

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

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God is Doing a New Thing!!!

by Harry Fockle, Antioch Community Church, Conference Chair

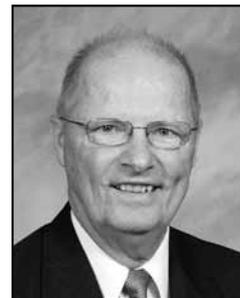
Excitement is building! All roads are leading to Omaha! Travel and room arrangements are being made. People from all over are making plans to attend the Annual Conference for the ICCC this July in Omaha, Nebraska. I hope you are one of those who have made arrangements.

Omaha itself offers so much for folks who visit. Great food venues and plenty of things to see and do. It is a wonderful place to explore. You could find yourself on a bridge with one foot in Nebraska and one foot in Iowa looking over the horizon to the state of Missouri.

The Annual Conference itself promises to be one of the best the ICCC has provided. The planning committee is working hard to make this an enjoyable and Spirit filled Conference.

I would invite you to look at our website and view all the items that are being offered at this year's Conference. We will be blessed with powerful worship services, outstanding Bible studies, world class entertainment, an incredible clown ministry, women's groups, men's gatherings, a super youth and dynamic children's program and oh, did I mention food – lot's of food! You will even have the opportunity to engage in a local mission program that will promote the goodness of God and the ICCC response.

You do not want to miss this year's Annual Conference. God will be there. God's Holy Spirit will prevail. I will be there looking for you.



Workshops in Omaha

Leading into Uncharted Territory

Besides preaching at two of the worship services, Dr. Emanuel Cleaver will also lead a Clergy Continuing Education Workshop on Monday, July 14th. He will discuss the importance of leading congregations to reach new people. Together, he and participants will examine why it is necessary for the well-being of the congregation, the risks involved, and how to lead the congregation to reach new people.



Evaluating Vision 2020

Rev. Carla Dietz, Pastor of Greendale People's Church Worcester, MA and Council Minister Don Ashmall will facilitate a discussion on "Vision 2020," adopted as a Council emphasis at last year's Annual Conference. What's working and why? What isn't working and why? Will Vision 2020 need a mid-course correction, and if so in what way? Don will explain the intent of each part of Vision 2020; Carla will be "devil's advocate" as we take a look at what's happening, what's possible and what are our next steps in advancing the community church movement.



The Value of a Moment

President's Message

Rev. Dr. Bruce N. Merton

It is the end of March, 2014 and with that end comes the bursting of Spring, the crunch of getting out another President's article, GREAT relief because I have passed two kidney stones, the one year "wind down" to my retirement, and my 65th birthday!

A monumental month for me as I now have my Medicare card and my supplemental policy that officially identify me as a "Senior Citizen"! What a moment that was when I opened the envelope and stared at that red, white and blue card which announced, in its own special way, that I had "arrived"!

Some call sixty-five a milestone birthday. Some dread its coming. I did not! As I reflect on all the special moments, good and bad, that have contributed to where I am today, I am thankful, joyful, happy and, relatively, content.

Some folk have difficulty with the aging process and they attempt to avoid the monumental birthdays. They are the birthdays that mark the move from one decade of life to another or those which compel meeting the requirements of "old age" health and retirement benefits. Those birthdays for many are nasty reminders that we are growing older and that time is moving steadily onward and we are firmly in the grasp of its sweep to eternity.

I embrace the truth of Will Rogers who said, "Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved."

Throughout my aging process I have tried to savor and value the milestone moments recognizing that "I will never walk that way again." It is important to value moments when they come; when

they happen; when you are embraced by them and they embrace you.

Unfortunately many do not know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory! That's terrible! It sucks the stuff from life. We end up ruing moments passed. Moments that held so much potential. Moments that held an eternal reality. Moments that were to be savored, valued, and important in our march through time.

I try to live the moment because living the moment with all it holds now brings richer memories down the road.

These are some of the moments I fully lived when they happened:

The first day of school I skipped with a girl (It was the first day of first grade);

The most beautiful girl in the world that I got to take to my junior prom;

The moment I got my first driver's license;

The moment I became the first person in my family to go to college;

The moment I became a Father for the first time (and the second time, too!);

The moment I became the first person in my family to graduate from college;

The day I was ordained;

The moment my Mother died;

The day I was divorced;

The day I experienced the unchristian side of church;

The day I remarried.

