CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

ANNUAL REPORTS

July 17, 2021 | Annual Business Meeting

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cccccusa.com
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>The meeting will be followed by a brief time of worship and shared communion.
Psalm 133: 1 reminds us: “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity.” Looking back over the past year most of us in leadership roles have been tested in helping those we lead to keep focused on the priorities of gospel advancement in the midst of a pandemic. I have heard from many leaders around the country who have dealt with congregations who were divided over politics, responses to the pandemic, theological issues and issues of social action. All of us have witnessed a lot of pain and suffering as the enemy of our soul has used current events to try and keep the local church from advancing gospel ministry in cities across our world. The extent of pain and suffering has left many of our leaders tired, discouraged and praying for better days ahead for our churches, our nation and our world.

The good news is that we have learned over the centuries that God remains faithful to His church and to His people through all the difficult seasons of history. The need of the hour for all of us who lead God’s people is to remind ourselves and those we lead of God’s relentless commitment to His purposes for His church. I have been encouraged recently in talking with other CCCC leaders as they choose to focus on the opportunities that are in front of us in the coming years. There seem to be more and more opportunities for gospel ministry everywhere we look.

More than ever before people need to hear the hope of the gospel message. The CCCC staff and leaders continue to focus on the priorities of Church Multiplication, Church Development and Conference Care. Our Regional Pastors are working with local churches to help them thrive and move towards the goal of being better disciple making communities. We continue to pray for and work towards the vision of healthy churches and healthy pastors who are living the CCCC Way Of Life.

These are days when we need to work together and not allow important but secondary issues to create disunity in our fellowship. Our CCCC founders understood the challenge of maintaining unity with all our theological differences. I was reminded of their wisdom as I read again a document called: The Nature of Our Fellowship. They remind us: “This freedom (the Congregational Way of Life) requires an environment of unity and liberty, cultivated in the context of honestly differing theological viewpoints. Thus, we must seek continually to maintain a true balance. To this end, we recognize that as Congregational Christians we do not have to agree on everything to achieve Biblical respect and spiritual health. In the spirit of Acts 15, we seek to promote maximum freedom for the rule of God in our churches. This is the merit of the Congregational conscience.”

As for me, I am thankful for the relationships I have with CCCC brothers and sisters. I encourage you to work towards protecting these relationships as we continue in God’s preferred vision for our Conference. My prayer is that you will pray for and join the CCCC staff, leaders, and Board of Directors as we commit ourselves to living out this shared life with one another. “Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” (2 Thessalonians 3: 16)

Because of His grace, Alvin Helms
SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2020 at 2:00 pm EST

Todd Venman welcomed the participants to the Delegate Meeting. He spoke encouragement from James 4:13-17, highlighting our gratitude for the ability to meet on the Zoom platform even though we would rather be together in person.

Todd reviewed the protocols for the Delegate Meeting, especially the use of the Zoom features.

Larry Wood will be serving as the Parliamentarian for this meeting.

Todd also explained the use of “unanimous consent” for this meeting.

Todd opened the meeting with a word of Prayer.

Agenda

A motion was made by Alvin Helms to accept by unanimous consent the Delegate Meeting Agenda as presented in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet. The motion carried.

Minutes

Susan Moody reported that the minutes of the 2019 delegate meetings have been submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors. These minutes are kept on file at the Home Office.

Credentials Committee & Approval

Dan Peterson brought a report from the Credentials Committee.

Those who are voted in this year will be offered the opportunity to be welcomed and celebrated in person at our Annual Gathering in 2021.

Dan thanked the Credentialing Committee for their hard work this year.

Dan read the names of the individuals and churches who have been accepted into membership in the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

A question was entertained about the process surrounding the acceptance of an application that came in after the 2020 report was finalized.

A motion was made by Dan Peterson to accept by unanimous consent the Credentials Committee Report as presented in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet. The motion carried.

Todd thanked the committee for their hard work on the credentialing process and the Systematic Theology Class that is being planned for the Fall of 2020.

Todd welcomed those on the call who have just been approved for membership.
Ron Hamilton prayed a blessing over those individuals and churches.

**Ministry Staff Reports:** Video reports
The Ministry Staff offered updates to their written reports by video.

- Conference Minister: Ron Hamilton
- Church Development: John Kimball
- Church Multiplication: Bryan Long
- Conference Care: Peter Wood

Todd prayed for the Ministry Staff and thanked God for the work that is happening among us across the CCCC.

**Treasurer’s Report**
Greg Wilcoxon expressed his gratitude for the Finance Committee and the support of Conference Minister Ron Hamilton.

Through June of 2020, our revenue is up by about $70,000.00

**A motion was made** by Greg Wilcoxon to accept by unanimous consent the Treasurer’s Report as presented in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet. The motion carried.

**2021 Budget Proposal and Approval**
The Finance Committee struggled with this budget in light of the pandemic, but prayerfully decided to continue the same numbers from the 2020 Budget.

We have earned $9123.96 in interest from the endowment investments.

The expenses for the Regional Pastors are included and the salaries are increased due to cost of living increases.

**A motion was made** by Greg Wilcoxon to accept by unanimous consent the 2021 Budget as presented in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet. The motion carried.

Todd thanked the Finance Committee for their work and led the delegates in prayers of thanksgiving for God’s provisions to the CCCC.

**Staff Reports (Reports given via Video)**
The Regional Pastors offered update to their written reports by video.

- Northeast Regional Pastor: Terry Shanahan
- Mideast Regional Pastor: Tim Dubeau
- North Central Regional Pastor: Ray DeLaurier
- West Regional Pastor: Philip Noordmans

Todd encouraged everyone to connect with the Regional Pastors in their area if they have not yet done so. Todd led the delegates in a prayer of blessing for the Regional Pastors.
Conference Minister – Board/CM appointments

The list of Board and Conference Minister Appointments was read by Susan Moody.

2020 Appointments

Parliamentarian: Larry Wood

Regional and Area Pastors

Terry Shanahan ~ Northeast Regional Pastor (2022)
Area Pastors (2020)
New Hampshire David Randlett
Greater Boston Nick Granitsas
Northeastern MA Shea Fitzgibbon
Southeast MA Peter Smith
Southern New England Thomas Crumb
Maine Stephen Burkett
Vermont Michael Haddad

Tim Dubeau ~ Mideast Regional Pastor (2021)
Area Pastors (2020)
Greater NYC and NJ J. Kirk van der Swaagh
W. MA and E. NY Tom Bridgman
Central NY Rick Chaffee
W. NY and NW PA Todd Venman
Western PA David Meckley
Eastern OH David Dake
Michigan David Balicki

Raymond DeLaurier ~ North Central Regional Pastor (2021)
Area Pastors (2020)
Wisconsin Larry Correll
N. Illinois Nathan Klinger
South Dakota Michael Hecht
Central Midwest Ted Weis
Great Plains Tim Privatsky

Philip Noordmans ~ West Regional Pastor (2021)
Area Pastors (2020)
W. Nebraska & E. WY
Garry Schick
Rocky Mountains Lafe Murray
Eastern WA, ID,

West MT Dean Walker
Oregon Dan Pulliam
Central California Blake Slater

At-large (under the supervision of the Conference Minister)

Area Pastors (2020)
Mid-Atlantic Bill West
Southeast John Kimball

Nominating Committee
Mike McDonald (2021)
Michael Hecht (2021)

Credentials Committee
Ed Whitman (2023)
Drake Williams (2023)

Annual Gathering Planning Committee
Susan Moody (2021) Coordinator
Tim Dubeau (2021) Coordinator
Carolyn Benson (2021) Registrar
John Carpenter (2021) Seminar Coordinator

Chaplains Committee
Scott Fleming (2023)

Finance Committee
Carolyn Benson (2021)
Tim Ziegenhals (2021)

Stewardship Committee
Peter Balentine (2021)
Loring Carpenter (2021)
Mark Galloway (2021)
Larry Stroble (2021)

Church Development Committee: One Year
Appointments:
Dan Peterson (2021)
Matt Schraeder (2021)

Church Multiplication Committee One Year
Appointments:
Brandon Goad (2021)
Dan Schauer (2021)

Missions Committee
Dan Hanselman (2023)
Lee Vermont (2023)

Micronesia Ministries Committee
Laurie Spalding (2023)

Committee Chairs

Department of Conference Administration Committees:
Constitution Studies: Phil Hoyer
Chaplains Endorser and Chairman: Marc Gauthier
Credentials: Dan Peterson
Finance: Greg Wilcoxon
Nominating: Mike McDonald
Stewardship: Peter Ballentine

Department of Conference Services Committees:
Women’s Ministries: Shirley Dubeau
Communications: Kim Gardell
Micronesia Ministry: Max Vague
Missions: Jeremy Skaggs
Church Development:
David Eisley
Church Multiplication:
Chuck Nelson
Ron added that he is working with the Regional Pastors to find some additional Area Pastors as some expansion/redistribution is made

**Nominating Committee: Slate of Officers**
Mike McDonald presented the slate of officers. Due to current stressors in our culture, it was more difficult than usual to fill the slate, but the Committee, working prayerfully, was able to do so and is confident in the nominations they are bringing.

Mike read the list of nominees. (Photos and Bios are available in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet.)

**Election**

**A motion was made** by Michael McDonald to accept by unanimous consent the slate presented by the Nominating Committee in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet. The motion carried.

Todd expressed his appreciation to the Nominating Committee and officially welcomed those newly elected individuals.

**Annual Gathering Planning Committee: Tim Dubeau/Susan Moody**
The 2020 Annual Gathering was canceled due to the pandemic. The location was re-contracted, and all activities were moved to 2021. No fees should change. The same theme and speaker and workshops will be used.

- The 2021 Annual Gathering will be in Warwick, RI
- The 2022 Annual Gathering will be in Carlsbad, CA

Todd expressed his thanks to the Annual Gathering Committee and their work with these major unexpected changes.

**New Business**
RegISTRATIONS are being taken for the Systematic Theology class being held October 12-16, 2020. The class will be held in Lansdale, PA. It will be a time of good teaching and networking. Scholarship help is available.

Email: register@cscfamily.org

**A motion was made** by Alvin Helms that the staff reports, AG reports, any written report in the 2020 CCCC Annual Reports packet and all video reports not yet voted upon be accepted by unanimous consent. The motion carried.

**A motion was made** by Alvin Helms and seconded by Guy Lee to adjourn the 2020 Delegate Meeting by unanimous consent. The motion carried.

Many thanks were expressed on the Zoom Group Chat to Todd Venman for his gracious, kind, efficient and godly leadership in this recent term as President of the Board. Virtual applause was offered by all.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Rev. Susan E. Moody, Recording Secretary.*
## 2021 CCCC ANNUAL REPORT

**July 17, 2021 | Annual Delegate Meeting**

### CREDENTIALS REPORT

**Action Taken 2020 – May 2021**

#### INDIVIDUALS

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<th>LM (Licensed Minister)</th>
<th>LO (Licensed Ordained)</th>
<th>MUC (Minister Under Care)</th>
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<td>Brown, Anton—Kingston, MA</td>
<td>Bodanza, David Eric—Leominster, MA</td>
<td>Milligan, Matthew—Hudson, WI</td>
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<td>Filbrun, Aaron—Symlar, CA</td>
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<td>Hetzel, Robert—Merrimac, WI</td>
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<td>Johnson, Richard—Jamestown, NY</td>
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<td>Lue, Kevin—Raynham, MA</td>
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<td>LM (Reinstatement)</td>
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<td>Lue, Kevin—Raynham, MA</td>
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<td>LO (Licensed Ordained)</td>
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<td>Musser, Mark</td>
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<td>Herrera, Chip</td>
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<td>Kaminski, Carol</td>
<td>Shepherd, Mark</td>
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<td>Scavetti, Julian—Schwenksville, PA</td>
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<td>Snape, Daniel—Billerica, MA</td>
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<td>Solovei, John—Deep River, CT</td>
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<td>LM (1 year)</td>
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<td>Farley, Kyle—Centerville, OH</td>
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<td>Pavic, James—Middlefield, OH</td>
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<td>Mathison, Todd—Lamberton, MN</td>
<td>Sommerville, John—Edina, MN</td>
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## INDIVIDUALS (cont.)

### CC-LM Conference Care - Licensed Minister
- Haddad, Michael—Derby, VT

### Denial
- Raymond, Lawrence

### Deaths
- Akin, Paul
- Fisher, George T
- Frantz, Chester
- Heckeler, Kenneth
- Hrebien, Jorge A
- Jackson, Jeremy
- Redfern, Charles
- Salo, Jim
- Santis, Vincent
- Wittstruck, Robert

## CHURCHES

### Churches Removed
- Community Bible Church—Hopedale, MA
- Eureka Christian Church—Eureka, MI
- First Congregational Church—Hartford, WI
- First Congregational Church—Hayward, WI
- First Congregational Church—Portland, NY
- Great Exchange Church—Manchester, NH
- Hope Congregational Church—Bayard, NE
- Liberti Church—Lebanon, PA
- Liberty Chapel Congregational—Milton, NH
- Lima Union Cong Church)—Mineral Point, WI
- Round Prayer Community Church—Long Prairie, MN

### Churches Accepted
- First Baptist Church—Salem, MA
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Credentials Committee remained committed and faithful to upholding the Standards and Membership requirements for ministry within the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. The volume of applications this past year was down in comparison to other years. However, we still were able to approve many for licensure. We also witnessed several people and churches who requested removal from standing with the CCCC. The reasons for this vary.

