultation, Indianapolis, organized by Domingo Rodríguez.
- 1973 Lucas Torres became Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations (1973-77, 1993-present).
- 1975 Wilfredo del Pilar established a church at South Bay, CA, which later moved to Gardena, CA.
- 1978 David Vargas appointed Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations (1978-84).
- 1979 Iglesia Cristiana Hispana de Orlando. (FL) First pastor was Fidel Martinez.
- 1979 Primera Iglesia Cristiana in Miami. Lope Diaz Lopez was the first pastor.

- 1981 First National Hispanic Assembly convened by David Vargas in Indianapolis.
- 1982 Iglesia Cristiana Hispana de Orlando restarted by Lucas Torres, meeting in Winter Park (Moved to Orlando in 1984).
- 1984 Luis Ferrer named Director of Program Services to Hispanic Bilingual Congregations (1984-92).
- 1989 Iglesia Cristiana Espana dedicated its first building in Orlando.
- 1992 Creation of Central Pastoral Office. David Vargas served for 10 months, and Lucas Torres began in 1993. (Serving as National Pastor of Hispanic Ministries)
- 1993 Founding of ~~Church~~ in Kissimmee, Lucas Torres presiding at the first service  
*Iglesia Cristiana Discipulos de Cristo*
- 1994 Disciples International Christian Church, Montreal, became a Disciples church with Pastor Moya
- 1995 ~~Lluvias de Gracia~~ established in Toronto, with Rev. William Arango as pastor.  
*Lluvias de Gracia*
- 1996 Introduction of Caliz de Bendiciones, the first Spanish Language Disciples Hymnal, at 8<sup>th</sup> National Hispanic Assembly, July, Long Island, NY.
- 2000 Pablo A. Jiménez called to be National Hispanic Pastor

## A Chronological Overview of African-American Disciples

- 1820 Evidence of black members within the pioneer Disciple churches, including Cane Ridge, KY, and Brush Run, PA.
- 1834 Black membership in Woodford County, KY had grown to the point that the white leaders found it appropriate to establish the first "Colored Christian Church" on record, in Midway, KY. Local women's missionary groups bought Alexander Campbell, a black pastor, for \$1,000, set him free, and provided him with additional theological education. The congregation was accorded full church status, elected its own officers and conducted its own business. (Hap Lyda, Black Disciples in the 19th Century)
- 1840s Many churches began establishing Sunday Schools, chapels, and ultimately congregations for their black membership. Such chapels often became known as "Second Churches," and seeded many African-American congregations in the midwest and south.
- 1867 The Sunday School for blacks, conducted by Christian Chapel (now Central Christian Church) in Indianapolis, was constituted as the Mission Chapel. Rufus Conrad was called as pastor and hired by the city as schoolmaster. This chapel later became Second Christian Church, and today is known as Light of the World Christian Church.
- 1869 The General Christian Missionary Convention took an official interest in the work among "freedmen" in Mississippi. Key white Disciples leaders, including C.C. Smith, superintendent of Missions and Schools for Negro Work, and Southern Christian Institute President Joel Baer Lehman, determined that the best evangelical approach to blacks following the Civil War was the establishment of mission schools, which provided basic education.
- 1873 Louisville Bible School was organized in Louisville, KY, under the leadership of P.H. Moss. The school remained in operation for only four years.
- 1874 Thomas Munnell, on behalf of American Christian Missionary Society, facilitated land for Southern Christian Institute in Edwards, MS.
- 1876 Woodland Ave Christian Church established in Kansas City. From 1861 to 1876, the African-American congregations grew from five churches in 15 states with 7,000 members, to approximately 20,000 members. (Lyda)
- 1882 American Christian Missionary Society opened the Southern Christian Institute school.
- 1886 First gathering of a sanctuary in Sandy Plains, NC, now known as Greenleaf Christian Church
- 1900 The American Christian Missionary Society, unable to fund the mission for blacks, turned the work over to the Christian Women's Board of Missions.
- 1900 Piedmont Christian Institute established in Martinsville, VA.
- 1909 Founding of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) W.E.B. DuBois was named editor of its journal, The Crisis.