The moment the belly dancer showed up on my 50th birthday;

The moment I got the news about my Dad's death;

The day I became the pastor of a new church start named "Peace Community.

The day I became connected (again) to the larger church!

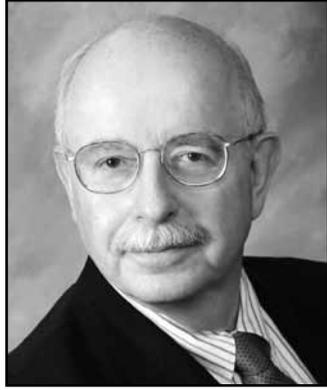
That's the day I really want to focus on for this article. On my birthday in 2003 I was a "disconnected" pastor in a "disconnected" church. Peace Community Church had been ministering for a year. I was the founding pastor. We were a liberally minded, spiritually questing, radically inclusive church in a very conservative environment.

At that moment in time we were alone! We were an island in a hostile sea! I was alone with no clergy support, no sense of collegial relationship. I lived that moment fully and I lived it in hope that it would change.

Change it did! Helen and Mort attended Peace Church. They told me about their son, John, then the pastor at Christ Community Church in Grand Rapids, and how John and his church family found a home in the International Council of Community Churches. I talked to John. He was encouraging. I was introduced to a great group of pastors in the Florida Fellowship of Community Churches. I sensed in these early encounters the real possibility of becoming "connected" to the larger church again. I liked that! I sensed that the ministers in the Florida Fellowship were genuinely interested in me. I was certainly interested in them. They were warm, diverse, genuinely Christian, solid and free thinkers with a great sense of humor!

I talked with our church and we decided to make our application for membership in the I.C.C.C.

The day I became connected (again) to the larger church was April 14, 2003. Abraham Wright and Rev. Michael Livingston made it official: "We welcome and affirm with joy our affiliation with Peace Community Church." I read the



You Shall Love...

Don Ashmall
Council Minister

I shared the following thoughts with the Council's Board of Trustees at their Winter meeting. I hope that you will accept the challenge contained in these thoughts as they have:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

On these two commandments hang the law and the prophets – and also the International Council of Community Churches. We are a fellowship formed by love, sustained by love, and existing for love – love of God as found in Jesus the Christ, and love of our neighbors, no matter who they are or where they are. This is our mission; this is our vision; this is our reason for being.

That's why we are not a denomination; we are not an organization; we are not a structure. Denominations are based on uniformity and conformity. We are based on fellowship and we celebrate diversity. Organizations are concerned with precedent and procedure. We are concerned with compassion and companionship in our common pilgrimage. Structures demand conventionality and hierarchy. We rejoice in the amazing variety of styles and expressions and inspiration that are found in our sharing on one level field of worship and outreach.

That's who we are: love. That's why we exist: love. That's our mission and our vision: love.

Love is why we want to grow in spirit, because love is always finding new depths and new heights.

Love is why we want to grow in numbers, because love is always opening the circle and never closing it.

Love is why we want to excel in all that we do, because love seeks to call all into the joy of fellowship and service.

Love is not an emotion, however strong our feelings may be. Love is a relational word, with all the struggle, and victory, and heartache, and joy, and grief, and hope, and all the rest that relationship involves. Love isn't real until something happens.

Which brings me to Vision 2020, which calls for things to happen. Vision 2020 is less about numbers; and more about growing the circle. Vision 2020 is less about making our area and regional gatherings more compelling; and more about adding strength to our relationships. Vision 2020 is less about programs or church planting or any of the rest of it; and more about making love real on the local scene and on the international scene. Vision 2020 calls us to transform words into real, measurable action.

When you look at what the Vision 2020 endeavor calls you to do, and when you take it seriously, you will not be comfortable. Nobody – not even the most experienced salesperson or the most talented manager or the most creative networker – nobody is comfortable moving beyond what's known to what is yet to be discovered. Somebody might not like us. Somebody might reject our invitation to join the circle. Somebody might even oppose us or mock us. But isn't love always like that? Doesn't love always involve the risk of disappointment and rejection and sorrow?

