

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

March 2021



International Council of Community Churches

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A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

Number 5

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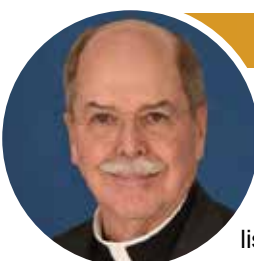
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ICCC Annual Conference Workshops

The conference planning committee is working hard to bring valuable workshops to Ohio. Three of the six are described below. Watch the website www.ICCCNOW.org and upcoming newsletters for more information.



Chaplaincy - The Clinical and the Practical

This workshop, led by Chaplain John Sugden, is intended to provide a framework to better understand the emotional content of patient conversations, the dynamics of grief and loss and how we honor the patients truth and give it reverence. A review of motivational interviewing and the healing power of listening and bearing witness will be covered in depth.



Family Wellness Workshop

This workshop, led by Chaplain Wendy Childress, is for parents, grandparents, guardians, and children (8 and older). It is designed to provide skills necessary for healthy families. You will learn techniques to assist parents and children navigate their ever-growing and ever-changing relationships. We know that families have good times and bad times. This workshop will provide you with tools and skills to help you go through the hard times as well as the good times. The goal is to learn with your family and other families but also for you to have fun doing so.



We Need a Revival

This workshop will be led by Rev. Eloise Chrenshaw. What is revival? Revival is a sovereign work of God—in answer to sincere prayer—in which he: Grips his people with deep conviction, repentance, forgiveness, and deliverance from personal sins; Fills his people with the Holy Spirit and manifesting in them the fruit and graces of the Holy Spirit; Causes non-Christians to honestly seek Him; Ignites in His people, young and old a passion to bring the lost to Christ at home and around the world.

Who is responsible for revival? God or Man? Do you work a revival up or do you pray a revival down? What are the conditions of a revival? Man prepares the way for revival after praying to a sovereign God the creator who knows what we need. Everything in creation is under God's control. He has chosen however, to give to his children the privilege of working together with Him to take the good news of His love and forgiveness in Christ to the world. Whatever God tells you to do he will give you the power and ability to do it.

If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land. ~ 2 Chronicles 7:14

Fasting is the only discipline that meets all the conditions of 2 Chronicles 7:14. When one fasts he humbles himself; he has more time to pray, more time to seek God's face, and certainly he would turn from all human sin. One could read the Bible, pray, or witness for Christ without repenting of his sins. But one cannot enter a genuine fast with a pure heart and pure motives and not meet the conditions of this passage.



International Council of Community Churches
ICCC Registration Form – 2021 Annual Conference: July 19-22
“Send Us”
Dublin, Ohio

Name (as you would like it on badge) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Church (member of) _____

First Conference: Yes ☐ No ☐

Status: ☐ Clergy ☐ Laity



FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND YOUTH PROGRAMS ONLY!



■ Age (on 7-1-2021) _____ Grade completed by (7-1-2021) _____

■ If **under 18**, an adult who is registered for the Conference and who will serve as a sponsor and assume responsibility for said young person must sign below:

 Sponsor Signature

 Print Sponsor Name

CONFERENCE FEES

Fill in Dollar Amount for this
Registration

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|----|
| Infants (not occupying chair at banquet) | \$ 0.00 | \$ |
| Child* with Kid's Meal (Ages 1-5) | \$ 35.00 | \$ |
| Elementary* with Kid's Meal (entering kindergarten - entering 6th grade) | \$ 60.00 | \$ |
| **Add-on ONLY if Adult meal is preferred for Child/Elementary regis. | \$ 30.00 | \$ |
| Youth (completed 6th grade - entering 12th grade) | \$145.00 | \$ |
| Young Adult (completed 12th grade - age 23) | \$170.00 | \$ |
| Adult Register by June 1, 2021 - Early Bird Special \$195.00 | \$230.00 | \$ |
| Daily Registrants Circle Day(s) M T W Th meals not included | \$ 40.00/day | \$ |
| CC | TOTAL ENCLOSED | \$ |

A Banquet ticket is included in your registration fee. This meal includes: Mixed Greens with Fresh Mozzarella, Grape Tomatoes and Balsamic Dressing, Grilled Bone-In Pork Chop with Bourbon BBQ, Herb Roasted Yukon Potatoes, Blue Lake Beans, Strawberry Shortcake, Coffee, Hot Tea and Iced Tea. *Fish Option:* Grilled Fresh Salmon with Citrus Butter **Kid's Meal Option:* Cheeseburger, French Fries, Lemonade and Cookie. Meals are subject to change.

