

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

MARCH 2023



International Council of Community Churches

Volume 73

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

Number 5

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We Won!!!

Growing up in South Jersey, just across the river from Philly, I've always been a big fan of the Philadelphia Phillies and Eagles. Going to ball games with my dad are some of my fondest memories. However, since I moved to Kansas City over 40 years ago, I now call KC my home. Consequently, the Super Bowl game this year was a paradox for me, a very contradictory situation. Being a long-time fan of both teams, Philadelphia Eagles and Kansas City Chiefs, who should I root for during the game?

The good news however, was that no matter who won, I'd be happy!

You may find a similar situation at our Annual Conference this year. We will have several tracks for you to follow. Is your passion to serve in mission or is your interest more aligned to the education program? Or do you really appreciate the wonderful fellowship opportunities that we enjoy at Annual Conference every year? The good news is, that no matter which you choose, you'll be a winner!

The concept of the new track schedule is to "Pursue Your Passion". Whatever you like, whatever draws you to the conference that can be your focus and your pursuit. But even better, if you see something offered in another track that piques your interest, you're certainly not locked in to any schedule – check it out. This schedule will offer you the flexibility, diversity, and opportunity to learn and nurture your faith like never before.

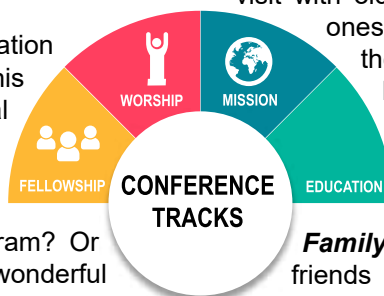


We have a dynamic preacher in Rev. Dr. Clifford Jones from Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte. And this year you will have designated time to dig deeper into and discuss his sermons with him; what a great way to learn and grow your faith. The Bible Study and workshops will offer you so many new ways of thinking and seeing the wonderful promise God has for us through Jesus Christ. Bob Harris is coordinating a Missions track that will not only enlighten you to new challenges, but also provide the opportunity for hands-on involvement. And the Fellowship track will allow you to share time and visit with old friends, or possibly make new ones. And we certainly won't pass up the chance to visit the Billy Graham Museum and Library just a few minutes down the road from our hotel.

The theme this year is **We are Family** based on Paul's advice to his friends in Corinth where he tells them, "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." We, as a Council are many different members, with many different cultures, many different backgrounds, and many different talents; but we are all part of one body we call the International Council of Community Churches, with one holy purpose, to share the love of God and salvation of Jesus Christ with the world.

So, this summer *pursue your passion*, and whatever you choose, you'll be a winner! We'll see you in Charlotte.

Jerry Brown
VP for Planning





President's Message

Abraham Wright

Spreading the Gospel

Today, one of the most popular topics in Christianity is what do we mean when we talk about preaching or spreading the **gospel**. We frequently quote Paul from Romans 1:16: "For I am not afraid of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile" (LB). This translation is a good start because it uses "Good News about Christ" verses "Gospel of Christ." Yet when we talk of the gospel, too many of us define the gospel as sponsoring a food or a clothing drive or as works of justice and similar activities; though related, this is not quite what that gospel is; these are works of the gospel or implications of the gospel or results of the gospel, not the gospel itself. So, after we directly or indirectly define the gospel as such and get few positive responses, we wonder why we don't have a greater return for the effort we put forth. So maybe it is time to take another look at our definition of the gospel. Then, if you are still unclear about how to define the gospel, think about what the gospel is not. An excellent source with which to begin is American pastor, theologian, and Christian apologist, Tim J. Keller. Keller also is the chairman and co-founder of Redeemer City to City, which trains pastors for service around the world who has revolutionized the way we invite others to become Christians.

Keller and evangelism and mission professors begin defining the gospel by identifying things that the gospel is not. For example, the gospel is NOT religion or irreligion, but a third way of looking at God. The gospel is not a life of love. The gospel is not the result of the gospel, for the gospel is not so much of what we

do but the importance of what Christ has already done for us. So there is a general consensus that the heart of the gospel—and strangely enough I heard a part of this preached last week, and the preacher and I had no idea that we were working on a similar topic. In any event, that consensus of the definition of the gospel focuses on three essentials at the heart of the gospel. They are the good news about Jesus' incarnation: the Word became flesh and blood and lived among us; Jesus' substitution on the cross to liberate us from sin so that we might be reunited with the Father; and Jesus' resurrection, which solidifies a seat in the kingdom for all who believe, regardless of whether we are Jew, Greek, Gentile, or of another culture or nation; for the gospel has no boundaries.