Vision 2020 challenges us as the community church movement – and Vision 2020 challenges us as individuals – to reach, to stretch, to move outside of our zones of

comfort and to bring to the whole world our message of love without limits; of unity without uniformity; of diversity without division. And that means you, and it means me. Vision 2020 is not for somebody else. It's for you. Vision 2020 is not for the future; it's now. Vision 2020 is not out there somewhere. It's here – wherever your "here" is – and it demands a response.

Vision 2020 actually contains nothing that is new. We've all been aware that the circle needs to grow. We've all known that new church plants need to be nourished. We've all realized that our gatherings and our ventures in ministry need to be strengthened. There's nothing new about any of that. What you as a Council have done in committing yourselves to Vision 2020 is to put some numbers next to the goals that otherwise might have been something that we ought to do someday, whenever, in the sweet bye and bye. What Vision 2020 is doing is to put some numbers next to the intentions, and to challenge ourselves to do.

I have good news for you about Vision 2020. Existing churches – but new to the movement - are taking their place in the growing circle. New church plants are in the process of being born. New ventures in ministry are taking root and budding forth and beginning to blossom even as we speak. But there is more to be done. Those people and churches and budding fellowships need you. They need your encouragement. They need for you to speak a word of invitation and welcome. They need your participation in material ways, of which dollars are only one way.

So what will you as an individual do? *"You shall love."* But love is not a feeling or an emotion. Love is relationship. So what will you do this coming week, this coming month, this year, to build new relationships, to grow the circle of love?

REVIEWS

Dr. Robert M. Puckett

THE MORAL VISION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT:

A Contemporary Introduction to New Testament Ethics; Richard B. Hayes, Harper One, 1996, Paperback, 508 Pages, \$26.99.

Richard B. Hays is professor of New Testament at Duke University Divinity School and he was one of the presenters at the Stetson Pastors School this year. N.T. Wright says "This book isn't just a breath of fresh air. It's a hurricane, blowing away the fog of half-understood pseudo- morality and fashionable compromise, revealing instead the early Christian vision of true humanness and genuine holiness." The overall purpose of this book is to reveal how the New Testament can shape the moral life of the Church and individual members of it. The book seeks to accomplish that purpose by examining the ethics in detail of every writing in the New Testament Cannon. One of the first things discovered in that process is that there is a wide diversity of ethical viewpoints depending upon the context in which each New Testament document was written. Failure to understand that context often leads to serious misunderstanding of the ethical concepts articulated. "The Bible itself contains diverse points of view, and diverse interpretive methods can yield diverse readings of any given text." (p. 1)

Dr. Hays provides a careful examination of the ethical outlook of every New Testament writer from Paul and his letters to John in the book of Revelation. He makes it possible for every reader to discover new insights and ethical challenges to a richer understanding of how our lives should be lived. His thorough review of the entire New Testament provides valuable grounds for viewing the various moral visions of the New Testament.

After surveying the various moral vision of the New Testament writers and different methods of interpreting them, Dr. Hays asks "How shall the Christian community shape its life in obedience to the witness of the New Testament?"

His answer is that there is no definitive answer to that question "because the community of faith continually confronts new circumstances that require us to work out our salvation with fear and trembling...just as the New Testament writers themselves did, (p. 315) and we have to do that in the midst of changing circumstances as well.

He then goes on to examine five issues in the light of the New Testament ethical reflections that the church faces today. These five issues are: violence, divorce, homosexuality, anti-Judaism, and abortion. There are, of course, other ethical issues that could be addressed, but these are the ones Hayes uses as test cases to reveal how one can develop an ethical response to Scripture. The witness against violence is central to the moral vision of the New Testament while abortion is not explicitly treated at all by New Testament writers since abortion was not an available option in the ancient context. Yet there are those today who view abortion as a major issue to the point that they resort to violence against women and clinics which provide abortions.