- 1910 Major James J. and Mrs Ida VanZandt Jarvis deeded 456 acres for the establishment of a Disciples School for Negroes, Hawkins, TX
- 1912 Jarvis Christian Institute founded
- 1913 Jarvis Christian Institute opened an elementary school with 13 pupils.
- 1914 Christian Women's Board of Missions acknowledged that African Americans had minimal say in the Negro mission field, and appointed Rosa Brown Bracy and P.H. Moss to the field staff.
- 1917 Frustration that all major decisions regarding Negro mission work were still determined by J. B. Lehman, a white American, and the predominantly white Board of Missions, brought about the first meeting of the National Christian Missionary Convention on Sept. 7, in Nashville, TN. Preston Taylor was president.
- 1917 Christian Women's Board of Missions accepted responsibility for encouraging and monitoring Christian mission among African American people.
- 1921 Preston Taylor and Mrs. Hattie Singleton represented National Christian Missionary Convention as official representatives to the International Convention.
- 1924 Jarvis Christian Insitute recognized as a high school by the state of Texas.
- 1926 The Christian Plea replaced The Gospel Plea as principal newsletter for National Christian Missionary Convention. Editorship was in the portfolio of the staff member providing field service, and publication was done in conjunction with Christian Board of Publication.
- 1927 Jarvis recognized as a junior college by the state of Texas.
- 1928 National Christian Missionary Convention and the UCMS hold first youth conference to develop leaders at Southern Christian Institute.
- 1935 Robert Hayes Peoples became National Secretary for Negro Evangelism & Religious Education for United Christian Mission Society
- 1935 United Christian Missionary Society hired Carnella Jamison to resource women's mission work.
- 1941 Jarvis Christian Institute accredited as a senior college
- 1941 William K. Fox received an academic scholarship from the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, and becomes first black Disciple to receive a House Fellowship in Chicago Disciples House. This was at the beginning of World War II, and the church was averaging one African-American Disciples seminary degree recipient per year.
- 1944 National Christian Missionary Convention received a recommendation from its Long Range Planning Committee, chaired by S.S. Meyers, and voted to establish a national office

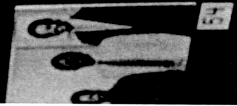
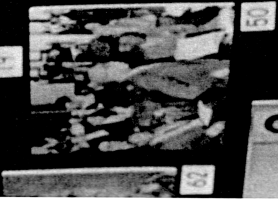
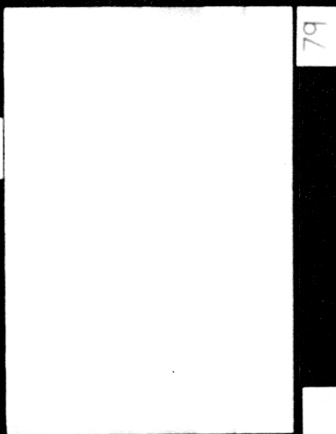
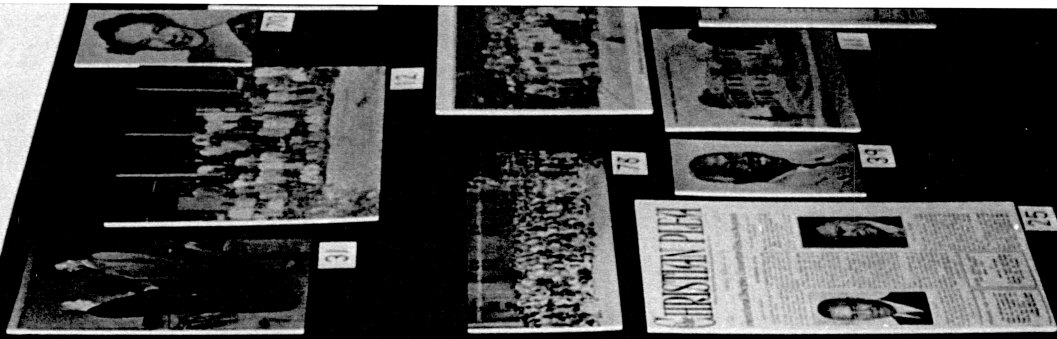


- 1945 Emmett J. Dickson was chosen to be Executive Secretary of the National Christian Missionary Convention. Other staff members called were Carnella Jamison, women's missions, and Lorenzo Evans, director of Christian education
- 1945 The Christian Plea editorship was lodged totally within the National Christian Missionary Convention, including the selection and maintenance of the editor—Merle R. Eppse, L. L. Dickerson, W. K. Fox, Sr.
- 1946 Thomas J. Griffin became the first African-American professional staff member to be employed in the department of social welfare for the United Christian Missionary Society
- 1947 Jarvis accredited as a four year college by Southern Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools.
- 1948 The Star Supporters Scholarship Fund was established. Out of concern for a better-prepared and trained ministry, the Christian Men's Fellowship of the National Christian Missionary Convention started the fund, which was soon supported as well by the Minister's Wives Fellowship, and eventually the entire National Christian Missionary Convention.
- 1948 Preston Taylor estate provided a major financial boost needed to maintain the new national office of the National Christian Missionary Convention
- 1949 Rosa Page Welch was the first African American chosen by the committee to lead convention singing at the International Convention.
- 1954 Southern Christian Institute merged with Tougaloo College.
- 1954 At the recommendation of the National Convention Social Action Commission, chaired by Lewis Deer, the International Convention resolved that all conventions be held in cities which do not discriminate against persons of race and color.
- 1959 As an intentional witness to the merger process moving National Christian Missionary Convention into the International Convention, the National Christian Missionary Convention board and Editor William Fox decided to cease publication of The Christian Plea. Fox became a contributing editor to The Christian-Evangelist, still addressing the concerns and interests of African-American Disciple readers and supporters. Christian Board of Publication, which published both journals, concurred and facilitated the transition.
- 1960 National Christian Missionary Convention and United Christian Missionary Society merged. Emmett J. Dickson became part of the staff of the Division of Church Life and Work and Lorenzo Evans was appointed to director of Christian education.
- 1963 100th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation
- 1963 The Christian Men's Fellowship (CMF) of the National Christian Missionary Convention was linked with the United Christian Missionary Society Department for Church Men, leading to church-wide support for the Star Supporter Fund.
- 1969 The General Assembly sent a message to the churches and adopted Resolution 19, a major turning point in advancing the concerns of African-American Disciples. The

