

MINUTES
68th ANNUAL MEETING and CONFERENCE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
Held in person and by Zoom video conference
Wichita, Kansas
June 27, 2022

The 68th Business Meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches convened on Monday, June 27, 2022, at the Drury Hotel in Wichita, Kansas and via online video conference.

<u>Welcome</u>	Moderator Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer gave opening remarks and welcomed everyone to this first hybrid Annual Meeting. She also thanked all of those who have made the event possible. She reminded everyone of the procedures for voting, both for those in person and those online, and noted that this may take a bit longer than when we are all in person. The procedures are available on the NACCC website.
<u>Missionary Prayer</u>	Rev. Crystal Tomkins of the Morgan Scott Project offered a prayer.
<u>NACCC Moment</u>	Claudia Kniefel
<u>9:10 am Opening of Business Session I</u>	
<u>Constituting Prayer</u>	Rev. Dr. Donald Olsen, Co-Chair of the Host Committee offered the Constituting Prayer.
Introduction of the Head Table	Moderator Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer introduced the individuals on the dais: Vice Moderator Rev. Art Ritter, Secretary Kate O'Dell, Parliamentarian Douglas Loux.
<u>Establishing a Quorum/Credentials Report</u>	Rev. Ed Backell reported that 77 delegates were registered, which represents approximately 28 % of the active 280 Member churches. With more than 20% of our member churches represented, as required in our Bylaws, Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer declared a quorum was present, so we will proceed with the business of the Association.
<u>Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda</u> 2022 AM 01 Adopted	The Moderator referenced the published agenda that was made available to all registered attendees by email and posted on the NACCC website. She noted some changes in the speakers for sessions. Since the proposed Agenda comes from the Annual Meeting and Conference Committee, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION to approve the agenda. The motion was adopted with no discussion.

<p><u>Review of Standing Rules of Meetings and Voting Instructions</u> 2022 AM 02 Adopted</p>	<p>The Moderator reviewed and explained the Rules of Meetings that will include Electronic Participation. These were sent to registered attendees and posted on the NACCC website. Since the Board of Directors approved the Rules on March 28, 2022, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION to approve the Standing Rules and Voting Instructions. The motion was adopted with no discussion.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the 67th Annual Meeting Minutes</u> 2022 AM 03 Adopted</p>	<p>Minutes of the 67th Annual Meeting held by video conferencing on June 20, 2021, were previously read and approved by the 2021 Minutes Certification Committee – Susan List, Colleen Murray, Jennifer Halsey – and were posted on the NACCC website. Their approval constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION to accept the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting. The motion was adopted with no discussion.</p>
<p><u>Appointment of the Minutes Certification Committee for the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes</u></p>	<p>The Moderator announced she has appointed Joyce Acree, Sharon Higgins, and Terry Bobzien to review this year’s minutes.</p>
<p>Introduction of New Business</p>	<p>Secretary Kate O’Dell reported none was brought forward as of 9:00 am, Monday, June 27, 2022.</p>
<p><u>Introduction and Vote on New Member Churches</u> 2022 AM 04 Adopted</p>	<p>Executive Director Rev. Dr. Ashley C. Cleere reported that the Leadership Council recommends six (6) churches to be accepted into full membership. Since the recommendation comes from the Leadership Council, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION that the following churches be accepted into full membership in the NACCC as recommended by the Leadership Council (Motions 2021/22 LC02, 2021/22 LC05, 2021/22 LC06, 2021/22 LC10, 2021/22 LC12) Second Church of Plymouth, Massachusetts Westfield Congregational Church, Westfield, Iowa Mendota Heights United Church of Christ (dual Membership) Union Congregational Church, Amesbury, Massachusetts First Congregational Church of Waterbury Connecticut Pilgrim Trinitarian Congregational Church of Dorchester, Massachusetts The motion was adopted with no discussion.</p>

<u>Installation of New Churches</u>	Executive Director Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere performed the installation ceremony, with a member or a representative for each new church affirming their desire to join the NACCC.
<u>Announcements</u>	Rev. Art Ritter gave several announcements and invited any who have announcements to come forward. Mary Prendergast provided information about the youth's mission today and offered a prayer in support.
<u>The meeting paused at 9:34 am.</u>	Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer announced the session will resume at 11:00 am.
<u>11:00 am Congregational Talk</u>	Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere
<u>The meeting paused until 1:30 pm.</u>	

