

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

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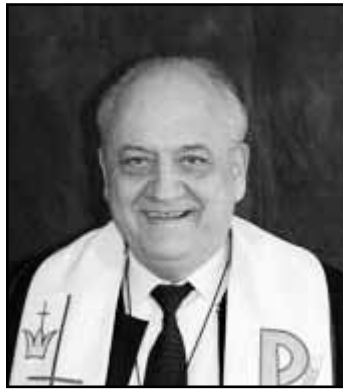
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THE IMPACT OF POPES, PASTORS, AND PEOPLE

President's Message Rev. Dr. Richard O. Griffith

By the time you read this, Pope Francis will have been gone from the US for more than a month, with his impact lasting for quite a while. I, along with many others, was impressed with his humility, humanitarian firmness, and faithful integrity. As a community movement, we can be positively impressed by others and their profound qualities without necessarily agreeing with their theological perspectives.

That notwithstanding, I was impressed by his witness to common decency and common sense in his address to Congress, citing Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day, and Thomas Merton. Some of his thoughts are quoted in the next several paragraphs.

"Each son or daughter...has a mission, a personal and social responsibility. ... You are called to defend and preserve the dignity of your fellow citizens in the tireless and demanding pursuit of the common good.

"...Elderly persons ... are a storehouse of wisdom forged by experience ... who seek in many ways to share their stories and their insights. Young people ... are working to realize their great and noble aspirations, who are not led astray by facile proposals, and face difficult situations.

"All of us are quite aware of, and deeply worried by, the disturbing social and political situation of the world today. Our world is increasingly a place of violent conflict, hatred, and brutal atrocities, committed even in the name of God and of religion. We know that no religion is immune from forms of individual delusion or ideological extremism.

"Our response must instead be one of hope and healing, of peace and justice. The challenges facing us today call for a renewal of (a) spirit of cooperation ... and resolve to support one another, with respect for our differences and our convictions of conscience."

I recently attended an anniversary celebration of a pastor who had many years of faithful service. Pastors have a profound effect on a wide variety of people, usually quite positively, as indeed did he. How many of us look back in fond memory of pastors who, through their lives and ministries, have had life-changing impacts on our souls? For those of us who are ordained, how did they influence our discernment of God's Call in our lives? How were pastors models for our ministries? How have we grown because of clergy colleagues and their mentoring?

For all of us, haven't pastors helped us grow in faith, challenged our preconceptions, and shared with us visions of possibility?

Clergy are imbued with privileged access to the innermost regions of individual life. Many of us can reflect with satisfaction and appreciation of some of the most profound parts of the lives of the people with whom

Continued on page 4



Diversity Without Division

Don Ashmall
Council Minister

The denomination in which I was raised was a contentious bunch. Local congregations argued about paint colors for the ladies' parlor; anything and everything related to the music (i.e. "war") department; and whether or not altar hangings were too "high church" if they were different colors for different seasons. On the wider scene, preachers sniped at one another over questions of theology that seemed even to my young mind less doctrinal and more attuned to the question of "who's in charge around here?" Since the preaching and teaching of my home church concentrated on Jesus' love, there was an obvious disconnect between what was proclaimed from the pulpit and what happened at some local and denominational business meetings. But I was too young to act on much more than the directive to keep my head down when the slings and arrows of outrageous rhetoric went zinging overhead.

But with each year I was a year older, and over time some things that had been simply a part of the background noise of childhood began to raise questions. After one particularly heated local church business meeting, I (the shy child) uncharacteristically asked my parents, "did any of those people bother to ask Jesus what he thinks?" And equally out of character in a family in which children were generally expected to sit down, shut up and pay attention, my father replied "What do you think Jesus thinks about it?" I blurted out, "I don't think Jesus cares, and I don't think they care what Jesus thinks. They just want to fight!" It wasn't until much later that I realized the snorting and coughing that ensued was suppressed laughter.

It's not surprising that in this sort of context, the 1950 merging conference of community-

based congregations and ministries that issued into the International Council of Community Churches wasn't even on the horizon for most of western Christianity. In the midst of the exhilaration of conflict, such things as patience, understanding and quiet conversation don't seem very exciting. So as congregations identify with the community church movement and join with the Council in seeking justice, reconciliation and Christian unity, it should not surprise us that the dominant culture looks away, seeking more stimulating tales of confrontation. Nevertheless, we as a fellowship continue to witness to, and to live out, the good news that there in the Christ there is room for all, and that unity is possible without uniformity.

