

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Cartwright Joins NBA as AVP for Operations**

**March 17, 2014** – The National Benevolent Association (NBA) of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) calls the Rev. Dani Loving Cartwright as the Associate Vice President for Operations. Cartwright will direct and manage a variety of administrative and missional activities to ensure efficiency and continuity throughout the NBA, the health and social service general ministry of the denomination.



Cartwright has served in regional and pastoral ministry for the past thirty-five years. She served most recently as the President and Regional Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest. Prior to this, she served on the staff of the Upper Midwest Region for eight years as a Deputy and Associate Regional Minister. She has served on Regional Boards in three Regions and on the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Earlier this year, she completed her service on the board of Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

“We are honored and pleased for Dani to join our NBA team. She brings such tremendous leadership skills and years of ministry throughout the wider Disciples church ranging from congregational pastorates, to regional staff roles, and denominational leadership. Her expertise will help us coordinate our missional initiatives and goals as well as ensure that all the important details of implementation and evaluation of our processes can be achieved,” reflects Mark D. Anderson, NBA President and CEO.

In her role as Associate Vice President of Operations, she is a strategic partner with NBA’s senior management and directs the NBA’s operations related to the execution of the strategic plan, human resource activities, proper management and retention of organization records, and implementation of effective tools related to program performance and evaluation.

“My commitments and love for the church are foundational to who I am. As I begin this position with the NBA, I am so excited for opportunities of vital ministry in so many places and among an incredible array of ministry partners. It is with joy and anticipation that I join the NBA,” states Cartwright.

In addition to the NBA calling Cartwright, two new staff hires include Ms. Lanisha Thomas as Stewardship Manager and the Rev. Bonnie Osei Frimpong as NBA XPLOR Project Coordinator.

Thomas joins the NBA team with a wide range of expertise in nonprofit program development and evaluation, fundraising, technology solutions, communications strategies, and event management. In her role as Stewardship Manager, Thomas helps to plan and implement activities related to fund-raising and development, coordinates special events pertaining to donor relations, and manages the database information for the organization.

Osei-Frimpong's most recent work involved serving with Church World Service in Indonesia. She has also served with a variety of Disciples ministries including Week of Compassion, Global Ministries, and Disciples Peace Fellowship. In her role as NBA XPLOR Project Coordinator, Osei-Frimpong coordinates the programmatic oversight for this congregationally hosted service and learning project for Disciples young adults (ages 21 to 30). With NBA XPLOR, Residents will live in a diverse community of peers, where they will engage in communal and personal spiritual practices ranging from prayer to simple daily meals together. They will care for and learn from others in community-service internships, and they will relate to a Disciples-host congregation. Three NBA XPLOR sites will welcome up to four young adults to live in intentional community beginning in August of 2014: St. Louis, Missouri; North Hollywood, California; and Hiram-Mantua, Ohio. For more information about the XPLOR program for young adult Disciples, visit [www.nbacares.org/xplor](http://www.nbacares.org/xplor).

#### **About the National Benevolent Association**

The National Benevolent Association (NBA) serves as the health and social services general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The NBA is about advancing the direct care provided for and with those in need and working collaboratively with partner ministries and Disciples-related health and social service organizations. Learn more about NBA ministries at [www.nbacares.org](http://www.nbacares.org).

**NOTE:** Visit [www.nbacares.org](http://www.nbacares.org) to read the bios of these new NBA staff!

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