

NACCC News



National Association of Congregational Christian Churches: *The Messenger*

Make a Church Resolution

Michael Chittum, Executive Director

Moving into a new year is a good time to check over important documents to make certain they are up to date. For example, a person could check their will to verify that it is up to date regarding assets and allocations.

In a similar fashion, members of the church leadership could go over the Bylaws of the church. Things to check for: is the church being governed as we say it should be; do we clearly define the way in which we receive members; is there a dissolution clause to dispose of the church property if the church ceases to function; is the relationship with the minister and potential conflicts with that person outlined; is the way we will call for votes up to date; is the number we have defined for a quorum to conduct business realistic; etc. The church's Bylaws is a living document that should clearly and fairly outline how things are to be done. If it does not, then, there may be a need to consider revising the document.

Be sure to check with your Regional Associations for resources.



Cool Clicks

[Nominate someone to be on our Leadership \(pages 4-7\)](#)

[Order 2017-2018 Calendar \(page 8\)](#)

[Order Lent Devotionals \(page 9\)](#)



Join Mission Mazahua in March for an "Inspirational Week" to see the Monarch Butterflies in their native Latin America. Other activities include: equine therapy, tours of various cities, and an opportunity to experience Mazahua culture. Learn more about this incredible opportunity on page 12.

Join Our Leadership

Ashley Cleere, Chair, Nominating Committee

The NACCC's slate of Officers, Board of Directors, and Ministry Councils are presented by the Nominating Committee to the delegates at the Annual Meeting & Conference. The Committee strives to choose a cross section of men and women, clergy and lay leaders from multi-sized membership churches representing various regions of the country. We heartily request your recommendations by the **January 15 deadline.**

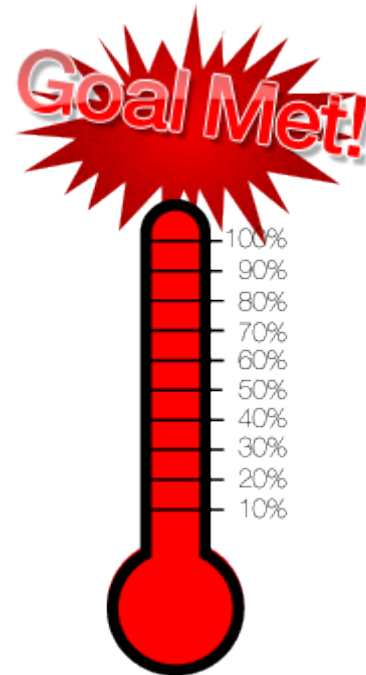
2016-17 Nominating Committee

Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere, Chair (Georgia)
 Larry Sommers (Wisconsin)
 Rev. Bobbie Chapman (Connecticut)
 Jim Larson, Scribe (Iowa)
 Rev. Dr. Thomas Richard (Massachusetts)
 Rev. Linda Anderson (Michigan)
 Laura Hamby, NACCC Moderator, Board of Directors
 Liaison, (California)
 Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum, Executive Director, Staff
 Liaison
 Carrie Dahm, NACCC Meeting Planner/Vendor
 Manager, Staff Liaison



[2017 Annual Meeting and Conference \(Pages 10-11\)](#)

Christmas Appeal Update



As of January 9th, we have raised \$54,580 towards our goal of \$45,000. The Christmas Appeal solicited funds for the Shared Ministries Fund, but all gifts are welcome. Thank you to all the generous donors who supported us this holiday season.

Your Gift Does Make a Difference

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) has been put in place at the NACCC to support those in need after a disaster and/or homelessness. We are extremely grateful to the many churches and individuals who donated more than \$24,347 over the past several months for the Syrian Refugees, fires in Tennessee, and the many floods; including those in Louisiana, West Virginia and Haiti. Thank you for your generous gifts, it has made a difference in the lives of many.

Send Me Your News

Submissions for the January edition are due by January 20, 2016

mohara@naccc.org

National Association of Congregational
Christian Churches
8473 South Howell Ave
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154
mohara@naccc.org
800-262-1620 ext 1615

NACCC Nomination Form

For Officers, Board of Directors, Leadership Council, and Ministry Councils

(WE ENCOURAGE Nominations THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)

DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2017 Elections IS January 15, 2017

Please submit a separate form for each person nominated.

