

Center for Congregational Leadership

The Center for Congregational Leadership is a ministry of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. It exists to support the mission and vision of the NACCC by facilitating connections, resources and supports to our member churches and clergy to strengthen and sustain their ministries, in the name of Jesus, the Christ.

Purpose—*What The Center strives to enact*

- Provide educational opportunities for clergy and laity reflecting the emerging dynamics of church leadership and diversity
- Assist Congregational Christian Churches in claiming and sustaining the Congregational identity, including engagement with the following concerns: What is Congregational Christianity? What does it mean to be a member of a Congregational Church and for the church to be a member of the NACCC? How to provide the best Church leadership?
- Empower churches to accommodate trends facing mainline churches in the 21st century, such as aging and declining membership, church conflict, financial issues, technology, youth, church education, missions, community outreach

Practice—*How the purpose is facilitated*

- Offer opportunities through online webinars, shared workshops and seminars, one-on-one conversations, and readily available resources

Presence—*Being in regular and meaningful contact and consultation with wider Congregationalism*

- Through, local churches, state and regional associations, the annual meeting and conference, the ministers' convocations, NAPF and HOPE, Symposia and the Missions and Outreach, Growth, and Vitality Ministry Councils.

Partnership—*How The Center might collaborate to enhance mutual effectiveness*

- With entities such as, but not limited to, the Congregational Library, Center for Healthy Churches, Interim Ministry Network, Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, Forum for Theological Exploration
- In conjunction with educational institutions such as Olivet College, Piedmont College, church members' work settings, seminaries where Congregational Fellowship for Theological Studies (CFTS) students are enrolled, and where NACCC clergy have relationships as alumni or faculty / staff

Plan—*The long-term vision for the Center*

- Support the NACCC Mission and Vision
- Be a living, breathing entity, evolving to meet the needs of NACCC churches and members.
- Have a sustainable model that will eventually support a full time Director, reporting to the NACCC Executive Director, and ample staff to maintain the Center's endeavors and support