This past year, the Credentials Committee approved and supported two classes that were taught at a seminary level education. One class took place in October of 2020, and was held at the Central Schwenkfelder Church in Lansdale, PA. Drake Williams, a pastor of the Schwenkfelder Church and member of the Credentials Committee was instrumental for making arrangements to host the class. The class was titled: “Systematic Theology.” Because of the date change, Professor Marinello had to bow out. The instructor who replaced him was R. Todd Mangum, PhD, Clemens Professor of Missional Theology, Missio Seminary. The main text used for the class was Millard’s Christian Theology, 3rd Edition. The second class was also held at the Schwenkfelder Church, which took place in June, 2021. The class taught was on Congregational History. Rev. Nick Granitsas and Rev. Dr. Drake Williams lead the class. People who participated did so in person or via Zoom. Both of these courses were given to help pastors and lay leaders grow in their understanding of these areas of interest and, especially help those who are pursuing credentialing in the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. Many thanks to Rev. Dr. Drake Williams for making these courses available.

I have reached out to several of the applicants this year to learn more about them and their call to ministry with the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. It has been enjoyable to hear how each one is fulfilling God’s call upon their life and how the Lord is using them in the setting they are in. It is a privilege to help each person and congregation alike to become an active and vital part of the CCCC. It is also a wonderful honor to serve the Lord with the other members of the Credentials Committee (Ed, Drake, Mark and John). We have honest and transparent discussions. We prayerfully discuss and discern each application and move to a consensus on each one. I have joy knowing we work well together and consider our time worthwhile and pleasing to the Lord.

Thank you all for having us serve this wonderful conference, the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Sincerely in Christ,
Daniel Peterson, Chair
Mark Alvis, John Dale, Ed Whitman, Drake Williams
CONFERENCE MINISTER’S REPORT

I continue to enjoy serving the Lord and the CCCC as Conference Minister. The past year has been a great year of ministry in spite of the pandemic. Our work continues to develop and the support of our ministry is strong.

We continue to share a CCCC Way of Life that is driven by our Passion “to live in obedience to Jesus as we love God, love others, and, as we go, make disciples.” We continue to focus on our Priorities of Church Development, Church Multiplication and Conference Care. These ministries have strengthened in the past year as we found unique ways to develop our ministry in these challenging times. We will use the lessons learned to improve our work as the restrictions of the pandemic are lifted and we enter a “new normal” of ministry.

I have focused my work in these areas in the past year.

Ministry Priorities

• **Church Development.**
  John Kimball, Director of Church Development, and the Church Development Team have worked hard to continue to assist churches seeking help in strengthening the ministries of their church. Virtual training and online resources are now a regular part of their efforts. I’m encouraged by the resources that we offer member churches seeking help and guidance.

• **Church Multiplication**
  Bryan Long, Director of Church Multiplication, has served well in his first year in this position. He and the Church Multiplication Team have developed new processes to assist planters and new developing churches. They are offering the Nineveh Conference to all of our members next October. Our Board members and ministry staff will join in this special meeting.

• **Conference Care**
  Peter Wood, Director of Conference Care, and the Conference Care Team, consisting of our four Regional Pastors, have made significant progress in providing care to our member pastors and churches. We are privileged to have these Regional Pastors serving our Conference.

  » Terry Shanahan (Northeast Regional Pastor)
  » Tim Dubeau (Mideast Regional Pastor)
  » Ray DeLaurier (North Central Regional Pastor)
  » Phil Noordmans (West Regional Pastor)

The Conference Care Team has made a special effort to connect with churches that have not been active in the Conference. Some of these churches have chosen to leave our fellowship while others have increased their involvement. While we are saddened to lose churches, we need active member churches to join us in our work of Shared Life and Shared Mission.

We continue in our partnership with the National Association of Evangelicals in the Financial Health project. There are many financial resources available to our pastors and churches. We are also working to develop the work of Community Pastors in the CCCC.
Turning Point Initiative
We currently have Turning Point projects in Colorado, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont. These replant projects will provide a model for ministry for churches that face an uncertain future and may close. We have trained a group of Interventionists who will provide studies to assist in this process.

Financial resourcing of our ministry
2020 was a record year of giving to our Conference. We remain fully funded and have reserves to cover our cash flow throughout the year. The Board of Directors provides careful oversight of our financial resources. The Finance Committee works carefully manage our assets. The Stewardship Committee continues to share the needs of our fellowship with our membership and is working to develop added giving to support our ministry.

I’m especially pleased to see giving by our churches increase in the past year. This response to our 2% Mission Challenge has increased support of the work of our Regional Pastors as well as our overall ministry.

We have resources for pastors through the Financial Health for All program that is funded by a generous grant from the Lilly Foundation. It provides training for our pastors and churches along with some grant opportunities for pastors.

Representing the CCCC to the larger Body of Christ
I have been privileged to represent the Conference in meeting with:

- *World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship* – I continue to serve as the Vice-President and am engaged with the ongoing life of this fellowship.
- *National Association of Evangelicals* – I attended meetings of the NAE Board and denominational leader’s meetings.

Director of Placement activities
We have engaged our Regional Pastors to assist pastors seeking placement and churches seeking pastors. We also work to assist churches in finding interim pastors during times of pastoral transition.

Personal growth and development
I seek the guidance of a mentor, a prayer partner, and members of our fellowship to hold me accountable in my spiritual development and work as a spiritual leader for the CCCC.

I have agreed to serve another term as Conference Minister. At the same time, I am working with the Board for a time when leadership transition takes place. The Board appointed a 5-year planning committee to make recommendations that ensure a healthy future for our fellowship.

Thank you for your prayerful support in the past year. I count it a privilege to serve with the staff members, committee members, Officer and Board members in the work of the Conference. I am confident that God is using the CCCC to develop God’s Kingdom work in our generation.

Respectfully, Ron Hamilton
ANNUAL PLACEMENT INFORMATION

**CHANGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Minister</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carlsbad, CA</td>
<td>Carlsbad Community Church *</td>
<td>Aaron Filbrun *</td>
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<td>Collinsville, CT</td>
<td>Christ’s Community Church *</td>
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<td>Parkersburg, IA</td>
<td>First Congregational Church * (Shepherd)</td>
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<td>Orthodox Congregational Church of Lanesville</td>
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<td>Dickinson, ND</td>
<td>Evangelical Bible Church * (Assoc. Pastor)</td>
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<td>Scotland, SD</td>
<td>Scotland Community Church *</td>
<td>Brian Beck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loomis, SD</td>
<td>Loomis Community Church *</td>
<td>Tim Schultz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**PASTORAL OPENINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colchester, CT</td>
<td>Christian Life Chapel (ECFA) (Part-time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru, IL</td>
<td>First Congregational Church (Independent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelmsford, MA</td>
<td>Immanuel Church *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleborough, MA</td>
<td>Rock Village Church (ABC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Chelmsford MA</td>
<td>Congregational Church of North Chelmsford *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sutton, MA  First Congregational Church (UCC)
Bremen, ME  Bremen Union Church (Independent)
Bloomingdale, MI  Bloomingdale Christian Church (Independent)
Cedarville, MI  First Union Church (Independent)
Honor, MI  Honor Congregational Church *
Lansing, MI  Olivet Baptist Church (ABC)
Nevada, MO  First Christian Church (Independent)
Taylor, ND  Taylor Ecumenical Parish (Independent)

Colebrook, NH  Monadnock Congregational Church (UCC)
Concord, NH  Immanuel Community Church *
Lake Grove, NY  New Village Church (Independent)
Lisle, NY  Center Lisle Congregational Church (UCC)
Richford, NY  Richford Congregational Church (Independent) (Part-time)
Soudertown, PA  Immanuel Leidy's Church (Independent)
Stowe, PA  St. Paul’s Church *
West Pittston, PA  First Congregational Church (Independent part-time)
Parkston, SD  Parkston Congregational Church *

**TURNING POINT REPLANT PROJECTS** –
Please contact Conference Minister, Ron Hamilton, for information about these projects.

Longmont, CO  Christ Congregational Church *
Mantorville, MN  First Congregational Church *
Franklin, CT  Franklin Congregational Church *

* = Conference member
+ = In process
MINISTRY PRIORITIES STAFF REPORTS – DIRECTOR OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

CCCC Annual Gathering - July 2021

In spite of the challenges related to COVID-19 over the past year, the work of Church Development in the CCCC has continued. I appreciate the team I regularly work and pray with: Dave Eisley (Chair, Allenville WI), Dave Balicki (Grand Rapids MI), Dan Peterson (Lake Elmo MN), Matt Schraeder (Thompson Falls MT), Peter Wood (Trumansburg NY), Dean Walker (Garfield WA) and Todd Venman (Russell PA).

My colleague, Dave Eisley, is preparing an update on behalf of the team which will give detail to many of the projects on which we have been working since last year's virtual annual meeting, including the notable success of our virtual Church Development Intensives (last fall and again, this spring), our new online learning system and our first church partner to beta test it, our plan for greater social media engagement and our continued work with the Cornerstone Corps. I will give the remainder of my report to two key priorities on which I am working with the team’s partnership: identifying, recruiting, and developing coaches for our online learning system, and the creation of the proposed CCCC Center for Church Development.

Church Development Coaches

Now that our Church Development Online Learning System is up and running, our next priority is to identify, recruit and train coaches who will work directly, locally and life-on-life, with the pastors and churches who are in the process.

We are partnering with Peter Wood and the Conference Care Ministry to identify a geographically diverse group of pastors who have completed the CCCC Community Pastor training. As these will already be in relationship with clusters of CCCC pastors and churches, they can provide great relational guidance without adding much effort beyond their pastoral community investment. The training is provided by the online system. Resourcing and problem solving is done by the Church Development Team. The coaching for those pastors who seek it will help them stay on track and provide a level of accountability.

We are developing a brief training process on coaching “best practices” and an overview of our Church Development Process so that these coaches can provide the desired impact. Now that the country is opening again, the Church Development Team plans to attend the Coach Training event in conjunction with The Nineveh Project in Denver this fall. We plan to align our own training process with that which has been so successful for the Church Multiplication Team.

We have identified approximately 20 people who have completed the Community Pastor training and who have some level of understanding of our LifeFlow Church Development process.

CCCC Center for Church Development

While the Church Development Committee, under the great leadership of Dave Eisley, has been continuing the work of Church Development in the CCCC, we continue to look at the possibility of creating a CCCC
Center for Church Development. This idea originated in an application for a Lilly Endowment grant in 2020. We did not receive the grant but have been encouraged to continue to investigate the concept.

The idea of the CCCC Center for Church Development is to create an intensive two-year process where local church pastors and new interns who will be seeking a pastorate can be fully trained in vital areas of church health and development not typically covered in their bible college or seminary experience. Building on the foundations of our LifeFlow Church Development Process, we have added a lot of training in connection with the excellent Natural Church Development process (with input and partnership from NCD America and Dr. Petr Cincala), and a number of additional modules we feel are essential for today’s church to navigate change and bear as much fruit as possible. These modules would be offered in five key ministry contexts (Urban/Inner City, Suburban, Rural, Large Church, and Newer Church [Plant]), and participating pastors and interns will learn from LifeFlow trainers who are experts in each of those contexts. This would help us enable our process to bear the most fruit for all of our Conference Churches, no matter what their specific ministry context and community may be like.

I have reworked the original proposal to align with future budget projects. The new proposal would share the financial responsibility with participants and participating congregations. It would also utilize online training to reduce travel costs. The creation of the CCCC Center for Church Development will partially restructure the Church Development Ministry of the Conference. But I believe the changes will make our Church development and revitalization work much more fruitful for years to come. I have submitted my proposal to Ron Hamilton for the Board of Directors to consider when the time is right.

**Conclusion**

Between the report from Dave Eisley and my own report here, you can see that everyone on the Church Development team has been hard at work since our 2020 Annual Meeting in July. The Church Development Committee meets monthly to conduct business and strategy, and the wider Church Development Team meets monthly again for prayer and intercession. I am so blessed and honored to work with these servants.

Thanks as always for your trust in me for this work.

Respectfully, Rev. Dr. John Kimball

CCCC Director of Church Development
Church Development Committee Report – 2021

The Church Development Committee has remained active despite the limitations imposed by the coronavirus pandemic, meeting virtually twice a month: one time each month with the Committee for business, and one time each month with the full Team for prayer and business. It is our privilege to support and encourage the work of our Director of Church Development, John Kimball.

The following highlights the work of the Committee and broader Team:

Church Development Intensive: The Committee rescheduled the annual Church Development Intensive, “Making Disciples: The Key to Developing Your Church” from prior to the start of the 2020 Annual Gathering to Thursday, September 10, 2020 using the Zoom platform with John Kimball and myself teaching from Florida and Wisconsin respectively. Participation was beyond our expectations mainly because the cost and time commitment was far less, and pastors could have lay leaders easily join them. The committee was led to then offer this Intensive twice a year in the Spring [as we did on May 6] and in the Fall, in addition to the presentation on the day in-person Annual Gatherings begin. This year we will offer the Intensive online on Thursday, July 15. We view this as an important expansion of opportunity for churches and pastors to become familiar with the Church Development ministry of the Conference and be able to make prayerful and informed decisions about engaging in the process.

LifeFlow Process of Church Development: The Committee has completed work in the preparation of our ability to provide the full church development process to our churches using a new internet-based system. We are thankful for those who are in the process of beta-testing our online system, and we are preparing for the first group of churches to utilize it. We are also planning for the recruitment and training of additional coaches to locally come alongside pastors and churches as they work through the Church Development Process. The Church Development Committee and Team look forward to working with our churches and pastors engaging with us in the Church Development Process.

