



2022
MidAmerica
District
Conference
Reports

Colorado-Iowa-Kansas-Missouri-Nebraska



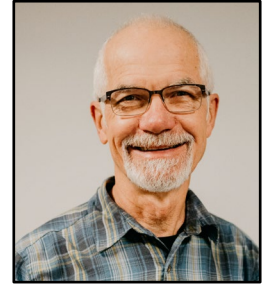
We look forward to gathering at Christ Community Church in Omaha, for our **May 9-11, 2022** District Conference. The following updates are provided in advance, allowing the District family the opportunity to rejoice in the Lord’s faithfulness and provision within our five states over the past two years. We invite your input as we desire to serve and support you – the laborers in the harvest fields.

Questions may be directed to District leadership staff: Rob Storey (rob@madcma.org); Kent Sovine (kent@madcma.org); Rob Douglas (rob.douglas@madcma.org). District Treasurer Dan Cutler (dcutler1951@gmail.com) is available to respond to questions pertaining to the proposed 2022-2023 budget which will be presented for approval on Tuesday afternoon of Conference.

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Celebrations – Challenges – Changes

2022 Report to District Conference
Rob Storey, District Superintendent



CELEBRATIONS

We have much to celebrate since we last gathered as a District family!

- Despite COVID, **you have helped plant five new churches** in the past two years through your faithful giving to the District Advancement Fund. We're pleased to share there are two new plants in the pipeline for the coming year.
- Four **Disciplemaking Discipleship** seminars, comprised of leadership teams from **24 District churches**, were held for the purpose of pursuing the mandate to create a disciplemaking culture in our ministry settings.
- Several partnerships have been developed between District churches and our District international workers. Two post-COVID, **District-sponsored mission trips took place with leaders from four churches** visiting a field, and a newly appointed IW couple had opportunity to travel and become better acquainted with their prospective field. Four couples are preparing to head to the mission field from the MidAmerica District!
- **Forty-six new workers joined our District family** since April 2020. This includes three new lead pastors in rural Nebraska churches who have been without shepherds for quite some time!
- Co-laboring with six other district leadership teams in the Alliance Central Region has been impactful as we work together to reach the 80 million who reside in this area. **We celebrate the 24,000 members of our MidAmerica District churches who live among the 19 million in need of the hope of Jesus.**

These are some of the highlights I have the privilege of sharing with you. I would encourage you to take a few minutes and review the updates provided in this Conference report which focus on life and ministry changes in the District family.

CHALLENGES

Raising up new workers for the LORD's harvest field continues to be a major challenge. We are finding fewer men and women from our colleges pursuing the ministry positions we need to fill. We are asking for your help and encouraging you to identify men and women who are clearly called to vocational ministry. Our churches and ministries must help identify, equip, and launch the called ones into ministry roles.

The ongoing conversation regarding men and women's roles in church leadership continues to be a topic of discussion in many of our District churches and ministries. We will spend time at Conference, both on Monday as a District family and on Tuesday when President Stumbo leads us in a final national conversation, continuing to work through this key issue for our movement and our District. My prayer is we will be unified in mission despite our differing views on this topic.

CHANGES

It is often said people do not like change. I would disagree as I have found there are many changes we actually enjoy. As we moved from place to place in the military, our family appreciated the change of culture, scenery, and adventures that came with a new place. It's apparent by our closet (one side much fuller than the other!) that we like options to dress for different occasions! We really love the change of seasons we have the opportunity to observe here in the Midwest.

As the MidAmerica District family anticipates changes over the next six months, there is much for which we can be excited. I believe with all my heart the changes on the horizon will be good for the District's Kingdom advancement in our five-state region. Pending the outcome of our elections and based on my experience in working with Kent Sovine these past six years, as the nominee for District Superintendent I am encouraged with the vision and perspective Kent brings. New District team members working with DEXCOM and LO&CC will bring a fresh approach towards licensed leader support, better missional engagement, and better multiplication efforts.

One area of change we tend not to relish is loss. In our upcoming transition we will be losing very valuable staff members. Kathy Herbranson is retiring to be full-time grandma after 17 years of serving our District family. Rob Douglas will be leaving as he pursues other ministry opportunities. I will return to Grand Junction as we make the DS transition. With these three staff changes, Kent and Kay will be the remaining staff in the office for a period of time. We are grateful to Dan Cutler and Jane Samson who will continue to provide oversight of the District's finances.

As your Superintendent, I am asking all of you to pray for wisdom and discernment for District leadership as we try to manage change and do our very best to make this transition as seamless as possible. Pray we are listening to the Father's voice. Pray these months will be marked by testimonies of the Holy Spirit showing up as we grow in our dependence on Him. Pray advancing the name of Jesus in all our Acts 1:8 environments will grow in effectiveness. The new DS will have the privilege of building a new team. Pray for wisdom as this team is built.

In the midst of the changes before us, one thing does not change...our need to live out God's call on our lives as His Kingdom servants. The 2022 District Conference theme is ***Worthy of our Calling***. On Tuesday morning of Conference, Rob Douglas, Kent, and I will share stories of men and women faithfully living out this divine call on their lives in exciting and unique ways.

It has been a privilege to walk with you and our churches as your District Superintendent over the past six years. The Apostle Paul certainly expresses my heart in stating, *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:3-6)."* Lyn and I are committed to continuing to pray for you as we live out our call together. Thank you for being part of our MidAmerica District family.

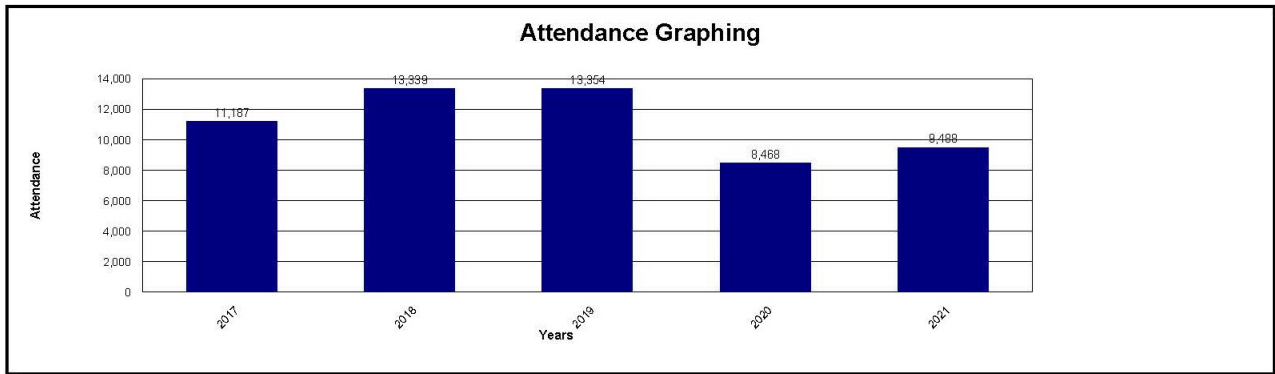
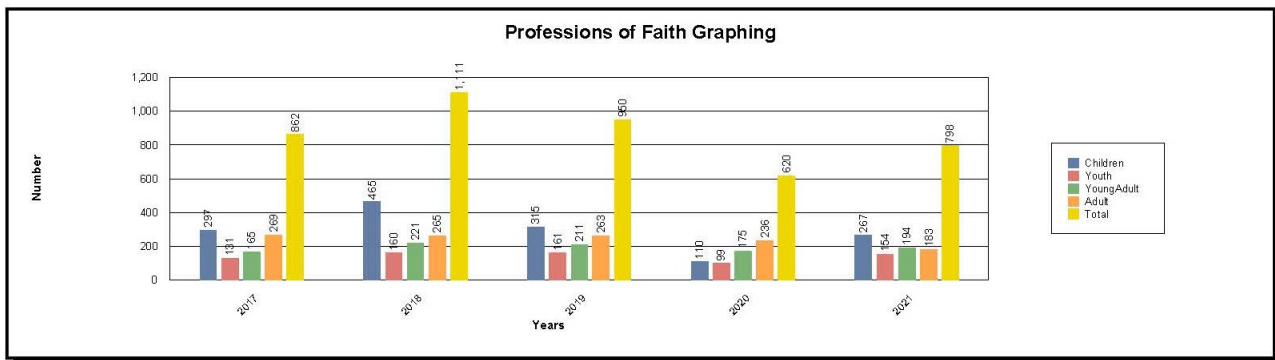
Blessings and joy,
Rob

