

Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Seeking, Serving, Sharing
April 27, 2025



[Heartfelt Condolences on the Passing of Beloved Pope Francis - Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

Cardinal Giovanni Battista RE
Dean of the College of Cardinals
Vatican City

Your Eminence:

On behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, I write to convey our deepest condolences on the passing of one beloved by all the world, Pope Francis. The Disciples of Christ have been in dialogue with the Catholic Church for over 45 years—since 1978. Our journey together has gone beyond theological conversations to include shared commitments to justice and peace at the global, national and local levels.

In 2023, the Holy Father greeted members of the delegation in dialogue during an audience at the Vatican. The time spent was another testament to the power of Christian unity. Pope Francis' deep commitment to Christian unity has encouraged and strengthened our ongoing dialogue. His openness and pastoral spirit have been a gift to our ecumenical journey. His care for the earth and its climate was matched by his care for the poor, the marginalized, and indeed, for all humanity. His concern for all was palpable and his pastoral heart made his witness relevant to so many around the world. Reports of his intentional outreach to a Catholic pastor in Gaza, making a call every night, demonstrate his ability to connect with those who faced the stresses of war, poverty and social ostracization, offering them love, care, and hope.

On this Holy Monday, we affirm together the power of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because Jesus has been raised, we do not mourn as those who do not have hope.

(1 Thessalonians 4:13) May God's love and peace be a comfort to all those who knew, loved and were blessed by the ministry of Pope Francis. May his memory and legacy be a blessing even for generations.

With the peace of Christ,
Reverend Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens
General Minister and President

Service Attendance ~ April 20, 2025

In Person: 116 Live Online: 24
Social Media Hits: 100



Sunday, April 27 ~ Service Information

John 20:19-31

"The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord."



Every year, in February, the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation's board of directors meets to approve the payment to beneficiaries of named endowment earnings for the previous year. Over the last ten years (2016-2025), these distributions from the named endowment funds have totaled over \$6.4 million, averaging more than \$646,650 per year. In 2025, the annual distributions set a record totaling more than ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

ODF distributions benefit a variety of ministries and programs of the Christian (Disciples of Christ) Church in Oklahoma, as shown in [this pie chart](#). These programs and ministries include seniors, the Region, Regional Areas, camps, and more.

In 2025, multiple endowment distributions totaled over \$113,400 for grants; together with additional contributions and escrowed grant funds, ODF's grants committee awarded more than \$162,000 in March 2025. Click [here](#) to review a complete list of named endowments.

- The 'congregation' category refers to endowment funds established to benefit specific churches, as well as missions of some of those churches
- 'Institutions' refers to, for example, [Phillips Theological Seminary](#) and other educational organizations.
- There are several named endowment funds which have been established to benefit the Foundation itself, allowing us to operate, as well as conduct an extensive [grants program](#).

From 12/31/19 to 12/31/23, the principal invested in named endowments has increased 74.49% while FMV (fair market value) has increased 79.20%; [see line graph](#). And our audited financial statements show a growth in total assets; [see bar graph](#).

[Fund Performance - Oklahoma Disciples Foundation](#)

Giving in Review

As of March 31, 2025

Income Received YTD	\$88,934.75
Actual Expenses YTD	\$75,669.80
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$88,611.74