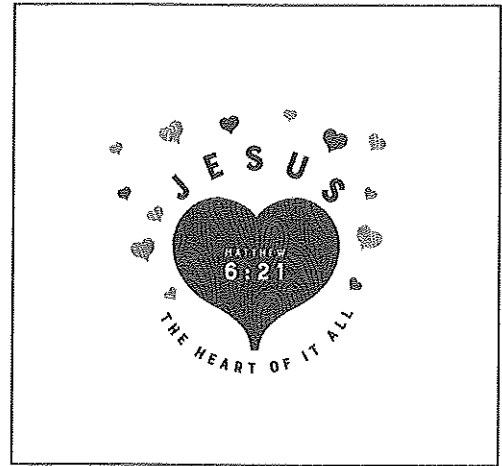




National Association of
Congregational
Christian Churches



June 2019
Annual Meeting
& Conference
Reports

NOTE: Annual reports are provided in this form to supplement some of the oral presentations at the meeting. We urge delegates to read the reports prior to the business sessions.

National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 2018-2019

In order for the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches to work as effectively as possible for the Kingdom of God, it takes all of us working together toward the same goals. That certainly is the spirit I see in the staff, the elected leadership, and the members of the Ministry Councils, committees, and task teams. As the association continues to move forward, we all must continue to work in that same spirit and effort.

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH VISITS – I continue my practice of visiting churches and being at association meetings. From July 2018 through June 2019, I will have made visits to 16 churches and 3 state or regional associations. In many of the church visits, I have represented the NACCC at some special celebration – church anniversary, ordination service, or ministerial installation. Also, there are many of our churches that stream their Sunday morning services on Facebook. In the last year, I have visited 6 of these virtual services on several occasions. Additionally, I attended the Congregational Symposium held at the First Congregational Church, Marshalltown, Iowa. I also was at the New England Minister's Convocation in East Freetown, MA.

ADDING MINISTRY CAPABILITY – In the Fall of 2017, I took part in training to help me work with churches in conflict. In this last year, I have followed that with taking part in the "S.T.E.P. (Strategic Transition Education Program) - the next generation in interim ministry" training offered by the Center for Healthy Churches, held in Wake Forest, NC in February. I have also participated in the Renewal Training Seminar, helping churches work toward church renewal, which was offered by the Center for Parish Development in May and June. This now provides me with additional training to address 3 of the major areas of concern expressed by our member churches: conflict, pastoral transitions, and church renewal.

UPDATE ON THE OAK CREEK BUILDING – Last year, at this time, the new, more energy efficient windows and doors were being installed. Since then, the exterior of the building has been painted, the sign in the front of the building has been repaired, the parking lot and driveway have been repaired, and the HVAC units have been upgraded.

STAFFING CHANGES – Last Fall, Shawn Stapleton was hired to serve as the PT Workshop Coordinator for the CCL. With Linda Miller's decision to retire at the end of February 2019, Laura Wright added the administrative and devotional responsibilities to her portfolio. At the end of January 2019, Julie Robie accepted the PT Missions Administrator position. Organizationally, the NACCC went from 2 FT positions to 1 FT and 2 PT positions.

I continue to be grateful to the exceptional staff of the NACCC: Carrie Dahm (Meeting Planner), Debby Fulton (Director of Development and Communication), Tracy Bernhardt (Assistant to DODC), Laura Wright (Admin. Assistant CCL), Dan Drea (CFO), Julie Robie (PT Missions Administrator), Janice Powell (PT Accounting Assistant), Marianne King (PT Editor of *The Congregationalist*), Shawn Stapleton (PT Workshop Coordinator) and Charles Packer (PT Dean of CFTS).

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Chittum

Leadership Council Annual Report June 2019

The Leadership Council (LC) is made up of two representatives from the Growth Ministry Council, Mission & Outreach Ministry Council and Vitality Ministry Council, and one representative from Youth, the Board of Directors (BoD), the Board of Governors (BoG) of the Congregational Foundation, the NACCC Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and the Executive Director and other designated NACCC staff members. The combined wisdom, talent and experience of the LC is aimed at creating the vision and implementing the NACCC programs to help our member churches.

