



MONTHLY NEWS from the CCCC

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CONSERVATIVE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE

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WE BOW DOWN

*Living in Obedience
to Christ*



THE DEITY OF
CHRIST

*Do We Really
Believe It?*



MICRONESIA
MINISTRY

*Micronesian Pastors
Receive Biblical
Training*

- CHAPLAIN HONORED
- CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

CM COMMENTS



WE BOW DOWN



RON HAMILTON, CCCC CONFERENCE MINISTER

The Conservative Congregational Christian Conference is a Christ-centered fellowship that seeks to “honor Jesus Christ together.” Reflecting the teaching of the early creeds of the church, our statement about Jesus is clear and strong.

“We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.”

Our pastors and churches teach that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ alone and Jesus is lifted up in the worship of our churches and the lives of our members.

One of my favorite Scripture readings is found in Philippians 2:5-10...

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

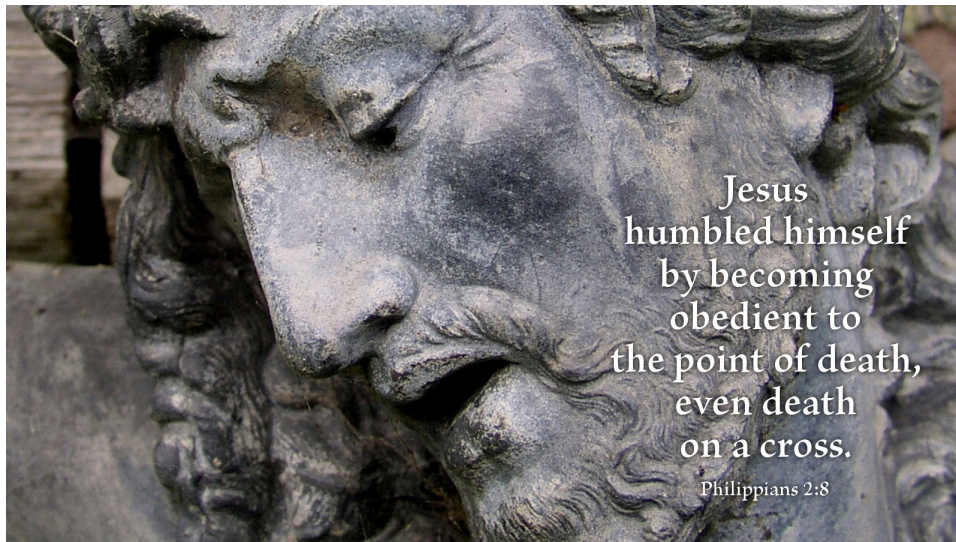
CM COMMENTS

**WE ARE NOT
WAITING
UNTIL THE DAY
WHEN JESUS
COMES AGAIN
TO BOW DOWN
TO HIM.. WE
ARE LIVING
IN A HUMBLE
POSTURE OF
OBEDIENCE...
IN ALL WE DO
AND SAY.**

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This teaching summarizes our beliefs about Jesus, but also describes the destiny of the whole of creation. One day, every creature in heaven and on earth will bow at the feet of Jesus and confess that He Is Lord.

In our Conference there is much Jesus talk! Just as important, there is much Jesus walk! We are not waiting until the day when Jesus comes again to bow down to Him. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God and we are living in a humble posture of obedience and seeking Him first in all that we do and say. We “honor Jesus Christ together” in our statement of faith. Just as importantly, we “honor Jesus Christ together” in our lives of faith. We are a Christ-centered fellowship that puts Jesus first!





WE BELIEVE IN THE DEITY OF CHRIST

... In His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His personal return in power and glory!

CHURCH MULTIPLICATION



ROB O'NEAL,
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH
MULTIPLICATION

ASTOUNDING CLAIMS

We make astounding claims about Jesus. We state that he died but rose again from the dead, even though we have never seen that kind of thing happen before. We believe that Jesus' death can bring us forgiveness for our sin. We also teach that he is in charge of the universe and history and that he will return one day. We even say that Jesus is the unique and only-begotten Son of God.

When we look for proof of these astounding statements, among the places we look are the lives of Jesus' apostles. James was beheaded. Several were crucified. Peter was crucified upside down. All of the apostles could have avoided difficulty followed by death had they simply recanted their stories. Had they said, "No. Wait. I was

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT



JOHN KIMBALL,
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH
DEVELOPMENT

THE DEITY OF CHRIST

When it comes to the deity of Christ, stated beliefs and practices do not always send the same message. In our CCCC family, all of our congregations affirm our Faith statement:

"We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory."

Yet, when it comes to ministry and revitalization, we often attempt to do the work using human means.

