

**Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in North Carolina**

P.O. Box 1568 509 Lee Street NE Wilson, NC 27894



Regional News

January 24, 2017

A Final Pastoral Letter from our Regional Minister



Dear Church:

On the day I wrote this letter, my initial Pension Fund Check was deposited into my checking account. I never thought I would be old enough for that experience.

It seems unreal that 14 years ago Jeannine and I were preparing to move from Georgia to North Carolina. Depending on which window I look through, that seems like a lifetime ago, or just yesterday. From both perspectives, I can genuinely say I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North Carolina as your regional minister.

Over these fourteen years I have grown to love the Christian Church in North Carolina. I have not always agreed with decisions of some, but I have never doubted my love for you. There have been moments when you have disappointed me, and I have disappointed you. But I pray we have never doubted our love for each other. A few churches have closed, and we celebrate their years ministry--a ministry whose influence will never end. Some churches have chosen to leave. Their decisions have grieved us all. And, we give thanks for the new congregations that have been established. Our regional church is different than it was 14 years ago, just as I am different, but we the church are still seeking to be faithful in our response to God's calling.

The Executive Committee of the Regional Board has appointed Valerie Melvin, who has served as Associate Regional Minister

since 2007, as Acting Regional Minister for up to 90 days, while the Executive Committee continues the search for an Interim Regional Minister. Beth Burton-Williams, pastor of First Christian Church, Smithfield, has agreed to serve as chair of the search committee for the new Regional Minister. Members of the search committee and the process used will be announced in the near future. Please keep all our regional leaders in your prayers during this time of transition.

During the transition, our regional church has the full support of our General Minister and President and the College of Regional Ministers. Greg Alexander, Regional Minister for the Christian Church in Kentucky is representing both, serving as our Search Committee consultant.

The Retirement Dinner in early November is an evening I will always remember. It was a lovely night, with cherished memories shared by so many. Thank you!

The Legacy Fund gifts now total approximately \$5,000. Our sisters and brothers in The Community of the Disciples of Christ in the D. R. Congo, who live in and around the village of Bolenge, will be profoundly grateful for the improved healthcare your gifts will make possible.

In closing, I want to express deep gratitude for the commitment I have witnessed across our regional church to welcome all to the Lord's Table. It is only by the grace of God that any of us have a place at the Table. Disciples of North Carolina, the one thing I will always remember about you is your commitment to make room for all at the Table. That is, I believe, what makes us Church. May the grace and love of God embrace you always.

Peace,

John

NEWS FROM CAMP CAROLINE

Happy New Year from Camp Caroline! It is truly an exciting time to be planning and readying for this spring and summer camp 2017. There is so much to tell, so many blessings flowing, so much life getting nurtured at our Camp Caroline; I look forward to my weekly updates and new information sharing for you all.

We have two awesome keynoters lined up for both the CYF midwinter (Feb 3-5) and Chi-Rho Spring retreats (March 3-5), Beth Morris and Luke Miles respectively. Membership Class lead by Rev. Craig Kirby-Grove and Jamie Haddock (Feb 17-18) DWM Women's day apart (March 10-11). So very EXCITED about the 2nd annual POLAR PLUNGE challenge at Midwinter. Please donate online at the campcaroline.org "Donate to Polar Plunge" link on the homepage.

The Lee building continues to offer Pickleball to the community and basketball and I am pleased to report that volleyball community play will start next week.

We have 2 eagle scout candidate projects moving forward in late Jan. and early Feb. These eagle projects will enhance and add to camp's perimeter walking/running trail as well as establish a new woodland worship space for personal and small group reflection and study. This week's biggest news in regards to our care of camp, is that the pier is getting some much needed love and support as every piling on the walkway is getting replaced and headers are being bolted on.

I am honored to serve at Camp Caroline and there is so much more to tell. I will look forward to sharing more updates with you all next week. Please direct all families and friends to campcaroline.org and get registered for summer camp for youth retreats. Forms are available and registration, like last year, has a reduced cost for registering early.

As Always: Peace,
Casey

2017 DISCIPLES PEACE FELLOWSHIP INTERNSHIPS

Disciples Peace Fellowship is now accepting applications for our **2017 Peace Internships**. Information about this extraordinary summer internship, the application process and all online application materials can be found on our website, DPFweb.org, or by following the links below. All applications and references must be completed and submitted by February 3, 2017. If you have any questions about the internship or the application process, please do not hesitate to be in touch: DPFintern@gmail.com.

