

Regional Church ministries may not be your first thought when you ponder Advent and Christmas giving. After all, this is a season of miracles — not a fundraising season for an administrative ministry.

What if I told you that I believe, every day, that Regional Ministry is a miracle. I've been involved in serving in three regional positions over 28 years, and I've seen miracles every week, for all of those years!

I see a miracle when I see a group of kids and adults show up at church camp one day, and several days later see them leave as transformed people embedded in a Christian community and faith.

I see a miracle when I visit a new church start and hear their testimony about God's grace in helping them to find the Disciples of Christ church as their home.

I see a miracle when a group of women from a variety of congregations raise funds together to give to people on another continent because the regional church connected their compassion to a global church.

I see a miracle when I participate in an ordination service for a new pastor sent out after a few years of nurture from a Regional Commission on Ministry.

I see a miracle when pastors form a support group that helps them with some complex ministry challenges, and the group reminds them that they do not serve alone.

I see a miracle when people speaking multiple languages worship together at a regional gathering and recognize the Holy Spirit is among them.

I see a miracle when congregations install a new pastor after a Regional Minister coaches their search process.

I see a miracle when a regional board meets, and I listen to their hope for the future of the whole church.

I see a miracle when one church sees another church down the road doing a ministry in their community and says "We could do that too!"

I see miracles every day in Regional Ministry.

Please continue your generous support for this miraculous ministry we share.

*Rev. Dr. Cathy Myers Wirt
President of the College of Regional Ministers*