While I was a young man in seminary, I was assigned a research topic on the Chalcedon Definition, a statement by

CONFERENCE CARE



LENN ZELLER,
DIRECTOR OF
CONFERENCE CARE

WHY DON'T WE DO WHAT HE SAYS?

"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Luke 6:46, NIV

At the end of Luke, chapter 6, Jesus was finishing a lengthy teaching about proper attitudes and behavior for disciples in the Kingdom of God. As He drew that teaching to a close, Jesus ended with those iconic words "...Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" Those are challenging words, if we take them seriously.

Who is Jesus? As Biblical, evangelical Christ followers, we say that He is the Son of God. We believe that He is the Second Person of the divine, eternal Trinity. Our doctrine teaches us that He is both human and divine, God come to earth, incarnated as a man to

MULTIPLICATION

wrong. Jesus didn't rise from the dead, and he isn't Lord. Caesar is Lord," then their lives would have been spared.

The fact that they didn't indicates that they actually saw what they claimed. The apostles were willing to die, because of what they had seen. They had witnessed miracles like Jesus giving sight to the blind and calming the seas. They saw their risen Lord and touched him. They heard him assure them that he would return. They knew that their Savior had forgiven their sins and was giving them eternal life. That knowledge and conviction led them to live heroic lives.

People still wonder if the claims we make about Jesus are true. The claims themselves seem astounding. Many naturally doubt the truth of these statements and look around for sources today that confirm or deny what we teach about Jesus.

The heroic lives many of our church planters lead reminds me of the truth of the claims we make about Jesus. They give up normal income and take big risks. They work ridiculously long hours. They wonder how they will ever find enough people to pull together a church. They endure family members and friends wondering what in the world they are doing. They can only do what they do, because they have met and become followers of the risen, ruling Lord.

The churches that our planters lead remind us that Jesus is alive, in charge, and still working miracles. Recently, The Meetinghouse Church in Salem, Massachusetts baptized a man in Salem's harbor. Another life had been changed.

Every time it happens, in established churches as well as in church plants, changed lives are the best evidence we have that Jesus is who we claim him to be. May our churches demonstrate the truth of what we proclaim through the evidence of the lives we live.

DEVELOPMENT

the Church in 451AD that affirms the dual nature of Christ – both fully God and fully man. I grew up reciting the Nicene Creed, but it had become something I did on autopilot. While writing that paper, the truth of Christ's divinity finally hit me. If Jesus is truly divine, then several things are true: he knows everything, including things about myself I do not even know. Like the Father, he is all powerful; he is everywhere present at the same time; and he rules over everything; hence we call him Lord. There are more attributes to be sure, but any of the above are already game-changers in the way we do church.



When a church's ministry appears to be waning, the first response frequently is to find some new program (or perhaps a new pastor) to fix the problem, i.e., a human solution. But if Jesus is truly divine, what should be the first step? If Jesus is all-knowing, then he certainly knows best how to address our need. If Jesus is everywhere present, He will certainly be with us as we walk through the changes needed to focus again on the kingdom. If Jesus is all-powerful, He certainly has the ability to make the

instructions (new vision) come to pass. And if Jesus really does rule over all things, then we (as a body) will submit to him and follow his instruction.

If Jesus is all-knowing, all-powerful, present everywhere and has full dominion, how might that change the way we pray in our churches? Concerted and consistent prayer by the whole body, seeking Jesus' divine wisdom and instructions, until at least the majority sense they have heard (in unity) the same word from God, is what a congregation that actually lives out what they say they believe about the deity of Christ looks like.

If Jesus is divine, then we will follow Him and do what He tells us to do. And when we do, his local congregations will be fruitful, will grow and will accomplish what he intends.

Jesus' divinity is either more than just a faith statement or it's not real at all.

NE REGION



TERRY SHANAHAN, NE REGIONAL PASTOR
“BECAUSE HE LIVES”

Whether you are the pastor or the person in the pew, life happens to you and life can be a challenge. Ministry is a hard calling. A professor once told me that a person shouldn't go into the ministry unless he couldn't do anything else. He didn't mean that the person wasn't capable of doing anything else, but rather that he could not escape the call of God on his life and felt compelled to serve Him knowing of the challenges involved.

I was at a community pastors group this past week and we were sharing our lives together, offering encouragement and helpful advice. We talked about how important that time together was for us and how it helped us in our ministries so much to know that we had others who knew what we were experiencing and who were praying for us and who would answer the phone if we needed them and who, as one pastor put it, had our “6.” But each one emphasized that without Jesus and having our full identity in Him, we could not survive in ministry or in life. We also talked about how we could help others get into a fellowship like this and how to develop more community pastor groups. We agreed that all pastors need this kind of support, and at time need Jesus with “some skin on.”