Forms may be downloaded from our Website at www.naccc.org

NOTE: Please refer to the Website, at the location referenced above, for a description of all positions. Due to the nature of our meetings, all elected positions require familiarity with and access to a computer and the internet.

POSITION FOR WHICH CANDIDATE IS RECOMMENDED: (check any that apply)

- ☐ Moderator (2 year term – continues from prior election)
☐ Vice-Moderator (2 year term – continues from prior election)
☐ Secretary* (1 year term)
☐ Treasurer* (1 year term)
☐ Historian* (1 year term)
☐ Board of Directors (4 year term)
☐ Youth Representative – Leadership Council* (1 year term)
☐ Growth Ministry Council (3 year term)
☐ Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (3 year term)
☐ Vitality Ministry Council (3 year term)
☐ Annual Meeting and Conference Committee Member-at-Large (3 year term)

Please note: Positions that are shaded are not up for election this year. Those with an asterisk (*) beside them may have an incumbent prepared to continue in office.

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL BEING NOMINATED: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____
Street City State ZIP

PHONE: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

NOMINEE'S NACCC MEMBER CHURCH: (must have active member status) _____

SPECIFIC SKILLS THE NOMINEE BRINGS TO THIS POSITION: _____

NOMINEE'S SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN:

Local Church: _____

Regional Association: _____

National Association: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE A REFERENCE FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL, IN ADDITION TO YOURSELF:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Has this individual been contacted and agreed to serve if nominated? Yes / No (Please contact them before submitting this form.)

Nomination SUBMITTED BY: (Individual, Group, Church, Etc.) _____

(Please Print - Name, Phone, E-mail)

Signed _____ Date _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: NACCC NOMINATING COMMITTEE • PO BOX 288 • OAK CREEK, WI • 53154;

Fax to: (414) 764-0319; or E-mail to: cdahm@naccc.org

**ELECTED POSITIONS
of the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**

Following is a brief description of our elected positions. All are expected to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference and participate in pre-meetings, with a portion of expenses covered by the NACCC. Most meetings are via conference call. Please consider the areas of experience and/or interest for the recommended individual with those listed below. Please submit a separate form for each individual being recommended.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (7 members, 4 with staggered 4-year terms.)

Governing board of the NACCC Corporation. Acts for the NACCC between its meetings, with actions subject to ratification and review by the member church delegates. The group is tasked with oversight of finance, personnel, property, and legal affairs, while offering leadership and vision.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (11 members, including officers, Ministry Council & Youth representatives, most serving 1-year terms.)

Governing board of the NACCC Association. Acts for the Association between its meetings, with actions subject to ratification and review by the member church delegates. The group is tasked with oversight of all programming, while offering leadership and vision.

MINISTRY COUNCILS (5 members each, elected for up to two, 3-year terms.)

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council is responsible for encouraging and supporting congregations of the NACCC in their mission of spreading the word and work of Christ in the world - both locally and globally. We accomplish this through ongoing communication and support of our NA missions and by shepherding task teams dedicated to promoting and supporting missions, communication with state/regional associations, and maintaining relationships with outside organizations, including our NACCC-affiliated colleges, the Congregational Library, and AMCO/ICF.

The Vitality Ministry Council's goal and our subsequent responsibilities revolve around strengthening the local church. We work to encourage and support the local church through such methods as providing financial and spiritual support for seminary students, ministerial and lay training programs, enhancing vitalization efforts, offering assistance in clergy-congregational matters, establishing avenues for recognition and awards, and other programs in both the areas of the tangible and intangible. We accomplish this through quarterly conference call meetings and shepherding the task teams dedicated to working on each of the above items. Each member of the VCM is expected to convene and work with one or more task teams which also meet via conference calls.