Please circle one of the following for your preference at Thursday's Banquet Dinner.

Pork Chop (Default Option)

Fish Option

Kid's Meal Option

****Child & Elementary registrations include the Kid's Meal option. If the adult meal is preferred, please add \$30.00 to your total enclosed.**

Please return this form with payment to: ICCC, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502

☐ Check or Money Order made payable to ICCC ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

Acct. #: _____ - _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Print name as it appears on card: _____ Signature _____

One form per person. **Early Bird registration must be received in the office by June 1st.** Registrations after June 20, 2021 will be accepted at Conference only.

CANCELLATIONS: A \$25 administration fee will be assessed for each.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS MAY BE VIDEOTAPED or placed on Social Media. I agree the ICCC may use my image, name, voice and story in any medium or format, throughout the world forever, free-of-charge, and for any reasonable purpose in furtherance of its mission.



Executive Director's Message

Phil Tom

Years ago, I worked with members of a small membership urban United Methodist congregation. They were concerned about how their neighborhood was declining. Many of their neighbors were leaving their neighborhood because of its desolate situation with abandoned boarded up homes and closed neighborhood institutions. The church folks decided that they were not ready to throw in the towel and close their church home. They decided that they wanted to be

pro-active and help to rebuild their neighborhood. So, they took the Church's savings to buy the abandoned house next door to them to rehab it. They recruited their neighbors and other church folks to rehab this home to sell the home to someone willing to live in their neighborhood.

The first rehab home was a success. They took the proceeds from the sale of the rehabbed home and bought another boarded-up home. They rehabbed this house and then sold it. They repeated this process multiple times over three years.

Their neighbors saw that something good was happening in their neighborhood and began to fix their homes.

During the next ten years, they rehabbed dozen-plus boarded-up homes. This small congregation energized and mobilized their community to renovate and rebuild their community and turn the tide of despair to hope-

fulness and joy! This small urban congregation did not let its small size or the negative perception of their neighborhood stop them from trusting and believing in God that nothing was impossible for God! Like the story of the fishes and loaves, this congregation took the gifts that God had given them and multiplied them to serve its neighbors. They did not focus on scarcity but on the abundance that God had given them.

A person with an abundance mindset focuses on the limitless opportunities in life. They choose to focus on the positive things in their life rather

than the negative stuff. People with an abundance mindset are more grateful, more creative, and focused on collaboration.

Many congregations get caught up in a scarcity mindset, e.g., we used to have so many members, we used to have more resources. Instead of focusing on their mission and what they have, they get trapped looking at their past and miss what missional opportunities the present can offer them. When we get caught up in a scarcity mentality, we no longer believe or trust that God can make a way out of no way! We forecast our demise.

We do not need a building, much money, or a full-time pastor to be the Church! As the people of God, we are the Church! When we become a missional church, we experience a spirit of abundance. When we become a missional church, we see limitless possibilities that God has placed before us to use and maximize our God-given resources to serve our congregation and community. So, let us experience God's spirit of abundance and become the Church of fishes and loaves!

Phil

ICCC MARCH 2021



Book REVIEW

By Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson

Encouraging Our Hope (Romans 15:4)

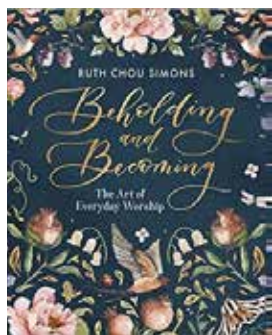
We are celebrating Women's History Month with book selections about worship, and biography,



There was a time when you lost something you were out. Your enemies blocked your attempted comebacks. But in *Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change* (238 pages, Hardcover, \$12) by Stacey Abrams, we see some powerful lessons in ten chapters for dynamic change. Abrams offers her unique insights about winning and mentoring for making your comeback and taking over.

