# CHRISTIAN



International Council of Community Churches

Volume 71

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

Number 8

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### **Dublin Bound**

It occurred to me the other day, that God's very first observation of mankind was our need for community and companionship.

And God said. "It is not good that man should be alone: I will make him a helper comparable to him," Genesis 2:18

And after a year of isolation, we understand and appreciate that sentiment more than ever! It is not good to be alone, we need each other.

In Ecclesiastes Solomon tells us, "There is a time for every purpose under Heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal...a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing."



Well, we've refrained from embracing for a long time; often we couldn't even be in the same room. Now we've come to the time to heal and to come together; and what a precious, rejuvenating, healing time it can be. We need this time together.

By now, I'm sure that anyone who has concerns about the COVID virus, has been vaccinated, and that number is increasing daily, while the number of COVID patients is decreasing. In Ohio the number of new COVID cases peaked on Dec 12 at over 11,000/day. By the beginning of May the number of new cases had dropped to less than 1,000/day in the entire state, and continues to decline.

While the frightening shadow of COVID continues to dissipate, that doesn't mean the fear and anxiety are gone. But just moments ago, as I write this, the CDC eliminated the requirement for masks for those who are fully vaccinated. The situation and recommendations are changing so rapidly, I have no idea what things will be like by the time you read this.

HOWEVER, the good news is that our conference in Dublin in July will be as safe and sanitary as possible. We have talked with the hotel staff, and they have measures in place to make certain that we can participate in the conference activities and focus on our purpose without fear of disease exposure. I was impressed with their sincere concern and emphasis on our health and safety - they have measures in place to address issues I never would have considered.

Check-in and check-out procedures have been expedited. The buffet presentation has been modified to reduce exposure. Common areas (lobby, elevators, etc) are cleaned frequently. Our meeting areas will be sanitized between events. Additional fans are available to improve ventilation in the meeting rooms. Guest rooms will be sanitized and sealed before you arrive.

So fear not; now is our time to come together to celebrate our salvation, worship our God, and give thanks for our many blessings. In addition to inspiring and uplifting worship, we look forward to informative workshops and a great Bible Study with Dr. Payne, a national leader in evangelism and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

So now is our time to come together, to be rejuvenated in our faith, and by the end of the week, return home with the confidence to boldly declare, "Here am I Lord. Send me!"

Jerry Brown, VP Planning



# President's Message

When the Gavel Comes Down

Special greetings and prayers to all.

In July we will meet in Dublin, Ohio for the Annual Conference.
We come under the banner theme from Isaiah 6:8 "Here I am, Lord Send Me.

It looks as though we will have fewer restrictions because of the CDC latest words to America about Covid 19 restrictions. However, we must keep in mind we still need to practice precautions. We are doing all we can to keep everyone safe. Our Planning Committee is on top of things for us.

As to the Conference itself, please read our web page and other places it directs you. It promises to be a power filled time for us. We pray and hope to see you in person in July 2021.

I want to personally thank Phil Tom for his excellent work as our Executive. Add to that the wonderful work of DeAnn. She has such love and care for the ICCC. We are blessed to have both Phil and DeAnn guiding us. We give praise to the Lord.

I also want to give thanks for the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees. You could not ask for a better group to care for the ministry of the ICCC. I am so thankful to have worked with them for the past three years. They stepped up to meet every challenge to keep us alive and well in our pursuit of ministry. I am humbled to be able to call them friends. ICCC we are blessed because of them.

It has been an honor and privilege to be your Servant President. When the gavel comes down at the close of Conference we will have a new President and Board of Directors and Trustees. Please pray and lift them up to the Lord for guidance and ministry.

Harry

### Recently, Harry & Phil sent the following letter. There is still time to donate.

Dear ICCC Family.

Our ICCC Board of Directors approved a mission partnership with UNICEF to respond to India's disastrous second COVID wave. The situation in India is critical. There is a sudden increase in COVID-19 cases, and it is showing no signs of slowing. This second wave is affecting all, and, in many ways, it is worse than the first one. One major impact is the stress on the healthcare system. UNICEF has been scaling up its response in India to address two specific, urgent needs: access to lifesaving oxygen and additional rapid COVID-19 testing.

Here is a Web story about UNICEF India's response to COVID-19: https://www.unicefusa.org/.../india-faces-brutal.../38520

ICCC aims to raise \$13,400 to help procure 50 oxygen generator plants and 200 PCR rapid testing machines. The oxygen plants will last for 20 years, and each can provide enough oxygen for a 500-bed hospital. This oxygen is literally lifesaving for critically ill COVID-19 patients. The rapid testing machines will last for ten years and can be used to test for a variety of other diseases as well.