The conclusion reached in this book is that "the New Testament is not a rulebook, not a cookie cutter for forming identical people or identical communities. Instead, the New Testament texts call us to respond in imaginative freedom, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to form communities that will embody the truth of the Word, demonstrating metaphorically the power of God's grace in our midst." (p. 469)

The task of New Testament ethics is to be an expression of Romans 12: 2: *Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

A Voice for
Ecumenical Congregations
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Editors:

DeAnn Chatlosh
Don Ashmall

Circulation:

DeAnn Chatlosh

Book Reviews:

Robert M. Puckett

Telephone: 815/464-5690

Fax: 815/464-5692

E-Mail:

ICCC60423@sbcglobal.net

www.ICCCUSA.com

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to :
ICCC, 21116 Washington Pkwy.
Frankfort, IL 60423-3112.

Mission Statement



*"As people devoted to
following Christ
we are committed to
community,
to treasuring diversity,
to living our faith in
service and love."*

ICCC Women's Christian Fellowship (WCF) & the Samaritans

Women's Christian Fellowship

Women's Christian Fellowship (WCF) is an international/inter-generational organization dedicated to social justice and service; committed to the advancement of the International Council of Community Churches (ICCC). The purpose of the WCF is to foster a common interest, to increase spiritual growth and to have a continued missions outreach. Our Creed represents the empowerment that God gives us to serve: Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today. Christ has no feet but our feet to seek out those who stray. Christ has no eyes but our eyes to shine with God's great love. Christ has no lips but our lips to lift humanity's thoughts from above.

As the Spirit of God unite women from diverse communities and calls us to ministry, we experience numerous opportunities to serve. By looking through the eyes of Christ, WCF have supported the disaster residents of New Orleans and Haiti. We annually sponsor the Shoe Box Missions and Bazaar Ministry. The Shoe Box Missions donate toiletries items such as: soaps, shampoos, tooth brushes, etc., to a shelter in the city of our scheduled conference. The Bazaar Ministry contributes to the Jordan Scholarship Fund and assist with contributions to the (ICCC/WCF). We regularly contribute to the General Fund of (ICCC). The support of our foreign missions span abroad to the Agriculture Institute of India, Causeway Study to Travel Coast to Coast Study Educated Issues, Ruth Applewhite Haiti Missions, and many others.

In our endeavor to increase spiritual growth, most (ICCC) congregations have an active (WCF) department within the local assemblies. As well, our monthly prayer call is vital. We consistently pray for the advancement of (ICCC) as well as our diverse prayer concerns. During our annual conference meetings we are blessed to sponsor the Prayer Room. Many conference attendees meet regularly to voice their petitions unto God. Our desire is to become the hands, feet, eyes, and lips of God as we intercede for total well-being of society.

As we look forward to the future of (ICCC/WCF) we desire to bridge the generational gap of our youth and young adults. By engaging, listening and learning, we will have the opportunity to prepare our youth/young adults for leadership in the (ICCC/WCF) and throughout the world.

Samaritans

The Samaritans is an international men's group designed to strengthen and develop male participation in our churches. It is my hope to develop this coalition of men from identified churches

to stimulate participation in the churches of men through a newsletter, e-mail directory and job referrals.

The Samaritan's national project is the Joe V. Hotchkiss New Church Renewal Fund: Raise and contribute funds to this project and the development of a "Community of Care" from Day Care, Adult Activities to senior citizen care and Veteran's Forums!

Goals and Service: Racial Justice, Fair Economic Recovery, End Violence in School, Development of a Network of Job Referrals, Community Watch Patrols, Enlarge Membership, Contribute to Church Renewal, Block Club Development, Adopt-A-School and Senior and Youth Safety and Activities.

Reach-out to Special Groups: Masons, Veterans and Men mentoring programs (Boys to Men and (Courage Men).

Our sponsors: Wal-Mart, Bank of America, Chase, MB Financial, Forman Mills, Lowes, Potbelly, Churches, McDonalds, Target, City of Chicago and Ford.

President's Message cont'd from pg 2

certificate. I prayed a prayer of thanks to God. I pledged to do all I could do to make the I.C.C.C. better. I savored and valued that moment. I still do!

