

"Do Justice. Love Kindness. Walk Humbly." – Micah 6:8

The Topic for Education, Discussion, and Prayer (TEDP) for the 2026 Digital Assembly was "Economic Justice." Disciples are doing ministry across the US and Canada while facing rising utility costs, insurance rates, healthcare costs, and other economic challenges. The communities we love and serve are also facing economic challenges.

Each small group was invited to discuss and share responses to the following questions:

1. What are the top 3 issues of economic justice that your congregation or community is facing?
2. What does surpassing love look like in your congregation or context?
3. Given the data that you've encountered, what action can you take and what will you pray for?

229 summaries were submitted from individuals and 52 small groups, some of whom identified themselves by their name, congregation or their General Ministry from cities, suburbs, small towns, and rural areas across the United States and Canada. Responses to each question included a wide range of reflections in the form of brief words, short phrases, and paragraphs.

Responses

1. What are the top 3 issues of economic justice that your congregation or community is facing?

- **Food insecurity** (in multiple contexts including care for the elderly, impoverished, and areas where food deserts exist) was named in two out of every three responses (67%).
- **Housing** and housing related issues (e.g. homelessness, utility costs, property taxes) were named in six in ten responses (60%).
- **Healthcare** was noted in more than half of the responses (52%).

2. What does surpassing love look like in your congregation or context?

Surpassing love is embodied and practiced by every congregation and ministry context. Each respondent conveyed several concrete ways that love is in action in their ministry setting.

- A pantry open twenty-four hours in a parking lot, restocked daily.
- Hosting a “Little Free Pantry” at the church.
- To intimately know our community and neighbors beyond a “wave.”
- A hundred to a hundred twenty-five breakfasts every Sunday morning.
- Warming centers, twenty nights a winter.
- Showers and haircuts.
- Bicycles.
- Gas cards.
- Underwear and socks coordinated with a school nurse.
- Two thousand snack packs a week during the school year.
- A community eye clinic running for thirteen years.
- Congregations that paid off medical debt — one Lenten offering cleared it for more than a hundred people.
- Congregations building affordable housing on their own ballfields.
- One congregation gave up its building for a dollar so it could become housing for families.
- One gives seventy percent of its income to mission and is trying to get to ninety.
- Participating with a city-sanctioned “safe parking” program for adults living in their cars.
- Advocating for affordable housing development.
- Picking up the pieces much as we are able, but a general avoidance of even discussing systemic issues which contribute to an ongoing gap between those who have and those who do not have. Supplying nonperishable items to a local food bank program and feeling that at least we have done something, yet feeling generally powerless.

Small acts become movements when faithful people act together.

I am interested in knowing will anything change in your ministry context provided the discussions at General Assembly. If you'd like to explore more with me drop me a line or two, I'd love to talk. angela@ccmadisciples.org