MidAmerica District C&MA

Church Analysis - 2017 to 2021

Attendance and Professions of Faith

Year	AM Attendance	Prof-FaithChild	Prof-FaithYouth	Prof-FaithYngAdult	Prof-FaithAdult	Prof-FaithTotal
2017	11,187	297	131	165	269	862
2018	13,339	465	160	221	265	1,111
2019	13,354	315	161	211	263	950
2020	8,468	110	99	175	236	620
2021	9,488	267	154	194	183	798
	55,836	1,454	705	966	1,216	4,341

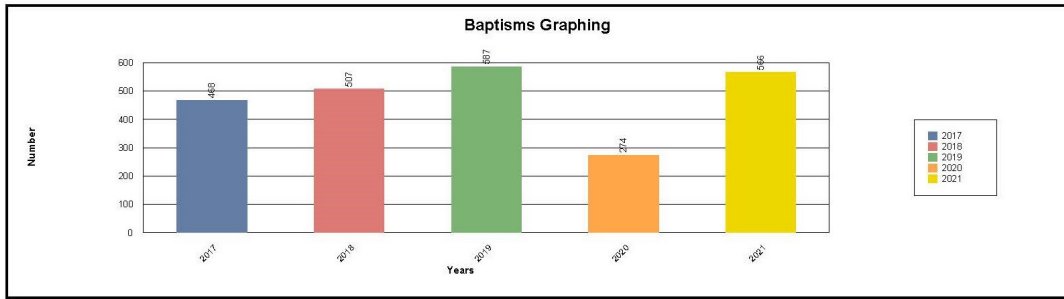


MidAmerica District C&MA

Church Analysis - 2017 to 2021

Baptisms

Year	BaptismsTotal
2017	468
2018	507
2019	587
2020	274
2021	566
	<hr/> 2,402

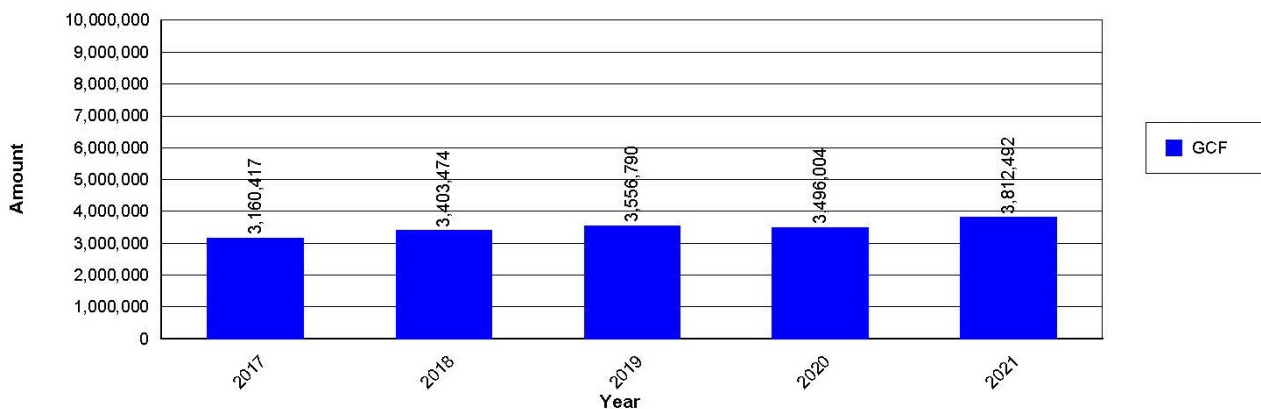


Open/Closed churches within the selected period

Opened Churches	
Year	Total
2018	8
2019	5
2020	3
2021	5
	<hr/> 21

Closed Churches	
Year	Total
2017	1
2018	3
2019	3
2020	2
2021	1
	<hr/> 10

Giving Comparison - actual received



Note: On this report, beginning with 2021 year end, GCF includes giving to every category including CAMA and Special projects. This figure also includes giving from all sources; including Alliance Churches, non-Alliance Churches, District Office and District Individuals.

MIDAMERICA DISTRICT CHURCH STATISTICS				
CHURCHES		CHURCHES BY STATE		
Accredited Churches	38	Colorado	16	
Affiliated Churches	6	Iowa	22	
Plants/Developing Churches	19	Kansas	3	
Redeveloping Churches	1	Missouri	1	
		Nebraska	22	
TOTAL CHURCHES	64	TOTAL CHURCHES	64	
Note: There is also 1 multi-site campus in Omaha – One Hope South				
CHANGES IN CHURCH STATUS APRIL 1, 2020 THROUGH MAY 1, 2022				
ACCREDITED				
CHURCH NAME		CITY AND STATE		DATE
None				
CEASED AFFILIATION				
CHURCH NAME		CITY AND STATE		DATE
Church of the Living Waters		Edwards, CO		3/24/2021
Citylight		Omaha, NE		4/22/2021
Wahoo Community Church		Wahoo, NE		2/1/2022
CLOSED				
CHURCH NAME		CITY AND STATE		DATE
New City		Bellevue, NE		7/1/2020
Old Cheney Alliance Church		Lincoln, NE		11/1/2020
Vintage Church		Atkinson, NE		9/7/2021
MiddleCross Church		Lincoln, NE		2/15/2022
NEW PLANTS				
CHURCH NAME		CITY AND STATE		DATE
Harvest View		Grand Junction, CO		7/22/2020
Gathering Network		Lincoln NE		6/18/2021
Anchor Church		Denver, CO		7/1/2021
Rooted Church (was Multi-Site)		Colorado Springs, CO		12/6/2021
One Hope South (Multi-Site)		Omaha, NE		1/1/2022
Missio Church		Mt. Ayr, IA		3/29/2022
Fuente de Vida		Fountain, CO		3/29/2022
CHANGE OF CHURCH NAME				
Citylight Benson		One Hope Church		12/6/2021
TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO DISTRICT				
Old Cheney Alliance Church (Occupied by Citylight South Lincoln)				11/10/2020

