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Chapman University Media Relations

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Event celebrates Chapman's 1861 founding by the Christian Church.

**ORANGE, Calif., Feb. 25, 2005**, Dr. Ben Bohren, transitional regional minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for Northern California/Nevada, will give the featured address at Coming Home, Chapman University's 22nd Annual Founders Day Celebration on Saturday, March 12 beginning at 10 a.m. on the Chapman campus in Orange.

Celebrating the Christian Church's (Disciples of Christ) founding of Chapman University in 1861, Founders Day is the largest annual regional gathering of the Disciples of Christ and Chapman's biggest fundraising event for the Disciple on Campus Scholarship Fund. More than 800 people are expected to attend the daylong event, which includes a blessing of the new Fish Interfaith Center and a performance by the Chapman Choir Concert.

Dr. Bohren recently started his regional ministry in Northern California and Nevada. Prior to this, he worked for eight years as the director of church relations for the National Benevolent Association, 10 years as the director of church relations at Chapman University and 20 years as the pastor of local congregations in Orange, CA, Lebanon, KY and Nelson, VA.

Though a secular institution, Chapman maintains strong ties with the Disciples of Christ, its founding denomination. Chapman's educational philosophy is to develop the whole person, which includes the spiritual dimension of life. An academic department of religious studies and student life faith programs provide opportunities for students to be engaged in spiritual development if they choose.

For registration information, call the Office of Church Relations at (714) 997-6760.