Potential believers need to know the story of *what* Jesus did so they/we can be inspired to live a life like Jesus's. Paul and the other apostles got into trouble over and over and over again because they told potential converts the story of what Jesus did for the international world and the significance of it; and they repeated that same true story to believers so that they would maintain their faith. So the heart of the gospel is not focused on what we can do but on what Jesus has already done. The gospel is a Jesus movement. Potential converts need an *encounter* with Jesus, and the works of the kingdom, with appropriate guidance from effective Christian leaders, taking various forms and spreading from there. One of the largest centers of Christianity today is Iran. Another is the global South, especially in Africa, where Christianity is spreading like wild

fire. The focus of the gospel's liberating power, inherited in Jesus's act of substitution on behalf of us, plays a large role in this phenomenal growth in Christianity. Potential Christians must have an encounter with Jesus because it is the strength of that true story that touches, saves, and sustains life.

Throughout this season of the Passion of Christ, let us clarify the origin and the heart of the gospel. Work, without faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, its significance and its power, is dead. In too many ways too many of us have taken the best thing Jesus has done for us and turned it into a private, legalized practice wherein we choose what we like and discard the rest—so much so, until the gospel does not look and sound like Jesus Christ any more. But the more we try to alter the genuine good news of the gospel, the more it stares us in the face; for the essence of the gospel will never stop spreading, and it will never die. That's because God is everywhere we go and in the places we don't go, including the public school systems where we think God has been excommunicated.

I pray during this Holy season that we cease circumventing the gospel by trying to redefine what is etched in stone, that we literally and application wise tell others of what the gospel is and is not, and that we closely observe how the work of the gospel, with fruitful leadership, takes its various forms and remains the same salvific gospel that Jesus Christ established through his incarnation, his death/substitution, and his resurrection.

Abraham Wright



Executive Director's Message

Phil Tom

Church Renewal is Possible

A title of an article in the February 5, 2023, issue of the Atlantic magazine caught my eye. The article's title is "Christianity Is Due for a Revival: Our society is secularizing, and Christianity seems to be in long-term decline. But renewal is possible." The article's author is the Rev. Timothy Keller, the founder of the Redeemer Presbyterian Church in NYC, which reaches out to the unchurched. In addition, Redeemer has seeded new church plants across the county. In light of all the articles and research studies about the continuing decline and demise of the Church, Rev. Keller's article is refreshing. I encourage you to read it if you can google a copy or get a copy of this Atlantic issue.

In his article, Rev. Keller suggests the following if we want Christianity to grow again in the U.S. The Church can grow if:

- 1) It learns how to speak compellingly to non-Christian people.
- 2) It learns how to unite justice and righteousness.
- 3) It embraces the global and multiethnic character of Christianity.
- 4) It strikes a balance between innovation and conserving historic Christian teaching.
- 5) It helps people understand the emptiness of modernity, individuality, and self-liberation vs. God's grace and covenantal relationship.

I confess I am not doing justice to Rev. Keller's article since I only highlight his themes. However, he provides

more details in his article about these themes and the challenges faced by the Church in embracing these themes. For example, he says that established majority-white congregations often welcome people of color or other ethnicities to grow their numbers but don't always open the doors of power and leadership to them.

Whether you agree with Rev. Keller's theological perspective, reflecting on these themes would be a good exercise for your congregation leaders and members to discern how they address them. Finally, Rev. Keller says these factors will not necessarily trigger a renewal. This work must be accompanied by "extraordinary prayer," accepting moral absolutes however unpopular, and not be captured by any political project.

Food for thought!

So, let us not dwell and despair about the negative news about the "Church" but refocus our vision and energy on how God can use us to grow God's beloved community. Renewal is possible! Some congregations are growing and experiencing spiritual vitality, like Imagine Church of the Carolinas led by Rev. Bruce Jones in Charlotte, N.C. Imagine Church of the Carolina will be hosting us for our 2023 Annual Conference in Charlotte. So, as we are in the season of Lent, let us remember and celebrate the good news that God can make a way out of no way!

