# AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU

Your business, professional association, labor union or service group may invest in the cause of furthering Christian unity by investing in a sponsorship of an annual conference of the International Council of Community Churches.

Sponsorship opportunities begin at the \$1000 level.

### WHY INVEST?

You will participate in building the community church movement, which seeks Christian unity without uniformity, and models diversity without division. In an era of conflict and suspicion, the community church movement demonstrates that though we may differ in practice and organization, cooperation and service to human need and aspiration is not only possible; it is happening now.

### **BENEFITS TO SPONSORS**

You will receive a suitably engraved wall plaque to indicate your support of unity and reconciliation. Your investment will be acknowledged with gratitude on the Council's webstie and in the Christian Community newsletter for a full year.

Your investment will be acknowledged by an advertisement in the Annual Conference Program and Directory, referenced yearround by church leaders and decision-makers. Please supply your copy and a photo-ready monochrome logo and/or photo for inclusion in your ad. Preferential placement will be given for more generous sponsorships.

If it is possible for you to attend the Annual Conference, complimentary tickets to the annual banquet will be waiting for you or your designee.

You will have the knowledge that your support is strengthening the community church movement.

Thank you for your part in the quest for Christian unity and reconciliation.

# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL INITIATIVES

### UNITY

The International Council of Community Churches was organized to be an answer to Jesus' prayer "that they might all be one." The Council is inter-ethnic, international and ecumenical in its witness and service.

#### INCLUSION

Through the ICCC, churches and centers participate in the ecumenical movement. Affiliations include Christian Churches Together in the USA (CCT); Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC); The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCC); and the World Council of Churches (WCC). PEER TO PEER RESOURCING

Churches and centers that have gained experience in any of a variety of ministry initiatives and programs are encouraged to share their learnings with others. Churches and centers that are beginning new ventures gain insight and knowledge from the sharing. The Council maintains listings from churches and centers willing to share their expertise with others.

### **REGIONS AND AREAS**

The Council encourages the projects and programs of its regional and area clusters of churches. These groups are collegial and locally organized. Projects and programs are as diverse as those who plan and participate in them. Recent programs have included health screening, farmers market information, and Sunday School training. SISTER CHURCHES

Churches in the US and overseas are encouraged to share stories, songs, recipes, internet communications and (where possible) visits, discovering connections of faith and service that transcend national boundaries.

# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES

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# ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS



# JULY 17 - 20, 2017 CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

The International Council of Community Churches is grateful for your investment in the community church movement. We have listed several possibilities below. If you wish to explore other potential opportunities for sponsorship including exclusive sponsorship of a segment of the Conference program, please let us know. Conference sponsorship opportunities begin at \$1000.

General conference sponsorship	\$1000.
Bible Study – multiple plenary sessions	\$2500.
Clergy continuing education event	\$3000.
All- Conference luncheon	\$1500.
All-Conference Banquet	\$2000.
Full Day Sponsorship	\$5000.

The International Council of Community Churches is a 501 (c)3 organization under IRS regulations. All sponsorships are taxdeductible to the extent allowed by law and your tax situation.



# THE I.C.C.C.

The International Council of Community Churches was formed in 1950 by the merger of two groups of community-based churches and ministry centers, one Afro-American and the other Caucasian. Since that date the Council has been witness and advocate for racial and ethnic reconciliation and the development of communication and cooperation among Christians that transcends ethnic boundaries.

### The Council is centered on a vision.

We begin with the vision of all God's people gathered around the banquet table in God's celestial city. At that table there is welcome for all; there is a place for each; all are fed; each is filled. That vision is our inspiration; it is our reason for being; it is our unchangeable mission.

### We are a movement rather than an institution.

Movements are concerned with vision; institutions worry about survival. Movements prioritize purpose over procedures; institutions obsess over procedures to the point that purpose is forgotten. Movements are outward looking; institutions are inwardlooking. The ICCC is not the community church institution; we are the public face of the Community Church movement.

### We seek to be Christ-like in our inclusion.

Religious groups tend to use jargon that outsiders cannot understand; to develop complicated requirements to which all must adhere; to indentify who is an insider and who is an outsider. But Jesus touched the ritually unclean, dealt face to face with outsiders, and issued an open-ended call to discipleship for all. We'd rather be like Jesus.

We operate locally and we are focused globally. We are uncompromising in basing our fellowship on local congregations. Simultaneously we are attentive to Christ's call to discipleship in every geographic area worldwide, and in every aspect of life: personal, corporate, natural, ideational, past, present and future. Nothing is outside the scope and embrace of God's transforming power and mercy. We begin where we are, seeking to live and to communicate that love. From that starting point we reach out to the entire world that God loves. We invite you to join us in this sacred mission.

# **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Community churches have met in Annual Conference each year since 1950. It is at the Annual Conference that the character of the movement may perhaps be seen most clearly. Since the International Council exists as a voluntary association of churches and ministry centers, there is no need to spend time on legislation or bureaucratic regulation. Instead, delegates gather for worship (celebrating the variety of liturgical styles used by our diverse membership); for plenary sessions of Bible study (we invite Biblical scholars whose approach will stimulate thought and discussion); and educational workshops.

Workshops range in content from theological discussion to training sessions for local congregations' financial officers to sharing methods for community service outreach.

Each year's conference includes a youth program. Middle school and high school students share some conference events with adults, and also engage in a high-energy line-up events that include service to the conference's host community at agencies that assist the needy. Young adults (up to age 25) also have service opportunities through agencies such as Habitat for Humanity.

International delegates from overseas churches and ministry centers participate fully in conference activities. Opportunities for conversation and the sharing of ideas at organized programs and between sessions are at the heart of each conference, as people of disparate backgrounds discover common ground.