Working in partnership with UNICEF, ICCC can contribute to not only help India weather this storm but we will also create lasting improvements in health infrastructure.

Please submit your contribution to ICCC and earmark it for UNICEF-India. Please note our new address: International Council of Community Churches, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502. Once we receive all contributions, we will send our check to UNICEF to purchase 50 oxygen generator plants and 200 PCR rapid testing machines to support children and families in India.

You can also contribute online in various ways. Visit https://www.icccnow.org/donate/ for details.

If you have any questions, please email or call Phil at iccopt@sbcglobal.net or #502-387-8515. Thank you for your interest in supporting our ICCC-UNICEF mission partnership and supporting UNICEF's work to End the Pandemic.

Haray Phil



# Executive Director's Message

**Phil Tom** 

"The Times They Are A-Changin"



The title of this article comes from Bob Dylan's song that came out in 1963 during the civil rights and anti-Vietnam war movements. The music still speaks to our changing times as Dylan says, "the waters around us have grown...and you better start swimming, or you'll sink like a stone for the times they are a changing."

The title of a recent New York Times article was "After Thoughts: Looking Ahead to A Future Beyond the Pandemic, With Plans and Proposals For A More Fulfilling Life." The Covid pandemic has turned many of our lives upside down and made us re-examine and perhaps change what is most important in our lives, e.g., faith, family, friends. work.

As our churches reopen post-pandemic, what changes will our congregations have to make? Many pastors have said that their online worship attendance has increased over their regular in-person attendance. we move back to in-person worship, pastors and lay leaders are wrestling with sustaining their online and in-person congregations! Will people come back to the church building for worship or meetings knowing they can do it via zoom? What constitutes membership if the engaged person lives in another state or another country? Some leaders have questioned whether they need a physical building and remain a virtual congregation? We all have more questions than we have answers!

"The Times They Are A-Chagin!" Some congregational experts have stated that the pandemic did not manifest these changes; it simply exposed them and perhaps accelerated these changes. A recent national study showed that church membership in the United States continues to decline and has now fallen below 50% for the first time - <a href="https://news.gallup.com/poll/341963/church-member-ship-falls-below-majority-first-time.aspx">https://news.gallup.com/poll/341963/church-member-ship-falls-below-majority-first-time.aspx</a>.

I say all this as our society continues to change, our congregations will need to continue to be open to the work of God's Holy Spirit. We need to be adaptive and innovative as we discern how to be Church in a post-pandemic time. We cannot return to the "good old days." As Jesus proclaimed, you cannot put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the new wine will burst the wineskin, and the wineskin will be ruined. No, pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.

If you would like to discuss any of these issues or related issues, I would be glad to convene a meeting time at Conference or set up a zoom meeting to discuss these issues and share what you are doing with your congregations. Take care and stay well!

Thil

### THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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Website: www.ICCCNOW.org





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.

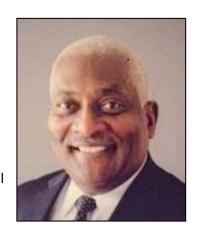
The Council Office phone number remains the same:

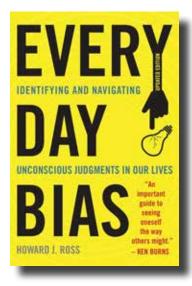
815-464-5690

# ICCC JUNE 2021 Book REVIEW By Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson

### Encouraging Our Hope (Romans 15:4)

It is time for summer and summer reading and reflection. We pray your reading will be a blessing to you, your family, and your community! Be blessed!





Everyday Bias: Identifying and Navigating Unconscious Judgments in Our Daily Lives, Updated Edition, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (2014), Hardcover: 208 pages, Hardcover, \$25, Kindle, \$14.

Are you bias? For some of us the answer is a resounding no, but for others, the hard truth is we are. In this updated edition of Everyday Bias, author

Howard J Ross provides twenty-five additional pages and insights into the original book. In this edition, Ross updates our understanding of bias in recent times.

Ross makes a profound but straightforward claim: "Human beings are consistently, routinely, and profoundly biased. We not only are profoundly biased but we also almost never know we are being biased."

This claim seems to be absent from the discussion in the latest diversity, equity, and inclusion training and meetings. Ross argues we should include this essential claim in our forums to help the conversation. Ross offers the following reason for considering his view when he writes,

"Science is giving us insights that lead us to conclusions that are very different from those we might imagine possible. And that is my purpose for writing this book. After a lifetime of working on and caring about these issues, I believe these new insights into human consciousness offer us the possibility of a new leap forward. The possibility of a deeper understanding of the human condition that may hold the potential for not only solving some of our specific problems but transforming the way we relate as a species is one I believe must be embraced with vigor."

