

# THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2022



International Council of Community Churches

Volume 73

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

Number 3

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Abraham Wright

### Treasurer

Tim Meadows

### Secretary

Bruce Merton

### VP for Planning

Jerry Brown

### VP for Regional Relationships

Wendy Childress

### VP for Financial Development

Roberta Smith

### VP for Membership Enlistment

Sharyon Cosey

### VP for Membership Services

Michael Donahue

### VP for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

Rock Fremont, Jr.

### VP for Leadership Development

Rhonda Blevins

### VP for Informational Services and Outreach

Robert Fread

### Auxiliary Representatives

John Hardman-Zimmerman,  
Winessa Crutchfield, Rhonda Blevins

### Immediate Past President

Harry Fooockle

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### President

Abraham Wright

### VP for Regional Relationships

Wendy Childress

### VP for Membership Enlistment

Sharyon Cosey

### VP for Membership Services

Michael Donahue

### Secretary

Bruce Merton

### Regional Trustees

Myrtis Brame, Saundra Nelson,  
Linda Hopkins, Jean Tillman,

Deidre Seidel, Bruce Merton,  
Rock Fremont, Jr.

### Chaplain Trustee

Hare Varnon

## AUXILIARY HEADS

### Samaritans:

John Hardman-Zimmerman

### Women's Christian Fellowship:

Winessa Crutchfield

Ministerium: Rhonda Blevins

## President's Message

Abraham Wright

### How Do You Spell C-h-r-i-s-t-m-a-s?

Christmas is one of the most meaningful seasons of the year, but do we know that based on the way some of us spell Christmas? Isaiah 9:6 foretells the birth of Jesus: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2 narrate Jesus' birth and allude to the same focus. But does our action demonstrate this proclamation? In short, how do we spell Christmas?

Too often or too quickly we begin a discussion of the meaning of Christmas by putting commercialism or consumerism against the Christian meaning of Christmas, as if, as Christians, we have the right to choose between the two. Have we ever considered re-defining the financial emphasis in the context of the Christian focus? Is it possible that financial and other material resources are a significant part of the celebration of Christmas, and that each needs to be placed in the right perspective or given the appropriate ordering or priority?

If Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly, does that not partly mean **that** the rich share part of their wealth with the poor and assist in other ways so that the poor can improve their quality of life? **that**

social and political justice flow like water and righteousness like a mighty stream? **that** we clothe the naked? **that** we feed the hungry? **that** we visit those who are sick and those who are in prison? **that** we comfort those who are lonely and isolated? and that we attend to others who are marginalized? **Also**, is not Christmas one of the best times to demonstrate our attention to the Great Commission: that we spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, not just by preaching and singing and praying and fasting, but that through the power of the Holy Spirit we give assistance in ways that also require finances? So finances should not be in competition with the celebration of Christmas, but in its rightful place, it is a part of the celebration.

This does not mean that we compete against each other by trying to see who can buy the most impressive gift from Nordstrom or Saks Fifth Avenue or Neiman Marcus or Dillard's or Macy's or Marshall Fields or Bloomingdale's or purchase gifts by Lenox or Waterford or Calvin Klein or by Louis Vuitton. We need to redesign the stage and place Jesus at the center; then, everything else should naturally fall into place.

We need to redesign the stage and place Jesus at the center; then, everything else should naturally fall into place.



continued on page 5



## Executive Director's Message

**Phil Tom**

### *Why Should I Belong to the ICCC?*

I often hear the question, "Why should I belong to the ICCC." This question is usually raised by new pastors who have been called to serve ICCC congregations and by key lay leaders who do not have historical or relational ties to their previous pastors and lay leaders who were a part of the founding of the ICCC in 1950. When I began serving as your Executive Director four and a half years ago, I knew nothing about the Community Church movement or the ICCC. But, as I have met with ICCC pastors and congregations, I learned about the rich beauty and diversity of our ICCC family. ICCC pastors are homegrown or come from many Christian faith traditions, such as United Methodists, Baptists, United Church of Christ, Presbyterians, and Roman Catholics. ICCC is a Christian organization that believes in God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, but each congregation varies in its teachings, beliefs, worship style, and ministries. We value our theological diversity. For example, some ICCC congregations practice baptism by immersion and some by sprinkling. "As a church, we seek to be comprehensive as the spirit and teaching of Christ, and as inclusive as the love of God." In addition, we value ecumenism at the global, national and local levels since ICCC is a member of the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, and the Churches United in Christ. Our congregations vary in their governance structures. ICCC congregations are congregational but without any national regulations. I recently consulted with several congregations going through pastoral changes. The lay leaders are surprised when I tell them that the Council does not ordain clergy. Instead, it recognizes the right of the local congregation to ordain and authorize various ministries. We propose a process for pastoral search and ordination, but this is to be taken as advisory, not legislative. As the ICCC family, we are bonded first as God's people and then as members of the Community

Church movement. We value our diverse fellowship and mutual support as Community Churches in our regional gatherings and at our annual National Conferences.