Phil

The CUIC Academy of Ecumenism



Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC) is pleased to announce the launch of our new Academy of Ecumenism, and we are now accept-

ing applications. While existing programs focus attention and resources on ecumenical formation on a global stage, there are no existing programs that are ecumenical in nature within the United States. To bridge that gap, CUIC has created the CUIC Academy of Ecumenism. Young adults chosen to participate will be trained in current group leadership skills, the history and theology of the Ecumenical Movement, and the particular connections among the CUIC Member Communion, Christian unity, and interreligious relationships.

This small cohort of young adults will be between the ages of 25 and 34, will represent our 10 CUIC Member Communion, and may be either lay or clergy. Those chosen must be able to commit to 10 months of training, travel to a single in-person gathering in the United States, have access to a phone and the internet, and be willing to organize and lead a ministry project in their local context.

Two (young adult) participants will be selected from the International Council of Community Churches to participate in this ten-month training, and applications are due by May 15, 2023. Don't hesitate to contact me at Rock@MayAllBeOne.org for more information about the application process and further details about this exciting new opportunity.

In Unity,

Rev. Rock Fremont
International Council of
Community Churches
VP Ecumenical and
Interfaith Relations



ICCC MARCH 2023

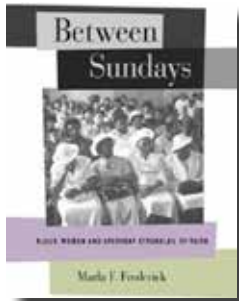


Book REVIEW

By Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson

*The theme is "Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do!
And whatever else you do, develop good judgment. - Pro 4:7 NLT.*

Blessings to you, your family, and your congregations. Welcome to our 2023 Women's History Month book review. This month I wanted to draw selection from various webpages for more discovery and I highlight some books that caught my attention and may be of value currently or historically. Either way, I pray you are blessed.

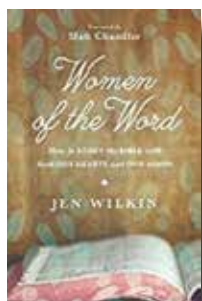


Between Sundays: Black Women and Everyday Struggles of Faith. By Marla F. Frederick. University of California Press, 2003. 263 pp. Kindle, \$3.95; Cloth, \$75.73; paper, various from \$14. to \$34.95.

According to Contemporary Sociology, "This wonderfully written book gives voice to women whose lives and actions may have gone unnoticed outside of their small rural community. *Between Sundays* is an excellent book for anyone interested in race and ethnic relations, black feminist theory, women and gender studies, religion and religiosity, class, rural studies, and activism, and how they intersect. It is rare to find a work as finely written as this and it puts a human face on so many sociological concepts and categories."

Some other reviews challenge Frederick's work by suggesting that the content, in some areas, is not as critical as it should be and more explanation about themes and data must be drawn. While this may be true, *Between Sundays* may be an excellent resource for Women Fellowship and young women of faith who are trying to find connections with faith, family, and life. When I recall the faith of my mother and aunts, *Between Sundays* helps me to realize how their faith enabled them to press forward in difficult times. The lessons from this book could be a path for understanding women of faith anytime.

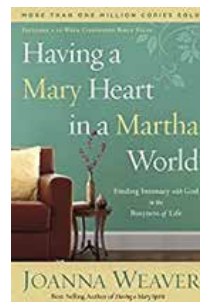
At the Renovated Faith webpage, Karin has completed a list of 41 books for women <https://renovatedfaith.com/christian-books-for-women/>. Here is a sampling.



Women Of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts And Our Minds By Jen Wilkin Crossway 2019. 176 pp. Kindle, \$8.92; paper, \$9.39.

We all know it's important to study God's Word. But sometimes it's hard to know where to start. What's more, a lack of time, emotionally driven approaches, and past frustrations can erode our resolve to keep growing in our knowledge of Scripture. How can we, as Christian women, keep our focus and sustain our passion when reading the Bible?

Offering a clear and concise plan to help women go deeper in their study of Scripture, this book will equip you to engage in the word of God in a way that trains your mind and transforms your heart.



Having A Mary Heart in A Martha World: Finding Intimacy with God in The Busyness of Life by Joanna Weaver. WaterBrook, 2000; 256 pages, Kindle, \$12.99; Paperback, \$9.99

With nearly a million copies sold, Joanna Weaver's popular book shows women how to blend intimacy with Jesus and service for Him.

