

# THE CHRISTIAN



# COMMUNITY

*A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World*

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NUMBER 1

## 2013 Conference – Grand Rapids, MI



## President's Message

*Rev. Dr. Bruce N. Merton*

We are now almost 60 days past this year's annual conference. For me, these have been days of reflection rooted in trying to process the power, potential and possibilities of certain actions taken at the conference. I have come to believe that actions taken by delegates at the conference **could prove to be** among the greatest taken in the history of the I.C.C.C.

**By-Laws.** The new structure "could prove to be" a real help in increasing our efficiency. It "could prove to be" a huge help in identifying new leaders with specific skill sets needed for moving and growing our ministry and presence. It "could prove to be" a major move forward in defining who we are on the faith landscape as we have now embraced the fact that we are interracial, intercultural, and **inclusive.**

Our conference delegates, following the leadership of the Board of Trustees and recommendations from our Council Minister, voted to approve the "Vision 20/20" plan. It is a solid plan that "could prove to be" our key to future growth and vitality across the entire spectrum of the community church movement. Its success will require us to work together and support each other with time, talent, energy, imagination and prayer.

I do emphasize: **"could prove to be!"** All of us that know and love the community church movement that we are a part of, both joyfully and fearfully embrace our freedom from hierarchy. We are able to reject or embrace the work of our Board of Trustees, its officers, Council Minister and voting delegates. We, individually and as member churches and centers, choose to participate or spectate when it comes to the actions taken by those who debate, deliberate, and ultimately decide the direction of the I.C.C.C. in our conference business sessions. We are the people, churches and centers that will decide to move **"could prove to be" to "actually proved to be!"**

I also believe that the I.C.C.C. has reached a point in its life and history that requires us to make sure, with all due diligence, mutuality, compassion and grace that **"could prove to be"** is transformed into **"actually proved to be!"**

It can happen! I know that **we can** do all things through Christ who strengthens us. The real question is not rooted in our ability. It is rooted in our desire. Do we have the genuine desire to give time, talent and treasure to what we cannot see now so we see it in our future? Do we have the genuine desire



to look beyond the words, ideas, institutions and people that define "normal" and "acceptable" in our individual lives and churches so we can embrace the full diversity of God's humanity? Do we have the genuine desire to contribute our individual and church resources even though we can see a need to keep for ourselves? The answer to all these questions and any others that could be stumbling blocks is not to be found in issues of ability. **We have the ability! We need the desire!**

There are some among us who have become weary in the journey. Sometimes they share their weariness so as to make others weary. There are others who are incredulous as to our ability to move boldly into the future. Sometimes they choose to share their incredulity with others to create doubt. Others cannot see **"Vision 2020"** because it is a vision "so large, yet there is so little to work with." Sometimes their lack of vision causes others to become blind to future possibilities. I know these statements to be true because I have, at some point in time, been their reality! If we are truly honest, I believe ALL of us, individuals and churches, can identify a time when we have been the weary, doubting or blind! Many times we find a greater comfort in identifying the "problems that prevent" than in being part of a "solution that succeeds."

There might be more "comfort" in the "problems that prevent" approach. If we can identify enough problems, we can justify our lack of involvement or commitment as being a realistic approach when confronted with a mountain of obstacles. Yet, this approach does absolutely nothing to bring the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. It does nothing to move the founding vision of the I.C.C.C. to an enlarging and growing presence on the faith landscape.

*continued on page 3*

## Vision 2020

by Don Ashmall  
Council Minister



The community church movement is a vision in the process of being made real. The vision is Christian unity and reconciliation within God's justice and peace. There's a difference between a movement and an organization. Movements are focused on purpose and centered on vision. Organizations are survival-focused and centered on their procedures and bureaucracies. Movements are outward looking; organizations look inward. Movements are enthused; organizations concentrate on worries.

A moment of confession: there have been moments when the International Council of Community Churches stopped acting like a movement and started looking like an organization. When we've been faithful to our identity as a movement and centered our life on serving our God-given vision, we have grown in spirit and numbers. When we've acted like an organization and concentrated on our worries, we have moved toward the fulfillment of pessimistic prophecies of doom and gloom. But we're not called to be an organization. Our call is to be the Jesus-centered movement of Christians proclaiming and being the good news of God's unity in a world of bad news and conflict.