The Growth Ministry Council's areas of responsibility are: 1) the establishment of new Congregational churches; 2) the development of meaningful and God-honoring worship and spiritual growth experiences; 3) the development of local church ministries with young people; 4) providing leadership for the NACCC-wide youth programs; and 5) providing support for the effective use of technology in the local church. We accomplish this through regular conference call meetings and shepherding the task teams dedicated to working on each of the above areas. Each member of the Growth Ministry Council is asked to assist in the work of one or more task teams.

OFFICERS

The Moderator (two-year term) shall preside at all meetings of the Association and serve as Chair of the Leadership Council and the Co-Facilitator of the Annual Meeting and Conference Committee, with vote.

The Vice-Moderator (two-year term) shall assist the Moderator, serve as a voting member on the Board of Directors of the Corporation, the Leadership Council, and on the Annual Meeting and Conference Committee as defined by the Bylaws. The Vice-Moderator shall automatically be nominated to succeed to the office of Moderator.

The Secretary (one-year term) keeps a full and accurate record of the proceedings of the NACCC and of the Board of Directors, and Leadership Council. He/she keeps records of membership and attendance, receives official communications and sends notices and correspondence as directed. This is a job that requires a lot of time, skill, and dedication. A deep familiarity with the ways of the Association is a practical prerequisite.

The Treasurer (one-year term) is the custodian of the funds of the Association. He/she is responsible for all finances under the direction of the Board of Directors and reports to them and to the Association at each Annual Meeting. The Treasurer delegates much of the everyday, operating financial functions to staff members whose activities he/she monitors and oversees. Business acumen, dedication to and familiarity with the Association required.

The Historian (one-year term) keeps a written chronology of important historical events and accomplishments of the NACCC, offers an annual Necrology, and oversees the maintenance of the archival records.

ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE COMMITTEE – MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (3 members, staggered 3-year terms)

The Annual Meeting & Conference Committee assists local Host Committees and NACCC staff in planning the programming for the Annual Meeting and Conference. Members-at-Large also constitute the Credentials Committee at the Annual Meeting and Conference. The Credentials Committee shall certify the existence of a quorum and prepare a final report to be presented before the conclusion of the Meeting showing the roll of member churches represented, with the names of their official delegates and alternate delegates, as determined by the presentation of credentials from the electing churches. Members-at-Large should have an understanding of/interest in event planning.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Leadership Team Travel Policy Overview

[revised Sept 2015]

The travel policy for the NACCC Leadership Team is determined by the Board of Directors. The following is a brief overview of that policy. While the Policy states clearly that the NACCC will pay for a portion of the expenses for Leadership Team members to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference (and, if appropriate, pre-meetings), please consider whether you might further subsidize your own travel. All NACCC Leadership Team members are asked to cover up to 100% of the cost to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC), if possible, through personal funds or subsidies from their church or state/regional association.

Policy outline:

1. The NACCC will pay for a portion of Leadership Team expenses for one face-to-face meeting each year, to coincide with the AMC, as follows:
 - a. Costs to get to the meeting (transportation of any kind and meals en route) are to be covered by the Leadership Team member.
 - b. Costs for any meals other than group meals* at the AMC are to be covered by the Leadership Team member.
 - c. Registration, room (1/2 of double occupancy rate), and AMC group meals* are all covered by the NACCC, through the Shared Ministries Fund or individual group travel budget.
 - d. Pre-meetings: Only authorized Leadership Team members will be covered for pre-meeting expenses. (Note: The groups listed in *italics* in #2 below generally do not meet for pre-meetings. If you are unsure whether you are covered, contact the NACCC office.)
2. The "Leadership Team" is defined as: Board of Directors, Officers, Leadership Council, Ministry Councils (Growth, Missions, & Vitality), *and Annual Meeting and Conference Committee Members-at-Large*.
3. Beginning with the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the NACCC has limited additional funds to cover travel costs for Leadership Team members who cannot afford to cover their travel costs to attend the meeting. These members are encouraged to apply for funding, with the actual amount awarded based on the expressed needs of the individual, not to exceed \$400 per person. Should the total amount requested for any given year exceed the budget, gifts will be prorated. Requests will be handled confidentially by the Executive Director or her/his staff designee.