The delegates to the Annual Meeting last year in San Diego voted for new Mission and Vision Statements. The Mission Statement tells us what our organization is doing now. The Vision Statement tells us what we want to be in the future. Here are those statements:

NACCC Mission Statement (June 2018)

To nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and support ministries of the local church in its community and to the world, all in the name of Christ.

NACCC Vision Statement (June 2018)

Vital and healthy Congregational churches, sharing the love of Jesus the Christ.

The annual reports from each of the Ministry Councils will give you a full perspective on all the good work being done implement these Mission and Vision Statements. In addition, the LC hosts several Task Teams, some new, to help accomplish special undertakings. These task teams include **Plymouth 400** providing ideas and materials to our churches for celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims landing at Plymouth Rock; the **Annual Meeting Accessibility** Task Team looking at what we can do to make our future Annual Meetings more accessible; the **Center for Congregational Leadership** Task Team re-envisioning this very important resource for our churches; the **Year Round Delegate** task team helping clarify and promote the role of these Delegates; and finally, the **Website** Task Team envisioning the next generation of our Website. The Website Task Team reports to the Board of Governors, but their work is fully supported by the Leadership Council.

On behalf of the NACCC churches and their members I would like to thank those serving the Leadership Council including Cindy Bacon Hammer, Judy Campbell, Michael Chittum, Barbara Dabul, Jeff Dillon, Debra Fulton, Irv Gammon, Marianne King, Will Lange, Justin Nierer, Charles Packer, Mary Pendergast, Bob Smith, Patrick Stewart, Carol Taylor, and Janet Wilson. Your countless hours, thoughtful vision and caring wisdom have turned the Leadership Council into God's workers here on earth. It is a pleasure serving our NACCC churches with all of you.

Blessings,
James Waechter, Moderator

2019 Annual Meeting Report of the Board of Directors

The NACCC Board of Directors is responsible to the Annual Meeting and Conference Delegates. The Board oversees the financial and legal business of the NACCC, as well as the upkeep of the NACCC office building in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. During the months between Annual Meetings the Board makes decisions that the AMC Delegates are then asked to ratify. Here are a few of the actions you will be asked to consider this year:

- Job descriptions for new positions
- Electing the Finance Committee, Investment Trust Committee and the Personnel and Administration Committee
- Approving the 2019-2020 Budget
- Approving the monies spent to repave the parking lot, install a new HVAC system, and paint at the Oak Creek office
- Electing the Building and Loan Committee, the Congregational Editorial Advisory Team and *The Congregationalist* Task Team
- The establishment of a new Task Team to address Sexual Abuse and Misconduct in our churches

A complete list of all motions voted on the Board of Governors from June 2018 - June 2019 will be provided to all Delegates and attendees of the Annual Meeting and Conference in Cleveland.

Your Board of Directors has been honored to serve you and Christ's Church this past year. We have conducted all business with prayer and devotion. Members of the Board include: Miriam Bryant, Judy Campbell (Secretary), Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere (Board of Governors), Rev. Dr. Martin Hall, Jodee Lord, Rev. Dr. Don Olsen (Vice Chair), and James Waechter (Moderator of the NACCC) and me. In addition, we rely heavily on the expertise of Jeff Dillon (Treasurer), and the entire staff of the NACCC. In particular, we want to thank Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum for his wisdom and tenacity. With God's help, we have accomplished a great deal this year in the life of the NACCC, and pray that the fruits of the work we do with you and God will continue to bear much fruit. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you, our churches.

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bacon Hammer
Vice-Moderator and Chair of the Board of Directors

Congregational Foundation Annual Report FY 2018-2019

As a supporting organization for the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC), the Congregational Foundation (CF) partners with donors to provide for the longevity of the NACCC. Consistent with that aim, the Board of Governors (BoG) also manages Foundation endowments to ensure that invested funds retain their original purchasing power and are allocated according to donors' wishes. The Board remains grateful to individuals whose generosity since 2003 has enabled the NACCC to launch distinctive initiatives through endowments. Further, the Foundation generates an annual distribution; in FY2018, the CF distribution to the NACCC was \$107,700.

