

NEWS RELEASE

July 18, 2008

New Officers Appointed for Disciples Benevolent Services Board of Trustees

St. Louis, Mo. – The Board of Trustees has named its new slate of officers for 2008-2009. Rev. Belva Brown Jordan has been appointed as Board Chair and Don Downing as Vice Chair, serving his second term of office.

Jordan, an ordained Disciples minister, is Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Services at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Okla. She was previously Dean for Student Life at Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Prior to her Harvard appointment, Jordan served for eight years on the faculty of Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, Penn. This is her second term of office on the DBS board.

Downing is a St. Louis attorney with a distinguished career spanning more than 25 years. He is a member of both the Illinois and Missouri Bars. Downing is a member of Webster Groves Christian Church, in Webster Groves, Mo.

Joseph M. Kidwell, an attorney in Ft. Worth, Tx., has been named as a new member of the board and will serve through 2010. Kidwell is a member of the Carmel Christian Church in Carmel, Ind.

Two members have been elected to a second three-year term of office: Rev. Penny Ross-Corona, Area Minister for the Southeast Gateway (SEGA) of the Mid-America Region, and Robert M. Robuck, Jefferson City, Mo.

Rounding out the ten-member board are Gus Cervetto, St. Louis, Mo., and Rev. Jinsuk Chun, Irvine, Calif., and ex officio members, Rev. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Dennis Hagemann, President and CEO of DBS.

Headquartered in Maryland Heights, Disciples Benevolent Services (National Benevolent Association) is the 121 year-old social and health services general unit of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

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