And most importantly, as stated in our ICCC Purpose Statement, "The Council is an international, intercultural, interracial fellowship of churches and ministry centers which seeks to realize Christian unity in local, national and world relations. The Council seeks fellowship, mutual support and common ministries that reflect the unity of all within the Christian tradition. The Council seeks: To be faithful to the prayer of Jesus Christ that "they may all be one."

I know I am preaching to the choir here. We must continue to invite and welcome other congregations to our ICCC family. However, it is not enough to say join us. We must share our mission and the values we cherish as members of the Community Church movement and the ICCC.

The quote in the first paragraph comes from "A Statement of Affirmation and Commitment for Church Churches," written by Rev. Robert Fread in 2020. I am grateful for Rev. Fread's recent writings – Seeking Community: Heritage of the Community Churches and the greater Community Church Movement of Community, Union, Federated, People's and Ecumenical Churches, and his study guide about the Community Churches movement and the ICCC – Living in Community. I would encourage everyone, especially new pastors and new lay leaders, to take a look at ALL the ICCC Resources on our website <https://www.icccnow.org/council-other-agency-resources/>. So, when someone says to you, Why Should I Belong to the ICCC, there should be no doubt about how you respond!

May you all have a blessed, spirited, joyful Advent and Christmas season.

*Phil*

**THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**  
A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations  
(ISSN - 0145-3297)

A periodical of news, reviews, and reflections for ecumenically oriented and community-minded churches, ministry centers, and clergy.

Published Oct., Nov., Dec., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June by the International Council of Community Churches. Home Office: P.O. Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502. Subscription rate: \$12.00 per year.

**Editors:** Phil Tom, DeAnn Bath

**Circulation:** DeAnn Bath

**Telephone:** 815/464-5690

**E-Mail:** [ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net)

**Website:** [www.ICCCNOW.org](http://www.ICCCNOW.org)



*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."*

## ICCC DECEMBER 2022

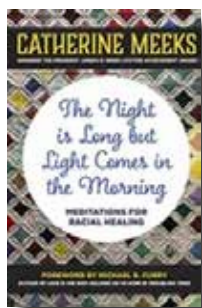


# Book REVIEW

By Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson

## *Put on the new self...Col 3:10 ESV*

Our Christmas season is one of the most precious times of year. The three books reviewed by *Publishers Weekly* will be great Christmas gifts.



***The Night is Long but Light Comes in the Morning: Meditations on Racial Healing*** by Catherine Meeks. Morehouse, \$24.95 (224p) ISBN 978-1-640-65597-3.

Meeks (*Living into God's Dream*), executive director of the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing, challenges readers to better understand racial healing in this standout guide. American society has reached an inflection point as false racial narratives

threaten groups' ability to coexist, Meeks argues, and the work of racial healing is more pressing than ever. She encourages readers to look inward and ask: "Do [I] really want to be well?" In the 48 brief meditations that follow, Meeks helps readers tackle this question by examining different aspects of racism and paths to healing. Weaving together history, spirituality, and current culture, Meeks touches on police brutality, gun violence, lynching, and the school-to-prison pipeline. Meditations discuss the abstract (how fear keeps racial divides in place) and the concrete (reparations), often concluding with questions ("What circumstances need to change in order for you to open your heart to someone in a group that differs from your[s]?") or calls to action ("Try being half a shade braver and say yes to all... invitations to engage in... healing work"). Meeks offers eye-opening lessons that are practical without being overly prescriptive; her focus on deep spiritual truths ensures readers can return to her words at various stages of their racial healing process. Readers will be challenged and changed by this moving work. (Nov.)

