



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## OUR BUSY COUNCILS

JODEE LORD, MODERATOR

Our Ministry Councils are always looking for different ways to assist our member churches and Pastors. Here are some opportunities that may benefit your church.

Sharing Vitality Grant through the Vitality Ministry Council. If your church is looking to implement a ministry program but could use a financial boost, this grant program may be something your church should apply for. Applications are due by November 1, 2025.

There is also the opportunity to participate in a Transitional Leadership Workshop. This workshop is a partnership with the Vitality Ministry Council and Interim Ministry Network. This is designed for both clergy and lay leaders. You will explore various ways to strengthen your leadership skills with practical tools and strategies.

Please contact the NA office or visit the NA website for more information.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Join us in celebrating **150 years** of First Congregational Church of Roscommon, Michigan! Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone!

## THE CONGREGATIONALIST

The September 2025 Restoration-themed edition of The Congregationalist magazine is out now! [Click here](#) to read it online, or if you're a print subscriber, keep an eye on your mailbox for your copy!

Interested in contributing to the Reflection-themed December edition? Email your submission to Editor [Maggie Helmick](#) by October 1st!

[Advent Order Form](#)

[Explore Member Resources](#)

[Sharing Vitality Grants Application](#)

## REACH OUT AND ASK!

REV. DR. MARTIN HALL, VICE MODERATOR

Did you know that the NACCC has multiple programs and resources available for churches in times of need? Having experienced substantial flooding in the basement of our church building during the historic rainfall in SE Wisconsin in August, I was reminded of the support the NACCC can provide in moments of financial strain. It may be through our Building and Loans program. It may be through the Hurting Churches Fund. There may be other resources available at any given time. Like all the ways the NA can be of help to our churches, however, it all starts with an inquiry. So please...Ask! Whether it is financial support in a time of crisis, a loan for a building project, or something else altogether, you never know what support is available until you ask!

## 'TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING

REBEKAH BARSCH, VICE-PRESIDENT,  
FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

As the fourth quarter begins, we look ahead to the abundant gratitude of Thanksgiving, the anticipation of Advent, and the peace and joy of Christmas. It's no wonder that many of us also turn our attention to charitable giving at this time of year. For those age 73 or higher, we may be considering where to direct any RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) from our tax-deferred retirement accounts. Perhaps there is a special need at our home church that we could step up to meet. Or we might direct our RMDs to the Shared Ministries Fund at the NACCC, thereby providing education and support for our 300 member churches across the country. We all share the precious gift of our Congregational Faith; I am grateful for all who help ensure its vibrant future.

## EVENT CALENDAR

October 15, 2025, 12:30 - 3:30 pm CT

### **Webinar Series: Effective Transitional Leadership**

This four-part virtual seminar is designed to equip church leaders with the practical tools, insights, and confidence they need to navigate periods of change with purpose and clarity. [Click here](#) for more information.

October 30, 2025, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Eastern Time

### **Present With One Another: A Fall One-Day Silent Retreat**

The recent written works by Rabbi Sharon Brous (The Amen Effect) and David Brooks (How to Know a Person) will offer suggestions for how to bridge the distances and the divides that have increasingly separated us from each other. Spiritual resources will be shared to be present with others in support and compassion. This Silent Retreat will be available in-person and virtually.

[Click here](#) for more information.

See flyer for registration details.

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