



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 11 Dec. 2020

**Congress for the New Urbanism Members Christian Caucus (CNU-MCC)
Announces Inaugural 2020 International Faith and Urbanism Design Award
Winners.**

11 Dec. 2020, San Diego, CA. - Today the Congress for the New Urbanism Members Christian Caucus in conjunction with the Urban Guild (<https://www.urbanguild.org>) announced the inaugural award winners of the annual *International Faith and Urbanism Design Award*.

Two projects were selected by the Urban Guild jury to receive awards, *Intsaba Children's Village*, an exceptional design studio project taught by professor Andrew von Maur at Andrews University's School of Architecture and Interior Design, and *Tuckahoe Village*, a project in Richmond Virginia designed by a team led by Michael Watkins.

Intsaba is a self-supporting planned mountain village for orphans and vulnerable children. The design is intentionally rooted in the best practices of historic Swazi community and building patterns – the homestead and its round “beehive” huts organized around the open “kraal”. These traditional patterns inform the entire design, which include social-enterprise workshops, a church, a school, a small clinic and counseling center, family-like compounds for the children and their caretakers, staff housing, and a working farm.

Tuckahoe Village is a project by Third Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia who turned its need to expand its campus into something more: an opportunity to put forth a vision for improving the entire neighborhood over time. In doing so, it consciously exemplified the admonition of Jeremiah 29:7, to “seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you...because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” The church's design team led a community charrette to envision ways to meet the changing needs of both the congregation and neighbors by exploring options for reshaping the built environment to better facilitate community in the present as well as the future.

Started in 2016, the Christian Caucus is an ecumenical affinity group of Christians who are members of the *Congress for the New Urbanism* (CNU). Its mission is to extend the concepts and practices of New Urbanism to the Christian community. “Our hope is the exceptional quality of these designs will be an inspiration to other churches, Christian architects, planners, and developers to contribute to the community we are part of through excellent design of the buildings and places we build as a church, or as individual Christians” said Dr. Chris Elisara, Chair of the CNU-MCC.

Nathan Norris, who is a member of both the Urban Guild and the CNU-MCC, and the person who had the idea for this award, said “One of the reasons we started this award was to start a conversation in the church about placemaking, and the role the church and individual Christians can have in making places conducive to human thriving. That’s not a given, it requires intentional thought and design along the lines incorporated into these award winning projects.”

More information about the award winning projects can be found at this weblink <http://www.center4leadership.org/awards>.

The call for submissions for the 2021 awards will be made in the first quarter of the New Year.

CNU-Members Christian Caucus (CNU-MCC)

More info: www.cnu-mcc.org

MEDIA CONTACT:

Chris Elisara, Chair CNU-MCC

760-822-2817 cnumcc@gmail.com