Due to changes in how the IRS defines supporting organizations, the relationship between the CF and the NACCC required reclassification. Guided by Michael Chittum, Executive Director, Dan Drea, CFO, and legal counsel, the Board completed the necessary steps and submitted documentation to become what is known as a Type I organization. A corollary project unfolded in revisions to the CF bylaws to accommodate both the updated status with the IRS and the newish structure of NACCC.

The consolidation task team, comprised of representatives from throughout the NACCC and CF, led by Rick Bauzenberger, BoG Treasurer, continues to work diligently to review all respective funds and endowments, and merge like accounts while honoring donors' wishes.

Good communication, a hallmark of sound fundraising, stands as a priority. Debby Fulton, Director of Development and Communications, coordinated the collaborative process of composing gift acceptance guidelines and policies for both the CF and the NACCC. She also convened and chairs the website task team which includes several BoG members. Throughout the year, board members took turns writing informative articles for *NACCC e-News*.

Three members of the Board of Governors joined with members of the Board of Directors and Ministry Councils for a series of video conferences on the relationship between faith and finances. Tracy Bernhardt, Development and Communications Assistant, offered essential technical support. These discussions set the stage for an AMC workshop, "How Does Giving Affect the Giver?"

This year's efforts have clarified and strengthened the relationship between the Foundation and the NACCC. Much appreciation is extended to NACCC staff who contribute to excellent outcomes in the ways mentioned above, as well as myriad others! Sincere thanks also goes to members of the Board of Governors who are always ready to respond to an email, text, or phone call and share their wisdom, or to give their time and talent to achieve results: Edith Bartley (Vice President), Laura Hamby (Secretary), Rick Bauzenberger (Treasurer), Kevin Gromley, Varn Philbrook, Bob Smith, Barry Syzmanski, Jim Waechter (NACCC Moderator), Cindy Bacon Hammer (NACCC Vice Moderator).

Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere

President, Board of Governors

Director of Development and Communications
Report
FY2018-2019

As the Director of Development and Communications of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) and Congregational Foundation (CF) along with Tracy Bernhardt, Development and Communications Assistant, we want to thank you for the opportunity to work with the many NACCC volunteers and leadership over this past year. During the FY2019 we continued to focus our time and effort in two vital areas. The first was growing the overall revenue of the NACCC and CF through various fundraising efforts, and second was to increase and improve upon the communications to the member churches, leadership, volunteers, donors, and other stakeholders. Below are a few highlights of our work this past year.

Leadership Giving-Leadership Council, Board of Directors, Ministry Councils, and Congregational Foundation-Board of Governors, not only gave of their time, but financially supported the operations of the NACCC. Again this year, 100% of your leadership gave a gift to the NACCC demonstrating once more to donors, including the member churches, that they are dedicated and supportive of the strategic direction and services provided by the NACCC.

Individual Giving-We were pleased with the increase in overall revenue from individuals across the country to the NACCC Shared Ministry Fund and Endowments in the Congregational Foundation. This increase in individual donations to the Shared Ministry Fund is a major revenue source for the NACCC services to our churches, the *Congregationalist*, the Missions program, and the Annual Meeting and Conference. Communicating and growing our planned gifts and Endowment giving to the Congregational Foundation from identified individuals also showed a positive upswing.

Communications- We continued to email the NACCC E-News twice a month, providing our member churches with important up to date information both from the Leadership and NACCC staff. The National Association's Facebook page continued to increase in followers, and provided the NACCC with an avenue to share church related materials and financial opportunities. Acknowledging our supporters through the Fiscal Year Annual Report, provided to attendees at the Annual Meeting, and mailed to all member churches and donors, was a great way to share our message and recap the year.

Tracy and I would like to thank the NACCC staff and board leadership for their guidance and cooperation throughout the year.