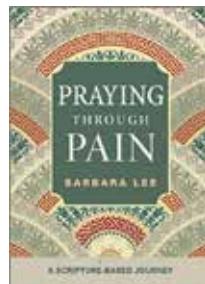


***Stumbling Toward Eternity: Losing and Finding Ourselves in the Cross of Jesus*** by Josh White. Multnomah, \$17 (224p) ISBN 978-0-59319-393-8

Pastor and recording artist Josh White invites Christians to rediscover the significance of the cross in this enlightening debut. Reaching beyond its "sanitized" public symbolism, White contends the cross signals humility and true vulnerability—a

focus where human brokenness is transformed by the love of God, who "interprets our stories and infuses them with the meaning we long for." In seven chapters, one for each of Jesus's final words, scriptural musings and memoir fragments depict different facets of faith. "The Cross of Division and Acceptance" includes the author's thoughts about his later-in-life reunions

with his formerly absent, drug-addicted father, underlining the need to bridge divides through God's love, while in "The Cross of Abandonment and Communion," White recalls the night his mother fled an abusive partner, with him and his brother in tow: in Christianity, too, he writes, "comfort is found in the struggle." Throughout, White contrasts the love and redemption of surrender to Christ with the unfulfillment of "ladder theology" (the belief "if I achieve A, B, and C, then I will be accepted and satisfied"). White delivers personal and theological insight with unflinching honesty—there's a rawness to his tone that makes clear he, too, is "stumbling" through a faith journey, not delivering insight from on high. This modern take on Christianity's oldest symbol will appeal to many believers. (Feb.)



***Praying Through Pain: A Scripture Based Journey*** by Barbara Lee. Loyola, \$15.99 trade paper (144p) ISBN 978-0-82945-551-9

In this insightful manual, spiritual director Lee (*Answering God's Call*) shares guidance for communing with God during adversity. Drawing on Ignatian spirituality, which emphasizes bringing one's true

feelings to god, Lee contends that "praying through pain very often calls for a new approach" to worship. In each brief chapter, she focuses on one emotion or state of being, offering meditations on its spiritual relevance, plus applicable prayers and scripture. In "Impatience," a passage from Ecclesiastes reminds readers that "there is an appointed time for everything, And a time for every affair under the heavens." In "Helplessness," Lee advises that "it is when we are most helpless that we realize our only help is in God," offering a psalm that "seems to have been intended as a blessing for someone in danger." Elsewhere, she devotes chapters to "Anger," "Trauma," and more, each concluding with questions that underline the chapter's lessons ("How can you grow closer to God in times of isolation?"). Lee confronts pain with compassion, jettisoning platitudes for practical, text-based advice that readers can tailor to their own challenges and striking a careful tone that neither minimizes readers' adversity nor wallows in it. This will comfort Christians seeking new prayer practices in painful moments. (Dec.)

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



## Meet Our Leadership, One by One



**REV. DR.  
R. TIM  
MEADOWS**  
ICCC Treasurer

The Rev. Dr. R. Tim Meadows “Tim” became part of the ICCC when he joined the Community Church at Tellico Village as Associate Pastor in October, 2005.

In February, 2016, he became the Senior Pastor of the Cathedral of the Woods/Protestant Community Church in Medford Lakes, NJ. where he currently serves.

Tim and his wife Shannon have two Australian Shepherds named Hops and Barley.

Tim was elected to service as the Treasurer on the ICCC Board of Trustees at the 2022 ICCC Annual Conference.

*Rev. Dr. R.  
Tim Meadows*

## Ecumeneews

Rev. Rock R. Fremont Jr., VP Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations



As I previously mentioned in my October and November articles, resources from the World Council of Churches 11th Assembly are available on the WCC website, and I encourage you to peruse them. I hope to share documents from the Assembly in upcoming articles, this month I thought I'd share the Unity Statement. With every Assembly since the WCC was founded in Amsterdam in 1948, a statement was issued on “the nature of the unity we seek.”

As signposts on the ecumenical pilgrimage, these statements give a glimpse of the key concerns and perspectives of the churches along the way.

The 11th Assembly statement builds upon the theme “Christ’s love moves the world to reconciliation and unity,” pointing to the Christological centre of the ecumenical movement: “the vital search for agreement in faith, the working together in service to the world, the walking the way of discipleship together; all these are stirred by the love of Christ, who moves our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” Some have complained that the WCC puts unity before justice and this is addressed in an understanding of unity and justice that are inseparable.

