

THE

FORESEE



MONTHLY NEWS from the CCCC

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CONSERVATIVE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE



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REGIONAL PASTOR
APPOINTMENT

WORLD-WIDE
FELLOWSHIP

AG2016 CARLSBAD

E-mail: homeoffice@cccusa.com
www.ccccusa.com

Exciting development announced at Mid Winter Board Meeting

WECF-A taste of the scene described in Revelation

The Coaster —in-expensive and fun— take a train ride from San Diego to Carlsbad

CM COMMENTS



REGIONAL PASTOR APPOINTMENT



RON HAMILTON, CCCC CONFERENCE MINISTER

There were several exciting developments coming out of the Mid-Winter meetings of the Board of Directors. One of these developments was the appointment of former Conference Minister, Rev. Cliff Christensen, as the Regional Pastor for the North Central Area. Cliff will serve in a voluntary role as this new position is developed. In response to this appointment, Cliff says,

I appreciate the Board's appointment of me to serve as Regional Pastor for Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and the Dakotas. I look forward to the interaction I will have with the CCCC churches and credentialed members in this region, and especially for the opportunity to promote the formation of Pastoral Communities as the Conference has envisioned. May the Lord continue to lead us as we move forward by God's grace!



CM COMMENTS

Cliff joins Rev. Terry Shanahan, Northeast Regional Pastor, as a regional pastor working to encourage our pastors and churches and develop the CCCC Way of Life in a region. He will connect with our members through personal visits, telephone calls, and web meeting conferences. Cliff and Terry will join Lenn Zeller, Director of Conference Care, as members of the Conference Care Committee. The Board is trusting that God will raise up a Regional Pastor for the Mideast (New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan) where there is a significant concentration of CCCC pastors and churches.

These positions are a part of the restructuring of our Conference that was approved with the By-Law revisions at the 2015 annual meeting. Our Regional Pastors will work with Area Pastors and Community Pastors, to encourage our member pastors at a “grass roots” level. We highly value healthy pastors and know that we are never stronger than our leadership. We are confident that healthy pastors will be encouraged and equipped to lead healthy disciple-making churches to further God’s Kingdom work in their communities. Our Regional Pastors will also work with the Church Development Committee and the Church Multiplication Committee to develop these ministry priorities in each region.

The leadership of the Conference is grateful for Cliff’s willingness to serve as a Regional Pastor and is confident that God will use him in a special way to encourage our members and further develop the life of the CCCC. Please join me in praying for Cliff and Carol Christensen in this new work!



SHORT-TERM MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

AUGUST 9-22, 2016 BELIZE

Men, women, and young people over the age of 16 who like to teach Vacation Bible School and/or do small building projects are invited to join a short term missions adventure led by Clair Longuevan.

Stay at the **Belmopan Bible Camp**.

NO Language training required, they speak English
Total Cost: \$1,800



FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT **CLAIR LONGUEVAN**

E-mail: clonguevan@cs.com | PHONE: 970.243.9596 | CELL: 970.210.5594
2208 Dakota Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81507



WORLD-WIDE FELLOWSHIP

Stories, Reports and Observations from the World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship Triennial Meeting hosted by the CCCC in February in Orlando, FL.

NE REGION



TERRY SHANAHAN,
NE REGIONAL MINISTER

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

"I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison. "I am the LORD that is my name"

Isaiah 42:6-8

This February I was in Florida for the semi-annual Board of Directors meeting to report to the Board the activity in the Northeast since our July meeting. That is always an exciting time as all the staff comes together to share what is going on in their areas. We can see clearly how the Lord is working in our conference and ministries from these times of sharing.

Following the Board of Directors meeting was the Triennial meeting of the World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship, in which the CCCC is very active. I was able to stay for that meeting as well. People came from all around the world to gather there and do what we had been doing in the Board meetings. They shared what was going on in their countries and their organizations.

NE REGION cont on pg 4

MULTIPLICATION



ROB O'NEAL, DIRECTOR OF CHURCH
MULTIPLICATION

MULTIPLYING WORLDWIDE

The World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship (WECF) met in Orlando in February. Leaders of Congregational fellowships from around the world gathered to encourage one another and share ideas. It was exciting to be in a room with people from all over the world! It felt a little bit like being in the new creation described in the Revelation!

It is a joy to know that the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference helped to bring this group of people together. It is also humbling to think that we all share the same challenges. Multiplication is an imperative and a challenge everywhere we look—all around the world.