Social Media Presence: The Committee and broader Team has rebooted our social media presence via Facebook with a page entitled “Developing Your Church”. The purpose of the page is to be a private forum for those individuals who are engaged in our Church Development process to receive encouragement and to ask questions. Committee and Team members contribute posts on various subjects related to church health.

Cornerstone Corps: The Committee considers applications for and recommends approval of requests from CCCC Churches for financial assistance for building and facility projects which are then shared with the CCCC family. Since the last Annual Gathering, the Cornerstone Corps assisted the Orthodox Congregational Church in Lanesville, Massachusetts.

Looking ahead: There are several areas in which we are seeking the Lord for His direction in the short-term in order that we might align with where He is leading to be ready to assist our churches, especially post-pandemic, so that they can thrive and bear fruit for the Kingdom.

We are thankful for the calling that the Lord has extended to us to know Him, serve Him, and minister to our Conference through church development to the end of seeing healthy thriving churches making disciples of our Lord Jesus. Thank you for allowing us to serve!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Church Development Committee – Rev. Dave Eisley, Chair
MINISTRY PRIORITIES STAFF – DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

The Nineveh Network is the church multiplication arm of the CCCC, with the mission to multiply disciple-making leaders and churches for the glory of God. This year we have begun to see tangible fruit after a season of realigning and rebranding.

It started with a new website and social media presence. This provides the “front door” for those interested in connecting with us. Visit www.theninevehnetwork.org or like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/theninevehnetwork. We also launched “The Network,” a meet-and-greet Zoom session that introduces new planters and advocates to the network and each other. This last year, we had 14 new leaders participate, each representing an exciting opportunity for church ministry in the conference.

From there, we invite these potential church planters to “The Call,” an assessment program designed to help identify a person’s fit and flourish in ministry. The result is a personalized MAP (Ministry Assessment Profile) for each candidate with affirmations and recommendations. We were able to write 5 MAP reports this year and have a growing number of leaders from “The Network” in the hopper.

The Turning Point program continues to gain momentum and has identified many churches who are ready for a new chapter. From the legacy of the former, we are seeing church replants take shape. A new work has now started in Chester, VT. We also have projects at different stages in Longmont, CO, Franklin, CT, Mantorville, MN and Salem, MA. In all, 9 new church planting/revitalization projects have either started or are on the brink!

The culmination of our work from this last year is our annual church multiplication conference on October 6-8 in Denver, CO. The Denver area has become a key area, anchored by our Longmont church plant. Hosting “The Nineveh Network Conference” in Colorado will allow us to introduce ourselves to the area and to the greater CCCC church community. We would love for you to join us by registering at: conference.theninevehnetwork.org

In all, we recognize that while we may seed and water these opportunities, it is God who makes it grow (1 Corinthians 3:6). We have been amazed by some of the divine appointments, connections and coincidences that have allowed much of this work to happen. To God be the glory for it all!

Bryan Long
MINISTRY PRIORITIES STAFF – DIRECTOR OF CONFERENCE CARE

This last year, dealing with Covid 19, has proven to be one of the most challenging years in memory. Praise God that most all of our churches have weathered and adapted well to the challenges. In fact, many have discovered new ways to minister that they might not have thought of or tried. The same has been true for those of us involved in Conference Care. Zoom has proven to be an invaluable tool to Regional Pastors and me as we minister while being stuck close to home. Hearing how churches have adapted is exciting and we know God will use these changes that in many cases are being adopted permanently or alongside traditional ways to reach out in Christ’s name. Each Regional Pastor has had to adapt in their own way, be it from the compact but closed states of New England to the highly spread-out area of the West. They have expanded their contacts helping churches as they have dealt with struggles, interceded in conflicts and helped with placement. Opportunities have opened to work with Church Multiplication to replant churches through Turning Point and we rejoice at God’s moving to continue outreach in areas that might have ended, but as a Legacy now continue in a new way.

If you have not yet availed yourself of your Regional Pastor, please do so. Now that things are opening up, they are visiting churches again and would love to visit yours. Each of these men; Terry Shannahan in New England, Tim Dubeau in the Mideast, Ray Delaurier in the Upper Midwest, and Phil Noordmans in the West are incredible resources for all of you and our churches. They are key to the structure of support that is being created for our churches and pastors. Along with them we are seeking to train and equip Area Pastors in all parts of our Conference. We are also working to spread the ministry of Community Pastor Groups where Pastors will encourage, support, advise, and when necessary, hold each other accountable, so that no pastor is left alone and unsupported.

We have continued to offer the NAE resources on Financial Health. What began as a program to encourage new pastors and their churches to begin a retirement account with a $1,000 match for every pastor who completed the online program, has now expanded to an array of programs for pastors and churches in financial stewardship and educating the church in giving.

Other resources such as “Transitioning Your Church” are continuing to be revised, and we plan to continue to acquaint Regional, Area, and Community Pastors with the resources from Church Development and Church Multiplication. Through this and what we have written about in this report we hope to support all in the CCCC to continue to grow as healthy pastors and healthy churches proclaiming and living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Credentials Committee under Dan Peterson for their hard work with “Ministers Under Care” and for overseeing those seeking standing in the CCCC.

I wish to thank all who make my work possible: Ron Hamilton, John Kimball, Bryan Long, Terry Shannahan, Tim Dubeau, Ray Delaurier, and Phil Noordmans.

Rev. Peter G. Wood
TREASURER’S/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

I would like to start off by saying “God is Great.”

We all know of the trying times and effects that 2020 and up until this writing has created for all of us but, by faith in God has led our Conference through it.

We were blessed by all of you through your giving. Our budget for 2020 revenues was set at $500,000.00. Our 2020 ended with revenues being $598,353.00. Praise God!

Our expenses tracked well with our budget however, they were up with the addition of our regional pastors.

Our annual Audit for 2020 took place on March 22nd and the 23rd of 2021.

Our Auditors continue to be pleased with the direction our Conference is moving in. There were no derogatory write-ups and they feel we are financially in a strong position.

Our 2022 proposed Budget was submitted to the Board with a target base of $611,000.00 and now will be submitted to the Conference for final approval.

Through five months of 2021 giving is up from 2020 by $33,001.00 but we are below Budget by $32,526.00. We have always found that our strongest giving is in the last quarter of the year.

The Board of Directors and the Finance Committee continue to work hard in following God’s Leading and direction in making sure we remain financially and spiritually strong for our Conference.

We continue to ask for prayers for our Conference and pastors and thank you for your continued support of our mission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory E. Wilcoxon, Treasurer
## Treasurer's/Finance Committee Report Continued

### CCC 2022 Operating Budget
Includes 2019/2020 Actual with 2020/2021 Budgets

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 2019 Final</th>
<th>Actual 2020 Final</th>
<th>2020 Approved Budget</th>
<th>Adjusted 2021 Budget</th>
<th>Proposed 2022 Budget</th>
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<td><strong>Support and Revenue:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Churches</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Pastors</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chaplains</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fellowships</strong></td>
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<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
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<td><strong>Other (AG gifts, fees, other)</strong></td>
<td>3,663 $67,284</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>2,500 $</td>
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<td><strong>Interest</strong></td>
<td>$9,543 $17,216</td>
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<td>- $</td>
<td>15,000 $</td>
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<td><strong>Regular Support and Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>$530,000 $</td>
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<td><strong>Klumph Bequest</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Reserves from bequest</strong></td>
<td>-$</td>
<td>$39,811 $</td>
<td>-$</td>
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<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>$500,000 $</td>
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<td>$600,000 $</td>
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<td><strong>Expenses:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ministry Staff (Including Benefits and Taxes):</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Minister</td>
<td>101,000 $103,500</td>
<td>103,500 $</td>
<td>103,500 $</td>
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<td>106,605 $</td>
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<td>NE Regional Pastor</td>
<td>86,250 $89,650</td>
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<td>90,898 $</td>
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<td>ME Regional Pastor</td>
<td>0 $37,400</td>
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<td>36,000 $</td>
<td>37,080 $</td>
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<td>NC Regional Pastor</td>
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<td>72,100 $</td>
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<td>West Regional Pastor</td>
<td>12,000 $37,400</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>36,000 $</td>
<td>37,080 $</td>
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<td>Other Regional Pastors</td>
<td>0 $50,000</td>
<td>53,500 $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
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<td>Dir. of Church Developmt</td>
<td>31,500 $32,900</td>
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<td>Dir. of Conf. Care</td>
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<td>Dir of Church Multiplication</td>
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<td>Unallocated Employment Taxes - ministers ***</td>
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<td><strong>Total Ministry Staff Salaries</strong></td>
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<td>Travel:</td>
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<td>Northeast Regional Pastor</td>
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<td>Other Regional Pastors</td>
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<td>Other staff travel</td>
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<td>Staff travel reimbursements</td>
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<td>(10,000) $</td>
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<td><strong>Office Expenses:</strong></td>
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<td>Bldg Maint., Prop. Ins. &amp; Association Fees</td>
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<td>NE Reg Pastor Expenses</td>
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<td>MERP Expenses</td>
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<td>WRP Expenses</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Outside I.T.</td>
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<td>12,000 $</td>
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### CCC 2022 Operating Budget

Includes 2019/2020 Actual with 2020/2021 Budgets

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Media for Computers - I.T.</td>
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<td>Other(supplies/cc interest/bkgrnd checks 5292)</td>
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<td>$-</td>
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**Other Expenses:**

**Board and Committee Expenses:**

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<tr>
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<td>Audit/Legal fees</td>
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<td>Credentials Comm.</td>
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<td>Chaplains Comm.</td>
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**Publications:**

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<td>Foresee</td>
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<td>$3,000</td>
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**Contributions:**

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<td>Surplus Transferred to (from) Reserves</td>
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## Treasurer’s/Finance Committee Report Continued

### 2021 Restricted Funds

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<td>Ministerial Emergency 3560</td>
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<td>Church Multiplication 3570</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phillips Mission 3860</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>NA Financial Health Grant 3946</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total In</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Out</strong></td>
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Conservative Congregational Christian Conference  
Cash Position - June 30, 2021

<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Savings - Idea Credit Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking - Lake Elmo Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Money Market Savings - Lake Elmo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings - CIF Investments</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 614,919.87</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
REGIONAL MINISTRIES REPORTS

STAFF – NORTHEAST REGIONAL PASTOR

When you search for words to describe this last year of Ministry they include, challenging, exciting, overwhelming, revelatory, exhilarating, and exhausting. This past year was all of the above.

In the Northeast Region one third of our churches have gone through or are going through a transition in their pastoral leadership.

Pastors have faced challenges as never before. Churches at this writing are still assessing how they have fared through the challenges the pandemic has wrought. Six of our churches have opted to close.

The testimonies are mixed. Some churches have had success in reaching people for Christ in ways they have not experienced before. Others are struggling to see what their future may be.

Through all of this we are blessed to be part of a conference of like-minded believers who strive to be there for one another. New Community Pastor Groups have formed or resumed meeting so pastors can be there for one another. No Pastor needs to be a “Lone Ranger”.

Additional webinars, seminars and zoom conferences have been offered and well-attended in ministries of Church Development, Church Multiplication, Conference Care and Biblical Peacemaking. Our Regional Fellowship offered a presentation “Thriving in Ministry during This Challenging Time” and we were blessed with Seminary Professor Doctor Jim Singleton leading that mornings teaching.

Our Turning Point Ministry is active and coming alongside churches seeking God’s preferred future for them as they face challenges moving forward. We are actively recruiting Church Planters to replant some of our Turning Point churches. One Church Planter is on site already and others will be launched in the near future.

My father used to say “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”. I don't know if I want to say that our churches and pastors are tough but I do know they are resilient and faithful and I am so pleased to be co-laboring with them in this region to advance God’s kingdom.

I'm so blessed to work with the Area Pastors in my region their reports are following.

In his Joy,
Rev. Terry Shanahan
NORTHEAST REGION REPORTS

MAINE AREA PASTOR REPORT  -  REV. STEPHEN BURKETT

At the beginning of his letter to the Colossians, Paul greets his fellow believers this way: “We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints - the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you.” I am truly thankful in similar fashion for everyone connected with the CCCC in Maine!

Having moved to back Maine early this past October, I was asked by the Conference to serve as the Area Pastor here in the state. It has been my privilege and joy to do so, as I grew up in Maine and had the honor of serving as the pastor of a church here for many years as a young adult. There are now eight official CCCC churches here in Maine, four more churches with a close connection with the CCCC, and a combination of 30 pastors and lay leaders with whom I am in touch on a regular basis by phone calls and email. They are all steadily in my prayers!

We were all planning to meet together at a Small Town Summit conference at a church in Vassalboro back in November, and have our own CCCC fellowship meeting to follow that same day; but COVID 19 issues caused the cancellation of this gathering. It has thus been disappointing not to be able to meet in person by way of large groups this past calendar year! But by God’s grace, now that travel and gathering restrictions have eased up considerably over these past couple of spring months, I have been able to get around personally to attend worship services and/or meetings with each of our twelve churches with CCCC relationships.

Two of these churches are now in the beginning stages of the search for a new pastor. I have been able to attend the first search committee meetings of both churches to bring encouragement, prayer, and practical insight through the helpful CCCC book titled, “Transitioning Your Church – How to Bridge a Pastoral Change”.

Along with Terry Shanahan, I attended two meetings at our church in Westbrook, where two lay leaders were preparing to be elevated to in-house ordained standing. Both Terry and I then had the opportunity to preach at the ordination service just recently on the afternoon of July 4.