DISTRICT WORKER CHANGES AND EVENTS: APRIL 1, 2020 TO May 1, 2022

NEW WORKERS

Name	Title	Date	Church or Ministry
Armbrust, Devin	Middle School Pastor	5/18/2021	Relevant Community, Elkhorn NE
Behr, Kinnon	Co-Lead Pastor	8/1/2020	Citylight West Council Bluffs IA
Black, Jarrett	Citylight U Director	1/18/2022	Citylight North Lincoln NE
Cluraghty, Matthew	Missions Resident	9/10/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Cook, Jeffrey	Assoc Prof of Counseling	9/1/2020	Denver Seminary, Denver CO
Crouch, Michele	Offsite Missions Volunteer	8/25/2020	National Office, Columbus OH
Dolecheck, Darin	Co-Lead Pastor	3/24/2022	Missio Church, Mt. Ayr IA
Ellis, Charlotte	Middle School Resident	9/24/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Fettig, Caitlin	Student Worship Resident	9/9/2021	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Flynn, Thomas	Spiritual Care Chaplain	9/21/2021	Mt. St. Francis, Co. Springs CO
Grossoehme, Aaron	Associate Pastor	9/9/2021	Missionary Alliance, Blairsburg IA
Hibschman, James	Retired Worker	8/6/2021	From Central District, St. Charles MO
Hinders, Thomas	Director College Ministry	9/24/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Johnson, Mary Claire	Adult Discipleship Resident	1/19/2021	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Johnson, Stacy	Assist Dir of Early Childhood	8/1/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Jordening, Jenna	Missions Resident	8/1/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Kilzer, Skyler	Salt Company Director	5/1/2020	Citylight Lincoln, Lincoln NE
Lackey, Isaiah	Adult Ministry Resident	8/4/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Lim, Joseph	Retired Worker	10/28/2021	From Northwest, Overland Park KS
Malick, Bill	South Pacific District	1/1/2022	Fresh Start Network, Co. Springs CO
Marquis, Charlie	District Evangelist	2/25/2022	Forge, Parker CO
Marshall, Amy	Assistant Minister Engagement	7/1/2021	HarvestDowntown, Co. Springs CO
Mass, Tyler	City Groups Director	3/15/2021	Citylight Council Bluffs IA
Murphy, James	Co-Lead Pastor	3/24/2022	Missio Church, Mt. Ayr IA
Noble, Abigail	Worship Resident	10/21/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Northcutt, Nathan	Student Ministry Director	1/18/2022	Citylight North Lincoln NE
Ocasio, Omar	Discipleship Director	5/4/2021	Crossing, Co. Springs CO
Park, Jihoon	Emergency Services Chaplain	8/2/2021	Denver Rescue Mission, Denver CO
Peyton, Matthew	Pastor	3/1/2022	Wallace Community, Wallace NE
Schluchter, John	Executive Pastor	5/18/2021	Relevant Community, Elkhorn NE
Schriever, Jamie	Associate Pastor	9/10/2020	Bethel Church, Boone IA
Shields, Ryan	Assistant Dir of Worship Arts	10/1/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Simm, Bethany	Director of Guest Experience	9/10/2020	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Strob, Kathryn	Outreach Minister	10/1/2020	Dover Avenue, Orange City IA
Strob, Nicholas	Associate Pastor	10/1/2020	Dover Avenue, Orange City IA
Sweeting, Spencer	Pastor	6/1/2020	North Springs, Co. Springs CO
Thiessen, Tyler	Chaplain Associate	10/15/2020	Good Samaritan, Stratton NE
Tumbelston, Robert	Ass't. Minister of Mentorship	8/3/2021	HarvestDowntown, Co. Springs CO
Unruh, Larry	Pastor	1/1/2022	Christian Union, Stratton NE
Wackerhagen, Nicholas	Family Pastor	9/20/2020	Citylight Council Bluffs IA
Wall, Kezia	Children's Ministry Supervisor	2/25/2022	Crossing, Co. Springs CO
Wall, Stephen	Greenhouse Resident	2/25/2022	HarvestDowntown, Co. Springs CO
Wiekamp, Ethan	Executive Pastor	8/1/2020	Citylight Lincoln NE
Witt, Nathan	Pastor	10/1/2021	Hamlet Union, Hamlet NE
Wuthrich, Ashley	Next Gen Director	3/24/2022	Relevant Community, Elkhorn NE
Yirdaw, David	Lead Pastor	7/1/2021	Anchor Church, Aurora CO

CHANGES IN STATUS

Name	Previous Assignment	City	New Assignment
Ahrens, Momoko	National Office	Co. Springs	North Springs, Co. Springs CO
Ashton, Lisa	Unassigned	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Bachali, Eli	HarvestDowntown Resident	Co. Springs	International Worker Candidate
Bacheldor, Chris	Non-Alliance Church	Aurora	No Credentials, Aurora CO

CHANGES IN STATUS continued

Name	Previous Assignment	City	New Assignment
Baumann, Caleb	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Columbia Falls MT
Bergstrom, Daniel	Special Assignment	Co. Springs	No Credentials, Co. Springs CO
Brown, Dan	Front Range East	Co. Springs	Rooted, Co. Springs CO
Brown, Michael	Citylight Lincoln	Lincoln	No Credentials, Lincoln NE
Brust, Donald	Retired	Mesa	Retired, Great Lakes District
Buettenback, Sarah	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Butler, Joshua	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Prattville AL
Carlson, Scott	Wahoo Community	Wahoo	No Credentials, Wahoo NE
Casey, John	Hospital Chaplain	Manitou Spr	Special Assignment, Manitou Spr. CO
Chandler, Patrick	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Clark, Joshua	Hamlet/Lakewood Christian	Lakewood	No Credentials, McCook NE
Cluraghty, Ashley	Unassigned	Omaha	Global Friends, Omaha NE
Colgrove, Tracey	Citylight Southwest Iowa	Emerson	Unassigned, Emerson IA
Dixon, Mozart	Citylight Lincoln	Lincoln	Metropolitan District
Fink, Kevin	Unassigned	Scottsbluff	No Credentials, Scottsbluff NE
Garrido, Erin	ClayHouse	Co. Springs	No Credentials, Co. Springs CO
Gebremaryam, Tessema	Unassigned	Denver	No Credentials, Denver CO
Goodin, Doug	Front Range Alliance	Co. Springs	Unassigned, Co. Springs CO
Goossen, Kelli	Unassigned	Peyton	No Credentials, Peyton CO
Gray-Jacob, Hosanna	Citylight to Providence	Omaha	Unassigned, Irving TX
Grout, Wendell	Special Assignment	Loveland	Retired, Loveland CO
Hang, Kong	National Office	Co. Springs	Hmong District
Hang, Paphous	HarvestDowntown	Co Springs	Hmong District
Hayden, Matthew	River of Life	Grd. Jct.	Harvest View, Grand Junction CO
Hazel, Nicholas	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Omaha NE
Hodges, Danny	South Pacific District	Arizona	Missionary Alliance, Blairsburg IA
Houk, Peter	HarvestDowntown	Co. Springs	No Credentials, Co. Springs CO
Hruska, Chris	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Huber, Billy	Chaplain	Omaha	No Credentials, Prairie du Chien WI
Isler, James	Chaplain	Co. Springs	Retired, Alliance Southeast, FL
Jasso, Gabriel	Providence	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Johnson, Gavin	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Johnson, Michael	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Jordening, Jenna	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Omaha NE
Julian, Joe	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Keller, Matthew	Citylight Kansas City	Kansas City	Citylight Southwest Iowa, Emerson
Kennedy, Ricky	Citylight South Campus	Lincoln	Citylight South Lincoln NE
Kenyon, Zach	North Springs	Co. Springs	Rocky Mt. District, Idaho Falls ID
Kizer, Chuck	Citylight Council Bluffs	Co. Bluffs	Citylight West Council Bluffs IA
Kyle, Adam	Grace Community Fellowship	Mo. Valley	Unassigned, Missouri Valley IA
Latta, Jason	Citylight Southwest IA	Emerson	Unassigned, TX
Mackay, John	Bethany Alliance	Charles City	No Credentials, NY
Mass, Tyler	Citylight Council Bluffs	Co. Bluffs	Citylight Southwest Iowa, Emerson IA
McFarland, Benjamin	HarvestDowntown	Co. Springs	No Credentials, Co. Springs CO
McFarland, John	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
McGill, Andrew	Providence	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Montoya, David	Unassigned	Omaha	Central Pacific District, Paradise CA
Morse, Dan	Citylight Council Bluffs	Co. Bluffs	Unassigned, Council Bluffs IA
Nevius, Tom	Pastor, Fremont Alliance	Fremont	Associate Pastor, Fremont Alliance
Noble Bergen, Abigail	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Christ Community Staff, Omaha NE
Olavarria, Felipe	HarvestDowntown Resident	Co. Springs	One Hope, Omaha NE
Olson, Jonny	Osage Alliance	Osage	North Central District, Staples MN
Ortiz, Robbie	Reserve Chaplain	Lakewood	Chaplain/Lakewood Christian
Paddack, Matt	No Credentials	Elkhorn	Relevant Community, Elkhorn NE
Petersen, Jeff	Non-Alliance Church	Lincoln	Chaplain, Lincoln NE
Peterson, Jake	Christ Community	Omaha	Providence, Omaha NE

