

“Building International Bridges of Witness and Fellowship”

THE FORESEE

Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

May/June 2004 Volume 37, No. 3

Around The Conference

From Wisconsin to the World: Servants of Christ

by Rev. Carl Rogers, Area Representative for the Wisconsin Fellowship, Faith Congregational Church, Wilton, Wisconsin

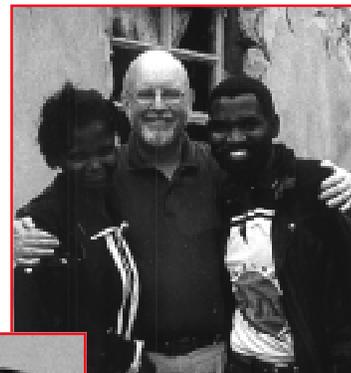
“And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:2

Hidden away in residential Beloit, Wisconsin is the World Headquarters of Timothy Ministries. The executive director, Dr. Larry Correll, has been credentialed with the CCCC since 1988 and has been an active member of the Wisconsin Fellowship.

Timothy Ministries is a mission organization that was envisioned in 1993 by Larry and his wife, Sue, and incorporated in 1995. Its' purpose is to educate and train indigenous missionaries in theology and in the skills needed to pastor. Since it began, Timothy Ministries has been serving the Lord in eleven countries on four continents.

Larry and Sue have concentrated their most recent efforts in South Africa. They were invited to Pondoland (a region about half the size of Wisconsin) to train Pondo believers to reach their people for Christ. Larry and Sue's efforts have resulted in the building of an accredited Bible College, Kum Bible College, which has been instrumental in reaching a great many Pondo people. Larry and Sue go to Pondoland twice a year, but most of the teaching is now done by the Pondos themselves.

To hear more about Timothy Ministries and find out how you can help, please contact Dr. Larry Correll, 1724 Crescent Drive, Beloit, WI 53511; phone: 608-365-7322.



Larry Correll (c) with two Pondo believers, Victoria Notabela (l), and Monde Nkulana (r).



Sue Correll has worked in Pondoland to build up and train teachers in teacher training, ESL, and pre-school curriculum development.

Midwest Youth Summit – “Holy Ground ‘04”

by Rev. Robert Schroeder, Area Representative, Northern Illinois, Seward Congregational Church, Seward, IL

Mt. Morris, Illinois (southwest of Rockford) is the site. CCCC youth (5th – 12th grade) from all neighboring states are invited. “Holy Ground ‘04” is a spin off of “Faith Camp”, a camp sponsored by the Northern Illinois Fellowship Region.

This youth summit has grown each year and on June 20-26, it will be taken to a new level by its relocation to a much larger facility, which will allow more options. Several churches in southern Wisconsin have expressed interest in the summit.

“Holy Ground ‘04” will be much more than a typical camp experience. It will have a laser focus on cutting edge discipleship that translates into rock solid faith. The cost will be about \$110 for the entire week.

Several CCCC pastors and layfolk are giving of their time and talents out of their love for youth. If you would like more information or have questions about how you can help with “Holy Ground ‘04” please contact Pastor Thomas Curry at 847-546-1000, or e-mail him at tcurry2@juno.com.

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From the Conference Minister



How can we be on target in Christian life and ministry? A few years ago I saw a Peanuts Cartoon in which Charlie Brown was randomly shooting arrows at a fence, then drawing circles around the arrows wherever they landed. When Lucy questioned him about this, Charlie Brown explained that he wanted to be sure he hit the bulls-eye every time. If we don't have a clear focus on what we're aiming at we can be just as foolish as Charlie Brown; shooting lots of arrows but hitting no bulls-eyes.

Hitting the bulls-eye in advancing the cause of Christ deserves our determination to hit the mark, and requires a realization that we really do need each other. Amidst encouragements to "*be of one mind*" and "*greet one another with a holy kiss*", Paul encouraged the church (II Cor. 13:11) to, "*Aim for perfection.*" This reminds us that hitting the target for Christ requires committed relationships with each other.

