

THE

FORESEE



BI-MONTHLY NEWS from the CCCC

IN THIS ISSUE:

CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

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MINISTRY AT THE
LOCAL LEVEL
*Regional Pastors
Appointed at AG*



REGIONAL
MINISTRIES
ACROSS THE
NATION



BLESS YOUR
PASTOR PROJECT
*Make your plans for
Pastor Appreciation
Month in October*

- EXCITED FOR WHAT GOD IS DOING AMONG US
- ENCOURAGEMENT FROM EPIPHANY
- AROUND THE WORLD
- CHANGES & OPPORTUNITIES

CM COMMENTS



MINISTRY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL



RON HAMILTON, CCCC CONFERENCE MINISTER

The announced appointment of three new regional pastors created excitement at the 2019 Annual Gathering in St. Paul last month. Our Conference membership is now served by called and qualified pastors in the Northeast (Terry Shanahan), Mideast (Tim Dubeau), North Central (Ray DeLaurier), and West (Phil Noordmans). These appointments are another step in enacting the structure adopted with the revision of the CCCC By-Laws in 2016. Terry and Ray serve in a full-time capacity, Phil is part-time, and Tim is a volunteer.

The restructured By-Laws were adopted to accomplish two main purposes. The ministry of the Conference is now centered on the three main priorities of Church Development, Church Multiplication and Conference Care. This also moves the focus of our ministry from a centralized Conference office to the local level where the Regional Pastors can relate to our member

CM COMMENTS

churches and pastors. This is aligned with our Congregational polity and supports the ministry of the Gospel in the local church.

The ministries of Church Development and Church Multiplication have also made changes to support local ministry. The Church Development process is now designed for clusters of pastors and church leaders to go through the LifeFlow process using video teaching and planned coaching. The Church Multiplication process is driven by local hubs that utilize the resources of the national team to recruit, assess, train, coach and resource church planters. These steps strengthen and enhance ministry at the grass roots level.

**WE ARE BOUND
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The Conference Care ministry is focused on the development of Community Pastor groups that provide regular support and fellowship for pastors in local clusters. While this ministry is still developing, there are many testimonies of ways that the lives and ministries of our pastors are being strengthened and encouraged. The appointment of Regional Pastors will help develop this special ministry.

The ministry of our fellowship is led by the ministry staff. The administration of our work is overseen by the Board of Directors and committees. However, these all serve and support ministry at the local level where people are gathered under the Lordship of Christ and effective ministry is taking place.

We have stated the one way to view the CCCC is that we are “Connected in Christ... Changing Communities”. This phrase reminds that we are bound together out of devotion to Jesus Christ and we share in His Kingdom work wherever He calls and places us.

CCCC RESOURCE SHARING

The **CCCC Resource Sharing Dropbox** continues to grow. It is full of many great FREE resources available to CCCC members and member churches, including a wide variety of files that you can download and adapt to your particular needs.

A **video** to instruct you about joining and using the Dropbox is posted on the website under the Resources tab. Go to: **www.cccusa.com/resources** to check it out.

Email **cccresourcesharing@gmail.com** with your request to join today! You will need to create a free Dropbox account (go to Dropbox.com to set it up) with the email you send us so that we can add you to the folder. We'll add you and you'll be all set.

We'd love for every CCCC pastor/church or a representative from every church led by CCCC pastors to join the folder.



REGIONAL MINISTRY ACROSS THE NATION

REGIONAL PASTORS APPOINTED AT 2019 ANNUAL GATHERING

NORTH CENTRAL REGION



REV DR RAYMOND A. DELAURIER, NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PASTOR
NORTH CENTRAL REGION: Upper Peninsula (UP)

Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, South Dakota, North Dakota, and eastern Montana

I came to faith in Jesus as an adult, joined a local church and later received an M.Div from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary in Portland, Oregon. I began pastoral ministry in 1991. I was ordained by the Northwest Conservative Baptist Association, and studied in Israel for a month. Ten years later I received a D.Min degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

NORTH CENTRAL cont. on pg 4

WEST REGION



REV DR PHILLIP NOORDMANS, WEST REGIONAL PASTOR
WEST REGION: California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Western Montana

Western Montana

While combing through a data base of pastors and churches, I phoned a church in the Northwest asking for a current email address. The lady replied, "We are no longer with the CCCC"

"Why?" I asked.

"Because no one from the Conference contacted us for over three years."