CHANGES IN STATUS continued

Name	Previous Assignment	City	New Assignment
Peterson, Jake	Unassigned	Omaha	Providence, Omaha NE
Pieper, Reis	Christ Community	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Pies, Jeffrey	Lakewood Christian	Lakewood	No Credentials, Amarillo TX
Prussa, Wayne	Vintage Church	Atkinson	River of Life, Grand Junction CO
Randall, Jon	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Reece, Sam	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Reynolds, Dean	Unassigned	Montrose	SEEDS, Montrose CO
Richardson, Jacob	Citylight Midtown	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Roberts, Willy	Citylight	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Robinson, Phil	Citylight West	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Rothell, Ian	Christ Community	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Rousseau, Alex	MiddleCross Church	Lincoln	Gathering Network, Lincoln NE
Russell, Stephen	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Wingate NC
Scheribel, Andrew	Citylight Lincoln	Lincoln	No Credentials, Ft. Collins CO
Schmidt, Michael	Global Friends	Omaha	Unassigned, Omaha NE
Seabold, Paul	Unassigned	Wichita	No Credentials, Wichita KS
Sherwood, Jenni	Christ Community Resident	Omaha	Unassigned, Lincoln NE
Simm, Bethany	Christ Community	Omaha	Unassigned, Omaha NE
Smith, Eric	Front Range East	Co. Springs	Rooted, Co. Springs CO
Spafford, Luke	Global Friends	Omaha	Providence, Omaha NE
Spielman, Taylor	River of Life	Grd. Jct.	No Credentials
Stine, Jeremy	Associate, Fremont Alliance	Fremont	Pastor, Fremont Alliance
Stout, Cory	Non-Alliance Church	Lees Summit	No Credentials, Lees Summit, MO
Tamang, Phurba	Bhutanese-Nepali New Life	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Torres, Elvin	New City	Bellevue	One Hope, Omaha
Venable, Brent	Unassigned	Omaha	No Credentials, Omaha NE
Venema, Ashleigh	Citylight	Omaha	allianceKIDS, Nat'l. Office, Omaha NE
Venema, Taylor	Citylight	Omaha	Unassigned, Omaha NE
Villarreal, Cody	New City	Bellevue	No Credentials, Bellevue NE
Walsh, Tom	Special Assignment	Broomfield	Unassigned, Broomfield CO
Weaver, Gregory	Unassigned	Butler	No Credentials, Butler MO
Wetzel, Dan	National Office	Co. Springs	Transitional Pastor, Co. Springs CO
White, Don	Wahoo Community	Wahoo	No Credentials, Wahoo NE
Wiekamp, Ethan	Citylight Lincoln	Lincoln	No Credentials, Eagle NE
Wiesinger, Jeff	MiddleCross/Citylight North	Lincoln	Unassigned, Salem OR
Young, Roger	Navigators Student Ministry	St. College	Eastern PA District, St. College PA

ORDINATIONS AND CONSECRATIONS

Name	Title	Date	Church or Ministry
Amen, Sean	Pastor	8/1/2021	New Life Community, Grand Island NE
Bachali, Eli	Unassigned	11/4/2021	IW Candidate, Co. Springs CO
Butler, Joshua	Unassigned	2/8/2021	Omaha NE back to Southern District
Carpenter, Eric	Co-Lead Pastor	4/25/2021	Citylight KC, Kansas City MO
Chavez, Caesar	Associate Pastor	4/10/2022	Hope Church, Aurora CO
Cluraghty, Ashley	Coordinator Campus Outreach	2/27/2022	Global Friends, Omaha NE
Crouch, Michele	Alliance Missions Volunteer	11/9/2021	Missions, Columbus OH
Desta, Teame	Pastor	4/24/2022	Addis Kidan, Aurora CO
Dixon, Mozart	Pastor	7/14/2020	Citylight Lincoln to Metro District
Dugan, Shawn	Pastor	11/22/2020	Millard Alliance, Omaha NE
Ehly, Alex	Director of Online Ministry	2/21/2021	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Garrido, Danny Jr	Youth Pastor	2/23/2020	ClayHouse, Co. Springs CO
Gentry, Dawn	Exec. Dir. of Adult Ministries	2/21/2021	Christ Community, Omaha NE
George, Jimmy	Connecting Pastor	3/10/2022	Relevant Community, Elkhorn NE
Gray-Jacob, Hosanna	Unassigned	2/9/2021	Omaha NE to Irving TX
Laughlin, Justin	Pastor	11/8/2020	Hope Church, Aurora CO

ORDINATIONS AND CONSECRATIONS continued

Name	Title	Date	Church or Ministry
McLeland, William	Pastor	1/31/2021	Cedar Point, Nashua IA
Ortiz, Robbie	Pastor and Chaplain	6/23/2021	Lakewood Christian, Lakewood CO
Pagenkemper, Karl	Residency Academic Dean	2/27/2022	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Poach, Kathleen	Chaplain	11/3/2021	Memorial Hospital, Co. Springs CO
Rousseau, Alex	Church Planter	5/1/2022	Gathering Network, Lincoln NE
Russell, Stephen	Middle School Resident	6/22/2021	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Schepens, Jennifer	Director of Envision	6/22/2021	National Office, Co. Springs CO
Spencer Sweeting	Pastor	7/12/2020	North Springs, Co. Springs CO
Vazquez, Carlos	Associate Pastor	11/14/2021	Crossing, Co. Springs CO
Wackerhagen, Nicholas	Family Pastor	11/21/2021	Citylight Council Bluffs IA
Walter, Craig	Director of Missions	2/27/2022	Christ Community, Omaha NE
Whigham, Erick	Co-Lead Pastor	11/21/2021	Citylight Council Bluffs IA

BIRTHS

Name	Child's Name	Date	
Behr, Kinnon/Jordan	Harper June	3/9/2022	
Edwards, Austin/Kristen	Eden Eliana	12/29/2020	
Garrido, Danny/Erin	Sebastian Caffey	8/4/2020	
Hargrove, Taylor/Katie	Campbell Obadiah Jude	12/26/2020	
Johnson, Michael/Morgan	Michael Van	8/28/2020	
Kilzer, Skyler/Cassie	Ruth Jolene	3/11/2021	
Leyva, Alex/Mariah	Eden Grace	2/24/2022	
McNeel, Trenton/Anna	Malachi Steven	9/1/2020	
McNeel, Trenton/Anna	Selah Joy	2/20/2022	
Monge, Brett/Mercades	Leander	8/16/2020	
Morgan, Nate/Bekka	Malachi Logos	12/11/2021	
Morgan, Nate/Bekka	Essa Shai	7/16/2020	
Oltman, Ben/Katie	Simon Shalom	10/15/2020	
Prussa, Wayne/Jessica	Landon James	3/23/2020	
Reynolds, Dean/Megan	Nathaniel Dean	4/9/2021	
Rousseau, Alex/Alyssa	Evelyn Alice	7/13/2020	
Rousseau, Alex/Alyssa	Apollo Beau	3/24/2022	
Rutten, Andrew/Bailey	Riggs Wesley	4/27/2020	
Strob, Nick/Katie	Lily Josephine	8/20/2021	

MARRIAGES

Name	Church or Ministry	Date	
Ahrens, Momoko/Wesley	North Springs, Co Springs	11/7/2021	
Bergen, Abby/Reagan	Christ Community, Omaha NE	2/20/2022	
Butler, Joshua/Lexi	Unassigned, Prattville AL	5/8/2021	
Jacob, Hosanna/Araunah	Unassigned, Irving TX	12/18/2020	
Keller, Matt/Sarah	Citylight SW Iowa, Emerson IA	4/18/2020	
Ortiz, Robbie/Lauren	Lakewood Christian CO	4/17/2021	
Peterson, Jake/Rochelle	Providence, Omaha NE	7/11/2021	
Spafford, Luke/Grace	Providence, Omaha NE	10/3/2020	

RETIREMENTS

Name	Resides	Date	
Brisco, Kenneth	Lakewood CO	1/1/2022	
Brooks, Shelley	Bennington NE	2/23/2022	
Corby, John	Colorado Springs CO	9/1/2021	
Magstadt, Rick	Grinnell IA	5/1/2022	
Miller, Jay	Blair NE	11/15/2020	

RETIREMENTS continued			
Name	Resides	Date	
Nelson, Larry	Omaha NE	5/9/2022	
Stern, James	Cedar Rapids IA	3/1/2022	
DEATHS			
Name	Relationship	Date	
Hsu, Justin	Retired Worker	11/26/2020	
Knickerbocker, Anna	Spouse of Deceased, Retired Worker	6/1/2020	
Malm, Irving	Retired Worker	7/30/2021	



DISTRICT TREASURER REPORT

Dan Cutler

2022 District Conference

This report contains the following:

1. Auditor Management Letter
2. Financial Review June 30, 2021
3. DEXCOM Response to Management Letter
4. Proposed Budget for July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023

Audit Review

The District financial records have been kept under the supervision of the auditing firm of Lutz & Company, PC, of Omaha, Nebraska. They have prepared the closing statements for the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2021.

