

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

JUNE 2025



International Council of Community Churches

Volume 75 |

A Voice for Ecumenical Congregations and Christians Around the World

| Number 8

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President's Message Abraham Wright

Rescuing ICCC



One of the important tools of the Hebrew language is the Imperative, a verb form that expresses a command. One of the most famous imperatives in the Old Testament is God's command to Jonah: "Go to Nineveh." God gave Jonah this command so that the Ninevites may repent and turn from their wicked ways to avoid destruction, and so that Jonah might learn a valuable lesson, one that reveals God's impartiality and God as the ultimate judge and guide then, today, and forevermore. The ICCC is not in Nineveh, nor is it on the periphery of destruction; but it is in the middle of a crisis; and it depends on God's steady guidance and our Christian actions for ICCC to survive and thrive. Note clearly that it depends on our *actions*, not our *rhetoric*, and our acceptance of God's guidance to "rescue" us. True, church attendance and church financial support have declined noticeably, especially in the US; but ICCC faces an imminent decline that we seriously must address.

At the 2024 Annual ICCC conference the delegates voted to drop the \$1,000

minimum requirement for churches and centers to maintain active membership within ICCC. The expectations that several ICCC Council members believed was that the change would benefit the Council by encouraging churches to give freely beyond the \$1,000, and that churches who were former ICCC members would be encouraged to rejoin; however, overall, that has not happened, even though some churches have maintained their giving beyond the former minimum required \$1,000 annually. The other goal of having an ICCC clergy person gift the Council a year of service as Executive Director would partly enable the Council to save money toward hiring an Executive Director. Even though this allowed the Council to save approximately \$20,000, part of the money was spent in the transition of staff and on executive field services. The Council still needs to secure funds for an Executive Director or find other alternatives. Funding the work of the Council is primarily the responsibility of the Council's churches and centers. Further, ICCC is realizing that

continued on page 5



Executive Director's Message

Bruce Merton

Remembering the Past, INTERPRETING THE PRESENT, Dreaming of the Future

Hoping and believing our Annual Conference is drawing near, it is extremely important that we fairly and honestly interpret the present situation of the International Council of Community Churches.

The past we have known and can recount. It is well documented by the myriad of records held by our office, Rev. Bob Fread, Mike Mahan, church historical deposits and the personal memories of people like Saundra Nelson.

The present is now – this moment in time – and it begs us to ask questions. How do we use our past? What shape and substance will we give to our future? Does this present shed a clear light on what our future may hold? Can we be open and honest about ourselves, our churches, our finances and our mission?

Answering the questions of the present prayerfully, forthrightly, and with “eyes wide open” will bring us to dreaming of a future with multiple possibilities. Futures are always somewhat unknown. We can speak of having “Plan A” but we must own that there are 25 other letters in the alphabet, and each represents a world of possibilities. The present demands the exercise of the 11th Beatitude: “Blessed are the flexible for they will not be bent out of shape.”

With considerable fear and trepidation (“A prophet is never welcome in his/her hometown.”) and with fervent belief that God reserves the possibility to change the course of what seems inevitable (cf. Jeremiah 18:5-10) I want to share a prophetic word with you.

Biblical prophecy is predictive in the sense that it makes **conditional statements**. Prophecies explain what is being offered, not what has already been decided. In the Old Testament statements about the future are descriptions of how bad things and conditions **might be**, or how abundant God’s blessings **could be**. **It all depends on what God’s people do!**

For the I.C.C.C. the handwriting is on the wall, and it has been there for some time! For years our membership has been declining. We have been unable to fund our annual budgets even though they have been steadily reduced. We cannot afford to call and properly compensate an Executive Director. We have had to steadily decrease expenses related to the maintenance and staffing of our office. Congregations that have supported the I.C.C.C. for years have, in many cases, found it necessary to reduce their giving to maintain the local congregation’s viability. Our Annual Conference attendance has been steadily decreasing and previous conference deficits have heavily impacted our finances. We have had to use funds from the sale of the Council House, originally designated for mission outreach, to meet budget needs. We have failed to recognize that the “radical inclusivity” of the 1950 creation of the I.C.C.C. should have propelled us to be a movement that was constantly drawing the circle of inclusion wider. We remain, as one long time I.C.C.C. member noted, almost exclusively a “Black-White fellowship. We are rapidly graying. Veteran leadership leaves and we do not benefit

from their experience. We struggle to find people that will faithfully and competently serve in positions of leadership. Communications from the I.C.C.C. to member churches are often not disseminated among the people of the churches. There is more “graffiti” on the wall, but I hope you get the picture!

