

may fear and forget times when God has provided a victory, but he is there to heal us, as many times as needed.

God's church is a place to bring hope and peace amid disasters, sorrow, and pain. Jorge and Patty plan to continue holding regular online meetings in the coming weeks.

A different perspective on suffering

As Christians, we often forget that God's logic and purposes aren't always explained in light of our own understanding (Isaiah 55:8-9). Even when we say "God is in control," tragedy and suffering can still leave us asking, "Where is God in the midst of this?"

The "Ministry of Support in Loss Processes" invites you and members of any church to join our next group (only eight to 10 places remain), meeting for four sessions on Sundays via Zoom.

Dr. Michael Messina will lead the first session. A disciple for several decades and former minister in the Los Angeles church, he now lives in Dallas and works as a therapist, psychologist, and professional counselor.

The group offers tools to help you through critical moments, protecting your physical, emotional, and spiritual health from consequences that can leave you unable to function in daily life.

First meeting: September 20, 4:00 p.m. CDT

With Dr. Michael Messina

Find this story at [DisciplesToday.org](https://www.DisciplesToday.org) for the link to join the Zoom meeting.

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> Celebrate New Year's Eve in Chicago

August 24, 2026 • Jasmine Benitez-Legg – Chicago, IL, USA

Young professionals from across the Midwest and beyond are invited to ring in 2027 Chicago-style! Join the Chicago Church of Christ's City Ministry on Thursday, December 31 at 8:00 p.m. at Xoco House Gallery in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood for an...

> Seasons: A Cruise through New England and Canada

August 23, 2026 • DT Travel

Join us for an unforgettable journey from Boston to Québec, experiencing the spectacular coastlines, historic ports, and distinctive culture of New England and eastern Canada. Along the way, we'll explore charming seaside communities, enjoy incredible...

> One Month Away! Register for 2026 North American Church-Building Teachers Conference

August 18, 2026 • Kyle Saxton – Triangle, NC, USA

Registration is now open for the 2026 North American Church-Building Teachers Conference set to take place online or in person in Raleigh, NC, from September 17-19. This year's theme is "The Teacher's Spiritual..."

> Southern Africa Campus Encounter 2026

August 17, 2026 • Vida Li Sik – Johannesburg, South Africa

Campus minister Jake Graham shares about the campus ministry in Johannesburg and highlights from the recent Campus Encounter. Students from South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, and Zimbabwe gathered for a memorable retreat filled with inspiring...



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Online Support Through Grief and Loss

UPCOMING EVENTS

North American Singles Conference

September 3-6, 2026
Baltimore, MD, USA

DT Travel 2026 Mediterranean Cruise:

Footsteps of Paul
September 12-22, 2026

North American Teachers Conference

September 17-19, 2026
Raleigh, NC, USA

Spacon

October 2-4, 2026
Brisbane, Australia

Minister's Wellness Webinar

October 15, 2026
Online

Conferencia de Las Americas

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Oct 15-18, 2026

Western US Elders Retreat

April 8-11, 2027
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX, USA

Singles Cruise

April 22-25, 2027
San Diego, CA, USA

August 26, 2026 • Jorge Diaz – Mexico City, Mexico

On June 24, an earthquake hit Venezuela, leaving more than 6,400 people dead, around 86,300 injured, with thousands still missing.

Disciples, of course, are not immune to the consequences of events such as these, but such times beg the question: what can we learn from Scripture? From Exodus 15:26, "For I am the Lord who heals you," we learn that God is, above all, a God who seeks to heal us, not only spiritually, but also physically, emotionally, and mentally.

Jorge and Patty Diaz are grief counselors in the church in Mexico who have provided online grief support since 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. After the Venezuela earthquake, they held an online meeting with many disciples from the church in Caracas. Thankfully, the disciples were safe, and so was their property, but they were affected emotionally and spiritually.

From Scripture, we learn that sometimes after a victory (God's people crossing the sea), we may still face a desert, a challenging environment that threatens us and puts our faith to the test again. We may doubt; we



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