The C&MA Board of Directors requires all districts to submit audited financial statements once every four years, with reviewed financial statements submitted in years an audit is not required. The Board of Directors also requires all C&MA districts to have membership with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) prior to and remain in compliance with their standards.

Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

The proposed 2022-2023 budget was adopted by DEXCOM and is referred to District Conference for approval. We are eager to see how the Lord directs these resources in the coming year as we continue the work of seeing every man, woman, and child across MidAmerica have opportunity to know Jesus! Join us as we trust the Lord for His provision.

We would like to highlight several budget changes:

- The anticipated **Total Income** is roughly \$100,000 less than last year due to a couple of churches who have left the Alliance. While we are aware this decrease is coming, we also see a path forward that will allow our work to continue with fervency. We are praying giving to the District Advancement Fund by our District churches will meet our total funding needs, and at the same time, are incredibly grateful for the response of some in the District who have already stepped in to help make up the loss (notice the line item called **Extra District Investment!**).
- Part of the decrease on the expenditure side of the budget is due to the shifting of personnel in the District Office. While there will be a season of a much smaller team, the anticipation is that the District Office team will be rebuilt in the very near future as the Lord leads.
- A second decrease in next year's budget is in Global Missions. We budgeted \$16,000 less in this line item to reflect more accurately what we believe is needed in the coming year. We find ourselves in a unique year in which we do not have any of our District international workers returning on home assignment. This is great news for their teams on the field, but will impact us and have implications on our mission events/tours for

our churches. We have also experienced the current challenges of international travel and want to be wise in our approach to this. We look forward to taking more teams to engage with our international workers in the near future, and we anticipate this fund needing to rise again as the world continues to open back up. The encouragement from the District Office will be ever increasing engagement in global efforts. We look forward to seeing more of our churches entering partnerships with District international workers, and we look forward to continued care and support for these workers.

- Lastly, the Greenhouse Environment/Residencies line item has decreased \$17,000. This is due to newly developed funding streams for residencies that will allow for a far greater investment in the future. These new funding options will be highlighted at the conference!

As per District bylaw, church contributions to the District Operating Budget are 6% of the District churches' undesignated general operating fund. We are most grateful for your continued, faithful giving making possible the ministries of the MidAmerica District.

We continue to be extremely grateful to Jane Samson for her excellent accounting services rendered on behalf of the District. In spite of challenging health issues, Jane continued to serve with thoroughness and competency for which we are most appreciative. We are trusting the Lord with Jane for His continual healing and ask for your prayers on her behalf as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Cutler
District Treasurer

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

Board of Directors
MidAmerica District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance
Omaha, Nebraska

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the MidAmerica District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance (the "District"), which comprise the statements of financial position – modified cash basis as of June 30, 2021 and 2020 and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets – modified cash basis, cash flows – modified cash basis, and functional expenses – modified cash basis for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Accountants' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountants' Conclusion

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting – Modified Cash Basis

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. These financial statements are prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Lutz & Company, P.C.

October 20, 2021

MidAmerica District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Statements of Financial Position – Modified Cash Basis

June 30, 2021 and 2020

ASSETS		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 610,357	\$ 508,532
Current Portion of Notes Receivable	14,250	8,200
Total Current Assets	624,607	516,732
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET		
District Property and Equipment, Net	37,923	46,042
Camp Property and Equipment, Net	1,553,783	1,579,173
Total Property and Equipment, Net	1,591,706	1,625,215
OTHER ASSETS		
Investments	1,147,857	999,310
Reversionary Property	1,386,400	320,000
Notes Receivable, Less Current Portion	65,819	-
Total Other Assets	2,600,076	1,319,310
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,816,389	\$ 3,461,257
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued Taxes and Withholdings	\$ 15,523	\$ 11,918
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	33,030	41,562
Other	10,183	12,258
Total Current Liabilities	58,736	65,738
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Long-Term Debt, Less Current Portion	769,996	1,154,921
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	84,000	85,785
Total Long-Term Liabilities	853,996	1,240,706
Total Liabilities	912,732	1,306,444
NET ASSETS		
With Donor Restrictions	26,140	10,000
Without Donor Restrictions		
Undesignated	3,781,915	2,054,211
Board Designated	95,602	90,602
Total Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	3,877,517	2,144,813
Total Net Assets	3,903,657	2,154,813
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 4,816,389	\$ 3,461,257



MIDAMERICA DISTRICT

1301 South 119th St. · Omaha, NE 68144 · (402) 330-1888 · www.madcma.org · midamerica@madcma.org

Colorado

Nebraska

Kansas

Iowa

Missouri

November 15, 2021

Audit Review Committee
The Christian and Missionary Alliance
8595 Explorer Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

RE: MidAmerica District
6-30-21 Financial Review

A review of the MidAmerica District's finances has been completed by the accounting firm of Lutz and Company. The audit review has been received and approved by the District Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel L. Cutler
District Treasurer



THEALLIANCE

MidAmerica District Summary				
	Actual through 3/31/2022	Annual Budget 2021-2022	Proposed Annual Budget 2022-2023	
Income				
District Advance Fund	\$ 679,165	\$ 820,095	\$ 831,490	
Transfer from Reserves	\$ -	\$ 130,000	\$ -	
Extra District Investment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	
Total Income	\$ 679,165	\$ 950,095	\$ 851,490	
Expenditures				
Disciplemaking Discipleship				
Resources	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 200	
Training	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,500	
Total Disciplemaking Discipleship	\$ -	\$ 5,500	\$ 3,700	
Ministry Mobilization				
Connecting & Consulting w/churches	\$ 18,950	\$ 28,000	\$ 22,000	
Assessment/Development/Training	\$ 1,468	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	
Total Ministry Mobilization	\$ 20,418	\$ 34,000	\$ 28,000	
Leader/Spouse Health and Development				
Leadership Development	\$ 5,187	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,500	
Counseling/Care	\$ 6,433	\$ 12,000	\$ 10,000	
Education Subsidy	\$ 2,400	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,000	
Sabbatical Subsidy	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,000	
District Conference/General Council	\$ 817	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	
District Retreat	\$ 10,388	\$ 10,000	\$ 17,000	
Total Leader/Spouse Health and Development	\$ 25,225	\$ 51,000	\$ 48,500	
Kingdom Advancement				
Church Planting				
Leadership Team	\$ 347	\$ 500	\$ 500	
Assessment	\$ 3,892	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	
Coaching	\$ 1,055	\$ 500	\$ 1,500	
Training	\$ 1,521	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	
	\$ 6,815	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	
CP Subsidy/Support:				
	\$ 182,039	\$ 253,428	\$ 263,390	
Greenhouse Environment/Residencies				
GHE/Residencies	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 8,000	
		\$ 25,000	\$ 8,000	
Global Missions				
Training & Mobilization	\$ 3,435	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,000	
Trip Subsidy	\$ 8,360	\$ 14,000	\$ 5,000	
Missionary - Tour Support	\$ 1,691	\$ 12,000	\$ 10,000	
Missionary - Care Support	\$ 1,100	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,000	
	\$ 14,586	\$ 41,000	\$ 24,000	
Other District Ministries: Global Friends, Crown College, Alliance Children & Youth, Alliance Women, Camp Rivercrest				
	\$ 31,525	\$ 47,000	\$ 30,000	
Total Kingdom Advancement	\$ 234,965	\$ 381,428	\$ 340,390	