<u>1:30 pm Reports</u>	Congregational Library – Rev. Dr. Mary Biedron Racial Justice Task Team – Claudia Kniefel, Jodee Lord, and Marianne King Sexual Abuse Task Team – Rev. Dr. Martin Hall AMCO/ICF – Rev. Mike Fales Lay Ministry Program - Polly Bojanac
<u>Piedmont University Speaker</u>	President James Mellichamp
<u>The meeting paused until 2:50 pm.</u>	

<u>Missionary Prayer</u>	Rev. Jim Owens and Rev. Jason Owens with Love Worth Sharing reported on their mission and offered a prayer.
<u>2:50 pm Opening of Business Session II</u>	
<u>Nominating Committee Report</u>	Rev. Wendy Van Tassell gave the report of the Nominating Committee: Wendy Van Tassell, Chair; Sharon Higgins; Dan Vellinga; Claude Johnson; Emily Miller-Todd; Cindy Bacon Hammer; Claudia Kniefel, Barbara Erlendson; Staff Ashley Cleere, and Carrie Dahm. She then read the slate of nominees for each position and introduced those who were in the room. The slate was made available to all registered attendees by email and posted on the NACCC website Secretary Kate O'Dell reported that no additional names had been submitted by the required deadline.
<u>Election of NACCC Leadership 2022 AM 05 Adopted</u>	Since the report came from the Nominating Committee, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION that the entire slate of candidates be elected as nominated. The motion was adopted with no discussion.

<p><u>Election of Two Nominating Committee Members</u> 2022 AM 06 Both nominees were elected.</p>	<p>The Moderator called for nominations to fill two open 3-year positions on the Nominating Committee. The following names were placed in nomination from the floor: Claudia Kniefel nominated Jami Backell; Dan Vellinga nominated Rev. J. R. McAliley. The Moderator asked if there were any further nominations from the floor. Hearing no further nominations, she declared the nominations closed and called for the vote. Both nominees were elected without discussion.</p>
<p><u>Ratification of Leadership Council Actions</u> 2022 AM 07 Adopted</p>	<p>The Moderator presented the list of Actions by the Leadership Council from June 2021 through June 2022 that require ratification. These are posted on the NACCC website. Since the report comes from the Leadership Council, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. MOTION that the Association delegates ratify the actions of the Leadership Council from June 2021 through June 2022 which require ratification and are not being presented separately (Motions 2021/22 LC 02, 03, 05, 06, 10, and 12). The motion was adopted without discussion.</p>
<p><u>Ratification of Board of Directors' Actions</u> 2022 AM 08 Adopted</p>	<p>Vice Moderator Art Ritter presented the list of Actions of the Board of Directors from June 2021 through June 2022 that require ratification. He also called attention to the handout with some clarifications that was distributed at the beginning of the Business Meeting. The original list and the clarifications are posted on the NACCC website. Since the report comes from the Board of Directors, that constitutes a motion and does not need a second. Treasurer Jeff Dillon responded to a question about CO32 regarding the auditing firm. MOTION that the Association delegates ratify the actions of the Board of Directors from June 2021 through June 2022 that require ratification and are not being presented separately (Motions 2021/22 CO 03 to 07, 11 to 16, 19 to 21, 23 to 28, 32 to 37, 39, 41 to 45). The motion was discussed and adopted.</p>
<p><u>Introduction of Bylaws Amendments</u></p>	<p>Vice Moderator Art Ritter introduced the proposed amendments to the <i>Bylaws of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, Inc.</i> Since this report comes from the Board of Directors, it constitutes a motion and does not need a second. Art noted that the amendments will be forwarded to the NACCC legal team for review.</p>

