

## Congregational Foundation

FY2024

**Mission:** *The Congregational Foundation supports the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, its ministries and programs, through a commitment to current donors and development of prospective donors.*

**Vision:** *To develop long term, sustainable sources of revenue which support the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches' ministries and programs.*

It is in the spirit of our Mission and Vision Statements that the Congregational Foundation serves the NACCC and your churches. It is our privilege to serve and work alongside you, church members, donors, and friends of the NACCC.

I write this report with heartfelt appreciation and respect for each of you! We are pleased to report that Leadership Giving increased by an impressive 45% and the Post Annual Meeting and Conference appeal by a generous 17%. Likewise, churches responded to the *10% More Campaign* with their Fair Share! We will encourage others to follow your lead! Thank you for making a difference this year!

The Foundation was pleased to offer the Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF) at a highly discounted rate. 16 people, representing churches, the Congregational Library and Archives, and the NACCC, participated in the eight-week course through the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, part of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.

Your support and generosity allowed the Foundation, serving alongside the Board of Directors and Leadership Council in FY2024, to further the work of the Ministry Councils, *The Congregationalist*, the Center for Congregational Leadership, and other worthy efforts. The Foundation distributed \$95,000 to the NACCC as part of the collaborative budget process. Likewise, we are pleased to partner with the NACCC in the Congregational Investment Trust (CIT). NACCC, Foundation, and member church investments combined in the CIT strengthen the financial position for all of us! As intended, gifts from donors were allocated to the NACCC at levels comparable to previous years.

On a Foundation personal note: We welcomed Rebekah Barsch to the board. A *Cradle Congregationalist* with an extensive background in finance, Rebekah is an insightful addition to the Board. We recognize Ashley Cleere for her dedication and leadership to the board, as board member, board, president, and Executive Director. We wish her all the best in her new ministry.

Most importantly, thank you for your generosity through your faithful contributions! A special shout-out to the NACCC staff for their outstanding expertise and dedication! Working together, all of us assure the living promise and freedom of the Congregational Way!

Laura Hamby  
President, Board of Governors Congregational Foundation



Laura Hamby, President, Board of Governors, Congregational Foundation

Bob Smith (Vice President), Kevin Gromley (Treasurer), Varn Philbrook (Secretary), Rebekah Barsch, Dick Davis, Sandy Leonard; Staff leadership: Kristin Ward, Tracy Bernhardt, Cheryl Milnes, and Ashley Cleere.