



November 1, 2020

NACCC

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Getting Involved - Nominations Welcome!

The NACCC Nominating Committee

The time is now to consider how you might use your interests and God-given talents for the NACCC. We are seeking [nominations](#) for our leadership team. Are you interested in helping to coordinate the Annual Meeting, or have a heart for Missions and a head for details, or perhaps you have some ideas of where you think the NACCC might be heading in the future? Consider joining the team.

If a leadership position sparks your interest, or if you know of someone in your church that may be interested, now is the time to let us know. [Click here](#) for information and a Nomination form. Or visit the NACCC website- "Get Involved," section. Nominations need to be received no later than January 15, 2021.

Giving Thanks

Rev. Art Ritter, Chair, Board of Directors

In November we celebrate the national holiday of Thanksgiving and many of our churches have a Heritage Sunday to give thanks for the gifts of our ancestors of faith. November is the perfect month for our churches to consider their gifts to the [Shared Ministries Fund](#) (SMF), the fund which directly supports the operations,

programs, and services of the NACCC. We request each of our member churches to make a contribution at a Fair Share giving level (\$13 per member) or a Fair Share Plus gift (\$15 or more per member) which helps to assure that we can continue our programs that provide education, fellowship, church and clergy assistance, and administrative care. Individual donors are also encouraged to donate a gift to the SMF.

Let us celebrate our heritage by remembering the benefits and services we receive from our NACCC. Encourage your church to do its part in supporting the SMF.



Board of Governors Hard at Work

Ashley Cleere, President, Congregational Foundation Board of Governors

The eight members of the Board of Governors of the Congregational Foundation gathered over Zoom with NACCC staff for our fall meeting on October 20-22. We were pleased that Vice Moderator, Art Ritter, joined our conversations. The discussion topics included honoring major donors, drafting an administrative services agreement with the NACCC, reviewing the endowment portfolio, developing a fundraising guide, and possible campaign initiatives. Those present also anticipated ways to support the impending transitions for Michael Chittum and an incoming Executive Director. While we missed making our annual pilgrimage to Oak Creek, the time together was productive, enhanced by laughter and collegiality.



NACCC Prayer Circle
Thursday afternoons on Zoom
2 PM Eastern, 11 AM Pacific
[Click here to join.](#)

Member Church News

The Southeastern Michigan Association of Congregational Churches is hosting [An Afternoon of Virtual Book Discussion on Our Iceberg is Melting: Changing and Succeeding Under any Circumstances](#) on Sunday, November 15th at 2pm. All are welcome.

[Enterprise Community Congregational Church of Enterprise, OR](#) has been working on an outdoor beautification project. Check out the photos [here](#).

[Plymouth Congregational Church of Minneapolis, MN](#) has been recording the reading of bedtime stories to their young members since March. See the videos [here](#).

Making a [Missions Christmas Gift](#)? November 15th is the deadline to make your financial donation to our missions!

Send us your news & photos!
Submissions for the December issue are due by November 20, 2020
development@nacc.org

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
8473 S. Howell Avenue, P.O. Box 288
Oak Creek, WI 53154
800-262-1620 ext. 1610

NACCC Nomination Form

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

(WE ENCOURAGE Nominations THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)

DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2021 Elections IS January 15, 2021 to begin serving at the conclusion of the 2021 Annual Meeting

Please submit a separate form for each person nominated.

Forms may be downloaded from our Website at www.nacc.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 proficiency 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; June 2021-June 2022)
- Treasurer* (1 year term; June 2021-June 2022)
- Historian* (1 year term; June 2021-June 2022)
- Board of Directors (4 year term)
- Youth Representative – Leadership Council* (1 year term; June 2021-June 2022)
- 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

Has this person read the position description, expectations, and travel policy? Yes / No

(Please contact them and ask 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

Phone: (800) 262-1620

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

Here is a brief description of our elected positions. All are expected to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference and participate in pre-meetings (up to 3 days prior to the AMC), with a portion of expenses covered by the NACCC. Most meetings are via conference call on a monthly basis. The nominee needs to be comfortable using email, PDFs, Trello, and Zoom. 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. Additionally, this council will meet at the site of a national mission in the Fall of each year for several days of planning.

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 monthly conference calls 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 monthly 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.