* *Group meals are defined as those meals included on the registration form that are not special gatherings. As these can vary each year, Leadership Team members should consult annually with the NACCC's Meeting Planner to confirm which meals are covered by the NACCC.*

NACCC LEADERSHIP TEAM
EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY SHEET
Approved December 2016

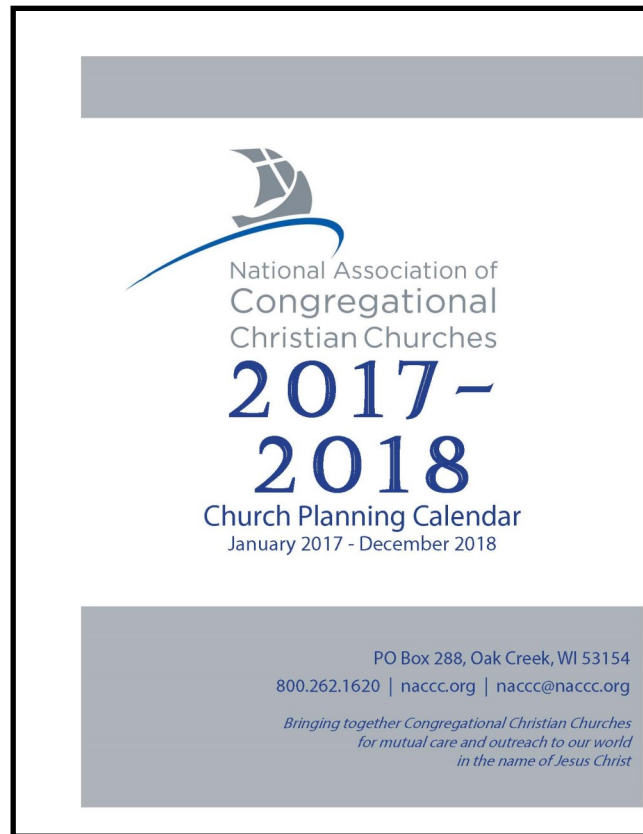
One of the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in the New Testament scripture is administration.

The need for a strong, visionary, and committed administrative leadership team, takes approximately 100 people (including boards, councils, officers, teams, and special appointed groups) from our member churches. The Leadership Council has adopted the following list of expectations and responsibilities for those who serve.

Expectations and Responsibilities:

1. Support and pray for the mission of the NACCC and its member churches.
2. Membership in a NACCC church that contributes at least 50% of the Fair Share (Fair Share is \$13 per active member of the church) or commit to working with church membership to reach this level of giving.
3. Advocate for financial support in your church's budget, for the work of your state, regional, and National Association.
4. Obedience to and familiarity with the governing documents (articles and bylaws and policies) of the NACCC, as well as state and federal laws.
5. Faithful attendance at meetings of your board, council, or team. (Missing three meetings annually without being excused by the chairperson shall constitute disinterest or inability to fulfill requirements of your work and may lead to removal from office.)
6. Participate in fundraising/networking efforts by making an annual financial contribution to the NACCC Shared Ministries Fund.
7. Come prepared to all meetings/conference calls by reviewing agenda and supporting materials, and evaluate financial expenditures in order to make informed decisions.
8. Respond respectfully to all decisions reached, appropriately observing the confidentiality of discussions in committee.
9. Serve subcommittees/teams as needed.
10. Pay for all or part of your expenses associated with attendance at all meetings, and/or encourage your church or state/regional association to assist with expenses.
11. Communicate the work of the NACCC to your church or other NACCC churches. Including, but not limited to, church leadership, church newsletters, annual reports and websites.
12. Coordinate with other leadership members from your region or state to advocate and report on the work of the NACCC at state and regional gatherings and encourage your church's participation in the meetings, retreats and workshops offered.

