



1 Our desire is to see PCA churches develop ministries that are Word-based and relationally-  
2 driven. When God’s Word is delivered in the context of genuine relationships, the Spirit brings  
3 change beyond what we can ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). We seek to serve churches by  
4 making connections: connecting people to people, and people to resources.

### 5 6 **Connecting People to People**

7 CDM staff members and consultants establish relational connections primarily through  
8 individual contact, local training events, regional gatherings, and national training conferences.  
9 Ministry coordinators make daily contact with local church leaders through email, telephone  
10 calls, and face-to-face conversations.

11  
12 Local training events include seminars on women’s ministry, children’s ministry, parenting,  
13 and leadership development. The training is conducted by CDM staff members or members  
14 of our ministry teams for children, youth, or women. If you would like to see the list of events  
15 scheduled, go to [pcacdm.org/cdm-events](https://pcacdm.org/cdm-events). If you would like to partner with us to schedule an  
16 event, contact the CDM office through our website at [pcacdm.org/contact-cdm](https://pcacdm.org/contact-cdm).

17  
18 In 2019 and early 2020, CDM worked with local churches to host a series of regional training  
19 opportunities for those who serve the **children** of the congregation. These Established  
20 Conferences in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Atlanta, Georgia, were made possible  
21 through a generous donor. As the funds from the original 2016 gift are drawing down, please  
22 join CDM in praying God will raise up another donor with a passion to see men and women  
23 serve the next generation of disciples. CDM has received requests from a number of smaller  
24 churches who would like to host an event, but do not have the resources to make it happen.

25  
26 To connect, encourage, and equip those serving in ministry to **women**, CDM has partnered  
27 with many churches to provide the following in late 2019 and early 2020:

- 28 • Training events at 7 churches with 360 attending.
- 29 • Professional development for 34 part-time and full-time women staff members from  
30 27 churches.
- 31 • The first of a series of **Hinged** regional conferences studying the Book of Ephesians;  
32 373 attended from 65+ churches. More conferences are planned for Fall 2020.
- 33 • The annual Leadership Training (LT) in February 2020 once again sold out. The topic  
34 was ministry to those who are suffering; 364 women attended from 130 churches.

35  
36 The CDM Youth Ministry Team is comprised of youth leaders around the denomination. They  
37 are working to gather helpful resources for the CDM website ([pcacdm.org/ministries/youth-  
38 ministry/](https://pcacdm.org/ministries/youth-ministry/)). TE Matt Luchenbill is the team facilitator and has helped a number of churches  
39 going through the search process for a youth director.

40  
41 In March 2020, the permanent committee approved a plan to develop a CDM Men’s Ministry  
42 Team. Like the other CDM teams, this group would work to gather helpful resources and  
43 provide consultation and coaching to PCA churches looking to develop their ministry to men.

1 **Connecting People to Resources**

2 CDM seeks to connect people to resources through the website (**pcacdm.org**), conferences,  
3 training events, blogs, and social media. CDM also has a “niche” publishing ministry designed  
4 to provide resources by PCA authors that are tailored to the needs of PCA leaders.

5  
6 CDM social media platforms, particularly on Facebook (PCA Discipleship Ministries page,  
7 and Connect PCA Women’s Ministry and Connect PCA Children’s Ministry groups), are  
8 important ways PCA members around the denomination ask questions and share ideas about  
9 discipleship ministry. The women’s group has been a quick and easy way for leaders to  
10 encourage and equip each other in order to address issues common to all. The children’s group  
11 is a veritable library of very practical ideas for ministry.

12  
13 The *enCourage* blog (**encourage.pcacdm.org**) and podcast for women continues to grow in  
14 its reach around the world. The blog has over 1,136 subscribers and 534,000 visitors, and the  
15 6 seasons of the podcast have accumulated over 108,000 downloads with an average of 1,238  
16 downloads/episode.

17  
18 CDM has launched the GROW—“Leading Children’s Ministry with a Purpose” website for  
19 those in children’s ministry (**grow.pcacdm.org**). This platform has a variety of resources,  
20 including 2 seasons of the GROW podcasts. These are short presentations designed to provide  
21 training and insight on practical issues in children’s ministry. There have been over 2,000  
22 downloads with an average of 136 downloads per episode.

23  
24 The initial CDM Children’s Ministry Certification class completed their video courses in  
25 December 2019. In March 2020, 32 candidates from 28 churches who had successfully  
26 completed all work and received the recommendation of their elder/mentor were certified by  
27 the CDM Permanent Committee (see Attachment 1). In January 2020, a new class of 45  
28 students from 44 churches in 19 states and Puerto Rico began their work. In both classes, the  
29 age of participants has ranged from 20+ to 60+. Based on feedback from CDM staff,  
30 certification faculty, students, and mentors, the value of the program has exceeded  
31 expectations.

