It's all about connections. Our CCIW ministry team helps us make connections to the wider church, offers our church support and guidance through our great Regional staff, and partners with us as we all move forward with God's mission. I am so glad we are in ministry together! Deann Anderson

My favorite story is about the first Miracle Days, 2005. Bare bones budget of $200,000, $40,000 in hand, but coming, when hurricane Katrina struck. M. D. funds, understandably, stopped! BUT, all the needed paint and supplies for Jackson Blvd CC, Chicago, and SIU Student Center, Carbondale, were donated by Rob Knudsen from Iowa. All carpet for J. B.'s three floors was donated AND installed by folks from Canton. Then THE PEOPLE came!!! So many we had to hunt jobs away from the Student Center to keep everybody busy. All this happened because of guidance and many hours of labor by Regional Staff, especially one named Scott, who worked many hours before and after October 1 and October 8! — Lois

As Paul urges in Romans 12:1-2, life in Christ is about transformation. Unlike some regions, our staff supports intentional interim ministry with its emphasis on the Apostle's urging. Some of our failing churches do get turned around with this needed support, which also enhances the quality of interim ministry in general. ---Rob Rixman, Watseka

Regional ministry is a reminder that God's church is more than my local church, and ministry is more than just what we do in our community. Here's another good word -The Regional church provides encouragement by complementing our congregation, by telling others what is happening here, and by offering services to add to our local ministry. Mike Dixon

The covenantal relationship between the Regional church, Ministerial staff and the church I serve has been such a blessing in times of plenty and want. The Regional Ministers have offered care, compassion, training, guidance, support and expertise during a time of transformation, change, and growth for me and the church I serve. I can't imagine taking this journey without the regional church.
Ellen Moma, First Christian Church ,Blue Mound

The years I was privileged to serve in The Women's Ministries, district and regional, was good, patient training ground that enabled me to serve on the Quadrennial Committee, as Regional Moderator, on the General Board, Administrative Committee and Nominating Committee. It was a lot of hard work, many, many miles, hours of study and prayer and being touched by Saints who walked before me and with me. There is no way I would want to be in an unconnected church. Our strength is in our connectedness.
Peace and Joy, Lois Whitaker

Our Regional Ministry team are my pastors. I look to them for resources for my congregation, guidance in leadership, and support for my ministry. They encourage me to persevere and challenge me to grow. They are invaluable partners in ministry. Tracy Siegman