2017 - 2018 NACCC Planning Calendar Order Form



Please send _____ Two Year (2017-18) Calendars
Price: \$10.00 per copy – Plus shipping & handling charges

(Please Print Clearly) Send Calendars to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Please send completed form to:

NACCC

PO Box 288

Oak Creek, WI 53154-0288

or

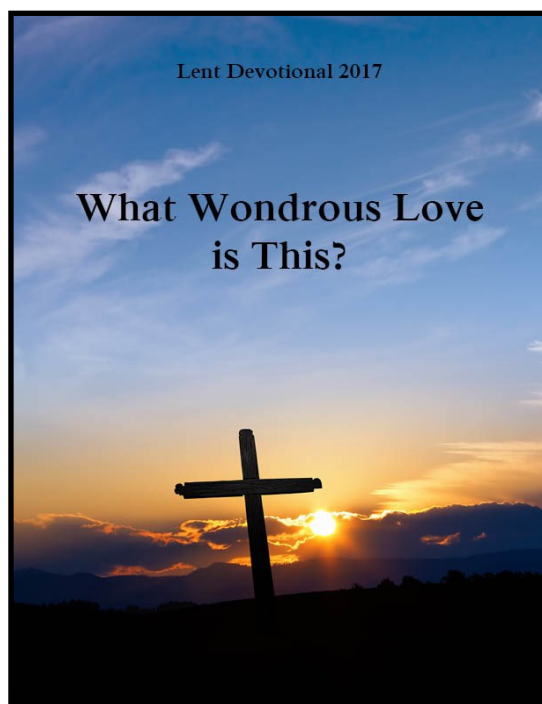
Email your request to: lmiller@naccc.org

Telephone: (800) 262-1620 ext. 1618

Fax: (414) 764-0319

2017 Lent Devotional Order Form

Ash Wednesday
Is
March 1, 2017



Please send _____ 2017 Lent Devotionals
Price: \$3.00 per copy – includes shipping & handling charges

(Please Print Clearly) Send Devotionals to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Please send completed form to:

NACCC
PO Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154-0288

or

Email your request to: lmiller@naccc.org
Telephone: (800) 262-1620 ext. 1618
Fax: (414) 764-0319

SIXTY-THIRD (63RD) ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

June 24-27, 2017

Piedmont College

Demorest, Georgia

ACCOMMODATIONS:

DORMS AT PIEDMONT COLLEGE

1021 Central Ave., Demorest, Georgia 30531

Dorms will cost \$60 per person for a 1 to 7 day stay.

Some dorms will be accessible from the outside, some will have elevators. All dorm rooms have single beds. One person will occupy a dorm room with a twin bed, and two rooms will share a bathroom with a shower. Some have common areas and a laundry facility. All dorms are air conditioned. Your (1-7 day) stay will also include one set of bedlinens and a supply of towels along with access to a refrigerator. There will be no cleaning service during the week.

- Rooms do not include clocks or microwaves.
- Parking is available on the campus.
- Guests will need to bring their own toiletries along with personal items such as; shampoo, soap, and a hairdryer.

HAMPTON INN CORNELIA

161 Market Corners Drive, Cornelia, GA 30531; 706.778.0040

A limited number of rooms have been reserved, so please book early, the cutoff date, June 7, 2017. If you would like to arrive before June 21; or stay after June 27, please call the hotel to check availability.

For reservations:

~Call 1-800-HILTONS and ask for the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, NACCC or use reference code, CHXCCC to receive the group rate.

The group rate is \$95 per night [&15% tax & \$5 per night state fee-TOTAL \$114.25] and includes a hot breakfast, Wi-Fi, business center, fitness room, outdoor pool and comp parking.

Piedmont College will host a hospitality suite at the Hampton Inn some evenings, depending on the schedule.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION:

The Atlanta Airport (ATL) is approx. 90 miles/90 minutes. Airport transportation information will be forthcoming.

CAMPUS TRANSPORTATION:

Piedmont College will provide continual shuttle service throughout the day between the campus and the Hampton Inn. Piedmont will also provide transportation around the campus for those that have mobility issues. The Hampton is 3 miles or 5 minutes from the campus.