Therein lies the rub! I have reached a point in my relationship with the I.C.C.C.; its member churches, centers and clergy where I have begun to believe that many are not going to know the true value of the moment they became connected until it becomes a memory!

How I hope and pray that is not the case! I hope it. I pray it. Because I still value the very moment when you said to me and Peace Community Church, "We welcome and affirm with joy our affiliation..."

Abraham Lincoln said, "Everyone over the age of forty is responsible for their own face." I own that! I also own the fact that in our Council we are all responsible for our own participation. I simply hope and pray that as you, your church, my fellow clergy think and act on the basis of what is good for your "own" selves that you will remember that there are quite a few out there who are believing that what is good for our "own" selves is inextricably intertwined with what is really good for the others about us. I will do my very best, with God's help, to remember and act on that reality. In this moment, I am counting on my fellow brothers and sisters to do the same. Being connected is vital. It is life giving. It is life saving. It is the lifestyle of the Christ. Let's live in the moment of continuing connectedness lest we only discover its value when it becomes a memory!

Attention Young Adults! (18+)**Habitat for Humanity Young Adult Mission**

at the

**ICCC 64th Annual Conference
July 14-17, 2014 • Omaha, NE**

“God is doing a new thing...”

This conference will include an opportunity for young adults to participate in a comprehensive program of study and service with Habitat for Humanity.

Come and join us as we build God's Kingdom!

What will you build?

“The theology of the hammer embraces wholeheartedly the idea that the love of God and love of man must be blended. The word and the deed must come together. One without the other is devoid of meaning...”

As the deed gets closer to the word, God gets closer to us.
The results are always wonderful – and sometimes spectacular!”

– Millard Fuller, founder
Habitat for Humanity International

For more information, contact Doris Marcisak at mist8993@gmail.com

Former ICCC Executive Director, Michael Livingston, was present at the signing of the executive order to raise the minimum wage for a group of federally contracted workers. Rev. Michael Livingston in his capacity as the national policy director of Interfaith Worker Justice, has been an advocate for the measure. Michael also served as President of the National Council of Churches. To view the article, visit http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/commentary-an-executive-order-with-moral-authority/2014/02/12/59169cf2-9423-11e3-9e13-770265cf4962_story.html

Sharing Joys:

- **Rev. Dr. Virginia Leopold, Protestant Community Church, Medford Lakes, NJ**, is retiring for the second time in June. She retired the first time, 9 years ago, but continued to facilitate groups. She has served that church for more than 30 years, considering it a privilege and honor.
- **Frances Fischer, New Covenant Community Church, Akron, OH** will be ordained on April 25th at New Covenant Community Church.
- **Ella Clay, First Community Church, Nashville, TN** has been accepted as a Dean's Scholar at Vanderbilt Divinity School in the M.T.S. program. Ms. Clay is the ICCC Women's Christian Fellowship President.
- ICCC President **Bruce Merton** is planning a trip to Africa to visit ICCC member churches there. If you are interested in going, you can contact him at mertonbn@aol.com.
- The Spring ICCC Regional meeting for the Michigan and Ohio Fellowships is planned for May 17th at **People's Community Church** in Detroit. You can contact Regional Trustee, **Janet Burch**, for information. jan.burch@aol.com
- **George Lucey, St. Francis of Assisi American National Catholic parish**, shared an Ash Wednesday with the Spiritual Life department of Bloomfield College. The R.C. Friars of the Renewal, along with the Evangelical Ministry of Flame of Fire joined the parish in distributing ashes at a correctional facility.
- **Wilson Memorial Union Church, Watchung, NJ** invited their church families to a Lenten season 40 days - 40 photos lenten challenge. They supplied a list of terms or scripture passages that participants are to shoot images reflecting each idea. You can "Like" their Facebook page for details and challenge updates. facebook.com/mywilsonchurch