Ross explores this claim in an engaging introduction, Blinded by the Light of Our Bias and nine chapters: Chapter One If You are Human, You are Biased, Chapter Two Thinking about Thinking, Chapter Three The Many Faces of Bias, Chapter Four, Life, Death and Unconscious Bias on a Rainy Night, Chapter Six, Like Water for the Fish: Networks of Bias in Everyday Life, Chapter Seven Shifting to Neutral: How We Can Learn to Disengage from Bias, Chapter Eight Incubators of Consciousness: Creating More Conscious Organizations, and Conclusion: A Brave New World, A Grand New Journey.

Chapter Two, Thinking about Thinking, is a crucial chapter for understanding everyday bias. Ross uses typical examples and neuroscience to explain the way we encounter prejudice every day. And in his conclusion, Ross explains, "At the core, this book has a single message and it is this: to the extent that you can actually see your unconscious biases and then can see how much they manage your life, you no longer have to be imprisoned by those biases. Even when you notice that the bias is present, you now have the capacity to see yourself as something other than the bias. You no longer have to feel compelled to act as a result of it, nor do you have to be compelled to drive it away through guilt or shame." This point is one of the reasons for reading this book and improving our community.

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!

JRBAN STRINGS

# Conference Highlights and Registration Information

### "Have Strings... Will Travel"

Urban Strings Columbus (USC) is a performing youth string orchestra with a wide repertoire of music ranging from classical to gospel as well as hip hop.

Urban Strings Columbus, founded in 2007, was created to recruit and support underserved minority youth to play string instruments. In 2018, USC earned 501 3c status.

> USC is organized in three tiers that allow students to experience string performance from the beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. The three levels include:

Quarter Notes: Beginning students who have played their instruments for 1 – 2 years and are yet developing their techniques

Half Notes: Intermediate musicians who are more familiar with their instruments, yet not ready to perform at an advanced level.

Premier Group: Advanced musicians who have played their instruments for three or more years who can perform advanced string literature.

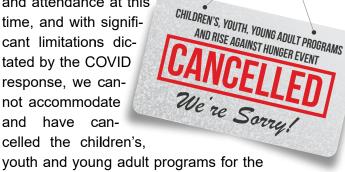
USC is pleased to showcase their string program along with their talented student musicians who attend public, private, charter, and parochial schools throughout Central Ohio. Having performed for audiences all across the country, Urban Strings Columbus is committed to continually bring inspiration to audiences everywhere.

As they are motivated by the phrase "Have Strings... Will Travel" we look forward to their performance at the Annual Conference on July 19, 2021.



### until next year. . .

Due to poor registration and attendance at this time, and with significant limitations dictated by the COVID response, we cannot accommodate and have can-



2021 Annual Conference.

Additionally, we have had to cancel the Rise Against Hunger event. Distancing and space limitations won't allow us to do this. We do hope that we will be able to replace the Hunger Mission with another opportunity that fits our restrictions and attendance. If that presents itself, we will get the news out a.s.a.p.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

# Annual Conference Checklist

### Have you done the following yet?

- Sent -in your registration form and fee?
- Called the Embassy Suites Hotel and made your reservations? 800-220-9219 Deadline June 25th.
- Made your meal reservations (optional) with the Council office?
- Signed up for the Supper Club (optional)?
- Contacted the office about volunteering at conference?
- Sent in or talked to your church about sending their Voting Delegate form or an extra contribution to offset their loss of presence at conference?



# 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 YO	OUTH 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 <u>must</u> 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 <b>ONLY</b> if Adult meal is preferred for Banquet Child/Elementary regis.	\$30.00	\$		
Youth (completed 6th grade - entering 12th grade)	\$145.00	\$		
Young Adult (completed 12th grade - age 23)	\$170.00	\$		
Adult Early Bird Special \$195.00 Extended thru June 25, 2021	\$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 toes and Balsamic Dressing, Grilled Bone-In Pork Chop with Bour Strawberry Shortcake, Coffee, Hot Tea and Iced Tea. Fish Option: Cheeseburger, French Fries, Lemonade and Cookie. Meals are subsequently to the cookie.	bon BBQ, Herb Roasted Yukon Potato Grilled Fresh Salmon with Citrus Butte oject to change.	es, Blue Lake Beans, r <i>*Kid's Meal Option:</i>		
Please circle one of the following for your pr				
Pork Chop (Default Option) Fis	h Option Kid's Meal Option	on		
**Child & Elementary registrations include the Kid's Meal option. If the adult m	neal is preferred, please add \$30.00 to your tota	al enclosed.		
Please return this form with payment to: ICCC, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 8	80502			
☐ Check or Money Order made payable to ICCC ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER	CARD ☐ 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 July 100 person.	une 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 Socion medium or format, throughout the world forever, free-of-charge, and for any reaso	, , ,	, name, voice and story in any		

ICCC Annual Conference Workshops
As always, an important part of the conference will be the opportunity to attend workshops on a variety of subjects. Here is the stimulating line-up being offered in Dublin July 2021.