An invitation for every woman who feels she isn't godly enough... isn't loving enough... isn't doing enough. The life of a woman today isn't really all that different from that of Mary and Martha in the New Testament. Like Mary, you long to sit at the Lord's feet... but the daily demands of a busy world just won't leave you alone. Like Martha, you love Jesus and really want to serve him... yet you struggle with weariness, resentment, and feelings of inadequacy.

Then comes Jesus Christ, right into the midst of your busy Mary/ Martha life and he extends the same invitation he issued long ago to the two sisters of Bethany. Tenderly he invites you to choose "the better part"-a joyful life of "living-room" intimacy with him that flows naturally into "kitchen service" for him. Instead of empty busyness in an effort to have a good life while doing good things for Him, God shows us His grace and the opportunity to abide in Him.

How can you make that choice? With her fresh approach to the familiar Bible story and its creative, practical strategies, Joanna shows how all of us -Marys and Marthas alike- can draw closer to our Lord, deepening our devotion, strengthening our service, and doing both with less stress and greater joy.

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..*



**REV. LORNA HAS MOVED TO
A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY**

**TERRAZA
COURT**
CULVER CITY

**10955 Washington Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232
(310)838-7800**

**LORNA'S CELL PHONE
(213)732-6376
Should be active by 2/14/23**

Preferred visiting hours are from 9 am to 6 pm. If you plan to arrive after 6 pm, please call Carlo (213-280-2986), so arrangements can be made for entry into the community.

Room 201

Assisted Living



PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

People's Community Church 50th Year Anniversary Celebration

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2023, 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Theme: "Pressing on towards the goal" (Philippians 3:12-14)

Keynote Speaker: Reverend Dr. William H. Myers, Pastor, New Mount Zion Baptist Church

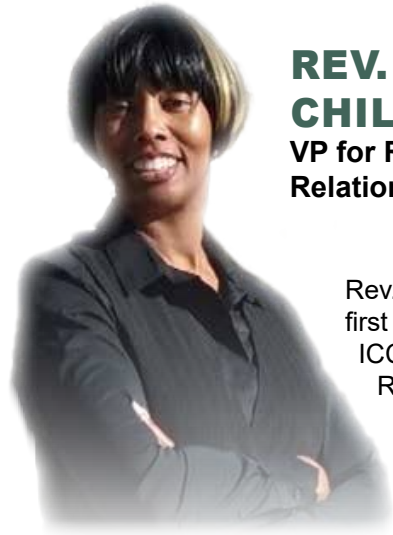
Event Address: The Aviator Event Center, 20900 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Tickets: \$45 for adults (ages 13 and up), \$20 for children (ages 6-12)

Registration by Wednesday, February 15, 2023, is preferred. The deadline for registration and payment is Sunday, March 5, 2023.

• Contact People's Community Church for more information and tickets at 440-234-0609 or pcc.admin_assist@shglobal.net.

Meet Our Leadership, One by One



**REV. DR. WENDY
CHILDRESS**
VP for Regional
Relationships

Rev. Dr. Wendy Childress first became affiliated with ICCC when serving as Rev. Lorna Hart's Associate Pastor for Emmanuel Independent Community Church. In 2019, She was elected to serve as the

VP for Regional Relationships for the ICCC. It has been and still is Dr. Wendy's desire to have a solid Regional Relationship committee focused on building active and genuine relationships between member churches and by doing so, positively impacting the reach and prominence of the ICCC as a change agent for the Kingdom promoting community wellness, healing, and unity.

As founder and sole proprietor of *Living Life Completely*, LLC Dr. Wendy provides life coaching services and is an advocate of *living a complete and full life*. She also is the Co-founder of 52Love an organization she co-founded with her daughter that promotes total wellness (mind, body, and spirit) of Black/African American Women. In addition, Dr. Wendy hosts a weekly Bible Study ministry (WC Ministries) which keeps her grounded, thanks to almighty God.

Dr. Childress is a retired Army Chaplain. Even though retired from the military, she continues to honor our deserving veterans via a monthly radio segment called, *Living Life Completely*, on Operation Confidence an online LA Talk Radio, whose sole mission is to assist veterans.

Just like the military which is "mission" driven, Dr. Wendy is also. Her mission it to build a team that can and will make long-lasting inroads for the ICCC. If you have any ideas or would like to be a part of this team, please contact her.