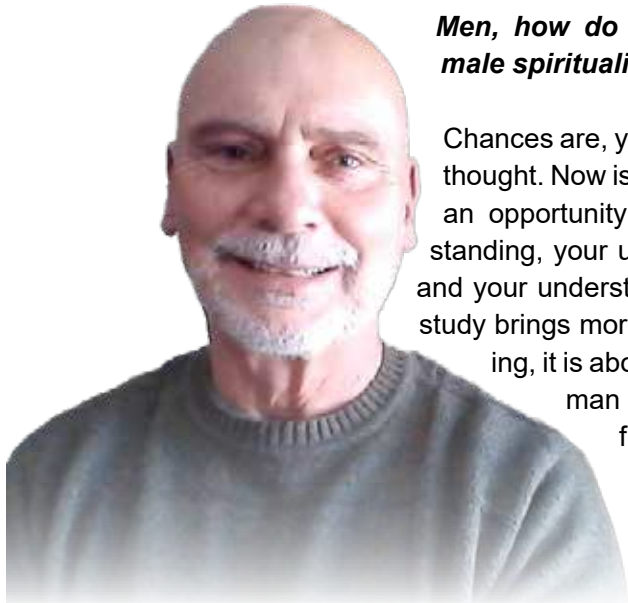
There can be no unity which allows injustice to continue. There is no justice that continues to foster division. As Pope Francis once stated, “Ecumenism and Mission belong together and interrelate.”

### A prayer

Holy God, source and creator of all things,  
eternal love, we give thanks to you:  
Father, who loves us infinitely,  
Son who reveals to us unconditional love,  
Holy Spirit who empowers us with divine love,  
gather us together in your love,  
that we may grow in visible communion  
and so witness to unity in the world.  
Where your people are broken, may love mend.  
When hatred shouts in the world, let love bring peace  
with justice. As creation groans,  
may redemption come to all the earth.  
Come with your divine love, and enter our hearts.  
Move your church, and move the world  
to reconciliation and unity. Amen.

Read the full text of the Unity Statement at the following link: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/documents/unity-statement-of-the-wcc-11th-assembly>

## Samaritan Men on the Move



### **Men, how do you understand your male spirituality?**

Chances are, you haven't given it much thought. Now is an opportunity to do so, an opportunity to grow in self-understanding, your understanding of others, and your understanding of God. But this study brings more than new understanding, it is about becoming whole as a man and about living a more fully-awakened life.

So, I invite you to join a discussion on Zoom of chapters 1 and 2 of

Richard Rohr's book, *From Wild Man to Wise Man, Reflections on Male Spirituality*, Sunday, Dec. 11th from 4:00 - 5:00 Eastern Time. I hope you can join in for a mutually stimulating and edifying time of reflection. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87955095104?pwd=Qlkwd2VORzRVZHp6d-FZKMm9TTec2Zz09>

Feel free to email me at [hzfam@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfam@hotmail.com) or call 802-282-7532.

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman  
ICCC Samaritan President

## President's Message *cont'd from page 2*

At Christmas and at celebration on other occasions, I have seen enemies created for a lifetime because supposedly someone stole someone else's recipe, which might have been "borrowed" from someone else. I've seen enemies multiplied because someone else incidentally wore the same outfit as another. I've also seen individuals severely isolated because he or she brought someone who was hungry to a guest's house for a meal uninvited, even though the host was warned ahead of time. Further, I've seen individuals angry for a lifetime because a friend genuinely forgot to send, on time, a thank-you note for a favor rendered.

This is not the way Jesus intends us to spell Christmas. Instead, I believe he spells it with LOVE, which begins in the heart and slowly or quickly spreads all over our bodies like a wild flower. And yes, it does include family and friends; but this love also reaches those who are isolated (some within our own families); it reaches the homeless on the streets and those in shelters; it reaches the trash piles where we dump the resentment and hatred we have for each other because if we do not, we deny them the dignity that belongs to all of God's creation; and one of the first stops may or may not be Saks or Macy's but Walmart or Target. Either way, that step will be ordered in the steps of Love.

This Christmas, I challenge each of us to reach out to others with a gift of love, with an honest conversation about an "old" matter that should have been buried long ago; with reestablishing a relationship that should not have been broken in the first place; with a truth being told that never should have been hidden; with a monetary gift or one equal to it to a charitable organization, and/or a commitment to reexamine the way we celebrate Christmas, asking ourselves, "Does my celebration of Christmas meet the approval of Jesus Christ?"

May you have joy and peace through the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ this holiday season.

