



e- Vigil

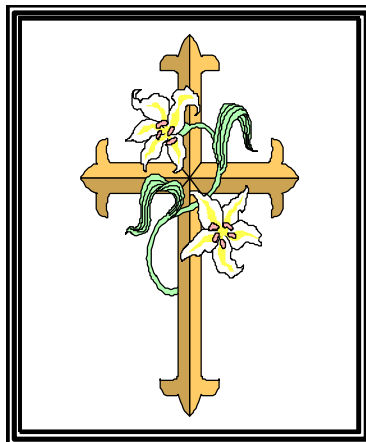
Electronic Communication from the International Christian
Community Church

April Issue

April 1, 2007

The International Christian Community Churches celebrate the diversity of God's people and their mission to bring others to Christ. All of our churches are open, welcoming and accenting.

A Blessing from the Presiding Minister



May Almighty God bless you on this solemn feast of Easter.
And may God protect you against all sin.

Through the resurrection of his son, God has granted us healing.
May the promises of God be fulfilled and bless you with eternal life.

You have mourned for Christ's sufferings;
Now you celebrate the joy of his resurrection.
May you come with the joy to the feast, which lasts forever.

May Almighty God bless you

An Easter Message From the Presiding Minister

“The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent--its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.”

Isaiah 65:25

Again and again in scripture, we are assured that God is doing a new thing. We are new people; the old is passed and the new is before us. No time is that more apparent than at Easter, this is the day that we as Christians celebrate the risen Christ. God has overcome death; the fear of death is no more. We are given the opportunity for eternal life, through our faith, our belief in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.. That is why we are International Christian Community Churches, we believe in the Holy Trinity, the one God in three. The grace and mercy of God is available to all people; not just a select few, but all who embrace the risen Christ.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:22-24

We will rise in Christ; we will spend our eternity with those who also believe. The message of compassion, forgiveness, mercy and grace will resound from all of our churches. Our arms collectively reach out, in the name of the savior, to offer God's peace and love to everyone. We embody what we believe to be the God's gift; God's love for every person. That is why we say loudly and proudly, we are open, we are affirming and we are welcoming! A blessed Easter everyone, may this and every year be spent in the labor of God's love.

Reverend Jay Neely,
Presiding Minister ICC



NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

News From Christ Church of Metropolitan Nashville

The church has adopted a new slogan: *A Country Church in the Heart of Music City, USA!* The reason, We are on the outside of the Metropolitan area and the church is over 100 years old.

There will be a complete new WEB SITE design on line by Easter. Please check us out and let us know what you think.

Old Fashion Camp Meeting April 20,21,22. Rev. Sam Sampson leading his Soulful Gospel Ministry. Come join the fun in worship and song.

Christ Church is preparing for growth, we are expanding our parking lot and adding a handicap ramp, Plans will include handicap parking.

We are currently looking for pews. Yes pews, we have found a web site that churches offer free pews to other churches. We are praying that a church near us will have the pews we need.

Pastor Bob McGee says, "If you want to walk on water you have to get out of the boat!" Meaning we have to step out in faith to allow God to move in us.

Christ Community Church is in the process of rebirth, anew vision for ministry and a new direction for growth

Christian Community Church of Clarksville

Two Major Announcements

First we're **PODCASTING**. That's right, you can now download weekly messages and teaching from the staff at CCC_Clarksville! Just point your browser to <http://podcast.christiancommunityclarksville.com/> and start listening

Second we are launching an all new **Message Board**. You can talk about topics related to CCC-Clarksville, or whatever you like. Get to know each other and register today. <http://www.christcommunityclarksville.com/forum>.

Watch for the new website coming soon

Please check the church websites, which can be located at [www. Intlccc.org](http://www.Intlccc.org) for other activities

Good Shepherd Players, Atlanta, GA

Good Friday at 7PM in the church Sanctuary the Players will present *Journey to theCross*. A dramatic reading and contemplation of Jesus last days. Directed by Rev. Maniscalco. Admission is free.

Christ First International Christian Community Church

You are invited to a fun and free

CommUNITY

Celebrating the belief that: "Hate Is Not A Family Value"

May 5, 2007

11:00AM until 4:00 PM

At the Dogwood Pavilion at Longwood Park on Lake

Refreshments will be available all day. There will be entertainment through out the day and there will be games and prizes for the kids!

Lunch will be served from 12:00 PM until 2:00 PM

Please come help us to celebrate diversity. Family, friends

Emmaus Institute Has Proposed Opening

The Governing Board will consider appointing an additional person to the staff of the Emmaus Institute. Rev. Wood, the current Interim Director of the Emmaus Institute, has requested assistance. The position would involve some teaching and help with curriculum development. This position is still in development. The Governing Board has recommended that a survey be conducted to see if there is any interested clergy or members that would like be considered for the position. A complete job description and job requirements will be posted in the e-Vigil. If you are interested please contact the e-vigil at philipmaniscalco@bellsouth.net or intlccc@aol.com. When the information is completed and released it will be forwarded to you..



What are these people doing?

A picture of the Governing Board in action. Notice the sweat on their brows as they deliberate on our future. We will see the outcome of their deliberations at the Fall convocation in November. May plans now to attend. Great things are in the works!!!