MidAmerica District Summary			
	Actual through 3/31/2022	Annual Budget 2021-2022	Proposed Annual Budget 2022-2023
Ministry Personnel			
Senior Staff			
Salary & Housing	\$ 165,696	\$ 214,365	\$ 138,000
Health Insurance	\$ 23,628	\$ 31,368	\$ 32,000
403B Match 5%	\$ 7,883	\$ 10,538	\$ 6,900
SS Travel - Meals/Motel/Air	\$ 7,263	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,000
SS Auto expenses/fuel	\$ 4,758	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,000
Personnel Search/Moving Expenses	\$ 5,647	\$ -	\$ 15,000
Auto Purchase	\$ 3,600	\$ 4,800	\$ -
Auto/Capital Reserve	\$ (3,600)	\$ (4,800)	\$ -
	\$ 214,875	\$ 269,271	\$ 204,900
Support Staff			
Salary	\$ 89,398	\$ 110,756	\$ 125,000
Health Insurance estimated 5% increase	\$ 3,204	\$ 18,768	\$ 12,000
FICA/Medicare 7.65%	\$ 6,449	\$ 7,784	\$ 9,000
403B Match 5%	\$ 3,816	\$ 5,088	\$ 5,300
	\$ 102,867	\$ 142,396	\$ 151,300
District Leadership Teams			
LOCC	\$ 11,645	\$ 9,500	\$ 11,000
DEXCOM	\$ 4,022	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000
	\$ 15,667	\$ 16,500	\$ 18,000
Total Ministry Personnel	\$ 333,409	\$ 428,167	\$ 374,200
Administrative expenses			
Copier	\$ 3,344	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,500
Media - software/internet	\$ 909	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Supplies - General	\$ 1,610	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Postage	\$ 692	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Telephone	\$ 6,001	\$ 7,800	\$ 8,000
Utilities	\$ 1,939	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200
Insurance	\$ 9,021	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
Maintenance, Facilities/Equipment/HVAC	\$ 4,257	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
Professional - Auditor (full audit)	\$ 9,440	\$ 11,000	\$ 17,000
Professional - Legal	\$ 879	\$ 250	\$ 250
Books & Materials	\$ 112	\$ 250	\$ 250
Total Administrative Expenses	\$ 38,204	\$ 50,000	\$ 56,700
Total Expenses	\$ 652,221	\$ 950,095	\$ 851,490
Total income	\$ 679,165	\$ 950,095	\$ 851,490
Total expenses	\$ 652,221	\$ 950,095	\$ 851,490
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,944	\$ -	\$ -

ALLIANCEWOMEN

2022 MidAmerica District Conference Report

Our Values

- Aiding women to grow toward maturity in Christ and their local church family. We offer retreats, newsletters, and resources.
- Encouraging and supporting women in leadership. We offer the *Encouraging Women in Leadership* ministry.
- Encouraging, supporting, and promoting the international work of the Alliance. We offer prayer, projects, giving opportunities, and Third Culture Kid Program.

All information may be found at mdcma.org, our MidAmerica District Alliance Women website.

District Leadership Team

Current members:

Peggy Schlieker (Christ Community) – Director/Encouraging Women in Leadership/Eastern Retreat

Jen Vogel (Dover Avenue) – Secretary

Nar Maya Tamang (Nepali/Bhutanese) – Treasurer

Bridget Webster (Clayhouse) – Western Retreat

Moni Cutler (Christ Community) – TCK

Ilene Gardner (Bethel in Boone) – Prayer and Missions

Jean Reckling (Princeton Countryside) – Encouraging Women in Leadership

Linda Bishop (Christ Community) – Encouraging Women in Leadership

Georgia Johnson (Dover Avenue) – Encouraging Women in Leadership and Member Care

Lyn Storey (Christ Community) – Eastern Retreat

District Women's Retreat

Eastern Retreat (October 22-24) – Held at Carol Joy Holling Conference Center, Ashland, NE. Thirty-two ladies registered to spend at least one night (8 churches) plus 13-day attenders (3 churches). Lisa Meiners of Deeper Still Ministries, was our speaker. Teri Perrotto shared regarding Envision-Miami. Saturday morning breakout sessions were led by Tina Hernandez (Benson), Cindy Pals (Dover), Teri Perrotto, and Kitty Nevius (Fremont). Margie Alford (Providence) led worship. We reserved Carol Joy Holling for September 23-25, 2022, with Stacy Douglas as our speaker.

Western Retreat (Nov 5-7 in Frisco, CO) – Held at the Grand Hotel and Rocky Mountain Bible Church. We had 43 women participate with Stacy Douglas as our speaker. A team from Grand Junction led the worship. Bridget Webster (Clayhouse) presented part of the “Belong” PowerPoint for one session, and we watched a video session from IF:Gathering 2021 by John Mark Comer.

International Workers

We currently support 24 family units with prayer and finances. We prepare and distribute monthly prayer calendars and prayer requests. We have seven churches serving 28 IW children through the Third Culture Kid program. This program connects churches to one or more TCKs for the purpose of prayer, gifts, and correspondence. All our TCKs are currently “adopted.”

Financial support of IWs. There is a continual need for Care Funds (formerly Outfit Fund) to provide yearly gifts to the IWs sent from our district. We disperse available Care Funds to all IWs from our district on an annual basis. In 2021-2022 we gave each IW unit \$300 for a total of \$6,000. We gave \$500 each to two IW high school graduates. We gave \$50 each to two IWs who had a parent pass away. We gave \$1,141.41 to the National AW Ministry. In June 2021, we gave \$9,115.96 to the National projects. Our AW churches donated \$1,935.04 to the Young family to help with their travel expenses.

Encouraging Women in Leadership Ministry

District Leadership team members call pastors’ wives and women’s ministry leaders once every-other-month for the purpose of encouragement and prayer. We currently have four callers who are contacting approximately 30 leaders. Please contact Peggy at pschlieker@cox.net if you would like to be contacted through this ministry.



District Director

The following is a recap of my responsibilities over the past year:

Wrote articles for the MidAmerica District newsletter as well as two AW district newsletters.

Coordinated the Eastern Women’s Retreat and serve as a caller for the Encouraging Women in Leadership ministry.

Attended AW district directors’ meeting and C&MA Council in Nashville in May, 2021; MAD District workers’ retreat in Estes Park in October 2021; Eastern (NE) and Western (CO) Women’s Retreats in 2021; Converge in Columbus, OH in January, 2022.

Met with the District Leadership team via Zoom several times.

Offered in-person visits to pastors’ wives/women’s ministry leaders in our district. In 2022, I have contacted women’s leaders from 56 of our MidAmerica churches for a personal meeting in

their respective towns and have met with women from 30 churches as of this writing. During our 1-hour meeting, I ask how the District AW can help meet needs, including prayer, and explain what District AW offers. The purpose is to make a personal connection with church women leaders, learn how to serve them better, and raise the visibility of Alliance Women. This has been a huge blessing to me, seeing and hearing these ladies and their hearts for the churches they serve. I also am learning how our District AW team can serve them better.

Thank you to Rob Storey and DEXCOM for budgeting \$3,000 for AW. We allocated \$1,000 toward my travel expenses as district director, \$1,000 toward the Eastern Women's Retreat, and \$1,000 toward the Western Women's Retreat. Rob Storey and Rob Douglas have been great partners and resources for me and our district AW team.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Schlieker
District Alliance Women Director





2022 MidAmerica District Conference Report

Has it been two years or twenty? The time has both flown by and, at times, taken forever as we navigated a pandemic for the first time in well over a century. It has been very difficult, and yet had its silver linings. When I reported to you two years ago, we were wondering if summer camp would happen. Here's an update.

Recap

The summer of 2020 was touch and go throughout. We canceled our June camps and invited families to rent our facilities and use our activities. We did host our July camps which were well attended, but not our normal numbers. Our summer staff was not allowed to leave the property which was a challenge for everyone. Chapel services were held outside, masks and social distancing were implemented, and cleaning protocols were increased. We concluded that month of summer camps without a single case of COVID being contracted on site!

We refunded every dollar for camps canceled or parents simply weren't comfortable sending their kids. This put us in a significant financial deficit, but God didn't leave us there. Through the generosity of several churches and individuals, we had the largest fundraising year in the history of Camp Rivercrest and ended the year in the black – praise God!!



Through the fall of 2020 and the spring of 2021, our guest group numbers fluctuated and were ultimately much smaller than average. The 2021 summer camp registrations were average for pre-Covid numbers (1,042), and on average the summer felt normal. Worship services were outside, and the mask mandate was lifted although the majority of our activities are outside.

Over the last two summers 199 campers made first time decisions to follow Christ and hundreds more recommitted to their walk with Christ!

Capital Improvements

As we entered the fall of 2021, \$100,000 was needed to meet our budget, and the Lord provided! In looking back on this season, the lesson I learned was you can't predict how the money will come in, or how God will motivate people to give. It was fun to watch, albeit a bit scary.

