

# NACCC E-NEWS

## THE MESSENGER



April 15, 2026

### HOPE AND A FUTURE

REV. DR. GERRY KRUPP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The [Annual Meeting and Conference](#) is coming up on June 27-30, 2026, at Springfield Monarch Place Hotel in Springfield, MA. There are so many things to accomplish in a few short days. The direction and decisions regarding the NACCC are carefully overseen by around 60 volunteer leaders made up of members of our associational churches. These leaders arrive early to reflect on the year that has just passed, and to begin to think about what lies ahead. We say goodbye to some whose terms are finishing and hello to others who are beginning new responsibilities. Next, our pastors, delegates, and guests arrive from member congregations. There will be a wonderful welcome reception on Friday evening. This reception sends the kind of message we want to convey, that our conference begins with fellowship. Saturday kicks off meetings, plenary sessions, and workshops. We will hear talks about things we have in common: our book – the Bible, our history – Congregationalism, our practice – the many ways we do church, and leadership – those we entrust with the future of our association. I invite you to come with optimism about our “Hope and a Future.”

### HOSANNA INDUSTRIES HOLY WEEK WORK

JULIE ROBIE, MISSIONS COORDINATOR

During Holy Week this year - which was also the 36th anniversary of their founding - our Global Mission Partner Hosanna Industries supported the Women's Help Center in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, in renovating their Franklin Street duplex to serve individuals in need. The Women's Help Center (WHC) is a non-profit agency providing housing, case management, financial education, and an array of other services to adults and families in need in the Johnstown, PA, community.

From a remarkable kitchen renovation to helping move in furniture, this project is a beautiful example of what can happen when people come together with compassion and purpose. We're thankful for everyone who gave their time, skills, and support to make it happen!

Additionally, Hosanna was recently able to purchase a new van for their work, partially sponsored by NACCC churches and [One Great Hour of Sharing](#) (OGHS) general funds. Students in the CTE auto collision class from Johnstown Senior High School customized the paint colors with the aid of local company Colours Inc. and painted the van. From prep to paint, the students gained real-world experience, teamwork skills, and pride in their craft.

We are deeply grateful to the donors who contribute to the NACCC's One Great Hour of Sharing fund, making it possible to support work of this kind. Thank you!

### DELEGATE + ALTERNATE CREDENTIAL CARDS

The due date for signed [delegate and alternate credential cards](#) is May 31st, and a signed credential card on file with the NACCC is required in order to vote at the Annual Meeting and Conference, so make sure you submit yours soon!

## APPLY NOW FOR FALL 2026 LAY MINISTRY TRAINING

Have you felt called to deepen your faith, grow in leadership, or explore ministry more intentionally? The NACCC's Lay Ministry Training Program offers an opportunity to do so in meaningful ways.

Whether you are discerning a call to ministry or simply looking to expand your knowledge and service, this program is designed to support and encourage you along the journey.

Interested? Check out the [LMTP webpage](#) on the NACCC site. There, you'll find a thoughtful letter from recent graduate Rev. January Peavey sharing her experience in the program, along with an inspiring article about answering God's call toward ministry written by the program's administrator, Polly Bodjanac.

If you're considering applying - or if you have questions and would like to learn more - please reach out to [Polly Bodjanac](#) or [Laura Wright](#).

## NAPF & HOPE REGISTRATION

This year's [NAPF/HOPE Conference](#) will take place in Westfield, Massachusetts, from June 27 to July 2, 2026. If you're between the ages of 14 and 26, we want to see you there! This gathering is a great opportunity to build new friendships, rekindle old ones, unite in worship, hear from inspiring guest speakers, and use your unique spiritual gifts.

The registration rate goes up after June 1, so be sure to register soon!

## BOOKING YOUR ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATIONS?

We've received feedback that the hotel reservation line can be difficult to navigate. The Springfield Monarch Place Hotel strongly recommends using the [online reservation link](#), as it is the easiest and most efficient way to book your room within our group block. For those who prefer to make reservations by phone, you may contact the hotel's In-House Reservation Coordinator, Melissa Martinez, directly at (413) 263-2012. Melissa is generally available Monday-Friday from 9:00 am - 5:30 pm ET, though her hours may vary over the next month as she assists at the front desk. If you reach her voicemail, please leave a message, and she will return your call.

## PEDALING FOR A PURPOSE

For generations, *The Congregationalist* has informed, encouraged, and connected Congregationalists across the country. As part of our new story series highlighting the magazine's lasting impact, we're honored to share the first of four reflections from readers whose lives and ministries have been shaped by this historic publication.

In our first story celebrating the impact of *The Congregationalist*, Rev. Craig Walker shares how the magazine encouraged a young church plant and inspired him to bike more than 3,200 miles across America to help sustain its future.

Through storms, small towns, laughter, and unwavering purpose, Craig's journey reminds us that *The Congregationalist* has long connected and strengthened Congregationalists.

To read and be inspired by this remarkable testimony of dedication, community, and hope, visit the campaign's webpage and scroll down to "Real Stories of Impact."