With all the handwriting on the wall, what is prophetically being offered?

The future is very dim, and we will have to go into our dark night seeking an appropriate partnership with another like-minded, but stronger, body or die a peaceful and purpose-full death by disposing of assets and taking our place in the great cloud of faith movements that have gone before us.

OR

The future is brighter than any of our past days. We will intentionally and with renewed vigor and commitment support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the I.C.C.C. We will draw our circle wider by making every effort to include populations and people that have remained marginalized in our fellowship. We will, to rephrase John F. Kennedy, stop asking what the I.C.C.C. can do for me/our church and ask: “What can I, we do for the I.C.C.C.?”

The answer: It all depends on what God’s people/churches do! The Good News? God will use our choice for the continuing progress of making God’s kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven!

Prophecy does not simply seek to make conditional predictive statements of the future. It also seeks to change the present. The clear statement of potential future demise is meant to change current thought and behavior. Will we change? Do we want to change? Is change worth it? Do we want the “dark night” or the future that is “brighter than any of our past days”?

In Jeremiah 26, the prophet notes that the Temple will be destroyed. He is condemned to death for that prophesy by the religious leaders, other prophets and the people, in general (verses 7-9). Then a realization creeps into the minds of the elders. They remember that Micah made a similar prophecy about Jerusalem when Hezekiah was king. The king didn’t seek to kill Micah. Rather, the king pleaded with God not to destroy Jerusalem. God heard the plea and spared Jerusalem. Crisis averted! Micah’s prophecy did not come to pass, but it drove Hezekiah to change his ways.

Please know this! Good prophets want to activate certain thoughts and behaviors in their audiences, not prognosticate future events!

As a prophet, you may not welcome me in “our hometown”, but I only want to activate certain thoughts and behaviors. I am not prognosticating the future. As mentioned earlier, the future “all depends on what God’s people/churches do!” God will use whatever choice we make for the good of God’s kingdom!

Grace and Peace,

Bruce

ICCC JUNE 2025

Celebrating 75 Years of Unity: Reflecting the Majesty of God

"And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow..." —Revelation 4:3 (ESV)



Book REVIEW

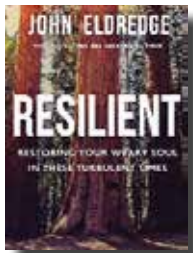
By Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson



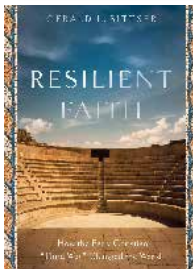
As the **International Council of Community Churches (ICCC)** marks its 75th anniversary, we lift the power of resilience—a holy capacity to persevere, recover, and rise again, reflecting the radiant majesty of God in every season of life and ministry. **Christian resilience is the God-given capacity to endure, heal, and grow through trials by trusting in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and rooted in Scripture and community.** It reflects God's majesty not by avoiding hardship, but by revealing His glory through how we persevere, serve, and love one another. The following scriptures guide our review of **Christian resilience for our time**:

- **Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)** – *"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."* Waiting on the Lord empowers us with renewed strength to endure and persevere.
- **2 Corinthians 4:8–9, 16 (ESV)** – *"We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair... So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day."* Christian resilience means that God's sustaining presence renews our inner life even in hardship.

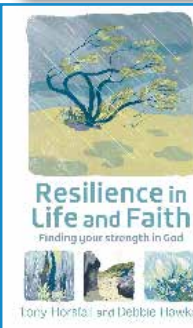
Resilience Reads Aligned with ICCC Values



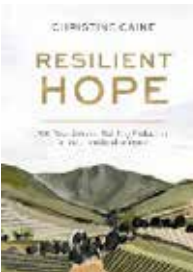
Resilient: Restoring Your Weary Soul in These Turbulent Times by John Eldredge (2022) is a transformative journey into deeper healing through intimacy with Jesus and practical spiritual practices. This book affirms the ICCC value of *spiritual renewal*—grounding justice and community action in sustained, Spirit-led life.



Resilient Faith: How the Early Christian 'Third Way' Changed the World by Gerald L. Sittser (2020) is a significant historical study of the early Church's distinct, peaceable witness in a divided society. This book is a call to *reconciliation and justice*, echoing the ICCC's commitment to nonviolent Christian identity in a pluralistic world.