As we rebuild the donor base and people continue to give, we've been able to make some much needed improvements. The interior of our office is getting refreshed, and we've installed a new water treatment system and wellhead. We replaced the pool vacuum, bought new picnic tables, and ran electrical to our outdoor stage. We laid fiber optic cable to three buildings which results in reliable high speed internet and new VoIP phones.

Staffing

We've had some staffing changes over the last couple of years and made some changes to the org chart as well. Jeff Rhoads, who is not new to camp, is now our full time Operations Director. In April, we've hired Tom Frank as a second staff in maintenance, and Noah Vance will fill our Program Manager position which was vacated for almost two years.



2022 Summer Camps

Summer 2022 registrations have been record-setting despite the 20% increase in camp fees. Early bird registration opened on November 1, offering a 10% discount if fees were paid in full. We had 438 campers register before the end of the month. Our current summer camp registration is 1,049 with 118 on waiting lists. This already exceeds last year and puts us well on our way to an incredible summer.

As always, thanks for what you do. Your ministry is so important, and we're grateful to partner with you. Please let us know if we can serve your church in any way. If you need a place to recharge, take a hike, write, or just listen to the Lord, let us know. We'd be delighted to host you.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Dykhouse
Executive Director





2022 MidAmerica District Conference Report

The mission of Global Friends is to bring in, build up and send out international students to the nations. We long to see international students in Omaha and throughout the District gathered into a community where they are introduced to Jesus, built up by learning to obey all that He commanded, and sent out to their home countries at the completion of their studies with skills and a vision to plant churches. We pray every week asking God to send us the hardest to reach people groups from countries where traditional church planting methods are blocked. God faithfully answers that prayer every week as the vast majority of students we interact with are from the Middle East, various African countries, Japan, China, and India.

Omaha Ministry Update

Bring In

The UNO Intensive Language Program (ILUNO). The university invited our team to come and lead an English discussion in one of their classes and facilitate discussion. They gave us an opportunity to share about Global Friends, and the professors showed astounding excitement about our ministry. God has really blessed us with incredible favor with the ILUNO program. This is key as many new international students are required to go through this program for English proficiency.



Cultural Nights. This year we have held a Chinese night, Japanese night, Korean night, and African night at one of our large home groups. All of the evenings were attractational, bringing in new students. Recently, we had African food, music, and dance with almost 80 people in attendance! Several students asked for Bibles (one Saudi Arabian, two Koreans, and one Japanese). This time of the year tends to be the most fruitful with conversions.

After we finish discussion groups, we hand out djembe drums and sing worship songs. This has been a great way of engaging students in worship, especially the African Muslims.

Easter Outreach. Recently, we had our annual Easter Outreach which is generally our largest outreach of the year. We invited an effective evangelist from the Twin Cities, Pastor Dave Gibson, to share the gospel through the Easter story. Scores of students came and many of them heard the gospel for the first time!

Afghan Ministry. We currently have great favor among the Afghan leaders in our community as they are finding that the agencies are not able to help them as much as the churches. Glory to God!



Build Up

A couple ladies from our team, and an international believer from South Sudan, started a weekly Bible study with believing internationals from Burkina Faso and Japan. The goal is for the group to be built up and to have a community to invite other international women as an evangelistic effort.

Our weekly Discovery Bible Study groups in two of our home groups are primarily led by international students. Our third group is going through a “Knowing God” video series. A new Japanese believer helps lead this group.

We are planning a two-day retreat for international believers and serious seekers at Rivercrest in May. Our theme will be “Experiencing God,” and we will use some of the principles from Blackaby’s book. We will also have our team and believing students share their stories of experiencing God.

Send Out

Mueller, a former international student from Tibet, is exemplary in our vision for returnees. He continues to oversee an underground church movement. We have also identified a Chinese-Tibetan who will begin to translate Christian materials like the Discovery Bible Study tool into Tibetan.

We are hearing from our new believers in China: *“Our communities (underground churches) are being locked down.”* One community has just recently been able to meet again.

Expansion

Lincoln, NE – Lincoln has a dynamic, student-led Thursday night ministry on campus.

Okoboji, IA – We have a strong summer outreach program for the many international students who work at Okoboji in the summer. We have formed a team of interns for this year to love and minister to international students at Okoboji!

Vermillion, SD – This team recently led a student with a Muslim background to faith in Christ. He is growing and recently told the pastor of the church he is attending about his newfound faith. The leaders at Vermillion write, *“There is nothing more joyful than standing by a new believer and hearing him sing ‘It is well with my soul’ and then hearing him tell the pastor all about his decision.”*

Bellevue, NE – They continue a weekly international couples Bible study.

Fort Collins, CO – The team is having very deep gospel conversations every week with nonbelievers. They are continuing to see new students attend their outreach events.



In addition to the Bangladeshi student from South Dakota mentioned, we have seen an Afghan and a Jordanian come to know the Lord! All glory to Jesus!!

Thankful for your partnership in the gospel.

Julie Arant
Global Friends Director



DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORT

2022



THE ALLIANCE

Dear Church Leader,

You are reading these words because you are participating in your District Conference, and I want you to hear my “thank you” for that engagement. As a church-planting, church-advancing, mission-mobilizing movement, we believe that we are at our best when we’re functioning in community . . . a Christ-centered, Acts 1:8 *family*.

These are challenging days to be a family. Wouldn’t you agree? Whether it is our family of origin, our local church family, or denominational family, there are growing temptations to isolate and/or alienate. In direct contrast are the numerous directives and examples of the Early Church who overcame great obstacles and made Spirit-led efforts to function as the body of Christ in community.

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. —Ephesians 4:3

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. —Romans 12:18

Let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds. —Hebrews 10:24

Let us not give up meeting together . . . —Hebrews 10:25

Let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching. —Hebrews 10:25

I encourage us today to follow the same Spirit of the Early Church who called us to live in a life-giving, grace-showing unity. Engaging in relationship with your district peers can be a practical expression of this value.

Meanwhile, The Alliance is more effective in advancing the gospel to our nation and world when we band our resources together. Your engagement in C&MA initiatives provides a synergistic effect of mission fulfillment. So, I **thank you** for your participation in national efforts such as:

40 Days of Prayer

Great Commission Day

Church Planting/Greenhouse

EquippingU

President’s Monthly Video Blogs

Missions Emphasis

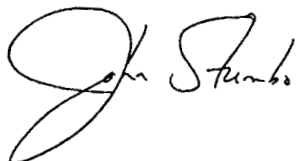
Year-End Offering

Our redesigned website is loaded with helpful resources to enhance your communication efforts. Alliance Life and the Alliance eNewsletter are effective communication tools. Our restructured Great Commission Fund is proving to engage new mission-minded supporters. The relocation of our National Office (known as Project ReImagine) has the wind of the Spirit giving us ongoing momen-

tum. We're grateful for the numerous evidences of God's kindness as we celebrate dozens of church plants, thousands of baptisms, and countless acts of love-driven, Spirit-led ministry.

In the pages that follow, Tim Crouch (VP for Alliance Missions) and Terry Smith (VP for Church Ministries) briefly share their hearts. Together, with all of you, we seek to *live a life worthy of the calling we've received* (Ephesians 4:1) as we *put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness* (Ephesians 4:24). This is the family you are part of. **We're grateful for—and the better for—your engagement.**

Pressing on together with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Stumbo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Stumbo" clearly legible.

John Stumbo, President

"ADAPTING TO NEW GLOBAL REALITIES"

Alliance Missions – Timothy D. Crouch, Vice President

The Lord continues to entrust and empower our Alliance family with a significant role in the harvest. Over the past year, 722 Alliance international workers have been active in 63 nations around the globe. This is the fruit of faithful responses to God's call upon churches in districts like yours. Alliance Missions functions to extend and empower your reach to peoples of the world who need the gospel and who are in a position to share it with others.