In order to assist our churches in providing helpful evangelical resources beyond the CCCC, I have had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Grace Evangelical Seminary in Bangor, Maine Bible College in the Portland area, the Maine Christian Civic League, and the AIIA Institute (a center for Christian Apologetics directed by Daryl Witmer in Monson, Maine, the father of our Massachusetts CCCC pastor Stephen Witmer).

Sadly, one of our smaller CCCC churches, in Lovell, felt the need to permanently close their doors late this past September. Less than a handful of remaining official members were left to make this hard decision.

Finally, even in the midst of the pandemic, I had the joy of meeting once every other week with one of our CCCC pastors, Randall Thissell, who leads a non-CCCC church in Port Clyde. He and I met with five other evangelical pastors on that bi-weekly basis.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Steve Burkett
REGIONAL MINISTRIES REPORTS CONTINUED

NEW HAMPSHIRE AREA PASTOR REPORT - REV. DAVID RANDLETT

On June 24, 2020, I was asked to moderate the annual meeting of the Millbrook Christian Fellowship in Grafton. It was voted at this meeting to have a special meeting to vote on whether or not to dismiss the Pastor. I was asked to moderate this special meeting on July 12. After the congregation voted to dismiss the Pastor, I helped the church arrange for pulpit supply, and an eventual interim. I was also called upon to provide counseling for a couple of the church members.

The New Hampshire Pastors, after a brief hiatus, resumed our monthly meetings in September 2020. We have been studying two provocative books by Rod Dreher, "The Benedict Option," and "Live Not By Lies."

Many of our churches reported greater outreach opportunities as a result of the pandemic forcing churches to live-stream on Sunday mornings.

I continue to represent the Conference as Vice President and Secretary of the NH Bible Society, as well as in the clergy fellowship sponsored by the New Hampshire Alliance.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. David Randlett

NORTHERN MASSACHUSETTS AREA PASTOR REPORT - REV. SHEA FITZGIBBONS

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one" Ephesians 6:16

The command in Ephesians 6 is 2nd person plural, so it should come as no surprise that it took two pastors to cover the area that the Rev. Steve Burkett previously covered for over two decades (Rev. Nick Granitsas picked up the other half of Steve’s area, now Greater Boston). It is definitely my honor to contribute to the health of our conference by serving the 19 churches and 68 credentialed pastors/workers in this area. The past year has shown all of us just how crucial is our mutual support, encouragement and sharpening to the overall health of our churches and our pastoral ministries in New England. Picture these CCCC brothers and sisters striving together in all circumstances, ministering side by side, taking up shields of faith in order to extinguish the flaming darts of the evil one!

In October through June we maintained the CCCC Northern Massachusetts Pastors Roundtable hosted (primarily) at Free Christian Church in Andover by the Rev. Jon Paul. This year saw more attendees unable or cautious to attend in person, so a hybrid approach utilizing in-person and Zoom gatherings were attempted each month. We tackled discussions about critical race theory, racism in society and in the church, ministry in a pandemic including policies around masks, singing, and the COVID shot/vaccine, and having productive political discourse in congregational settings.

I joined the executive committee for the New England Congregational Christian Fellowship (NECCF), which meets once every other month on Zoom. We succeeded in hosting an online Annual Conference this past spring, including an insightful and encouraging message from Professor Jim Singleton of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary about ministry in a pandemic and leadership trends he is studying in ministry as a result of the multi-year Thriving in Ministry cohorts funded by Lily grants.

Throughout the year I also assisted our national Credentials Committee in three main capacities: 1) Interviewed the following churches and individuals for membership/credentials in the CCCC: First Baptist Church of Salem / Rev. Steven White; Neil Murphy; 2) Participated in one ordination council for the Rev. Dan Snape at the Community Congregational Church of Billerica; and 3) Actively facilitating a Minister Under Care team to support a pastor in our area going through a divorce.
Please pray for the intentionally interim ministries of the three churches in this area that they will arrive at the healthy transitions they seek as well as the future pastors of these churches yet to be identified: Rev. Gene Heacock at Hope Community Church in Newburyport; Rev. David Forsythe at The Congregational Church in North Chelmsford; Rev. Ron Sylvester at Immanuel Church in Chelmsford.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Shea Fitzgibbons

CONNECTICUT & RHODE ISLAND AREA PASTOR REPORT - REV TOM CRUMB

Though the global pandemic prevented our pastor’s group from holding face-to-face gatherings during the past year, we are looking forward to the resumption of quarterly gatherings this fall for our CT/RI pastors now that vaccinations are on the rise and restrictions are being revised and removed.

A Vicinage Council was held for Jitesh Soans, the new pastor at the Sherman Congregational Church, on Saturday, November 14. The First Congregational Church of Pomfret served as the host church for this gathering, and eight of our area pastors gathered to question and listen to Jitesh as he supported and defended the written summary of his doctrinal beliefs. Following lunch and time of discussion, a motion was made and unanimously supported to recommend Jitesh for Ordination. A Service of Ordination was held for Jitesh at the Sherman Church on Sunday, May 2 with Rev. Terry Shanahan and me bringing charges to the church and to the pastor respectively.

The Annual Meeting of NECCF (The New England Christian Conference Fellowship) was held via Zoom on Saturday, April 24. Dr. Jim Singleton from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary served as us as our guest speaker and provided an enlightening talk on “Ministering during Tough Times”. Following Dr. Singleton’s address and a time of shared prayer, the business portion of the meeting was conducted. Officers were elected, a treasury report was received, and a proposed name change to “CCCC New England” was advanced. Following the procedure outlined in our By-laws, this name change will be voted on at next spring’s NECCF meeting.

Our church in Franklin, CT has entered the Turning Point Initiative, and I have had the privilege of serving among a team of advisors who are working alongside the existing church to guide them in their desire to see a replanting effort initiated for that historic church.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Thomas Crumb

SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS AREA PASTOR REPORT- REV. PETER SMITH

Ministry as Area Pastor was challenging during the Pandemic. Some pastors gathered via zoom conference calls, using a format encouraged by Overseed Ministries. I was pleased to welcome several new pastors into the area, some of whom have sought me out for assistance in gaining credentials with the Conference.

A rotation of one-to-one meetings seems to be the best way of maintaining some contact at this time. I look forward to greater mobility in the future.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Dr. Peter J. Smith
VERMONT AREA PASTOR REPORT- PASTOR MIKE HADDAD

I am excited to report that Vermont has mostly gone back to normal, even though there are still remnants of the impact of COVID on church life and ministry. Local churches seem to be worshipping without nearly as many restrictions, if any. This is a more recent change in Vermont and so I hope to slowly begin to finally make my way around the state to other CCCC churches and pastors. I have had the opportunity more recently to see and catch up with a couple CCCC pastors in Vermont, but there are many I have not seen in a long time or have yet to meet. One of my goals is to focus on those churches that are in transition, and I look forward to assisting such churches in any way that I can be of service. The church in which I serve in Derby, VT is moving back into our normal ministry schedule and programs. By September we hope and pray to be able to offer all the ministries we had offered in the past. We are also looking forward to launching a new discipleship initiative that we had to put on hold last year. God has been abundantly faithful to work in the hearts and lives of Vermonters throughout this past year or so and many of my brothers and sisters have grown significantly in their walk with the Lord. God certainly works all things together for the good of those who love Him!

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Mike Haddad

BOSTON TO CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS AREA PASTOR REPORT – REV. NICK GRANITSAS

I have really appreciated my first full year as an area pastor. This area includes eighteen CCCC churches and forty-five individuals with standing in the Conference. Rev. Steve Burkett’s former area had been divided in two due to its great number of churches and individuals. Steve had somehow managed to do the job, but it definitely takes two people to do the work that he did! Thank you, Steve, for your years of serving the area with by far the most CCCC churches and individuals in the Conference.

During the year, I responded to requests for help or counsel. Among my activities, I preached twice at the Bethany Congregational Church in Lynn and made myself available for pastoral assistance while the pastor was out of state tending to his ailing mother. I was also involved in meetings involving conflict in one of our member churches. I represented the Conference to a prospective church. I served on a spiritual advisory/support board for an interim pastor serving one of our churches. I interviewed one candidate for standing in the Conference. During my partial year of service in the previous year, I had the privilege of interviewing three other candidates. Getting to know these candidates was a real joy!

Our regional pastor, Rev. Terry Shanahan, held regular meetings (by Zoom of course!) with the area pastors in the region. We heard reports from the different areas and supported each other with prayer. In addition, area pastors in this region held regular meetings with the officers of the New England Congregational Christian Fellowship.

Across our country, COVID-19 presented great challenges and opportunities for our churches. As one new pastor was about to conduct his first worship service, “live” services were shut down. It would be months before he led an in-person worship service. On the other hand, many of our churches were led by the Lord to find new ways to minister, reaching new people during the pandemic.

It was my great privilege to regularly pray for the churches, pastors and others holding standing in the Conference. May the Lord continue to work in the life of our Conference bringing fresh vision, church revitalization, new church plants and passion for missions!

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Nick Granitsas
As of this writing I am finishing out my second year in this part time role of Mideast Regional Pastor. In a recent visit to an adult Sunday School class held in upstate Michigan, the class leader asked me “If I could have any job in the world, what would it be?” Without hesitation I answered “I’m doing it!” And so, what is it that I am doing? My efforts have fallen along many pleasant paths.

First: For me, a great challenge has been how to become more familiar with 90+ churches and 200+ ministers in the Mideast credentialed with our Conference. To do so I consolidated key information for churches and ministers in each of the nine (9) geographic areas of the Mideast region. I then created maps for each geographic area showing the locations of each church/minister. While beneficial to me in terms of getting a better sense of the makeup of the Mideast Region, I found these to be very helpful for each Area Pastor. I now maintain up to date church and minister lists and maps for each area and distribute them to Area Pastors periodically for their use. When I have the opportunity to attend local pastors’ gatherings, I also make a point of distributing copies to each pastor present. It is often the case that this information helps them discover fellow CCCC churches and ministers who are close by that they may not have known about.

Another important result coming from this process was recognizing that there were two geographic areas needing revision. The first was the area comprising the Greater Hudson Valley Congregational Fellowship (GHVCF). It was geographically too large to be served by one Area Pastor. I proposed we split this large area into two smaller ones. We retained the GHVCF name but reduced its’ geographic area to something more manageable for our Area Pastor Rev. Tom Bridgman to cover. We than created a new area in Central New York and parts of north central Pennsylvania that are now being led by newly appointed Area Pastor Rev. Rick Chaffee. This allows us to focus on building stronger and/or restoring fellowship groups in each area. The second area of concern was Indiana/Western Ohio. The slight number of CCCC churches and ministers in the area have made it difficult to form a solid fellowship. In contrast, Eastern Ohio is one of the strongest areas in the Mideast region in that it has the largest number of churches and ministers of any area. In fact, the numbers were so great that it was impractical to expect one Area Pastor to cover it. As a result, we modified the boundaries between the Indiana/Western Ohio area and Eastern Ohio to strengthen the West and give relief to the East.

Second: Having previously served as the Southern New England Area Pastor for nearly 8 years, it is my personal conviction that well trained and equipped Area Pastors are absolutely crucial to building a more unified and strong Mideast Region. To that end I have been building a catalog of Area Pastor essentials to better equip them for their roles. This often takes the form of using existing information found in our yearbook, constitution and bylaws and other documents and shaping it in such a way that it becomes a tool providing guidance for the administration of their duties.

Third: Of the 90+ Mideast churches credentialed with our Conference, a number have fallen short of meeting their basic obligations to the Conference. Either they have not submitted an annual survey over the last two years or they have not contributed any amount financially in the past two years, or both. In some cases we recognize that this is just due to an oversight – for example … the survey request gets lost or there’s a transition in personnel or just plain forgetfulness. But in other cases we see what appears to be a distinct disconnect from the Conference. Though we believe that Conference membership requires a certain level of
accountability, more important to us is the goal of maintaining a solid relationship. The survey and financial data point us to those churches with whom we desire to re-establish solid and lasting relationships. A process for contacting these churches has been developed and will be rolled out in the Mideast Region. Our prayer is that we can establish a renewed relationship with those churches who have fallen away.

**Fourth:** Travel prohibitions due to Covid-19 brought many challenges – especially with respect to on-site meetings. However, via Zoom I was able to interact regularly with the Mideast Area Pastors, engage with pastors’ gatherings throughout Mideast Region, participate in monthly Conference Care team meetings, interact with the Board of Directors and have many one-on-one meetings with pastors throughout the region.

**Fifth:** In those periods when there has been no travel ban I have personally attended several Area/State fellowship meetings, supplied pulpits, engaged in conflict resolution, administered Natural Church Development (NCD) surveys, attended various services of worship, ordination and installation as well as a few vicinage councils. I have also introduced the CCCC to one UCC church in northwest Ohio. Such visits are seldom day trips due to the geographical size of the Mideast region. Most visits take 2-3 days for me to complete. However, for the sake of efficiency, I sometimes consolidate several visits in different geographical areas which may require me to spend a week or more away from home.

**Sixth:** Throughout the year I have received training in several different areas. I have attended both the Theology and Congregational studies programs held at Central Schwenkfelder Church in Lansdale PA (a member of the Planning Committee for future training), a seminar on Biblical Peacemaking, a Church Development Webinar, a Ministry Trauma Workshop, a Biblical Storying webinar and took a 10 day personal Sabbatical in Savannah GA to study 1 Peter. I also attend a local men’s Bible study and have close interaction with two local Pastors.

**Seventh:** Additional committee involvement – I continue to volunteer as the Annual Gathering Co-coordinator and serve on the 5 year Planning Committee.