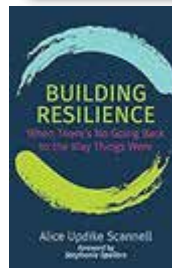
Resilience in Life and Faith, by Tony Horsfall and Debbie Hawker (2021), is a practical guide that combines biblical wisdom and psychology to equip caregivers and clergy to endure and flourish. This book offers suggestions that strengthen *inclusive, sustainable leadership*, especially in ministries serving marginalized and overburdened communities.



Resilient Hope: 100 Devotions for Building Endurance in an Unpredictable World by Christine Caine (2022) offers daily encouragement rooted in Scripture and personal testimony. It is a resource for *hope-centered discipleship* in a world of economic and racial inequities.



Look Again by Tim Tebow (2024) encourages seeing the God-given worth in every individual, especially those overlooked by society. It reflects ICCC's vision of inclusion and dignity for everyone across every boundary.



Building Resilience: When There's No Going Back to the Way Things Were by Alice Updike Scannell (2023) offers tools for embracing irreversible change with courage and faith. This book supports the ICCC's focus on *pastoral care and post-pandemic renewal*, helping congregations adapt and flourish.



Resilience: Strength to Overcome Life's Setbacks and Storms by Joe Gorman (2020) offers a theology of perseverance grounded in grace, community, and faithful witness. It strengthens the ICCC's mission of *unity through community*, offering churches practical hope in times of adversity.

These books and Scriptures remind us that we are survivors and Spirit-empowered ambassadors of hope and reconciliation.

We Want to Hear from You!

Did one of these books speak to your soul or spark a new vision for your ministry or daily life? Email your thoughts to iccnw@sbccglobal.net by the end of the month. Let us know if your reflections may be quoted or paraphrased. Thank you—and may your journey this month *reflect the majesty of God*.

Bearing Witness Together: Reflections from the National Council of Churches Spring Governing Board Meeting

by Rev. Rock Fremont, Vice President of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

In a world where division often seems louder than unity, I left Washington, D.C. filled with hope.

This May, I had the privilege of representing the International Council of Community Churches (ICCC) at the Spring Governing Board Meeting and Theological Symposium of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC). Over three powerful days, we worshiped, studied, strategized, and stood together - grounded in our shared commitment to justice, peace, and visible Christian unity.

This year's meeting also launched the **75th Anniversary celebration** of the NCC—a yearlong opportunity to remember and renew the Council's call to be "*a transforming witness from generation to generation*." Since 1950, the NCC has united churches across denominations and traditions to proclaim Christ's message through common service, shared witness, and courageous advocacy. That legacy continues today with urgency and resolve.

At the Spring gathering, we began with a stirring keynote address by Dr. John Kutsko of Atla, followed by the recognition of other NCC honorees, including Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde and Rev. Dr. Bernard Richardson. A panel of biblical scholars then invited us to consider how biblical translation shapes theology and public ministry—work made all the more relevant as the **New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue)** becomes the NCC's next major contribution to Christian formation and ecumenical engagement.

We closed that first day in spirited worship at Lomax AME Zion Church, where Bishop Brian Thompson charged us to "change the atmosphere"—a prophetic invitation for all who seek to lead with integrity and hope.

The following days brought a theologically rich symposium with insights from across our ecumenical and interfaith spectrum. We also prepared for a congressional breakfast focused on the moral implications of proposed federal budget cuts, especially those that threaten healthcare, nutrition, and housing

programs. In this moment, our witness was clear: the church has a responsibility not only to pray and preach, but also to protect.

Alongside these discussions, the NCC shared updates from its wide-ranging ministries. From the **Freedom Summer 60th Anniversary Commemoration**, to **interreligious dialogues**, to work addressing **religious nationalism and systemic racism**, the Council is leading with clarity and compassion.

Upcoming events in the 75th Anniversary year will include:

- **Impact Week (June 10–12, 2025)** in New York City, highlighting NCC's international work for peace and human rights;
- The release of a **commemorative edition of the NRSVue Bible** and a **Faith and Order volume focused on Nicaea 2025**, to mark the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed;
- A culminating **Christian Unity Gathering (October 13–15, 2025)** in Boston, where these projects will be launched in celebration of our shared witness.

