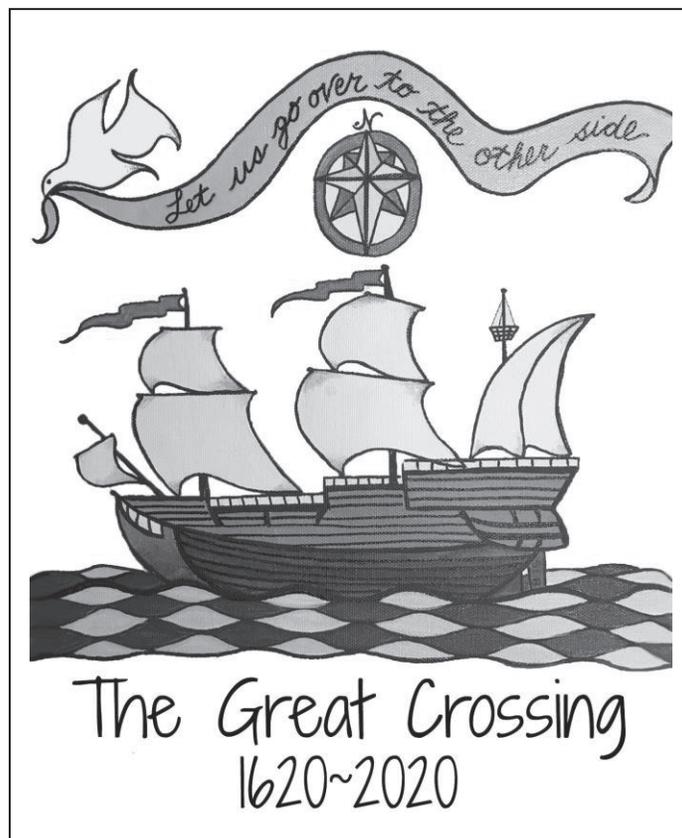


**66th Annual Meeting & Conference
of the
National Association of
Congregational Christian Churches**

Saturday, June 27 ~ Tuesday, June 30, 2020

Portland, Maine

**Hosted by the Congregational Christian Council of Maine and the
Massachusetts Association of Congregational Christian Churches**



National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
8473 S. Howell Ave ~ PO Box 288 ~ Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154
(414) 764-1620 ~ (800) 262-1620
Website: www.naccc.org

Join Us in Portland Maine !

Join us for our 66th Annual Meeting! As we Congregationalists commemorate 400 years of history this year, Maine celebrates 200 years as a state this year. The Congregational Christian Churches of Maine and the Massachusetts Association of Congregational Christian Churches hope you choose to be a part of our gathering this year, and we hope historic and beautiful Maine is exciting fun for you. Aside from all our meeting has to offer this year - especially our lecturers, Rev. Dr. Greg Mobley and Rev. Dr. Mimi Biedron - we are right next to the Old Port of Portland, filled with restaurants, shops, microbreweries, and history.

As Mainers say, "Glad yer heah, bub! Have a lobstah."

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

Rev. Seth Jones, 2020 Host Committee Chair

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hotel Reservations

The Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, Maine offers complimentary shuttle service from/to the Portland International Jetport (PWM) or, at the Portland Transportation Center, if you arrive by train or bus. When you are ready to be picked up, call the Holiday Inn (207) 775-2311.

The Holiday Inn By the Bay has sweeping views of the Portland harbor & city skyline. There is an onsite restaurant, or it is an easy walk to world-class restaurants near the waterfront, Arts District, and Old Port.

The group rates are: a standard room with two double beds at \$179 for single, double, triple, or quad occupancy; a standard king size bed room at \$189 for single or double occupancy; an executive edition room type, king or double/double at a \$199 rate for a single or double occupancy. The discounted group rates will be extended three (3) days before and after the conference dates, based on availability. If you would like to extend your stay, please call the Holiday Inn at (207) 775-2311 or (800) 345-5050 and identify yourself with the NACCC. All guest rooms include a microwave, refrigerator, a Keurig Coffee Maker, and high-speed internet. NACCC overnight guests will be charged a fee of \$10.00 for daily parking which is located underneath the Hotel. Any attendee traveling in for the day will be charged a discounted fee of \$5.00 for daily parking in the Multi-Level lot BESIDE the Hotel. In and out privileges will be provided.

If you are looking for a roommate to share the cost of a guest room, please make your hotel reservation and contact Carrie at the NACCC office, cdahm@naccc.org or (800) 262-1620 ext. 1612, and she will let you know if there is another individual looking for a roommate that you can contact to make arrangements for a reservation and direct payment to the Holiday Inn By the Bay.