So where am I going with all this?

The Council is now engaged in a search for a new executive. We all know that. And those of us who have been involved in the Council for a while know that past executive searches have not always gone smoothly. This search may turn out to be the exception and I pray that it will. But in the past, the names of one or more of the "contenders" have leaked beyond the search committees. Individuals and groups have made their assessments and some have become lobbyists of a sort for one or another candidate. Unguarded comments made in small groups have become known in larger contexts. Egos have been bruised and motives have been questioned.

We as a Council would like to think that we are above all that. We aren't, because we're human. It's happened before: relationships have been broken over what should not be a cause for division. But though it has hap-

pened before, we can make sure it doesn't happen this time. How?

First, let's accept the fact Jesus is not on the candidate list. I don't know who is on the list of those being considered by the search committee, and I don't want to know. The one thing I do know is that Jesus isn't on the list, which means that no matter who we select, that person will not be perfect. That's good, because the rest of us are also imperfect.

Second, let's accept the fact that you and I will have to "fill in the gaps." The new executive will be strong in some things but weaker in others. Instead of criticizing, we'll need simply to help supply the need where the exec's skill-set is not complete. And that means all of us: boards, committees, laity and clergy of the fellowship. Not part – all.

Third, let's accept the fact that Jesus' opinion may be different from ours. It could actually be that amidst all of our varied opinions, there isn't a single one that quite matches' Jesus' opinion. That being the case, we may find it possible to celebrate our diversity of opinion as a Divine gift that draws us into unity instead of division.

Fourth, let's keep central in our thoughts the point of the search. We are not searching for a CEO for a corporation. We are not searching for a non-profit Director of Operations. We are searching for a human being whose task will be to help us together to build the community church movement toward that unity of all God's children that is Christ's ultimate goal.

REVIEWS

Dr. Robert M. Puckett



HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

by Harvey Cox,

Harper One, 2015, Hardback, 257 pages, \$26.99

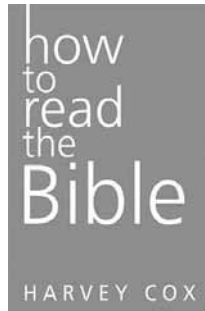
Harvey Cox is the Hollis Research Professor of Divinity at Harvard University where he has taught since 1965. His book *The Secular City* has strongly influenced American Protestant theology. I read that book when it was published in 1965 and it influenced me to take very seriously Bonhoeffer's insistence that it is necessary to find a nonreligious interpretation of the Gospel in order to be heard in our secular world. Super pious language is no longer an effective means of communication in a time when Bonhoeffer insisted that man has come of age.

His new book, *HOW TO READ THE BIBLE*, provides an understanding of a helpful way to read the Bible in an age when few people read it any more. Most Americans have a Bible somewhere, but few really know what is in it. He describes three stages through which he experienced how to read the sacred book. First is as a collection of narrative stories, second as a collection of historic documents to be carefully examined, and finally as a source for spiritual human development. He experienced the first stage in an American Baptist Sunday school as a child, the second as a college and seminary student, and the third when he joined a group of African American students on a freedom ride through the segregated

South in the early days of the Civil Rights movement.

He says that when he and those Black students were thrown into jail he discovered that they looked upon the Bible as a resource for action in their own daily lives. "They had learned that they were children of the same God who created white people and they had an equal right to dignity and equality.... for those kids the Bible was more than a collection of beguiling stories from long ago, and also much more than a quasi-historical document to be parsed, analyzed, dated, and classified.... For them the Bible was a summons to be all they were meant to be. Dr. King had told them history was on their side and, somehow, one day they would "overcome." (pp. 7-8)

Each of these three ways of reading the Bible can enrich a person's life just as it has for centuries. Beginning with Genesis and moving through to Revelation, Professor Cox demonstrates how Bible reading can be enhanced through commonly used scholarly biblical tools such as archaeology, cultural studies, and literary criticism. He also shows how an awareness of how the context in which the various books of the Bible were written enables



the reader to avoid literalistic interpretations of what one reads. It is important to ask who wrote each passage, what purpose the writer had in mind, to whom was each book written, what meaning was conveyed then and what

meaning is possible now.

