



June 15, 2021
NACCC NEWS
The Messenger



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Sailing Ahead

Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere, Executive Director

Greetings! I write this piece while completing my first week as Executive Director, filled with gratitude for many kind gestures of encouragement over the past two months. A transition of this nature impacts an organization like ours in ways both seen and unseen – from updating technology and meeting reminders to remembering the past and imagining the future. Many activities proceed with a “business as usual” approach, while dreams are delivered in whispers and shouts. We celebrate four centuries since the *Mayflower* arrived on this continent and almost seven decades since the formation of the NACCC. The unprecedented circumstances of the past fifteen months swing open the gates to new ways of being church. Amid longevity and uncertainty, as we sail forward, enthusiasm about our togetherness will bear strength and joy.

Hosanna Industries

Julie Robie, Missions Administrator

It's never too hot to help! Or so said volunteers from Glenshaw Auto who shut down their business for the day so that all of their employees could work alongside Hosanna Industries, Inc., siding a house in Clairton, PA. The grateful homeowner has been in the home her entire life, taking it over when her parents passed away. For more information about Hosanna Industries, Inc., please check out their info on [our website](#) or [theirs](#).



2021 Virtual Annual Meeting & Conference - June 19th & 20th

Carrie Dahm, Meeting Planner

By now, your Church should have designated a Delegate to attend this year's Annual Meeting by completing a [Credentials Card](#). The Delegate must also [register](#) to attend the Zoom meeting. As a delegate, we ask that you review the important meeting documents ahead of the meeting and continue to watch for updates that will be posted on our [Website's Annual Meeting page](#).

Voting will take place during Saturday afternoon's [Business Session](#). As the delegate, it is very important that you are in attendance.

The meeting is open to all members of NACCC churches. There is still time for you to join us by registering to attend this [two-day event](#) which will include inspirational speakers and informative workshops.

Please remember that in order to connect to the Zoom Meeting you must be [registered](#).

Mark your calendars for next year's Annual Meeting which will be held in Wichita, June 25-28, 2022!

2021 AMC Workshop Videos

[Repairing a Broken Bible](#)

[Self Care in Ministry](#)

[The Congregationalist Magazine in the 21st Century](#)

[How to Lead a Mission Trip](#)

[Lay Ministry Overview](#)

[BABES @ Worship: Talking to Kids About Racial Justice](#)

NACCC Reminders

The **NACCC Prayer Circle** is Thursdays at 2 PM Eastern, 1 PM Central, 12 PM Mountain, 11 AM Pacific on Zoom.
[Click here to join](#)
All are welcome!

*Send us your news and photos!
Submissions for the July issue are due by June 25, 2021*

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

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

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Year 2021 - Virtual Annual Meeting - Delegate Certificate

[Only One Delegate per Church]

(A separate card must be completed for each person to be certified)

This Certifies

Name _____ Email: _____
(Use Rev., Dr., Mr., Mrs., Miss – Please Print)

Address _____ Phone: _____
(Street, City, State, Zip)

Is the duly accredited Delegate of the

(Official Name of Church) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____

Name: _____ Office: _____
(Signed by Officer other than the Delegate)

Please return to: Carrie Dahm/NACCC Annual Meeting, PO Box 288, Oak Creek, WI 53154; OR Scan/Email to cdahm@naccc.org; OR Fax: 414.764.0319

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Year 2021 - Virtual Annual Meeting - Alternate Certificate
[If Delegate is not available to vote]

(A separate card must be completed for each person to be certified)

This Certifies

Name _____ Email: _____
(Use Rev., Dr., Mr., Mrs., Miss – Please Print)

Address _____ Phone: _____
(Street, City, State, Zip)

Is the duly accredited Alternate of the

(Official Name of Church) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____

Name: _____ Office: _____
(Signed by Officer other than the Alternate)

Please return to: Carrie Dahm/NACCC Annual Meeting, PO Box 288, Oak Creek, WI 53154; OR Scan/Email to cdahm@naccc.org; OR Fax: 414.764.0319

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

2021 Annual Meeting & Conference

Saturday, June 19 & Sunday, June 20

[updated May 6, 2021]

Saturday Start Time: Alaska-8:00am; Pacific-9:00am; Mountain-10:00am; Central-11:00am; Eastern-12:00pm-Noon