Attention NACCC Leadership Team

Leadership will receive via email, a separate link to register online. Please complete by April 15.

Delegate and Alternate Certificates

Delegates and Alternates will not be certified without a signed credentials card on file with the NACCC office. Certification is required before a Delegate or Alternate can vote at the Annual Meeting & Conference. Please pay special attention to the Alternate Cards which have a priority voting number on each card. According to the Bylaws adopted in 2016, Art. 3, #5, the church must indicate an order of who can vote if the Delegate is not in the room when a vote is taken. Credentials cards will be mailed to the churches and need to be signed by an officer of the church. You may also print Delegate and Alternate cards from the NACCC Website: www.naccc.org; click on the 2020 Annual Meeting graphic. Please forward completed cards to the NACCC office with your registration form to help expedite the registration process. Registrations received prior to May 1 will receive the early registration discount.

Pastoral Search and Interview Room

A private meeting room will be available for church and pastoral candidate interviews and a Vitality Council rep will be on hand or available by cell phone throughout the meeting.

Interested clergy can access:

- Contact information for search committee representatives attending the meeting to arrange an interview/meeting.

Search Committee representatives can:

- Leave non-confidential church/community information in the room.
- Schedule conversations/interviews with interested clergy with or without assistance from the Vitality Council representative.

SPEAKERS

AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

(subject to change)

CONGREGATIONAL LECTURER



Rev. Dr. Mary E. Biedron is the Senior Minister of North Congregational Church in Farmington Hills, MI, and has been active in local, statewide, and national fellowships among churches affiliated with the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches for over 30 years. She is a graduate of Methodist Theological School in Ohio, M.Div (1999) and D.Min (2015). Her dissertation explored the historical practice and contemporary possibilities for discernment in Congregational churches.

BIBLE LECTURER



Rev. Dr. Gregory Mobley is Professor of Old Testament at Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School. A native of Kentucky and ordained American Baptist minister, Mobley received his Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible from Harvard University in 1994. He has taught at Union Theological Seminary, Andover Newton, and, since 2016, at Yale. He is the author or co-author of five books, including *My Neighbor's Faith: Stories of Interfaith Encounter, Growth, and Transformation* (2012), *The Return of the Chaos Monsters—and Other Backstories of the Bible* (2012), *Samson and the Liminal Hero in the Ancient Near East* (2006), *The Birth of Satan: Tracing the Devil's Biblical Roots* (2005), and *The Empty Men: The Heroic Tradition of Ancient Israel* (2005). He is active in Jewish-Christian dialogue.

GENERAL SESSION PRESENTER



Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza will be this year's General Session Workshop Presenter. Michael is a spiritual visionary, author and social justice advocate, and is the senior pastor of Broadway United Church of Christ on Manhattan's Upper West Side. Two of Michael's books of particular interest to NACCC churches are: *Fishing in a Shallow Sea* and *Vital Vintage Church*. His books explore alternatives that might slow or, given adequate effort, even reverse the decline that Mainline, or "vintage" churches are experiencing. Michael has seen enough signs of hope to convince him that many of our Vintage Churches are poised to experience a time of great renewal. He holds bachelor's degrees in history and psychology from Valdosta State University, a Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, and a doctorate from Hartford Seminary, where he is a faculty associate teaching congregational renewal.

Plan to arrive early to attend the Quiet Day Retreat on Friday or Saturday morning's Gatherings and Workshops! Refer to the Registration Brochure for details of the events. All events will take place at the Holiday Inn By the Bay unless noted below.

Friday, June 26

8:00am A Quiet Day Retreat-offsite

Saturday, June 27

7:00am Morning Devotions
7:00am Missionary Society Alumni Gathering
8:00am Workshops
9:15am Workshops
10:25am Year Round Delegates' Q&A
11:15am First Time Attendees' Orientation
1:30pm Opening/Business Session 1
3:35pm Missionaries' Presentation
4:00pm Congregational Lecture with Q&A
5:30pm Dinner with your Missionaries
7:00pm Mission/Outreach Reception
9:00pm A Healing Service

Sunday, June 28

6:30am Morning Devotions
7:00am State & Regional Moderators' Meeting
8:20am Workshops
9:35am Workshops
11:00am Bible Lecture 1
2:00pm Worship & Communion-First Parish Church
4:00pm General Session Workshop
7:00pm Town Hall Meeting