This book has nothing new for seminary trained clergy, but it will provide a wealth of new insight to other readers who have little understanding of the Bible. It will enable faithful Christian laypeople a fresh new vision of the book upon which their faith is built. It will also provide a new and exciting way to become familiar with the Jewish and Christian scriptures. It encourages different ways to approach the Bible without forcing any reader into any particular way.

Harvey Cox says that he hopes readers of his book will lay it aside and turn to the Book that his book is about and come to know God and themselves better.

The ICCC's Facebook page is open to you! Join the group, learn what's happening around the Council, and post notices and photos of your church's exciting ministries!



An Ecumenical Ohio Summer

by Rev. Bob Fread

The summer of 2015 was a popular time for national church gatherings in Ohio. Along with the ICCC's 65th Annual Conference in Dublin, the two communions closest to the ICCC in faith and governance, the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) also gathered in Ohio during the summer.

In late June the 30th General Synod of the United Church of Christ [UCC] convened in Cleveland. The ICCC was represented at that gathering by the Rev. Herman Harmelink, ICCC Vice President for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. (I attended too, but as a voting delegate in the UCC.) During the five day synod the UCC elected a new General Minister and President, the Rev. John Dorhauer. They also passed several resolutions on issues such as mass incarceration as the new Jim Crow, encouraging congregations to study the Kairos Palestine document, encouraging boycott and divestment from companies which aid the Israeli occupation of Palestine, transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy and on the ethical treatment of undocumented immigrant children. The UCC also entered into a full communion agreement with the United Church of Canada.



Only two days following the conclusion of our ICCC Annual Conference in Dublin, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) [CC(DC)] gathered just a few miles away in downtown Columbus for their 2015 General Assembly. I attended as an ecumenical guest representing our ICCC Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee. All the ecumenical guests were very warmly welcomed at a dinner by the Global Ministries & Council on Christian Unity, and were introduced to the assembly during an evening worship service. During the five day assembly the CC(DC) passed resolutions on issues such as gun violence, environmental racism, and Black Lives Matter. Also, a few issues were on the minds of both the UCC and CC(DC), as both churches passed resolutions commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, concerning ministry to people with mental health issues, and the killings at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston.

Important to both gatherings were celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Ecumenical Partnership shared by the two churches. In 1989 the UCC and CC(DC) entered into a unique ecumenical partnership which has now seen the ordained ministers of each church be recognized as ministerial partners in the other, and a combining of their overseas mission work into one Global Ministries agency. One worship service at each gathering was dedicated to the celebration of this Ecumenical Partnership, with the General Minister and President of each church preaching in that celebration at the other church's gathering.

A common concern at both gatherings, which has also been a concern in recent years for the ICCC, is the very existence and frequency of such national events. In recent years the ICCC has questioned the sustainability of its annual conference. Likewise, the UCC and CC(DC) are both studying the sustainability of their national gatherings which convene every two years, but require large and costly convention center and hotel space in major cities. Declining membership and finances, and declining participation at these events, have all three of us: ICCC, UCC, and CC(DC), wondering about the future of our national gatherings.

What brought the most joy as a participant in all three gatherings were the constant themes of reconciliation, justice, and unity which are central to the ICCC, UCC and CC(DC). We truly have much more that unite the three of us than divide us.

President's Message *cont'd. from p. 1*

we have ministered. Tragically, a few have violated that trust in ways that are almost impossible to heal. A seminary classmate of mine spent 12 years in a state penitentiary for molesting children in his parish. They testified at a supervised intervention how their lives were permanently and indelibly scarred, making trusting relationships with others, especially clergy, almost impossible.

And regardless of rank or official influence, haven't all of us been blessed by the "silent saints," those who have loved us, counseled us, encouraged us, and been patient with us? Have we not experienced the Grace of God through these exemplars of Christian commitment and faith?

God IS making ALL things new, through popes, pastors, people, and, indeed, through us.

In appreciation of all.

Dick

Our prayers are with:

- **Mike Mahan, Gahanna Community Congregational Church, Gahanna, OH**, who is experiencing a very serious health issue. Mike has stepped down from his position as the Ohio Fellowship President so he can focus his energy on treatment and recovery. He is requesting our prayers for his strength on the journey ahead.
- The family of **Ethel Cook**, who passed away in September. She was the granddaughter of **Rev. & Mrs. Henry Cook, Sr.**, founder of **Pilgrim Community Church** in Los Angeles. She was the sister of Minister **James Cook**, an associate pastor for the church currently.
- **Martha Nolan, Park Ridge Community Church, IL** with the passing of her husband, **Jim**, early October. Martha was a former Council Treasurer and very active with the ICCC.
- Rev. Dr. **Michael Donahue** and his family with the passing of his mother, **Betty Jo**, on October 16th. Rev. Donahue is the senior pastor at **Speed Memorial Community Church, Speed, IN**.

