

MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRY COUNCIL REPORT FY2024

MOMC is a five- member mission and outreach council serving the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. One could say our missions' program was established before the NACCC. For 70 years the program has changed and matured with an evolving view of our mission agenda. We support global programs that function in a congregational manner. It is our goal to assist missions with local needs. Each has a governing board to determine their objectives.

This year we are supporting several global programs including Haiti, Argentina, Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon, Ghana and Ivory Coast, Mexico and US programs in Florida, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Colorado and Massachusetts and a special program in South Carolina.

Beyond our mission identity we are tasked with tracking several affiliate schools and entities of Congregational heritage. Piedmont University in Georgia, University of Olivet in Michigan, The International Congregational Fellowship in Michigan, The Congregational Library and Archives in Massachusetts and the Pilgrim Center for Reconciliation in Minnesota.

There are lots of moving parts to our MOMC relationship and only after three years on the council do I begin to see where we are in the process of accomplishing meaningful relationships. Each of our council members is committed to working at a partnership connection to several of our global mission sites. On occasion, we have tied a missionary to our monthly zoom meeting via zoom. We have also reached out to our Congregational connection in the United Kingdom (The Congregational Federation).

This spring we are trying something new. Two churches, one each in Maine and New Hampshire, have helped us secure bicycles and helmets to be used in the Acadia National Park. The Park Life (ACMNP) summer project will use the bicycles to accomplish their Acadia ministry. We thank those for helping MOMC in this way.

Our second Cultural Exploration trip: **Freedom Journey: Greenville S.C.** will look at more recent African American cultural history. Attention will be given to the Civil Right era. (How has the church been involved in current change?) We will visit several of the sites on the Civil Rights Trail. As with our Cherokee Exploration we will read a few historical books in preparation.

Our association has been involved in important ways. The world is forever changing, and we are continually working at our global partnerships. Haiti has gangs releasing prisoners while Mexico is working through hurricane damage. Our homeland missions are tending to laborers on foreign ships docked in our ports, building and repairing houses and building ramps for the elderly.

An attempt at making our MOMC structure current and ready to serve our churches is not without careful thought, evaluation, and future looking preparation. It is a great experience to work with council members from different regions and perspectives. Continual support happens through our mission's coordinator and our executive director. We desire to find the best way to reach local churches.

Rich Miller-Todd,
MOMC Chair 2024