What does this mean for the CCCC? What are we aiming at? In the preamble to our Constitution we state that the task of the church is essentially threefold; worship of God, edification of the saints, and evangelization of the world. In our various churches and ministries let us be aiming to do these things well. But in our CCCC Constitution we also say that we covenant to "assist" each other in these things. The word "assist" is an active word, expressing our desire to come along side and help each other fulfill the threefold task of the church in our respective ministries. But what is required to do that?

Commitment is required. In the CCCC we have two documents that express the kind of commitment we are all to be making as member ministers and churches. These documents can be found in our yearbook and web page (www.cccusa.org). They are our "Code of Ethics for Ministers" and our "Code of Ethics for Churches." When we live out the commitments expressed in these documents we are aiming for perfection for Christ's sake, and we are agreeing to help each other also. I would like to encourage all of our member ministers and all of the leadership teams of our churches to do what I have recently done. Please review these important documents! Put it on your agenda to discuss what it means. Reaffirm your commitment before the Lord to live in such a way! Why? So we can better help each other hit the mark our Lord has given us to aim for!



Women's Ministries Committee News

"REJOICE! JESUS IS LORD!" We are only a few short weeks away from rejoicing together, enjoying the fellowship with one another, and experiencing the blessing that will be ours as we come together as one heart and voice in praise and worship! We look forward to meeting many of you for the first time and reuniting with many others. We look forward to meeting God there and being surprised by what He has in store for us.

There have been many of you who have been faithfully praying for us and many of you have given of your resources to help with our missions projects. We are grateful to those of you who have been able to help. We continue to need your help. The giving to our projects has been down this year. We want to be able to contribute to our teens who are going on short term missions trips and we would like to be able to provide books for both children and seminary students through "Friends of Hope" and Tom Curry in India. It is not too late to participate in our projects and

THE FORESEE

A bi-monthly publication of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

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Deadline for the July/August 2004 issue is May 10, 2004.

we invite you to do just that. If you have any teens in your church who are in need of help for a missions trip, you may contact any one of the members of the committee. Any contributions you wish to make may be sent to **Mrs. Sandy Stewart, P.O. Box 249, Avon, MN 56310**. Here is the latest news update for the Haiti-bound chewable vitamins: Because of the recent unrest in the nation of Haiti, the trip has been postponed until either the middle of April or the end of June when the situation, prayerfully, will be improved.

Have you ordered your copy of the devotional book, **Seasons of the Heart**? Get them while they are hot! They may be purchased from Sandy Stewart for ten dollars. We would welcome any comments you might have if you have already received your copy. Consider purchasing several of them and using them as gifts. Our prayer is that God will use it to minister to your hearts and lift your spirits.

(continued on page 3)

Carlton's Comments



Do you have a company of angels in your congregation? The First Congregational Church of Revere, Massachusetts, where Conference president Nick Granitsas is pastor, does! The congregation has what it calls a band of "Angels for the Elderly" and your congregation could as well.

It has been quite awhile since I last wrote a column about an interesting and reproducible ministry in one of our Conference churches in the Northeast. Sometimes churches ask me, "How can we reach people in our area?" Periodically I want to tell you about a ministry that I have come across which any church can duplicate in their neighborhood and which would provide an excellent outreach in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Angels for the Elderly" is that kind of ministry.

For many years the First Congregational Church of Revere has been honoring the elderly in the immediate area around the church building, in their own congregation, and in some of the adult care facilities in the city. Twice a year a group of "angels" from the congregation plan two dinners and send out fancy written invitations to a growing number of senior citizens. One such dinner was held shortly after Christmas and another is scheduled for the week following Easter. Over one hundred turned out for the dinner already held this church year. Fifteen of the one hundred were from First Church and eighty-five were from outside the congregation!

