



e- Vigil

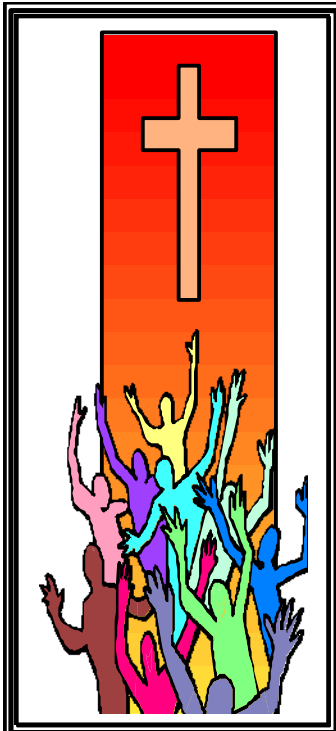
Electronic Communication from the International Christian
Community Church

November Issue

November 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.

ONLY 9 DAYS LEFT TO CONVOCATION 2007



That's Right! In nine days we will be celebrating our 5th Convocation in Atlanta, GA. It will be a gathering filled with prayer, worship, elections and fun times. If you haven't registered you have missed the discount for early registration but there are still rooms available at regular rates. Don't miss this opportunity to be an active participant in church government. Your opinion counts. There will be many opportunities to grow in faith by attending the many seminars scheduled for Saturday. We will also be celebrating the addition of three ordained ministers to our list of clergy. Join with us as we celebrate a milestone in their spiritual journeys. There will also be elections for Presiding Minister, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large. Come and support your favorite candidate. For more details visit our website today! www.intlccc.org

United in Love

One Mind,
One Love,
One Purpose

Convocation 2007

November 9th-11th Atlanta, Georgia

Don't Miss It !

Thoughts from the Editor: A Change of Season

Fall is officially here. It may still feel a little warm but our hearts and minds long for a change of season. The events of summer will soon pass into memory. We cannot stop change. It is a part of God's divine plan. No matter what we think and do God has a way of shaking us up. As much as I had looked forward to Spring I now hunger for the rustling of leaves and a nip in the air. I know most of us in the churches are already planning numerous church events and programs. Our lazy days of transition will become more frantic as we move toward Christmas. Preparations, rehearsals, collecting food and clothing, rummage sales, and church potlucks will occupy our thoughts. I now stand on my back porch looking at the dried up lake waiting eagerly for the fall rains to fill it up again. Leaves are turning, change is coming and God is so wonderful!

Convocation will take place in nine days. It will bring with it changes. Five Years is quite a milestone. We will be electing members to the Board that will carry us forward in Faith and Mission. We will see old friends and hopefully meet some new ones. There will be plenty in which to participate from seminars to music. There will be business to discuss and plans will be made. New friends will be made and ideas tested

There will be time to reflect on what has passed and times to dream of our future both as a denomination and as churches. God will be present and changes both subtle and direct will take place. We believe that God is our guide and we must be ready to follow. Rev. Jay Neely, a founder and the first Presiding Minister of the ICCC, has chosen to step down from office after serving the denomination faithfully for five years. He has by stepping down, opened a window of opportunity for another to take up the task of leading the ICCC into the future. Sadly, in losing a great leader we will make way for another. Change though expected can be painful.

When I left Rev. Jay's office Tuesday September 4, I believed I would see him on Thursday. I had no idea it was to be my last day as personal assistant to Rev. Neely. Thinking that I would be back, I left working files on my desk with notes about things to be done. We all think we have another day to finish our tasks. Still change is un-nerving at times. I will miss the time I spent in the office of the ICCC. Observing the church in its growing and changing is exciting. I am ever so thankful that the Governing Board and Jay allowed me to be a part of the process. I wish Jay's successor and my replacement the blessings that this opportunity brought to me.

There is one more change. After years of study our first class of seminarians from the Emmaus Institute will be eligible for ordination: Rev. Linda Simonds, Rev. Monica Ledford and Rev. Steve Garrett. They may choose to be ordained in their respective churches or the Sunday of Convocation. Each of them is presently serving as Pastors of their churches. Their faithfulness to the process has to be admired. As they change from pastors to ordained clergy we honor them. They become at once an element of the present church with the potential of becoming our future leaders. We eagerly await the arrival of the next class. God be with them and all of us. PM Editor

Call and Discernment

(taught in conjunction with 2007 Convocation)

Emmaus information has been sent to all the churches, and again specifically to those pastors who have indicated that there are individuals in their congregation who are interested. We have received serious inquiries from 15 people already. Those who are interested in taking courses for credit or in auditing courses should contact Rev. Carlene Wood by phone at 828.216.9546 or by email at sricecwood@charter.net.