- resolution called for immediate and positive change, including an affirmative action program with a goal of 20% racial ethnic participation. This was the Disciples response to the Black Manifesto issued in April 1969 to all denominations by the Black Economic and Development Conference.
- 1969 The General Reconciliation Steering Committee initiated a church-wide fund raising effort, the Reconciliation Fund, to work for legislation and government action and to work on problems of racism and poverty in both rural and urban areas.
- 1969 National Christian Missionary Convention merged with the International Convention. Raymond E. Brown was its last president.
- 1969 National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was established.
- 1970 Raymond Brown was the first president of the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). First biennial Assembly was held in August.
- 1970 Raymond Brown was hired by the Board of Church Extension as a general field representative (first black professional general field representative)
- 1970 John R. Compton left his post as executive of the Cleveland Metro District of the Ohio Regional Church to become an assistant to the General Minister and President, the first administrative secretary to the National Convocation, and chair of the Reconciliation Steering Committee.
- 1970 The Committee for Black and Hispanic Concerns was established to monitor effectiveness of general church program services.
- 1971 Ohio, Missouri, Oklahoma and Northeast Regional Churches, among others, begin making their regional assemblies and structure more inclusive, and African American Disciple leaders were elected to assembly representation in Ohio and Missouri.
- 1971 Division of Higher Education President William Miller established STEEM program (Short Term Employment Experience in Ministry) in which approximately 10 racial/ethnic students were placed in church-related short term employment opportunities per year.
- 1971 Walter D. Bingham of Louisville was elected the first black moderator of the General Assembly.
- 1973 Clarence L. Johnson Jr. began as Director of Black Ministry with the Division of Homeland Ministries
- 1974 Convocation newsletter, Update on the Black Church initiated and edited by Administrative Secretary William K. Fox, Sr., taking over the role of The Christian Plea.
- 1974 Convocation Board of Trustee Plan and Strategy Task Force identified the need for new congregation establishment, especially within the black community. This idea was processed through appropriate structures within the church until it became an official churchwide program. Responsibility to launch the program was given to Board of Church Extension and Division of Homeland Ministries. (Kenneth Kuntz, Hal Watkins, Loyal Northcutt, Kenneth Teagarden, William K. Fox, Sr., and Raymond Brown.)

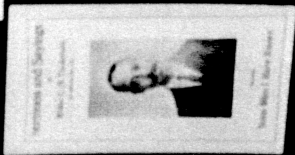
- 1975 First Black Ministers Retreat
- 1975 Earl Murray became a staff member in the Alabama/Northwest Florida Region, and Paul Sims joined the staff in the Southwest Region, as the south began implementation of a more inclusive church.
- 1976 Joint Task Force of the National Convocation and the National Benevolent Association was revived. The Task Force decided what to do with the funds NBA had raised with the original intention of separate black facilities. It also addressed a proactive program to realize the affirmative action principles established by the General Church in 1969.
- 1977 John R. Compton named Regional Minister of Indiana (the first African-American Regional Minister)
- 1978 Oscar Haynes elected president of National Convocation (first lay president)
- 1979 E. Toy Fletcher became the first African-American officer on the board of trustees of the National Benevolent Association
- 1979 Araminta Smith, professor of social work at the University of Missouri, joined NBA as Director of Minority Concerns for a one year sabbatical working with black congregations, a position made possible through joint efforts of the Convocation and NBA.
- 1980 The Liberation Award, established by National Convocation of the Christian Church to recognize church leaders who have played a major role in achieving the affirmative action goals of the church, was presented to Dr. William T. Gible, president of NBA.
- 1981 Raymond Brown became senior vice president, Board of Church Extension
- 1982 Cynthia L. Hale elected as the youngest and first woman president of the National Convocation
- 1982 John R. Compton named president (the first African American) of Division of Homeland Ministries
- 1984 Julia Brown named vice president of the Division of Overseas Ministries
- 1984 Araminta Smith named director of social services with National Benevolent Association
- 1985 Norma Ellington-Twitty named vice president of the National Benevolent Association
- 1986 John Foulkes called to be Administrative Secretary of National Convocation
- 1986 National Benevolent Association board of trustees established NBA's Affirmative Action policy, calling for at least 20% racial/ethnic representation on boards, persons served, and employees in all its facilities.
- 1986 National Benevolent Association established Affirmative Action BMF Grant to fund proposals from NBA units to increase racial ethnic minority participation on unit boards, as employees, or persons served.

