



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL GRANTS

JODEE LORD, MODERATOR

Our ministry councils are always busy planning and creating ways to support our member churches. You will soon receive some wonderful information from the Growth Ministry Council regarding Vacation Bible School Grants.

Has your church considered having Vacation Bible School this year? Have you had VBS in the past, but could use some extra support to help with supplies? Do you have a curriculum, or do you need help finding one? Has the number of young people attending grown to the point where you will need more materials? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may want to apply for a VBS Grant of up to \$400.00 through the Growth Ministry Council.

On behalf of the NACCC Leadership Council, I would like to wish you a very happy and blessed Easter. May the promise of Easter fill you with hope and the assurance of God's love.

## A GREAT PLACE TO GATHER!

REV. DR. MARTIN HALL, VICE MODERATOR

My guess is that a trip to Springfield, MA, is not at the top of most bucket lists. With the exception of devoted fans of the NBA or Dr. Suess (yes, both have museums in Springfield!), there's not a ton that might draw one's attention to the area. That said, as one who grew up spending summer months in the Berkshires of western MA, I can tell you that it's a pretty remarkable place to be in that summer season. The beauty of the Appalachian Mountains, lush forests everywhere you look, the history and vibrancy of Boston to the east...and, of course, the Annual Meeting and Conference of the NACCC bringing it all together this June! As you read this note, details for the 2026 meeting are on the [NA website](#). I hope that you will make the effort to join us!

## EXCITING TIMES FOR YOUR CONGREGATIONAL FOUNDATION

KEVIN GROMLEY, CONGREGATIONAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Congregational Foundation recently completed the annual budgeting process. The Foundation Board budgets funds that support NACCC operations. The Foundation's assets are permanent endowment gifts from donors; all distributions are made in accordance with donors' wishes. The Board balances today's NACCC programs and objectives with preserving tomorrow's endowment value. We are also monitoring current turmoil in capital markets and the impact (thankfully small so far) on our assets.

The Foundation Board recently launched a capital campaign to support *The Congregationalist*. The goal is to create a permanent endowment to secure its future for years to come. *The Congregationalist* is distributed to over 4,000 individuals and churches – our hope is that the majority of recipients appreciate the value of this unique faith publication and contribute what they can.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Join us for our 2026 Annual Meeting and Conference in Springfield, Massachusetts, June 27-30!

More than just a meeting, the AMC is a time to connect, grow, and celebrate our shared faith. Together, we'll conduct the important business of the NACCC, deepen our fellowship, and be inspired in spirit and mission.

Registration is open now, and our Registration Brochure is available to help you plan your experience and explore all that the conference has to offer.

We can't wait to gather in unity, faith, and purpose, and we hope to see you there!

## JOIN US FOR SHARING SUNDAY

We warmly invite you to join us in observing Sharing Sunday on April 19 - a meaningful opportunity to celebrate and support *The Congregationalist* Campaign and the vital ministry of *The Congregationalist* magazine across our fellowship.

During worship, we hope you might take a moment to lift this ministry in prayer, share a few words about how the magazine connects and encourages our churches, and make campaign flyers available for your congregation. Even the smallest gesture of recognition helps nurture this shared work and reminds us of the deep bonds that unite us as Congregational churches.

We would be grateful to have your church join us for Sharing Sunday!

**MAKE YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXCELLENCE IN MINISTRY AWARDS BY APRIL 30, 2026.**

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING NEBRASKA WILDFIRES

Severe wildfires in Nebraska have burned hundreds of thousands of acres, destroying homes, displacing residents, and deeply impacting agricultural communities. Emergency crews continue working to contain the fires, but recovery will take years.

The NACCC is accepting donations through One Great Hour of Sharing for 2026 Nebraska Wildfire Relief to support affected individuals, organizations, and churches.

## QUIET DAY RETREAT

The Congregational Retreat Society invites you to participate in a transformative retreat focused on reflection and renewal through periods of quiet and silence following this year's Annual Meeting and Conference.

This retreat will take place on July 1, 2026, at the Florence Congregational Church in Florence, Massachusetts.

## NAPF/HOPE CONFERENCE

Are you between the ages of 14 and 26? Join us in Westfield, Massachusetts, from June 27 - July 2 to spend time in fellowship, hear from inspiring guest speakers, and use your unique spiritual gifts. This gathering is a great opportunity to build new friendships, rekindle old ones, and unite in worship with like-minded others.

The scholarship application for the 2026 NAPF & HOPE Youth Conference is now open for eligible youth affiliated with NACCC member churches who demonstrate financial need and outstanding development in Christian character, church involvement, and/or community service.

The application deadline is April 30, 2026. Event registration opens soon.