The WECF had access to two important reminders of what multiplication looks like that week. They met in the city of Orlando, Florida, a place where population has exploded in recent decades. In 1970, before Walt Disney World was built, Orlando was a sleepy mid-sized city of several hundred thousand sitting in the center of Florida. Today, 2.6 million people call the Orlando area home.

That's multiplication!

MULTIPLICATION cont on pg 4

NE REGION

As they showed us the slide shows and pictures of their native mission field, it was so foreign to me compared to our life here in America. But when they spoke of their efforts to spread the gospel, to help the orphans and the poor, to share the weight of ministry with staff and partnerships, it was not so very different from our stories. What I heard was they too have a vision, and a plan. They too are being led by God to spread the good news. They are planting churches, some very prolifically. They are assisting their existing churches. They are caring for their people who serve in the ministries. They are struggling with finances to grow and sustain their ministries. They may not speak our language, but they share our hearts and our vision and pathway to love God, love others and make disciples along the way.

This experience really opened my eyes to a greater vision. When we put our head down to push forward in the midst of resistance, we don't see that we are shoulder to shoulder with a host of others who are pressing in the gospel and pushing out the darkness with us. What an uplifting and eye opening experience. I am so thankful I was able to be a part of it.

As I reflect on all the people I met who put names and faces to the concept of global evangelism, I have new

MULTIPLICATION

On Saturday, the group visited Saint Augustine, the first permanent European settlement in the Americas. In 1600 (after Saint Augustine was founded), 350 Europeans called what would become the United States home. Today, 320 million people live here. ***That's multiplication!***

With 7.2 billion people on this planet, we have to say that God's command to be fruitful and multiply biologically is the only command we humans have seriously attempted to follow and fulfill.

At the same time, what is happening to the population of Christians in the world? And what is happening to the population of Evangelical Congregationalists? Few if any of our fellowships could be said to be truly multiplying. Some are adding, some subtracting, and we hope all are avoiding dividing! But where are we multiplying disciples and churches?

prayer lists to include those I met personally. One particular presentation caught me up. Rev. Go Suan Thang from Myanmar (formerly Burma) shared that he had 30 children in his care that were orphaned by the Tsunami. Because of finances, they do not have a building, but they rent houses. As you might expect, the landlords, when they find out the house has 30 children, do not renew the lease. So they are forced to move regularly- struggling to find a place to live for these 30 orphans perhaps finding their own place. I will be praying for God to answer his prayer. I look forward to the story next time we meet!

My eyes have been opened!



WECF Delegates from Myanmar and India enjoying the excursion to St. Augustine, FL as part of the WECF Triennial meeting.

On Friday afternoon, I sat with the leader of the Evangelical Congregational Fellowship of Macedonia. We talked about how difficult it can be to multiply. We talked about the challenges of making more disciples who make disciples. We both sensed the challenge. I felt the ties of kinship with him.

Such a challenge deserves our desperate prayers and our best thoughts. When the WECF gathers again in 3 years, I pray that we will be able to say to our brothers and sisters around the world, "We did it! We multiplied disciples and congregations!" I pray that they will look back at us and say, "We did too!"

Let's multiply.

CCCC NEWS

HOSTING THE WECF

The WECF Triennial meeting, hosted this year by the CCCC, was held in Orlando, FL February 11-14th, 2016. Delegates from member countries met to encourage and be encouraged as they reported on their respective bodies and how God is at work. The countries represented were: UK, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Myanmar, India, South Africa, Macedonia, Micronesia and the US. An association of Congregational churches from Argentina was voted into the growing membership of the WECF.

Members of the CCCC church plant, Palmwood Church prepared and served meals and an excursion to St Augustine was a highlight.

To see more pictures of the WECF Triennial Meeting, Board and Church/Development gatherings go to: www.cccusa.com/FORESEE/

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT



JOHN KIMBALL, DIRECTOR OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

LIFE-ON-LIFE

We emphasize the necessity of building and maintaining strong relationships in the CCCC. These relationships are the foundation of ministry, of disciple-making and of leader development. "Life on life" was the model of Jesus. It was the context of ministry in the New Testament. And it's also one of our CCCC Guiding Values – "A Community That Lives Out A Shared Life and Shared Mission."