- 1987 Eldredge Williams elected first African-American president of the board of trustees, National Benevolent Association
- 1987 SELAH, edited by Administrative Secretary John Foulkes, replaced Update on the Black Church as the official NCCC newsletter
- 1988 Janice Newborn was the first African-American woman to head a department for the Division of Homeland Ministries
- 1988 Affirmative Action Task Force established with the National Benevolent Association
- 1989 Centennial Plaza Apartments opened in St. Louis, the first partnership with an African - American congregation (Centennial Christian Church) to build senior, low income housing.
- 1991 Sebetha Jenkins became the first woman president of Jarvis College.
- 1992 Titus James became the second African-American president of the board of trustees, National Benevolent Association
- 1996 First meeting of the NBA FRIENDS to establish better relations and communications with the African-American community. K. David Cole and Vi Cole served as co-chairs.
- 1997 Edward L. Wheeler inaugurated as fifth president of Christian Theological Seminary, the first African- American educational administrator to serve one of the denomination's seminaries as president.
- 1997 Dr. Delores Carpenter is recognized by Ebony as one of the nation's top 15 Black Women Preachers
- 1998 Jack Sullivan, Jr. was installed as Regional Minister-NW region, becoming the second African-American leader to serve the denomination as a Regional Minister.
- 1999 Laura A. Ruth Murray selected to be president of the Church Finance Council. She is the second African -American leader and minister to head a general church program unit, the second woman to head the Church Finance Council, and the first African-American woman to head a general church program unit.





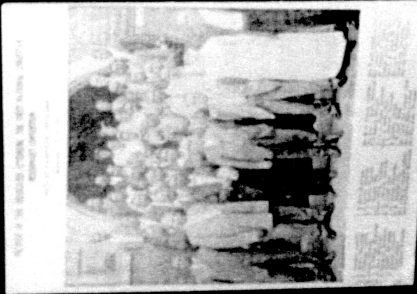
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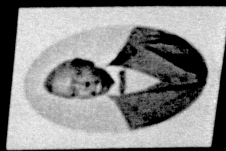
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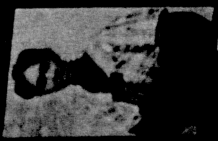
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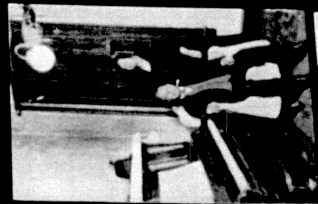
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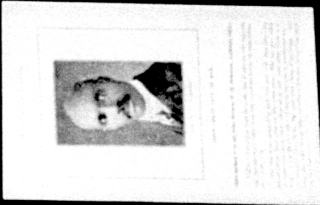
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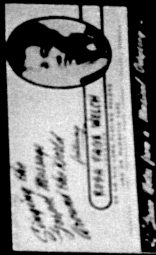
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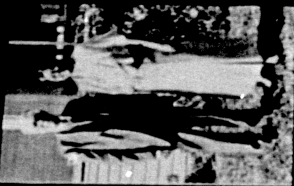
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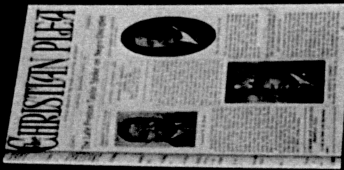
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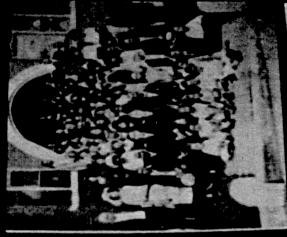
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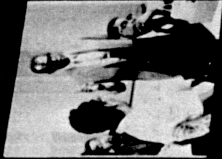
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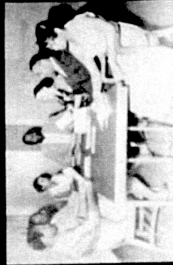
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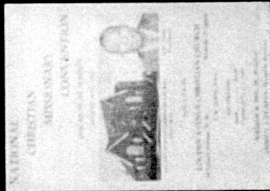
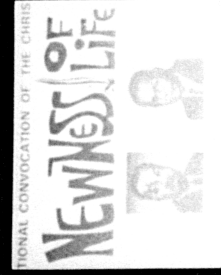


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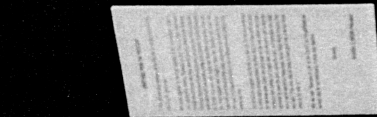


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THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHOOL GRADUATES OF ST. LOUIS CELEBRATE HEADERS OF THE CONVERTED PEOPLE PLAN TO MEET YOU IN CLAYTON