Monday, June 29

6:30am Morning Devotions
7:00am AMCO/ICF Breakfast
8:30am Missionaries' Presentation
9:00am Business Session 2
10:45am Bible Lecture 2
1:30pm Workshops
2:45pm Workshops
5:00pm Board Buses to Hadlock Field-Dinner & Portland Sea Dogs Baseball Game

Tuesday, June 30

6:30am Morning Devotions
7:00am Committee for Continuation of CCC Meeting
7:00am Congregational Retreat Society Meeting
8:30am Business Session 3
10:30am Workshops
1:30pm Bible Lecture 3
2:45pm Business Session 4
4:00pm Board Buses to Casco Bay Lines-Tour & Dinner on Peaks Island

WORKSHOPS-AT-A-GLANCE

Please visit the NACCC's Website to see the presenters and more details of the Workshops.

The Congregationalist Magazine in the 21st Century

Readers and donors are encouraged to share their ideas on the future of *The Congregationalist* at this interactive workshop.

The Congregation's Song

You will receive a greater understanding and appreciation of congregational songs and singing.

Humor and Laughter in Christ's Church

This workshop will explore the differences between telling jokes and proclaiming God's delight.

Where Have All the Emerging Adults Gone?

This workshop will explore the growing absence of Millennials and Generation Z in mainline Protestant churches.

Sexual Misconduct/Prevention

This workshop will examine how recognizing and deterring "grooming" behaviors is the most critical defense against the risk of child sexual abuse.

How to Organize a Church Group Mission Trip

You will receive a list of planning stages and timelines and be able to speak directly with NACCC associated missions interested in hosting groups.

Repairing A Broken Bible

Come find out how to make repairs to your favorite book! Bring your damaged Bible; some supplies provided for on-site repair.

Write On!

Have some quiet time to write a devotional for the NACCC Advent or Lent Devotional booklet.

Self-Care in Ministry: Running the Race Through the Land of Chaos

We will focus on introducing the radical concept of self-care while answering the call of ministry.

Understanding and Engaging the Younger Generation in Christian Mission

Learn more about the nuances of Millennials, Gen-Z, and Generation Alpha, what they are looking for in a church, and identify ways you can more easily target these younger generations.

Reading and Praying the Scriptures with Our Ancestors

Participants will be able to reflect on scriptures cherished by our Pilgrim ancestors as we celebrate our 400 years of Congregational history and spirituality.

Money: Practical and Theological Discussions for Church and Home

In this workshop, attendees will hear examples of programs churches have offered on the meaning, value, and proper uses of money.

What is an Ecclesiastical Council?

Attend this workshop and hear from churches, lay leaders, and pastors on how they use Ecclesiastical Councils to guide their churches and ministries.

Why Your Church Needs a Writing Group and How to Start One

Participants will leave this workshop with a four-week plan for forming a writing group and leading it to reflect on four of Jesus' parables.

Social Action and the Spirit of Jubilee

This workshop will inspire churches in every community to look for opportunities to work for justice and experience the joy of Jubilee for themselves.

MEALS and EVENTS

Meals

Saturday through Tuesday registration will include lunch each day at the Holiday Inn By the Bay. Please see this page for optional meals and outings for an additional cost. Mark your registration form with your choices. Pre-registration of these meals is required and are not guaranteed if registering after June 1. There will not be any meal tickets available to purchase onsite. We must have all counts in advance. The Holiday Inn By the Bay does have an onsite full-service restaurant. The Hotel is also located near many restaurant options.

Dinner with your Missionaries Saturday, 5:30pm

Come, gather around the table with NACCC missionaries! This year's featured speakers are Rev. Matthew Oladele, *Christ to the Villages* (Nigeria) and Mrs. Amy Kennedy, *A Christian Ministry in the National Parks* (Headquarters in Denver, CO). Matthew and Amy will share stories, show pictures of their work and describe, with your support, how they help those in need in the name of Jesus Christ.

An additional feature of this dinner is the opportunity to become a supporting member of the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council by making the following donation:

- Bronze Annual Membership \$100
- Silver Annual Membership \$250
- Gold Annual Membership \$500

If your contribution is received in the NACCC office between July 1, 2019 and June 15, 2020, you are eligible for a free 2020 AMC Missionary Dinner. Please add this notation on your registration form.

Mission and Outreach Reception Saturday, 7:00pm

Plan to hear some wonderful stories and spend one-on-one time with the missionaries. Missionaries will have display tables to view, so please ask them questions about their work, their best day, their worst day, how they see the Lord providing, or any other question which helps you get to know them and their work.