	<p>Claudia Kniefel went through the amendments which involved changes such as typos and spelling errors, also changes recommended by legal counsel. She responded to one question from the floor and one from online. This document is available on the NACCC website. Rev. Dr. Martin Hall went through the amendments that would make substantive changes. He responded to six questions from the floor and none online.</p>
<p>2022 AM 09 <u>Amendment to the Amendments</u> Adopted</p>	<p>MOTION by Pamela Jensen to amend Article III, section 4, to read “a member or non-member pastor of that church serve as...”</p> <p>Discussion included a request to read Article III, section 4 with the new language. A friendly amendment was offered to strike the words “non-member.” The motion maker and second agreed to the friendly amendment. Since the <i>Bylaws</i> require a two-thirds vote to amend them, Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer instructed the in-person delegates to vote by raising their hands. The motion was seconded, discussed, and adopted.</p>
<p><u>Ratification of the Bylaws Amendments</u> 2022 AM 10 Adopted</p>	<p>MOTION to ratify the amendments to the <i>Bylaws of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, Inc. as amended.</i> Since the <i>Bylaws</i> require a two-thirds vote to amend them, Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer instructed the in-person delegates to vote by raising their hands. The motion was discussed and adopted.</p>
<p><u>Introduction of Listening Tour</u></p>	<p>Executive Director Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere announced that she is beginning a Listening Tour. She plans to visit every NACCC church over the next three years.</p>
<p><u>Financial Report</u></p>	<p>NACCC Treasurer Jeff Dillon presented a slide show with the Financial Reports, explained details, assumptions, and related information from the recent Financial Audit.</p>
<p><u>Approval of the 2022/2023 Shared Ministries Budget Fund, the 2022/2023 Ministry Council Budgets, and the Center for Congregational Leadership Budget</u> 2022 AM 11 Adopted</p>	<p>Treasurer Jeff Dillon presented the proposed 2022-2023 Budgets of the Shared Ministries Fund, the Center for Congregational Leadership, and the Ministry Council as recommended by Board of Directors action (2021/22 CO 41 and CO 42). MOTION by the Board of Directors to approve the balanced Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Shared Ministries Budget Fund, and additionally to approve the 2022-2023 Ministry Council Budgets and the Center for Congregational Leadership Budget, as presented. The motion was discussed and adopted.</p>

	Since he is retiring after this Annual Meeting, attendees thanked Jeff with a standing ovation for his many years of service to the NACCC. Jeff always ended his financial presentation slide shows with a great cartoon, so Vice Moderator Art Ritter presented Jeff with a framed cartoon that has messages and signatures on the matting.
The meeting was paused until 9:00 am on Tuesday, June 28, 2022.	

<u>Tuesday, June 28, 2022 9:00 am</u>	Missionary Presentations
<u>Introduction of Business Session III</u>	Moderator Cindy Bacon Hammer called the meeting to order at 10:45 am.
<u>Missionary Prayer</u>	Rev. Charles Sagay, Mission School of Hope
<u>Olivet College Speaker</u>	President Steven Corey spoke in a video presentation.
<u>Other Business and Adjournment</u>	Secretary Kate O'Dell reported that no other business had been submitted by the deadline.
<u>Reports and Awards</u>	
Vitality Ministry Council Harry R. Butman Award	Rev. Justin Nierer, Vitality Ministry Council Chair, introduced Rev. Sarah Terlouw who presented the Harry R. Butman Award to the Reverends Tom and Wendy Van Tassell for their outstanding dedication to and achievements in service to the NACCC.
Ministry and Outreach Ministry Council Charles Rush Award	Rev. Rich Miller-Todd, MOMC Chair, presented the Charles Rush award to a minority individual who is working on behalf of Christ. This year's award goes to Pastor William Maginet, who is "a steadfast presence among God's children in Haiti."
Growth Ministry Council	Pastor Carol Taylor introduced the Growth Ministry Council members and shared some of what the Growth Ministry Council does.
Board of Directors Citation	Vice Moderator Rev. Art Ritter presented a certificate to Jeff Dillon in thanks for his dedicated service to the NACCC. He also announced that the recipient of the 2022 Board of Directors Citation is Judy Campbell.
Host Committee Recognition	Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer presented certificates to the host churches and called on everyone to express our deep appreciation to Plymouth Congregational Church and University Congregational Church for a wonderful and successful Annual Meeting and Conference.
Recognition of the Moderator	Vice Moderator Rev. Art Ritter recognized Moderator Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer and presented a certification as well as a bag of gifts for her dedicated work and caring support.

CFTS Graduation Ceremony	Rev. Charles Packer conducted the graduation ceremony for Rev. Ed Gabrielsen, who actually graduated in 2020. The pandemic curtailed plans to celebrate with him in person at that time. He also presented the Alfred Grey award to Rev. Gabrielsen.
<u>Recognition of Retiring Leadership</u>	Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere invited retiring leadership to come forward and receive thanks for their service.
<u>Installation of NACCC Leadership</u>	Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere led the liturgy for the service of installation.
<u>2023 Milwaukee Annual Meeting Preview</u>	Rev. Dr. Martin Hall and members from several Wisconsin Congregational churches showed a video and handed out packages of cheese curds and flyers inviting everyone to the next Annual Meeting in Milwaukee.
<u>Closing Remarks</u>	Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer
<u>Benediction</u>	
<u>Adjournment</u>	The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 pm.