Sharing Joys:

- News from **Bishop Theriault, Christian Catholic Rite of Community Churches:** Father **John Balfe** of Northern Ontario Pastorate wrote: "I am well and life moves along. I have had some weddings to officiate at this summer and it has been enjoyable. We continue to have prayer service at our home in North Bay. Blessings surround you."
- **Rev. Ray Henson**, Military Chaplaincy and Nashville Hope Chapel, Tennessee, has been appointed the Director of Military Funeral Honors for the State of Tennessee, succeeding Chaplain (LTC) Talbert, who held the post for many years.
- Baptized and entered the Church's life: Rafael, child of Christian Castonguay & Lisa Labbé (August 8) and Steven, child of Todd Poirier & Karen Okrainec (September 12). Both baptisms took place in **St. Bernard & St. Gregory**, Ottawa Gatineau, Quebec.
- Sister **Leona Hartman** (St. Stephen's, Montreal), played the organ for us most of the Sundays in September and it was a blessing to have her. She will be 86 in December and is still very active in the church.
- **Saundra Nelson's** sister, **Sharon Norris Elliot**, hosted a telethon in September, on the Holy Spirit Broadcasting Network. She interviewed Pastor **Vince Holmes** & his wife, and the church's choir sang. All are from **Zion Temple Community Church**, Los Angeles, CA.
- **Rev. Dan Fritz** is currently serving as the Interim Minister for the **Community Church of East Williston**, NY. In June, he completed a year and a half as the interim minister for the Presbyterian Community Church of Massapequa, NY after retiring in 2009 from the **Community Church of Great Neck**, NY. Great to see you are back with an ICCC church!
- Congratulations to Rev. **Dick Hattan** on his ordination into the priesthood on September 12th. The ordination was held in St. Charles, IL, conducted by Bishop **David Dismas**, **Saint Nicholas Mission**, and Rev. Don Ashmall, ICCC



Very Rev. Tony Begonja, OSL, retired Episcopal priest Rev. Bill Kruse, OSL, retired Methodist pastor Rev. Don Crary, OSL, Rev. Fran Begonja, OSL, Rev. Bob Lefebvre, Rev. Don Ashmall, Bishop David Dismas.

Council Minister. Revs. **Tony and Fran Begonja**, **Heart of Jesus Ministries** and **Rev. Bob Lefebvre**, **Saint Nicholas Mission**, attended the event as well. Dick currently works as a retirement/nursing home administrator and serves as a Chaplain for the International Order of Saint Luke the Physician. You may have met him in July when he attended his first **ICCC Annual Conference!**

- On October 17th the **Southern California Conference of Community Churches** held its annual conference at **Zion Temple Community Church**, Los Angeles, CA. They enjoyed worship, workshops and lunch and welcomed new churches recently joining.

• Congratulations to Mr. **George Shirley** from **People's Community Church**, Detroit, MI as he received the top musical arts award from the President of the United States at the National Medal of Arts Ceremony. Mr. Shirley was a presenter at the May Regional Meeting.



- ICCC member **Apostolic Catholic Church**, Senior Pastor Bishop **Chuck Leigh**, in Tampa, FL recently changed their name to **Christ the Servant Catholic Church**. You can visit our website www.icccusa.com to view their listing and update your records.
- **Rev. Leroy McCreary** and **People's Community Church**, Berea, OH celebrated his 40th pastorate anniversary on October 4th. Council President Rev. Dr. **Dick Griffith** delivered the invocation and benediction at the event. Council Minister Rev. **Don Ashmall** was honored to participate in the event, which featured presentations from the community groups and congregation. Celebration of a milestone!

- Congratulations to **Alexandria Hemphill**, **Douglas Memorial Community Church**, Baltimore, MD. She was recently awarded a **Jordan Scholarship!** Alexandria is pursuing a degree in Communications/Journalism. Best wishes in your educational endeavors!



- **Region B, Area 1** (Baltimore/Washington) will be having their annual banquet Saturday, Nov. 14th at 11:00am. The event will be held at **Palisades Community Church**, in Washington, DC where Rev. **Jeffrey N. Stinehelfer** is the Senior Pastor.