Summary of the Governing Board Minutes March 9-10, 2007

The Governing Board met in Atlanta March 9-10, 2007 for its regularly scheduled meeting. Significant issues, which were discussed, are as follows:

- _ Rev. Linda Veltheim presented Convocation 2007 plans and they were received quite enthusiastically! The theme for this year's convocation is United in Love: One Mind, One Love, One Purpose. Based upon feedback from the 2006 Convocation, the key focus for this year's meeting will be relationships...relationship with God, with others and with self. Pre-conference information will be sent soon to the churches and delegates, as well as being posted in the E-Vigil.
- _ After our first five years of existence, the Governing Board reviewed the current Articles of Covenant and will be making recommendations to the Convocation for changes and clarifications. Once all recommended changes are completed, it is the intention of the Governing Board to send the proposed changes to the denomination for review and comment.
- _ The Governing Board also reviewed Appendix 1, Ministry of the Pastorate, with the intention of making recommendations for changes as well as edits that will hopefully clarify some of the confusion that has arisen regarding the credentialing process in ICCC. Rev. Emily Bel, chair of the Board of Ministry, and Rev. Mena Johnson, BoM member, also reviewed the current Appendix 1 and offered their suggestions as well. Recommended changes, when completed, will be submitted to the denomination for review and comment prior to Convocation.
- _ The Governing Board has received copies of all affiliated church by-laws and is in the process of reviewing each church to be sure that by-laws agree with the current ICCC Articles of Covenant. Feedback will be given to the churches as reviews are conducted.
- _ The Governing Board is also pursuing advertising in national periodicals and on the web.
- _ It is with regret that we acknowledge the closing of St. Barnabas ICCC in Macon, Georgia per notification from the pastor, Teri Hatley.
- _ Several clergy in training will be completing their Emmaus courses prior to Convocation 2007. The next rotation of courses will begin in Fall 2007, and publicity has already been sent to individual churches. Please note that courses are open to all individuals, and a class schedule can be found on the ICCC Website.

Submitted by Rev. Carlene Wood, Clerk of the Board

All comments may be submitted to the Clerk of the Board



The old church



Ray Wright and Bob Slaughter



The New Place!

The Move is ON

I had wanted to attend Forgiving Hearts first service in their new location in Columbus, GA. Their new service will be at 11 AM the same time we have service at Good Shepherd. Since their last service would be at 6:30PM Frank and I headed down to join in their celebration.

Rev. Bel and Yvonne were standing at the door waiting to greet us. As Rev. Bel went to finish printing the bulletins, Yvonne finished setting the church saying at each chore this is the last time I will have to do this. I knew exactly what she meant.: Good Shepherd is a church in a box, too.

As the people entered I could feel their excitement in knowing that this was the last service in this place. They had worked hard in preparing a new home for ministry and worship. They offered thanks for their time in this borrowed space and the things they had accomplished here. They also verbalized the great vision that lay before them.

Bob Slaughter on piano and Ray Wright led a spiritual service. The music sent people into another place as they left the outside world behind and entered into the presence of the Spirit.

Rev. Bel preached on the two questions each of us should ask ourselves as Christians," Is it from God or is it from human sources?" Questions that help us choose the right path on our spiritual journey.

After service there was a caravan to the new church. It seemed like minutes as they packed up what was Forgiving Heart and loaded up. The new space was wonderful. It was the work of human hands and hearts that created the new space. Rev. Bel described the placement of altar furnishing, chairs, Pulpit with such pride and joy. The picture at the left was taken as they opened the door to their new home. God bless them all as they begin a new page in their journey. PS Thanks for making Frank and I so welcome!

Rev. P.Maniscalco

Rev. Jay Neely, Presiding Minister will officiate at the dedication of the new worship space on Palm Sunday. Rev. Neely said he was honored and excited to be with the Forgiving Heart family as they consecrate this space to God's service. He encourages all of us to take a step in faith. Leave the worrying to God. Go do what you are called to do. Rev. Neely hopes that he is called to even more dedications as the ICCC continues to grow

Governing Board

Presiding Minister: Rev. Jay Neely
 Assistant Presiding Minister: Ms. Sharon Lindenbaum
 Clerk of the Board: Rev. Carlene Wood
 Treasurer: Mr. Milton Blanchett
 At-Large: Rev. David Strong
 At- Large: Rev. Jerry Ethridge
 At- Large: Mr. Rob Hagen



Board of Ministry

Chairperson: Rev. Emily Bel
 Rev. Mena Johnson
 Mr. Tim Sharp

Area Leaders

Rev. Jerry Ethridge: GA
 Rev. Carlene Wood: NC.; SC.
 Mr. Rob Hagen: AL.; TN., WA

Emmaus Institute

Interim Director: Rev. Carlene Wood

Reminder:

- Check your calendar for due dates for articles to be placed in the e-vigil
- Regional Planning Meetings
- **Board of Governor reports due.**
- Please make copies of this newsletter to be distributed at your church
- Minister licenses have been mailed from the Denominational Office

e-Vigil Editor:

Rev. Philip Maniscalco

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404-906-3294

Deadline: 25th of the month

***Christ Centered
 Open and Affirming
 Inclusive
 Where the Door
 is always open***

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