



November 15, 2020
NACCC NEWS
The Messenger



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Happy Thanksgiving!

Michael Chittum, Executive Director

Thanksgiving Day, as an established holiday, comes but once a year. Giving thanks, as a way of life, however, should be observed and practiced by all people of faith every day of the year. As a way to remind us of this and as a worship aid that can be used in special holiday services in our churches, Shawn Stapleton has written a [Thanksgiving Proclamation for 2020](#). We hope this proclamation will be used by our member churches and will be useful for their church members as a reminder to us all to be thankful.

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks

Julie Robie, Missions Administrator

One of the newest missions to the NACCC is a ***Christian Ministry in the National Parks (ACMP)***. If you are interested in helping young people explore what God is calling them to do, this may be a perfect place for them to start. It is a student-led ministry which began in 1951 with the dream of providing Christian community for the people working in, living in, and visiting the national parks. At the moment, ACMP is recruiting young people for seasonal work, hoping that they “Say “YES” to the call!” For more information go to [their website](#) or their [Facebook page](#). Their recruiting brochure has been posted on their [NACCC website profile](#).

Nominations Welcome!

Justin Nierer, Vitality Ministry Council

The Butman awards are considered the Oscars of the NACCC. These awards, established by Harry and Jeanette Butman through a generous endowment gift carrying their names, recognizes ministers and spouses. They are presented each year to praiseworthy recipients at the NACCC Annual Meeting & Conference.

The Butmans were strong advocates of true congregationalism and believed in encouraging ministers and their spouses in their work on behalf of the church. These awards are given to those who have devoted their lives to the NACCC and to the tradition that is the Congregational Way. A way of Freedom, Faith, and Fellowship. The NACCC Vitality Council reviews the nominations under the lens of not just true congregationalism but also one of the spirit of the Butmans which is a focus on Christ above all, that there is one King and He is Christ. Consider nominating your pastor or their spouse for this prestigious award! [Click here to find out more.](#)

Search Underway for NACCC Executive Director



[Click for more details.](#)

Member Church News

The Congregational Christian Church of North Manchester, IN is holding a Surviving the Holidays Griefshare Seminar for those who have lost loved ones on Sunday, November 22nd.

First Congregational Church of Portland, MI is doing special "Congregate-to-Go" Holiday Meals for Seniors.

First Congregational Church of Yarmouth, MA is hosting "The Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis" on November 15th via Zoom

The NACCC welcomes Rockwood First Congregational Church of Rockwood, MI to the **Congregational Investment Trust**

NACCC Prayer Circle

Thursdays on Zoom
2 PM Eastern
1 PM Central
12 PM Mountain
11 AM Pacific
[Click here to join](#)
All are welcome!

*Send us your news and photos!
Submissions for the December issue are due by Nov. 25, 2020*

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

8473 S. Howell Avenue, P.O. Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154
800-262-1620 ext. 1610

2020

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches Thanksgiving Proclamation

On October 3, 1789, President George Washington issued the first Thanksgiving Proclamation, saying “. . . it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor.” While that statement is perpetually true, it seems more true than ever in 2020.

It was 400 years ago this month – several generations before General Washington’s declaration of a national Day of Thanksgiving – that our spiritual and ecclesiastical foreparents stepped off the Mayflower on to the shores of Cape Cod after 66 harrowing days at sea. Conditions were challenging, to say the least, and they lost many of the family and friends with whom they left the shores of Europe. With the help of the indigenous Wampanoag people – a people with whom they might have had immediate conflict – the Pilgrims were able to eventually plant and harvest sustainable crops, and withstand the harsh climate of the New England shores.

Today, we are not unlike those Pilgrims –
we have settled in uncharted territory;
we have lost many family and friends;
we need to band together to get through these challenges.

With those things in mind, let us give thanks:
for every breath, which is a gift from God;
for every moment together, knowing the next is not assured;
for every provision God supplies, no matter how meager;
for every member of our support system, without which we could not survive.

May God grant us all the courage, grace, strength, faith, and tenacity to forge ahead as we face whatever challenges might lay before us. With Jesus as our Lord and the Holy Spirit as our guide, we can march with confidence into 2021. May the blessings of God be with all of you this holiday season!

-Rev. Dr. Shawn Stapleton



Excellence in Ministry Awards

Nomination Form

Help us celebrate excellence in ministry. The NACCC wishes to recognize leaders and/or innovators who have made significant contributions to Congregationalism. The Nominees should exemplify personal commitment to the principles of Congregationalism of faith, freedom and fellowship.

Nominations may be made by churches or individuals. Supporting documentation may also be submitted to assist the VMC in their selection process. This may include letters of support and/or articles about the nominee.

These yearly awards will be given at the discretion of the Vitality Ministry Council (VMC). Submitted materials will be kept confidential and become the property of the NACCC.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINEE CONSIDERATION IS APRIL 30.