The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding. Nehemiah 2:20

Inspirational Week

2-9 March or 9-16 March 2017

Mission Mazahua México



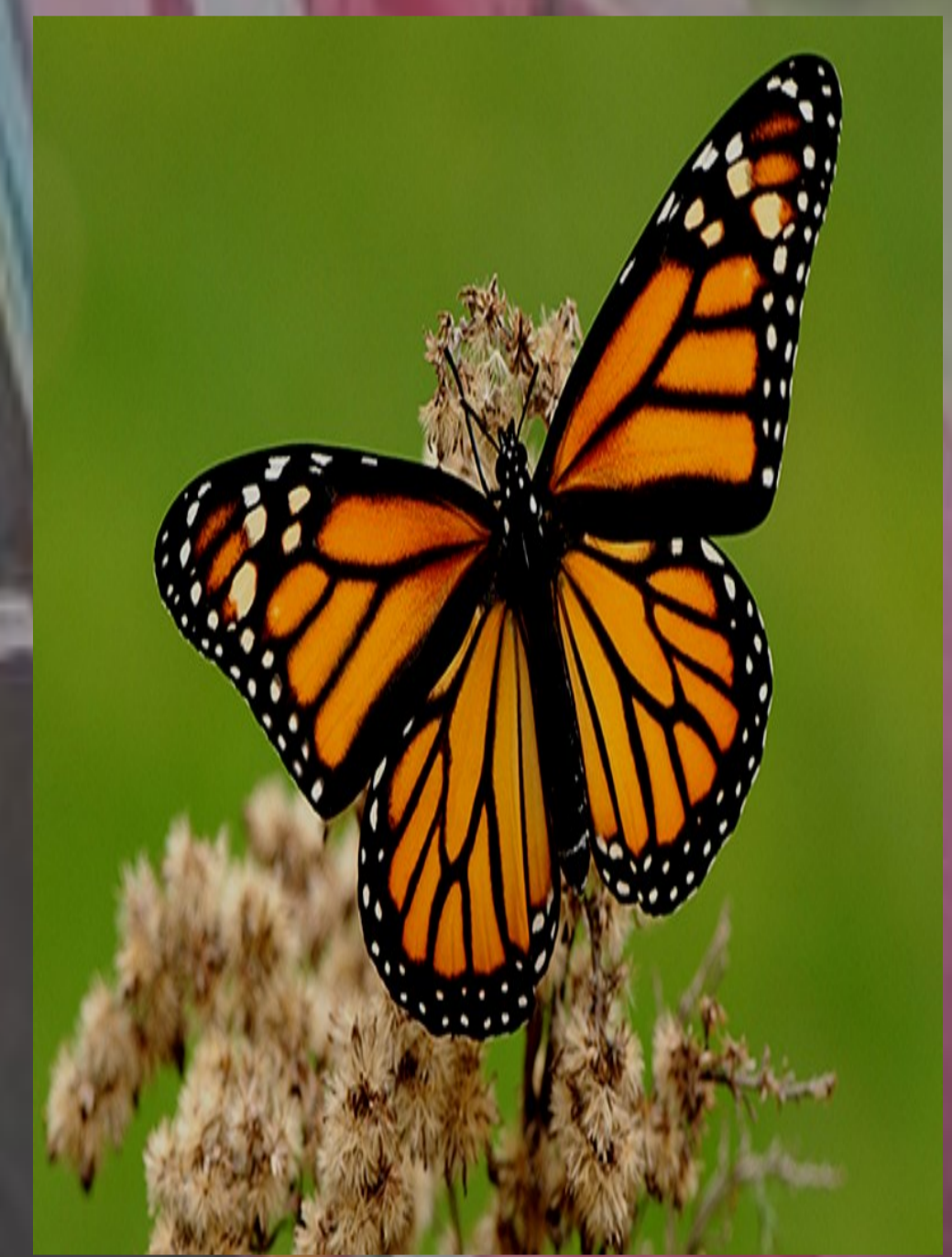
**Natural
Beauty**



**Equine
Therapy**



**Mazahua
Culture**



**Sanctuary of the
Monarch Butterfly**

And much MORE!

Cost per person:

450dls 1 week or 800dls 2 weeks

**Includes room, board all terrestrial transportation
(from the airport, back to the airport and tours)**

Reservation : Phone: (011-52)-712- 123-5462

E-mail: mazahua2@gmail

E-mail: greciarobles030@gmail.com
(event organizer)

For more information consult the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Inspirational-Week->