**Final Comments/Prayer Requests**

For specifics concerning each Area in the Mideast region, I direct your attention to the individual reports submitted by **Rev. Dr. David Balicki** (Michigan), **Rev. David Dake** (Eastern Ohio), **Rev. Todd Venman** (Western NY and Northwest PA), **Rev. Rick Chaffee** (Central NY and North Central PA), Rev. Tom Bridgman (Greater Hudson Valley Congregational Fellowship), **Rev. Kirk van der Swaagh** (Greater New York City and New Jersey) and **Rev. David Meckley** (Western PA Allegheny Fellowship). These brothers are my colleagues in ministry without whom I could not be effective in my role as Regional Pastor.

Until a few weeks ago I still had two vacancies in the role of Area Pastors – one for Indiana/Western Ohio and the other in Eastern PA. I praise God that within the past week He moved in the heart of **Rev. Dr. David McKinley** to assume the role of Area Pastor for Eastern PA. This is a position David held for a number of years. After a short sabbatical he has volunteered to take up the role again. During the time when Eastern PA was absent an Area Pastor, I gratefully acknowledge the efforts of **Dr. Sharon Anderson**, the Moderator of the Eastern PA fellowship. Her calls to gather ministers together from around the area helped to sustain a sense of unity in the absence of an Area Pastor.

For Indiana/Western Ohio, please join me in prayer for God’s help to establish a new fellowship in an area that has seen little meaningful Conference activity for a number of years. Please join me in praying for
the Lord to raise up a person to take up the role of Indiana/Western Ohio Area Pastor. In the interim I will continue to nurture the establishment of a solid fellowship.

On a personal level, please pray that I would be given the wisdom, strength and leadership skills needed to encourage, equip, gather and support ministers and churches throughout the Mideast Region. I appreciate the guidance and counsel I have received from our Conference Minister Ron Hamilton, our three Directors, my fellow Regional Pastors and the Area Pastors with whom I serve. Though just two years into this role, I thank the Lord for His continuing guidance and with His help remain fully committed to building upon the solid foundation of CCCC churches and ministers in the Mideast. I’m comforted to know that this is not my work to accomplish – it is the work of the Lord!

Thus in this role I regularly claim the truth of Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trusting in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight."

In Christ,
Rev. Timothy Dubeau, CCCC Mideast Regional Pastor
MIDEAST REGION REPORTS

Annual Report of the Mideast Central New York Fellowship

Mideast Central New York (MECNY) is the official name of our newly created area. The CCCC churches and ministers in this area were formerly a part of the Greater Hudson Valley Congregational Fellowship (GHVCF) but when that area fellowship stopped holding meetings a number of years ago those of us in Central New York started our own ministers’ fellowship. We have been meeting fairly regularly for five or six years. We have talked several times about the possibility of establishing an area fellowship of churches but had not done so since we had more CCCC ministers then CCCC churches. We did hold one inter-church gathering in 2018 with limited response. In 2019 when we were informed that our area was to become a part of the Mideast Region, we held a meeting to introduce our Regional Pastor Tim Dubeau to everyone and to try and ascertain the interest in forming an area wide fellowship of churches. Then Covid hit and we are still pretty much at the same status with those discussions.

We are continuing to meet bi-monthly as a ministers’ fellowship. Prior to Covid we met in a restaurant that was centrally located for our attendees. Now we are meeting at one of the more centrally located local churches by invitation of the minister. Our meetings are bag lunches and tend to be about two and half hours in length. The average driving time for those attending is about an hour and a half, so the commitment involves a good portion of the day, and more for those who live in northern New York. We enjoy each other’s company and have an open discussion of concerns and joys followed by a time of prayer for one another. Occasionally we have had an announced agenda item as we did when Bryan Long, Director of Church Multiplication, came and shared about the prospective church restart in Franklin, CT.

This last year our Central New York area was enlarged to include three CCCC ministers from northeastern Pennsylvania. We presently have four CCCC churches in NY, one in PA and fifteen active CCCC ministers. One retired pastor is moving this year which will lower our number to fourteen. We have seven other non-CCC ministers who attend, some very regularly, a few others who have expressed some interest in coming but have not yet done so. In addition to Tim Dubeau we have Peter Wood, Director of Conference Care, living nearby and available to assist in providing information regarding the current status and initiatives of our Conference.

We are looking forward to the possibility of holding a united meeting at Christ Chapel in Ithaca, NY to share together as best we can in the virtual Annual Meeting of the Conference on July 17.

Gratefully, Rick Chaffee, Area Pastor

Eastern Ohio Area Pastor’s Report 2021

But those who wait on 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. (Isaiah 40:31)

The Ohio 4C Association enjoyed two Ohio 4C Meetings (Fall and Spring) with two officer meetings, planning for NE Ohio meetings.

Our Fall 2020 meeting (First Congregational Church, Lodi) featured Rev. Jeff Lord, who spoke on “Easy Church Evangelism”.

We canceled our annual Winter Banquet, which is normally scheduled for February, due to Covid.
Spring meeting 2021 (Pittsfield Community Church) featured Rev. Phil Ross, who spoke on “Sanctification, Growth in Christ”.

Each Ohio 4C meeting discussed the association’s local business, CCCC national updates and events, local missionaries, and Barnabas Ministry updates and approvals. Rev. Mitch Reed stepped down as Recording Sec., and Donna Edsel was elected to recording secretary.

It is a delight and privilege to serve the Living God who includes us in ministry within His Kingdom, encouraging and caring for one another as “the day draws near.” Furthermore, it is enjoyable to participate in the Barnabas Ministry Cohort, discussing ministry strategies during Covid as we are entrusted to attend our duties within the Kingdom of God. Much appreciation goes to those who have invested in the Conference, giving classes and seminars. The “What Does It Mean to Be Congregational?” was very informative, and a great refresher course. Personally, much appreciation to Rev. Dr. Drake Williams and Rev. Nicholas Granitsas for their Theological understanding and historic knowledge. I look forward to gathering with my brothers and sisters in Providence, RI in 2022.

Pastoral Changes:
- Christopher Vough: from East Oberlin Community Church, Oberlin, OH to retired
- Pastor James Pavlic: Parkman Congregational Church, Parkman, OH
- Rev. Mitch Reed: Immanuel Church, Zanesville, OH, to East Glenville Community Church, NY
- Rev. Brian Egelston: United Church of Huntington, Wellington, OH
- Pastor Jeff Bodziuny: Jones Road Congregational Church, Cleveland, OH
- Rev. Ronald J. Zupancich: Huntsburg Congregational Church, Huntsburg, OH
- Rev. Mark Reynolds, East Oberlin Community Church, Oberlin, OH
- Pastor Samuel Osborn: Immanuel Church, Zanesville, OH

Churches Open
- Putnam Congregational Church; Marietta, OH.

Pastoral Gatherings
As congregationalists it is our desire as pastors to congregate and support one another as seen in our history and polity. We have two groups meeting regularly and hope and pray that we will develop more groups that all in our conference will be edified by this practice.

Interviews and Meetings
- James Pavilic, Mark Reynolds, Ronald Zupancich, and Samuel Osborn

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. L. David Dake
Eastern New York and Western Massachusetts Congregational Fellowship

*And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.* (Col. 1:18)

Our Area Fellowship consists of Eastern New York State and Western Massachusetts.

It would be an understatement to say that this has been an unusual and unanticipated year. Our churches have been all but closed down to public worship because of the pandemic and are just now beginning to come back to life. Tim Dubeau has done an admirable job at seeking to maintain contact with those of us who are Area Pastors in the Mideast region. Our area fellowship has been inactive for some time. The conference made the important move to split us into two area fellowships with the addition of the Central New York state area which now is being served by Rick Chaffee as Area Pastor. Since then I have sought to reach out to all the pastors and churches in our eastern group by phone or email, and have been able to meet personally face-to-face with Mitch Reed, the newly installed pastor of the East Glenville Community Church. My desire is to see us pull together an executive committee by later this year.

The only interview I have been called on to administer was with Nick Nowack, who is the associate pastor of the Neighborhood Church of New York, a part of the Greater New York City/New Jersey area fellowship. But since Kirk van der Swaagh, who is the GNY/NJ Area Pastor and also Nick’s pastor it was decided that someone other than he conduct the interview. I look forward to Nick’s participation in the conference and believe he will be an asset to the membership of our conference.

Once again, I consider it a privilege to serve the CCCC in this capacity.

Respectfully Submitted, Thomas E. Bridgman

Michigan CCCC Area Pastor’s Annual Report for July 2020 to June 2021 –

The last half of 2020 saw the Michigan CCCC churches dealing with the coronavirus. The positive side to this note is that by July 2020 most churches had put in place a number of creative measures designed to remain in contact with their local congregational membership. Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, and Prayer all continued in spite of the challenges to meet together.

Like many other face to face gatherings, the Michigan CCCC churches had to cancel its plans to hold a Fall Retreat in September of 2020. By the time January 2021 rolled around, the pastoral leadership decided to get together on a Zoom call. It was a great time to see each other, to interact and to pray for one another. We held another Zoom meeting in April 2021 and talked about holding regularly scheduled Zoom meetings. The Michigan CCCC purchased their own Zoom account and has made it available for use by all Michigan CCCC churches and pastors. During our Zoom meetings, our hopes of meeting face to face was renewed once again and plans were made to hold our traditional Spring Rally.

Our Spring Rally did take place in May of 2021 at Big Rock Congregational Church. It was refreshing and exciting to be with each other. There were lots of hugs and joy abounded. In short, it was exactly what we needed. God always meets our needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.

As it has been so often said, there is nothing more constant than change. Over this past year, changes indeed have taken place in the lives of the Michigan CCCC pastors and congregations. Transitions in ministry are always ongoing. I continually pray for God’s guidance and direction as He leads us to new places and new faces. It has been evident to me that God’s providential hand has been upon the Michigan CCCC and I rejoice as His hand of blessing has remained upon all of us as well.

Soli Deo Gloria, Rev. Dr. David A. Balicki
CCCC of Western NY and Northwest PA

The diversity of our Area showcases a diverse yet unchanging God; from Niagara Falls in the north to the Allegheny National Forest in the south, from Lake Erie to the west and farming communities to the east.

As like many other areas we saw the effects of the covid pandemic. However, it was always interesting to hear how churches found new ways to be obedient to Christ commands. One size did not fit all and in most cases didn’t even fit most. With our Area, including parts of two states, many times experienced different state guidelines. Christ has a way or redeeming even the craziest of times.

Fluvanna Community Church found new ways to continue their Pastoral search. They called Pastor Todd Wentworth and installed him during a parking lot service in August. Rev. Tim Dubeau was in attendance and gave the charge to the church as the rain let loose and making soggy our Regional Pastor but not the tone of the service. Please pray for Todd and Elizabeth Wentworth as they transition to this new role.

The Cross a CCCC Church Plant in Erie is still hosting short term mission trips this year. Work groups are a vital source of energy to this missional church. Keep Pastor Chuck and Betsy Nelson in your prayers.

Lake View Community Church has seen a surge in attendance and regrouping even during Covid. Christ truly builds the church even in uncertain times. Please pray for Pastor Andy and Ruth Frudd as they serve at Lake View Community Church and also at a church in development called Grace First Church.

Kiantone Congregational Church is providing discipleship opportunities for young people who have a call on their life to preach. Sunday nights offer a chance for young and old to serve the King as they get experience behind the pulpit. Pray also for Rev. Mel McGinnis as he serves in this church and community.

Good News Community Church, First Congregational Church of North Collins NY, Ellington Congregational Church, Wiltzie Community Church and Clarks Corners Community Church.

Our Pastors and Wife’s fellowships and Annual Banquet did not occur this year. However, we were able to continue to meet as a Community Pastor Group. These smaller groups could socially distance and limit contact as possible expose to covid was made aware. We have learned to figure out new ways to be obedient to Christ even as twists and turns became a common occurrence. The Spirit has guided Christ has provided and our Father has been exalted.

Rev. Todd Venman
Allegheny Fellowship Area Pastor Report
The Allegheny Fellowship includes 13 CCCC churches and 22 clergy across western Pennsylvania.

Despite the pandemic, our Allegheny Fellowship had a productive meeting in June, 2020 via Zoom. This enabled more clergy to meet virtually when spanning the miles in person would have been prohibitive. This provided a vital connection and encouragement as we navigated the uncharted path before us and sought the Lord together in prayer.

We were able to meet in person when restrictions lifted in September, 2020 at Rural Valley CCCC Church where Pastor Tim Lewis and his team hosted us. Pastor John Patterson led an informative session on The Two Kingdoms. We met again in May at Christ Church, CCCC in Roaring Spring where Pastors Joel Kletzing and John Nothwang hosted. Pastor Jacob Tanner, who serves Mt Bethel CCCC church in McClure led a rich session on An Apologetic Approach to Current World Views. I am grateful for the rich fellowship and growth opportunities we are privileged to share with like-minded clergy.

I conducted three credentials interviews with pastors seeking to be licensed or have their ordination recognized in the CCCC.

One congregation is soon to cast a congregational vote concerning affiliating with the CCCC. I was privileged to present to them reasons to do so earlier this year. Along with Pastor Tim Dubeau, our Regional Pastor, I have been consulting with churches in transition and otherwise strengthening our life together.

I am an active participant in a local Community Pastor’s group that meets monthly for prayer and mutual encouragement. I am aware of other Allegheny Fellowship pastors in such groups in their vicinity.