The problem in a nation-wide organization like the CCCC is that it's very hard to actually live out such a value among our national leadership. It can be done in local and even regional clusters; however, for those who are spread out and minister in very different parts of our country, it's near-impossible to accomplish. Our CCCC Staff (now spread over Minnesota, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Florida), our ministry teams for Conference Care, Church Multiplication and Church Development, and our Board of Directors, all have to be creative in making opportunities for sharing life together.

One such opportunity comes during our Winter Board Meeting, held each year in Orlando, Florida. Along with the the Annual Gathering in July, this is a time when the Board, Staff and Ministry Teams are all gathered together in one place.

For our part, Kathryn and I were privileged to host most of the Church Development Team in our home during that



Clockwise: The Zhelevs from Bulgaria, Hospitality Team from Palmwood Church, David Sauders preaching the Sunday message.



Fellowship at the Kimball's home in Florida

week. We were able to spend "down time" together as well as hold important team meetings. We have used our Florida room as Palmwood Church's "Board Room" for the last several months – and this made a great venue for our team meetings as well.

DEVELOPMENT

Because of our proximity to the hotel where folks were staying, we were also able to host a fellowship night for the combined Church Multiplication and Church Development Teams, as well as some members of the staff. The Southern BBQ and fixin's were great, but the fun and dialogue were even better. It's good to gather and not have any agenda but to reconnect and laugh.

The CCCC leadership is trying hard to model this life-on-life priority as much as possible. It's critical that it be lived not only on the local level, but on every level of our CCCC family. The week together here in Central Florida was a beautiful opportunity to do just that.



Terry & Karlotta Shanahan with Dave Eisley - Jon Paul and Ryan Long

2016 CCCC YEARBOOK



The professionally printed version of the CCCC yearbook is now available. This version contains the by-laws revisions approved at the July 2015 Annual Gathering, an individual and church contact information updated from Ministerial Questionnaires and Church Surveys returned to the Home Office by December 31, 2015.

To order your copy go to the **Denominational Resources** link at nsresources.com and click on the CCCC. Other CCCC titles and resources are also available from **Next Step Resources**.

AG2016-CARLSBAD



AG ADVANCE PLANNING TEAM

TAKING THE COASTER

Planning your travel arrangements to AG2016Carlsbad this summer? How about taking Amtrak? A low cost and relaxing way to get from the San Diego Airport to Carlsbad is to ride the train. You can catch a bus (Metropolitan Transit Service-MTS) or hire a cab from the airport to the Santa Fe Depot for a train ride to Carlsbad. The Complimentary Holiday Inn Shuttle (*if you are a registered guest at the hotel*) will pick you up at the Carlsbad Poinsettia Station for the last leg of your trip.

Travelers headed to and from San Diego International Airport can connect with Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner and the COASTER* at Amtrak's **Santa Fe Depot** train station downtown by using Metropolitan Transit System Bus Route 992, which operates between 5:00 a.m. and 11:30 p.m., every 15 minutes on weekdays and every 30 minutes on weekends and holidays.

Amtrak operates seven days a week, 365 days per year, with twelve round trips. Tickets may be purchased at the Amtrak station. The Coaster operates daily, with the exceptions of New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

For additional information on connecting transit, fares, personalized travel planning and disabled services, call 800.COASTER (800.262.7837) or **visit www.gonctd.com/coaster**.

If the train doesn't suit you, airport shuttle services are also available. To team up with other CCCC travelers for cost-sharing, email: cccrideroomshare@gmail.com and we will connect you with other travelers so you can coordinate your plans. **See you in Carlsbad!**

* NOTE: the *Surfliner* has limited stops in Carlsbad so the *Coaster* is the preferable option.

AROUND THE WORLD

TUVYA AND ELLEN ZARETSKY, JEWS FOR JESUS

SHALOM!



On January 6, the Washington Jewish News reported that Jews for Judaism, an anti-missionary group based in Washington, D.C., has run out of funding from the Jewish community. After 32 years of trying to keep Jewish people from hearing the Gospel they closed shop. It is an example of why I teach our staff that our motivation to proclaim truth in

Messiah Jesus is stronger than what motivates the people who oppose us. We are not driven by ideology or religion, but in the knowing the love of God and His goodness. We are moved to proclaim His truth because we have been transforming by His grace and His Spirit. It is a blessing to participate in our destiny as proclaimers of Messiah and to pray for those who once opposed the Gospel.

I'm excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for us in 2016. First, I want to say thank you for your prayers and partnership with us. Our work is impossible without the Lord's grace and your involvement. I began as the first *Field Missionary* with Jews for Jesus in February 1974. Amazingly, today I'm even more enthusiastic.