32 In 2019, CDM purchased VBS Reachout Adventures (**vbsreachout.com**), a Reformed VBS  
33 curriculum that has been used by a number of PCA churches for many years. The 4 rotating  
34 themes provide a unique and engaging way to study Joshua, Luke, Genesis, and Jonah. CDM  
35 will offer one theme every year.

36  
37 **PCA Bookstore ([www.pcabookstore.com](http://www.pcabookstore.com))**

38 The PCA Bookstore plays an important role in CDM’s efforts to connect PCA individuals and  
39 churches to resources that agree with our doctrinal convictions. CDM staff members review  
40 items included in the PCA Bookstore and consider how the resource(s) might be used by  
41 people serving in the PCA. Some customers have expressed gratitude for a place where they  
42 can focus their search for resources and escape the somewhat overwhelming results from  
43 searches on the Internet. Additionally, the PCA Bookstore offers greater discounts for group  
44 orders (5 or more books), along with free shipping for orders over \$30.

1 In the CDM budget, the PCA Bookstore is treated as a separate cost center and is designed to  
 2 operate on at least a “break-even” basis (i.e., the cost of inventory, staff salaries, floor space,  
 3 postage, etc., is covered by sales revenue). In 2019, bookstore sales increased over 10%, which  
 4 covered expenses and provided over \$50,000 to CDM’s general fund. The increase was  
 5 primarily due to the sale of CDM-published resources.  
 6

<b>Top Selling CDM Publications</b>
<i>From Garden to Glory</i> by Courtney Doctor
<i>A Good Confession</i> edited by Greg Poole [joint publication with Oak Mountain PC]
<i>The Good Shepherd’s Pasture</i> by Elizabeth Harwell
<i>Life-giving Leadership</i> by Karen Hodge and Susan Hunt
<i>Little Hearts Prepare Him Room</i> by Holly Mackle
<i>Titus 2 Tools</i> by Susan Hunt
<b>New Titles Published by CDM</b>
<i>Building Little Pillars</i> by Heather Molendyk
<i>Help[H]er</i> by Bernie Lawrence and Ann Maree Goudzwaard
<i>Hinged</i> (Bible study on Ephesians and Leader’s Guide) by Hinged Conference speakers

7  
 8 **“Nashville Statement”**  
 9 In response to Overture 4 from Calvary Presbytery, the 47<sup>th</sup> General Assembly referred the  
 10 “Nashville Statement” “to the Committee on Discipleship Ministries for inclusion and  
 11 promotion among its denominational teaching materials” (*M47GA* 2019, p. 592). Currently,  
 12 CDM is not creating “denominational teaching materials” on the topic(s) covered in the  
 13 “Nashville Statement,” as there are many quality resources already available to PCA churches.  
 14 Consequently, the Permanent Committee approved the staff recommendation to make a pdf  
 15 copy of the “Nashville Statement” available on the website ([pcacdm.org](http://pcacdm.org)) under Ministries >  
 16 Leader’s Ministry > Toolbox ([pcacdm.org/ministries/leaders-ministry-toolbox/](http://pcacdm.org/ministries/leaders-ministry-toolbox/)).

17 **Financial Review**

18 The ministry of CDM is funded through a combination of revenue sources:

- 19 1. giving from churches,
- 20 2. giving from individuals,
- 21 3. revenue from the sale of resources,
- 22 4. revenue from conference fees, and
- 23 5. reimbursements for ministry expenses.

24  
 25 CDM ended 2019 with an extraordinary operating surplus of \$122,849 (7% of total income).  
 26 This surplus was primarily due to 3 factors: 1) the distribution of a trust left to the PCA, 2)  
 27 the success of the financial markets in 2019 which provided a gain in CDM’s investments,  
 28 and 3) increased PCA Bookstore sales which contributed to the CDM general fund. This is  
 29 the fourth straight year that God has provided for CDM through conference proceeds and/or  
 30 extraordinarily large gifts from individuals. The members of the Permanent Committee rejoice  
 31 at God’s abundant provision, but are concerned the primary revenue sources of contributions  
 32 from churches and individuals have seen minimal growth.

1 Since the beginning of the denomination, CDM’s primary source of income has been support  
2 from PCA congregations (*BCO* 14-1). However, less than 30% of PCA particular churches  
3 contribute financially to the ministry of CDM. This reality is discouraging to the members of  
4 the staff and permanent committee, as CDM has been hindered in providing training and  
5 resources for ministry to youth, men, and older adults.