**Our Prayers are With:**

- **Pastor Leon Perry III, Metropolitan Community Church, Chicago, IL**, whose father, Mr. Leon Perry, Jr., passed away in January. His homecoming celebration was held Jan. 25th. Pastor Perry's aunt, Anita Herron, also passed away Jan. 21st. Please keep the Perry, Pace & Bell families in your prayers.
- **Mr. Robert Hassler, People's Community Church, Detroit, MI**, whose wife, Ollie M. Hassler, passed away on Feb. 14th. Mr. & Mrs. Hassler have attended many annual conferences until recently, as Mrs. Hassler's health had been failing her.
- **Pastor Velma Union, The Lord's Church International, Los Angeles, CA**, with the passing of her mother, Norma J. McAfee the weekend of March 8th.
- Sister **Shyreece Pompey, Emmanuel Community Church, South Haven, MI**. She has received some unfortunate news from her doctors and has begun to receive treatment. Words of encouragement can be sent to pompey.shyreece71@gmail.com. Please keep her in your prayers.

Did you know?

2014 Federal Reporting Requirements for Churches is now available on the MMBB website? This document shows church administrators what they need to do to comply with federal tax regulations. Visit <http://www.mmbb.org/tax-guides> or call MMBB 800-986-6222 to get a copy.

Supper Club

Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 5:00pm

A short and easy walk* from the DoubleTree by Hilton, The Twisted Fork is an eclectic grill and saloon that serves American comfort food with a "Cowboy Twist." It blends Midwestern hospitality with cowboy bravado and features a collaboration of menu creations sure to enjoy. Below are the menu choices.

Choice 1 : Chopped Chicken Salad \$19.50

Mixed greens with bruschetta tomatoes, roasted corn, cous cous, toasted pumpkin seeds and diced grilled chicken, with pesto buttermilk dressing.

Choice 2: Smoked Gouda Mac 'n Cheese \$18.00

Cavatappi pasta with a creamy smoked gouda cheese sauce.

Choice 3: Grilled Meatloaf Sandwich \$17.00

Homemade meatloaf with chipotle bbq sauce, sautéed onions, whole grain mustard and Monterey jack cheese on ciabatta bread.

Choice 4: Chuck Wagon Chicken Pot Pie \$19.50

Slow cooked chicken, celery, carrots, in a rosemary cream sauce topped with toasted mashed potatoes, served in a cast iron skillet.

Choice 5: Santa Fe Tilapia \$24.50

Blackened and topped with New Mexico slaw and served with red rice and a side of fresh vegetables.

Each choice includes a soft drink, fresh brewed or sweet tea, a mini smores brownie dessert, tax and gratuity. Alcoholic beverages are available, billed separately, individually.

Circle your choice.

Submit payment to the Council Office by June 20, 2014. Limited quantity!!

If paying by check: make check payable to: International Council of Community Churches (ICCC)

If paying by credit card: circle one VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DISCOVER

Account Number on Card: _____ Exp.Date: _____

Print name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

ICCC, 21116 Washington Pkwy, Frankfort, IL 60423 – 815/464-5690 – iccc60423@sbeglobal.net

*Double Tree Hilton's shuttle service is also available. Inquire with the hotel. Twisted Fork is located at 1014 Howard Street, Omaha.

NJPA Opportunity

National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) is a public agency that serves as a member-focused cooperative for over 50,000 member agencies nationally. NJPA offers a multitude of cooperatively contracted products, equipment and service opportunities to education and government entities throughout the country. NJPA offers their members contract purchasing solutions that are leveraged nationally to enable contracted suppliers and member agencies to work smarter and more efficient as they do business with each other. NJPA does this by establishing a business and service alliance between member buyers and contracted suppliers ensuring a valued and successful national cooperative contract program.

The ICCC Board of Trustees decided at the July board meeting to join the NJPA so that all the ICCC active member churches can take advantage of this program. To learn more, visit their website www.njpacoop.org. Contact the Council Office for account information.

Permanent Pastor Vacancy, the Community Church of East Williston, New York

The Community Church of East Williston(CCEW) is currently accepting applications for the position of Senior Pastor. We are seeking an experienced church leader who is able to meet the challenge of uniting a congregation from various Christian denominations.

Our church is a member of the International Council of Community Churches and we need a strong leader who supports our church mission and community with an emphasis on Christian faith and fellowship.