In an effort to reduce incidents like that and to strengthen our commitment to shared life and mission, the CCCC is adding regional pastors.

WEST cont. on pg 4

MIDEAST REGION



REV TIMOTHY DUBEAU, MIDEAST REGIONAL PASTOR
MIDEAST REGION: Michigan (except UP), Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Ontario, Greater Hudson Valley, New Jersey

York, Ontario, Greater Hudson Valley, New Jersey

Before entering into the pastorate, I was employed for twenty-three years by the Gillette Company where I held several professional and management roles. Resigning in 1993 to attend Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, I completed an M. Div. in 1997. I was licensed in 1995 with the CCCC while also serving as an Interim Associate Pastor at the First Congregational Church of Hamilton, MA. In April 1998 The Congregational Church of Salem, CT

MIDEAST cont on pg 4

NORTH CENTRAL (cont from pg 3)

After 28 years in pastoral ministry I felt something changing in my sense of calling, but it was quite unclear. I was pursuing the CCCC Way of Life in our local church in ND as my passion [but still felt a sense of unrest.] Then one day our Conference Minister called and asked if I would be interested in the North Central Regional Pastor position. Suddenly my new calling was clear.

I passionately believe that the local church is the great hope for our communities and nation. Our Conference's Seven Guiding Values are the blueprint for the kind of church that can have an impact. It is my desire to minister and serve the pastors and congregations in the North Central region to put into practice the CCCC Way of Life.

I love the local church and I love ministering together with other pastors to help each church become Christ-focused, healthy and strong. Our Good Shepherd will delight in growing churches, strengthening, and affecting change in our communities.

WEST (cont from pg 3)

My connection with the CCCC began when I was a student (1973-1975) at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. During that time I served as a volunteer in the college ministry at Lake Avenue Congregational Church. My standing with the CCCC was formalized when my first full-time ministry position began in Evansville, IN.

Since graduating from Fuller, I have served in a variety of pastoral and teaching roles in the Midwest and California. In 1997, I received my D.Min. from Fuller.

In 2018, Ron Hamilton began to talk with me (and others) about the Conference's need for additional regional pastors. After attending a training event in March 2019 in Orlando for Regional Pastors, I wrote in my journal, "The CCCC core leadership team is awesome!"

Please pray with me that the Holy Spirit will equip and empower us to serve in ways that attract people to Jesus Christ and to our CCCC family. We want to see healthy, disciple-making congregations serving joyfully together under our Head, Jesus Christ, to advance the gospel.

MIDEAST (cont from pg 3)

called me to serve as their solo Pastor. There I was ordained in May 1999, and held the office until Dec. 2017. I am honored to have been recently designated as Pastor Emeritus by the Salem church.

In Connecticut, I served as the Local Arrangements Chair for the 2010 Springfield Annual Gathering. I was the Southern New England Area Representative as well as the Moderator of the New England Congregational Christian Fellowship for several years. I am in my sixth year as a member of the Board of Directors. During that time I chaired and co-chaired the Nominating Committee for two consecutive years. In 2016, I joined other Board members to coordinate the Annual Gathering in Carlsbad, CA. In 2017 I was appointed as the Annual Gathering Coordinator where I continue to serve.

"As a native New Englander I have observed the positive impact of a Regional Pastor in the Northeast for both the Kingdom of God and the CCCC. Though a relative newcomer to western Pennsylvania, the Lord put it on my heart to begin building the same sort of foundation with Area Pastors, Regional Fellowships, Pastors and Churches in the Mideast region. May God help me to be an agent of encouragement as I seek to serve Him in this role. To God be the glory!"



NORTHEAST REGION



TERRY SHANAHAN, NORTHEAST REGIONAL PASTOR

PASTORING PASTORS

In 2000, at the 53rd CCCC Annual Gathering in Green Lake Wisconsin, the Conference commissioned Carlton Walker as the first Regional Minister serving in the New England section of the country. With the funding not secured for the long term, the Conference stepped out in faith to make this appointment. The Lord has blessed that appointment for the last 19 years with Carlton Walker serving for the first seven years and myself serving the last twelve.

Having someone to represent the Conference in a particular region, to encourage the health and strength of the CCCC churches and pastors, to encourage renewal and multiplication and to come alongside with Conference Care has proved to be a tremendous blessing for our Conference. We have recently change the title of the position from Regional Minister to Regional Pastor as that better reflects the Conference structure and the nature of the position.