Blessings,

Debby Fulton

Debby Fulton
Director of Development and Communications
National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Congregational Foundation

Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies Dean's Report 2018-2019

The work of the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS) is intertwined with so much of what happens in the broader National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC). In 2018-2019, programming organized by or connected to the work of CFTS has brought together seminary students with Congregational clergy, graduates of the Lay Ministry Training Program, and lay leaders of NACCC communities to learn and grow in knowledge, understanding, and practice of the Congregational Way. Not only does this fulfill the educational mission of CFTS to provide resources for future ordained ministers to local churches of the NACCC, but it builds relationships that will benefit the entire Association.

These opportunities have been several and varied throughout the past year:

- A Boston Seminar in Congregational History and Polity was held from Sunday, July 28-Friday, August 3, 2018, with three CFTS students and eight others taking part, including lay ministry students and graduates, lay leaders, and clergy who had not graduated from CFTS. In addition to lectures and discussions, the Seminar strives to be an immersive educational endeavor, offering visits to Plymouth Plantation and the town of Plymouth, as well as a walking tour of Boston's historic religious sites.
- The first Congregational Symposium in six years took place at the First Congregational Church of Marshalltown, Iowa, and coincided with the church's 150th anniversary from Thursday, October 11-Saturday, October 13, 2018. Nine papers and presentations, along with a keynote address and opening worship service, brought awareness of Congregationalism's response to and engagement with the Great Awakenings of the 18th and 19th centuries that occurred in both North America and Wales, among other places. Sessions and papers took up the themes of "Awakenings in History," "Awakening of Spirit," and "Awakening to New Dreams," and six of the nine writers and speakers were graduates of CFTS. Three CFTS students were in attendance and had the chance to interact not only with other Congregationalists in North America, but spent significant time with representatives of the International Congregational Fellowship, as well.
- CFTS students attended both the Annual Meeting and Conference Saturday, June 23-Tuesday, June 26, 2018, in San Diego, and one of the Ministers' Convocations the week of Monday, April 29-Thursday, May 2, 2019. This brought students into contact and conversation with many leaders within the NACCC, clergy and lay, and gave invaluable insight into how important fellowship among churches is to the health of our Way.

Two new students have been interviewed and admitted as Fellows of CFTS in 2018-2019: Jacob Richards and Michael "Chip" Smith. Two are graduating from CFTS in 2019, including Joel Boyd and Joy Matos, both from Massachusetts. Inquiries regarding candidacy in CFTS continue to be received and several application handbooks and forms have been sent out in response. The Vitality Ministry Council receives monthly updates on the efforts of CFTS and the Dean of CFTS is also a frequent participant in conference calls of the Leadership Council and Center for Congregational Leadership Task Team. The CFTS Task Team meets regularly to discuss policy and process, and this group remains blessed with the consistent direction of the Rev. Tom Van Tassell, Chairperson, the Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, and the Revs. Michael Fales, Doug Gray, William Lange, and Phyllis Merritt in 2018-2019.

What undergirds all that CFTS seeks to be and do are those among our Association, individuals and churches, who value its ministry through making contributions to CFTS, establishing and sustaining scholarships, and inviting and encouraging CFTS students by making possible supervised ministries in their congregations. Three of our students are presently at different stages of this process among our churches. Thank you for your willingness to be an active part of the CFTS experience!

Yours in celebrating all that connects us to Christ and the Congregational Way,
Rev. Dr. Charles A. Packer, Dean, Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies

Growth Ministry Council Annual Report, 2018-2019

Over the course of the 2018-2019 program year, the Growth Ministry Council (GMC) of the NACCC concentrated on several issues affecting a variety of GMC programs.

GMC is in their third year of ensuring that new or returning churches are actively contacted, usually monthly, for their first year of NACCC membership.

The GMC determined that revised policies need to be developed in the youth program area. These new / revised policies will include:

- Section of Youth Leadership Team members
- Terms of office of Youth Leadership Team members
- A 'participant behavior code' for attendees at NAPF/Hope
- A group of policies / procedures for dealing with sexual harassment and / or assault
- The selection process for various Youth Meeting scholarships, including the new Merkel / Simpson Scholarship given by GMC

GMC continues to coordinate and supervise publication over the Advent and Lenten devotionals. Carol Taylor is the coordinating GMC member and does a workshop at the Annual Meeting & Conference. John Tamilio, III is working on a liturgy project to be made available to all churches. This project will take at least a year to complete.