***"Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great,
but the laborers are few."***

Rev. Dr. Wendy Childress

Sharing Concerns with

- **Rev. Stephen York, ICCC Personnel Committee**, is thrilled to be home from physical therapy rehab and will be taking it slow for awhile.
- **Rev. Virginia Leopold, Protestant Community Church, NJ** who is recovering from blood clots in her lung

**Sharing Joys with**

- **Rev. Ken Gill** retired at the end of December 2022 as Senior Pastor from **Emmanuel Church**, Ridgewood, New Jersey. As its new Senior Pastor, the Rev. Arturo Lewis is to be installed April 1 2023 at 11:00am.
- **Rev. Tom Ulrich** retired in February 2023 as the Pastor of **New Covenant Community Church**, Akron, OH.

**Welcome Shepherd of the Hills UCC**

We welcome **Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ**, Phoenix, Arizona as our newest ICCC member! Shepherd of the Hills' Pastor is the **Rev. Rock Fremont**. Rev. Fremont serves on our ICCC Board of Directors as Vice-President for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and our Regional Trustee for the Southwest region.

ICCC Resource About Raising Funds for your Congregation

Did you know that ICCC has a resource that provides ideas on raising funds for your congregation/center/community? It's titled **Fundraising 101**, and you can download it from our ICCC webpage at <https://www.icccnow.org/council-other-agency-resources/>.



2023 ICCC/WN Africa Mission Project

By Rev. Bob Fread

VP for Informational Services and Outreach

In the last several years the world has focused on COVID and the war in Ukraine, while ignoring how climate change was continued to cause severe famine in several parts of Africa. This year the ICCC would like to bring attention to this ongoing crisis and along with our mission partner, World Neighbors (WN), help bring needed famine relief and agricultural development support to Africa through our 2023 ICCC/WN Africa Project.

Despite contributing the least to global warming and having the lowest emissions (3.6% of the global total), Africa is the most affected by climate change. World Neighbors (WN) has been working in East Africa for over 25 years, currently in: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Malawi- implementing seven programs reaching over 200,000 beneficiaries. WN is responding to the situation by empowering communities to develop climate change adaptation strategies. This involves working jointly with the communities to develop and implement integrated adaptive mechanisms to enhance resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change in order to increase food security, improve nutrition, increase incomes, and facilitate them to practice sound environmental stewardship. The integrated approach will address the interface between climate change, agriculture and incomes. This will include disaster risk reduction to address the current climate risks and build capacities for longer-term adaptation of the vulnerable communities.

World Neighbors is at work, also, in the west region in Burkina Faso. The overall objective of work there is to strengthen the technical capacities of the beneficiaries by popularizing good agricultural practices adapted to climate change (Indigenous Soil and Water Conservation techniques: erosion control, composting, Zaï pits, half-moons, Assisted Natural Regeneration), supporting communities engaged in soil restoration actions, supporting communities in the development of dry season crops through market gardening or small-scale irrigation, and promoting the use of improved early or drought-resistant seeds.

Our hope is that each ICCC congregation will consider making a gift to this international mission project sometime



in 2023. Donations should be sent to the ICCC office. This is the third year that the ICCC has sponsored an international mission project with our 2021 project supporting COVID relief in India and 2022 aiding the global distribution of the COVID vaccine.

73rd Annual Conference

July 18-21, 2023 – Charlotte, NC

Hotel Information

The 2023 Annual Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 4800 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC 28217. Phone: 704-527-8400. When you stay at this Embassy Suites Hotel, you will be near the airport, within a 5-minute drive of the Billy Graham Library and Renaissance Park.

Make yourself at home in a guestroom featuring refrigerators and LCD televisions. Your bed comes with down comforters and all rooms are furnished with a double bed sofa. Satellite programming and MP3 docking stations are provided for your entertainment, with wired and wireless internet access available for a surcharge. Private bathrooms with showers feature complimentary toiletries and hair dryers. Take advantage of recreation opportunities including an indoor pool and a fitness center. There is also a 24-hour business center and express check-out. Guests can catch a ride on the complimentary shuttle, which operates within a 3mi. radius. Roundtrip airport shuttle is complimentary and available 24 hours. Wake up each morning to a complimentary on-the-go or made-to-order breakfast and unwind at the hotel's evening reception with drinks and snacks.



Hotel Dining

E'terie Bar & Grill: E'Terie is the casual, lounge-centric hub of Embassy Suites. Located in the open-air atrium, it features a lively and comfortable dining experience. At E'terie, they offer the comforting consistency of familiar selections, contemporary cuisine and regional favorites. Open Monday-Friday, 5:30pm-10:00pm



Room Service is also available, along with eating options within walking distance of the hotel or within the 3mi free shuttle radius.

