



August 15, 2020

NACCC NEWS

The Messenger



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Preparing for Service in the Church

Michael Chittum, Executive Director

One of the defining characteristics of Congregationalism is an emphasis on an educated clergy and an educated laity. The National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) established the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS) to help women and men who are called by God to positions of ministry obtain the theological training needed.

In addition to the CFTS program, the NACCC has also had a Lay Ministry Training Program (LMTP) to provide important training for our laity. In Fall 2021, a new LMTP will be launched. This will be a structured 3-year program designed to help prepare the laity in the church to deepen their spiritual life and to prepare for greater service in the local congregation. The full 3-year course structure will give the training to prepare someone to serve as a lay minister for one of our churches. Over the next year, you will have many opportunities to learn about the structure of this revised LMTP. Perhaps, God is calling you to be part of this new LMTP to strengthen your service for God's kingdom in your local congregation.

Pilgrim's Presence

Julie Robie, Missions Administrator

All NACCC missions are required to submit Quarterly Reports and Annual Reports which are reviewed by the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) in order to understand how NACCC funds are being used, to be kept up to date about how each mission is doing, and to know how to pray specifically for needs. Since the 1930s, the US government has mandated a system of reports for moneys sent to international missions so that US citizens can properly claim a charitable donation for their gifts. Since 2001, there have been additional layers of requirements added. The Quarterly Reports and Annual Reports from our missions help the NACCC stay in compliance with these requirements and maintain our own 501c3 status.

Geoffrey Lipale of Pilgrim's Presence in Kenya records in his April, May, and June Quarterly Report that along with the challenges of COVID 19, desert locusts and fall army worms descended into farmlands destroying thousands of acres of crops. A spring landslide killed almost 3,000. Pilgrims Presence is helping villages to understand the importance of hygiene in the battle against COVID 19, supporting poor households with food, and coming alongside the landslide victims with provisions. (*Photo: Landslide victim receiving food*)



Your Support Matters

Debby Fulton, Director of Development and Communications

Although this year's Virtual Annual meeting is in the rear-view mirror, the commitment to our member churches is strong and present. Even during this time of uncertainty and questions, the NACCC continues to make the necessary changes in our way of work to help strengthen our services and support churches in any way we can. Your leadership, donations, and ongoing support will help to ensure that our work continues.

Thank you to those who heard our call and responded so positively to the recent Post Annual Meeting appeal. Your gift will make a difference in how we are able to assist our members. Keep us in your prayers as we continue our work on behalf of the many wonderful NA churches.

Member Church News

First Congregational Church of Fall River, MA will be commemorating 400 years of Congregationalism with a concert of wind music from the time of the Mayflower. The Delight Consort will take place on Saturday, August 29th at 3pm EDT and will be live streamed on their Facebook page.

*Send us your news and photos!
Submissions for the September issue are due by August 25, 2020
development@naccc.org*

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

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Oak Creek, WI 53154
800-262-1620 ext. 1610

NEWS & NEEDS

of our Missions



A quarterly publication of the **Mission and Outreach Ministry Council**
by Julie Robie, *Missions Administrator*

Summer 2020

Happy Life Children's Home

Every year at the NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference, the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) interviews all missionaries present at the meeting. The interview lasts for 45 minutes and includes questions about the work of the mission, projects for which they need support, a check in to see how the missionary is doing spiritually, emotionally and physically and ways in which folks can pray for them. It is a time of intimacy and information gathering with the goal of building supportive, reciprocal, and accountable relationships. This year, MOMC has plans to interview every NACCC missionary in a similar but virtual way. The interviews will be done with Zoom, phone calls or emails. Would you pray that God parts the waters of communication glitches?



Jim & Sharon Powell with members of the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council at the 2019 Annual Meeting & Conference.

Praise for...

Rev. Matthew Oladele, Christ to the Villages in Nigeria, sent along a picture in his quarterly report of the thriving Cashew Farm project in Akwo Village of Kwara State. This sustainability project was started in 2019.



Panamerican Institute

The Panamerican Institute (PAI) continues its goal of providing the best possible Christian and learning environment to students by finding ways for their students to continue their education online. This has been difficult since not all students have equipment or internet service at home and many families have children in different classes. One family even has a student in the first-year class, second year class and third year class. (PAI) teachers worked on special lessons to be sent to parents' cell phones, via WhatsApp, because students did not have time to take their books home. Being aware that their students needed extra time to borrow computers from friends and family and/or use neighbors' WiFi connection, their teachers use a platform which allows work to be completed at a different pace than before the pandemic.

Hosanna Industries

The faith-based mission of Hosanna Industries transforms cries of "Hosanna" into praises of "Hallelujah." Hosanna achieves this vision through four main values: by helping low income families renovate their homes at no cost, providing trade skill training, aiding in disaster relief, and by offering a variety of activities geared towards creative and spiritual wellness and development. In the process, Hosanna 'renovates' the lives of families, the mission workers, the financial supporters, and the hundreds of volunteers that give generously of their time annually.



COVID-19



The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council wishes to thank donors who contributed to the One Great Hour of Sharing COVID 19 disaster appeal.

To date, funds have been disbursed for food programs, Personal Protective Equipment, clean water and personal health care programs, as well as

care for the elderly and children living in poverty both in the US and in the communities served by NACCC International Missions. Multiple international missions are experiencing a comorbidity of COVID 19, Dengue Fever, measles, H1N1, chicken pox and malaria. Please continue to pray for these missions as they navigate the very uncertain days and months to come.

Prayers for...