Saturday, June 19, Central Time

11:00 am	Moderator, Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer Greets Newcomers
11:30 am	Congregational Lecturer-Rev. Dr. Mary Biedron
12:30 am	Break
1:00 pm	Business Meeting-See Agenda
2:30 pm	Break
2:45 pm	Introducing the new Lay Ministry Training Program
3:00 pm	Chat with the New Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere
3:30 pm	Break
3:45 pm	Introducing the New NACCC Website!
4:00 pm	Bible Lecture #1-Dr. David Clark
5:00 pm	Workshop 1: 'Write-On!' - Pastor Carol Taylor & Rev. Terry Bobzien
5:45 pm	Workshop 2: 'Lectio Divina' - Pastor Dan Vellinga & Rev. Dr. Charles Packer
6:30 pm	Workshop 3: 'Missions' - Amy Kennedy
7:15 pm	Break
7:30 pm	Social Break-Out Rooms

Sunday Start Time: Alaska-11:00am; Pacific-Noon; Mountain-1:00pm; Central-2:00pm; Eastern-3:00pm

Sunday, June 20, Central Time

2:00 pm	Workshop 4: 'Lay Ministry Class' - Rev. Dr. Stu Merkel
2:45 pm	Workshop 5: 'Ecclesiastical Council' - Rev. Justin Nierer & Rev. Dr. Charles Packer
3:30 pm	Break
4:00 pm	Worship (with Necrology)
5:30 pm	Bible Lecture #2 - Dr. David Clark
6:30 pm	Dinner with Missionaries
8:00 pm	Bible Lecture #3 - Dr. David Clark
9:00 pm	Goodbyes and Thank You
9:15 pm	Social Break-out Rooms

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
2021 Annual Meeting & Conference
Saturday, June 19 ~ 1:00pm Central Time
Business Session Agenda
[updated May 6, 2021]

- 1:00 pm Zoom Instructions
- 1:05 pm Opening of Business Session
Welcome
NACCC Moment-Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere
Call to Order-Moderator, Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer
Constituting Prayer-Jami Backell, Spokane Host Committee
Introduction of Virtual Head Table
Establishing a Quorum-Credentials Report-Chair, Rev. Kay Miller-Todd
Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Agenda
Review of 2021 Emergency Bylaws and Standing Rules
Approval of 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting Minutes-Secretary, Rev. April Barrett
Appointment of Certificate Committee for 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
Introduction and Vote on New Churches-Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere
Installation of New Churches-Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere
- 1:30 pm Reports, Elections and Budget Approval (all reports written)
Nominating Committee Report-Chair, Rev. Patti Haaheim
Election of NACCC Leadership
Election of Two Nominating Committee Members
Ratification of Leadership Council Actions-Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer
Ratification of Board of Director Actions-Chair, Rev. Art Ritter
Introduction of Resolution(s) and Bylaw(s) Amendments
Vote on Resolution and Bylaw Amendments
Financial Report-Treasurer, Jeff Dillion
2021/2022 Budget Presentation and Approval-Jeff Dillon
- 2:00 pm Other business and adjournment
Introduction of Other Business (if any has been submitted by June 1)
Miscellaneous Reports and Awards (ICF and Vitality)
Recognition of Retiring Leadership
Installation of NACCC Leadership-Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere
Closing Remarks-Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer
2022 Wichita Annual Meeting Preview-Host Co-Chair, Rev. Dr. Donald P. Olsen
Benediction-Rev. Dr. Donald P. Olsen
Meeting Adjournment

NEWS & NEEDS

of our Missions

Spring 2021

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

Fishers of Men, Mexico

From Julie Claassen: Fishers of Men ministries rejoiced with the recent delivery of much of the wood needed to prepare for the pouring of the first-floor ceiling of the new main house at Refuge Ranch in central Mexico. Lord willing, we will pour the ceiling before the rainy season begins in July, making this next stage of building a reality and, more importantly, a tangible hope for children in need of a family.



Julie Claassen with wood delivery

Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational, Argentina

On March 21st, the ACCC held its Annual Assembly during which a new secretary and a new treasurer were elected.



Congregational Church of Myanmar

From Rev. Sa Do: Due to the political crisis in Myanmar, the Congregational Church of Myanmar Mission has been faced with many unspeakable difficulties which include finances, safety for the workers and mission property, as well as safety for the Grace Children. We are under the Military ruling of Martial law. Due to daily demonstrations in Yangon, no one has been able to go outside for work since February. Our small church is a safeguard for some mission families who have no safety and no food. We are feeding 25-30 members daily. As Myanmar Mission efforts are being served by indigenous missionaries, most are from Chin State. Over 30 Missionaries have gone back to their native land for security reasons. Our Okkan Pastor and his family also moved to a safer place for a while.



Above: The ministry of the Congregational Church of Myanmar continues on at this home gathering.

Left: Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational ends their Annual Assembly with prayer.