During the dinner, a menu of carefully prepared food is served with Christian music and music of the seniors' era playing in the background. Occasionally the youth

of the church have presented a skit at the dinner and often "angels" who are involved in the meal preparation have shared their Christian testimony. Over the years some of the seniors who attended have committed their life to Jesus Christ and have joined the church.

This activity has become so popular that those attending look forward to the dinner for months in advance and often ask if they can have a friend invited to the event as well. A mini-bus transports those from adult facilities. The two dinners are financed by special gifts from the members and friends of the congregation. The gifts are received at special events held for the congregation during the year. Recently offerings were received at a cook-off at which various dishes were judged by a panel of congregational members.

Here is a simple yet effective way to reach out and touch the lives of people for Christ who might not otherwise enter the church doors. Use your imagination and then pray for the Lord to accomplish His results!

Rev. Carlton Walker
Phone: 518-346-3538
E-mail: cwalker@cccusa.org

(Women's Ministries Committee News cont.)

There is still time before the Conference for you to consider making something for our **Berried Treasures** table. We have been so blessed by the talents of so many in our conference who have donated items in the past to help fund our ministry to you. No item is too big or too small! If you wish to send anything ahead of time, please call Diane at the office (651-739-1474) to find out the "how tos."

Anne and Ray Ortlund are no strangers to the Conference. We are delighted to be having Anne share with us during our Ladies' Luncheon this summer. She comes to us with a heart that is after God and many years of faithful service to Him. We are confident that what she brings to us will be directly from the heart of God and will minister to our hearts. We are also pleased to be having Maria Deckert with us to share her testimony during one

Bryan's Bytes

by Bryan Burrell

Don't Forget

Over the past several months we have written to you about free software, anti-virus solutions and obtaining membership on the CCCC website to access information not available on the non-member part of the site. This column will review some of those suggestions in the hope that the message will reach a greater number of our CCCC family.

Free anti-virus software is available to everyone at www.grisoft.com. Several of you have emailed me to indicate how helpful this free product has been to you and your churches. There are a number of stand-alone virus removal tools available at www.norton.com. If the free AVG product cannot remove a virus, the Norton site has a free stand-alone tool to facilitate removal. Please keep in mind that each of these special tools require that the computer be started in safe mode.

The membership part of the site continues to enjoy greater participation from our CCCC family. It is the place where the most up to date information can be obtained. Some of you have had difficulty obtaining access to the site. You may email me at bburrell@rcsba.org at any time and can also feel free to call me at 914-714-8577 with any technical questions these columns may raise.

It is a joy to assist you by giving helpful information in this section of THE FORESEE Newsletter. Don't forget to use the information and to call for additional information if you need it.

of our morning sessions. Her story is one of God's grace as she shares her family's escape from the hands of the Communists in the Ukraine during the 1940s and how He safely brought them to North Dakota. We invite you to pray along with us for both Anne and Maria as they prepare what God would lay on their hearts. See you there!

Thank you, Liz Eklund

“Rejoice! Jesus is Lord!” Annual Family Conference Information

Location

Sheraton Sioux Falls Hotel & Convention Center
1211 North West Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 605-331-0100, fax: 605-373-1033

Reservations

Call toll free 1-800-325-3535 to make reservations at the Sheraton Sioux Falls Hotel. Note: Refer to CCCC Conference Account when calling for reservations.

Room Rates

Special Conference room rates (children 18 and under are free with parents): standard room (two double beds) - \$74.00 per night; king room (king size bed) - \$74.00 per night. Check-in at 4:00 p.m. Monday July 19; check-out at 11:00 a.m. Friday July 23.

Hotel reservations and charges must be settled directly with the hotel. Make your reservations as soon as possible. CCCC room block held until June 21.