Cordially, in Christ, David M. Meckley
Allegheny Fellowship Area Pastor

Greater New York City & New Jersey
In varying degrees, our area has been opening up after months of COVID related restrictions. During the restrictions we have been attempting a monthly meeting of CCCC ministers on Zoom. If interest remains we will continue. There has been one new inquiry for standing with the CCCC, as well as one recently credentialed minister. Below are reports from several of the CCCC brethren serving in our area:

Joe Marlin, Epiphany Gloucester City (NJ):
We continue to see growth, and answers to prayers. Recently a woman who was considering an abortion came around and now both mom and dad are fully on board. We have seven high school interns this summer, their summer of ministry starts with a one week mission trip down to serve in Norfolk, Virginia, and then they will serve locally for a month helping us run camp for 80 kids. We now have twelve adults about nine months into a deacon and elder training, and we’ve seen real growth in their lives. God has really blessed us through this pandemic. We thank God to be able say that though we did not grow numerically in our weekly attendance, we did grow healthier, and saw some real leaders step up and new people come who are ready to give and serve at Church. I am more optimistic about the Church that I have been since we planted in 2018.

Susan Moody, Wading River Congregational Church (NY):
"I arrived in Wading River in September of 2020. To say that it was overwhelming to start a new intentional interim job in a new state and city during a pandemic would be a massive
understatement! Add to that the fact that the church had been without a pastor for about six months due to the extended process of finding an interim during a pandemic, and the challenges of this placement are clear. However, the good news is that the people of Wading River Congregational Church have been welcoming and helpful. The leaders of the church worked extra hard to carry the church through the months without pastoral leadership, so the work to reorganize was not as daunting as it might have been. And the leaders continue to work hard through the challenges we face. We are making our way through the process of strengthening structures and clarifying the ministry direction of the church so the official pastoral search can get underway. I am excited to see what God will do in and through the people of Wading River Congregational Church.”

**Jordan Roberts, Bronx Household of Faith (NY):**

By God’s grace we are moving quickly toward operating more or less "normally" as a church, with most of our members having returned to in-person worship, and our teaching, counseling, and evangelistic ministries proceeding as previously. We are excited about new members we’ve baptized and/or had join our church even during this pandemic. At the same time, COVID has made certain situations/members harder to assess/invest in, respectively, and we look for Christ’s wisdom and strength in building up the body where it is weak and in pursuing stray, aloof, and struggling members. We also continue to pray for wisdom in raising up, or calling, in a third pastor/elder to join us in leadership.

**Bryan Burrell, Community Bible Church (Valley Cottage, NY)**

This year I became the longest serving minister of Community Bible Church at 36 years and counting. Our focus continues to be outreach. A Spanish speaking church now worships regularly, joining our Indian fellowship that meets at least quarterly at the church. Since Nyack College was purchased by the Hasedim, my burden and the churches burden for this population has grown exponentially. We have done street evangelism in Monsey. More than 1 out of three residents of Rockland County are Hasedic Jews. God has been good to us. We now livestream every service.

**Kirk van der Swaagh, Neighborhood Church of Greenwich Village (NY):**

Since January of 2021, I’ve been working side-by-side with Nick Nowalk (newly credentialed with the CCCC) to facilitate a smooth transition from my leadership to his. We have seen commitment from several new people and we anticipate more as some who have benefited from Nick’s ministry in the past purpose to make NCGV their home. I’ve been pastor of NCGV since 1987 and remain grateful to God for the grace he has poured out on our fellowship through the years. This is a new season for our church and it gives all of us hope that God’s care will extend far into the future. My wife, Barbara, and I will be heading to Scotland early next year to serve with Mission to the World in support of the Free Church of Scotland. It’s an exciting development and one that we believe takes advantage of our ministry experience in New York.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk van der Swaagh
REGIONAL MINISTRIES STAFF – NORTH CENTRAL REGION

RAY DELAURIER, North Central Regional Pastor

When I look back on this past year when many of the churches began the transition from the pandemic shut down to limited open services and then to full services, I sense a great relief and a renewed desire in the churches to engage with the community and the Conference. While some of the 10 upper mid-west states remained closed, some were completely open and I was able to visit the church and share with them how they could be more healthy.

It is a great spiritual joy for me to visit pastors, church boards, and congregations in this role as Regional Pastor. I particularly enjoy spending the night in the home of a church member for mutual edification and connection. These opportunities to reconnect individuals and churches to the Conference seems to create more excitement and enthusiasm for effective ministry as they realize that they are not alone, and the Conference is ready and able to help them in ministry.

There was a great rejoicing in three Installation Services for new pastors in churches that had a pastoral vacancy for nearly two years or more. I have spent a lot of phone and Zoom time with the search committees, and then ministering to coaching these new pastors. Other congregations sought Ministerial Standing for their pastor and I enjoyed the interview process with these pastors as a part of the process. I feel a strong connection was made on a personal level with them, which will carry through to their congregations.

Over this past year, I had 46 visits to churches, meeting with the pastor, often with the church board, and individuals who housed me. I have been preaching sermons on the Conference Irreducible Core, as well as leading seminars on Developing a Culture of Believing Prayer and Intercession. Attendance and teaching some lessons on Healthy Pastors at the Wisconsin Pastor’s Retreat and the Great Plains annual meeting strengthened connections with the pastors and advanced our Seven Guiding Values. Sadly, three scheduled opportunities to lead the Biblical Peace making seminar were Covid canceled.

Zoom meetings have become common in our ministry model since Covid and more pastors are getting used to using the technology. I had a total of 73 Zoom meetings with Conference leaders, pastors, church boards and committees. This is particularly helpful to me as I became a temporary board member of a Restart church in Minnesota. There are also connections with pastors and church committee members on the telephone. Over the past year I had 96 phone calls which gave the opportunity to coach, encourage, and plan ministry directions.

This ministry in such a large geographical region would be nearly impossible without the great Area Pastors who are serving the North Central Region. These men in North and South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Illinois are connecting with the pastors in the local churches and in Iowa doing major ministries in troubled churches. To each of them I owe a very large debt of gratitude. May God abundantly bless each one.
2021 Iowa Area Pastor's Report

Even though 2020 and 2021 presented us with significant challenges, the Lord was active in Iowa. As is the case with nearly all ministry and in particular the Area Pastor ministry, it cannot be fulfilled without a team effort. As such I would like to begin by giving special thanks to my predecessor Orlyn Marks and our Regional Pastor Ray DeLaurier for their counsel and support. I would also like to thank the Iowa Area ministers and churches for their partnership in ministry. May the Lord continue to bless us as we strive with the Holy Spirit to make disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ beginning in our Iowa communities.

The Iowa CCCC Area is comprised of 8 churches and 17 ministers, 12 of whom currently have CCCC standing. Even though we are a relatively small area, we are blessed with a great variety of ministry involvement which has proven to be a source of mutual enrichment. Our ministers serve as church pastors, college professor, online Bible teacher, chaplain, youth ministry director, and missionary First Congregational in Parkersburg called Martin DeWitt as pastor while Community Church in Hudson said fare well to Chip Herrera and welcome to Erik Davis.

In order to minister to such a wide group of ministers, we held monthly Zoom meetings and published an area newsletter. We have a Facebook group and are developing a website. Our Zoom meetings were typically theme based with time for sharing and prayer. We were enriched by the regular participation of our Regional Pastor, Ray DeLaurier. A newsletter, called the Iowa Foresee, helped to keep us informed and connected. Each edition began with an article by Ray and concluded with a list of prayer requests.

Sandwiched in between were articles about an Iowa CCCC pastor or church, an update from Conference Care or Church Development or Church Multiplication, a mission update (Micronesia Ministry, Mission's Committee, Y-Malawi or a ministry associated with an Iowa CCCC minister), opportunities for corporate prayer, as well as resources for ministry enrichment. Regular contact with ministers was made via emails, texts, phone calls, Zoom and in some cases personal visits.

During the course of the year Ray and I discussed expanding the Iowa Area ministry team to more effectively implement the core ministries of Conference Care, Church Development, and Church Multiplication at the area level. After consulting with others in the CCCC, we are praying through and working on the development of a larger Iowa Area Ministry Team to includes Area Pastor, Area Church Developer, and Area Church Multiplier. A significant motivation for this is that there isn’t a CCCC church in the 90 largest cities in Iowa. A vision for planting churches is being developed with one potential church plant already in process by the Evangelical and Reformed Church in Garner, IA.

In the process of researching an article on the Micronesia Ministry, Max Vague invited me to join him for church leadership training in Killeen, TX and Fort Oglethorpe, GA. While participating, it was discovered that there are six Micronesian communities living in Iowa and most are desiring to have a church started in their sub-culture. In partnership with the Micronesian Ministry Committee and Church Multiplication, efforts are being made to contact and potentially plant churches among these Iowa communities.

My other CCCC activities included conducting an Interventionist Study for First Congregational Church in Mantorville, MN and setting up the first of hopefully many Zoom meeting between the leaders of the Micronesia Committee, the Missions Committee and Y-Malawi for mutual prayer and encouragement as well as enhanced partnership in cross-cultural ministry. I also provided pulpit supply for a couple of Iowa CCCC churches.
Regional Ministries Reports Continued

While the pandemic was real and difficult, it did not hinder the Lord from working in and through CCCC ministers and churches in Iowa. Together we are looking forward to what the Lord will continue to do in Iowa as pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Griffith

Great Plain Fellowship Annual Report
Greetings from the Great Plains Fellowship. I would like to thank the Lord for our Great Plains Fellowship and for the great fellowship and encouragement we have together as fellow pastors. Post-COVID, we have gathered quarterly in Dickinson, North Dakota. The highlight of each quarterly gathering is a time of sharing ministry issues and prayer for one another. This time is such an intimate time of sharing and spending time in prayer that we usually have to scramble to complete our business agenda in the allotted time.

After the year off in 2020, we will return to hosting our annual gathering. This year, the gathering was held at the Evangelical Bible Church in Dickinson, ND, on June 11-13. This year’s gathering consisted of a message on Friday evening brought by our Regional Pastor, Ray DeLaurier, Saturday morning business meeting and a worship service with a message brought by Able Baker. We had ample time for fellowship at a picnic Saturday evening; followed by evening worship and sharing the Lord’s Supper together. For those who could stay, we going again together for Sunday morning worship.

This was my first year in the role of Area Pastor. I have enjoyed keeping in contact with the other pastors in our area, checking on how they are faring, reminding them that I am another person in their corner upholding them in prayer. We are blessed to have Ray DeLaurier our North Central Regional Pastor attend and lead our quarterly meetings as Moderator. I am happy to report that we are a close-knit group who service the Lord together to further His kingdom.

Tim Pravratsky, Area Pastor

Wisconsin Fellowship Annual Report
It has been a great joy and blessing to be asked to be the Area Pastor ministering to and working with the CCCC churches and Pastors in Wisconsin. As retired International Missionaries, my wife Sue and I were looking forward to finding a new home ministry and the Lord didn’t disappoint. I have had the opportunity since my appointment as Area Pastor to connect with all twelve of the Pastors in CCCC churches. I have been a part of the monthly meetings of the fellowship as well as discussion leader at the Annual Pastor’s Retreat in October and the Inaugural WI CCCC Family Picnic gathering in June.

Early in 2021, Sue and I engaged in the “next step” toward problem solving in one of the WI churches. We met with the leadership of the church on two occasions, had numerous phone calls with key leaders and those involved with the issues, the Board, previous pastors and Interim pastors and the Pastor to identify the current and longstanding issues that have plagued the congregation for decades. I reminded them of the principles of biblical peacemaking. After several weeks of fact-finding, I produced a summarized page of “findings” and shared it with the church board, the Pastor and Ray DeLaurier, the Regional Pastor.

At the monthly meetings with the pastors, I seek to inform them and remind them of the Conference priorities, and arrange for personal time of ministry with the pastors and conduct a home-based bible study in our area of WI. While we continue serving the church in South Africa with written bible lessons, we rejoice in this opportunity to continue ministry to WI pastors and the whole CCCC family.

Larry Correll, Area Pastor
I count it an honor and a privilege to serve Jesus by serving as the Regional Pastor for the Western USA for the CCCC. The Western Region includes approximately 145 pastors and 35 churches.

Although COVID kept me close to home during the early part of 2021, things eventually eased toward “normal” and I was back on the road and in the air. Here’s a rundown of some of my activities, contacts, and travels during the first half of 2021.

Numerous phone conversations, texts, and emails.

• Met twice with Beacon Bible Church’s Board of Elders in Encinitas, CA, to help with pastoral transition issues.
• Participated on the Five-Year Planning Committee.
• Visited Bethany Congregational Church in Santa Barbara, CA, and interviewed Chuck Burwell for licensure in the CCCC.
• Talked with Gayle re: a ministry to pastor’s wives recovering from trauma.
• Attended Guy Lee’s zoom retirement from the military.
• Traveled to Phoenix, AZ, and met with 3 couples for extended conversations.
• Traveled to Portland, OR & Vancouver, WA, and met with one couple. Although I tried to meet with more, things fell through.
• Traveled to Seattle and met with five couples/individuals.
• Traveled to Denver, CO, and Scottsbluff, NE. Preached at Salem. Met with 7 couples plus Zion’s search committee (in Brighton, CO).
• Traveled to CA’s Inland Empire and met with 3 couples. I attended worship with Stephen Sloat.
• Read Modern Day Pilgrims.
• Wrote a 20-page paper – “Our Congregational Heritage” – on the history of congregationalism which includes the origins of the CCCC.
• Added a few illustrations to PastorsPub.net.
• Published a book on the Kingdom of God.

As the remainder of this year unfolds, I plan to travel to Spokane, Idaho, MT, TX, and more.