For consideration, return this nomination form and any supporting documents
to:

Center for Congregational Leadership – NACCC
8473 S. Howell Ave.
P.O. Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154

Reset Form

<input type="radio"/> Marian Bradshaw Award	<input type="radio"/> Harry R. Butman Award	<input type="radio"/> Jennette Butman Award
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ordained minister ➤ Personally committed to Congregationalism ➤ Preference given, but not limited, to a minister of the State of Maine <p>Award: \$500. Award to be used for continuing education other than a professional degree program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ordained minister who has served at least ten years in an NACCC church ➤ Personally committed to the principles of Congregationalism <p>Award: \$500. This award is intended to provide ministerial assistance to lift and encourage a minister.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The spouse of a Congregational minister who has served an NACCC church for at least 10 years and has assisted their spouse in ministry. <p>Award: \$500. Awarded on the basis of need, merit or outstanding achievement</p>

Nominee's Name _____

Church Membership _____

Nominee's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Nominator's Name _____

Church Membership _____

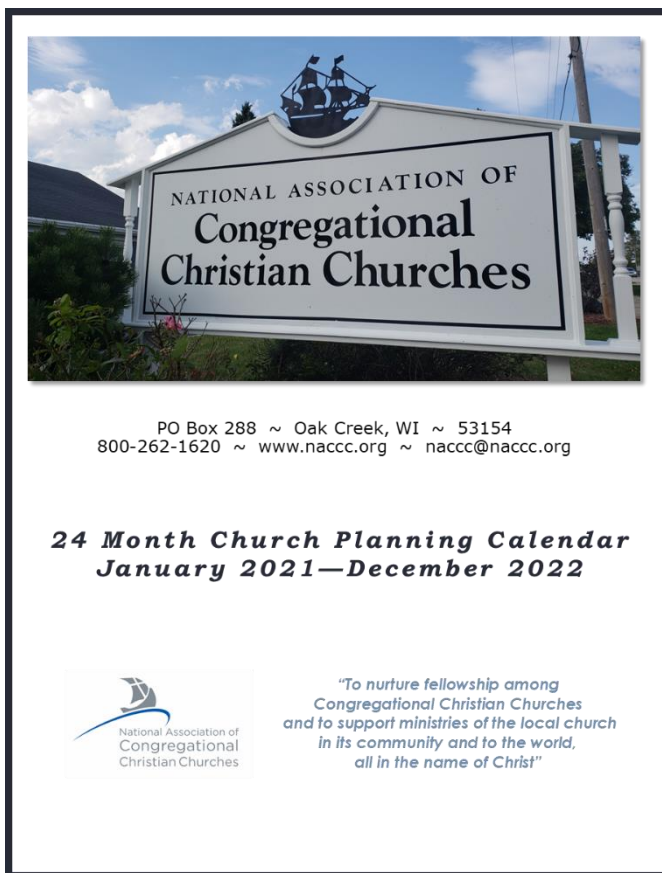
Nominator's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Please describe the nominee's personal commitment to Congregationalism and other achievements that further the principles of Congregationalism.

2021 - 2022 NACCC Planning Calendar Order



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

(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: lwright@naccc.org

Telephone: 800-262-1620 ext. 1614

Fax: 414-764-0319



Devotionals

Order your NACCC Devotionals

Advent 2020 and/or Lent 2021

Online: www.naccc.org

2020 Advent Devotionals

Please send _____ Advent Devotionals
Price: \$3 per copy – includes shipping & handling charges

(Please Print Clearly) Send Devotionals to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

2021 Lent Devotionals

Please send _____ Lent Devotionals
Price: \$3 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: lwright@naccc.org
Telephone: (800) 262-1620 ext. 1614
Fax: (414) 764-0319

**Ash Wednesday
is
Feb 17, 2021**

Please send completed form to:

**NACCC
PO Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154-0288**

or

Email your request to: lwright@naccc.org
Telephone: (800) 262-1620 ext. 1614
Fax: (414) 764-0319

Apply Today

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks

Impactful. Transformational. Unforgettable.



Work

You will secure a full-time seasonal job working in the hospitality industry earning an income and engaging in relational ministry with your peers. We will help!



Worship

Each Sunday, you and your team will help lead worship services in the national parks for those who live in and visit these beautiful areas.



Wilderness

Spend your time rock climbing, hiking, kayaking, adventuring and exploring the national park - your backyard for your whole experience!



Leadership

This will be the hardest, and the best, experience of your life! Step up and into the call to serve, and be prepared to live out a radical life for Christ.

ACMNP at a Glance...

INCOME: You will actually earn a paycheck! Team members can walk away with \$2000-3000 during a summer season.

Are you a seminarian? You are eligible for a \$2000 scholarship for your first season and \$3000 for your second. Interested in leadership? Apply for the Advanced Leadership Development Program, and earn an additional \$1000 scholarship.

COST: You are responsible for transportation to and from your park, the pre-season training conference in

Team Members

300

Park Locations

35-40

Team Size (Avg.)

2-5

Rocky Mountain National Park, and a \$275 program fee. Fundraising resources are available.

WHEN: If you are available 90 days or more, then apply to join one of our summer or winter ministry teams! If you don't have a full season quite available, reach out to inquire about our short-term IMPACT trips by emailing info@acmnp.com.



Find us online: acmnp.com | Get social with us!



Say "YES" to the Call

Growing Christian leaders through full-time work, worship, and ministry opportunities in the national parks.

The Lord said, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" – Isaiah 6:8 NIV



APPLY NOW at ACMNP.com



Contact Us

info@acmnp.com

www.acmnp.com

Get social with us!



Now accepting applications!



"This Will Last Forever"