Registration

For Conference registration information contact the CCCC office at 651-739-1474. Note: June 15 is the early registration deadline for discounted fee rates.
Individual registration - \$100.00 (\$110.00 after June 15)

Family registration - \$200.00 (\$220.00 after June 15)

Daily - \$35.00 (per day/per person)

Men's/Ladies' luncheons - \$18

Banquet, adults - \$22.00; children under 8 - \$13.25; Note: Youth will have their own banquet.

Children's Conference

Kids – Called to Greatness

During the week our children will not only learn about people who touched the lives of others, but will have opportunities to practice what they learn. The crafts, music, and lessons will all be aimed at equipping kids to share God's love with others.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Children's Conference Directors Bart and Linsey Schott, 701-647-2272, lschott@kulm.k12.nd.us

Youth Conference

This Generation for Christ

This year in Sioux Falls the CCCC Youth Program will be filled with teaching, motivating, and equipping our Jr. and Sr. High youth to win this generation for the Savior. Our goal is to impart the necessary skills and desire to evangelize their peers for the purpose of building God's church in our time. For more information on this year's Youth Conference, please contact Youth Director Scott Koop at 760-434-3481 or email him at salkoop@sbcglobal.net.

Greetings from the Great Plains

by Milt and Clarice Reimer, Co-chairs of the 2004 Annual Family Conference

The pastors and congregations of the Great Plains Area are excited about hosting the 2004 Annual Family Conference in Sioux Falls, SD. If you think that the Dakotas and Montana are

a vast wasteland and that there is not much to see in our area, you are in for a surprise. From the Black Hills and Mount Rushmore, to the Badlands of Teddy Roosevelt State Park; from the trails of Lewis and Clark along the mighty Missouri to the first glimpse of the Teton Mountains; from the vast sunflower fields to the beautiful International Peace Gardens; it is all here to see and experience within easy driving distance. So plan to take in, either before or after the Conference, some of these national treasures and historical highlights.

The Theme of the 2004 Conference is “Rejoice! Jesus is Lord!” That will be our primary focus throughout the four days. Since the majority of our Great Plains Churches share a “Germans from Russia” heritage, there will be recognition of this in the final service, with a performance of the German choir from the Salem Congregational Church in Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

In 1964 our Annual Conference met in Mobridge, SD in a small Congregational Church. Now, forty years later, we welcome you back to this state and to our Great Plains Area to celebrate the greatness of our God and to rejoice together in what He has done and will yet do.



2004 Annual Family Conference Speakers and Seminars

Conference Speakers



Stephen Gammon
CCCC Conference Minister
Monday Evening Message



Raymond Ortlund Jr.
Morning Messages



Ray & Anne Ortlund
*Tuesday-Wednesday
Evening Messages*



Anne Ortlund
Ladies' Luncheon



La Rue Goetz
Men's Luncheon

Conference Seminars

Workshops Designed to “Build Leaders & Encourage Growth”

“Church Redevelopment”
Ron Hamilton and Ken Priddy

“A CCCC Baby Shower”
Ron Hamilton and the Church Planting Pastors

“The Heritage of the German Reform Church”
Alwyn York

“Healing for Forced Exit Pastors”
Phil Corr

“Doing Church as a Team”
Alvin Helms, Lisa McIntosh, and Kirk van der Swaagh

“Parish Nurse Ministry”
Betty Mitchell

“Welcome to the CCCC”
Scott Cleveland

“A Look at Micronesia”
Micronesia Ministries Committee

“Maria Deckert/German Russian Heritage”
Women's Ministries Committee and Maria Deckert

“Addiction – The Theology of the 12 Steps”
Rick Stevens

“Suicide: Prevention and Intervention”
Robert Steinke

“The Chaplain as Terrorist”
Jerry Malone

“Biblical Support for Developing Mature Disciples”
Joseph Moravec

“Identifying and Developing Leaders in the Church”
Joseph Moravec

“The Challenges and Opportunities in Interfaith Service”
Paul Sorrentino

Note: Additional seminars are being planned and will be listed in the final agenda.