As Vice President for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, I am deeply proud of ICCC's ongoing relationship with the NCC. While some in our communion may feel distant from the work of national ecumenical bodies, I want to assure you that your voice is present, your values are echoed, and your witness matters.

This 75th Anniversary is not simply a time for celebration—it is a call to re-engage. Our ICCC churches were founded on the belief that Christian unity must be both spiritual and structural, visible and lived. What a gift, then, to be in covenant with others who believe the same.

Let us not grow weary in doing what is right. Let us celebrate this anniversary not only by remembering the past—but by renewing our commitment to one another, and to the future God is already shaping through us.



Rescuing ICCC cont'd from page 1

asking for a stipulated annual contribution does not make the Council a denomination; a hierarchal organizational structure with several paid staff members, a uniformed structure, mandatory creeds, and structured worship models largely make a worshipping organization a denomination. This is not the foundation upon which ICCC is anchored.

The Board of Directors has begun developing concrete strategies to address ICCC's dire need, and the Executive Director, the Acting President, the Treasurer, and the VP of Financial Development are meeting to flesh out part of a concrete plan to present to the Board of Directors for further input and approval, and to forward that plan to the Council delegates for adoption this July.

This year we celebrate 75 years of effective Christian ministry, and the celebration cannot include just the past, but the present and the future as well; it takes the commitment and hard work of all of us for the Council to not just survive but thrive. Among the options in our strategic planning are ask churches and centers to identify the amount of the contribution they are willing to give to allow the Council to construct more realistically the Council's annual budget; request clusters of churches and centers who make one annual contribution but have a group of brother/sister churches in their clusters that require the same annual services as the parent church to each make an annual contribution to ICCC; adjust the annual contribution of chaplains; introduce/revise the Council's Will program; intentionally revitalize an ICCC Sunday where in the church emphasizes the mission of the Council and promotes/collects an offering or receives contributions for the Council (choose ONE month and have the Sunday optional; June might be a good month); encourage individuals to make a special 75th anniversary contribution and recognize those who contribute either Tuesday and/or Thursday evening at Conference; approach conferees with the notion of asking church members who are not attending Annual Conference to send a donation to the Conference/Council.

In the Christian realm when a crisis exists, the sensible thing to do is take it to God in prayer, own it, address it, and do not sink in the crisis by casting blame (as Jonah did initially and almost sank by casting blame on the Ninevites). Please join us in addressing this financial crisis (first through genuine prayer), by giving suggestions anchored in love, and by standing by the Council with your bone-marrow financial support once the plans are adopted.

Churches, clergy, laypersons, and friends, you have heard the Call. Will your response be, "Hear am I; I hear your cry. This house of God for all people has my support!" Or pose to yourself (paraphrase) the question God posed to Jonah in the end of the book of Jonah: "Should you not support the revolutionized mission of ICCC—a mission that represents "in the flesh" a House of Prayer for all people?"

Abraham Wright

Celebrating 75 Years of Faith, Fellowship & Legacy

*An Invitation from the
Women's Christian Fellowship (WCF)*

Dear Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the **Executive Board of the Women's Christian Fellowship (WCF)**, I warmly invite you to join us as we celebrate a momentous milestone—the **75th Anniversary of the International Community of Christ Churches (ICCC)**!

This is a sacred opportunity to reflect on the powerful legacy of faith and fellowship that has brought us this far and to rejoice in the future God is preparing for us. We are excited—and we hope you are too!

As women of the ICCC, we will gather during the conference on:

**Wednesday, July 23 and Thursday, July 24
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

Come ready for worship, fellowship, encouragement, and joyful sisterhood. Let us strengthen one another and celebrate all that God has done—and all that He is still doing—through us.

"Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." — Hebrews 10:25 (BSB)

As part of our commitment to mission and service, the **WCF Missions Ministry** is contributing **gift cards to Catholic Charities – New Hope** Program, which supports families transitioning out of homelessness.

We invite you to **prayerfully consider donating a gift card or a monetary gift** to help us bless these families in need. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

We look forward to seeing your smiling faces, embracing old friends, making new ones, and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Winessa Crutchfield
WCF President
With love and intention

Here is a Sneak Peek at the 75th Anniversary Conference Schedule



Most conference meetings will be held on the campus of Lake Forest College in Brown Hall. This century-old building has a new conference center attached with the latest digital technology and green design to respect God's creation. Our primary conference room, the Tarble Room, is a beautiful room filled with natural light, featuring windows on three sides and great views of the tree-lined campus. Brown Hall is surrounded by convenient parking and close to the Student Union, where the cafeteria offers three meals a day.