It takes a great deal of time to line up meeting with individuals, couples, small groups, and churches so that our time in a given location is well spent. I thank God for the Area Pastors who assist with this process. Consistently I return saying to myself, “That was tiring but worthwhile.” Sometimes Teri goes with me and her presence always enhances our interactions with pastors and spouses.

I feel humbled and honored to serve shoulder-to-shoulder with Ron, Peter, John, Tim, Ray, Terry, Kim, the Board, and many others. God is at work in us and through us, and we are grateful.

Phil Noordmans, Regional Pastor, Western USA
**WEST REGION REPORTS**

**Colorado Area Pastor’s Report**
I am Lafe Murray, currently serving as pastor of the Hope Congregational Church in Bethune, Colorado. I am also the author of “Wisdom and Beyond” a nine-week study on the subjects of wisdom and grace.

I am the area pastor for the state of Colorado. Serving an area of just over 100,000 sq. miles has its challenges, but phones shorten the distances. We know the Holy Spirit connects us within the body of Christ. Our Colorado churches continue to impact our communities with the love of Christ.

During 2020 we did organize one meeting with Phil Noordmans but for various reasons none of the pastors were able to attend. We will connect soon at the Church Multiplication Conference in Denver.

As for myself, I continue to be cancer free for two years now. Complications with the surgery itself as it herniated will be fixed on June 21st at St. Joseph’s in Denver. Thank you all for your prayers.

God bless you greatly, Dr. Lafe A. Murray

**Western Washington Area Pastor’s Report**
Most of us would agree that 2020 started out with a plethora of great intentions. We all had established plans and activities carefully laid out in various degrees of certitude. Then COVID challenged all our plans. We all have been dealing with the practical implications of the government’s restrictions on travel and interpersonal interactions outside our immediate families. These restrictions indeed limited the goal of interactions for the CCCC personnel in the Western Washington area. Most interactions were limited to email correspondence.

What is important to note, however, is that many churches in this area have seen a tremendous work of God through the use of the Internet. In my home church many viewed the online services as a “safe” forum of visitation. These were people who would not have taken the opportunity to visit our local church. I have heard from many churches around the world that this is indeed the case. People sought to hear the gospel via the internet that, perhaps, would never have attended church under normal circumstances. God has indeed used this situation to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Highlights of this reporting period did include an in-person luncheon at my house in August 2020 where two area pastors discussed how we might generate interest in the CCCC and how their collective wisdom might assist me, as the Area Pastor, in enhancing the presence of the CCCC in this region. One intriguing idea was the discussion of planting CCCC churches in the area.

The second highlight of the year was the visit of our Regional Pastor, Phil Noordmans, in early April 2021. I was able to accompany him visiting two area pastors. The culmination of the evening was dinner with our CCCC Chaplain Endorser, Marc Gauthier. Later that week, Ted Bradshaw hosted a dinner at his home in Seattle for three additional CCCC pastors, their wives and Phil. The focus of these meetings was on hearing their spiritual journeys, the spiritual and physical health of these brothers, their spouses and families and culminating with sharing about their current ministries.

As a closing comment, I am very open to hearing from other Regional and Area Pastors regarding their ideas and suggestions in generating interest in the CCCC. Most of the pastors in this area have local ministries that provide spiritual and ministerial support apart from the area, regional and national CCCC. Currently we have no CCCC churches in this area and many of those who once were active with the CCCC have retired.

In Him, James Hollywood
The High Plains Nebraska Fellowship
Greetings on behalf of the churches of the High Plains Fellowship!

2021 was for us as for all of you a difficult year. Beginning with Lent of 2020, the churches of our fellowship went without our annual combined evening Lenten services. Easter Breakfasts were canceled, services went online and we, with other pastors in our community, met on Zoom. We were unable to gather for our annual combined service the Sunday evening before Thanksgiving and remained apart during Lent for a second year in 2021.

With great sadness we and many from our community gathered for the funeral of Pastor Bill Marrietta of the Federated Church in Mitchell after his brief battle with cancer. Bill went on to glory with a rich legacy of pastoral ministry, teaching at the local Bible College and missionary endeavors abroad.

Yet, in spite of all the changes, shut downs and losses of the last year, God has been faithful, our churches have remained strong and ministry has pressed forward in new ways. Several times over the last year the evangelical churches of the area participated in food distributions, giving away entire semi-truck loads of food.

As vaccines became available and guidelines were relaxed, we again enjoyed Easter breakfasts and ministry has since returned largely to normal.

The pastors of our fellowship, likewise having met only infrequently over the last year, have begun to meet more regularly in person for fellowship and prayer.

In my personal life I was grateful to have had family gather whom we hadn’t seen in person for over a year as my oldest son graduated from High School.

In my life, our church family’s life, and our larger fellowship’s life together, I can say with the singer of the Psalm:

“For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.”

Psalm 100:5 ESV

Pastor Garry Schick, Emmanuel Congregational Church

California Central Valley
Because this is my first year as an area pastor, I thought it best to call the other ten CCCC pastors who are in the Central Valley of California and introduce myself. I was a bit surprised to find out that of the ten, one had died, two others are in a skilled nursing facility, three are retired and of the remaining four who are active in ministry only one is involved in a CCCC church. Talk about a California drought.

But, on the positive side, the majority of those who are still able were very positive about getting together as soon as Covid allows. Lord willing, now that our Covid restrictions are lifted we will be able to soon do so.

On another positive note, Phil Noordmans, Regional Pastor for the Western USA, lives than a mile away from me and is a continual source of encouragement and support for me personally and all those in the Western Region.

D. Blake Slater, Area Pastor
Oregon and SW Washington

I am happy to submit a brief report for our area here in Oregon. We have been grateful for the heart warming ministry of our Regional Pastor, Dr. Phil, who has been in our home with his wife to get acquainted, encourage us, and keep us informed and abreast of the ministries in our conference. He has been in our area a couple of times seeking to unite and bring our conference ministers together. His efforts have been much appreciated and he has linked us together the very best since the times Dr Stephen Gammon’s served and so warmly included us here in the scattered and distant PNW Region.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Daniel G. Pulliam
CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee began its work last October identifying leaders we are voting on for our Annual Gathering. This important work must start very early, because the task of securing nominations requires identifying solid, talented people who are in agreement with our CCCC way. That solid talent also must have room for “one more thing on their schedule.” And being solid and talented means they tend to be solicited for many endeavors, including their own home churches, their work life and as volunteers in community organizations. Having been a pastor for small churches for over 20 years I learned this year that it does not matter the size of the pool you have to work with, identifying solid talented people with room for “one more thing” is a tough job even when your pool spans the United States.

We have many talented people in our conference. All the same we did not complete this work of securing nominations for you until April. There were some who did not have room for “one more thing.” We do not regret these “misses,” because it just proves we have talented people who are in demand. Wear every thankful that we did find and secure nominations for talented people who did have room for “one more thing” who have earned much praise and acclaim in the places where we are currently serving!

This work could not have been completed without the talents of Brian Egleston, Nick Granitsas, Ron Hamilton, Steve Burkett and Michael Hecht. These brothers supply a large amount of the contacts, time and energy that complete the process for us on the committee. This was Michael and Steve’s last year serving with the committee, and they served well and honorably during their time with us. Steve was also our scribe and provided us with stunningly detailed minutes for our meetings. Thank you!

Please find the nomination slate inside this document. We prayerfully believe that these men and women have been tapped by God for the new “one more thing” they have been called to serve. We are excited to see what they will bring to our shared future in our conference.

Michael McDonald,
Pastor of the First Congregational Church of New Haven CCCC Board of Directors
Chairperson Nominating Committee
CCCC NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Annual Gathering 2021

Slate of Nominees to be voted on for 2021:

CONFERENCE OFFICERS:

Conference Minister  Rev. Dr. Ron Hamilton .........................................................(2021-2024)
Controller  Mr. Phil Lewis .........................................................................................(2021-2024)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Rev. Mike Haddad .................................................................................................(2021-2024)
Rev. Joe Marlin ........................................................................................................(2021-2024) (2nd Term)
Rev. Bob Tolson ......................................................................................................(2021-2024)
Rev. TJ Turner ........................................................................................................ (2021-2024) (2nd Term)

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEES:

CONSTITUTIONAL STUDY:
Rev. Richard O'Hara .................................................................................................(2021-2024)

NOMINATING:
Rev. Tim McDonald ....................................................................................................(2021-2024)

CONFERENCE SERVICES COMMITTEES:

DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT:
Rev. Todd Venman ....................................................................................................(2021-2024)

DEPARTMENT OF CONFERENCE MULTIPLICATON:
Rev. Drew Thompson ..................................................................................................(2021-2024)

WOMEN’S MINISTRIES:
Mrs. Joan Granitsas ..................................................................................................(2021-2024)
CCCC NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Nominee Profiles

CONFERENCE OFFICERS
Conference Minister

RON HAMILTON has served as the CCCC Conference Minister since 2012 and previously worked as the Director of Church Multiplication from 2007 – 2012. He was founding pastor of the Woodbury Community Church in Woodbury, MN where he served for nearly thirty years. He is deeply committed to the development of healthy congregations with a commitment to missional ministry.

Controller

PHIL LEWIS is our current Controller and is nominated for the 2018-2021 term. He and his wife, Linda, live in Thompson Falls, MT where is the owner/operator of well drilling business. He attends Thompson Falls Community Church.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MIKE HADADD is pastor of Derby Community Church in Derby, VT. He and his wife, Norma are native New Englanders and graduates of Moody Bible Institute. They share a strong passion to minister to God’s people in the Northeast, especially in northern Vermont. Mike spent two years as a full-time pastor/student and graduated from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Spring of 2018.

JOE MARLIN currently serves at Epiphany Church of Gloucester City as the senior and founding pastor as well as on the CCCC Board of Directors. He has served on the mission field for five years with Africa Inland Mission providing theological education for rural pastors in Rwanda, and as an associate Pastor in a couple other churches in the Philadelphia area. Joe just recently began writing his dissertation on “overcoming the barriers of raising up leaders in marginalized communities,” in a Doctorate of Ministerial Leadership program at Columbia International University where he also earned his Masters of Arts in Theological Studies.

BOB TOLSON serves as the pastor of Immanuel Evangelical Church in Fort Morgan, Colorado. He has been an ordained minister with the CCCC since 1995 and over the years has served as the Area Representative for the Rocky Mountain Region.

THOMAS (TJ) TURNER is pastor of the Woodbury Community Church in Woodbury, MN and currently serves on the CCCC Board of Directors. TJ, his wife Kerstin, and their two children live in Woodbury where he is working to bring a renewed sense of mission to the church. He has an M.Div. from Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte, NC.

NOTE: An incorrect bio was inadvertently included in the pre-AG information mailed in June. The information above is now correct. We apologize for any confusion caused by our error.
MINISTRY PRIORITIES:

Church Development

TODD VENMAN is the pastor of Wilsie Community Church in Russell, PA. He served as Conference President from 2015-2017 and has long been active in the work of Church Development in the CCCC.

Church Multiplication

DREW THOMPSON is the pastor of Union City Church. Union City was planted in 2019 and is focused on racial reconciliation in the city of Brunswick, GA. Drew has lived in Brunswick for most of the past 20 years and loves everything about it except the heat and the bugs. He holds an MDiv and a ThM from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and a PhD from the London School of Theology. He is married to Mandy and has twin daughters, Ava and Eva.

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION:

Constitutional Studies

RICHARD E. (DICK) O’HARA has been a member of the CCCC since 1975. In addition to serving on the Conference Education Committee, he has just completed a first term on the Constitution Studies Committee. Dick served as a pastor to churches in Massachusetts, Vermont and Pennsylvania. He also served as a college professor at Berkshire Christian College and Gordon College and taught as an adjunct instructor at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

After retiring as Head of School at United Christian Academy in Newport, VT, Dick moved to PA to be closer to his children and grandchildren. He currently serves as Director of Spiritual Ministries at Frederick Living in Zieglerville PA.

Nominating

TIM MCDONALD has been pastor of Biola Congregational Church for 14 years. Before that, he was the director of the Christian Servicemen’s Center, Guam for three years. He has previously served on the CCCC Board of Directors. He is blessed by God to be married to Raquel and have four wonderful children.

Women’s Ministries

JOAN GRANITSAS is a pastor’s wife and partnered with her husband, Nick at the First Congregational Church of Revere, MA for 46 years until he retired. They are presently doing interim ministry and Joan currently serves on the CCCC Board of Directors. She has been a leader of the CCCC New England Women’s Annual Retreat since its inception and presently leads a weekly core group on Zoom, along with her daughter Kristi. Since 1973, she and her husband parented 35 children and presently have 23 grandchildren. She retired from her career as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in June 2017 and now is delighted to take care of one of her grandsons four days a week, as well as attending grandchildren’s sporting events, recitals, graduations and birthday parties!
CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE REPORT
JULY 2020-APRIL 2021

We currently have sixteen chaplains serving within the Armed Forces and 82 Chaplains serving in various chaplain ministries to include institutional and volunteer/bi-vocational.

Since our July business meeting, the Chaplains Committee has conducted the following actions:

• Jul: Conducted a Chaplain’s “Pray for One Another” Zoom meeting
• Aug: Chaplains Committee Zoom Meeting
• Aug: Endorser, Marc Gauthier attended an Air Force Chief of Chaplains Summit Conference via Zoom
• Dec: Attended via Zoom Navy Chaplain Guy Lee’s retirement ceremony
• Jan: Endorser, Marc Gauthier participated via Zoom in the annual National Conference of Ministry in the Armed Forces meetings.
• Updated the CCCC Chaplains Roster to include all types of chaplains both vocational and volunteer
• Conducted Quarterly Individual Zoom meetings with all military chaplains

The Committee plans to conduct training for its chaplains within the context of this summer’s Annual Gathering. If the AG is canceled, they plan to execute a Zoom based training.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc Gauthier
Marc.s.gauthier@gmail.com
910-354-5550

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship committee this year did not meet due to the pandemic and also the transition of the committee chair to a new church. However, we continue to encourage giving to the CCCC by churches based on the 2% mission challenge. We also are very thankful for all the giving to the conference this past year and are continuing to implement our thank you process through the CCCC board and also Regional Pastors. Giving by churches in 2020 is currently being analyzed and hope to bring a report of trends and stats at our board meeting in February.