RENEWED POSTURE OF ALLIANCE MISSIONS

Since Council 2019, we've encouraged full embrace of the broad set of vocations and modes of ministry needed in today's world. What we call "The New Face of Alliance Missions" really amounts to recognition that we've innovated for the sake of least reached and most vulnerable peoples. It is vital that we remain focused on the important Alliance outcome of raising up church networks that multiply and carry the gospel to the remaining unreached. But we won't likely get to plant churches if we don't come to serve. Thus, CAMA's development specialists and marketplace ministries professionals, alongside the mixed-profession but church-planting focused aXcess teams, are even more vital today than in past decades. And Envision's ministries in more than twenty cities worldwide contribute to this synergy and provide ways for many others to explore and grow in their own sense of calling within these ministry contexts. The international workers of these four specialized structures of Alliance Missions are all products of your churches and worthy of your support and partnership.

REALIGNED PROCESS FOR FUNDING THE MISSION

It is this embrace of all our mission efforts and workers, and of the two strong currents of giving among Alliance people, that have driven our redesign of the Great Commission Fund. Our goal is to align all our international workers more strategically with benefit from both general and specific giving preferences of donors and churches. This allows churches like yours to continue your giving traditions while motivating new participants and deepening generosity—whether it comes from giving to the whole or focusing on a specific worker's ministry. The funding message of our workers is becoming more harmonized as they clarify both the "ask" and the benefits for both general and specific giving. We are thankful that the new process is creating overall lift. Because both types of giving are vital to all workers and their ministries, we encourage churches not to venture too far too fast from previous giving patterns. At the same time, freedom exists to grow giving by appealing to church attendees and other potential donors to give in a way most naturally motivating for them.

REDEMPTIVE PRESENCE IN A SHAKEN WORLD

In our world, upended by crisis and polarized by ideology, the redemptive presence of the gospel through the lives, love, and language of God's people is desperately needed. Where the Church is, there is hope. But where the Church isn't, we send our called ones just as our Father sent His Son to us.

This year, challenges to missionary presence continued to rise. At any given time, about ten percent of our IW staff are kept from being where they long to minister. One team of workers had to be removed from a beloved and fruitful medical ministry location because of extremist threats.

But when one door closes, God opens others.

- Fresh opportunity is being explored among very unreached people groups of one nation with few believers that holds missionary graves from previous seasons' attempts.
- As a result of the past two years' disruption, there is a major reorientation of strategies among one of the world's largest language groups.
- New works have been launched in Japan, Europe, and both Central and South Asia.
- Many new doors that were opened to receive food and medical aid through the pandemic remain open now for local believers and international workers who are seen as trusted and caring.
- Church networks of the Alliance World Fellowship brought help and hope to many in what was the most far-reaching and impactful instance of their global collaboration ever.
- Many of those same churches of our Alliance worldwide family are now sending international workers of their own, extending gospel presence to places where none of us could go.

God is faithful in His purposes. Years like this past one teach us that God's ways are not frustrated by, but rather often propelled by moments of crisis, change, or challenge. His mission will not fail, nor will those who are emboldened by His faithfulness. May we always be among them!

"ADVANCING MISSION IN THE MIDST OF A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT"

Church Ministries – Terry D. Smith, Vice President

When we reflect on the last couple of years, the phrase “changing environment” may seem like an understatement. In March 2020, church life instantly changed. As the year went by, things became more challenging. Numerous debates sprang up in the Church over the various ramifications of COVID-19, over how or whether the Church should respond to racial injustice, and over political debates that surrounded the presidential election. Most church leaders spent 2021 trying to figure out the state of their churches—who was with them, and who was not.

Thank you, pastors and leaders, for enduring these challenging months as you sought to continue advancing the mission! Be reminded by Revelation 2:1 that Jesus walks among His churches. His presence is with you. He is aware of your situation and knows your struggle. He is present in power to help you and your church. He is continuing to do His work through your ministry endeavors despite everything that is going on in our nation and world. Please know that your Alliance leaders have a deep appreciation for your faithfulness and perseverance.

While we are awaiting the results of the 2021 Local Alliance Church Annual Report, we are encouraged by some big picture outcomes of the year. There were 58 new expressions of Alliance churches (church plants, multi-sites, affiliated churches) in the United States. 52 of those were either new plants or multi-sites, which exceeded our annual goal of 50. Additionally, we anticipate that 48 new projects will lead to church plants, and they entered a pipeline that now contains 125 projects. Our church closure rate dropped from 2.8 percent to 2.2 percent. We finished the year with a net gain of six churches. After a few years of net losses, both 2019 and 2021 have both shown net gains. We’re praying that this is a new positive trend, since every local church brings a gospel presence to the community where it exists.

Much has been written on the post-COVID recovery of the Church with various conclusions being drawn. Whichever voices are right or wrong, the One who is Lord of the Church has not changed; His assigned mission for us, His Church, remains the same, and His promise to build His Church is unwavering. As we make sure our eyes are on Him, I believe that advancing mission in our current environment will require a refocus in at least three ways.

REFOCUS ON THE GOSPEL AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

I recently spoke with a pastor from the Middle East who leads a network of house churches. In his country, the Church has no influence in government, and Christians have no religious freedom. Evangelism is illegal. Yet, he and his fellow believers are engaged in sharing the gospel despite the risk and are seeing people come to faith in Christ. Meanwhile, the Church in the United States is often too focused on our influence with government and seeking to maintain religious liberty—which by and large, we already have. Evangelism is legal, and we have vast amounts of freedom to live out and share our faith. Yet, too often, we do not steward that freedom well. The Church in the United States needs to refocus on the Kingdom of God over the kingdom of this world. We need to refocus

on the gospel of Jesus Christ as the only message that brings hope and change. May the Lord grant you His wisdom and courage to engage your community with the gospel.

Resource: I believe you will be encouraged and helped as you watch and listen to Rick Richardson of the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism on EquippingU Live: https://www.bigmarker.com/cml-Alliance/Equ-Found-Me?show_live_page=true

REFOCUS ON DISCIPLING DISCIPLEMAKERS

In mid-2021, I spoke with an Alliance pastor who had been in his current assignment only a few years. He had led the church in undertaking a relocation and replanting process. The church was growing, but with COVID-related issues, they had lost a sizeable percentage of their congregation. He said, “We didn’t have time to disciple them well enough to weather the storm.” His short time in the church provided a legitimate excuse; however, I believe many of our churches need to own up to not discipling people well enough. We must get refocused on intentional and intensive discipleship—to make sure people are grounded in the Word and mobilized to share it. In this way, we teach them to experience life in the Spirit, help them clarify to which King and Kingdom our allegiance belongs, and help them have a sharp focus on our mission as disciples to be disciplers. I encourage local church leadership teams to spend time prayerfully asking how they can disciple people so that they have deeper roots and broader influence for Christ’s Kingdom.

Resource: Check out *Launch* at <https://www.launchdiscipleship.com/>. This is a two-year discipleship intensive that is wrapped around the local church through the lens of Alliance doctrine and distinctives.

REFOCUS ON LIVING IN THE FLOW OF THE SPIRIT’S POWER

In a recent EquippingU Podcast interview, we spoke with the leaders of an Alliance church in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, a 100+ year-old church that is being revitalized. As they seek to fulfill the mission of Christ, they are placing a good Alliance emphasis on experiencing all the gifts and manifestations of the Spirit. They are being used by the Lord as conduits of the supernatural power of the Spirit. Even in the midst of this crazy season, they are seeing people’s lives transformed and are multiplying themselves in new expressions of the church. Speaking of a changing environment, more and more people in the context we live in are unchurched and disbelieving in God and His truth. In this environment, ministry in the natural won’t cut it. We must get refocused on living and walking in the Spirit, moving in His power, and being open to His supernatural manifestations. As in the days of the Early Church, only Spirit-empowered believers will be conduits of transformation as Jesus intends. May the Lord grant you bold faith to step into all that the Lord wants to do in and through your church.

Resource: Read or reread the position of The Alliance on Spiritual Gifts, called “Expectation Without Agenda” (<https://cmlalliance.org/who-we-are/what-we-believe/perspectives/> - see section on Spiritual Gifts.) Pray through what this might look like in your life and church.

Our Lord is sovereign and seated firmly on His throne. He is allowing and using what is going on around us in a way that will ultimately advance His purpose. Often, times of crisis cause us to reevaluate what we’re doing, to make necessary changes and adjustments, and to sharpen our focus on His mission for us. May this be the case as we continue to navigate these unprecedented times.