





HOW WE BEGAN

Many denominations have come into existence since the days of Jesus. Our beginning was the result of filling a great void. Following the Revolutionary War, the frontier began moving westward faster than the Church's witness. Men called by God were needed to carry the message about Jesus and the new life He offers to these new settlements. Jacob Albright answered this call.

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WHERE YOU FIT IN

Albright, a soldier in the War for Independence, experienced conversion under the preaching and teaching of earnest godly leaders. Settling in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, he began his preaching as a circuit rider, organizing groups for prayer and worship. Many like-minded people gathered about him, and out of this humble beginning came the organization of the Evangelical Association. This denomination grew rapidly in the early American frontier and was noted for its aggressive and dynamic faith. With the establishment of many new churches came institutions of higher learning, the publication of books used in worship and Christian education and support of the Sunday school movement, missionary societies and Christian Endeavor. The late nineteenth century saw the church reorganized into the United Evangelical Church. Within 25 years the denomination almost doubled its size. Following World War I the leaders of the Church declined to have part in a planned merger. They determined to push forward as the Evangelical Congregational Church. Today the earnest and sincere zeal of Jacob Albright lives on in the vision and spirit of our many churches. Today, we are continuing the work Albright began, a ministry of people to people as defined by the Bible.

To not give up meeting together is a command of Scripture. Furthermore, Jesus promises that where two or three are gathered together in His name, there He will be among them.

Why be a part of the church? Through the years believers have found strength and inspiration in gathering together for worship. The Christian needs three things to be fulfilled in his or her spiritual life: 1) instruction in God's Word, 2) Christian fellowship and 3) the opportunity to become involved in meeting the needs of others. Church is both a place to give and a place to receive.

If you are looking for these ingredients, join us in fellowship and worship. In addition to worship services, prayer meetings and Christian education opportunities, you might want to become a part of one of our many discipleship programs, evangelistic outreach programs or social activities.

The **CHURCH** is **PEOPLE**
 People who have a personal faith in Christ
 People who love Him and want to serve Him
 People who realize their need to grow in His grace
PEOPLE LIKE YOU

DYNAMIC MOVEMENT OF GOD

WELCOME



EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



To Know Christ and
 Make Him Known



THIS WE BELIEVE

Believing the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and our final authority for faith and Christian living, we affirm the following:

- That the universe is the purposeful creation of a personal, loving, almighty God.
- That all human beings are made in the image of the Creator and are of infinite worth.
- That our world is under the sway of sin as a result of a historical and personal human rebellion against God, so that suffering, death and separation from God are the experience of humankind; and that without the intervention of God's grace, this will be the eternal state of all persons.
- That Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God, through His virgin birth, sinless life, sacrificial death on the cross and glorious resurrection and ascension, graciously offers new life to all who receive Him by faith.
- That the Holy Spirit indwelling believers gives them a desire and an ability to follow biblical standards of conduct in their personal lives and in society.
- That the Christian faith is lived in the community of the church where worship and witness are embodied through the spiritual gifts of its members.
- That Jesus Christ will return to this world, bring an end to history as we know it, inaugurate the final judgment and welcome believers into His eternal Kingdom.

THE EC CHURCH IS

The Evangelical Congregational Church is people – people just like you – committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ so that men, women and children may experience saving faith in Christ. The people of the EC Church also seek to help new believers discover their place in a church family where they can find support on their faith journey, a journey that leads to personal growth in Christlikeness.

WHERE WE WORK

Congregations in Kentucky, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Ohio

Camps Twin Pines Camp, Conference and Retreat Center, Stroudsburg, PA | Camp ECCO, Carrollton, OH | Rock River Bible Camp, Dixon, IL

Campmeeting Groves in *Waldheim*, Allentown, PA | *Herndon*, Herndon, PA

Missionaries Over 23 mission workers | Serving in 10 countries | Partnering with 15 sending agencies

Institutions Continuing Care Retirement Communities | Kairos University

HOW WE WORK

Our local congregations are led by pastors and lay leadership teams who equip the congregation in its mission of serving the community to which God has called them to by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in both word and deed.

Our name, “Evangelical” expresses our desire to share our faith with others; and “Congregational” not only describes our form of government where each congregation owns its own property and manages its affairs, it also describes our desire to form our local church governing structures, worship styles and ministries in ways that allow us to relate to our unique communities and contexts. Together our local congregations form geographical Districts of churches that pray, support and work with each other and then our Districts form the National Conference that gives direction and provides resources for our shared purpose of knowing Christ and making Him known.

**TO RAISE UP HEALTHY CHURCHES
PROCLAIMING CHRIST TO A HURTING WORLD**