Brown Hall on Lake Forest College Campus



Tarble Room, primary meeting room
for Annual Conference

Tuesday, July 22

Remembering the Past

9 AM to 1 PM

Registration

1 – 1:30 PM

**Opening Session at
Lake Forest College**

Welcome, Introductions and
Puppet Presentation,
“Did You See C.C.?”

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Children's & Youth Programming

1:45 – 3:15 PM

Plenary 1 - Remembering the Past
We will celebrate our past and recognize
long-term conference attendees,
Past-Presidents & Executive Directors

3:30 PM ~ Break

5:30 – 7:15 PM

75th Anniversary Dinner Reception
at Lake Forest First Presbyterian Church
This buffet style meal is included in the
registration fee

*The church is across the street
from Lake Forest College*

7:30 PM

75th Anniversary Worship
at the First Presbyterian Church
with Rev. Don Ashmall,
Council Minister Emeritus

Meals at the Lake Forest College Cafeteria

Breakfast - 7:30 to 9 AM - \$6.00

Lunch - 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM - \$10.00

Dinner - 4:30 to 6:30 PM - \$12.50

A 1 Day/3 Meal Ticket ~ \$ 27.50

Wednesday, July 23

Engaging our Present

9 – 10 AM

Auxiliaries

(WCF/Samaritans/Ministerium)

10: 15 AM ~ Morning Opening

Announcements, Introductions and
Puppet Presentation, "I See, CC"

Children's & Youth Programming

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM

Plenary 2 - Today's ICCC

12:15 PM ~ Lunch Break

1:30 – 3:30 PM ~ Workshops

**# 1 – Discussion and Comment on the
Proposed and Revised Constitution,**
with Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Bruce
Merton

2 – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,
with Dr. Linda Abington and Rev. Dr.
Sharyon Cosey

1:30 – 5 PM

Children's & Youth Programming

3:45 - 5 PM

Business Meeting 1

Action on New Constitution

5:15 PM ~ Supper Break

7: 30 PM

Evening Worship

with Rev. Dr. Seretha Pearsall, Pastor
Park Road Community Church,
Washington, DC

Thursday, July 24

Dreaming our Future

9 – 10 AM

Auxiliaries

(WCF/Samaritans/Ministerium)

10:15 – 10:30 AM

Morning Opening

Announcements and
Puppet Presentation, "Can You See, CC?"

10:30 AM – Noon

Children's & Youth Programming

10:45 – 11:45 AM

Business Meeting 2

Noon - Lunch Break

1 PM

**We are all invited to Southside Chicago
where we will be hosted by
Progressive Community Church
for a Meet & Greet, Dinner, and our
final Worship Service together.**

Rev. Phil Tom, former Executive Director
of the ICCC, will speak at the worship service.

Music for the service will be provided by
Chosen Generation and the Music Ministry
of Progressive Community Church.

***Bus transportation will be provided to the
Southside. When the worship service has
concluded, delegates will be transported
back to Lake Forest College or the
Conference Hotel.***



No conference events will be hosted at the hotel. It is recommended that delegates have a car for traveling between the hotel and Lake Forest College. The ICCC has a courtesy block of rooms at a Hilton Garden Inn, which is the closest hotel to Lake Forest College. Information on the hotel can be found in this issue or at www.icccnow.org

75th Annual Conference

July 22-24, 2025 – Lake Forest, IL

Conference Lodging Information

The ICCC recommends using the Hilton Garden Inn in Lake Forest, IL, for those attending the 2025 Annual Conference.

The hotel address is:
26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard
Lake Forest, IL 60045.

This hotel is about 5 miles from the Lake Forest College campus and is the closest hotel to the college.



The ICCC has a courtesy block of rooms at the special rate of:

- \$159 plus tax for a king room or
- \$169 plus tax for a double queen room.

These rates are good from Sunday, July 20 to Friday, July 25. The deadline to receive this rate is Sunday, June 15, or until the hotel sells out of rooms, whichever is first.

We encourage people to make reservations EARLY.

Hotel information can be found at <http://www.icccnow.org/hotel-information>

Reservations can be made by:

- calling 847-735-8374 and using the code **ICCC25** OR
- making your reservation online through www.hilton.com and entering the code **ICCC25** in the **Group Code** field. It should automatically give you the ICCC rate IF your reservation is for the dates included (between July 20 and July 25).