CCCC People to Pray For

Chaplain Robert Wayne Hall has been called to serve the Marines with battalion 1/5 from the 1st Marine Division outside of the city of Fallujah, west of Baghdad. Wayne has asked for prayer in the following areas: first, that he would serve our Lord in a manner which would bring glory to His name, and that He would work through him in whatever way He would; second, he would like us to pray for strength for his wife Jennifer and their 2-year-old son, Cade; and, finally, (in Wayne's own words), "anytime freedom is being fought for there is a spiritual battle going on against it. Please pray that the Lord would clear the way for believers to flourish in the country of Iraq and that freedom would prevail there."

Pray for the upcoming short-term missions trips. Pray that the Lord will raise up two more people for the Belgian Ministry Team, May 15-18. Also, for three people for the Albania Work Team, June 11-23. Praise the Lord that all of the other teams are filled.

Pray for Karl and Ann Olsson in Haiti. Karl has Ordained Minister standing with the CCCC and his wife, Ann, has Commissioned Christian Worker standing with us. Karl is Senior Pastor of Quisqueya Chapel in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, a multi-ethnic English-speaking congregation comprised of missionaries from many countries of the world, as well as local Haitian members. Pray for protection, courage, and strength as they continue to serve the Lord in an area of great conflict and need.

World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship (WECF) Meeting Held in New Zealand

by Steve Gammon, Conference Minister

The Seventh Triennial Meeting of The World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship was held in Auckland, New Zealand February 10-15. The WECF is a fellowship of national associations of evangelical Congregational churches that was founded in 1986. The threefold purpose of the WECF is to promote fellowship and cooperative endeavor, to preserve the historic Congregational commitment to the Lordship of Christ and the infallibility of His Word, and to present to the world a witness to our oneness in Christ as evangelical Congregationalists.

WECF member associations include the CCCC USA as well as evangelical Congregational fellowships from Canada, Brazil, Australia, England and Wales, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Bulgaria, India, New Zealand, Brazil, South Africa, Micronesia, Philippines, Macedonia.

The CCCC was well represented at the meetings of the WECF in Auckland. Dr. David Wells, CCCC member minister, and Andrew Mutch, Distinguished Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, was the plenary speaker addressing the theme "The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ, For Such a Time as This." I preached at one of the evening sessions. Former CCCC President and now Pacific Southwest Area Representative for the CCCC, Rev. A. Barry Jones, was

elected President of the WECF, replacing out-going President, Rev. David Saunders from Rochford Essex in England. CCCC Board Member Dick Trosak was also in attendance as a delegate.

Delegates to the meetings in Auckland determined that the primary emphasis of shared ministry among the associations of the WECF during the next three years will be ministry leadership training. The next Triennial Meeting of the WECF will be held in London in 2007.



WECF Meeting Attendees



David Saunders from England, outgoing President of WECF, greeting New President, Rev. Barry Jones.

Promotions To Glory

Rev. Dr. Charles Mangione

On March 8 Rev. Dr. Charles Mangione, 68, went to be with the Lord. Charlie was an active participant in the Greater NY/NJ Area Fellowship and the much-loved and respected pastor emeritus of Lafayette Federated Church (LFC) in Lafayette, NJ. In the past three years, since his retirement from LFC, he served as interim in two churches as well as the chaplain of a large nursing home.

The testimony to his fruitful ministry was the large sanctuary of LFC being filled to overflowing at his memorial service on March 12. He is survived by his beloved wife of 38 years, Caroline, their two daughters, and six grandchildren.

New CCCC President and Vice-President

Rev. Nick Granitsas, CCCC Vice-President, has been appointed by the Board of Directors to the office of CCCC President, and Rev. Jay Warren has been appointed to the office of Vice-President. In accordance with the requirements of our Constitution, these Board appointments are in effect until the next Annual Meeting, at which time the Conference will vote to fill the unexpired terms. This change of leadership was necessary after the Credentials Committee voted to dismiss Rev. Larry Scovil from his Ministerial standing in the CCCC, while under discipline. A letter of explanation has been mailed by the Conference office to all member ministers and churches.