### 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 are all Newcomers: A roundtable discussion on being the church in a post-pandemic world"

This workshop, is guided by Rev. Michael Droege. Before we ever heard of COVID-19 we knew that the way we were doing church wasn't working the way it seemed to work a generation ago. The pandem-

ic forced us to rethink every detail of ministry since how we "did" church was no longer possible. Many of us discovered the heart of our faith community and developed new and innovative ways to be together. Beyond that, we had deep and meaningful discussions on what it means to be the church in the world today. We all have something to contribute to this conversation and you are invited to join this "roundtable" discussion where we explore "what have we learned". Rev. Michael W. Droege is the Pastor of Wilson Memorial Church, a church ministry coach, and adjunct professor of adolescent faith formation at Drew University.

### We Meed a Revival

This workshop will be led by Rev. Eloise Chrenshaw. What is revival? Revival is a sovereign work of Godanswer 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

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.

### Get Your House In Order: Estate Planning Essentials

This presentation, led by Mr. John Neil Lindsey, Attorney at Law, will cover some of the essentials of sound estate planning. Topics will include: testamentary will vs.

trust, how can one avoid the probate process,

common mistakes in estate planning, questions to guide your estate planning, and strategies to help you protect your assets. Is Your House in Order?

(ABC's of Communing with God thru Prayer, Praise and His Promises

# 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 **ICCNOW.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:		<del> </del>
	Please reserve places at \$29.00 each for <i>Monday's Fellowship Luncheon</i> Check for Vegetarian Option	
	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 <i>Thursday's Banquet Dinner</i> 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.	
l Enclosed	<b>\$</b>	
aying by che	eck: make check payable to: International Council of Community Churches (ICCC, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502)	
paying by cree	dit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER	
count Number	on Card: Expiration Date: CVV:	
nt name as it a	appears on card:	
nature:		

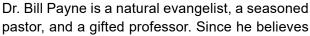
Deadline for meal function reservations is June 25th. There will only be a VERY LIMITED supply of tickets available at Conference registration, so please purchase your tickets before the deadline. After the June 20th deadline meal reservations will not be accepted in the Council Office.

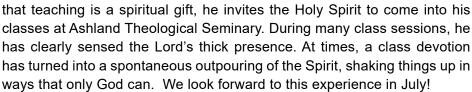
<sup>\*</sup>The Conference Banquet is included in the registration fee. You do not need to reserve a ticket for this meal, unless you require additional tickets. Kids 12 yrs & under will automatically receive the kid's meal at the Conference Banquet, unless an Adult Meal upgrade is purchased.

# 2021 Annual Conference Bible Study Lecturer: Rev. Dr. William P. Payne

THE HARLAN AND WILMA HOLLEWELL PROFESSOR OF EVANGELISM AND WORLD MISSIONS; DIRECTOR OF CHAPLAINCY STUDIES – ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

We are pleased and excited to have Rev. Dr. William Payne as our Bible Study Lecturer this summer!



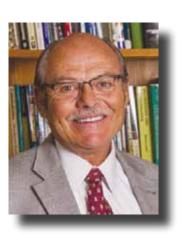


Dr. Payne is not only a professor; his 29.5 years of service with the Navy and Marine Corps has provided him with ministry opportunities in 27 countries. Before retiring, he served as the Deputy Force Chaplain in Iraq and the Military Sealift Command Chaplain in San Diego. Additionally, he pastored a Cuban refugee camp in Panama, served as the community manager for all Reserve Force chaplains, worked as a hospital chaplain, commanded a unit of 17 chaplains and enlisted specialists, and deployed from Okinawa during Desert Storm. He has a military subspecialty code in religion and culture and is a Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer (FMFQO).

Dr. Payne graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary (PhD Intercultural Studies), Emory University (M.Div.), and Florida Southern College (BA Religion). He is ordained in the United Methodist Church and is a full member of the Florida Conference. He has served the local church as a student pastor, associate pastor, pastor, senior pastor, and interim pastor. During his last pastorate, he planted a large Hispanic ministry that included satellite outposts throughout Tampa Bay.

In addition to expertise in evangelism, world missions, and chaplaincy, Dr. Payne has published widely on early American Methodism, Latin American Pentecostalism, folk religion, and spiritual warfare. He especially enjoys preaching, consulting with churches, and doing inner healing. He developed and directs the chaplaincy study degrees at Ashland Theological Seminary.

Dr. Payne will certainly inspire and challenge us to answer God's call (Whom shall we send, and who will go for us?) and respond to God's direction for our churches and our lives this summer. Please plan to join us!