"Vision 2020" is meant to center us anew on our vision – a vision of growing unity that transcends all the artificial human boundaries and barriers that get in our way as we strive to be an answer to Jesus' prayer "that they might all be one." (If "Vision 2020" is new to you, see the Council website for the details: [www.icccusa.com](http://www.icccusa.com).)

To fulfill the vision we must initiate. Over the next seven years we'll be planting new community-based churches in the U.S. and around the world. To lead those new congregations we'll be enlisting entrepreneurs in faith who we'll support by gifts of prayer, time, talent and treasure from existing churches and ministry centers. These inspired and dedicated adventurers will gather new churches in places where interracial, inter-ethnic, inter-linguistic congregations need to grow. Seven newly planted U.S. congregations in the next seven years, with a similar number beyond the U.S., is a minimum that our growing vision will allow us to transcend. Who do you know who has the gifts to plant a new community church? Is it you?

To fulfill the vision we must invite. Over the next seven years we'll extend invitations to existing community-based churches and ministry centers to join us in making the vision of growing, reconciling Christianity a reality. The "we" who will invite others includes you! Don't wait for a committee to assign you or a task force to direct you. Just get 'er done! You and others will make phone calls, pay personal visits and share the vision with pastors and people of unaffiliated congregations. You'll share the vision. And they will respond! Ten congregations net per year in growing the movement is just a beginning. We'll exceed this number as the movement grows.

To fulfill the vision we must inspire. As in our area and regional fellowships we arrange excellent annual events and presentations, we will reach beyond our present numbers, grab the attention of many, and undergird ministries and discipleship far beyond the present fellowship. Those events will help old-timers and newcomers in the movement to grow in faith, hope and love. And those experiences will give your invitees a taste of what the community church movement is all about.

To fulfill the vision we must instruct. One – or perhaps more than one – annual continuing education event for clergy and other church leaders will build skills in ministry. In addition the events will remind those in places of servant-leadership that they do not labor alone as they find and build collaborative efforts in outreach and service.

To fulfill the vision we must involve. The community church movement is much larger than a cadre of clergy or the attendance at annual conferences. As your local church and others share together in worship, exchange choirs, arrange joint service events and more, you'll find cause for rejoicing and the movement will grow. Don't just involve other ICCC congregations; invite an unaffiliated church to share with you in these ways!

To fulfill the vision we must innovate. New ideas, new ventures, new programs and new initiatives will present the vision of Christian unity to growing numbers as we celebrate together in sister-church relationships, share resources peer-to-peer, and as we find exciting new ways to live in reconciling harmony with others.

Now it's your turn to instigate. If your church or ministry center has not yet adopted "Vision 2020" as one of your primary goals for the next seven years, instigate the process for approval! If your church or ministry center hasn't yet taken action on any of the multiple emphases of "Vision 2020," instigate the action! Be a one-person task force to make "Vision 2020" real on the local scene. Be a leader in making the vision real in your area and region. Be a part of the worldwide team to initiate, invite, inspire, instruct, involve and innovate. If you believe that "Vision 2020" is in God's will for the Council and for the wider church, it's time to start instigating its success. What specific thing can you do now to grow the community church movement?

## REVIEWS

Dr. Robert M. Puckett

JOURNEY TO THE COMMON GOOD; Walter Brueggemann, Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky, 2010, Paperback, 115 pages.

Whatever happened to the common good by people who live they way they should? The common good requires putting away greed and loving neighbors of every race and creed. It eliminates exploitation by the powers that be and enables everyone to be free.

These are some of my thoughts that came to mind when I read Brueggemann's book JOURNEY TO THE COMMON GOOD. He says that there is a serious crisis of the common good because the powers that be are too full of greed which causes them to resist the common good. They fail to rise above self interest and reach beyond private concerns to discover human solidarity. "The journey to the common good is a trek that all serious human beings must make, a growth out beyond private interest and sectarian passion." (P. 2)

Brueggemann sees the Old Testament story of slavery in Egypt as a parable of the crisis of the common good. It is about the manipulation of the economy to concentrate wealth and power in the hands of the few at the expense of the community. This process involves "a systematic greediness that precludes the common good" by "always pressing for cheap labor for more production...(under) unbearable labor conditions, and unrealistic production schedules." (P. 7) Pharaoh's ruthless fear of his labor force "leads to an assault on the labor force that provides for the killing of all baby boys that are potentially part of the work force." (P. 9) They who do no work think that they who do the work are simply lazy!!