- ◊ Rev. Teodoro Stricker, who is recovering from surgery. (Asociación Civil Crisitiana Congregational)
- ◊ Rev. Charles Nyane (Word Alive Mission), and Rev. Matthew Oladele (Christ to the Villages) both recovering from malaria.
- ◊ Health and finances for Rev. Julio and Elba Santana as they approach retirement. (Bread of Life)
- ◊ For the family of Pastor Jaymar Doulos who passed away due to complication of heart and kidney disease. (Christian Mission in the Far East)
- ◊ A bilingual volunteer who loves children of all ages to come to work in their homeschool environment. (Fishers of Men)
- ◊ Finding willing and capable field mission workers to do this great work for the Lord. Also for youth who stand out with regards to strong work ethic and Godly values. (Hosanna Industries)
- ◊ Pray that we effectively put together the programs to help seafarers not only when they come to the ports we serve but when they are at sea and in other ports. (Seafarer's Friend)

Quarterly Reports

At the 2019 fall budget retreat, the MOMC developed a timeline for requiring and receiving quarterly and annual reports from all NACCC missions. These reports are structured to provide a clear overview of financial and program information, new project proposals, pictures, and prayer requests. October, November and December 2019 reports were due in January, 2020. 22 of 25 missions submitted their reports

Needs of the Missions In Brief

- ◆ **Argentina** (Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational) – child sponsorship; tools and medicine for the clinic
- ◆ **Cameroon** (Mission School of Hope) – mosquito nets, fish farm supplies
- ◆ **Colorado** (A Christian Ministry in the National Parks) – worship books, student sponsorship
- ◆ **Florida** (Bread of Life) – supplies for ministry to the homeless
- ◆ **Ghana** (Word Alive Mission) – child sponsorship and school desks
- ◆ **Haiti** (Love Worth Sharing) - bedrolls
- ◆ **Honduras** (Ministerio Vida Hospital) – medical and dental supplies
- ◆ **India** (Indian Community Fellowship) – sewing machines, food for the children, computers
- ◆ **Kenya** (Happy Life Children's Home)–sponsorships, building funds
- ◆ **Kenya** (Pilgrim's Presence) – mosquito netting, personal hygiene items for women and Bibles in Pokot Language
- ◆ **Mexico** (Fishers of Men) – supplies for medical crusades
- ◆ **Mexico** (Panamerican Institute) – student sponsorships, 30 lab coats for students (sizes 12 – 14), funding for facilities
- ◆ **Myanmar** (Congregational Church of Myanmar) – child sponsorship, support for teachers
- ◆ **Nigeria** (Christ to the Villages) – funding for Cashew Tree Farm
- ◆ **Pennsylvania** – (Hosanna Industries) – tools, building materials, classroom/activity supplies
- ◆ **Philippines** (NACC) – child support, kitchen utensils, kitchen appliances/equipment
- ◆ **Tennessee** – (Morgan Scott Project) – gas vouchers, home repair funds, books and tuition for students

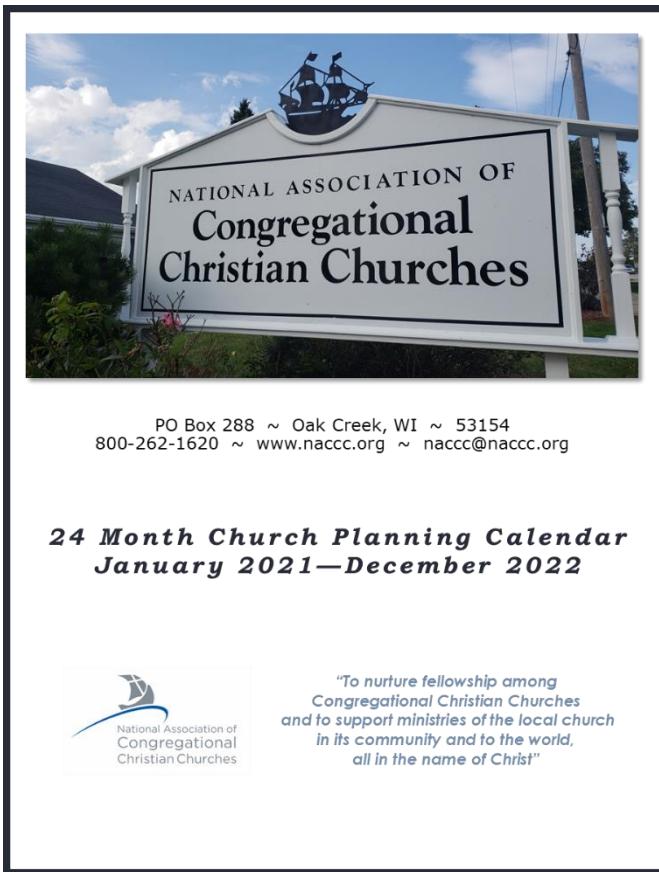
For a more detailed list, please contact Julie Robie at jrobie@nacc.org.

For more information on NACCC missions, or to make a donation please contact Mission Administrator Julie Robie at 800.262.1620 or 603.642.7270 or email at jrobie@nacc.org.

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Missions and Outreach Ministry Council
PO Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154

For a complete listing of NACCC Mission Projects
or to donate, see our website: www.nacc.org
and click on "Missions."

2021 - 2022 NACCC Planning Calendar Order



24 Month Church Planning Calendar January 2021—December 2022



"To nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and to support ministries of the local church in its community and to the world, all in the name of Christ"

Please send _____ Two Year (2021-22) Calendars
\$10.00 per copy - plus shipping

(Please Print Clearly) Send Calendars to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Please send completed form to:

NACCC

PO Box 288

Oak Creek, WI 53154-0288

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Email your request to: lwright@naccc.org

Telephone: 800-262-1620 ext. 1614

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