6  
7 **Conclusion to the CDM Report**

8 The Committee on Discipleship Ministries seeks to honor God by strengthening His Church  
9 through connecting leaders to the people and resources they need for discipleship ministry.  
10 We give thanks for what God has done through the ministry of CDM. By his grace, we strive  
11 to be stewards of his truth and the relationships he creates through his Spirit. God has entrusted  
12 the good deposit of the faith to this generation of believers, and we are called to pass the  
13 testimony of His greatness and His mighty works to the next generation as we make disciples  
14 for His glory. Praise the Lord, He is with us always. Amen.

15  
16 **Recommendations**

- 17 1. That the General Assembly approve the minutes of the meetings of the Permanent  
18 Committee for the Committee on Discipleship Ministries in September 2019 and March  
19 2020.
- 20 2. That the General Assembly receive the 2019 Audit performed by Robins, Eskew, Smith,  
21 and Jordan, and approve the same firm for the 2020 Audit.
- 22 3. That the General Assembly encourage churches and individuals to contribute generously  
23 to the “Love Gift Legacy.” For 2020, the funds will be used to benefit the joint ministry  
24 projects of CDM and MTW to further the work of International Women’s Ministry. God  
25 has opened doors for ministry to women around the world who eagerly desire the biblical  
26 resources found in the PCA.
- 27 4. That the General Assembly encourage individuals, local churches, and presbyteries to  
28 utilize the many resources available on the CDM website ([pcacdm.org](http://pcacdm.org)), particularly those  
29 obtained from local churches and posted on the “Ministry Toolbox,” as well as the many  
30 books and resources offered through the PCA Bookstore ([pcabookstore.com](http://pcabookstore.com)). Churches  
31 could also post links to the CDM website on their sites. Sales through the PCA Bookstore  
32 help fund ministry to PCA churches.
- 33 5. That the General Assembly encourage individuals and churches to attend one of the  
34 regional conferences hosted by local congregations in connection with CDM (Established  
35 conferences for those who work with children’s ministries or Hinged conferences for  
36 women). These inexpensive regional gatherings connect local leaders, as well as introduce  
37 them to the many resources available to them.
- 38 6. That the General Assembly encourage individuals and local churches to consider and  
39 utilize the excellent curricula from Great Commission Publications (GCP), e.g., *Show Me*  
40 *Jesus* and *Kids’ Quest Catechism Club* for children, *G2R Genesis to Revelation* Bible  
41 studies for preteens to teens—including the new *G2R God’s Promises*—and *So What?*  
42 Bible studies for youth (see Attachment 2).
- 43 7. That the General Assembly give thanks to RE Ward Bursley, TE Michael Craddock, and  
44 RE Marshall Rowe for their faithful service as members of the Permanent Committee and  
45 to Sherry Lanier for her helpful service as an adviser to the Committee.

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- 1 8. That the General Assembly re-elect TE Stephen Estock to serve as the Coordinator for the  
2 Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM).
- 3 9. That the General Assembly approve the 2021 CDM budget as presented by the  
4 Administrative Committee.

**Attachment 1**

**THE 2020 RECIPIENTS OF THE CDM  
CERTIFICATION FOR CHILDREN’S MINISTRY**

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11

The 2019 certification class completed their course work in January 2020. After receiving the final projects and the recommendations of mentors and elders, the CDM permanent committee authorized the CDM staff to present certificates of completion to the students listed below. This certification acknowledges the recipient has demonstrated competency in the knowledge, skills, and character necessary for children’s ministry leaders in the PCA.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>City, State</b>
Mary Alred	Grace Fellowship PCA	Albertville, AL
Allie Arnold	Redeemer Presbyterian Church	Edmond, OK
Karol Barber	Christ Covenant Church	Hernando, MS
Ellen Bitler	The Town Church	Middleton, DE
Lindsey Buitter	Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church	Matthews, NC
Kelly Bulger	Carriage Lane PCA	Peachtree City, GA
Louise Coleman	First Presbyterian Church	Augusta, GA
Benae Duff	Westkirk Presbyterian Church	Urbandale, IA
Kathryn Eriksen	Christ Community Church	Chapel Hill, NC
Joanna Fife	Seven Hills Fellowship	Rome, GA
Brenda Grammer	Westminster Presbyterian Church	Rock Tavern, NY
Chris Gregory	Stone Bridge Church	Charlotte, NC
Erin Kickasola	Chapel Presbyterian Church	Beaver, PA
Amy McClelland	Christ Church Greensboro	Greensboro, NC
Jan Moggio	Old Cutler Presbyterian Church	Miami, FL
Krysta Orona	Mosaic Church	Albuquerque, NM
Betsy Palm	Valley Presbyterian Church	Madison, AL
Stacy Payne	Mountain Fellowship	Signal Mountain, TN
Adam Peeler	Carriage Lane PCA	Peachtree City, GA
Jessica Peeler	Carriage Lane PCA	Peachtree City, GA
Dana Russell	Christ the King PCA	Cambridge, MA
McLeod Satterfield	Christ Redeemer PCA	Jonesboro, AR
Jeanette Simpson	St Andrews Presbyterian Church	Columbia, SC
Molly Snipes	Clemson PCA	Clemson, SC
Christie Sosa	Trinity PC Orange County	Orange, CA
Laney Stayton	North Shore Fellowship	Chattanooga, TN
Christine Stone	Christ the King PCA	Somerville, MA
Joanna Thompson	Four Corners Church	Newnan, GA
Alysa Traylor	Christ Community Church	Gainesville, FL
Deborah Tuel	Faith Reformed PCA	Frederick, MD
Saralyn Tyler	Christ Church Toronto	Toronto, ON Canada
Linda Whitley	Christ Covenant Church	Hernando, MS