Pete Balentine

CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES COMMITTEE

No committee activity to report.
Dr. Phillip Hoyer
2021 Missions Committee Report

The Missions Committee of the CCCC exists to “encourage and stimulate missionary interests in the local churches” of the Conference. And like everyone else, we struggled to do this in the midst of the pandemic with mandates and shelter-at-home orders issued.

For instance, in years past the Missions Committee urged CCCC pastors to take advantage of the scholarship fund administered by the committee. This fund offers a scholarship of up to $1,500 to any eligible pastor to assist in traveling to an overseas ministry. This is offered in hopes that CCCC pastors will increase their vision for a mission-minded ministry and encourage their church in missional activities.

Sadly though, nations across the globe closed their boards and such trips were hard to plan. Even some of our missionaries were land locked in the US and were unable to be in person with their people groups. But the truth remains that ministry and missions still needed to continue. And many of our missionaries did just that! They worked the technology and were able to hold class online and minster through teaching, prayer, and listening.

As always, we implore you to download our Annual Yearbook and pray for our missionaries by name. Also, reach out to them, introduce yourself, and encourage them personally.

A few years ago, I attended the Church Development seminar in Orlando, where John Kimball shared with me how he emphasized short-term missions within the Conference and even wrote a book about it, when he chaired the Missions Committee.

This coming year, we still want to “encourage and stimulate missionary interests in the local churches” by hosting our original Pastor’s Vision trip to Malawi. Me and my wife, Amy, were privileged to spend 2 weeks in Malawi with Larry and Teressa Hall of Y-Malawi at the end of May. We visited so many villages where we were greeted and accepted in the most lovely manner. There is a reason why Malawi is called the “warm heart of Africa.”

When you go, you will see first hand the movement of the Spirit of God. We met with Muslims who came to faith in Christ at a great cost to them personally. Christians receiving Bibles for the first time. You will hear testimonies of marriages restored. You will meet couples who were saved through Bible studies. You will lay eyes on whole villages that were saved! You will meet pastors who walk 13 miles round trip in order to bring the Word of God to starving souls. And by this time next year, there will be a church planted in an all Muslim community with the blessing of the local Imam.

God is on the move in Malawi!

Pastors we want to encourage you and your spouse and those you do ministry with to attend this 9 day mission trip to Malawi. The dates are June 14-22, 2022 and we look forward to assisting you with your first $1500!
Pastors also note this trip is not a “come and build” mission trip. This is a “come and see what the Lord is doing.” We get to reap where we did not sow! You will come back encouraged, rested, and longing for more of God.

For now take a step of faith and plan to go. In the intermediate visit the CCCC page https://y-malawi.org/CCCC/ for an idea of what to expect. You can also contact me personally (218.343.9990 or jeremys-kaggs@fuller.edu) and I would love to share with you my experience.

Blessing to you all,
Your CCCC Mission Committee

Micronesia Ministry Committee Report

This past year was a difficult time for conducting in person Bible studies and so Morning Star Institute (MSI) did not have as many classes as on a normal year. In 2020 Kohne Ramon did 5 classes in Pohnpei since they were not closed down as early as we were on the mainland.

After conducting two classes in March of 2020 we were closed down for the rest of the year. This year we have taught classes in Killeen, Texas and Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, in April. Jeffery Griffith, area rep for Iowa, went with me and we shared the teaching. I am glad for his interest in becoming a regular teacher for MSI classes. In May I went to Kansas City and Goodman, Missouri. Goodman is the location for the former Neosho Pohnpeian church. It is about 8 miles south of Neosho. They have purchased land there and are working toward building a new structure with 400 capacity in the near future. They are overflowing in their present building that is 100 capacity. I have plans to return to Missouri in September and Texas and Georgia in October.

Please pray for the opening up of Portland, Oregon, Maui, Hawaii, and Chuuk, Micronesian in the near future, Honolulu has already opened and I hope to go there soon.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support for the Micronesia Ministry which at the present time is the Morning Star Institute. We are there at their request!

Sincerely,
Max Vague, Director of the Morning Star Institute and Chairman of the Micronesia Ministry Committee.
Annual Gathering Committee – Annual Report

Our having to cancel the 2020 Annual Gathering in Warwick made us all the more eager to lock in 2021 in Warwick RI. Unfortunately, the impact of Covid in the winter and early spring months of 2021 in the State of RI severely impacted our plans. Initially we were informed by Crowne Plaza management that we could only host 1 person per every 100 square feet. This reduced potential attendance down to 72 in the main ballroom and just over 100 in the garden pavilion. This made it impossible to conduct workshops and would have forced us to work on a 1st come 1st served basis. More practically, the fixed costs associated with putting on the Annual Gathering needed to be spread among many more than 70 – 100 people. This raised the registration fees to an impossible level of $500-$600/person.

Hoping that restrictions would lift in late winter, we conducted a survey to gage interest. The survey showed the potential for us to have slightly over 200 in attendance. We worked with the hotel to see where certain fees could be reduced. Even so, we were estimating registration fees in the high $200’s with a three day conference and with no program for children and youth. In addition, our anchor church had to bow out, leaving us with no real local support. We also saw no relief in the Covid restrictions imposed on the hospitality industry.

At each one of these intervals we informed conference officials and the Board of Directors of the prevailing limitations. Eventually, as we faced an advancing calendar and no guarantees for Covid relief in the State of Rhode Island, the Board voted to cancel the in-person 2021 Annual Gathering. Many unknowns relating to social distancing, vaccines, masking requirements, transportation and potential quarantine requirements also factored into the decision. This cancellation triggered the process of planning for yet another virtual Annual Gathering in July 2021.

We’ve worked with Crowne Plaza management to lock in the new date of July 19-22, 2022 for the Annual Gathering. They have kept all costs roughly the same for rooms, food and facilities usage. A signed contract addendum was issued by us to them in mid-May. The rescheduling of the Annual Gathering in Warwick drove us to make further scheduling changes. We altered plans to go to Carlsbad California in 2023. Instead our 2023 Annual Gathering will be held in St. Cloud Minnesota as we celebrate our Conference’s 75th anniversary. We are now targeting Carlsbad CA for 2024.

The decision to cancel the 2021 Annual Gathering in Warwick was not an easy one. We did all we could under ever changing circumstances to make something work, but in the end, it was not possible. We all cherish and appreciate the blessing of coming together and celebrating life on life on a nationwide basis. We’re praying that this hunger to gather will result in record attendance at the 2022 Annual Gathering in Warwick.

As we have navigated this pandemic as a conference, the Annual Gathering Coordinators have invested most of our time and energy in the process of deciding whether or not to meet in person in 2020 and 2021. Both times, the Board of Directors made the decision to not meet in person, and then plans and contracts had to be adjusted and altered for the future proposed dates.

With hope for the future, the Board has decided to hold the 2022 Annual Gathering in Rhode Island. Since 2023 will be the 75th Anniversary of the CCCC, that Annual Gathering will be held in Minnesota. And in 2024 we will plan to meet in Carlsbad, CA.

Meanwhile, the AG Subcommittee has been talking about the future of the Annual Gathering. We distributed a survey to the membership of the CCCC and gathered input from over 250 individuals. These insights will help the committee as we make recommendations to the Board about the location, setting, and program of future events.
The pandemic has taught us both the value of gathering in person, and the effectiveness (and financial savings) of meeting online. Our committee will seek to find the appropriate future balance that will make us all good stewards of not only the financial resources we have been granted, but also the relational wealth with which God has blessed the CCCC. Your prayers for our committee are always appreciated.

**Annual Gathering Planning Subcommittee Report**

Your faithful servants,
Rev. Tim Dubeau, Rev. Susan Moody
Annual Gathering Co-coordinators

**Communication Committee Report**

Communication projects from August 2020-June 2021 have included:

- August Update of CCCC Yearbook
- Revision of the 2% Mission pamphlet
- Annual Questionnaire, Church Survey and Year End mailings with production of Communication and Cornerstone Project flyer inserts and mailing
- 2021 Yearbook (January update) for professional printing
- Annual revision of CCCC Info Conference Sunday flyer and mailing
- Pre-Annual Gathering Action items mailing
- Annual Reports

In process/on-going projects include:

- Production and distribution of FORESEE newsletter and FORESEE UpDate e-news
- CCCC Resource Sharing Dropbox overseen by Jonathan Romig
- CCCC Facebook page administrated by Sara Coons
- Ongoing evaluation and updating of website
- Other print and electronic communication resources as requested
- Work with Conference Historian, Alwyn York to update CCCC history: *Modern Day Pilgrims* for publication by CCCC 75th anniversary.

In spite of a year of restricted gatherings, we continued to provide information and share news and stories with CCCC members and member churches. We progressed through the pandemic restrictions by utilizing Zoom meetings along with our regular FORESEE UpDate emails, the FORESEE newsletter and other regular mailings and publications to stay connected.

Kim Gardell
The CCCC Women’s Ministry Annual Report for 2020-21

This year we continue to be saddened that the Covid-19 virus pandemic continued to cause so much separation, upheaval, and death around the world. Though these struggles seemed the overarching themes of 2020-21, we saw many opportunities to show the love of Jesus to our neighbors. As we write this we see the relief that vaccines are providing along with a “new normal” lifestyle.

Because the heart of our yearly Women’s Ministry efforts come together around the Annual Gathering (AG), and the 2020 resources remain ready when the next AG happens, there is little to report since the Virtual AG in July, 2020.

We continue to pray & post.

We continually pray for our Conference leaders and all our women as all serve in their various positions within the Conference and her churches.

We posted the Monday Prayer Guide regularly on our Facebook page to encourage prayer for the CCCC and leadership listed. And continue to provide Facebook encouragement by posting to our page (CCCCWoman). Facebook users are invited to “like” that page to receive articles and encouragement on a regular basis.

As much as we were disheartened by the postponement of the 2020 & 2021 AG we rallied behind the wisdom of the Board of Directions in delaying the plans. While we have hope for the future we agree that in 2021 we need to endure another year of delayed gratification. The Women’s Ministry Committee stands ready to support the AG plans for 2022.

Be assured, when we do come back together at our 2022 AG in Rhode Island our resource table and committee will be ready to provide a welcoming place for our Committee’s ongoing focus “to promote the growth, spiritual welfare, and encouragement of women of the CCCC”.

We continue to plan on providing resources to our women, free of charge. So, as we complete this report, we again want to let it be known that to provide free resources for the Women’s Ministry Resource Table our committee reaches out to individuals and the Women’s Ministry teams of the CCCC at large. We want to encourage all to think about providing items or funds for the Resource Table.

We continue to pray for more churches and individuals to catch the vison for this opportunity to encourage and come alongside of us as we distribute books and materials, without cost, to our AG attendees.

To this end, of providing the free distribution of books and materials to our AG attendees, we’ve issued the Guidelines for Women’s Ministry Fund Raising. It is a document outlining suggested ways to participate. It can be accessed through the CCCC website using the Women’s Ministry Link.

We joyfully continue serving our Lord through serving our wonderful CCCC women and look forward to being together again.

Respectfully Submitted, The 2020-21 Women’s Committee:

Sharon Anderson
Shirley Dubeau, chair
Joan Granitsas
Kerstin Turner
Diane Wood
Conference Historian Report 2021

2020 was planned to be a big year for celebrating Congregational history. Our 2020 Annual Gathering was going to focus on the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower. Unfortunately a global pandemic forced the cancellation of those plans. Given these circumstances I was glad that I was still able to do something to keep the Mayflower anniversary in mind within the Conference. Throughout 2020 I contributed a series of articles to the Foresee which drew attention to helpful resources about the Pilgrims in print, video and online.

I concluded my series of articles on the Pilgrims at the beginning of this year. Since then I have written articles highlighting CCCC denominational resources available through Next Step Resources. These resources may be quite familiar to those who are long time members of the Conference, but I discovered that newer members may be unaware of them. Awareness of our denominational identity may fade if it is not continually refreshed.

I renewed the practice of sending a letter of congratulations to Conference churches celebrating a quarter century anniversary. The anniversary churches of this year are: 275 years: Christ Reformed Church at Indian Creek, Telford, PA; 250 years: Candia Congregational Church, Candia, NH; 200 years: Congregational Church in North Chelmsford, North Chelmsford, MA; 150 years: First Congregational Church, Forest City, IA; 125 years: Lake Avenue Church, Pasadena, CA, Immanuel Church, Chelmsford, MA, Church of Peace, Norwood, MN, First Congregational Church of Kulm, Kulm, ND, Snyder Avenue Congregational Church, Philadelphia, PA, Bethlehem Congregational Church, Disputanta, VA; 100 years: Biola Congregational Church, Biola, CA; 75 years: Colonial Church of Edina, Edina, MN, Community Bible Church, Inwood, NY; 50 years: Bronx Household of Faith, Bronx, NY. We give thanks for the witness of these churches.

2023 will be the 75th anniversary of the CCCC. A revision of the CCCC history book is being planned in conjunction with this anniversary.

Alwyn York