

Easter Offering

a special day offering of Disciples Mission Fund
March 28 and April 4, 2021



supporting general ministries of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2021 Easter Offering Greeting from Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries

Greetings to you, Disciples friends! What a deep joy it is for me, Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea, to serve as your Director of Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries (RIM), a ministry of Disciples Home Missions—and one of so many general ministries supported by your Easter Offering. How thankful I am to work daily in partnership with you and amazing congregations across the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

In this Lenten and Easter season, we encounter the full force of both deep soul suffering and loss, and bright, brilliant hope for new life beyond all evil! On Palm Sunday, Jesus' humble entrance parade on a donkey with celebration crowds on one side of town was met, on the other side of Jerusalem, with a procession of the Roman Army, suspicious and seeking to enforce order during the Jewish celebration of freedom from Pharaoh that made them nervous. Refugees & immigrants likewise sometimes encounter waves of welcome—but far too often, the suspicious resistance that compounds fear and trauma, too.

RIM's blessing is to support YOU in building communities of radical welcome, justice, and solidarity with immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and farm workers to follow God's law to love your neighbor as yourself—to SEE all neighbors as loveable and God-made. We'll partner with you to build policies that support the peace of Jesus' parade, and the POSSIBILITIES of new life so long awaited by so many families.

And THIS year, our work together has opportunity to feel especially “new life building,” as we finish soon the 40 year anniversary year of the US Refugee Act of 1980 by seeking to re-build the US Refugee Program and again resettle refugees into our communities.

As we collectively work for a restoration of asylum opportunities in the US for ones blocked and in desperate conditions at the border—we give honor to Easter's hope beyond death.

As we together urge for still-separated children and parents to FINALLY be reunited, we celebrate resurrected love!

As we work to improve paths to earned citizenship for DACA & TPS recipients, the 5 million immigrant essential workers, and more, we honor the steps of the resurrected Jesus on the Road to Emmaus—who carried messages of a new future ahead!

And, in this coming 50th year of our Disciples partnership with the National Farm Worker Ministry, we celebrate how seeds planted by those who grow our food every day have produced a harvest of hope and partnerships for justice!

It's all made possible through your support of the Easter Offering, and through our participation in Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries. I can't wait to work with you in this era of New Life building ahead!

Call Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea, Director, Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries at: 202-957-7826. Find our website at: bit.ly/DisciplesRIM, & Sign Up [HERE](#) to receive our "RIM WRAP" Alerts! And, follow Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries on Twitter @StanleyRea, & on FB at: <http://bit.ly/RIMFacebook>.