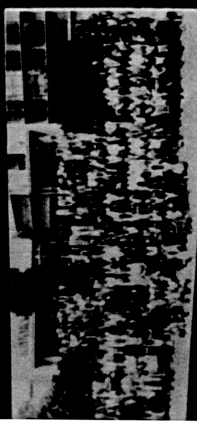
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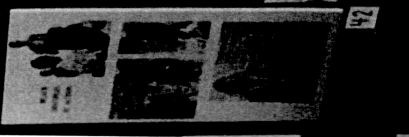
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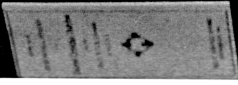
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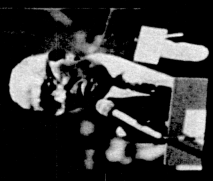
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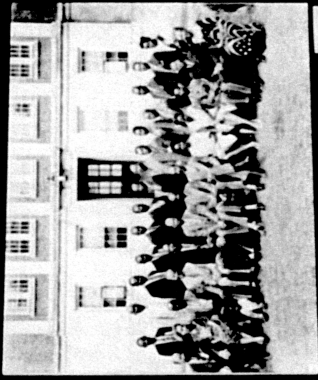
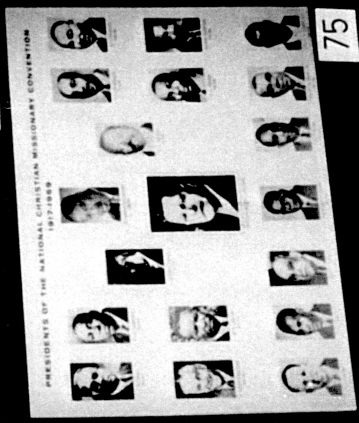


CHRISTIAN PLEA  
JAMISON REISSIG'S LEGAL CASES

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CHRISTIAN PLEA  
CONVENTION LAUNCHES 'CRUSADE FOR CHRIST'

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## ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Preston Taylor, born in slavery in Shreveport, Louisiana, November 7, 1849, is symbolic of the early black Disciples of Christ heroes of the faith. He was hired as National Evangelist by the General Christian Missionary Convention in 1884, helped struggling churches win members and secure meetinghouses in Ohio and Illinois. At least eight congregations, claiming 350 members, were established in Kansas by the end of 1899. The work moved forward notably in Missouri where A. B. Miller and E. F. Henderson evangelized effectively. The Woodland Avenue church was established in 1876 in Kansas City and its membership was built rapidly under a succession of able pastors. By the end of the century there were approximately forty churches in Missouri with about 2,000 members and 25 preachers, and a viable state convention which met yearly from 1874. The legacy left by Dr. Taylor lives on in the whole church through the National Convocation of the Christian Church--a body which continues to live partially on the fruits of bequests made by Preston Taylor. His successful leadership of black and white Disciples led to the founding of the National Christian Missionary Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1917. This was the one single event of the twentieth century which gave black Disciples of Christ a real sense of national community and purpose.
2. The first general convention of black Disciples of Christ was held in Nashville, Tennessee, August 5 - 9, 1917. This joyous occasion brought together black leaders and members from all parts of the nation. It was also attended by white administrators of mission work for blacks. Regardless of the noble reasons given for this new organization, it was essentially a protest meeting. It was mild when compared with some modern protests, but it was a subtle way of saying that black Disciples desired a greater voice in the determination of their own religious destiny. E. J. Dickson was chosen as the first executive secretary of the convention. The forty persons from twelve states who assembled in Nashville that August, 1917, had a basic intention of coordinating the mission effort being made among black people by the American Christian Missionary Society, the Christian Women's Board of Missions, and black leadership in various states. The Convention did more.
3. Delegates to the Second National Christian Convention
4. Sixth National Convention Program, 1922, Indianapolis, IN
5. Second National Convention, 1918, Nashville, TN
6. Fourth Annual Convention Program, 1920, Paducah, KY
7. Sixth National Convention Program, 1922, Kansas City, MO
8. 45th National Convention Program, 1961, Roanoke, VA
9. Officers of the First National Christian Women's Board of Missions

The General Christian Missionary Convention, the national mission organization of Disciples formed in 1869, took a particular interest in the work among freedmen in Mississippi. It sent hymnals, Bibles, and various materials; and it paid some funds toward the support of Woods and Owen. Its 1873 report claimed twenty congregations, nine preachers, four meeting houses, and 3,000 members in Mississippi.

In Indianapolis, Indiana, a Sunday school for blacks was conducted by Christian Chapel (now Central Christian Church) as early as the 1840s. In 1866, Chapel Elders Ovid Butler and D. Orr led in expanding the school to include worship and other usual church functions and called it the Christian Mission Chapel. A frame building at the corner of Second Street and Lafayette Railroad was purchased for \$800 and was used at this location until 1873 when it was moved to Fifth (no. Fourteenth) and Illinois streets. Through an arrangement with the city of Indianapolis, the first public school education for blacks in that city was carried on in this building. In 1867, the Mission Chapel was constituted as a church, and Rufus Conrad was called as pastor and hired by the city as schoolmaster. The school later became Public School #23, and the church changed its name in 1869 to Second Christian (African).

