

## Michigan Disciples Call Eugene James as Regional Minister



Eugene W. James, Jr. was installed as Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in May 12, 2012.

“Having been called to serve as Regional Minister for the Michigan Region is a miraculous move of God and, in retrospect, a duty for which He has been preparing me during the past thirty years of service to the region and the wider church,” said James in response to the call. The new leader served Northwestern Christian Church, Detroit, as a bi-vocational pastor for twelve years prior to being Co-Transitional Regional Minister of the region for two years.

The new regional minister is a life-long member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), one of four ministers, including his father, Eugene W. James, Sr. He has been moderator of the Michigan Region, chaired the denomination’s Overseas Ministries board of directors, and served as president of the Michigan Black Disciples Caucus

James was instrumental in helping connect Disciples volunteers from across the country with urban mission programs in the Detroit area through “Gospel in Action,” in collaboration with MoTown Mission of the United Methodist Church and in partnership with Central Woodward Christian Church, Northwestern Christian Church, and Rippling Hope.

Early studies and work for James were in the health services but his strong church ties kept his sense of ministry always in the center of his life. Studies included courses at University of Virginia – Roanoke, Youngstown State University, Wayne County Community College – Detroit, Concordia University – Ann Arbor, Ashland Theological Seminary – Detroit, and Michigan Theological Seminary. Training at the Mediation Skills Training Institute sponsored by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is reflected in his style of pastoral care working with Disciples congregations and organizations.

Eugene and his wife, Yalonda, have seven children between them and fourteen grandchildren. His interests include music, reading, physical fitness, travel, and “quiet time.”