



e- Vigil

Electronic Communication from the International Christian
Community Church

August Issue

August 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 accepting.

Summer! It's hot! It comes every year this lazy summer time. Heat causes all of us to slow down. Ice water and cold drinks become a necessity. Languid daydreams cloud our minds and escape becomes a goal. It becomes hard to concentrate. Summer! I noticed that Office Depot had all its back to school supplies front and center as well as the department stores. In the floral departments of Michaels and Joanne the sunflowers have given way to fall leaves and pumpkins, I am afraid there is nothing we can do to stop the transition. It is hot and muggy. All our energy is zapped. We need this time to recharge our batteries. We can let our imaginations free to wonder. In the lazy days of summer we can escape and dream. So, my friends, take full advantage of the situation: relax and enjoy God's change of scenery. Take time for your self. Indulge yourself and relax. I have it on good authority that summer is definitely part of God's plan.

In this newsletter you will see that there is a lot to do this Fall: Election of Officers, Changes to the Articles of Covenant, Emmaus Classes, and Ordinations. This coming fall will provide opportunities for all of us to make our thoughts and opinions known. Take time to study the issues and be a full contributor the continuing development of the I.C.C.C.

Just a thought:

Success is not how many games
you win, but how hard you
practice after you lose!



NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Good Shepherd: Atlanta, GA

Good Shepherd had it's first Sunday Away. JoAnn Jensen head of the Social Committee arranges for a worship service and Picnic at Stone Mountain Park. We left the comfort of the YWCA to worship and fellowship in the public eye. IT RAINED. You would assume that is would be a disaster! It was not. The church had invited the kids from Rainbow House, an organization for troubled teens who have been thrown out of their home and/or schools because of their lifestyle.

Like all church functions there was plenty to eat. It was fun to see people sharing umbrellas and protecting the altar and food. Two people with giant umbrellas covered Randy Barnes our musician and the keyboard. There were some funny moments. It was wonderful to celebrate Christ while being present in the world God created for us. While we were celebrating the park clean up crew chose that moment to empty trashcans around our tables. When we came to the Consecration we noticed one of the work men stopped removed his hat and bowed his head. He did not move agin until the Consecration was over . After service we all ate and laughed and played in the rain. We smiled through adversity and our young guests joined those of us still young at heart in play and thanksgiving. It should be noted that God has a great since of humor: After we had packed up and were leaving the park...the sun came out. I can't wait till next year.

Valdosta, GA New Hope

You are Invited!!

Please Join us as we

Celebrate 10 Years of Ministry in South Georgia!!!

Date: Sunday, August 26' 2007

Time: 5 P.M.

Location: Unitarian Church

1951 East Park Avenue

Valdosta, GA 31602-4426

Special Guest: Sam Sampson, Pastor Randy Morgan (New Covenant Church of Atlanta), Rev. Jay Neely (Presiding Minister, ICC)

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

Denominational News

GOVERNING BOARD JULY MEETING

The Governing Board held their last planned meeting before the National Convocation in November of this year. A summary of the minutes follows

Governing Board Meeting Summary

The ICCC Governing Board conducted its regularly scheduled meeting in Atlanta July 13-14, 2007. Below is a summary of major issues addressed.

- ✦ Presiding Minister Rev. Jay Neely called attention to the need for innovation as the denomination develops and grows. An application packet is being sent to a church in India with which Forgiving Heart ICCC has been linked, and this church has the potential to be the first ICCC outside of the United States.
- ✦ Treasurer Milton Blanchett presented the financial report. Assets on the balance sheet total \$52,786.88. Net income after expenses this year has been \$678.54.
- ✦ There is great excitement about Convocation 2007 and conference coordinator Linda Veltheim presented plans for workshops, pre-conference publicity and early registration. WE ARE ENCOURAGING EARLY REGISTRATION BY OFFERING A DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEE, and hope that individuals and churches will take advantage of this. Brochures and registration forms will be mailed to the churches in the very near future.
- ✦ Elections for four Governing Board positions will take place in November: Presiding Minister, Clerk, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large. THE CANDIDATE APPLICATION FORM IS ATTACHED to this E-Vigil.
- ✦ Board of Ministry: The Governing Board appointed another member to the BoM, and Ray Powell, of New Hope ICCC, Valdosta, has accepted the appointment. The Board of Ministry met during this weekend and reported that there are four candidates who are eligible to apply for ordination at convocation. The BoM continues to work on up-dating the Pastors' Manual and recommends that a Lay Pastors' Manual be developed.
- ✦ Emmaus Institute: Rev. Carlene Wood continues as Interim Director of Emmaus. Because of the tremendous work involved, the Governing Board has appointed Rev. Linda Veltheim as Assistant Director.

- ✦ E-Vigil: The need for church news and articles continues, and the Governing Board asks that churches submit news about their congregations. The E-Vigil is a primary tool for all of us to stay connected to one another.