"The move from economic exploitation to policies that are grounded

in fear seems deliberately designed to produce suffering. Finally, as every exploitative system eventually learns, the exploitation rooted in fear reaches its limit of unbearable suffering." (P. 10) And that is what produced the Exodus which was a journey to the common good!

"The exploitative system of Pharaoh believed that it always needed more and was always entitled to more – more bricks, more control, more territory, more oil – until it had everything." (P. 25) It is a biblical parable of all the exploitative systems of this world which always end eventually in failure. According to Brueggemann this parable is of particular relevance to America because of our crisis of the common good. "In the United States it takes the form of a national security state in which we are to be engaged in perpetual war, in order to impose our will upon others, in order to claim the resources and develop the markets to our advantage...Our immediate experience of the kingdom of scarcity is our entitled consumerism."

All of this leads to a captivity of the human spirit that needs to be challenged in the name of the common good. Walter Brueggemann makes the story of the Exodus extremely relevant for our present crisis of the common good.

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

**President:** Bruce Merton

**Vice Presidents:** Richard Griffith, Charlene Watkins

**Treasurer:** Nicholas Brame; **Secretary,** Abraham Wright

**Immediate Past President:** Sandra Nelson

**Trustees:** Roberta Smith, Nanci Harris, Glenn Clay, Ted Fielland, Denise Sager, Vermelle Barnes, Charles Addison, Michael Donahue, Janet Burch

**Auxiliary Heads:** Women's Christian Fellowship, Ella Clay; Samaritans, Wayne Samuels; Youth, Sarah Wells; Ministerium, William Samuels

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### ICCC GENERAL FUND - JANUARY THRU AUGUST, 2013

Total Cash Balance as of January 1, 2013:..... \$ 70,529.66  
Total Income year to date as of August 31:..... \$152,110.74  
Total Expenses year to date as of August 31:..... \$156,178.86  
Total Cash Balance as of August 31, 2013:..... \$ 66,461.54

**Sharing Joys:**

- On Sunday May 19th, **Christ Church of Peace** in Jacksonville, FL recognized Senior Pastor, **Rev. Dr. Harvey Carr** for his 45 years of ordained ministry. Dr. Carr was ordained in the Southern Baptist Convention May 18, 1968, and has served in churches of several denominations in pastoral staff positions and as a missionary planting churches in Montana. He has also ministered in the United Kingdom. During the week he was recognized for his ministry by several Christian denominations and members of the Jewish faith from Jacksonville, across the USA and from the United Kingdom.
- The Samaritan Men's Fellowship of **Christ Church of Peace**, Jacksonville, FL., is very active in the Habi-jax Outreach, which just celebrated 25 years of ministry building affordable housing for the less fortunate. Nearly 100 volunteers built 25 homes during the week long festivity in the New Town area of Jacksonville as a part of urban renewal.
- The Alabama Area Meeting was held at **Tennessee Valley Community Church**, Florence, AL where **Rev. Frederick Perkins** is the pastor, June 28th & 29th. A powerful conference now behind them, messages were preached by **Rev. Brenton Brock**, Associate Minister at **St. Paul Community Methodist Church**, Selma, AL and **Rev. Carl Davis**, Associate Minister, **Bethel Independent Methodist Church**. An ordination service was conducted by **Pastor Dennis Brock**, **Mt. Zion Community Church** for **Rev. Cedric Adams and Deacon Danny Kidd, Jr.**, followed by Holy Communion. The 2014 area meeting will be held at **St. James Independent Methodist Church**, where **Rev. Juan Thornton** is the pastor, June 27th & 28th.



- **New Covenant Community Church**, **Scott Crannell**, Senior Pastor, has recently moved into their new worship building at 1587 W. Exchange St., Akron, OH. Worship services have been held there since May 19th, however, the offices just recently relocated.



- **Rev. Dr. Jeffrey M. Parker, Sr.**, was installed at **Church of All Faiths**, Oakland, CA on August 18th, as their new Senior Pastor. "I endorse this servant of God who will serve the Council in sincerity and integrity." - **Rev. Ina R. Brooks**, outgoing ICCC Ministerium President. Both ICCC **Council Minister Don Ashmall**, and Senior Pastor at **Havenscourt Community Church**, **Rev. Claude Wilson** participated in the event.