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 and the particular council or board on which you serve as well as state and federal laws.
5. Complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Policy Statement annually.
6. 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.)
7. Participate in fundraising/networking efforts by making an annual financial contribution to the NACCC Shared Ministries Fund.
8. Come prepared to all meetings/conference calls by reviewing agenda and supporting materials, and evaluate financial expenditures in order to make informed decisions.
9. Respond respectfully to all decisions reached, appropriately observing the confidentiality of discussions in committee.
10. Serve subcommittees/teams as needed.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**

Leadership Team Travel Policy Overview

[revised March 2019]

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 as much of the cost to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC) (up to 100% of the cost, 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 group 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 \$500 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.

Church Fair Share Giving

Why Contribute?

- As an organization, our vitality is directly tied to the support our member churches provide. The NACCC exists to serve our churches and relies on financial contributions to carry out our various programs and services.
- While every congregation is unique, we strive to be valuable and relevant to all our member churches, regardless of size and needs of the church.
- Whether you see value in being a part of a national organization, utilize our networking opportunities, take advantage of our leadership resources, or rely on us to help find a pastor, we ask you to contribute your Fair Share to ensure we are able to help all of our congregations for years to come.

What is Fair Share?

- The NACCC requires each of our member churches to make an annual contribution to our Shared Ministries Fund, which directly supports our programs and services.
- FAIR SHARE refers to our suggested contribution. We do not require a membership fee, but we do expect that each church support the organization through a gift. Currently, the Fair Share we ask our churches to contribute is \$13 a member.
- FAIR SHARE PLUS refers to member churches who give at a "Fair Share Plus" level, which is a contribution of \$15 or more a member. This level of giving has a significant impact on the ability of the NACCC to help churches.

How does the NACCC support our churches?

- Pastoral Searches
 - Aiding member churches and clergy in pastoral searches through a pastoral search process
- Financial Opportunities
 - Granting funds to churches facing challenges through The Hurting Churches Fund
 - Providing professional management for church endowments through the Congregational Investment Trust (CIT)
 - Loaning funds to member churches through the Building & Loan Fund
 - Subsidizing the cost of attendance at the Annual Meeting & Conference through the Providence Fund
 - Funding fine arts programs at member churches through the Richard Fund
- Fellowship
 - Hosting the Annual Meeting & Conference

- Facilitating regional retreats
- Ministers' Convocation
- Preparing tomorrow's leaders through National Association of Pilgrim Fellowship (NAPF) and Heritage of Pilgrim Endeavor (HOPE) programs
- Education
 - Training lay ministers through our Lay Ministry Training Program
 - Providing seminary education and financial support through the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS)
 - Hosting Congregational History and Polity Seminars online and in person
 - Printing, editing and distributing the *Congregationalist Magazine*
- Vetting and Supporting Missions
 - Vet and support 27 national and international missions
 - Provide financial support to 5 national and 11 international missions
 - 100% of all donations to specific missions goes directly to the mission.
- Providing Advisors for:
 - Church growth and vitality
 - Assessing your organizational structure and practices
 - Managing conflict
 - Evaluating clergy and other church staff, lay leaders, and volunteers
 - Creating a culture of stewardship in your church
 - Strategic planning
 - Vetting missions

"Our church gives at this level because we are grateful for all the NACCC has done to help our church. We realize the budget for the NA is not extravagant, and providing services to the local churches costs money. We have certainly benefited from the organization."

-Fair Share Plus contributing church

Mission

**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.**

For more information on Fair Share Giving contact:

- Debby Fulton, Director of Development and Communications
dfulton@naccc.org or 414.856.1610
- Tracy Bernhardt, Development and Communications Assistant
tbernhardt@naccc.org or 414.856.1615
- Dan Drea, Chief Financial Officer
ddrea@naccc.org or 414.856.1616



Christmas Wish List for Missions 2020

This request is for financial donations so that the mission may purchase the items they need.

If you would like to ship items to the mission, please contact Julie Robie (jrobie@nacc.org) for shipping information. Please keep in mind that the deadline to make your financial donation is *November 15th*. Thank you!

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks (Colorado)

- **English Bibles** for our team members to give to coworkers during their season
- **Leadership books** to give to our team members to encourage growth through their season
- **Small crosses** to display at worship services in the national parks
- **Offering baskets** for new national park locations
- **Adopt a team member** -Individuals or churches willing to adopt a team member or team for Christmas (send them notes of encouragement, candy, a deck of cards, etc.)

Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational (Argentina)

- **Health Service Supporters:** medicines have become very expensive. Partners are needed who would spend small amounts but are willing to enter a long-time commitment.
- **Sponsorship Program:** Sponsors are needed to provide for food, education, and health care for poor children of our area.
- **Soup kitchen support:** Approximately 350 children receive a hot meal each Saturday noon. Please help us to provide more meals for more children.

Christ to the Villages (Nigeria)

- **Christmas Outreach** for Children in 7 villages
- **Christmas party** for children in our three schools
- **Christmas package** for the over 100 widows and needy
- **Christmas care package** for staff in the three schools
- **3 days Shao Open air crusade/outreach** and program for Shao children and teens
- **Christmas package for retired and active Pastors**
- **A High lumen Portable Projector** for media show

Congregational Church of Myanmar (Myanmar)

- **Christmas program** – Christmas Gospel outreach crusade and feeding needy families
- **Children's gifts** – books, pencils

ECHO (Florida)

- **Gift of Seeds** will bring the hope of future harvest to families. Seeds empower a family to help themselves. With ECHO's seed packets, farmers can grow a crop that may produce higher yields or withstand dry conditions. The farmer then multiplies these seeds by sharing a successful crop with neighbors.
- **A Gift of Keyhole Gardens** will equip a family to grow nutritious vegetables all year long in a keyhole garden. These space-saving gardens conserve water and thrive even in times of drought.

Happy Life Children's Home (Kenya) * all items to be bought in Kenya

- **shoes** for the children 5-18 years who are in Juja
- **Crib sheets** for the infants
- **Mosquito nets**
- **Diapers**
- **Fumigation** of the baby rooms for bedbugs

Love Worth Sharing (Haiti)

- **Underwear** for boys and girls – toddler to teenager
- **Sports bras** for teenage girls

Maine Seacoast Mission (Maine)

- **Toiletries for all ages:** Toothpaste, Shampoo, Body Wash, Lotion, Lip Balm, Hairbrushes, Nail Polish, Deodorant, Shaving Supplies
- **Clothing for Adults (Seniors):** Pajamas and Night Gowns, Gloves/Mittens, Gripper Socks/Crew Socks, Lap Robes (handmade most appreciated), Cardigan Sweaters, Sweatshirts
- **Clothing and Toys for Children and Teens:** Pajamas, Sweatpants/Sweatshirts, Mittens, Hats, Scarves, Socks, Books (all ages,) Art Supplies (all ages), Drawing and Paint Pads, Puzzle and Coloring Books (all ages), Sleds, Ice Fishing Gear, Lego's, Building Toys, Toy Trucks, Baby Dolls, Barbies, Christmas Music CD's, Sports items (such as Basketballs, Soccer balls, Volleyballs, Baseballs, Footballs, Softballs) Board/Card Games (all ages), Movies for Children and Seniors, Developmental Toys, Gift Cards

Morgan Scott Project (Tennessee)

- **New clothing** for children, **toys, food items**

Panamerican Institute (Mexico)

- **Christmas Food Baskets**

Seafarer's Friend (Massachusetts)

- **Items for 1000 Ditty Bags** (fabric bags filled with the items listed) - Knit Hats, Gloves and/or Work Gloves, Hand and Toe Warmers, Deodorant, Soap, Shampoo ≤ 8oz, Combs, Shaving Cream, Razors, Socks-men's medium or large, Shoelaces, Tee Shirt-men's medium or large, Tooth Brushes-Single Packages, Toothpaste, Q-tips, Mending Kits-small, Playing Cards or small Word Puzzle book, Prayer note or card to the seafarer
 - **For instructions** to make a fabric ditty bag, go to www.seafarersfriend.org/ditty-bag



Devotionals

**Order your NACCC Devotionals
Advent 2020 and/or Lent 2021
Online: www.nacc.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@nacc.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@nacc.org
Telephone: (800) 262-1620 ext. 1614
Fax: (414) 764-0319

Recent Calls and Ordinations

Congratulations

• • •

The following churches recently ordained or called ministers to their churches.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

For more information on our pastoral search process, please contact Laura Wright at: lwright@nacc.org or (414) 856-1614

November, 2020

Recent Calls and Ordinations

• • •

Installations

Rev. William J. Vaus, Senior Minister
First Congregational Church
Yarmouth Port, MA
October 17, 2020

Rev. Joel Boyd
First Congregational Church
Marshfield, MA
October 18, 2020