- **Reflections** by Pastor **Harry Fockle**, **Antioch Community Church** and Vice-President of Planning for the ICCC Annual Conference is available for sale. The cost is \$10.00, plus \$5.00 s/h. Contact the Council Office to purchase. Visit the ICCC website to see other books on hand written by ICCC members!



Continued on page 4

ICCC Permanent Endowment Fund Status Report

In January, 2015 the Endowment Fund gifted \$10,254 to the Council's General Fund based on the Fund's appreciation from July 1st 2013 through June 30th, 2014.

The Council's Endowment Fund had a good year overall despite ending on a bad note just before June 30th, 2015—the end of the Fund's Investment Year.

Worries about Greece's defaulting on its European Union loan caused the stock market to plummet in late June. That decline meant that the Endowment Fund did not have enough earned appreciation to make a gift to the Council this coming January.

As of this past June 30th, the Fund's assets totaled \$275,192—an increase of nearly \$22,000 over the prior 12 months.

Since this past June 30th the stock market has declined by nearly 10% based on fears of China's slowing economy.

Because the Endowment Fund is conservatively invested, its asset value was \$267,416 as of Sept. 24th—a decline of less than 3% since the end of June.

Major Gift

In December 2014 the Fund received nearly \$19,500 in gifts. These were bolstered by a much-appreciated major gift from Joseph Leach in memory of his parents, Arthur and Mary Leach.

New Memorial Named Fund Created

During the 2015 Annual Conference, delegates approved an amendment to the Endowment Fund Bylaws that, among other things, enables donors having cumulative cash gifts to the Fund of \$10,000 or more to create a named endowment fund for a loved one or friend. Caroline Burke is the first to establish such a fund, The Rev. Carl Burke Memorial Fund.

Gifts Requested

The Endowment Fund's goal is to reach \$300,000 in assets by June 30th, 2016. Help the Council and leave a lasting legacy. Just send a gift to DeAnn at the Council's Frankfort, IL office and mark it "Endowment Fund".

Mission Statement



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

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

**A Voice for
Ecumenical Congregations
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As a Memorial to:

Olivia & Elizabeth (our Mothers) from James & Ruth Glenn
 Mary & Arthur Leach from the Mary Leach Trust
 Wilma Siegrist from Sharon (Sherry) Vincent
 Lawrence & Cecil Millben from Janet Burch
 Sylvia Gilchrist from James W. Jones
 Christopher Dietz from Carla Dietz
 Rev. Marion C. Bascom from Beverly Reid
 Joan Rigby from Mary Frances Garner
 William & Gloria Copelin from Rev. Shirley B. Cooper
 Jarrell Mack from Rev. Carter S.R. Garner
 Elizabeth Bell Locke from Ruth & James Glenn
 Timothy Barta from Linda & Joseph Barta

In Honor of :

Major Bradley Walgren from Harold Walgren (3)
 Mrs. Betty Jean Campbell from Greater Faith Community Church
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 Nanci Harris from Sandra Nelson
 Rose Addison from Charles Addison
 Charles Terry and Mary from Eloise Crenshaw
 ICCC Founders from Joan Massler
 Nestor Trujillo from Patrick Trujillo

Director of Faith Formation and Outreach

Greendale People's Church in Worcester, MA: Part-time position, flexible scheduling including Sundays, works closely with the pastor. The ideal candidate would have a strong Christian belief and value system. Must be proficient with social media for outreach. Skilled collaboration required to mentor Faith Formation programming for all ages with an emphasis on adolescents. Minimum of an Associate's Degree required, a Bachelor's Degree is preferred, a Master's Degree is a plus. Minimum 3-5 years of experience in a related field. Check us out at www.greendalepeopleschurch.org and please forward resumes to faithformation.GPC@gmail.com

Associate Pastor of Membership

Community Church at Tellico Village is seeking an Associate Pastor of Membership and Family Ministries. CCTV is a 1400 member interdenominational church located SW of Knoxville, TN in a planned community on Tellico Lake in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. The church is affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches. The ideal candidate possesses a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ and demonstrates a true desire to shape his/her ministry by the Great Commandment. S/he values Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. S/he is a mature "people-person" with leadership skills who has a passion for: preaching, developing fellowship, and spiritual growth ministries. Ministers from all denominations may apply. M. Div. required. If interested, visit us at www.tellicochurch.com and post resume to search@tellicochurch.org. Otherwise mail to TVCC Search Team, 130 Chota Center, Loudon, TN 37774

Seeking a Senior Pastor

Cosmopolitan Community Church is actively seeking and accepting resumes for the position of Pastor.