10. Teachers of the First Bible School of Methods
11. Southern Christian Institute at Edwards, Mississippi, was chartered in 1875 and began operation in 1882 under the leadership of Mrs. Lutitia Fauret. It had a long and glorious history before its merger with Tougaloo College in 1954. Its students and graduates have made great contributions to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and many are still making them.
12. Rural Church Members of the Early Disciple Church
13. Christian Plea, the monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of the Disciples of Christ of America which was located in Nashville, Tennessee. Its predecessor was Gospel Plea edited by J. B. Tehman.
14. Jacob Kenoly, Missionary to Liberia, Africa
15. William Alphin, pastor of Centennial Christian Church and national field worker of the Christian Church. William Alphin issued an invitation for a meeting to be held in Kansas City in connection with the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ. White administrators of black missions objected to the proposed new gathering and spoke against it. Only when black leaders showed great determination to form the new conclave of their own constituency were the white leaders of the International Convention willing to make it an auxiliary group.
16. Rose Campbell was born March 6, 1829 in Fayette, Colorado. She was married to Elder Alexander Campbell, a former slave in Midway, Kentucky. He bought his wife's freedom and together they worked in the Kentucky churches. She is pictured here at the age of 81 years.
17. Mrs. Sarah Lue Bostick was born May 27, 1868 and died May 1, 1948 at age 80. She was an advocate of world-wide missions. Her home church, Mount Sinai Church (Arkansas) was unfinished at the time of her death. She was buried from Pearidge Church. Her second husband, M. M. Bostick was ordained to the Christian Ministry the same day they married, April 24, 1892. Sarah became an ordained minister in later years and was as a field worker for the Christian Women's Board of Missions and United Christian Missionary Society for the black churches of Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. She worked 40 years until her retirement in 1938. In 1904, as the National President of the Negro Women's Board of Mission, Sarah Lue was invited to the National Convention where the idea for Jarvis Christian College was born.

18. Mr. and Mrs. Preston Taylor, creators of Greenwood Cemetery, a black disciples-owned burial ground in Nashville, Tennessee.

From the end of the Reconstruction era to the turn of the century, black Disciples were primarily concerned with evangelism, the organization of conventions, and education.

In the region east of the Mississippi River and south of the Ohio River, with the exception of Eastern North Carolina, black churches were planted in the new fields of Maryland, Florida, and West Virginia. In this region church members not only organized and worked through their own state conventions, but also worked in close cooperation with the national structures of the entire denomination. Leaders were particularly interested in providing schools, both for religious training and for general education. Such institutions were opened in Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, and Virginia. By 1900 the largest numbers of black churches and members were in this region. The 307 churches claimed 33,145 adherents, and valued their property at \$100,000. Not only were area and state conventions constituted, but also a second national one, the National Convention of the Churches of Christ. Two Kentucky pastors, H. Malcolm Ayers and Preston Taylor, led the formation in 1878. The Convention met with some regularity throughout the rest of the century both for fellowship and for planning cooperative work.

19. Founders of the National Christian Preaching Convention
20. Lea Ave Christian Church members (1922), Nashville, TN
21. Washington, D.C. Congregation
22. Centennial Christian Church School Staff. Rev. William K. Fox was pastor.
23. Early Church Leaders
24. National Convention Leaders including Mrs. Carnella Jamison Barnes who served on the staff of the United Christian Missionary Society as a national field secretary. For 13 years she was executive secretary of the Avalon Community Center, Los Angeles (co-sponsored by the Christian Church and Community Chest). In 1961 she was elected first vice president of the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) (first negro woman elected). She was a member of McCarty Memorial.
25. Christian Plea article reflects 1941 concern for "fair play."
26. Cleveland, Ohio's First Congregation, Cedar Christian Church
27. In 1945, there was again a call for church unity in the Christian Plea.
28. Early church leaders including William K. Fox, former Convocation executive secretary. He was the first negro to receive the Divinity Disciples House Fellowship as well as a scholarship from the University of Chicago.
29. Christian Plea reports the "Crusade for Christ."