Governing Board Seats will be up for Election

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

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July 18, 2007

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TO: ICCC Churches
FROM: Governing Board Members
RE: Governing Board Elections

Greetings and blessings to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

The Governing Board conducted its mid-year meeting this past weekend in Atlanta, and the agenda was full of exciting and challenging things. A summary of the official actions can be found in the up-coming E-Vigil. One major agenda item was the 2007 Convocation and all that it entails, including the election for Governing Board positions which expire this year. The following Governing Board positions expire this year:

Presiding Minister (Rev. Jay Neely)

Treasurer (Milton Blanchett)

Member-at-Large (Rev. Jerry Ethridge)

Clerk (Rev. Carlene Wood)

Our Articles of Covenant outline the following descriptions of these positions:

PRESIDING MINISTER: The Presiding Minister is that person elected to have pastoral oversight among the local faith communities of ICCC. He/she shall give vision and direction to the growth, development and maturing of ICCC and its leadership at denominational and local levels, and shall represent ICCC to the wider community. The Presiding Minister shall act as Moderator at General Convocation and Governing Board business meetings.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall be that person elected to be a good steward of the finances of ICCC, to report regularly on financial matters, to give an accurate accounting of all financial transactions. The Treasurer shall, with the Governing Board, present to the General Convocation all financial reports and budgets for determination and vote by the Convocation Assembly.

CLERK: The Clerk is that person elected to keep and publish accurate records of all meetings of the Governing Board, and business deliberations of the General Convocation. The Clerk shall report to the local churches and members of the Governing Board within 30 days of any business meeting.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Members-at-large shall be those persons elected by the General Convocation and may be given specific tasks at the direction and request of the Governing board or the Presiding Minister.

Candidate applications for these positions can be submitted to the Clerk of the Governing Board until September 8, 2007. Incumbents who wish to re-run for their current positions will need to complete an application as well. The form with instructions is attached.

Please share this announcement with your congregation to prayerfully consider if anyone feels called to this challenging and rewarding service.

Note this form may be completed on Line

Deadline: September 8, 2007

**INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES, INC.
GOVERNING BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

November 2007

General Information	
Name:	Church Affiliation:
Position Sought: <input type="checkbox"/> Presiding Minister <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> At Large
Education/Training:	
Employment and Professional Information:	
Faith Background	
Spiritual Journal/Church History:	
Statement of Faith:	
ICCC-Specific Information	
ICCC History, including denominational activities, positions held, etc.:	
Denominational Vision Statement:	
Other	
Other Information:	
<p>Please complete and return this form to the ICCC Clerk no later than September 8, 2007.</p> <p>Snail mail form to: Rev. Carlene Wood, Clerk Email form to: sricecwood@charter.net 626 Fairview Road Indicate "Candidate Form" in subject line Asheville, NC 28803</p>	
<p>Instructions for completing this form: This is a locked Microsoft Word document. Tab through the items and as one section is completed, tab to the next. There is unlimited space in each section. When completed, save the document and then email it to the above address. If unable to complete this form, use separate pages to answer items and snail mail per above.</p>	

The Emmaus Institute: Fall 2007

The Emmaus Institute will soon begin its second series of courses. We look forward to serving the denomination and its members by providing educational opportunities for those who are pursuing ordination and also for those who want to deepen their knowledge and faith.

Three courses will be offered during the Fall 2007 semester (October 2007 – March 2008). All courses are required for credentialing in International Christian Community Churches, but can be of interest to a wide range of individuals.

Dates	Course	Location
October 2007 – March 2008	Old Testament Survey New Testament Survey	Independent Study; End of term retreat TBA
November 8-9, 2007	Call and Discernment	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Atlanta, GA Taught in connection with Convocation 2007)

The structure for these courses is as follows:

- ✦ Registration for Old and New Testament Survey courses (must be taken together) is open and will remain open until September 1, 2007
- ✦ Course syllabus will be sent to all registered students by September 15, 2007. Students will complete reading and writing assignments from October – March.
- ✦ There will be an on-line dialogue/e-mail once each month during the semester, and all students will be expected to participate/respond.
- ✦ Semester Retreat during last 2 weeks of March 2008...location not yet determined.
- ✦ Grading will be on a pass/fail basis.
- ✦ Tuition due: \$125 by September 1 and \$125 by December 15
- ✦ Audit only fee: \$50 by September 1 and \$50 by December 15

- ✦ Call and Discernment is a course that can benefit anyone who is wondering if they have been called to some sort of lay or clergy ministry, or who would like to learn more about the discernment process. Registration for this course is now open and will remain open until September 15, 2007. The course syllabus will be sent to all students by October 1, 2007 for students to complete reading and reflection assignments by the first day of class.
- ✦ The course structure will consist of worship and reflection time, discussion, journaling, self-exploration and self-disclosure opportunities and some lecture.
- ✦ Grading will be on a pass/fail basis.
- ✦ Tuition for full credit: \$125 by October 15
- ✦ Audit only fee: \$50 by October 15

For more information, contact Rev. Carlene Wood at EmmausICCC@charter.net

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. Ray Powell

Area Leaders

Rev. Jerry Ethridge: GA
 Rev. Carlene Wood: NC; SC.
 Ms. Shannon Dean: AL.; TN.; WA.

Emmaus Institute

Interim Director: Rev. Carlene Wood
 Assitant Director: Rev. Linda Veltheim

Reminder:

- Check your calendar for due dates for articles to be placed in the e-vigil
- Please make copies of this newsletter to be distributed at your church
- Monthly Reports due August 5
- Governing Board Election Applications due September 8, 2007

e-Vigil Editor:

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Deadline: 25th of the month

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

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