They are a historic church established in 1923 under the leadership of the late Dr. John Russell Harvey. The church has been led by three outstanding spiritual leaders: the late Dr. John Russell Harvey (1923-1932), the late Dr. Mary G. Evans (1932-1966), and Rev. Dr. Henry O. Hardy (1967-retirement, December 2014).

Cosmopolitan has consistently been a pillar in the urban landscape for over 90 years. The church has historically been involved in the spiritual growth and civic development of the local community. They are searching for a Senior Pastor with the passion and creativity to get them growing in both numbers and impact. They look forward to what God has planned for them next.

Interested candidates should mail resumes to:
 Cosmopolitan Community Church
 P. O. Box 805771 • Chicago, IL 60680
 Attn: Pastoral Search Committee

ICCC Endowment Fund Status As of October 6, 2015

Invested assets:

\$270,620

Gifts since 06/30/15:

\$3,825

Current Investment Mix:

60% stocks & 40% bonds

Norris Religious Fellowship

The Norris Religious Fellowship is seeking a new spiritual leader to join our loving, caring, worshiping church family. Our church was established in 1933 by the residents of Norris, Tennessee. Norris was a new planned community created by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to house the workers who built the first TVA dam, as well as their families, and to serve as a model community. Since this was a new community the residents all moved to the area from somewhere else, bringing their various religious experiences with them. Thus the Fellowship was founded as an interdenominational Christian church, which it remains to this day.

The Fellowship is affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches, and is graced with over 100 members, along with children and non-member friends. We are a tithing church, meaning that 10% of our annual budget is donated to various charitable organizations. Over the years our ministers have come from many denominations, including Congregational, American Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Church of God, United Church of Christ and Unitarian. It is required that a candidate for minister be a graduate of an accredited Christian seminary. A passion for counseling the ill and grieving is desirable.

The position will be available starting in March of 2016, as the minister who has led us for the past seventeen years has decided to retire in February of 2016. Compensation for the position is negotiable, commensurate with training and experience. One member, who has been a part of our church for seventy-nine years says he prays, "God, please send us the person that we need and that needs us."

If you feel that you might be that person please send inquiries to:

Norris Religious Fellowship
Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
P.O. Box 1069
Norris, TN 37828

Email Address: search@norrisrf.org

Deadline for applications: October 31, 2015

Seeking Settled Pastor

The Pensacola Beach Community United Church is seeking a dynamic Settled Pastor gifted with the skill sets needed to meet the requirements of uplifting preaching, insightful and centrist bible interpretation, and patient ministering to the needs of a congregation of both younger and older members. The called Settled Pastor will provide the energetic leadership to grow our church membership and increase the average worship attendance (currently 80), to guide and counsel the lay leadership, to underscore and expand the meaningful relevance of our Church's mission (Building God's Beach Community) to our members and the permanent and transient residents of our resort community, and to introduce proven/new outreach programs and approaches to enhance the impact of the ministry of our Church in the community at large.

In reality, we are seeking a visionary Pastor who will initially deserve, based upon the scope of responsibilities, gifts, and skill sets required, to receive more compensation than the \$50,000 (negotiable) plus parsonage that we can provide at this time. We fully expect to adjust and compensate more appropriately as we and our Pastor grow together. The Pensacola Beach Community United Church has historic ties to the ICCCC and is affiliated with The United Church of Christ. More detailed information about, and a virtual tour of, our Church is available via our website www.thebeachchurch.com. Interested candidates may send a brief resume to pnsbeachchurch@att.net.

Seeking an Associate Pastor

The Church at Litchfield Park, a historic and dynamic independent community church located in a beautiful resort community west of Phoenix, is searching for an Associate Pastor to join our wonderful staff. A qualified candidate should have a theological degree from an accredited institution, be ordained by a Christian denomination and have a servant's heart manifested in the pastoral gifts. Specific areas of ministry will include: visitation, counseling, teaching, and occasional preaching. CLP is a progressive church "aspiring to be as inclusive as the love of God." Qualified candidates should email a resume and cover letter to: info@churchatlitchfieldpark.org with "Associate Pastor Search" in the subject line.