Hotel Reservations

To attend, call the Embassy Suites to reserve your room at 800-445-8667. Inform the reservations clerk that you are attending the ICCC 2023 Annual Conference (Group Code ICC) to get the special rate of \$129.00* + tax per night.

To register online, visit <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/iccc-2023-conference/>

The cut-off date for hotel reservations is June 24, 2023. After this date, normal hotel rates will be in effect and space may no longer be available. For those attendees that book a room for the conference, our room rate will be offered for the 3 days before and after our event, so you can visit Charlotte longer. ***Please note: the special rate of \$129 + tax for a standard suite is negotiated only for conferees. Those utilizing this special rate are expected to register for the conference. An additional \$10.00 will be added to the room rate per adult above double occupancy. Thank you for your cooperation.**

Check-in: 4:00pm

Check-Out: 11:00am

Visit www.hilton.com/en/hotels/clttyes-embassy-suites-charlotte/ for all hotel information.

Transportation To and From the Hotel

Charlotte Douglas International Airport is 10 minutes away from the Embassy Suites via a free shuttle. Attendees should call the hotel directly (704-527-8400) when you have your bags from baggage claim. Pick up area is Zone 1 of the bus, shuttle, taxi lane.

Parking: Self-parking is complimentary for our group.

Nomination Recommendations are needed

The Nomination Committee is seeking to fill the following positions. Please consider nominations for the following:

Board of Directors - Class of 2026:

VP for Financial Development

*VP for Membership Services

*VP for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

*VP for Informational Services and Outreach

Board of Trustees - Class of 2026

Eastern Zone, Region A states include:
MA, CT, NJ, NY City and Long Island, NY

Eastern Zone, Region B states include:
VA, DE, Washington DC, MD

*Central Zone, Region A states include:
IL, IA, IN, WI, MN, MO, OK

Central Zone, Region C states include:
TN, KY, LA, AR, AL

For a description of each title, please visit
<https://www.icccnow.org/constitution-bylaws/>

Your nominations may be submitted to

Carolyn Nichols: cs83nick@aol.com
and Phil Tom: icccpt@sbcglobal.net






We welcome your nominations.

* The current leadership for this position is eligible for re-election.



Conference Youth Scholarship

If you know a teen who would like to attend the conference in Charlotte, 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**, 2023. 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!

Annual Conference Sponsorship Opportunities

The International Council of Community Churches is grateful for your empowerment in the community church movement. Your business, professional association, labor union, service group, etc. may invest in the cause of furthering Christian unity by providing a sponsorship in the Annual Conference. We have listed several possibilities below. If you wish to explore other potential opportunities for sponsorship including exclusive sponsorship of a segment of the Conference program, please let us know. Conference sponsorship opportunities begin at \$1000.

General conference sponsorship ...\$1000	Fellowship luncheon.....\$1500
Bible Study & Keynote Speaker – multiple plenary sessions\$2500	Clergy continuing education event.....\$3000
Prayer Room\$1500	All-Conference Banquet\$2000
Full Day Sponsorship\$5000	

The International Council of Community Churches is a 501(c)3 organization under IRS regulations. All sponsorships are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and your tax situation. Contact the Council Office for details or visit our website: <https://www.icccnow.org/sponsorship/>



International Council of Community Churches
ICCC Registration Form – 2023 Annual Conference: July 18-21
"We are family" - Charlotte, NC

Name (as you would like it on badge) _____

Full Address _____

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 7-1-2023) _____ Grade completed by (7-1-2023) _____

■ 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 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 Register by June 1, 2023 - Early Bird Special \$195.00	\$ 230.00	\$
Daily Registrants Circle Day(s) T W Th F (meals not included)	\$ 75.00/day	\$
CC	TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$

Which TRACK are you most interested to follow (circle one):

WORSHIP

FELLOWSHIP

MISSION

EDUCATION

BUSINESS

A Banquet ticket is included in your registration fee. This meal includes: Caesar Salad, Chicken Artichoke Piccata, Red Bliss Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable, White Wine Lemon Sauce, Artisanal Rolls & Butter, Chef's Choice Dessert, Coffee, Hot Herbal Tea and Iced Tea. *Fish Option:* Southern Spiced Sautéed Shrimp & Grits with Tomato Glaze. *Kid's Meal Option:* Chicken Tenders, Fries, Lemonade and a Cookie. Meals are subject to change.