On Winning, Abrams asserts, "winning begins with an admission that we deserve to be seen and heard as essential members of a community. Instead, what we confront is a tacit call for meekness, to hide our lights lest we become too noticeable and change the discussion. In practical terms, the translations are clear: don't stand out, don't speak when not spoken to, and accept the rules and the way of things. This is the commentary we hear from the instant we dare to make demands on a system not designed for our arrival. Show meekness—such a mealy, insubstantial word with such grave consequences" (p. 135). Abrams invites us to claim our space in the room or wherever we may be with this challenge.

On Mentoring, Abrams argues, "I don't have traditional mentors. Instead, I have curated support, training, and advice from an array of alliances, advisers, and friends: an à la carte approach designed for maximum input and flexibility, for a range of circumstances that can defy the conventional wisdom of success" (p. 82). *Lead from the Outside* is a book for our daughters, for our sisters, and us.



One of the commercials of our times illustrates enduring the struggle of the day. "Not another day, Not another day." Despite that, Ruth Chou Simons challenges our hearts in her book, *Beholding and Becoming: The Art of Everyday Worship* (224 pages, Hardcover, \$18). Simons dares our notions about daily devotions in sixteen chapters with more than 850 striking artwork and illustrations.

Simons observes, "the question isn't whether we will use our everyday moments to worship because we will—in the midst of ordinary places, people, sights, sounds, joys, and pains. How we direct our eyes, minds, hearts, and hands in the everyday will determine whom we ultimately worship and what we ultimately become. We were made to behold Him and be transformed in Him. The art of everyday worship is the journey from canvas to masterpiece. This is my invitation to you to be transformed, one everyday moment at a time" (p. 11). Will we accept her invitation? I recommend we should take it and invigorate our daily worship with God.



"One of my mother's favorite sayings was "Don't let anybody tell you who you are. You tell them who you are" (pp. 27-28). And so, begins the story of America's first woman and person of color Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris.

In *The Truths We Hold: An American Journey* (304 pages, Hardcover \$15), Harris begins this journey by focusing on our young people. This ten-chapter biographical book is different. Harris

explains: "This book grows out of that call to action, and out of my belief that our fight must begin and end with speaking truth" (pp. xiii-xiv). When our media shares the ideas of "speaking the truth" with a different meaning for words and messages that are classic examples of misdirection, Harris offers change models.

In a family tone, Harris says, "... I want you to know how personal this book is for me. This is the story of my family. It is the story of my childhood. It is the story of the life I have built since then. You will meet my family and my friends, my colleagues and my team. I hope you will cherish them as I do and, through my telling, see that nothing I have ever accomplished could have been done on my own" (p. xv). While most would say these words are commonplace, there is something about them that reaches into our like experiences, hopes, and aspirations for our families. Sometimes, the puff is wrong, and the *Truths We Hold* may be best for our youth now. Enjoy this one!

SHARE YOUR COMMENTS. Remember, please share your thoughts at ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net by the end of the month. And let us know if we have your permission to quote or paraphrase your comments. *Thank you for your feedback and have a blessed month!*

Nomination Recommendations are needed

The theme for this year's conference is, **Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, here am I; send me.**

Under the ICCC Bylaws, the Board of Directors acts as the Nominating Committee for the Council. Terms of office begin at the close of the Annual Conference. If you have suggestions for nominees or if you wish to be considered as a nominee for an office, please respond no later than May 30, 2021. Nominations will be presented to the Annual conference business session, at which time additional nominations from the floor are in order. The available positions are:

Officers:

President the president serves one term for three years, Class of 2024. Incumbent President Harry Fooockle has served three years as president.

Board of Directors:

Vice President for Membership Enlistment Class of 2022

Vice President for Membership Services Class of 2023

Vice President for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relationship Class of 2023

Vice President for Informational Services and Outreach Class of 2023

Board of Trustees:

Vacancy - Chaplain Trustee Class of 2022

Vacancy - Central Zone, Region A Class of 2023

Vacancy - East Region A Class of 2023

Your Input is vital:

When recommending an individual for service in any of the above positions, please be sure that the individual is willing to serve. Descriptions of all ICCC leadership positions can be found at <https://www.icccnow.org/constitution-by-laws/>. Then, inform the nominating committee of the name of the individual, their contact information and the position for which you are recommending them. Please include with your recommendation, a brief profile of the individual, including the name of the church or ministry center in which the person holds membership, activities with that congregation, and activities with the ICCC. Please send this information to both ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net and cs83nick@aol.com.