Changes and Opportunities

Pastoral Changes:

Ashford CT	Westford Congregational Church* called Peter Monahan
Bolton MA	Trinity Church Congregational (Ind) called David Smith
Kingston MA	Mayflower Congregational Church* called John Dale*
Lynn MA	Bethany Congregational Church (UCC) called Ed Marston*
Greenville OH	Coletown Congregational Christian Ch (MCCF) called Eric Knight
Lodi OH	First Congregational Church* called David Dake*
Zelienople PA	St. Peter's Reformed Church* James Bertoti
Chesapeake VA	Rosemont Christian Church (Ind) called Gerard Kilyk*

Pastoral Openings:

Hebron CT	First Congregational Church*
N Aurora IL	Union Congregational Church*
Stillman Valley IL	Congregational Christian Church (Ind)
Newburg IA	Newburg-Chester Congregational Church*
Pownal ME	First Parish Congregational Church
Fitchburg MA	Elm Street Congregational (UCC)
Mansfield MA	First Christian Church*
Clarkston MI	First Congregational Church (NACCC)
Grandville MI	Grandville-Jenison Congregational Church*
Peterborough NH	Trinity Evangelical Church*
Lake View NY	Lake View Congregational Church*
New Rockford ND	First Congregational Church*
Philadelphia PA	St. Mark's Reformed Church*
Wilton WI	Faith Congregational Church*

* = Conference member

+ = In process

Health Tips

Bicycle Helmets

Bicycle helmets can reduce the risk of head injury by up to 85 percent. All young children should wear a bicycle helmet whether they are riding bicycles, tricycles or are passengers on a parent's bicycle. Children under one year of age are too young to be on your bicycle and helmets are only made for children over one year of age. Be sure a properly fitting helmet is available and used every time someone in your family goes for a bike ride.

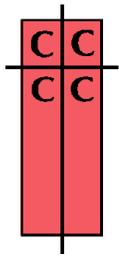
Source: www.nhtsa.dot.gov

Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a disease in which bones become fragile and more likely to break. Prevention is very important because, while there are treatments for the disease, there is currently no cure. Getting your daily recommended amounts of calcium and vitamin D, engaging in regular weight-bearing exercise, avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol, talking to your doctor about bone health, having a bone density test, and taking medication when appropriate are the best ways to maintain good bone health and prevent osteoporosis.

Source: www.nof.org

by Betty Mitchell, RN, Parish Nurse
Emmanuel Bethel Church
Royal Oak, MI



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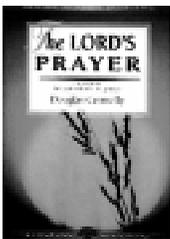
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Strengthen your Relationship with Christ through Prayer

“Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.” Philippians 4:6

- How is your relationship with Christ?
- How do you strengthen it?
- Begin on your knees in prayer.



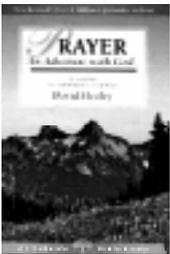
The Lord's Prayer
by Douglas K. Connelly
In this study guide the Lord's Prayer is revealed section by section with additional texts that help you dig deeper into Jesus' teaching about how to pray.

\$6.00*



Prayer
An Adventure with God
by David Healey
In this study you will gain new insights into why, what and how to pray. And you will experience more fully the adventure that prayer can be.

\$6.00*



Prayer & Listening
by Jan Johnson
This study guide covers the disciplines of prayer and of practicing God's presence. Going deeper in these areas will help you to draw closer to God in everything you do.

\$6.00*

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*Remember – 20% discount on all items.

The National Day of Prayer is May 6, 2004.