### Sharing Joys and Concerns:

• Congratulations to ICCC members Rev.
Kenneth Nelson, Seneca Community
Church, MD and Rev. Dr.
Wendy Childress,
ICCC Chaplain!!!
Ken graduated
May 9th, with a
Master of Divinity
from Lancaster Bible

College and Wendy graduated May 8th, with a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine Theology Seminary. Both have faced difficult and busy schedules, during a pandemic, and we celebrate their achievements with them!

### Let Us Lift Up Prayers for:

 Please continue to keep the following in your prayers as they face their ongoing health challenges:

**Christ Foockle**, son of ICCC President Harry Foockle

**Mike Donahue,** ICCC VP for Informational and Outreach Services

Harry Foockle, ICCC President

 Please keep in prayer the wife, family and church family of Rev. Roderick Boles, Senior Pastor at St. John Independent Methodist Church, AL. Rev. Boles passed away May 18th unexpectedly at the age of 52. Rev. Boles also served as the President of the Alabama Area Council of Community and Independent Churches and participated in the ICCC regional event last month.



International Council of Community Churches

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





At Mezzo, you will find a balance between old-world tradition and new-world cuisine, serving the very best simple yet hardy meals. Modern and classic influences perfectly collide in the dining space, bursting with energy and warmth. Visit www.mezzodublin.com for restaurant information. Below are the menu choices for this optional event.

### Choice 1: Campanelle alla Vodka \$25.00

Spinach, sausage, tomato, vodka cream sauce and grana padano served over campanelle pasta.

### Choice 2: Chicken Carbonara \$25.00

Chicken with pancetta, onion, grana padano served with bucatini.

### Choice 3: Spaghetti & Meatball \$25.00

Veal meatball, basil marinara and grana padano served over spaghetti pasta.

### Choice 4: Eggplant Parmesan \$25.00

Breaded eggplant, marinara, house ricotta, mozzarella, served with spaghetti pomodoro.

Each choice includes bread, butter and soft drinks (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Root beer, Lemonade or Ginger Ale), iced tea, tax and gratuity. Alcoholic beverages are available, billed separately, individually.

# Circle your choice.

Submit payment to the Council Office by June 30, 2021. Limited to 44 people. Register soon!

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

If paying by credit card: circle one VISA	MASTERCARD	AMEX	DISCOVER
Account Number on Card:		Exp.	Date:
Print name as it appears on card:			
Signature:		CV	V:

ICCC, PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502 815/464-5690 ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net

Mezzo is located 1.4mi from the hotel by foot. We are trying to coordinate attendees with cars to drive, for those who do not wish to walk. If you are driving to conference and are willing to carpool to the Supper Club, please let the Council Office know.

# 71st Annual Conference July 19-22, 2021 – Dublin, OH

### **Hotel Information**

The 2021 Annual Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 5100 Upper Metro Place, Dublin, OH 43017. Phone: 614-790-9000. Centrally located to a variety of Columbus-Dublin activities, this renovated Embassy Suites hotel is close to a number of attractions including golfing, shopping, sports team venues and the Columbus Zoo, one of the oldest and largest zoos in the country.

At Embassy Suites Hotels every room is a two-room suite perfect to spread out and relax. The private bedroom boasts luxurious Sweet Dreams bedding, while the separate living area has a sofa bed, wet bar, microwave, refrigerator, coffee maker, and internet access. There is a TV in both rooms and more than



enough room for your family, work or both. Enjoy amenities such as a 24-hour fitness center, an indoor pool, a spa tub, free Wi-Fi, a business center, concierge services & gift shops/newsstands. Wake up each morning to a free made-to-order breakfast and unwind at the hotel's evening reception with drinks and snacks.

Hilton/Embassy Suites is committed to creating event experiences that are clean, flexible, safe and socially responsible. On page 14, see what you can expect during your stay.

### **Hotel Dining**

<u>E'terie</u>: Guests looking for a quick bite at any hour have an efficient solution at E'terie near the front desk: neatly packaged salads, daily fresh-made sandwiches, in addition to a variety of snacks and beverages. The E'terie also features Starbucks and retail items from local artisans.

<u>Urban Craft:</u> Urban Craft is currently closed. The bar area is Open Wed-Sat 5pm-9pm.

Room Service is also available, along with eating options within walking distance of the hotel.

### **Hotel Reservations**

To attend, call the Embassy Suites to reserve your room at 800-220-9219. Inform the reservations clerk that you are attending the 2021 ICCC Annual Conference to get the special rate of \$129.00\* + tax per night. The cut-off date for hotel reservations is June 25, 2021. After this date, normal hotel rates will be in effect and space may no longer be available. \*Please note: the special rate of \$129 + tax for a standard king suite (\$134.00 + tax for a standard double suite) is negotiated only for conferees. Those utilizing this special rate are expected to register for the conference.