One reason is from a decision made during the Jews for Jesus Senior Advisory Council meeting in San Francisco early this month. I proposed an initiative to our leadership, to conduct an evangelistic test case for ministry to Jewish-Gentile couples in Southern California. I'm delighted to report that it was unanimously adopted. I am heartened that my colleagues will embrace a new evangelism challenge. I will put the plan into action when I return from Israel in mid-February. I'm grateful to the Lord for His favor and leading into this project. Please pray with me for His sufficiency to accomplish this new initiative.

Since 2012, I have served as a Lausanne Catalyst for Jewish Evangelism. In August, I and one other Jewish Mission leader will serve as mentors to a Lausanne Younger Leaders Gathering (YLG16) in Indonesia. It is a meeting to mobilize and stimulate vision for 1,500 younger leaders in world evangelism. Two thirds of them will be coming from Asia and Africa. Please pray that the Lord will overcome two logistical challenges that I've been facing. I know that He will get me there if it is in His plan.

Thanks for caring enough to read this and to pray. Our love flows to you in the joy of the Lord.

Ellen and I were on a tour in Israel during the first ten days of February with twenty friends and spiritual pilgrims. ...



On our tour we spent several days in Jerusalem. While there, Chris Mitchell, a reporter for the Christian Broadcasting

Network (CBN) called me. Chris was doing a story about how safe tourists feel about coming to Israel. Chris interviewed five of our group on camera during our last day just outside of Jaffa Gate in the Old City.

The program aired on CBN 2/26/16 within the show titled, "Jerusalem Dateline: A Dramatic Shift in Mid-East Bodes Well for Israel." You can find it on the CBN website at www1.cbn.com, click on "CBN News," then the "ISRAEL" link and finally click on "Watch More Episodes" under Jerusalem Dateline. Or you can just click on this link:

<http://www1.cbn.com/video/jerusalem-dateline/2016/02/26/jerusalem-dateline-dramatic-shift-in-mideast-bodes-well-for-israel-02-26-16>.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CCCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 9-10 2016.**

**TODD VENMAN,
CCCC PRESIDENT**

What an incredible time we enjoyed watching God move in our midst.

So many things to share as God's hand in our Conference is so evident. As I reflect on the time the Board was together. I'm reminded of Titus 3-8.

On Monday night the board began by taking a test. Each was challenged to recall from memory the 3P's of the CCCC. I challenge you to take the same test. Take out a sheet of paper and see how well you do recalling these God given directives. I'll give you the 3Ps and a hint for each. **Our Passion** (this is based on Christ's Passion, we list three essentials), **our priorities** (again there are 3 and the hint is that we have staffed to these three areas) and **our pathway**, the Seven Guiding Values (the hint here is the first one is communication with God through Christ).

A major new development was the appointment of Rev. Cliff Christensen to the position of Area Pastor in the north central area, a region including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and the Dakotas. The board was excited to hear Cliff share his enthusiasm for the 3P's of the CCCC and how God is leading him to this position as a continuation of his efforts with the CCCC. The Board has seen much fruit from the work of Rev. Carlton Walker and Rev. Terry Shanahan's work as Area Pastor in the New England. We anticipate similar Kingdom fruitfulness as Cliff assumes a similar role in this region. At this season of Cliff and Carol's life the only expense to the conference will be to cover expenses. If you share in the excitement of God's leading in Cliff and Carol's life please prayerfully consider sending a gift to the office to help cover this works expense.

We rejoiced to learn that God provided through His people as we received the final financial reports from 2015. With the faithful support from member churches and individuals and close monitoring of expenses we were able to pay ourselves back over \$57,000.00 in 2015. While this is a huge blessing we will need to follow this very conservative spending trend for the next few years in order to completely pay ourselves back. Please continue to pray that God would grant wisdom as we look for ways to pay this back in a shorter time period.

Annual Gathering 2016 was discussed as we heard exciting reports of God's faithfulness. We have been praying that God would make it possible for many delegates to attend AG2016 in Carlsbad Ca. We know that traditionally many delegates can't attend due to higher West Coast costs. Yet we rejoice to report that God is helping many delegates with expected expenses and many are anticipating attending the Annual Gathering. God has provided some delegates with additional church support or has given them unexpected income. We learned of yet another group that has given financially to provided for meals to all the delegates. We are now able to include with your registration and stay at the hotel all nine meals from Tuesday dinner until Friday lunch. This alone will save delegates valuable resources and time. Praise God for His faithfulness. We continue to pray that God will make funds available to our delegates so they can experience firsthand all He is doing and wants to do through the CCCC.