- **Church of the Loving Shepherd**, Westtown, PA, **Rev. John Woodcock** Senior Pastor, offers a children's program "Moo-sic in the Barn" in their re-purposed farm structure. You can visit their website [www.loving shepherd.org](http://www.loving shepherd.org) to read their newsletter *Barnyard News*.

**Our prayers are with:**

- **Shirley Harris**, **Zion Community Church**, Birmingham, AL and **Dorothy Kindred** for the passing of their mother **Mary Robinson**. Her service was held June 26th.
- **Jerry O'Sullivan** and family, with the passing of his brother **Bob O'Sullivan** on June 16th. **Donna and Jerry O'Sullivan** have been faithful supporters of the Council for many years. Donna was Office Administrator of the Council from 1990 through 2000.
- The **Rev. Lawson Robinson, Sr.**, of **Rock of Ages Community Church**, a former ICCC member, who has had a stroke and is making a positive recovery as reported by his daughter the Rev. Phyllis McCaskill.
- **Roser Memorial Community Church** and the family of **Dick Rowse**, who Died to Life Everlasting on July 26th. He was a long time member of Roser and had served the congregation in many roles.
- Regional Trustee **Charles Addison** and family, with the passing of his niece **Chris Hanible** on August 29th. Service was held Sept. 5th in Hammond, LA.

\* \* \*

A memorial service and tombstone blessing was held July 7th in Montreal to celebrate the life and works of **Fr. Dr. John Rossner**, Senior Pastor of **International Institute of Integral Human Sciences**. Fr. Rossner was a priest for over 55 years and leaves behind his wife, **Rev. Dr. Marilyn Rossner**, Senior Pastor of **Spiritual Science Fellowship**, also in Montreal. **Bishop Serge Theriault**, Senior Pastor of the **Christian Catholic Rite of Community Churches**, participated in the service.

## A New Frontier for ICCC Mission

by Gary A. Batey

First of all, let me assure you that I'm not promoting myself for the job of Christian Community sports reporter. On the other hand, if the position is vacant, I'm available. This article (like my last one) is only superficially about sports; it's really about the unfinished business and the ongoing mission of the ICCC.

The Florida Marlins baseball team has a brilliant young pitcher named Jose Fernandez. Already making his mark as a rookie, barring injury, this young man is destined for major league baseball greatness. Not only is he a great athlete, but his background story is something they ought to make into a movie. Jose is a native of Cuba. He got to the USA by braving a harrowing boat trip on the stormy Gulf of Mexico (during which he saved his drowning mother, who had fallen overboard). Twice before they had tried to escape Castro's Communist grasp, and twice they had failed, before finally making the hazardous boat passage to Mexico, and then to the United States by crossing the border at Laredo, Texas.

Jose enrolled in a Tampa, FL, high school and received a good education and special baseball coaching that honed his talent to a degree that prepared him to earn a spot (and beaucoup bucks) in professional baseball. In just a few years, he made it all the way to the major leagues, and now the sky's the limit for Jose Fernandez. It shows what a wonderful land of opportunity America can still be for those who dare to pursue the American dream. But it helps if they are Cubans. Had Jose come to the US border from that same entry point in Mexico as a Mexican-born immigrant hoping to make a prosperous new life here in the land of opportunity, he'd have been turned away. Mexicans must wait for years to get in; Cubans are welcomed immediately, with open arms. Jose and his family braved perils at sea to reach a better life; dozens of Latino families from Mexico, Central and South America brave a harrowing overland odyssey, only to be rejected and returned to poverty and hopelessness. Why? Because America hates Communism and Castro; anyone who defies Castro is our new best friend forever. America's government has no beef with other neighboring governments south of our border. Their economic, social, and political systems

may also deny opportunity and prosperity to their impoverished citizens, but at least they're not Communists! More than that, because Americans idolize sports figures (and I mean that in the theological sense, as well as the ordinary sense) an aspiring baseball player is more welcome here than a dedicated manual laborer is. So when you hear people (especially people in political or government positions) malign "illegal" immigrants and say that those who came here uninvited don't deserve to be treated like those of us who were born here, remember that their only real offense was not being Cubans and not being athletes. Otherwise, we'd have rolled out the red carpet for them.