*Abraham*

**Support the WCF at the 2023  
conference by donating gift cards for the  
Showbox Ministry.**

**For more information:  
Pastor Vickie Kirkman  
[Vkirkman07@gmail.com](mailto:Vkirkman07@gmail.com)**

**Sharing Joys with**

- **Rev. Christine Hopkins** who retired as Senior Pastor at **The Center** in Palos Park, IL on November 27th. **Rev. Nancy Nemeth Morris** will serve as The Center's new pastor.
- **Rev. Lorna Hart, ICCC Retired Clergy**, who came home from the hospital after facing health challenges. "It's a blessing to be home again!" ~ Lorna
- **Rev. Ken Gill** who will be retiring from **Emmanuel Baptist Church**, NJ at the end of December. **Rev. Arturo Lewis**, the congregation's Associate Pastor currently, will serve and Emmanuel's new pastor.
- **Rev. Jennifer Brown**, former Associate Pastor at **Tellico Village Community Church** has accepted a calling to University Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, MS. She will begin in early December.
- **Rev. Tom Ulrich** who will retire from **New Covenant Community Church**, OH in February 2023.
- **Longboat Island Chapel**, Longboat Key, FL will be commissioning **Rev. Jeff Nunes** February 21, 2023.

**Sharing Concerns with**

- **Louis Joy** who will have cataract surgery on December 1st for the first eye, and December 15th on the second.
- **Rev. Julia Powe** who was admitted into the hospital again. After conflicting diagnosis', it was determined she will need rehab rather than surgery.
- **Revs. John and Susan Hardman-Zimmerman**. John's parents are both in hospice care, and his Dad's health is failing rapidly. John and Sue serve 7 UMC congregations in Maine and are ICCC Clergy in Special Standing.
- **RC Fleeman** and his congregation, **Peace Community Church**, FL as they continue to recover from Hurricane Ian.



PASTORAL  
SEARCH

***Associate Pastor***

Community Church at Tellico Village is seeking an ASSOCIATE PASTOR to join our pastoral team.

CCTV, is a 1000 member interdenominational church located SW of Knoxville, TN in a beautiful planned community on Tellico Lake.

The ideal candidate possesses a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ and demonstrates a true desire to shape their ministry by the Great Commandment. S/he values Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. S/he is a mature "people-person" with generalist skills and a passion for developing fellowship and spiritual growth ministries.

Ministers of all denominations may apply (M. Div. required).

If interested, visit us at  
[www.tellicochurch.com](http://www.tellicochurch.com)  
and email your resume to  
[search@tellicochurch.org](mailto:search@tellicochurch.org)

Otherwise mail to  
CCTV Search Team  
130 Chota Center  
Loudon, TN 37774





## *Full-Time Minister*

**Pembroke Township, IL- Minister/Pastor- St. Anne Woods Chapel Community Church-Non-Denominational**

**St. Anne Woods Chapel Community Church is prayerfully seeking a full time Minister who is called by God, ordained, and dedicated to the ministry of Jesus Christ.**

### **Status and qualifications will include:**

- Must hold a degree from an accredited seminar or Bible college.
- Must be an ordained and/or licensed minister.
- Must have a minimum of 3-6 years of experience as a minister or minister assistance.
- Must have great leadership skills, ability to reach out to the youth, and open to growing the ministry.

### **Duties:**

- Coordinating with the church secretary to prepare a weekly bulletin.
- Conducting weekly adult bible study.
- Preaching the weekly sermon on Sunday mornings.
- Teaching weekly Sunday School class
- Administering the Sacraments of communion and baptism.
- Officiating at all weddings, funerals, and other ceremonial occasions as needed.
- Participating in community events.
- Works with the deacons and board regarding the future of the church.

**If interested in the position, please submit the following information listed below to [stannewoodschapelc@gmail.com](mailto:stannewoodschapelc@gmail.com). Please submit documents in a PDF format only.**

- Cover letter that includes salary expectations, a little information about yourself, and why you believe that God is calling you to apply for this position.
- Resume
- Copy of Ministerial License and/or Certificate of Ordination.
- Degree from seminar or bible college
- Three references which would include one personal reference and two professional (minister/pastor) letters of preference.

**Applicants are accepted until Wednesday, November 09, 2022.**

## *Full-Time Minister*

According to a recent survey, a rare combination of high energy, high satisfaction, flexibility, and strong support for mission set our small church apart from most others. New Covenant Community Church, in Akron, Ohio, a long-time ICCC member, is seeking a full-time minister to replace its present minister who is retiring in February, 2023. For more information, please contact Susie Stevenor, PNC Clerk, at [pncnccc@gmail.com](mailto:pncnccc@gmail.com).

## *Senior Minister*

Join us in turning the tide from surviving to thriving in 2021 and beyond. The historic Community Church of East Williston is a Mainline, Interdenominational Protestant Church serving the needs of persons from all backgrounds. We have a faithful, hardworking congregational core and seek a Senior Minister who, through Christian love and action, will help us turn those with occasional attendance into persons with faithful commitment.