Thank you!

The Nomination Committee

Gifts have been received for the following:

As a Memorial to: Peggy Ashmall from Don Ashmall
Michael & Dorothy Della Ventura from Angela Della Ventura
Representative John Lewis from Bruce Merton
Margaret Murphy Sims from Ruth & James Glenn
Rose Addison from Charles Addison
Rev. Robert M. Puckett from Jim & Susan Miller
Bob & Jane Puckett from Rhonda Blevins
Jarrell Mack from Dorothy Barry
Ron Miller from Hugh Woodruff
Ron Miller from Bruce Merton
Ron Miller from Mr. & Mrs. Francis R. Santoro
Ron Miller from Joe & Eileen Higgins

In Honor of: President Joe Biden from Joseph McCool

2021 Inclusive Pulpit Submissions Welcome!

Preached any good sermons lately?

"The Inclusive Pulpit" – an annual publication of the International Council of Community Churches – would love to hear from you and publish your sermon in our upcoming edition.

Challenged by a good sermon?

"The Inclusive Pulpit" would love for you to recruit the preacher to submit that wonderful sermon for publication in our upcoming edition.

Inspired by any good reflections,

poems or worship material? "The Inclusive Pulpit" welcomes those submissions as well.

Seasoned pastors, senior saints, new pastors, seminarians, youth group leaders? Help us celebrate the working of the Holy Spirit in the many ministries of the ICCC.

Please send your submission electronically to ICCCDC@sbcglobal.net by April 30th.



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations
(ISSN - 0145-3297)

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Editors: Phil Tom, DeAnn Granahan

Circulation: DeAnn Granahan






Telephone: 815/464-5690

E-Mail: ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.ICCCNOW.org

Conference Youth Scholarship

If you know a teen who would like to attend the conference in Dublin, but needs some financial assistance, we have a plan. We have scholarship assistance available to pay for the registration fee of a Youth attendee. To apply for the scholarship, the following procedure will be used:

- 1 The scholarship is open to any **Youth attendee** (entering grade 7 through 12) and covers the regular registration fee and Fellowship Luncheon. 
- 2 Pastors from any member church may submit their **confidential nomination** for the award with a letter of recommendation introducing the candidate and explaining why they would like this person to receive the scholarship. 
- 3 The submissions will be reviewed and presented to the ICCC Board of Directors for **approval**. 
- 4 Nominations must be submitted for review no later than **April 30**, 2021. They should be sent to the Council Office at PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502, attn: Youth Scholarship. Or email to ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net. 
- 5 The ICCC President will communicate the board's decision to the recommending pastor to notify the recipient. The decision will also be announced in the June issue of the Christian Community. The **winning recipient** would be notified soon after the April 30th deadline. 

APPLY TODAY!

WE HAVE MOVED

The new mailing address for the ICCC is:

**P.O. BOX 846
LONGMONT, CO. 80502**

Mail sent to the Frankfort address will be forwarded for a short time.

The Council Office phone number remains the same:
815-464-5690



"One Nation Under God"



These last days we are in as mentioned by the Apostle Paul are becoming more challenging to us day by day as believers. As we watch the continued and escalated civil unrest, the divisiveness among professed believers of Christ, and the blatant disregard for the truth, we are reminded that what has manifested here on earth is the justifiable reason that there will be a New Heaven and a New

Earth. The impurity of Humanity has grown to a level of unrecognition of God's chosen generation.

It is written in Psalms 33:12, "Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord." Throughout the Biblical Canon, God was involved with the people as a nation and He promised His blessings upon those that called on Him and Trusted Him as the True and the Living God. We stand, salute, and make allegiance to a Flag as a symbol of "One Nation being Under God" to provide justice for ALL. Yet, we sit down and give evidence that the words of that allegiance have no meaning at all. Black and Brown individuals still have no justice and the blinded eyes to unrighteousness continues to prevail.



As members of the ICCC Women Christian Fellowship committed to serving the Most High God and walking in His statutes, we vow to bridge the divide, by sharing God's Love and Shining the Light of Jesus in the Lives of ALL PEOPLE. "Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the Children of God." We assume the role of Peacemakers and Servants of Love that the Nation may see the meaning of being a Blessed Nation and desire to return to His will for our lives.