Check-in: 4:00pm • Check-Out: 11:00pm

To register online, visit https://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CMHESES-IC2-20210716/index.jhtml?WT.mc\_id=POG

Visit www.embassysuites.com for all hotel information.

### <u>Transportation To and From the Hotel</u>

Port Columbus International Airport has several options for transportation to the hotel. You can call the Embassy Suites for information on bus and super shuttle services. For airport information, visit their website: http://flycolumbus.com/ or call 614-239-4000.

Dublin Taxi is a recommendation of the hotel. The cost is approx. \$40 one-way. Dublin Taxi can be called when you get to Baggage Claim at the airport, and a Front Desk Team Member can assist with arrangements to the airport. Dublin Taxi can be reached at 614-759-9999.

FREE self-parking is available at the hotel, if you are driving or renting a car.

# We know. We Encourage. We hope.

By DeAnn Granahan

Crazy times! I find myself saying that almost every day, this past year and even to this point! Back in Chicago, it's common that the weather changes several times in a day. Some days I feel like that's what goes on with COVID-19 guidelines! Just when we think we know what to do where, it changes!

Guidelines: I've been trying to keep up with the State of Ohio guidelines, and the Hilton branch guidelines in order for our 2021 Annual Conference to be a safe place of fellowship. I don't know about you, but after a year of wearing masks, I still get out of my car heading into a public place and forget it every now and then. The Embassy Suites, the planning committee and I are trying our best not to forget anything. It's definitely been a learning experience, so have patience with us.

We've had many questions, and I am taking this moment to answer what I can. The Embassy Suites is complying with the CDC and State of Ohio guidelines, but also with Hilton guidelines. For an example, if the State of Ohio declares it's safe to be without a mask, but Hilton says to wear a mask, we wear masks. This way you can't tell if I am crabby or talking to myself. 

We expect all ICCC attendees to comply as well: masks worn correctly, social distancing, clean hands, etc. The Hilton staff will be doing the same. You can always Google the State of Ohio for any guidelines and statistics you need to be informed.

Schedule: Don't be surprised if the schedule looks a little different this year. We've had to adjust because of space limitations. Once it is set, I will post it on the website, subject to change. We are unable to move some meetings outside because it's going to be pretty hot out there in July. But be sure to take a step outside several times during your day to get some fresh air! Sweat a little. If you remember, they have a walking path just across the street. A few meeting rooms have outside doors that can be opened for fresh air and the Grand Ballroom has a fresh air ventilation system that will be running.

Room Cleaning: You have a couple of options for the cleaning of your room - the Hilton StayOver Service as they call it. The hotel is not cleaning each room daily for now. If your stay is 4 days or more, they clean on the 3rd day. You can, however, ask them to clean each day, if that's what you prefer. You can also request they don't clean it at all. They are happy to serve you however best you feel safe. The Pool is open, by reservation only. The fitness center is open but you must distance yourself 6ft from others. How many people are really in there anyways? ©

Restaurant: The hotel restaurant, Urban Craft, remains closed and most likely will still be closed when we are there. The bar area is open Wed-Sat 5pm-9pm. The Eatery will add some sandwiches and salads to their supply while we are there. We are also working with the hotel on possibly having some lunches and dinners available, paid pre-order only (with me), for the days we aren't offering a meal option. Watch the website for that info or shoot me an email. I will also include a list of nearby eateries in your registration bag and note if they are open for dine in, or carry out. Uber Eats and GrubHub could be your best friends that week. Speaking of optional meals, our selections remain the same. It's the delivery that will be different. Prepackaged condiments, bottled water, wrapped utensils, covered plates, etc. Only 4 people to a table. There will be water stations throughout the hotel, with wrapped cups, napkins and directions suggesting you use the napkin to touch the machine. Note to self - bring a water bottle. One less thing to touch that isn't yours. The complimentary breakfast will be modified. Pre-packaged selfserve items will be available like fruit and yogurt. Hot choices will be served by an attendant, buffet style.

Communion: Communion will be in those cute little prepackaged cups. Offering baskets will be at the front of the room and offering envelopes will be in your conference bags. Don't feel you have to seal the envelopes. And you can always contribute by text, QR code, PayPal, etc. Every way is listed on our website www.icccnow.org/donate/

**Elevators:** Elevators only allow 4 people at a time. There are 3 elevators. Allow yourself some extra time when moving around the hotel. And if you remember, these are glass elevators. We can see you, if you squeeze a few extra in!