Justice for Hispanic residents and aspiring residents of this country seems like a new frontier of mission obligation and opportunity for the ICCC. We were born from the passion of people who felt compelled by Christ to stand with and stand for those who kept on the margins of society and opportunity by the dominant culture. My scant experience with Hispanic Christians informs me that I have a lot to learn about a social and religious culture quite unlike my own. But one thing I have learned from them is that they have a lot to teach me. My Dad didn't always give me bad advice (I almost always give bad advice to my kids, so I'm an authority on the subject) but my Dad gave me terrible advice when I was starting high school, where I'd have to choose a language course. Dad said, "Don't bother with Spanish; this is America and you'll never need to know Spanish here." So, instead of Spanish, I took Latin, as my Dad suggested. If I ever meet a Roman Legionnaire, we can have a chat. But I wasn't ready for the emergence of Hispanic culture in the life of mainstream American society and mainstream American Christianity. Neither was the ICCC. But here it is, and here we are. Justice for people of Hispanic heritage; recognition for and partnership with Hispanic Christians: agenda items for renewed passion and commitment for the ICCC.

Future Christian Community sports reports: Timing ecumenical services so as not to conflict with the NFL playoffs, and how the Council might respond prophetically to NBA player Jason Collins (and various of our sisters and brothers in Christ) coming out as gay.

**Hello ICCC members and friends,**

If you did not make it to the 2013 Annual Conference at Grand Rapids, you missed it and we missed you. As our Conference faces financial challenges in these hard times, my love for the Conference has stepped up. I pledged \$1,000.00 within three months of Conference. I have sent in my first payment of my pledge. I challenge everyone reading this issue to match my pledge. Whether an individual or a church, please step up and accept this challenge. Conference received \$11,000 in pledges before Conference was over. Just imagine 90 more pledges coming in before September. So show your love. Accept my challenge. There are some of you who can do better, but the challenge is on \$1,000.00. It's on You!! Thank you for your love of our ICCC and our Annual Conference.

Grace and Peace  
Saundra



### President's Message cont'd. from page 1

On the other hand, **having the desire to be part of a "solution that succeeds"** challenges us to rely more fully on God's power, witness more faithfully to Jesus' lifestyle, and follow more closely the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It requires us to believe as Jesus did: we are called to serve, not to be served. It will require us to sow more of our individual and church resources, but it will yield a harvest well beyond our individual capabilities.

Having the **desire** to succeed ultimately proves to be the perfecting complement to **abilities** we possess through the promises of the Christ who strengthens us.

Jesus' life was rooted in and lived under the mantra of a **desire** of his Gethsemane prayer to God, "not my will, but yours ne done." That **desire** lead to both sacrifice and resurrection! Paul encourages us, "Have the same mind in you that was in Jesus Christ..."

**Will we? It is not a question of ability. It is a question of our desire.**

**Dear ICCC friends,**

Thank you so much for making the 2013 annual conference such a great one. Your generosity is amazing! The bounty of supplies spread out on, around and under the table to share with those in need in the greater Grand Rapids area through SECOM and WeCare was truly incredible. Kathy and Rosalie were not only touched that SECOM and WeCare were chosen to distribute the items collected, they were also impressed by their brief exposure to the ICCC. They were both so thankful to be included in the annual banquet. Thank you for your hospitality, generosity and graciousness! (Below are Thank You notes sent to the ICCC from both organizations.)

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Lynne Kammeraad



**WE CARE I.N.C.**  
A FAITH-BASED NON-PROFIT  
CHRIST'S HANDS AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

1 John 3:18  
"Little children, let us love,  
not in word or speech,  
but in truth and action."

July 26, 2013

Rev. Lynne Kammeraad  
Christ Community Church  
2400 Forest Hill Ave. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Dear Rev. Kammeraad,

On behalf of We Care In The Name Of Christ and the families we serve, please accept this heartfelt thank you for including us in your conference and for the generous donations of personal care items and cash.

Our faith based clearinghouse of resources – 34 years young this year – is supported by 40 churches, 21 denominations with 39 individual ministries – personal care being one of them. We serve at least 35,000 individual needs each year, and needs continue to grow, especially with our young families and our elderly neighbors. Keeping our personal care pantries stocked is tough. It is a hard 'ask' – it is expensive for our donors and the items are expensive for our families to buy. Yet, simple human dignity demands our help. And your conference attendees answered that call!

