Executive Director’s Message
Phil Tom

"The International Council of Community Churches is an international, intercultural, interracial fellowship of churches and ministry centers which seeks Christian unity in local, national, and world relations. As people devoted to following Christ, we are committed to community, to treasuring diversity, to living our faith in service and love."

This statement posted on the first page of our ICCC's website describes who the ICCC family is – our family is an international, intercultural, interracial fellowship of Christian churches and ministry centers. Of course, this fellowship includes our clergy, who serve as chaplains or pastors in other congregations. The statement also describes our mission – to seek Christian unity in local, national, and world relationships. ICCC lives out its mission through its membership in the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, Churches United in Christ, Christian Churches Together, and through local ecumenical activities by our members. As members of the ICCC family, we are committed to community, treasuring diversity, and living our faith in service and love.

ICCC is not an institution. It embodies the ongoing Community Church movement. ICCC was created in 1949 as one of the first national interracial organizations to send a clear message to our nation that all of God's people are created equal. ICCC continues to value and welcomes the beauty and diversity of God's family. Amid racial segregation and division in 1949, ICCC also proclaimed that we are all one in Christ.

At its March 2021 meeting, our Board of Directors approved a Membership Growth Strategy plan for this year. The strategy consists of 3 parts: 1) add 12 new congregation/centers members in 2021; 2) plant four new congregations in 2022; and 3) develop several short videos to promote ICCC's mission and values through various social media. The plan seems simple, but it will require the support of EVERY ICCC member to succeed. We invite everyone to reach out to their neighboring clergy, pastors, congregations, and ministry centers and ask them to join our movement. The best person to share ICCC's mission and values are you!

Our Membership Growth Strategy's goal is not to grow ICCC as an institution but to continue growing and expanding ICCC's mission. Our world, our nation, our communities, and even the Church face significant challenges and divisions. As members of Christ's body, as members of the ICCC family, we are called to work for reconciliation, healing, unity, and value and celebrate the beautiful diversity of God's family.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we welcome your input, support, and participation to be successful in implementing this plan. For more information on how you can help with this plan, please email me at icccpt@sbcglobal.net or call me at 502-387-8515.

Take care. Stay safe and well!

ICCC MEET AND GREET
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021
7:00 PM

We have scheduled our next Zoom meet and greet time for Wednesday, March 31, 2021, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm Eastern Time. It will be an opportunity to share greetings with one another and a time to lift up prayers. Zoom info can be found at https://www.icccnow.org/headlines/
We pray your Easter will be heartening, and we are sharing several books to encourage your walk of faith and prepare you for the season of Pentecost. We pray your reading will be a blessing to you and your family. Be blessed!

**Question:** how are you going to practice Eastertide this year? Our new normal is changing minute by minute, yet our practice of faith continues. Trevor Hudson, author, *Pauses for Pentecost: 50 Words for Easter People* (2018, 112 pages, Paperback, $9.99), offers some simple answers to this question and many more. Consider, “How do we live, in the midst of our relationships and daily work, a life permeated by the present companionship of the risen and ascended Jesus? What does it mean to be genuinely empowered by his Spirit in a world characterized by painful divisions, immeasurable human suffering, and the relentless devastation of creation itself?” Hudson responds to these questions by exploring the power of words, that is, faith words during Eastertide.

In *Pauses for Pentecost*, Trevor Hudson, a Methodist minister in South Africa, uses fifty words of faith for daily reflection during Eastertide. Just ponder these words: Doubt, Joy, Guide, Love, Encouragement, Power, and Pentecost. Hudson takes a word each day for Pentecost, offers a dynamic Scripture, and then challenges the soul with a reflective question and answer moment to strengthen our faith. Hudson hopes we see that “The Holy Spirit constantly seeks to draw us into fellowship with the Father and the Son and with one another.” *Pauses for Pentecost* may be too easy. Still, the power of brevity is appealing and may be excellent for our times.

In our virtual platforms, we are becoming more attuned to living in the moment. Conversely, in *Living the Resurrection: Reflections After Easter* (2012, 128 pages, Paperback, $16), C. Franklin Brookhart presents an engaging discussion on how we are in the moment by living in the resurrection. Brookhart argues that “to ponder the resurrection is to stand at the very heart of the Christian faith.”

We have favorite parts of the Bible; Brookhart, however, chooses the resurrection to resolve three issues of our times: (1) understanding the concept of resurrection; (2) dealing with the cynicism of our times; and (3) “How do we live the resurrection? Or, to use New Testament imagery, how do we conduct our lives as part of the new creation and share in the abundant life Jesus promised?”

In thirteen chapters, Brookhart explores the idea of living in the resurrection. In Chapter Seven, Brookhart looks “at implications of living as a disciple of the Risen Lord.” Can we still find meaning in something that seems so evident, so vital to our Christ walk? Brookhart thinks so, especially if we look “at resurrectional responses to human issues, and I hope; as a result, Easter began to loom large in your imagination and understanding.” Rather than being pessimistic about our future, Brookhart’s work provides an avenue for restoring our souls and our Christian mission with new dynamism.

