



# Higher Education & Leadership Ministries

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Dear Congregations,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I hope your congregation will participate in the Disciples Mission Fund Thanksgiving Offering taking place on November 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. **The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the colleges, universities and graduate theological institutions affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).**

As our country and world continue to struggle with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, our higher education institutions continue to face unprecedented challenges and they need our support now, more than ever. Even as they work diligently to ensure safe and healthy learning environments, the financial realities faced by many of our schools add additional stress to students, faculty, and staff. While there is much to be thankful for as our schools continue to meet the needs of students, there is also much work still to be done to ensure they remain financially viable.

The fifteen colleges and universities and the seven theological institutions in covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) encourage students in their intellectual pursuits and nurture them as leaders to transform church, society and world. Your congregation's gift to the Thanksgiving offering helps support these efforts in education and leadership formation.

We know that due to the pandemic, churches are worshipping in various formats. For those meeting in person, you will find enclosed print materials to help promote the Thanksgiving Offering. In addition, the Disciples Mission Fund website (<https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/thanksgiving/>) contains digital versions of these promotional materials and, whether you are meeting in-person or online, additional resources that can be used in worship to uplift the importance of this offering. The gifts received are an investment in our students and the work of our schools, and we thank you for your participation and continued support.

Sincerely,

Chris Dorsey, President  
Higher Education & Leadership Ministries

*Enclosures*