GMC awarded five Hurting Churches grants over the last fiscal year. We reviewed Hurting Churches Fund brochure and application to ensure that all the information required was being gathered from the application. We determined that incomplete applications would be returned with requests to complete and resubmit. GMC is also working to gather testimonials from recipients of Hurting Churches grants.

We have revised our Church Planting Agreement to better include details that had been left out of the last draft. We do not currently have a church in a planting agreement, but have several in discussion.

GMC continues to identify areas of need and present workshops and resources on supports needed by local churches.

Pat Hunt, GMC Chair

Mission and Outreach Ministry Council Annual Report, 2019

It is always fun to see our missionaries at our Annual Meeting. Please take the time to greet them and get to know where they work and what they focus on.

This has been a transition year for us. Linda Miller retired and Julie Robie took her place. Many of you know Julie, but Julie didn't know us and of course did not know all of the things that Linda held in her head. There is a saying about people taking secrets to their grave... the same thing happens at retirement.

Besides the excitement of a new staff person to work with, we were presented with a wonderful new mission project to help fund. With a great deal of help from Janice Bowers, we are helping to fund a new cashew farm for Christ to the Villages, run by Rev. Matthew Oladele. Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) has been very excited about this opportunity to watch a Nigerian community grow and prosper.

We received over \$17,000 in OGHS funding that has supported Craig Memorial Church and the Paradise Community as they begin to put together their lives following the California wild fires last summer. OGHS monies raised in other years helped fund our Missionary Rev. Charles Nyane's (Word Alive Missions) trip to the U.S. this March for eye surgery.

We continue to spend every dollar received exactly as the donor gave us to the cause for which it was given. Plans for this year were made at the Morgan Scott Project while we were at our annual retreat. A suggestion for you: If you have a group of adults who would like to start going on mission trips, Morgan Scott Project is an excellent place to start. Please take time to meet Crystal Tompkins, the Director, and talk with her about your group and find out what things she might have you doing.

Similarly, if there is another mission you wish to visit, we may be able to help you financially. In return, we ask you to ask questions while you are there and to write about your experiences. I promise, it would be a very different vacation for you!

As you may remember, both Tom and Sharon Gossett have died. For a year, their son tried to run this mission, but he was in Michigan, and the mission in Arizona so it didn't work. They have returned funds owed to the NACCC back to us. However, at the same time we have begun a program to support student pastors who work in the summers in our National Parks. This mission uses college age students interested in going into ministry the opportunity to work in our parks preparing short worship services for the park visitors and to work in some other capacity also.

We find it so true that when God closes one door, he opens another. May God bless you as you look for your next open door.

Jan Wilson, Chair

Vitality Ministry Council Report NACCC Annual Meeting & Conference 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Another year in which to serve God together! Thank you! The Vitality Ministry Council is involved in blessing many churches and pastors, and has many shared ministries. Below are some highlights:

Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies Task Team (CFTS). See Dr. Packer's report.

Minister's Convocation Task Teams. After last year's very successful "Convocation Plant"—adding a New England Minister's Convocation—this year we added yet another Minister's Convocation. In April, Convocations were held concurrently in the Midwest (Michigan) and New England (Massachusetts), and the West (California), reaching more people (almost 70) than have attended the single, national Convocation for several years. Each convocation featured great speakers, program and worship, and all brought much-appreciated encouragement and reflection time to the ministers. This year, the Convocations electronically shared fellowship and even communion. The highlight of that joint experience was hearing all of us singing, "Let Us Break Bread Together" in harmony ☺ Many thanks to all the people who worked hard to make each of the three convocations a wonderful, fruitful time.

