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exciting children's ministry program, was hired to teach and entertain the children so parents could attend classes at no extra cost to them.

The title of the conference is Build. The themes for each day are Build Faith, Build Fruit, Build Family and Build Forever. There is still room for disciples from larger churches, small churches and anything in between to join in on the fun, faith and fellowship. There is something for everyone. More information can be found here: build2025.org. So grateful for this small group of disciples who had it on their heart to build up others!

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> **35 Years of Grace: Abidjan Anniversary Celebration** > **Southern African Campus Encounter 2025**

August 7, 2025 • Yanzeu Guy Merlin – Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
The International Church of Christ in Côte d'Ivoire hosted the French-speaking West African Leaders Conference, and celebrated its 35th anniversary from July 28 to August 7 in Abidjan. This colorful event...

August 6, 2025 • Vida Li Sik – Johannesburg, South Africa
The Southern African campus ministries hosted their annual Campus Encounter, uniting around 160 students from Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia, the Democratic Republic of Congo...

> **Speakers Announced for Climb Small Church Leadership Conference**

August 6, 2025 • Joshua Lutz – Lansing, MI, USA
The 2025 Climb Conference is quickly approaching! We're looking forward to hosting you at the Lansing Area Church of Christ during the Midwest's beautiful fall season. The conference will begin on Wednesday evening, October 1st and...

> **A Full Circle of Faith in Lebanon**

August 5, 2025 • Layla Matar – Beirut, Lebanon
George Gebran is a Lebanese-American who, in 1996, made the faithful decision to move to Lebanon and join the mission team for our church planted there a couple of years prior. During his time in Lebanon, George was instrumental in studying the Bible with many, including our current pastor, Moufid Tohme...

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To Inspire, Inform, Unify and Grow
the International Churches of Christ

INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL NEWS BULLETIN

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Small Church Dreams Big, Hosts Conference in August

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Heartland Jubilee**
Kansas City, KS, USA
August 29-31, 2025
- DFW Singles Workshop**
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX, USA
September 12-14, 2025
- DT Travel: South Africa**
September 20-October 2, 2025
- Climb Small Church Conference**
Lansing, MI, USA
October 1-4, 2025
- Conferencia de Las Americas**
Oct 15-18, 2026
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- ICOC Delegates Meeting**
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
October 22-24, 2025
- InsideOut Counselors Conference**
St. Louis, MO, USA
October 24-25, 2025
- ICYFM**
Indianapolis, IN, USA
November 7-9, 2025
- Church Builders Conference**
Boston, MA, USA
April 23-26, 2025

August 8, 2025 • Build Conference Planning Team

Donald Norman and Sidney Dockery of the Tri-County Church in Jackson, Mississippi looked at a map one day and realized there were more than 10 sister churches less than a seven-hour drive away. The wheels started turning as they dreamed of their 15-person church hosting a conference for these small churches. All of these churches are under 100 members, but the congregation in Jackson is by far the smallest. This didn't stop them from having faith that God could use their small but mighty group to create an opportunity to encourage and inspire small churches to do big things for God.

Sidney reached out to leaders from the churches and a planning team was born. Most of these churches don't have full-time staff but they were willing to devote the extra time to create a place to equip and encourage their groups to grow their small churches. The dates were picked (August 28-31), speakers were lined up and Giant Cow, an



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CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD



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