AMCO/ICF Breakfast Monday, 7:00am

Join us as we share information about the American Committee (AMCO) of the International Congregational Fellowship (ICF) and plans for the ICF Quadrennial Conference, July 23 – 27, 2020 at Curry College in Milton, Massachusetts, approximately 1 hour from Plimoth Plantation and 7 miles from Boston. We will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower. The cost will be approx. \$800 and will include food and lodging. You will enjoy great speakers like documentary film maker Ric Burns, historians Francis Bremer and Charles Hambrick-Stowe, and our own Peggy Bendroth! We hope your church might consider hosting or sponsoring a visiting missionary so that they may also attend this conference.

Monday Evening Baseball Game

Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy a baseball game at Hadlock Field, home of the Portland Sea Dogs, the AA level affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. Tickets to the game are \$36 which includes transportation, your game ticket, and a 2.5-hour ballpark picnic buffet. Hadlock Field is a family-friendly venue and is rated as one of the best minor league baseball parks to visit in the country. Please join us for a fun night at the ballpark!

Tuesday – Casco Bay Lines Tour & Dinner on Peaks Island

Join us on a chartered boat that will include a 45-minute tour of lighthouses and islands in Casco Bay. We will also enjoy a Lobster Bake on Peaks Island. Dinner choices are; lobster & clams, grilled sirloin steak, grilled chicken, or vegetarian (stuffed shells). All meals include corn on the cob, coleslaw, boiled potato, roll, and lemonade. Note your dinner selection on your registration form. We will have a chance to enjoy lawn games with much fellowship! \$75 will include transportation to the dock, along with the charter/tour and dinner.

GATHERINGS

A Quiet Day in the Spirit of the Pilgrims Friday, 8:00am

The Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Richard, former Executive Secretary of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches and leader of many spiritual retreats, will be the guide for this historic year's Quiet Day Retreat on Friday, June 26, 2020, from 9:00am-3:30pm. Meet in the lobby of the hotel by 8:00am for transportation to the Peter A. McKernan Hospitality Center of the Southern Maine Community College, situated right on Casco Bay. The Atlantic Ocean will be the backdrop for this day in which participants will enter into silence and ponder how to be 21st century spiritual pilgrims. The cost is \$30.00, which includes lunch. Pre-registration is required by May 20, 2020, and a form and payment information are available by contacting Rev. Dr. Charles Packer at drcapacker@gmail.com. Forms can also be found at www.naccc.org. **Please do not send any information or payment with your registration for the Annual Meeting and Conference or to the NACCC office in Oak Creek, Wisconsin.**

Year Round Delegates' Q&A Session Saturday, 10:25am

This year's Year Round Delegate gathering is more important than ever. As we work over the coming year to reshape the YRD program, we need your help, input, and feedback. Join us as we share news, get your assessment of direction and take your questions. If your church has not appointed a YRD, please send a representative to the session to learn about this important two-way communication work and take a sign-up form back to your church. Forms can also be found on the NACCC's website: www.naccc.org.

Welcome, All First-Time Attendees! Saturday, 11:15am

To get the most out of your first NACCC Annual Meeting and Conference, Moderator Jim Waechter and Vice-Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer invite you to a brief orientation time. You will learn what to expect from the AMC, how you can participate, and meet the chairs of the various ministry councils. And, we will do our best to answer any questions you might have. We look forward to meeting you! Please feel free to attend any events preceding this orientation. See the Agenda-at-a-Glance for a listing and refer to the NACCC Website: www.naccc.org for more information regarding the Annual Meeting & Conference.

State & Regional Moderators' Meeting Sunday, 7:00am

This vibrant and enthusiastic group will gather early to update contact information and share highlights about their region – What's working? What needs help? How can the NACCC help? Please come if you are a state and regional moderator or try to send someone as your representative. Breakfast is not included.

Congregational Retreat Society Meeting Tuesday, 7:00am

The Congregational Retreat Society (CRS) encourages the prayer life of individuals and churches by offering classical silent retreats: in the fall in various locations around the country; a one-day retreat (Quiet Day) prior to the Annual Meeting; and at other times and venues when requested. The classical retreat model includes time away for worship, study, and prayer, utilizing the insights and contributions of various spiritual traditions. The Society also offers schools of prayer as well as resources for planning and conducting quiet days and retreats. Our annual meeting is open to all who may wish to expand their own, or their church's, prayer life. The CRS encourages present and past members to attend as new officers will be elected and new ideas discussed to make the Society more vibrant and relevant to the NACCC community. Breakfast is not included.