The CCCC Community Pastors initiative is being established to live out our guiding value of healthy pastors who are called to Jesus' ministry here on earth. The Conference has recognized this need and is working to provide opportunities for all our ministers to be a part of a Community Pastors group. It is just one way that we see Jesus and know him to be with us as we till this rocky soil for His purpose and Kingdom. As we share with others toiling in the same field we see Jesus walking beside us. Because he lives, He lives within us, and we are Christ to our brother. *“And because He lives, we can face tomorrow.”*

AROUND THE WORLD

PASTOR MAX VAGUE, DIRECTOR OF THE MORNING STAR INSTITUTE AND CCCC MICRONESIA MINISTRIES COMMITTEE CHAIR

MICRONESIA REPORT

JULY 2016,

Praise be to God for your prayers and support for the Micronesia Ministry that enabled successful classes in



Chuuk, Saipan and Guam in May, in Portland, Oregon in June, and also for the classes taught by Kohne Ramon in Corsicana, Texas (new) and Miami, Oklahoma.

In Portland, Gary Gardell, pastor from Spokane, Washington, met with us and Lord willing, will teach the class there next June. Also another pastor in the Portland area, Dan Pulliam, has agreed to teach the September class in 2017. This will be a great help with the teaching load as we add new classes each year.

There are no classes planned for July as both Kohne Ramon and I will attend the CCCC Annual Gathering here in Carlsbad, CA. We will share a report with the attendees about the Morning Star Institute ministry of our Conference.

In August I will join up with Kohne Ramon in Pohnpei for two weeks of classes that will have special emphasis on the cults. The Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons have a very strong presence there and are stealing sheep from the Congregational churches.

In September I will be back to Portland for a week. In October Pastor Phil Hoyer, from Carlsbad Community Church, and I plan to go to Saipan and Guam. In November I plan to return to Honolulu and Maui. Please pray that we will be able to hold these classes. As you remember from last year the October classes were canceled by typhoon damage in Saipan.

Once again thank you and God bless you for your partnership. This teaching ministry could not be accomplished without your faithful prayers and financial support.

“...for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry”
 (Ephesians 4:11)

**MOST OF THE
CONTENTIOUS
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BY THE SPIRIT.**

CARE

be our Savior and Redeemer. Others believe that Jesus is little more than a prophet, not unlike countless others through the ages; that He is a good man and a great teacher, but a man nonetheless, nothing more. But we say we believe that He is Creator, Master, Judge and Lord of all that is.

If we really believe that, Jesus said, then why don't we do what He says? In previous verses from Luke chapter 6, He talked about loving our enemies. Do we do that? Really? He talked about doing good to those who hate us, blessing those who curse us, praying for those who mistreat us. He talked about turning the other cheek to those who strike us and going the extra mile for those who seek to take from us. Do we do that? Really?

Elsewhere, Jesus said it this way: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love ... My command is this: love each other as I have loved you." (John 15: 9 and 12, NIV) Do we love others as Christ has loved us? Really? Do we love with grace, passion, humility, and self-sacrifice, without demanding or expecting anything in return, like Jesus did? Are we willing to lay down our rights and privileges, and even our lives, for the sake of others, like Jesus did?

Alexander Strauch, in his book titled, *If You Bite and Devour One Another*, said, "Jesus taught the unique principles of humility, servanthood, forgiveness, and love, and He promised to send a Helper to enable His disciples to live by His teaching." He went on to say, however, that "Most of the contentious infighting and unnecessary divisions that plague many churches today result from believers acting according to the flesh and not walking by the Spirit."¹

I think Mr. Strauch is absolutely correct in his assessment. So many conflicts and divisions in the church could be healed or even avoided if only we believers would simply live what we say we believe— that Jesus is Lord! How much deeper our unity would be if we simply loved one another as Christ, our Messiah, loved us! If He really is Lord, then we must obey Him and love as He has loved. That is no small task, because it runs so counter to our fallen human nature. But with the help of His Spirit within, we can begin to do so, showing forth our new nature in Christ and bringing glory to God in heaven. May God make it so, in us and in our congregations.

¹ Strauch, Alexander, *If You Bite and Devour One Another*. Lewis and Roth Publishers, Littleton, CO, 2012. pp. 2 and 9.

