



Edith A. Guffey of Solon, Ohio, is the Associate General Minister of the 1.4- million-member United Church of Christ. Elected in July 1999 by delegates to the church's 22nd General Synod, she was re-elected as the Associate General Minister at the 26th General Synod serving her final four-year term that runs until October 2007. As Associate General Minister, Ms. Guffey serves as the operational executive of the Office of General Ministries and is responsible for the day to day overall work of that Office.

Prior to her election as the Associate General Minister, Guffey served for eight years as Secretary of the United Church of Christ and, as such, was the chief statistician of the United Church of Christ and editor of its *Yearbook*, which lists more than 10,000 ministers and more than 6,000 churches. She is the administrator of the General Synod and records these proceedings as well as those of the Executive Council, which conducts the denomination's business between biennial meetings of the Synod.

Before joining the national staff of the church, Guffey was associate director of the admissions office at the University of Kansas in Lawrence (1990), where she supervised the processing of applications for admission and assisted in the recruitment of new students. From 1987 to 1990, she was assistant director of the university's Office of Student Records. Her responsibilities as assistant director included maintaining a catalog database, producing a list of courses offered each term, assessing tuition and fees and interpreting university policy. Guffey was the assistant to the director from 1984 to 1987.

In 1983 and 1984, she worked in Lawrence as a case manager for the Home and Community Based Service of the State of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. She also was director of Douglas County Rape Victim Support Services in 1982 and 1983 and its co-director from 1983 to 1984.

From 1977 to 1983, she worked in child support enforcement for state agencies in Kansas City, MO., and Olathe, Kan., and as an income maintenance worker for the State of Missouri Division of Family Services in Kansas City.

While in Lawrence, Guffey was on the board of directors of Douglas County Rape Victim Support Services and did volunteer work with the service. From 1987 to 1990, she was a member of the Douglas County Hospice board of directors.

While in Kansas, Guffey served as president of the United Church of Christ's regional Kansas-Oklahoma Conference and as a delegate to General Synod in 1985 and 1987. She was a member of a church-wide committee that in 1989 recommended the church move its headquarters from New York City to Cleveland.

Guffey was born in Kansas City, Kansas, September 16, 1953, and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas in 1975, and a master's degree in social work with a concentration in administration from the University of Kansas (1986).

Guffey is a member of The Federated Church (United Church of Christ) in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. She and her husband, Jerry, have two sons.

The United Church of Christ is a 1957 union of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.