Seminars Available

Fall is quickly approaching. Several seminars are available to ICCC Churches. If interested please contact the ICCC National Office and they will forward you a list of available seminars. They range from Church growth to developing leadership. They include Church in a Box to developing a drama ministry. E-mail today and take advantage of the talent pool ICCC can provide. It would be helpful if you could act on this soon so that the presenters can schedule the availability in your area.



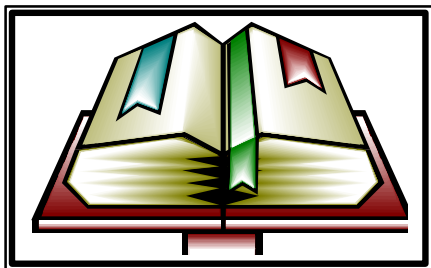
NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

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



Nov. 1: All Saints Day
Nov. 25: Christ the King
Nov. 4: Change clocks
Nov. 6: Election Day
Nov. 9/11: Convocation
November 2007
Nov.11: Veterans Day
Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Day

DID YOU KNOW?



Lectern:

A reading stand, moveable or permanent, used in a church is called a lectern. It is sometimes covered by a cloth corresponding in color to the liturgical color of the day. In modern churches, where the pulpit has been done away with, the lectern is frequently used to enshrine on its front the lectionary or the Bible as a visible sign of the presence of the Word of God as a distinct part of the Worship celebration.

It is the practice in some churches to use a **lectionary**. The lectionary contains readings for Sundays and Festival Days. It comes to us in a three-year cycle. Each Cycle begins on the first Sunday of Advent. This is the first day of the Church year. They are simply known as Cycle A, Cycle B, and Cycle C. The readings are chosen because of their relationship to the Gospel Message presented for that particular Sunday or Feast. They include a reading from the Old Testament, a Psalm, an Epistle and a portion of a Gospel. The three cycles together will deliver a full reading of the Bible. The Lectionary can be seen as a sign of God's presence in the Word. As a sign, the lectionary is twofold: it reveals the hidden reality of the message of Christ, and it puts those who hear the message in greater contact with the reality of Christ who stands behind the sign.

Pulpit; derived from the Latin word: *pulpitum*, meaning a stage or scaffold. Historically, it was the first erected as a place from which one could address those in church and it replaces the ambo, which was erected on the side of the nave for the same purpose. No regulations are established for the construction of the pulpit from a liturgical standpoint, but it is assumed that it should be practical as well as decorative. Traditionally it is the place where the Gospel is read and the sermon is preached. With today's public address systems and amplification it is simply a raised platform with a reading stand.

Lector. Literally, a Lector is a reader. The rank of lector, the second of Minor Orders in the early church, was given to a candidate for ordained ministry. It was also the first scholastic degree given in theology. Lector of Sacred Theology (S.T. L.)

The modern ministerial role is now a service performed by a member of the laity of the community. The assignment, training, and direction of the lectors are the responsibility of the Pastor of the church. The function of the Lector is to read the assigned readings from the Old Testament, Psalms and Letters. Because of their reading skills they may be asked to participate in the reading of the Prayers of the people or the Call to Worship or assist in other ways according to the custom or practice of the Local Church. There may be more than one lector participating in worship.

Why not volunteer to be a Lector in your Church?

Elections Update:

Following is a list of the positions that are up for election and the individuals who are seeking those positions.

Presiding Minister: (Vacant)

Rev. Jerry Ethridge (Valdosta, GA)

Sharon Lindenbaum (Hickory, NC)

Rev. Carlene Wood (Arden, NC)

Treasurer: (currently held by Milton Blanchett)

Milton Blanchett (Charleston, SC)

Rev. Steve Garrett (Greenville, SC)

Member-at-Large: (currently held by Rev. Jerry Ethridge)

Allison Burris (Arden, NC)

Rev. Philip Maniscalco (Atlanta, GA)

Rev. Linda Simmonds (Montgomery, AL)

Governing Board

Acting 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.
(Position Open) : AL.; TN.; WA.

Emmaus Institute

Interim Director: Rev. Carlene Wood
Assistant 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 November 5
- Register now for Convocation 2007
- If your church has not received your Convocation Packet call Rev. Wood

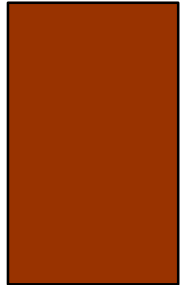
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Deadline: 25th of the month

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



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