Not only was the Board blessed to hear of God's faithfulness to the Conference and His moving in the hearts of member Churches and individuals across America, we were equally blessed to hear of His work across the globe.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS cont on pg 9

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2016 was our turn as a Conference to host the Triennial gathering of WECF (World Evangelical Congregational Fellowship) delegates. The CCCC belongs to WECF as one of seventeen national member groups. We are blessed to share a common foundation in a loving Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. We are equally blessed to share a common foundation of congregational polity. We heard reports of God's move around our globe. Delegates from all backgrounds shared in the unity of the same Spirit. It was a small glimpse of an eternal picture as we adored the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We are blessed to have fellowship with people of like mind and polity around the globe.

As we move through 2016 anticipating our time together as delegates at AG 2016 in Carlsbad, my prayer for the CCCC is that we would have eyes to see and ears to hear what the Spirit says to the body of the CCCC. That His specifications would be met with the resources He has and will provide. God is before us and is leading. He has always been and will always be faithful. Oh that we would live in faithfulness to our King.

May God be praised!

THINGS TO NOTE

**PLEASE REMEMBER:
CCCC HOME OFFICE MAILING
ADDRESS CHANGE**

No, we have not moved, but the Planning and Zoning Commission of the city of Lake Elmo has re-apportioned the streets around our office.

Please note that effective immediately the new MAILING address for our Lake Elmo office is:

**8941 33rd St North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042**

None of the other Home Office or staff contact information will change. Please make this change in your address books. The deadline for compliance was March 1, 2016. Thank-you for noting this.

OPPORTUNITIES AND PLACEMENT**PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Santa Barbara, CA	Bethany Congregational Church *
Bethune, CO	Hope Congregational Church*
Flagler, CO	First Congregational of Flagler-Arriba*
Greeley, CO	St Paul's Congregational Church* (<i>Part-time Associate Pastor</i>)
Sherman, CT	Sherman Congregational Church* (<i>Part-time Youth Pastor</i>)
Sulphur Springs, IN	Sulphur Springs Christian* (<i>Family Life Minister</i>)
Ashley Falls, MA	Greenwoods Community Church
Dunstable, MA	Dunstable Evangelical Congregational Church *
Heath, MA	Union Evangelical Church of Heath (<i>Part-time</i>)
Kingston, MA	Mayflower Congregational*
Tauton, MA	Union Congregational Church*
Wakefield, MA	First Parish Congregational Church*
Cook, MN	Ashawa Chapel* (<i>Part-time</i>)
Shorewood, MN	Minnewashta Community Church*
Mitchell, NE	Federated Church*
Lakeview, NY	Lakeview Community Church*
Middletown, NY	First Congregational Church* (<i>Part-time</i>)
Berne, PA	St. Thomas Church
Coventry, RI	Church of the Apostles*
Suffolk, VA	Cyprus Chapel Christian Church*
Spokane, WA	Lincoln Heights Community Church*
Elkhart Lake, WI	St. Paul's Christian & St. Peter Evangelical Churches (<i>Yoked pastorate</i>) *
Wilton, WI	Faith Congregational Church*

* = Conference member

+ = In process

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

TUESDAY, JULY 26th – FRIDAY, 29th 2016
CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Carlsbad, CA

FEATURED SPEAKERS



BOB LOGAN,
Executive Director Logan Leadership-Pasadena, CA

will share two messages: the first focusing on understanding the harvest field in the 21st Century; the second message will center on raising up leaders for the harvest from the harvest.



WALTER KIM, *Associate Minister at Park St. Church in Boston, MA*

will share a message on the “theology of race,” an issue that is prominent in our country’s life.



LENN ZELLER,
CCCC Director of Conference Care and Pastor of St Paul’s Church, Stowe, PA

will be sharing about leading St Paul’s Church through a church development phase that has engaged them in a community ministry impacting a new demographic.



RON HAMILTON,
CCCC Conference Minister

will share a Biblical perspective on being effective workers in the harvest, from planting seeds of the Gospel to reaping the harvest of people transformed by the Gospel.

2016 CCCC ANNUAL GATHERING CARLSBAD, CA



CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
8941 33rd St North, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