CCCC NEWS

CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL CHANGES

- Ashley Falls, MA Greenwoods Community Church -Trip Weiler
- Kingston, MA Mayflower Congregational*
Doug Macleod
- Middletown, NY First Congregational Church*
Martin Ballam
- Derby, VT Derby Community Church*
Michael Haddad*

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Santa Barbara, CA Bethany Congregational Church *
- Bethune, CO Hope Congregational Church*
- Greeley, CO St Paul's Congregational Church*
(Part-time Associate Pastor)
- Salem, CT Congregational Church
(Part-time Youth Pastor)
- Sherman, CT Sherman Congregational Church*
(Part-time Youth Pastor)
- Blue Island, IL Evangelical Community Church*
- Peru, IL First Congregational Church
- Georgetown, MA Byfield Parish (UCC)
- Heath, MA Union Evangelical Church of Heath
(Part-time)
- Kittery Point, ME First Christian Church* *(Part-time)*
- Bancroft, MI First Congregational Church*
- Hollandale, MN Hollandale Congregational Church*
(Part-time)
- Shorewood, MN Minnewashta Community Church*
- Mitchell, NE Federated Church*
- Goffstown, NY Congregational Church of Goffstown*
- Lakeview, NY Lakeview Community Church*
- Berne, PA St Thomas Church
- Chepachet, RI Chepachet Union Church
- Suffolk, VA Cyprus Chapel Christian Church*
- Elkhart Lake, WI St. Paul's Christian & St. Peter Evangelical Churches
*(Yoked pastorate) **
- Wilton, WI Faith Congregational Church*

* = Conference member
+ = In process

CCCC CHAPLAIN RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

CCCC member Chaplain Gary Eno, who serves in the Civil Air Patrol(CAP), has been selected as the winner of the **2016 Civil Air Patrol Senior Chaplain of the Year Award**. The award will be presented at the CAP National Conference in Nashville, TN in August. Chaplain Eno responded, "It is a huge honor, one which overwhelms me when I think of it. I love serving our Lord as a chaplain."

Thank you Chaplain Eno for your dedicated and faithful service to Christ through the Chaplains ministry.



Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Gary Eno at the USAF museum at Wright/Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. The aircraft in the background is the SR-71 Blackbird.



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-5937

21 June 2016

Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Gary D. Eno, CAP
154 W High Street
New Concord OH 43762

Dear Chaplain Eno

Congratulations! I am happy to inform you of your selection as the winner of the **2016 Civil Air Patrol Senior Chaplain of the Year Award**. Being singled out as the most outstanding Senior Chaplain in all of Civil Air Patrol should make you exceptionally proud. The selection process was based upon your numerous achievements within CAP and favorable recognition by your commanders.

As the winner of the Senior Chaplain of the Year award, you will be honored by CAP at the upcoming National Conference in Nashville, TN, 11-13 August 2016. The award will be presented on Saturday morning during the Annual Recognition Program. Enclosed is information about the conference and your presentation.

Again, congratulations on your selection and I look forward to personally thanking you for your dedication to CAP. I am confident you will continue to provide outstanding service to Civil Air Patrol and to the United States of America.

Sincerely

Joseph R. Vazquez
JOSEPH R. VAZQUEZ
Major General, CAP
Commander

Attachment:
Conference Info

cc:
GLR/CC
OH WG/CC

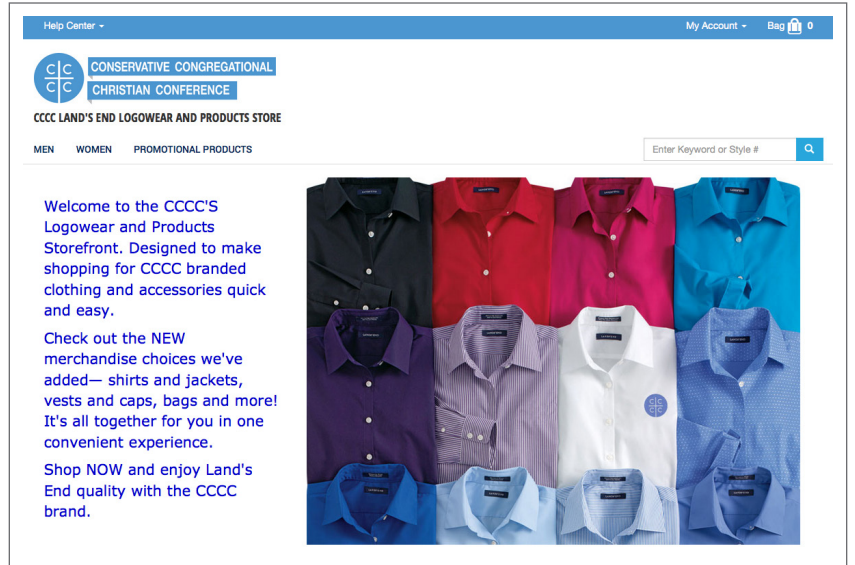


CCCC LAND'S END LOGOWEAR STORE

Interested in any of our CCCC "in house" items, like logo shirts, bags, etc.? Please check out our new Land's End CCCC Logowear Store. Lots of Land's End favorites now available to be personalized with the new CCCC logo. There are items for personal or promotional uses.

CHECK IT OUT AT:

[http://business.landsend.com/
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