

# National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

*Your Partners in*



*Church Vitality*



*Church Growth*



*Mission & Outreach*

Serving the churches that serve Christ

# Our Mission

Bringing together Congregational Christian Churches for mutual care and outreach to our world in the name of Jesus Christ

## The Congregational Way

Congregational Churches are sometimes known as the “Church of the Pilgrims” after the small congregations of the early 1600s. The people of these congregations moved from England to Holland and then to the new world in pursuit of religious freedom. From them, we inherited a wonderful spiritual heritage--one that is uniquely suited to our contemporary world.

This is a tradition that has deep convictions based upon the Word of God as each person interprets that Word according to the dictates of conscience, under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. This naturally attracts men and women of genuine conviction, of adventurous faith, and of gracious regard for each other’s sincerity to the Congregational Christian fellowship.

Since every Congregationalist possesses full liberty of conscience in interpreting the Gospel, we are a diverse group of people united under Christ. We believe there is strength in diversity and by it, there are unending opportunities to learn from each other and to grow in faith.

- Christ alone is the head of the church.
- All church members are spiritually equal and called to the work of ministry.
- Every local church is autonomous and complete.
- Each local church is called into wider associations of fellowship.
- Believers are bound one to another in voluntary covenant.
- Every Christian possesses full liberty of conscience in interpreting the Gospel.
- The Bible is fully sufficient as our guide in matters of faith and practice and will inspire individuals and direct the church with fresh light and truth for every generation.



We're there when you need:

- Help finding your next minister
- Resources to start a new church
- Training for church leaders
- Assurance that your mission dollars are making a difference
- Advising during times of structural change or conflict
- Resources for stewardship, Christian education, youth ministry and revitalization
- Better understanding of the Congregational Way

Serving the churches that serve Christ



## Benefits of Belonging

As a member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, your church joins with other churches around the country for mutual encouragement and support. By sharing fellowship through the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, each church is made stronger by access to a multitude of resources and expertise.

**Every member church is fully self-governing and spiritually complete.**

Congregationalists believe that God has given the local church every power and gift necessary for its spiritual life and ministries.

There is no authority outside of the local church except for Christ, who is the head of the church. There is no other ecclesiastical authority over the local church.

The local church is free to determine its statement of faith, select and ordain its clergy, and maintain stewardship of its resources and property.

Respecting the ability of each local church to discern God's intentions and purpose for them, the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches does not pass resolutions on social or political issues nor does it make statements on behalf of or binding upon the member churches.

Membership in the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches is:

- Voluntary
- Enriching
- Encouraging
- Faith-Filled

**Serving the churches that serve Christ**

## Establishing & Revitalizing Churches

There are resources available for churches that are either newly establishing themselves or working to revitalize their congregation and ministries. A variety of tools and people can help guide your process.

## Leadership Resources

Through the Center for Congregational Leadership, your church leaders have opportunities to gain information and skills to shepherd the ministry of your church through these challenging times. The Center also prepares men and women for ministry in Congregational Churches ensuring a strong future.

## Mission Opportunities

We verify and endorse Christian Missions at home and around the world. When you give through us, you can be assured that your dollars are being used wisely and effectively.



# NACCC Staff

800.262.1620



Michael Chittum  
Executive Director  
mchittum@nacc.org  
ext 1611

Tracy Bernhardt  
Development and Communications Assistant  
tbernhardt@nacc.org  
ext 1615

Carrie Dahm  
Meeting Planner  
cdahm@nacc.org  
ext 1612

Dan Drea  
Chief Financial Officer  
ddrea@nacc.org  
ext 1616

Debby Fulton  
Director of Development and Communications  
dfulton@nacc.org  
ext 1610

Marianne King  
Editor of THE CONGREGATIONALIST  
editor@nacc.org  
ext 1624

Charles Packer  
Dean of the Congregational Foundation  
for Theological Studies  
cpacker@nacc.org  
ext 1613

Janice Powell  
Accounting Assistant  
jpowell@nacc.org  
ext 1617

Julie Robie  
Missions Administrator  
jrobie@nacc.org  
ext 1618

Shawn Stapleton  
Workshop Coordinator  
Center for Congregational Leadership  
sstapleton@nacc.org

Laura Wright  
Executive Assistant, Center for Congregational Leadership  
lwright@nacc.org  
ext 1614

Serving the churches  
that serve Christ

nacc.org  
centerforcongregationalleadership.org  
congregationalist.org

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches  
8473 South Howell Avenue  
PO Box 288  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154