<u>Vaccination Card:</u> As a courtesy to ALL attendees, we ask that you, if you don't mind, show me your COVID-19 vaccination card. I will then give you a sticker to place on your badge. This may put those around you at ease, if they know you've been vaccinated.

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer	Date	Healthcare Professional	
	OVID-19 0.3 mL		or Clinic Site	
1" NOC 50 Exp. 12 CO Lot EW	9267-1000-1	1/5 3	mor	
2 <sup>NI</sup> Pfizer COVID-19 0.3 et. (19H12) COVII NOC: 59267-1009-1		mm dd yy	mer	
Othe Lot	12/31/69 ER8733	mm dd yy		
Other		mm dd yy		

### We know. We Encourage. We hope. cont'd from page 12

Our meeting rooms will be cleaned and refreshed throughout the day, as we vacate. Nearby restrooms will be cleaned while we are in meeting rooms. Oh hey.... btw, Hilton has ALWAYS done that! The restrooms have no touch soap dispensers and individual paper towels. Keep washing those hands! There are hand sanitizer stations throughout the hotel as well. I will be bringing hand wipes and am counting on you to help clean microphones, podiums, etc. as you walk away.

As for our choir and singing, we don't have answers for that YET. We still plan to have a choir, a soloist, and hope to have the congregation sing along wearing their masks. We don't know if anyone will want to be part of the choir this year. If there are some, we will socially distance them from each other and the congregation.

### That's what we know.

We are doing our best, and will need your help and cooperation. We won't schedule a meeting in a room that is too small for the attendance we expect. There are signs everywhere reminding you to be safe. Please wear your masks correctly at all times while meeting. Please respect everyone around you and stay 6ft apart. That one is a hard one for me, because I often forget. Plus, it seems I can't hear as well with my mouth covered. Hmmm. Keep washing your hands. Sanitize. Protect yourself. And protect all of us around you. Include hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes on your list of things to pack. Come prepared to be safe.

### That's what we encourage.

First and foremost, feel comfortable about coming. If you fear the airport, or restaurants, or the hotel, or being around people not vaccinated, or don't want to take any risks, for whatever reasons, we respect that. We will miss you and look forward to seeing you in 2022! We do look forward to seeing you, but we also don't want you to worry or feel at risk. We understand. We support you.

But for those who do feel comfortable, we have a terrific conference planned for you. It may be one of your best, just for the fellowship alone. We hope you find joy and God's love and presence in the week.

### That's what we hope.

Side note.... We have had a couple registrations donated for anyone facing hardship, but want to attend. Email me if you are interested in receiving one before they are gone. icccdc@sbcglobal.net.

See ya in Dublin at Registration! DeAnn





## The CleanStay Guest Experience

What you can expect during your stay



### PRE-ARRIVAL **MESSAGING**

You will receive prearrival communications with your reservation details and an explanation of the CleanStay program.



### **CONTACTLESS & ENHANCED CHECK-IN**

Honors members can use Digital Check-In and Digital Key through the Hilton Honors app to bypass the front desk and go straight to your room. Non-Honors guests will notice enhanced cleaning and hygiene standards at the front desk.



### **LOBBY SEATING, SIGNAGE** & ENHANCED CLEANING

As you walk through the lobby, you'll notice that seating has been arranged to accommodate social distancing. You will see our team members cleaning and disinfecting the lobby more frequently. Signage encouraging social distancing and explaining the CleanStay program will also be placed throughout the lobby.





members welcoming you and demonstrating hospitality while staying



### **ELEVATOR CLEANING & SANITATION STATION**

As you approach the elevator, you will see a hand sanitizing and disinfecting station for added peace of mind. Additionally, you'll notice that elevators are being cleaned more frequently, with disinfecting wipes available for your use.



### **GESTURES OF HOSPITALITY**

Along the way, you may encounter team respectful of social distancing.



### **CLEANSTAY ROOM SEAL**

As you approach your room, you'll see that it has been sealed by housekeeping after deep cleaning and disinfection. The seal confirms no one has accessed the room since being cleaned.



### **DEEP-CLEANED ROOM**

As you move through your room, you will see a clean top of bed that has been washed at high temperature after every stay (a long established Hilton standard), messaging on mirror clings that outlines extra cleaning and disinfection for "hightouch areas," a sealed TV remote control and disinfecting wipes. You will also notice that printed collateral and materials have been removed from the room.



### FITNESS CENTER

When you visit the fitness center, you will notice that the equipment has been arranged to accommodate social distancing. You'll also see increased availability of disinfectant wipes with signage on proper use.



### **CONTACTLESS CHECK-OUT**



When it's time to check-out, you can do so either directly through the Hilton Honors app or simply by calling the front desk.