Annual Meeting Seminars Task Team: Doug Gray will lead a panel discussion on "Ministry with Disabilities." (Doug Gray, chair)

Awards and Pastor Appreciation Task Team: Several awards will be presented at this Annual Meeting. This Task Team is made up of the entire VMC. (Justin Nierer, chair)

Lay Ministry Task Team: Now part of CFTS. Last year, Vitality laid out the structure of a new Lay Ministry Training Program. The goal is to have a new curriculum that is accessible online, promotes mentor/mentee relationships, and uses "cohort" relationships for encouragement. This year, with the advice and counsel of many, I began the actual "nuts and bolts" of trying to create it. In the coming year, I will be stepping out of the Vitality Ministry Council with the hope of being able to devote more time to this important effort. We will be looking for pastors and teachers to add their voices to more of the curriculum in the coming months.

Revitalization Task Team: Joint project with Growth Ministry Council. (Ian Macdonald, chair) We have continuing conversations exploring new ideas.

Leadership Council Representatives: Sarah Terlouw and Justin Nierer. Thank you for stepping up to link Vitality and Leadership.

I am so thankful for those who have served with me. I'm especially grateful for Irv and Ian taking the minutes and helping us find our way. The steady, encouraging presences of Michael Chittum, Charles Packer, and Shawn Stapleton were tremendously important to us—thank you! We have been very blessed to have our Ministry Intern for the last two years, Meghan Webster. Thanks for adding your voice to the mix.

Submitted for Christ's glory,
Doug Gray, Chair

Representing Council Members: Irven Gammon, Sarah Terlouw, Ian Macdonald, Justin Nierer, Meghan Webster (Ministry Council Intern) Ex-Officio: Michael Chittum, Charles Packer, and Shawn Stapleton, with assistance from Linda Miller, and Laura Wright. Congratulations to Linda Miller on her retirement—many thanks! Thanks for stepping up, Laura!

Necrology 2018-2019
National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Ministers, Minister's Spouses and Members of the Leadership Team

Reverend Thomas V. Heather 1936-2018

Served in the U.S. Army as a linguist, and U.S. Air Force as a Chaplain. Ordained in the United Methodist Church. Served Central Congregational Church (1993-98) and Cottage Hospital as Chaplain, Galesburg, Illinois. Participated in Civil Rights demonstrations in Selma, Alabama and helped with voter registration in Mississippi.

Reverend Dr. Ernannie Castillo - Passed July 10, 2018

Re-established the Congregational Way in the Philippines in 1991, organizing the National Association of Congregational Churches of the Philippines. Had worked in the Far East Relief Services and Christian Radio. Known to his friends as "Nannie" he helped needy churches and their pastors. He led in educating laity & ministers and youth work. Established the Vine and Branches Camp. When he passed away he was serving as the Pastor of the Agape Bible Christian Church.

Reverend Gard Rowe - Passed July 14, 2018, age 96

Ordained in the Adventist tradition. Served our National Association on Congregational Church Development 1981-85; Missionary Society, 1994-98. Served churches in Whitman and Lynn Massachusetts, Monson, Maine, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Richmond Hill, Queens, Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church, Brooklyn, Point Lookout Community Church, Long Island, and Oakwood Heights Community Church, Staten Island, New York. In 1965 he participated in the Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights March. He worked tirelessly in ecumenical and interfaith circles to build bridges with Catholics, Jews and Muslims.

Dr. Janet Garber - Passed July 17, 2018

Member, Congregational Church of the Messiah, Los Angeles, California. Served on the Board of our Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies. 2007-2011. Active in our National Association and the Cal-West Association.

Reverend Dr. Robert Lawrence - Passed October 2, 2018

Served churches in Little Compton, Rhode Island and the First Congregational Church, Fall River, Massachusetts. Served as a Chaplain in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and with the FBI. Coordinated the Fall River Police gun buyback program (over 300 guns), raised funds for a police K-9 and protection gear for police officers. For 20 years authored "From the Pulpit" in *The Herald News*.