Mission School of Hope, Cameroon

From Rev. Charles Sagay: Food is one of those things we cannot do without. For the children in our school, lunchtime is the best part of school. We feed the children in school since many of them trek for so many miles to and from school.



During the lockdown period due to the pandemic, life became very difficult especially for our community members who must go out daily to look for what to eat. To reduce hunger, our team came up with a strategy of supplying food to our children at the different village squares since we held open-air classes at the squares. Lolita, a girl in the 4th grade (pictured above), said "When I saw the cooks coming to the squares, my joy was inexplicable, and I couldn't wait to get a plate of the delicious food since I had not eaten since morning." The challenge we had was that we ended up feeding more children than planned. We thank God the children are back in school.

Contact Us

For more information on NACCC missions, or to make a donation please contact Missions 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, please visit our website:
www.nacc.org and click on
"Missions & Outreach"**

Seafarer's Friend, Massachusetts

From Ida MacRae: We continue to serve the seafarers that come to our ports. Because of the pandemic, they are still unable to come to shore and there are times where we can't board the ship. We still go to every ship that docks in the ports we serve, and we present them with a Goodie Box (pictured below). This box is filled with chocolate, oranges, cookies, and chips. Within the box are also devotionals, Bibles, books to read, and puzzles. We supply each box with contact information if they are needing counseling, spiritual encouragement, and friendship.



Christ to the Villages, Nigeria

Pastor Matthew ministered to teenagers in Shao and co-sponsored an event on sexual purity.



"This was then" How much have the cashew trees grown? Well, they are about as tall as Pastor Matthew. How tall is Pastor Matthew? Find the answer at the bottom of the Prayers and Needs page!



PRAYERS & NEEDS

Seafarer's Friend, Massachusetts

Prayers: for the Seafarers

Needs: Sending donations to help with the supplies of the boxes or sending care packages that we can include in the boxes would be greatly appreciated. For instructions, please visit www.seafarersfriend.org and click on the donate box.

Christ to the Villages, Nigeria

Prayers:

- ◆ Wisdom for the leadership of this ministry
- ◆ Safety from all danger and political instability
- ◆ Provision to meet the needs of the mission
- ◆ Thank God for the work He is using Christ to the Villages to do here in Nigeria.
- ◆ For divine grace, direction, and divine provisions
- ◆ For faithful staff
- ◆ For the churches to grow in the Lord and in all good works
- ◆ Thank God for all our partners and supporters. Please pray for God's blessings on them.
- ◆ Thanks and prayer for NACCC and MOMC.

Needs:

- ◆ A high lumen portable projector that can be used during the day-time presentation
- ◆ Laptop Computers
- ◆ Restroom for Alpha Elementary School Shao
- ◆ Restroom for Omega High School Shao
- ◆ Missionary Children sponsors
- ◆ An off-road vehicle (the present one is wearing out and we spend more on maintenance)

*Pastor Matthew is 6'1"! The cashew trees are doing well!

Fishers of Men, Mexico

Prayers:

- ◆ We are grateful to the Lord for His faithful provision throughout the COVID pandemic, as well as continued health for all of those directly involved with Fishers of Men.
- ◆ The next stage of construction of the main house at Refuge Ranch - the pouring of the first-floor ceiling before rainy season begins in July.
- ◆ May the Lord continue to bring to our family at Refuge Ranch those children that He knows need a family.
- ◆ Continued unity among the staff at Refuge Ranch.

Needs:

- ◆ The Refuge Ranch homeschool is in need of volunteers to work with elementary, junior high and high school children in English. Spanish knowledge is helpful for relating to the children and explaining concepts. Volunteers can serve anywhere from several weeks to several months to even several years, according to how the Lord leads and provides! Room and board is provided in exchange for volunteer services.

Congregational Church of Myanmar

Prayers: Please pray for our Mission families and needs.

Needs: Relief efforts, Grace Children sponsorship, five Mission workers support

Charles Rush Award

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS APRIL 15, 2021

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council is accepting nominations for The Charles Rush Award which is presented to minority persons who are working with Congregational Christian Churches toward worthwhile social and personal goals. The award exemplifies the spirit of Rev. Charles Rush and emphasizes the importance of Christian social involvement.

The late Rev. Rush lived in California. His life of unselfish service as an educator and minister, friend of the Free Church, and active participant in the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches set an example for many. Friends have honored his memory by establishing this fund in his name. The Charles Rush Award is presented at the Annual Meeting and Conference of the NACCC.

Please send letters of nomination to: Julie Robie, Mission Administrator, 184 Main Street, Kingston, NH 03848
or email to: jrobie@naccc.org