What do Desmond Tutu and Dolly Parton have in common? Bishop Curry and Sara Grace. Or, more specifically, they both are concerned about dreams. Curry and Grace observe that “the language of a dream is the language of hope. It is the language of reality being changed by a new possibility. It is a miracle progeny of “making do.” So in *Love Is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times* (2020, 272 pages, Hardback $17.33), Curry and Grace take us on a journey of love to understand love in our times. In twelve chapters and an action appendix, Curry and Grace illustrate some new insights about how love is a better way for our lives.

The “Appendix: Love in Action—a Daily Planner” is a real gem of this book. Curry and Grace describe the section of the book this way: “To live into our faith and values, we need to bring intentionality and purpose to every day—and that’s where what’s called a rule of life comes in to support us. Note my language: It supports us. It’s not there to constrain you or punish you. It’s not going to hit you with a ruler when you’re bad. “Rule” is from the Latin regula, suggesting a gentle pattern or framework—not a hard and fast rule. This is a way to create tangible habits that support our heart’s intentions” (p. 249). If you want to move into a new and supportive way to love, I recommend this book for your journey.

**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!
### 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!**

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### ICCC Youth Leader

Hello Youth, Youth Parents, Youth Grandparents, etc.! I’m Clint Cook, the volunteer to help lead the Youth (entering grades 6 through 12 in the fall) at this year’s ICCC annual conference in Dublin, OH. My wife Antoinette will provide assistance. We both attend Antioch Community Church, in Kansas City, MO.

I have been a scout leader for the last ten years and want to revisit the leadership organization of the ICCC youth program. In the past few years they have been adult-led; I would like to see them more youth-led. What this means is that the kids will have more input on their worship service and their activities.

To achieve this, I would like everyone to talk to their youth and not only encourage them to attend the conference this year, but also provide input for their program. Please have them register as early as possible and I can e-mail them to get them involved in the planning process.

I plan on suggesting different ideas and activities for the youth to discuss, via e-mail or Zoom, and decide what they want to do. If any youth finds something, via internet, that they think would be fun they are welcome to add to the discussion.

I also would like them to start planning their worship service a couple of months before conference so that there will be less classroom time and give them more time for other activities.

By allowing our youth BE the leaders, I hope they will learn about leadership, planning and organization, and responsibility yet still have fun while they are learning. They are the next leaders of our Council and our churches and need to be planning for adulthood.

Any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at clintcook17@yahoo.com. Thank you for your encouragement and support.

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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**
REQUEST FOR EXHIBIT SPACE

I.C.C.C. Annual Conference
July 19-22, 2021
Dublin, Ohio

Please reserve a 6’ x 30” space in the exhibit area of the 2021 Annual Conference of the International Council of Community Churches.

An attendant __________ will be present
___________ will not be present

Name of Attendant: ______________________________________________

My Name: ______________________________________________________

My Organization: ________________________________________________

Organization Address: ____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Brief Description: ________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Phone: (     )___________________            Fax: (     ) ____________________

There is a fee of $50.00 per exhibit space, for the July 19-22, 2021 time period, payable in advance. Please return this request form, with payment made payable to the International Council of Community Churches, for consideration by June 1, 2021 to:

International Council of Community Churches
PO Box 534
Longmont, CO 80502

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 815-464-5690 or ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for taking advantage of this opportunity for exhibiting.
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 Foockle 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-bylaws/. 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

Sharing Joys and Concerns:
• The Jordan Scholarship was recently awarded to Amari Manning, from Metropolitan Community Church, Birmingham, AL. He is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education. Congratulations and best wishes in his educational endeavors!
• Welcome to the Anglican Free Communion International (North American Province), Keystone Heights, FL the newest church member of the ICC! We look forward to your fellowship and ministry!

Let Us Lift Up Prayers for:
• Rev. Carter Garner (VP for Membership Enlistment) and his family after the loss of his sister-in-law Geraldine Garner, in January, his niece Christina Garner Ferguson in February and his brother Dr. Albert Garner in March.
• Please continue to keep the following in your prayers as they face their ongoing health challenges:
  Christ Foockle, son of ICC President Harry Foockle
  Mike Donahue, ICC VP for Informational & Outreach Services
  Rev. Dr. Stephen York, ICC Clergy in Special Standing
  Laurinda Brown, wife to Jerry Brown, VP for Planning.
  Harry Foockle, ICC President

We encourage ICC 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.
**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.

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**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.icccnow.org/careers/ or contact People’s Community Church office (313) 871-4676.

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**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.

For qualification, please refer to our website: http://www.icccnow.org/careers/ or email their resume and references to office@crystalbeachchurch.com. Accepting resumes through February 21, 2021.
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 $

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.

