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Preface

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A Word from the Publisher and Editors

With this issue, the Disciples of Christ Historical Society (DCHS) is pleased to launch the *Journal of Discipliana* (*JoD*), the revisioned and revived iteration of *Discipliana* magazine which began publishing in 1941, the year the Historical Society began to operate. *Discipliana* temporarily suspended publication in 2014 at a time of major transition in the Historical Society. The Society has not published the journal since that time. Originally published as a quarterly print edition, this revived online-only version will publish annually in January, but not in “finished form.” This is the 2021 edition. The online format allows us to add articles and book reviews as they are edited and approved for publication. The hope is that each annual iteration of the journal will look considerably more fulsome by the end of the year than when it first appeared in January.

Submissions will be reviewed prior to publication by a team of prominent scholars representing the major “streams” of the Stone-Campbell tradition and who will serve rotating terms of three years.

Though a plethora of scholarly publications exists within the field of religion, not many are open to comprehensive treatments of matters specifically of interest to people within the Stone-Campbell heritage. *JoD* seeks to fill this gap by publishing articles and book reviews exploring any and all issues (theological, practical, historical, ethical, or “other”) relevant to either the historical or contemporary life of the Movement.

This year’s edition begins with a brief history of *Discipliana* by our Managing Editor Jim McMillan and a summary overview of the important role of periodical journals in the historical development of the Stone-Campbell tradition, written by John Imbler (former Interim Executive Director of DCHS) with the intention of offering it as his Reed Lecture, originally scheduled for last fall at Phillips Seminary in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The COVID pandemic forced cancellation of the lecture, but Dr. Imbler’s words seemed especially fitting for offer as an introductory preface for the revived *Journal*.

The initial offerings in this edition also include two book reviews of Doug Foster’s recently published biography of Alexander Campbell, a book that incorporates a number of images and key historical documents preserved in the DCHS archive. The reviews feature the work of Keith Watkins, noted Disciples historian and specialist in worship and liturgy, and Tom Olbricht, the recently deceased distinguished Churches of Christ historian, rhetorician, and biblical scholar. We expect to add additional articles and reviews in the months to come. Please see the “Call for Papers” below.

Rick Lowery, Publisher
Mark Toulouse, General Editor
Jim McMillan, Managing Editor

***Journal of Discipliana* Articles Invited**

The Editorial Committee of the *Journal of Discipliana* invites manuscript submissions in all areas of the Stone-Campbell Movement. Editors are seeking contributions grounded in original research which defend a clear thesis and inform specialists and/or general readers. Articles should explore issues relevant to all aspects of thought and religious life and practice within the historical or contemporary Stone-Campbell Movement.

The General Editor of the *Journal of Discipliana*, an online only, open access journal, is Mark G. Toulouse, who works in consultation with an editorial committee. Scholars from the three primary streams of the Stone-Campbell Movement: the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, the Churches of Christ (a cappella), and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) serve on the editorial committee. Dr. Richard H. Lowery, president of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society is publisher.

Teachers of graduate students are encouraged not only to submit their own scholarly endeavors but those of their most promising students. The Historical Society seeks to cultivate the work of young scholars through the Isaac Errett Award, an essay contest which each year honors an outstanding student essay.

Manuscripts should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* and the *SBL Handbook of Style* and are to be 5000-6500 words (or approximately 18 - 20 pages, double-spaced) with footnotes. Submit in Microsoft Word to General Editor, Dr. Mark G. Toulouse at journalofdiscipliana@discipleshistory.org.