The successful candidate would be expected to lead by word and example while guiding the church to accomplish the work of Jesus Christ. The role model of the church in the community is of primary importance to enable us to spread the word of Jesus Christ. The successful candidate must be capable of proclaiming God's word, teaching, leading, equipping leaders, role modeling the church's mission, devotion to prayer, assuring care and mobilizing resources.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

1. Ordained minister and graduate of an accredited Christian seminary.
2. Cheerful and enthusiastic personality
3. Ability to relate the scriptures and teachings of God to the everyday lives of the congregation.
4. Experienced pastor in working with youth and young families.
5. Supervision of church staff including Christian education, office and grounds staff plus organist.
6. Council congregants and committees as required.
7. Contacting by phone or personal visitations congregants who are shut-ins, hospitalized or others who need some special time with the pastor.
8. A minimum of 10 years experience as a full time pastor in a 100+ protestant church.
9. Perform infant baptisms.

The PSC is accepting packages containing (but not limited to) your resume, your calling(share your call to ministry), style of ministry(explain your beliefs) and any other information you feel is relevant. All applications will be acknowledged with our intent for further communication regarding personal interview(s). Kindly mail application to: Peter Burnside, Chairman Pastoral Search Committee, Community Church of East Williston, 45 East Williston Ave., East Williston, NY 11596. Tel 516 742-9690 - e-mail ccew@optonline.net - website www.ccew.org

Seeking a Senior Minister

Emmanuel Baptist Church of Ridgewood, NJ has an opening for a Senior Minister. We are a progressive church which emphasizes inclusiveness and social justice as our understanding of Christianity. We are interested in pastoral candidates who are supportive of this philosophy and theology.

The community of Ridgewood is known for its excellent schools, community services, transportation facilities to NY City, the arts, and quality of life. Our church is a member of the American Baptist Churches, and maintains affiliation with the International Council of Community Churches and the Center for Progressive Christianity.

Please contact search committee chair Brent Saardema at 973-427-7310 or profbrent@juno.com with expressions of interest.

Seeking a Senior Pastor

Emmanuel Community Church is seeking a Senior Pastor who must be able to lead church in providing sound Christian education for youth and adults; preach in a style that sticks to scripture and is practical for everyday living; and help all auxiliary officers use their gifts and talents to function effectively in building God's Kingdom.

All interested candidates should mail resume and cover letter to Emmanuel Community Church, 322 Elkenburg St, South Haven, MI 49090. Attention to Pulpit Search Committee.

Seeking a Senior Pastor

"I am come that they might have life and that they may have it more abundantly." – John 10:10

People's Community Church is a Singing, Praying, Tithing, Serving and Loving congregation, seeking a spiritual and energetic pastor. People's Community Church was organized in 1954 and is a charter member of the International Council of Community Churches. In response to God's call and through the Power of the Holy Spirit, it is the mission of People's Community Church to be a Community of Faith through which the Kingdom of God might be revealed. The Pastoral Search Committee request your resume along with a video, CD or recording of a recent sermon.

The candidate must be an ordained minister, a graduate of a university and an accredited theological seminary with a divinity degree or its equivalence.

He/she must also have actively pastored for at least three years in a congregation that is recognized by the International Council of Community Churches. Must have the love of the gospel; demonstrating qualities of strong leadership in the areas of preaching, teaching, administration, community relations and be able to relate to all generations of the congregation. He/she must demonstrate the ability to stimulate positive church growth in the inter-city area of Detroit.

Interested candidates may submit requested documents to the attention of the Search Committee for Pastoral Leadership, People's Community Church, 8601 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202 – Carolyn Ford, Chairperson. Initial interest may also communicate via email at personaltouch_22@att.net.

Non-Denominational Church Seeks Full-Time Pastor

Roser Community Church (www.roserchurch.com) is a Lay-Led 400 member church. We seek an energetic Pastor with post-graduate congregational experience. Ability to work within our traditional worship format along with the skills to build on our youth and adult Christian education programs. Applicants must be a graduate of a divinity school recognized by the American Association of Theological Schools and an ordained Christian minister of the Gospel. If interested send resume, salary requirements and recent sermon to Search Committee - Roser Community Church, P.O. Box 2141, Anna Maria, FL 34216.