CC TOTAL ENCLOSED $

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

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.
2021 Conference Meal Programs

The 2021 Annual Conference offers 2 optional meal program opportunities: the Fellowship Luncheon and the Prayer Luncheon hosted by the Women's Christian Fellowship. The Conference Banquet Dinner is included in your registration fee** (Additional quantities can be reserved for a fee). You can visit our website ICCCNOW.org to see a brief description of the meal program, or watch for details in upcoming issues of the Christian Community.

Monday, July 19, 2021 at 12:00pm is the Fellowship Luncheon. This meal includes Sliced Turkey, Honey Ham, Applewood Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato on Multi Grain Bread, Pasta Salad, Potato Chips, Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea and Brownie Bites. Vegetarian Option: Roasted Vegetable Wrap Kid’s Meal Option: Cheese Pizza, French Fries and Fruit Punch.

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 12:00pm is the Prayer Luncheon. This meal includes Garden Salad, Chicken Piccata, Wild Rice Pilaf, Broccoli Crowns, Classic Cheesecake, Coffee, Tea and Iced Tea. Fish Option (Add $2.00): Blackened Tilapia. Kid’s Meal Option: Chicken Tenders, Applesauce and Fruit Juice.

Thursday, July 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. is the Conference Banquet*. 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.

All meals are subject to change.

2021 MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Mail this form & payment to: ICCC, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Please reserve ________ places at $29.00 each for Monday’s Fellowship Luncheon
☐ Check for Vegetarian Option  ☐ Check for Kid’s Meal Option $18.00

Please reserve ________ places at $32.00 each for Wednesday’s Prayer Luncheon
☐ Check for Fish Option  (add $2.00)  ☐ Check for Kid’s Meal Option $18.00

*Please reserve_______ add’l places at $52.00 each for Thursday’s Banquet Dinner
☐ Pork Chop  ☐ Fish

*Please reserve_______ add’l places at $20.00 each for children under 12yrs.
*A Banquet ticket is already included in registration. Order only if additional tickets are needed.

Total Enclosed $_____________

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

If paying by credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER

Account Number on Card:_________________________________________ Expiration Date:_______________ CVV:_____________

Print name as it appears on card: _____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Deadline for meal function reservations is June 25th. There will only be a VERY LIMITED supply of tickets available at Conference registration, so please purchase your tickets before the deadline. After the June 20th deadline meal reservations will not be accepted in the Council Office.

*The Conference Banquet is included in the registration fee. You do not need to reserve a ticket for this meal, unless you require additional tickets. Kids 12 yrs & under will automatically receive the kid’s meal at the Conference Banquet, unless an Adult Meal upgrade is purchased.
Intergenerational Meal Packaging Event
Scheduled at Annual Conference Hotel

For the first time ever, the upcoming Annual Conference is hosting a community service project for all attendees as part of the regular conference agenda. This is something that the ICCC has wanted to do for several years, because it encourages participation and team-building, and helps others in need.

Sponsored by the ICCC Hunger Relief Mission Committee, and in conjunction with an organization called “Rise Against Hunger”, conference attendees will package more than 10,000 meals for food-challenged Third World families in only 2 hours’ time. What’s more, attendees can do this during normal conference hours without having to leave the conference hotel.

Rise Against Hunger has helped volunteer organizations package more than 500 million meals for food-challenged people in 77 countries since its founding in 2005. ICCC member church, The Chapel By The Sea which is located in Clearwater Beach, FL, has sponsored Rise Against Hunger (RAH) meal packaging events for the past 5 years with considerable success.

The meal packaging involves putting rice and other nutrients into single-meal plastic bags for bulk shipment overseas. The process involves no heavy lifting and can be done in street clothes while seated or standing. It can be easily accomplished by volunteers from 6 to 90-plus years of age.

RAH provides all the food and supplies needed for the project. A RAH representative will be on site to help guide us through the process at every step.

Volunteers Needed
Who Want to Make a Difference

WHO:
We need volunteers of all ages to package the meals. Depending on the number of volunteers we get, you will spend one or two hours of time to help feed impoverished families in war-ravaged lands as well as in famine and natural disaster-stricken countries in the Third World.

COVID PROTOCOLS THIS EVENT
Masks are required. Meal packaging will be done in small teams of 3 to 5 people. Individuals on the same team will work close together but each team will be socially-distanced from one another (i.e., 6 feet apart).

WHEN and WHERE:
Thursday July 22nd
• 2:45 PM – 2:55 PM in the Post Room for a brief Introductory meeting.
• 3:00 PM – 4:45 PM in the Muirfield Room just down the hall for the meal packaging

HOW:
It’s easy to volunteer.
Just let ICCC Administrator, DeAnn know that you want to help by sending her an email at icccdc@sbcglobal.net.

ICCC Hunger Relief Mission Committee
(Bob Harris, Chair; Myrtis Brame, Jan Burch & Tom Friedberg)