Reverend Dr. Lloyd M. Hall - Passed October 22, 2018

Served our National Association as Moderator 1990-91; Historian 2000-09; Executive Committee 1982-86; Division for Ministry 1992-96; Youth Committee 1964-67; Nominating 1987-89; Program 1985-86, 1989-90, 1996-97; Wrote *From Call to Settlement*. Served the First Congregational Churches in Machiasport and East Machias, Maine, Stewart Ridge/Tinley Park Community Church, Tinley Park Illinois, The Congregational Church of Bound Brook, New Jersey, Plymouth Congregational Church, Racine, Wisconsin, and Plymouth Congregational Church, Lansing, Michigan. Participated for thirty years in the Boy Scouts of America programs.

continued ~

Necrology ~ continued

Reverend Donald Mullen - Passed February 7, 2019

Served our National Association on the Credentials Committee 1990-92; Spiritual Resources Commission 1984-82 & 1978-82; Women's Commission 1994-97; Program Committee 2004-05. Don was a leader at our pre-meeting Spiritual Retreats, mentored other ministers and was the speaker at the Washington Gladden Society about his work against the Death Penalty being applied to Timothy McVeigh in Terra Haute, Indiana. Served at Congregational Churches in Pennsylvania, including Beaver Falls, Fourth Congregational Church, Chicago, Illinois, New church start in Flower Mound/Lewisville, Texas, First Congregational Church, Saugatuck, Michigan, Oakwood Heights Community Church, Staten Island, New York and First Congregational Church Terre Haute, Indiana. Served as Interim Minister in South Bend, Indiana, Rockwood, Jackson and Portland, Michigan.

Reverend Dr. Frederick Elder - Passed February 16, 2019

Served Presbyterian Churches in Maume, Ohio, and Minnetonka, Minnesota. He took advanced studies at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkley, California and later a Th. M. and Ph.D. (Ethics) at Harvard, publishing "A Crisis in Eden: A Religious Study of Man and Environment." Following the death of his father he returned to Ohio to run the family tire business. Then in 1988 he returned to Massachusetts to serve the Pilgrim Congregational Church, Taunton, Massachusetts until his retirement in 1998 and remained active in the church as Pastor Emeritus. A lifelong student, teacher, and advocate of the preservation of the balance of the natural world and human beings' impact on the balance.

Mr. Harry Holz - Passed February 23, 2019; 1934-2019

Served our National Association on the Executive Committee 2007-11, Board of Governors 2007-2019 and as Year Round Delegate. He was a member of the First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. He was a member of the Illinois and Wisconsin Bar Associations and practiced in Chicago and Milwaukee. He loved to teach. He served as a Lecturer in Securities Regulation at the University of Wisconsin and as Adjunct Law Professor at Marquette University, Milwaukee. Mr. Holz was a founding Board member of the SHARP Literacy foundation.

Mrs. Christine "Chris" Lobb - Passed February 27, 2019

Wife of the Reverend Dr. Doug Lobb, NACCC Executive Secretary 1997-2001. Served with him at the First Congregational Church of Salt Lake City, Utah, North Shore Congregational Church, Fox Point, Wisconsin, and Timothy Eaton Memorial United Church of Canada, Toronto, Ontario. She was a Registered Nurse and to their daughters, she was mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Reverend Richard Lindvall - Passed April 4, 2019

Served at the First Congregational Church of McCook, Nebraska, Northland Congregational, Rockford, Michigan, Ontario Congregational Church, Oneida, Illinois, Bethany Union Church in Chicago, Illinois, and most recently at Tinley Park Community Church, Tinley Park, Illinois. Also served at the University of Chicago Hospitals as a Board Certified Chaplain, certified by the Association of Professional Chaplains.

Reverend Dr. Bert McCormick - Passed April 9, 2019

Ordained in the Presbyterian tradition. Served Presbyterian and Reformed churches in New Castle, Pennsylvania, Cincinnati, Ohio, Poughkeepsie and Albany, New York. Served Plymouth Congregational Church, Wichita, Kansas, 1983-88. Wrote two books, one on the life of Luke and another on Pocket Billiards.

Note: Our necrology includes Ministers and Minister's spouses who have served our National Association Churches and those who have served as NACCC officers, Boards, Councils, Commissions, Committees and Task Teams. To the best of our knowledge, we list churches served, or church membership, NACCC service, writings significant to our Association and other notable service or professions. This is a necrology and not an obituary so they will be brief, focused on service and to help us remember them.