Pastor Vicky Kirkman
Secretary/ ICCC Women Christian Fellowship



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 team.

Required qualifications include having a theological degree from an accredited institution, being ordained in a recognized Christian denomination, having a servant's heart, being willing to minister to all people without discrimination, the ability to work well in a multi-denominational/generational setting, and the ability to lead and guide others.

Specific areas of ministry will include providing a safe and nurturing environment for middle and high school youth, coordinating and leading annual youth mission trips, connecting with post-high young adults, overseeing all-church fellowship, providing counseling & support, some teaching, and occasional preaching.

Known as a House of Prayer for All People, we strive to love and serve ALL people through Christ. Qualified candidates should e-mail a resume and cover letter to: info@clp.church with Associate Pastor in the subject line.

Senior Minister

The Historic People's Community Church (PCC) fosters a tradition of being a singing, praying, tithing, teaching, serving, and loving church, and is guided by one of its golden text 'I am come that they might have life and that they may have it more abundantly.' – John 10:10.

This Historic Church, a member of the International Council of Community Churches (ICCC) and located in the vibrant city of Detroit, Michigan is currently seeking an experienced Senior Minister to be the Spiritual Leader of its Congregation.

The Senior Minister is responsible for leading and moving the Congregation toward the fulfillment of God's mission for PCC. The Senior Minister will have an unwavering faith and a firm relationship with Jesus Christ and is dedicated to cultivating others in Christ.

For complete information visit <http://www.iccnnow.org/careers/> or contact People's Community Church office (313) 871-4676.

Interim Pastor

The Crystal Beach Christian Church (CBCC) is seeking to call an interim pastor to serve and lead the congregation in God's mission during CBCC's time of pastoral transition. This is a part-time position in the Tampa Bay area in Florida. In addition, the called interim pastor will in prayer, supplication, and discernment empower and resource the congregation in carrying out its individual and corporate mission and ministry.

The interim pastor is responsible for providing pastoral leadership and administrative oversight of the church's ministries, including worship, music, preaching, teaching, mission service, stewardship, and fellowship. He/she will work with the church staff to provide opportunities for members to engage in worship, discipleship, and mission. He/she will use his/her developed interim-specialist skills to assess the congregation's current and long-term needs and provide inspiring counsel and leadership to help the church identify what it is called to be in the future.

The interim pastor will support the congregation so that it can continue to identify its mission and purpose as the body of Christ during its transition to a long-term pastor. He/she will help prepare the congregation for new pastoral leadership.

The interim minister/pastor is accountable to the CBCC congregation and Church Council governance board.

For qualification, please refer to our website: <http://www.iccnnow.org/careers/> or

Interested candidates are asked to email their resume and references to office@crystalbeachchurch.com.

Accepting resumes through February 21, 2021

Senior Minister

Bridgeport Community Church, (Bridgeport, Michigan) is seeking a candidate for Senior Pastor to replace current pastor retiring December 2021. BCC is an interdenominational church that has been serving the community since 1867. Responsibilities include spiritual leadership, pastoral and youth ministry, church and community relationships and church administration.

Ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree and seminary degree or equivalent. Strong biblical knowledge and proclamation of The Word is required, along with good communication and planning skills. Qualified individuals should submit a resume to Attention: Pastoral Search Committee via 1867BCC@gmail.com

Sharing Joys and Concerns:

- **Lake Superior Interfaith Community Church**, Duluth, MN as they welcome their new President **Carol Kari**. Carol works with her Vice President Lisa Ceri and other leaders to provide weekly church services via Zoom. Check out their website to learn more. www.lsicc.org
- **Palisades Community Church**, Washington, DC is excited to announce their new Interim Transitional Pastor, Rev. **Ruth Everhart**. Ruth will serve the faith community in a part-time capacity while **Julie Simonton** will be their new ED of the Palisades Hub. Ruth has been in ministry for thirty years and served churches in New York, Illinois, and Maryland. She's a prolific author of articles and books, most recently *The #MeToo Reckoning: Facing the Church's Complicity in Sexual Abuse and Misconduct* which weaves stories of contemporary abuse and ancient scripture. To learn more about Palisades Community Church and the Palisades Hub, visit www.thepalisadescommunitychurch.org
- **Rev. Michael Droege** and his wife, **Carol**. Michael is the new Interim Senior Pastor at **Wilson Memorial Union Church**, Watchung, NJ. Carol, who is the Sunday School Administrator at Wilson, has recently retired from her full-time job as a church administrator. Congrats and best of luck to you on this next journey!