The position requires an experienced, ordained Protestant minister with youthful enthusiasm to reestablish CCEW as the "Light in the Community." We offer a competitive salary and a beautiful manse in a verdant suburb with a highly ranked school district (top 10% in NY), only 25 minutes from Manhattan via railroad.

The Pastoral Search Committee is accepting packages containing (but not limited to) your resume, your calling (share your call to ministry), style of ministry (share your beliefs) and samples of your sermons on a website, blog or Facebook.

To view their ideal candidate thoughts, visit the ICCC website for the full ad.

<https://www.iccnw.org/careers/>

Please email your response to:  
maryellen@ccew.org,

or mail a hard copy to:

**Community Church of East Williston**  
Pastoral Search Committee  
Mary Ellen Williams, Chairperson  
45 East Williston Avenue  
East Williston, NY 11596



## PASTORAL SEARCH

### *Interim Pastor*

The First Church of Evans is seeking to fill the position of Interim Pastor. This will be a part-time, temporary position until the position of permanent pastor is filled. The First Church of Evans is a non-denominational and congregationally governed church of 60-65 average attendance founded over 200 years ago and is located in a small town setting in Derby, NY, approximately 25 miles south of Buffalo, NY.

#### The duties of the Interim Pastor will include:

- Collaborating with the church secretary to prepare a weekly bulletin
- Completing an Order of Worship for Sunday Service
- Preaching the weekly Sermon on Sunday mornings
- Administering the Sacraments of Communion and Baptism
- Able to perform weddings and funerals

#### Ministerial Status and Qualifications

- Must hold a degree from a Seminary or Bible College
- Must be an Ordained and/or Licensed Minister
- Would prefer at least 3-5 years ministry experience as a Lead or Senior Pastor

#### If interested in this position, please submit the following:

- Cover letter that includes salary expectation
- Current resume (including email address and contact telephone numbers)
- Personal Statement of Faith
- Submit three personal and two professional (minister/pastor) letters of reference
- Copy of Ministerial License and/or Certificate of Ordination

### *Full-Time Pastor*

The First Church of Evans is seeking to fill the position of full-time Pastor. The First Church of Evans is a non-denominational and congregationally governed community church of 60-65 average attendance founded over 200 years ago and is located in a small town setting in Derby, NY, approximately 25 miles south of Buffalo, NY.

#### Ministerial status and qualifications will include:

- must hold a degree from an accredited seminary or Bible college
- must be an ordained and/or licensed minister
- must have a minimum of 3-5 years' experience as a lead or senior pastor or commensurate position or very exceptional experience as an associate pastor
- must be in agreement with our church's Statement of Faith
- must have strong interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills

#### The duties of the Pastor will include:

- coordinating with the church secretary to prepare a weekly bulletin
- completing an Order of Worship for Sunday service
- preaching the weekly sermon on Sunday mornings
- conducting a weekly adult Bible study
- teaching a weekly Sunday School class
- preparing a devotional article for the monthly newsletter
- administering the Sacraments of Communion and Baptism
- officiating at all weddings, funerals and other ceremonial occasions as needed
- responsible for the recording of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, admissions and dismissions
- participating in community organizations, such as The Lake Shore Association of Christian Churches and the International Council of Community Churches to develop relationships with area churches and Christ-centered ministries to proactively serve our community and share the gospel of Jesus Christ
- sits on the Board of Directors of the Steepleview Housing Corporation, a residential facility for disabled and elderly, sponsored by The First Church of Evans. Additional responsibilities may also include communion services at the facility and/or tenant-relations meetings, etc.
- works with deacons on visitations to address the physical and spiritual needs of individuals
- serves as an ex-officio member of all church committees and as a non-voting member and spiritual advisor at all monthly church council meetings
- provides pastoral counseling to help members deal with personal issues

#### If interested in this position, please submit the following:

- cover letter that includes salary expectation, a little bit about you and why you believe God is calling you to apply for this ministry
- current resume (including email address and contact telephone numbers)
- personal Statement of Faith
- submit three personal and two professional (minister/pastor) letters of reference
- copy of Ministerial License and/or Certificate of Ordination

#### Information may be submitted to:

The First Church of Evans • PO Box 364 • Derby, NY 14047

Attn: Carl Mende, Search Committee Chairman

-or-

Submit documents in PDF format only to: [fcoc@carlmende.com](mailto:fcoc@carlmende.com)