

What does Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) support? This is a question I hear a great deal. Our Church's Wider Mission supports many broad ministries through the initiatives listed below. By supporting those who are actively engaged in ministry Our Church's Wider Mission supports our shared ministry locally and globally. Please look at all the ways our support helps to empower the United Church of Christ.

The Office of General Ministries houses the President and General Minister and also houses the Publishing, Identity and Communications office. One responsibility they have is establishing and maintaining a web and social media presence. UCC.org has over 4,500,000 visitors to the UCC website each year and these visitors view over 7,500,000 UCC web pages.

Outgoing communication keeps us connected. Every week over 60,000 subscribers open [Keeping You Posted](#) E-zine (KYeP). Our social media presence is growing. Those new to the UCC and those responding to postings by UCC members increase our fan base on Facebook which is over 61,000. And each day we email over 35,000 [Daily Devotional](#) messages to inspire and offer messages for reflection.

Local Church Ministries supports the local church in many ways. The [Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization Ministry Team](#) (MESA) team is designed to support Authorized Ministers (Ordained, Licensed and Commissioned) in our denomination from the first inklings of their calling through a healthy retirement. MESA's ministry is a collaborative effort intertwined with Conferences, Associations, and Committees on Ministry.

The [Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Team](#) support on-the-ground church operations and growth for pastors and lay leaders. We helped launch the [Center for Progressive Renewal](#) (CPR), which educates leaders toward implementing a "compelling vision, effective communication strategy, data management, community development, external mission and transformational worship." These course offerings are in response to the complex and ever-changing landscape of what it means to be church today.

Congregations large and small are nurtured by Local Church Ministries resources like: [Sermon Seeds](#), [Weekly Seeds](#), [Worship Ways](#). Last year online readers of *Sermon Seeds* and *Worship Ways* exceeded 88,000. Churches are enriched by music found in books produced like [Sing, Prayer and Praise](#) and the UCC's [New Century Hymnal](#).

Wider Church Ministries is most widely known for the mission outreach work of the UCC because of our [disaster ministries](#). This arm of the church also serves congregations and other settings of the church who strive to be inclusive whether it is multicultural/multiracial, open and affirming, global or accessible to all. In partnership with the Disciples of Christ, Common [Global Ministries](#) is the ecumenical global sharing of resources and prophetic vision of a just and peaceful world order, joining with God's concern for the poor and oppressed.

The vision of **Justice and Witness Ministries** is of a more just, peaceful and compassionate world that honors all of God's creation but leaders are needed throughout our churches and communities to help share, pursue and achieve this vision.

[Justice Leaders Engaging and Developing](#) (Justice LED) training program for church members, teaches leadership skills to support justice work in local churches and UCC Conferences. Very exciting work!

[Justice and Peace Action Network](#) is a UCC grassroots advocacy effort to educate and engage church members and friends to shape public policy. Last year we've emailed over 600,000 "Action Alerts"! And over 35,000 letters, emails and faxes went to Congress and the President.

The work of Justice and Witness Ministries is guided by the pronouncements and resolutions approved by the UCC at General Synod.

that's **Our Church's Wider Mission**