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

Chicken Piccata (Default Option)

Fish Option

Kid's Meal Option

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

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

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

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

Print name as it appears on card: _____ Signature _____

One form per person. **Early Bird registration must be received in the office by June 1st.** Registrations after June 30, 2023 will be accepted at Conference only.

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

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS MAY BE VIDEOTAPED for advertising or Social Media. By registering for conference, you agree the ICCC may use your 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.

2023 Conference Meal Programs

The **2023 Annual Conference** offers 3 optional meal program opportunities: the **Fellowship Luncheon**, the **Mission 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 an additional cost). 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.

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 12:00pm is the **Fellowship Luncheon**. This meal includes Baby Green Salad, Roasted Vegetable Ravioli, Herb Shallot Burr Blanc, Artisanal Rolls, Creamy Butter, Chef's Choice Dessert, Coffee and Iced Tea.

Kid's Meal Option: Chicken Tenders, Fries, Lemonade and a Cookie.

Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 12:00pm is the **Mission Luncheon**. This meal includes Baby Green Salad, Bourbon Brown Sugar Meatloaf, Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Artisanal Rolls, Creamy Butter, Chef's Choice Dessert, Coffee and Iced Tea. **Vegetarian Option:** Roasted Vegetable Wrap and Carolina Cole Slaw.

Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 12:00pm is the **Prayer Luncheon**. This meal includes Baby Green Salad, Baked Macaroni & Cheese with Chicken, Seasonal Vegetables, Artisanal Rolls, Creamy Butter, Chef's Choice Dessert, Coffee and Iced Tea.

Vegetarian Option: Broccoli Alfredo

Friday, July 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. is the **Conference Banquet***. This meal includes: Caesar Salad, Chicken Artichoke Piccata, Red Bliss Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable, White Wine Lemon Sauce, Artisanal Rolls & Butter, Chef's Choice Dessert, Coffee, Hot Herbal Tea and Iced Tea.

Fish Option: Southern Spiced Sautéed Shrimp & Grits with Tomato Glaze.

Kid's Meal Option: Chicken Tenders, Fries, Lemonade and a Cookie.

All meals are subject to change.

2023 MEAL RESERVATION FORM

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

Name: _____

Please reserve _____ places at \$28.00 each for **Tuesdays Fellowship Luncheon**

☐ Check for Kid's Meal Option \$15.00

Please reserve _____ places at \$32.00 each for **Wednesday's Mission Luncheon**

☐ Check for Vegetarian Option

Please reserve _____ places at \$32.00 each for **Thursday's Prayer Luncheon**

☐ Check for Vegetarian Option

*Please reserve _____ add'l places at \$54.00 each for **Friday's Banquet Dinner**

☐ Chicken

☐ Fish

*Please reserve _____ add'l places at \$27.00 each for children under 12yrs.

☐ Kid's Meal

***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 30th. There will only be a VERY LIMITED supply of tickets available at Conference registration, so please purchase your tickets before the deadline. After June 30, 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.**

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY CHURCHES

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM BOOK/CHURCH DIRECTORY AD SPACE

Indicate below the ad size you will submit:

<u>WIDTH</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>PAGE SIZE</u>	<u>COST</u>
_____ 8" x 11"		Full	\$200.00
_____ 8" x 5.5"		One Half	110.00
_____ 4" x 5"		One Quarter	60.00

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____

STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____

FAX: () _____

E-MAIL: _____

Mail this completed form along with your ad and payment to:

International Council of Community Churches

PO Box 846, Longmont, CO 80502

Or email to ICCCNOW@sbcglobal.net (must be paid by credit/debit card)

☐ Check or Money Order made payable to ICCC

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER

Acct.# _____

Exp. Date _____ CVV: _____

Print name as it appears on card:

Signature of card holder:

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: May 31, 2023

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

REQUEST FOR EXHIBIT SPACE I.C.C.C. Annual Conference July 18-21, 2023 • Charlotte, NC

Please reserve a 6' x 30" space in the exhibit area of the 2023 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: () _____

Email: _____

There is a fee of \$50.00 per exhibit space, for the July 18-21, 2023 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, 2023 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.



PASTORAL SEARCH

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. 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.

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
and email your resume to
search@tellicochurch.org

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

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.

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