The Regional Pastor is available to join in celebrations and to stand beside during troubles. They represent the Conference as ambassadors. They are a conduit for our churches and pastors to the leadership and protocols of the denomination. But best of all they can be a pastor to the pastors who serve God together in this denomination.

When I began this position, I was standing on the work that Carlton Walker had done before me. Doors were opened and introductions were made for me, but it still took time to get acquainted with my churches and pastors. It was an intentional development of mutual relationships. Now I am at the top of the list for folks to call when they have a need. It is a privilege to serve in this way.

However, this level of connectivity was only available to the New England states and a part of New York. The need for regional pastors in other regions continued to be great. After much prayer and planning, at this year's Annual Gathering, the Conference has again stepped out in faith by appointing three additional Regional Pastors to serve across the country.

When Cliff Christiansen, serving in the North Central region retired, I was again the lone Regional Pastor. I rejoice as that is no longer true. All four Regional Pastors along with the Director of Conference Care, Peter Wood now comprise the Conference Care Committee. We recently had our first official meeting to strategize how we may best serve God and our Conference.

It is a tremendous blessing to serve alongside these godly men and to know that together we can be of great service to the Lord, our fellow pastors and our churches. I pray that the newly appointed Regional Pastors will be as blessed by God as I have been as I have served in the Northeast Region.

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AROUND THE CONFERENCE

ENGAGING THEIR COMMUNITY

Epiphany Church in Gloucester City, New Jersey is led by Pastor Joe Marlin. The church is a part of the CCCC Church Multiplication movement.

Located across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, PA, Gloucester City is an urban area with a “small town feel.” Epiphany Church in Gloucester City is a congregation working hard to engage their community, serve people, show them Jesus, and multiply His followers. They sponsor a variety of activities and events to make connections with people of all ages, in all walks of life, inviting them to participate in a life of faith.

The Church Multiplication Committee has produced a video describing their story to educate and encourage our members about the multiplication movement in our Conference.



This video resource is produced for you to use. Post it to social media. Show it during worship. Share it with a missions committee or church board. To check out this video got to: <https://vimeo.com/349487243>.

Note: Since this video was produced, Epiphany Church has baptized eight new Christians. Please pray for Epiphany Church, Pastor Joe Marlin, and CCCC Church Multiplication.

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT GOD'S WORK AMONG US AND THROUGH US...

ALVIN HELMS, CCCC VICE PRESIDENT

The current CCCC Leadership Team is excited about the way God is blessing and leading our fellowship these days. Much effort and prayer went into correcting some mistakes of the past and getting our financial position in order. As the CCCC leaders meet, pray, plan and dream together there is an awareness that God is blessing us with the needed resources of time, talent and treasure to keep us on task and moving forward with a vision to plant more churches, assist our current churches and care for our family of faithful pastors, ministers and missionaries. As we have taken steps of faith along the way God has been faithful to provide all that we need to take the next step in our journey together.

As we continue to live out the CCCC Way of Life together (loving God; loving others; and making disciples as we go...) we want to continue to follow God's leading in our fellowship to be a blessing to more and more communities. During the past seven years we have seen more alignment of all the ministries that help us to accomplish our ministry priorities. The leaders of our Church Development, Church Multiplication and Conference Care work together in a way that is attracting the attention of other denominational leaders. The newly appointed Regional Pastors are now in place to serve our churches and pastors in a way that is already reaping exceptional results. These are exciting times to be part what God is doing among us and through us.

As always, we need your continued prayer, support and financial help to move forward with expanding the reach of our CCCC churches. Our desire is that each member of the CCCC accept the challenge of greater involvement and participation in the work that is before us.

I invite you to join me in celebrating God's faithfulness to us in this season of our life together and to pray for the CCCC Leadership Team on a regular basis. Thank each one of you for all that you do to serve God; your community and the CCCC!

