



# International Council of Community Churches

## New Member Information

### *What is the Vision of the ICCC?*

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 who see themselves within the Christian tradition.

The Council seeks:

- To be faithful to the prayer of Jesus Christ that “they may all be one;”
- To witness to the inclusive love of God that overcomes all divisions;
- To love and serve God, God’s people, and God’s creation;
- To seek and share the truth;
- To build toward a new world of peace;
- To affirm individual freedom of conscience;
- To affirm communities of justice, mercy, and love; and.
- To be an integral partner in the worldwide ecumenical movement.

*(ICCC Constitution Vision)*

### *What Membership Offers your Church(es) or Center*

Membership in the ICCC means your church(es) or center is part of a covenanted “community of churches”. Our members are ecumenically minded with each being autonomous and allowed their own governance (polity). Together they are committed to working and serving together in mission and ministry for reconciliation and justice.

#### ***In the ICCC we:***

- + Gather in an Annual Conference for worship, Bible study, education, mission, business and fellowship.
- + Offer opportunities for continuing education and theological formation.
- + Have common mission projects and mission grants for local churches/centers.
  - + Offer access to pension and benefits for pastors and staff.
- + Provide a variety of resources including Lenten devotional, Community Church Sunday materials, Leadership Desk Calendar, search & call assistance and other program and administration aids.
- + Are members of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, World Council of Churches, Churches Uniting in Christ and Christian Churches Together.

## ***Financial Commitment to the ICCC***

Part of being in covenant with the ICCC, means that all churches and centers have a responsibility to share their gifts with the whole of the ICCC. Whether it be sharing ministry resources and ideas through networking, offering persons for our leadership, participation in governance at Annual Conference, and financial gifts to support our ongoing ministry, you are an important covenant partner.

As with any organization, the life and vitality of the ICCC can only be as strong as the treasure, time and talent given by its members. As the ICCC seeks to be valuable and relevant in service to our churches and centers, it must rely totally on financial contributions to carry out our various programs and services. An annual donation is required to remain in covenant with the ICCC as an active member.

## ***How Does My Church(es) or Center Become a Member?***

**This is how you covenant with us and become a member of the ICCC:**

1. According to your governance structure, have your membership or a governing body endorse the principles contained in the ICCC constitution, by approving a resolution stating:

Whereas, \_\_\_\_\_ is committed to the ministry of reconciliation in church and society, and believes in congregational autonomy, freedom of conscience and the conciliar ideal: We vote to join in covenant and become a member of the International Council of Community Churches on this date \_\_\_\_\_.

A copy of the minutes of the meeting where this resolution is approved should be enclosed with your application.

2. Complete the Member Application.
3. Send a copy of your 501c3 designation. We also request a copy of your church(es) or center's constitution and by-laws or other equivalent governing documents.
4. Agree to participate in the ministry and mission of the ICCC, by sending voting delegates and other representatives to Annual Conference, and offering other leadership for the ICCC's continuing work.
5. Send an initial financial contribution for the ICCC's general ministry, and promise to be faithful in your financial stewardship in the future.

*At the first Annual Conference following membership, the conference registration fee will be waived for one member of the clergy and one lay person.*



# International Council of Community Churches

## Member Application

Church/Center Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Media (circle): Facebook Instagram X Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Annual General Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Average Weekly Worship Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

Has this church(es)/center ever been a member of the ICC? \_\_\_\_\_

If "yes" what was the last year of membership? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Senior Clergy: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Signing Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Person Signing Application: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone & Email of Person Signing Application: \_\_\_\_\_

*(For the following questions, please add additional sheets if needed.)*

What do you understand the theological foundations of the Community Churches Movement to be?

How did you learn about the ICCC and why do you believe the ICCC is a good fit for your church(es)/center?

Provide a brief narrative/description about your church(es)/center.

What programs/resources would you like to see the ICCC provide?

What programs/resources do you have which could be shared with the ICCC and its members?

**Please enclose:**

- + Copy of meeting minutes showing resolution to join the ICCC.
- + Copy of 501c3.
- + Copy of Constitution and Bylaws, or equivalent (this is requested, not required).

On behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ (*church(es)/center*), I declare our agreement with the principles and purposes of the International Council of Community Churches and seek to covenant with the ICCC to participate in it's ministry and mission, to send voting delegates and other representatives to Annual Conference, offer leadership for the ICCC's continuing work, and be faithful in financial giving to the ICCC's ministry.

Official's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(If you have more than one church or site where worship is conducted, please attach complete list of churches/worship sites, addresses and clergy.)*