30. "Crusade for a Christian World" was a campaign by NBA to build a home for negro children and one for needy negro aged people. Funds collected have been used over the years by the National Convocation and the United Christian Missionary Convention.
31. Emmett J. Dickson was born May 4, 1909 in Crockett, Texas. From 1945 to 1960 he was Executive Secretary of NCMC. From 1960 to 1974 he was National Director for Evangelism, DHM. At Jarvis he was Professor of Religion and Philosophy; Pastor of Jarvis College Church; Interim Pastor since second retirement. On July 1, 1960, the national program, services, and staff of the NCMC and the United Christian Missionary Society were merged. The NCMC then listed 587 negro congregations in 27 states with a total membership of 82,000. The UCMS served a majority of 8,000 churches. The NCMC retained Emmett Dickson as executive secretary within UCMC. It also retained its annual assembly for a fellowship convention.
32. Anna Bell Jackson, National Field Worker
33. Marjorie Parker, National Field Worker
34. Charles H. Webb was the national director of church development and evangelism for NCMC April 1, 1949. He also was president of Piedmont tri-state area; pastor of Park Manor Christian Church; and president of the 47th annual assembly of NCMC.
35. Field Staff of UCMS - Marjorie Parker
36. Field Staff meeting Lorenzo Evans, Emmett Dickson, and Charles Webb, Sr.
37. Carnella Barnes elected 1st Vice President of the International Convention of Christian Churches in 1961 following a career as a national field worker for the Christian Church. The International Convention was the forerunner of the General Assembly.
38. Emmett Dickson, former UCMS director of church relations and executive secretary of NCMC. From 1917 to 1969 the National Christian Missionary Convention, Inc., served as a means for developing churchmanship, leader training, employment of professional staff, and interaction with other agencies of the Church on a peer basis. It also developed recommendations which were submitted to the United Christian Missionary Society and/or the International Convention of the Christian Church. Member congregations accepted goals for outreach giving and the causes of mission received special visibility and promotion in the annual assembly.
39. Lorenzo Evans began work as the Director of Education for Ministry Constituencies for DHM in 1960. Prior to that he worked 13 years for NCMC as National Director of Christian Education. He continues to serve the church in a consultant capacity and is one of UCMC's living legends.
40. Laboratory Training School, (of the National Convention [Disciples of Christ])—the school was conducted at Roanoke, Virginia, in the Loudon Avenue Christian Church building, for Piedmont tri-state area teachers.

41. Early picture of P. H. Moss, Vance G. Smith and Bessie Chandler. Bessie Chandler of Nashville, Tennessee, was the elementary superintendent for negroes in the Department of Religious Education. She was on staff for the Laboratory Training School (of the National Convention [Disciples of Christ]). Others who worked with Bessie Chandler were Carrie Hancock and Ms Euband.
42. Pictures from past Convocations
43. Raymond Brown, Sr., First Convocation President. Presently, Rev. Brown serves the national church at the Board of Church Extension as vice president. The press for racial integration, and concern that the structures witness to Christian belief in the wholeness of the church, caused discontinuation of National Convention program responsibilities in 1959 and the merger of Convention staff with appropriate departmental staff of the United Christian Missionary Society. In 1969, there was an abandonment of the annual meeting of the National Convention and a merger with the International Convention which led to the present General Assembly. At the same time, there was created the National Convocation of the Christian Church, which holds a biennial assembly in the even-numbered years, when the General Assembly does not meet.
44. Raymond Brown's Presidential Greetings. The assembly of the National Convocation helps fill a void left during the transitional period by the dissolution of the National Christian Missionary Convention, Inc. Many of the 555 predominantly black Disciple congregations are located in areas where the presence of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is weak or where relationships between black and white Disciples is limited, superficial, or non-existent. The Convocation is recognized in the church and operates within the General Office.
45. Site of the First Convocation - Columbia, MO
46. First Convocation President, Raymond Brown, and Executive Secretary, John Compton. John Compton served the national church for over 30 years. His last post was as president of the Division of Homeland Ministries. He was the first African-American regional minister in the brotherhood.
47. Convocation Glimpses of Women Leaders - Carnella Barnes and Cynthia Hale
48. Candid Shots of Black Disciples
50. Candid Shots - Ozark Range, Daniel Heath, and Kenneth Henry
51. Intense concentration by Convocation's young leaders - Delores Turner, Dana and Bill Lee, and Cynthia Hale
52. S. S. Myers, John Compton, Rosa Bracy Haynes, and Emmett Dickson
53. Samuel Hylton, Elizabeth Ennix, and unidentified person
54. T. Garrott Benjamin and Alvin Jackson in early years
55. Oscar Haynes and Jackie Bunch, the first laity leaders to become presidents of the Convocation

