

**National Association of Congregational Christian Churches**  
**Vitality Ministry Council**  
**Annual Report 2021**

Greetings my amazing and dearest friends!

The Vitality Council of the NACCC is involved in many different avenues of ministry that are put in place to encourage our churches and their leadership. You will find a number of them highlighted within this report.

The Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS) does fall under the financial umbrella of the Vitality Council. We are also always available to encourage Rev. Dr. Charles Packer as he connects with seminary students across the country, and they pursue full time ministry service within the association. I would highly encourage you to read his report.

For right now the Lay Ministry Training Program is under the umbrella of the V.C. yet this program has made significant strides this past year without any needed guidance from the council. They are making this a program that will be celebrated by the NACCC for years to come. Classes will be starting soon and there have already been a number of preview sessions via Zoom.

This past April we were able to have Convocation 2021 online via Zoom. Convocation is something that every NACCC pastor should attend for spiritual, mental, and physical renewal. This year it was via Zoom and attended by many of our pastors. The Rev. Dr. Younger shared about a passion for preaching, we enjoyed some lighthearted trivia and were lead in worship and communion by the Revs. Tom and Wendy Van Tassell. We definitely plan on being in person next year for our three different Convocation venues in Nevada, Michigan, and Massachusetts. Please if you are a lay leader reading this encourage your pastor to attend next year and make it a point that your church invests in this endeavor for them.

I would also like to encourage anyone reading this report to think about the Harry and Jeanette Butman awards. These are the “Oscars of the NACCC” and a really big deal. Please take the time to think about a pastor or their spouse that you think you would like to nominate for this incredible honor.

In conclusion I want to thank the Vitality Council of the NACCC for their hard work, their friendship, their Christlike joy and focus and their amazing love for Congregationalism and the NACCC. I am part of an amazing and wonderful team and I am honored beyond words to be part of the NACCC!

Forever In Your Service,

Rev. Justin J. Nierer, Vitality Council Chair