


# NACCC E-NEWS

## THE MESSENGER



March 15, 2026

### RECENT CHURCH VISITS

REV. DR. GERRY KRUPP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is such a blessing to travel on behalf of the NACCC. A few days ago, I visited some churches in North Carolina, including the NACCC's member church in Vilas, NC - Grace Christian Church. Since they joined the NACCC, there's been some trauma at the church experienced by both the minister and the congregation. Please keep Grace Christian Church in your prayers.

The second church I visited was Bear Creek Congregational Church in Robbins, NC. This historic African-American congregation dates back to the early 1900's. They are a small but vibrant and loving congregation currently in search of a pastor. However, one of their favorite sons is serving as the associate minister, carrying a significant load of the preaching, and a retired minister helps out in the pulpit, too.

The final congregation we experienced was Amelia Christian Church in Clayton, NC. This is a large, energetic congregation. The Sunday we visited them, they announced their summer VBS program, a children's choir performed, and the adult choir filled the church with their 40 voices. Well over 150 people raised their voices in song and worshipped wholeheartedly. Amelia's pastor is a young man who has the potential to be with them for a long time. These congregational relationships are extremely important.

Would you like the NACCC to visit your church? We are scheduling visits to state and regional associational meetings, ordinations, and installations of pastors. General visits to churches interested in us coming to see them are a welcome request. Please contact our office if you have such an interest.

### A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS NEWS, NEEDS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS

JULIE ROBIE, MISSIONS COORDINATOR

For 75 years, A Christian Ministry in the National Parks has been sharing the hope of Christ in some of the most breathtaking places in the country, and this milestone year is full of celebration and vision for what's next. From nationwide gatherings and a special fall event at Yellowstone National Park to a brand-new interactive devotional app designed for park visitors, God is opening incredible doors for impact.

There's so much more to the story, including exciting opportunities to get involved. Visit our site to read more and celebrate 75 years of ministry with this valued NACCC global mission partner.

### THE CONGREGATIONALIST CAMPAIGN

When you support *The Congregationalist* Campaign, you're helping sustain a ministry that connects us to one another and our story - past, present, and future. Visit our site to learn more or donate.

## CHARLES RUSH AWARD

Do you know a minority person working with Congregational Christian churches to accomplish worthwhile social and personal goals? Nominate them for the Charles Rush Award! This award is intended to exemplify the excellent spirit of the late Rev. Charles Rush and emphasize the importance of Christian social involvement.

To learn more about the Charles Rush Award and how to make your nominations, visit our website. Don't wait! The deadline for nominations is March 31.

## LAST CALL FOR MINISTERS' CONVOCATION

The NACCC's 2026 Ministers' Convocation will be held at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Illinois from April 13-16. It will be a time of learning, worship, fellowship, and restoration. Registration is open now, but it closes in just two weeks, so make your plans to join us!

## INTERGENERATION MISSION PROJECT 2026

We need your help to make the 2026 NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference Intergenerational Mission Project a success! This year, we will be filling hundreds of ditty bags for Seafarers' Friend. Visit our site to learn more about the work of Seafarers Friend, what this mission project will entail, and how you can help.

## HOW MOMC SERVES THE NACCC

At the heart of the NACCC is a simple calling: to nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and support local church ministries in their communities and around the world in Christ's name.

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) is faithfully living out this mission. Though much of its work happens behind the scenes, its impact is felt across our shared life through mission fund distribution, global partnerships, church resources, and hands-on service opportunities.

In alignment with the Leadership Council's goals of professionalism, visibility, collaboration, and diversity, MOMC has prepared an impact statement to share its work more clearly. We invite you to read it as a glimpse into how, together, we strengthen local churches and extend Christ's love into the world.

## ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

Registration for the Annual Meeting and Conference opens April 1.

## NAPF/HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship application for the 2026 NAPF & HOPE Youth Conference is now available.

## QUIET DAY RETREAT

Join us on July 1, 2026, at the Florence Congregational Church in Florence, Massachusetts.

## THE CONGREGATIONALIST – NOW AND UPCOMING

The *March* edition of *The Congregationalist* magazine is out now, and submissions are open for June's *stewardship*-themed edition. Email your submissions to Editor Maggie Helmick by April 1.