Let Us Lift Up Prayers for:

- **The Church in Aurora and the family of Walter Chapman**. Mr. Chapman passed away Jan. 5th after battling cancer. He was most recently the moderator for the church's pastoral search committee, had served on many other church committees, and was active in local organizations and clubs. Visit <https://obits.cleveland.com/obituaries/cleveland/obituary.aspx?pid=197531325> for the full obituary.
- **Shyreece Pompey**, former member of **Emmanuel Community Church** in South Haven, MI. Many of you know Shyreece from the ICCC Women's Christian Fellowship auxiliary, and as the Children's Leader at Annual Conference. Shyreece has been battling cancer for many years. She and her husband Doug moved to California to be closer to her outstanding doctors. Please keep Shyreece in your prayers as she battles treatment.
- **Laurinda Brown** who is facing challenges from cancer treatment. Laurinda, wife of VP for Planning **Jerry Brown**, was recently hospitalized with complications and is recovering at home.
- **Bob and Irene Smith**, colleagues of Regional Trustee **Ken Young**. Bob is battling pneumonia and could use your prayers for healing.
- **Rev. Carter Garner** (VP for Membership Enlistment) and his family after the loss of his sister-in-law **Geraldine Carter**, in January.
- **Tom Peters, husband of Barbara Peters, Wilson Memorial Union Church**, NJ. Tom received a bone marrow transplant on Feb. 17th, began chemotherapy on Feb. 18th and will receive a stem cell infusion on Feb. 23rd. He expects to be in the hospital approx. 21 days. Please keep both Tom and Barbara in your prayers.
- Please continue to keep the following in your prayers as they face their ongoing health challenges:

Rev. Dr. Sharyon Cosey, ICCC Regional Trustee
Christ Fooockle, son of ICCC President Harry Fooockle
Mike Donahue, ICCC VP for Informational & Outreach Services
Rev. Dr. Stephen York, ICCC Clergy in Special Standing
Mrs. Elaine McCreary, People's Community Church, OH

We encourage ICCC churches and centers to check your local health department to see if your church or center can serve as a COVID vaccine or test site.

Churches Uniting in Christ Release Resources for Lent 2021

Birmingham, AL: Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton, Chair of the Coordinating Council of Churches Uniting in Christ announces the release of new, ecumenical resources for the use of local congregations for this year's Lenten and Eastertide services.



Lent is the traditional time period in the church calendar during which Christians prepare themselves for Easter and the celebration of the resurrection. The Lenten season contains several important days of commemoration, such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. Easter is the day Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and recognize, with God's power, life wins over death. The Eastertide season continues for 50 days after initial celebrations.

Resources to help congregations understand and observe these events can be found on the Churches Uniting in Christ website resource: <https://www.churchesuniting.org/teaching-and-preaching-resources/2021/1/25/lent-and-easter-2021>. There you will find an introduction video by Episcopal Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and Bible studies by leading theologians such as Dr. Rhonda Blevins (ICCC), Bishop Othal H. Lakey (CME), and Dr. Vernon Meyer (UCC). There are also sermons you may use for your online worship services offered by Bishop Ann Henning-Byfield (AME) and Rev. Andrew Foster Connors (PCUSA). Bishop Jefferson-Snorton, who is also the Ecumenical Officer for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, encourages all local congregations in the United States to use any, or all, of these resources as they commemorate this year's Lenten and Easter seasons.



Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC) was formed in 2002 as the former Consultation on Church Union (COCU) decided to stop "consulting" and start living their unity in Christ more fully. CUIC is now a covenant relationship among ten Christian communions that have pledged to live more closely together in expressing their unity in Christ and combating racism together. The member churches include the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, The Episcopal Church, the International Council of Community Churches, the Moravian Church (Northern Province), the Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ and The United Methodist Church. For more information go to www.churchesuniting.org.