CCCC NEWS

PASTORAL CHANGES

Salem, CT	Congregational Ch of Salem *
	Jonathan Chechile
Muncie, IN	Eden Church * Tammy Hallam
Avon, MN	Avon Community Church *
	Alvin Helms *

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITIES

Torrington, CT	First Congregational Church <i>(Part-time Associate Pastor)</i>
Boston, MA	Park Street Church * <i>(Senior Pastor)</i>
Hamilton, MA	First Congregational Church *
Holden, MA	1st Congregational (UCC)
Kingston, MA	Mayflower Church *
Middleborough, MA	First Congregational Church *
Peabody, MA	West Congregational Church (Independent)
West Newbury, MA	West Newbury Congregational *
Yarmouth Port, MA	First Congregational Church (NACCC)
Pittston, ME	1st Congregational of Pittston * <i>(Part-time Worship Leader)</i>
Honor, MI	Honor Congregational Church *
Lansing, MI	Olivet Baptist Church (ABC)
New Haven, MI	First Congregational Church *
Aurora, MN	Palo Congregational Church *
Glencoe, MN	1st Congregational UCC
Woodbury, MN	Woodbury Community Church*
Elon, NC	Bethlehem Christian Church * <i>(Full-time youth pastor)</i>
Glen Ullin, ND	Evangelical Congregational *
Taylor, ND	Taylor Ecumenical Parish (Ind)
Mitchell, NE	Federated Church *
Glenville, NY	East Glenville Community *
Jamestown, NY	Fluvanna Community Church *
Kennedy, NY	Clarks Corners Community*
Lakeview, NY	Lakeview Community Church *
Lisle, NY	Center Lisle Cong. (UCC)
Speculator, NY	North Country Bible Church*
Vermillion, OH	Vermillion E & R Church * <i>(Part-time music director/keyboardist)</i>
Wellington, OH	United Church of Huntington * <i>(Part-time youth pastor)</i>
Stowe, PA	St Paul's Church*
Warfordsburg, PA	Whips Cove Church (Independent) <i>(Part-time)</i>
Huron, SD	First Congregational Church *
Letcher, SD	Letcher Congregational Church/ Loomis Community Church *
Scotland, SC	Scotland Community Church +
Hillsboro, WI	First Congregational Church *

* = Conference member | + = In Process

AROUND THE WORLD

ANGELS & ENDURANCE

WESLEY BLOOD,
CCCC WORKER WITH
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



...being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy.
~Colossians 1:11~

It was a hot and sweaty afternoon during the heat-spell a number of weeks ago. I had been moving furniture in my truck and was late to my next appointment, but was low on gas. At one of the busiest intersections in [town], I pulled into an over-priced gas station and put about 5 gallons in my 46 year-old truck, intending to completely fill the tank later.

I pulled out of the station and stopped at the light. When the light turned green, and I tried to go, all of a sudden the engine sputtered and died. As I tried to restart it, the truck acted as though the battery was low and after only a few attempts, the battery died! People were honking at the intersection. I was already late and wondering what I would do next. Just as I was about to give up in frustration, call and cancel my appointment, and call a tow-truck, a woman walked up—she recognized my truck. It just so happened she was getting gas at that same time. She also just happened to have jumper cables and was able to help me get my truck started. God supplied an “angel” at just the right moment!

Jesus whispered in my ear, “I’m watching over you. Don’t give up.” According to the verse above, God strengthens us for endurance and patience, but not so that we can grumble our way through problems. Part of that endurance is joy. As we are going through the struggles of life, the people around us need to see our joy, especially when we are going through difficult times. Literally “the joy of the Lord is our strength.”

Later on, my mechanic replaced the alternator which was producing less than 12 volts, the battery which had a bad cell, the fuel pump which literally fell apart in his hands when he removed it, and an accelerator pump in my carburetor. My truck now runs better than it ever has, and God allowed it to fail before our crazy-busy season started so the truck would be ready to handle the workload.



BLESS YOUR PASTOR DURING CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH IN OCTOBER

The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) has launched the BlessYourPastor.org website and national media campaign to help prepare Christians and churches for October Clergy Appreciation Month.

The heartbeat of the media coverage discusses ideas from the Over 50 Creative Ways to Bless Your Pastor and Staff resource packet.

Communication resources to promote this effort now through October in your churches can be found at BlessYourPastor.org/denominations. They include a 2-minute video, Toolkit and logos/graphics/ads/articles/videos. There is a custom pop-up for CCCC churches at blessyourpastor.org/cccc with a message from Conference Minister Ron Hamilton and Conference Care Director Peter Wood.

Media graphics and videos are available to CCCC members and member churches in this Dropbox folder: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/381kcmizky4vzjq/AACYE2ADYlxqsCaXITYG_4AGa?dl=0 .

We invite and encourage church boards, congregations and Christians to actively and creatively bless their pastor and staff through the Bless Your Pastor movement, and to take advantage of the materials and resources available at [bless yourpastor.org](http://blessyourpastor.org) for Clergy Appreciation Month October 2019.



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