56. Ozark Range and Samuel Hylton
57. Harvey Thomas, A. C. Stone (member of the Layman League and the predecessor of today's Christian Men's Fellowship), and Al Hofrichter at a CMF group meeting (1965). Both continue to be prominent leaders for CMF.
58. Ann Dickerson, daughter of L. L. Dickerson, was a psychologist and specialist in child development. She was a member of the Administrative Committee of the Christian Church until her untimely death October 1975.
59. Dr. William K. Fox and Ozark Range at Convocation. Rev. Range presently serves the national church in the Department of Ministry.
60. Dr. Walter D. Bingham, elected moderator of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1971, has been the pastor of Third Christian in Louisville since 1961. He was the first black president of the Kentucky Association of Christian Churches.
61. Geneva Townes, the first negro woman elected to an office in the Indianapolis Council of Church Women, was the National President of Missionary Organization of NCMC.
62. Sarah Lou Bostick (See no. 17)
63. Deetsy Blackburn, the first United Christian Missionary Society children's worker for Colored Bible Schools, born in Mississippi, worked as a teacher at the Alabama Christian Institute and Piedmont Christian Institute prior to going to Kentucky.
64. Cleo Blackburn was a president of Jarvis Christian College, head of Flanner House, and the Board of Fundamental Education in Indianapolis, Indiana.
65. Elder C. H. Dickerson (1874-1949), a preacher and poet, was ordained in 1899. He was the editor of the Gospel Plea for two years. The Gospel Plea was the predecessor of the Christian Plea. He pastored in Virginia and Kentucky.
66. Dr. William K. Fox
67. Rev. W. H. Dickerson was an educator and preacher. Born in 1865, graduate of Berea College, entered the ministry in 1890. He was president of the Louisville Christian Bible School several years. He pastored in Kentucky and Ohio.
68. Rosa Page Welch, born in Port Gibson, Mississippi, attended Southern Christian Institute studying voice and piano. She was a staff member of the United Promotion department and worked as the Director of Interpretive Services promoting outreach causes and stewardship. She was a graduate of Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi. She traveled since 1937 singing around the world. In 1952-1953 was the Ambassador of Goodwill.
69. Noy Jasper Dickerson, former pastor of Community Christian Church, Bluefield, West Virginia. A preacher, educator and businessman, he entered the pastorate in 1945 and rendered 21 years of service in West Virginia.

70. Rosa Brown Bracy, national field worker for the Christian Church and promotional secretary of the 1920 "Emergency Campaign" of the National Convention which raised \$76,000. Mrs. Bracy served as Dean at Alabama Christian Institute, Lum, Alabama; she was the first general secretary of missions and served almost 25 years under United Christian Missionary.
71. R. H. Peoples became minister of Second Christian Church in October 1943. In 1966, it celebrated 100 years of christian service. Second Christian Church is now named Light of the World.
72. Rev. Lloyd Lincoln Dickerson (1900 - 1968), the first negro in the United States to be elected president of a state-wide integrated protestant church convention, the Ohio Association of Christian Churches. He was secretary 17 years of NCMC, also vice president and president; editor, Christian Plea, five years; "Shepherd of Distinction" award from NCMC for pastoral services and meritorious service in civil rights. Led Woodland Christian Church in a 3-year fight against restrictive covenants which was carried to the U.S. Supreme Court--the "first" court case recorded in the United States; the church was attempting to purchase a parsonage. (Father of Ann Dickerson and his wife was Philandria.)
73. B. C. Calvert, Evangelist from Mississippi. In 1927, he traveled from Jackson to Los Angeles, California, by train to preach a revival at Birch Street Christian Church.
74. Blair Hunt was the pastor of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church for over 40 years. He was president of the National Convention of Christian Churches and an educator in the city schools of Memphis. The city commissioner named a street in this honor--Blair Hunt Drive. The first gymnasium for colored was named Blair Hunt Gym. He was the first negro to serve on the County Board of Education.
75. Presidents of UCMC (1917 - 1969)
76. Advertisement to encourage negro disciples to buy books. Numerous pastors have been authors since that time. R. L. Jordon, former minister at United Christian Church in Detroit, Michigan, authored Two Races in One Fellowship and The Colored Disciples in Michigan.
78. 40th National Christian Missionary Convention, 1956
79. 44th National Christian Missionary Convention, 1960
80. 36th National Christian Missionary Convention, 1952
81. 48th National Christian Missionary Convention, 1964
82. James Nelson Ervin (1884-1938) and wife. President of Jarvis Christian College.
83. Henry Herod was born January 8, 1875, in Millersburg, Kentucky, the son of slave-born parents. He attended Hiram College. He served as pastor of Second Christian Church from 1898 until his death in 1935. Over the years he worked as an editor for The Indianapolis Freeman, a negro newspaper, and as a social worker. Rev. Herod was the first negro to be appointed to the board of managers of the United Christian Missionary Society.

84. P. H. Moss (1877 - 1935) was the superintendent of negro bible schools and national director of religious education for UCMS with the negro churches in 1921. The latter part of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth witnessed a change in the education of blacks. Before this, meager efforts had been made to help the blacks through programs to propagate the gospel. Now the strategy shifted toward the building of institutions for the training of ministers and church leaders. The first Disciple institution of this kind was Louisville Bible School, organized in 1873 under the leadership of P. H. Moss. The school remained in operation for only four years.
85. T. B. Frost, Central Christian Institute, Kentucky. Jarvis Christian Institute (now Jarvis Christian College) was the last missionary institution established by the Christian Women's Board of Missions. It began operation in 1912 under the guidance of Thomas B. Frost, who was succeeded the next year by J. N. Ervin. Under Ervin, it enjoyed phenomenal growth and became the only accredited four-year missionary institution established for the descendants of slaves. The college has a proud history, and its alumni are making their contribution in many fields of endeavor throughout the nation. Jarvis Christian College is the only missionary institution established by the Christian Church for the training of blacks that is still in existence. One wonders what would have happened to Jarvis if oil had not been discovered on its property!