Attachment 2

REPORT FROM THE PUBLISHING MINISTRY OF  
GREAT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS (GCP)

Great Commission Publications (GCP) is the official publishing ministry of the PCA and the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). This joint publishing ministry was established by their respective General Assemblies in 1975. GCP publishes high-quality Reformed and covenantal curriculum for all ages. This full-orbed system of curriculum is based solely upon the **Bible as the Word of God** and conforms to the **Westminster Standards**.

GCP is governed by a twelve-member board of trustees, all teaching or ruling elders. Six are elected by the PCA CDM and six by the OPC Committee on Christian Education (CCE). Additionally, the PCA CDM Coordinator and the OPC CCE General Secretary serve as ex-officio, non-voting trustees. Currently the GCP Executive Director and the Director of Publishing are PCA teaching elders, and the GCP Director of Business Operations is a PCA ruling elder. The president of the board of trustees for 2020 is PCA teaching elder David Stewart (This position alternates annually between the PCA and OPC.).

Our newest curriculum is “G2R—God’s Promises,” written to teach covenant theology to grades 7-9. (G2R is an abbreviation for “Genesis to Revelation.) Four modules on the Old Testament were published beginning in the fall of 2019, and four on the New Testament will be published in 2020-21. “G2R God’s Promises” builds on “G2R Bible Survey,” which itself is an exciting journey through every book of the Bible in eight modules. This survey of all the Old and New Testament books helps students integrate the “stories” of the Bible that they have heard into a comprehensive understanding of God’s single story of his redemptive plan throughout Scripture. Both departments allow churches great flexibility in grouping grades 5-9. Check out [www.gcp.org](http://www.gcp.org) to see how to use these studies. Upon completion of the G2R curriculum, students should be well grounded not only in the entire Bible, but with the essence of covenant theology.

New for 2020 is our publication of *First Catechism* in parallel language editions of English-Korean and English-Spanish diglot editions.

**Show Me Jesus** (Toddler through grade four) is the core upon which all the rest of GCP’s curriculum is built. **G2R** follows **Show Me Jesus**, and it is followed by **So What?** for high school students.

Further, **Kids’ Quest** is a club program that is a catechetical curriculum based on *First Catechism*, suited for use in many settings of church life. GCP also has a pocket edition of *First Catechism* for use by all ages, as well as digital editions of *First Catechism* and *Shorter Catechism*.

**So What?** Bible studies for youth continue to grow in popularity. There are ten studies available in a modular format, which makes them flexible for youth groups, small group Bible



1 studies, homeschools, and Christian day schools. Visit the **So What?** website at  
2 [www.sowhatstudies.org](http://www.sowhatstudies.org) for samples, video previews, and more.

3  
4 GCP publishes a child’s curriculum based on *The Pilgrim’s Progress*, featuring a new child’s  
5 edition of the book, a dramatic reading, and a selection of original songs, as well as lessons.  
6 For sample lessons, please visit our website for *The Pilgrim’s Progress* at  
7 [www.childrenspilgrimsprogress.org](http://www.childrenspilgrimsprogress.org).

8  
9 GCP also publishes the *Trinity Hymnal*, a resource that enriches worship with its collection  
10 of over 700 hymns. It includes the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and *The Shorter*  
11 *Catechism*, as well as the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds. Orchestrations are available for most  
12 of the hymns.

13  
14 Further, GCP is the exclusive distributor *Trinity Psalter Hymnal*, a joint publication of the  
15 OPC and The United Reformed Churches of North America (URCNA). We are also the  
16 exclusive distributor *Liturgical Forms and Prayers*, and *Creeds and Confessions* for the  
17 URCNA. These relationships have been positive for all parties involved.

18  
19 For sample lessons for curricular materials, or to place an order, visit our website at  
20 [www.gcp.org](http://www.gcp.org). You also may call **800-695-3387** to speak to a curriculum specialist.