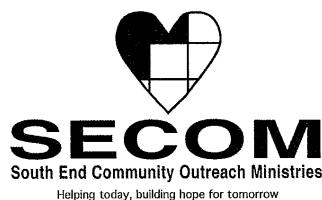
Again, thank you and please share our sentiments with your attendees if possible.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Plechaty  
Program and Special Event Coordinator

cc: Linda Olsen, Executive Director  
Denise Lewis, We Care I.N.C. Board of Directors

06321 Blue Star Highway • South Haven, MI 49090  
Telephone 269-637-4342 • www.wecare-inc.org • wecaresh@wecare-inc.org



Christ Community Church  
Attn: Rev Lynne Kammeraad  
2400 Forest Hill Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-8258

August 05, 2013

Dear Rev Lynne,

Thanks to you, 2012-2013 may have been the most exciting year on record for the families using our food pantry!

It certainly was for Elisa, a regular pantry volunteer who was in need of full time employment. She had been searching for a month, but needed help making the right connections to a position that would be a good fit. Through the support of SECOM's Pantry Director, Elisa was connected to one of SECOM's partner businesses, which helped Elisa find a job.

Your in-kind support of the food pantry in the amount of \$65.00 on July 25, 2013 not only helped today; it truly builds hope for tomorrow by supporting SECOM's work as a trusted community resource that makes a difference in people's lives...

- SECOM provided over 18,000 pantry services in Kent County.
- The Nutritional Options for Wellness pantry helped 10 people successfully manage diabetes and other chronic illnesses.
- 100% of SECOM's pantry clients were able to access fresh, healthy produce that promotes good health.

These successes are yours. Thank you for partnering with SECOM; we look forward to working with you to keep helping today and building hope for tomorrow.

Best Wishes,  
  
Katherine Brower  
Executive Director  
SECOM

South End Community Outreach Ministries

1545 Buchanan Ave SW • Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
Ph: 616-452-7684 • Fax: 616-452-7803 • www.secommministries.org

**Women's Christian Fellowship**

By Ella Clay  
President

Greetings to all in the Majestic and Powerful name of Jesus! I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve WCF/ ICCC as your President. My desire is that we continue work in the spirit of harmony and love to build upon the foundation that has already been laid.

I am looking forward to serving with the WCF Administrative Staff; 1st VP-Barbara Ratliff, 2nd VP-Nancy Harris, Secretary Carolyn Nichols, Assistant Secretary Maryum Manning, and Treasurer Mary Summers. Our Appointed Officers include Coordinator Sandra Roberts, Spiritual Leader Shyreece Pompey, and Bazaar Coordinator Elaine Richardson. Our leadership team includes a stellar group of women that will counsel and guide us as we build a stronger WCF; Rev. Ina Brooks, Min. Eloise Crenshaw, Rev. Dr. Cay Randall-May, Rev. Julia Powe, and Mrs. Emma Smith.

As we go forth to do the work of Kingdom Building, the WCF is asking all women to become more actively involved. We welcome the diversity of gifts, ideas, and talents. For when we all share, the Body of Christ is encouraged and profoundly blessed. Secondly, we are desirous for our financial contributions to increase so that we are able to sponsor more scholarships, mission opportunities and contribute to special recognitions.

Please remember to join us for our prayer call line, every second Monday of each month. Call 1-712-432-0175-code 887889 6 p.m. pacific time, 8 p.m. central time and 9 p.m. eastern time.

**Jordan Scholarship Fund Recipient**

The Jordan Scholarship was recently awarded to Ariel Gibbs, who is majoring in biochemistry at the University of Illinois in Chicago. Congratulations and best wishes in her educational endeavors!

**Ariel Gibbs**

St. Anne Woods Chapel Community Church  
Pembroke Township, IL  
Rev. Louis Barnes, Senior Pastor

**KNOWLEDGE IS GOLD**

Would you like to go further with your education?

Apply for a Jordan Scholarship

Contact the Council Office for an application.

[ICCC60423@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ICCC60423@sbcglobal.net) or 815-464-5690

**Seeking a Senior Pastor**

"I am come that they might have life and that they may have it more abundantly." – St. 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](mailto:personaltouch_22@att.net).