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the new conference format, no conference programming will be held at this hotel. Most conference programming will be held on the Lake Forest College campus, 555 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. Individuals will be responsible for transportation between the hotel and the college.

Other Lodging Options (5 to 10 miles from college)

Sleep Inn, 3250 Bittersweet Ave, Lake Bluff, IL 60044, (224) 303-4592

Comfort Inn and Suites, 517 E. Highway 83, Mundelein, IL 60060, (224) 245-5077


International Council of Community Churches

ICCC Registration Form – 2025 Annual Conference: July 22-24
75th Anniversary Conference
"Seeking God's Vision: Remembering the Past, Dreaming a Future"
Lake Forest, IL

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 7-1-2025) _____ Grade completed by (7-1-2025) _____

■ 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/Small Child (birth to not entering kindergarten)	\$ 0.00	\$
Elementary Child (entering kindergarten - entering 6th grade)	\$ 100.00	\$
Youth (completed 6th grade - entering 12th grade)	\$ 150.00	\$
Young Adult (completed 12th grade - age 29)	\$ 175.00	\$
Adult	\$ 220.00	\$
Tuesday Daily Registrant (non-buffet registration is \$40)	\$ 100.00	\$
Wednesday Daily Registrant	\$ 60.00	\$
Thursday Daily Registrant	\$ 60.00	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$

A **75th Anniversary Buffet** will be served on Tuesday, July 22, and is included in the registration fee. Tickets for the Buffet are limited to 120 people, on a first come, first served basis. Buffet tickets are only sold as part of a registration. No buffet tickets will be sold after June 30. (Registrations without a buffet ticket will be reduced by \$60)

Please return this form with payment to: ICCC, PO Box 249, Loudon, TN 37774

☐ 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. Registrations after June 30, 2025 will be accepted at Conference only and will not include a buffet ticket.
CANCELLATIONS: A cancellation received in the office by July 11 will be refunded the registration fee less \$25 administration fee per person. Cancellations received in the office on or after July 12 will be refunded the registration fee less \$ 75 administration fee per person.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS MAY BE VIDEOTAPED OR LIVE STREAMED. By registering for conference, you agree the ICCC may use or broadcast 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.



Seeking Full-Time Senior Pastor

The Protestant Community Church (also known as the Cathedral of the Woods) of Medford Lakes, NJ is seeking to fill the position of Senior Pastor. This will be a position beginning August 2025. The Protestant Community Church (PCC) is 20 miles east of Philadelphia. PCC is an interdenominational and congregationally governed church with an average attendance of 90-120 between two services at 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock. Additional Information: <https://protestantcommunitychurch.org>

The Senior Pastor is responsible for providing leadership and administrative oversight of the church's ministries, including worship, music, preaching, teaching, mission service, stewardship, and fellowship. This Individual will work with the church staff to provide opportunities for members to engage in worship, discipleship, and mission.

The Senior Pastor is accountable to the PCC congregation and its Board of Trustees. The applicant must hold a degree from an accredited or recognized Seminary or Bible College, be Ordained or Licensed Minister.

If you are interested in this position, please submit the following:

- Cover letter that includes salary expectations
- 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
- Any mission-related social media site.

Please submit your information to:

The Protestant Community Church

c/o Chrissie Greatrex

100 Stokes Road

Medford Lakes, NJ 08055

Or

Email: pastorsearch@protestantcommunitychurch.org

Seeking Pastor

Seeking a Shepherd for Our Little Church in the Woods

Bradford Woods Community Church, nestled in the heart of Bradford Woods, PA, (just a stone's throw from Pittsburgh), a vibrant non-denominational congregation, seeks a dynamic pastor who embodies warmth, charisma, and a passion for community. We are looking for someone who can connect with people, inspire growth, and lead our church. We're a close-knit congregation averaging about 30-35 in Sunday attendance, with a rich history dating back to 1915.

Our ideal candidate will embody Christ's love, foster inclusivity, and guide us in spiritual growth and community service. We are also looking for someone who can connect with people to grow the congregation in an intentional and meaningful way. If you are driven to make a difference and eager to engage with our congregation and the broader community, we want to hear from you!

Come help us continue our mission of spreading God's love through worship, education, and outreach in our serene woodland sanctuary. For more details, please contact us at BWCC2025@gmail.com

Bradford Woods
Community Church
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