Committee for Continuation of Congregational Christian Churches' Meeting Tuesday, 7:00am

The Committee for Continuation was formed, before the founding of the NACCC, to perpetuate the Congregational Way. It meets annually to consider the best ways to aid in the support of Congregational Churches. All are welcome. Breakfast is not included.

Missionary Society Alumni Gathering Saturday, 7:00am

An early morning gathering for everyone who was and is a member of the Missionary Society or Mission and Outreach Ministry Council. Please come to renew connections, update contact information, hear about mission activity and learn how Alumni can provide much needed help supporting NACCC mission work. Breakfast is not included.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (NACCC) 2020 ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Please visit www.naccc.org for additional registration forms or to register online. Complete a separate form for each person.
[Attention NACCC Leadership Team: Do not use this form, please complete the Leadership Team Registration Form or use the separate link that will be emailed to you, due April 15.]

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME _____ FIRST NAME ON BADGE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAY PHONE (_____) _____ E-MAIL _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ DAY PHONE (_____) _____ NIGHT PHONE (_____)

(During the Annual Meeting & Conference)

CHURCH _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All persons attending functions/meals must be registered and wear a badge. Delegates and Alternates - please mail your credentials card with your registration form.

Check one: Official Delegate Official Alternate Attendee (member of a NACCC Church) Observer (not a member of a NACCC Church)

Check here if this is your first Annual Meeting & Conference [A First Time Attendees' Orientation will be held Saturday morning. You are welcome to attend any events before this orientation.]

Check here if you require special accessibility or accommodations. Explanation _____

Registration, each day, includes lunch. Registrations received after June 1 are not guaranteed any meals or offsite events.

Before May 1		
Saturday, June 27	_____ \$120	
Sunday, June 28	_____ \$120	
Monday, June 29	_____ \$120	
Tuesday, June 30	_____ \$120	
Subtotal	_____	

If received on or after May 1	
Saturday, June 27	_____ \$130
Sunday, June 28	_____ \$130
Monday, June 29	_____ \$130
Tuesday, June 30	_____ \$130
Subtotal	_____

If received on or after June 1	
Saturday, June 27	_____ \$150
Sunday, June 28	_____ \$150
Monday, June 29	_____ \$150
Tuesday, June 30	_____ \$150
Subtotal	_____

MEAL EVENTS

Lunch is included with each day's registration. Group meals and events listed below are optional for an additional cost. Refer to the Registration Brochure for a description. Please mark each meal event you would like to attend and add the cost below. You must be registered to attend any meal events.

- _____ \$36..... Saturday Dinner w/Missionaries
- _____ \$21..... Monday AMCO/ICF Breakfast
- _____ \$36..... Monday Portland Seadogs Baseball Game includes transportation & buffet dinner
- _____ \$75..... Tuesday Casco Bay charter to Peaks Island includes transportation and dinner

Mark your dinner choice: Lobster/Clam Bake Sirloin Steak Grilled Chicken Vegetarian (stuffed shells)

Subtotal _____

Dietary Restrictions: Vegetarian Vegan Lactose Intolerant Gluten Free

Page 1 - Registration Subtotal \$ _____
 Page 2 - Meal / Events Subtotal \$ _____

My contribution to the NAPF/HOPE Scholarship Fund \$ _____
 (This fund helps churches send youth delegates to their annual conference.)

My contribution to the Providence Endowment \$ _____
 (This endowment supports the presence of small churches at NACCC Annual Meetings.)

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE \$ _____

PAYMENT

A check is enclosed with this registration form made payable to NACCC

OR

Please charge my _____ VISA _____ MC

Name on Card: _____ Billing Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Amount \$ _____ 3 digit code security code: _____

This form registers you for the days and meals noted. Please see the **Holiday Inn By the Bay Reservations** section of the brochure for hotel information. Contact Carrie with questions; (800) 262-1620 ext. 1612 or (414) 856-1612. Registration cancellations will be charged \$25 plus the meals that are not able to be resold. Go to www.naccc.org and click on the 2020 Annual Meeting graphic to register online or to print Delegate & Alternate cards that were sent to your church. You can scan/email or fax the Credential Card(s). If paying by check, mail this form with amount due and a signed credentials card, if applicable to: NACCC Annual Meeting & Conference, PO Box 288, Oak Creek, WI 53154. Please keep a copy of this registration form for your reference.