### **FOOD & BEVERAGE**



For meals and beverages, you will experience seating arranged to accommodate social distancing, order from sanitized (or singleuse) menus, and notice special attention to cleanliness and hygiene. Certain of our hotel brands will feature to-go breakfast offerings to minimize contact. If you order room service, you will experience contactless delivery, with orders and single-use serviceware placed outside your door.



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### **HOTEL SHUTTLE**

If you use the hotel shuttle, you will see disinfectant wipes and communications that outline the frequency of shuttle interior hotspot disinfection and cleaning by the driver.

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES



### **Annual Conference Program Book/Church Directory Ad Space**

Indicate	below the	ad siz	e yo	u will sub	mit:	
		WIDT	<u>H</u> !	<u>HEIGHT</u>	PAGE SIZE	COST
		8"	X	11"	Full	\$200.00
		8"	х	5.5"	One Half	110.00
	<del></del>	4"	X	5"	One Quarter	60.00
NAME:						
PHONE: ( ) FAX: ( )						
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Mail this	completed	Inter	natio	nal Ćounc	ad and payment to: il of Community Churches ongmont, CO 80502	
Or email	to ICCCN	OW@sk	ocglo	bal.net (m	nust be paid by credit/debit o	card)
	or Money					
		_		_	AN EXPRESS DISCOV	
	ne as it app				Exp. Date	
J						

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: June 10, 2021** 

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR AD IS CAMERA-READY (THE AD WILL GO IN BOOK AS IS). THE COUNCIL CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNING ADS.



# Worship Coordinator (Part-Time)

### Overview of Position

Palisades Community Church is looking for a parttime position combining two roles: Church Musician and Communication Assistant. It requires musical, administrative, and communication skills. It offers the opportunity to work closely with a half-time Pastor and provide musical leadership to a small, engaged core of believers who are implementing a new way to be a faith community. The position is salaried and includes 4 weeks of vacation, to offset the reality that it will occupy your Sunday mornings.

**Job Description** (partial list, see ICCC website for full ad\*)

- 1. Plan special music for weekly worship services, being intentionally diverse in style (gospel, jazz, contemporary, traditional). May choose to perform special music (voice and/or instrumental solos) on some Sundays. May recruit other musical artists to per- form on remaining Sundays (see #3). Pastor will select hymns, but may consult with you about choices. The goal is cohesion of worship theme and diversity of musical expression. (1.5 hrs)
- Attend weekly worship services (which may be virtual) to lead music for hymns using both instrument and voice, and to ensure that special music runs smoothly. (1.5 hrs)
- Recruit network of musical artists to lead and participate in weekly services as well as Special Musical Sundays (e.g. Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints Day, PCC Anniversary Sunday). Maintain and update contact info list with available singers/musicians. (.5 hr)

### To apply, submit:

- Cover letter explaining why you're interested in, and qualified for, this position.
- · Resume with two recent references.
- Links to recordings/videos that demonstrate your instrumental and vocal skills.

5200 Cathedral Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016 https://thepalisadescommunitychurch.org

\*For full ad, including Job Description,
Time Expectation, Supervision, Job Requirements
and Salary, visit <a href="https://www.icccnow.org/careers/">www.icccnow.org/careers/</a>

### 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 <a href="http://www.icccnow.org/">http://www.icccnow.org/</a> careers/ or contact People's Community Church office (313) 871-4676.

### Senior Ordained Half-Time Pastor

The Palisades Community Church (PCC) in Northwest Washington D.C. is a small, inclusive, multi-denominational, progressive church seeking a settled half-time pastor to begin by September 27, 2021, if possible. We are dedicated to building community amidst diversity of race, age, lifestyle, and belief, and are affiliated with the ICCC. In 2020, PCC launched a non-profit called the Palisades Hub, under the direction of an Executive Director to manage the church's building as a gathering place for the broader community to "connect, learn and serve". This frees the church from many administrative duties, making it possible to redefine our vision and actions for the future. We now seek an ordained pastor to inspirit our engagement with each other and the community by providing thoughtful sermons and services; communicating effectively with members and neighbors; and organizing activities. The pastor must be able to work within our democratic framework for decision-making. Salary will be offered commensurate with the candidate's experience, preaching, leadership, outreach, and pastoral skills. Interested applicants should visit our website at www.thepalisadescommunitychurch.org for the application package. Receiving applications until June 30, 2021.

### **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.

This is a part-time position in the Tampa Bay area in Florida. 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 and is accountable to the CBCC congregation and Church Council governance board.

For qualification, please refer to our website: <a href="http://www.icccnow.org/careers/">http://www.icccnow.org/careers/</a> or email resume and references to office@crystalbeachchurch.com.

### 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



### 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 presentwill not be present
Name of Attendant:	
My Name:	
Organization Address:	
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 10, 2021 to:

### International Council of Community Churches PO Box 846 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.