What is a Peace Intern? <http://www.dpfweb.org/what-is-a-peace-intern/>

Peace Intern Application: <http://www.dpfweb.org/apply-to-be-an-intern/>

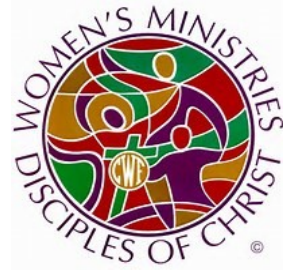
Peace Intern Reference Form: <http://www.dpfweb.org/be-a-reference-for-an-intern-candidate/>



NC Disciples Women's Ministries

"Invited, Inspired and Ignited...Ready to Serve in Unity"

NC DWM Women's Gathering



When: February 4, 2017

Where: First Christian Church Goldsboro, 1609 E. Ash Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

Hosts: FCC Goldsboro and Carr Memorial, Clinton

Purpose: *A program and time of sharing with the women in our region, resources for your local DWM, information and upcoming events, what the cabinet is currently doing and some special activity programs for you designed by the cabinet.*

Registration: 11:30 to 12 noon

Lunch and Program: 12 noon to 2 p.m. (free event)

Registration Deadline: January 25, 2017 (extended until January 27th)

Help us update our database by having all women supply their contact information. Complete and return preferably by email to valerie@ncdisciples.org or mail it in to the Christian Church in North Carolina, PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC 27894 to the attention of Bishop Valerie Melvin by January 25, 2017. Hope you can come!

Name:	
Church:	
Your Mailing Address:	
Your Email Address (if applicable):	
Your Home Phone:	
Your Cell Phone:	
Local DWM Officer Position: (Please state if you are the president or hold another office)	
Can You Attend?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Youth Updates...

Happy New Year! Please share this information with your associate ministers, youth ministers, youth sponsors, parents, and youth! I wanted to take a second to update you with some important upcoming events:

1) Midwinter is in a just a few short weeks and we want you to register today! If you have a high schooler or you are a high schooler, please register on our website: <http://www.ncdisciples.org/youth-retreats/>. The retreat costs \$90 to attend. Our theme is Body Building for God as we continue to look at how God built us to worship him through our minds, body, and soul.

Midwinter is February 3-5 at Camp Caroline. The event starts on February 3rd at 8pm and ends on February 5th at 10am. Midwinter is open for anyone in the 9th-12th grade. Also, if you attended Midwinter 2016, you might remember the inaugural Polar Plunge! Roughly 25 brave souls jumped off the pier and swam to shore in 50 degree weather. We are bringing it back and our goal is to raise \$1000. You can donate on our GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/camp-caroline-fundraiser>). If you donate, you can jump and join us! You can also donate and not jump...that's cool too!

We would like to see 75 people registered for the 2017 Midwinter at Camp Caroline so please register today and invite your friends and family to join you!

2) Also, at each Midwinter, we elect new members to our Regional Cabinet for Youth Work (RCYW). This group plans the high school retreats and summer camps and helps counsel camps during the summer. We have a lot of positions open this upcoming year. If you are interested in applying, please complete the application (http://www.ncdisciples.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/RCYW_Application.pdf) and turn it into Luke Miles (Lhmiles2@gmail.com) by Thursday, February 2nd at 5:00. If you know of a youth who exemplifies ministry-like qualities and shows a particular interest in leadership (particularly church leadership), please put them in contact with me.

3) We also have a retreat for all middle school youth in the region. The Chi Rho Spring Retreat is at Camp Caroline on March 3-5. The event starts at 8pm and ends at 10 am. You can register on our website: <http://www.ncdisciples.org/youth-retreats/>. I've heard they have a very handsome and wonderfully talented keynoter lined up :) Our goal is to have 50 people registered for this event! The theme is Sharing our Faith and we will study Acts 8:26-40 as our scripture focus for the weekend.

4) Summer camp is closer than you think. All registrations are currently open. Check out <http://www.ncdisciples.org/summer-camps/> for more information or to register today. You get a discount if you register before March 15th.

Hope to see you at camp soon! We are always looking for additional adults to come and join in on the fun! If you are interested and miss your days at camp, let me know and I can guarantee we can find you a place at camp with the youth of our region!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Luke Miles

Director of Youth Ministries

Christian Church in North Carolina

(336) 202-1354

www.ncdisciples.org

Lhmiles2@gmail.com

Spend the Day with us at Camp Caroline

Saturday, March 18, 2017

SPRING WORKDAY

9:00am-3:00pm

and

Ground Breaking

for Westview Cottage

3:00pm

Refreshments will be served!

FMI Contact Casey Perry @ 252.299.3157

More Opportunities at Camp Caroline

2017 Pastor's Class/Membership Class

Feb. 17-18, 2017

Camp Caroline, Arapahoe, NC

Student's name _____

Address _____

Email/Phone # _____

Parent/Guardian Info _____

Gender/Age/Year in School _____

Medical/Food/Home issues we should know about _____

Sponsor/Mentor/Pastor name _____

Details:

- ⇒ Ideally, each student will come with his/her sponsor or mentor. A parent works well and a Youth/Senior Minister is also good.
- ⇒ We will gather at Camp Caroline between 6-7pm on Friday, Feb. 17th. The evening program will begin at 7:15pm in Cowell Hall.
- ⇒ The cost will be \$100 per person to cover the cost of the meals and the program materials and the stay at Camp Caroline.
- ⇒ Deadline will be Feb. 13th at noon! Send your form to Red Oak Christian Church 1827 Greenville Blvd. SW. Greenville, NC 27834. You may email your forms to redoakchristianchurch@yahoo.com
- ⇒ Items to bring: BIBLE!!, Bedding and toiletries, clothes appropriate for the weather and church camp!
- ⇒ DO NOT BRING: Anything that runs on electricity! That means your phones TOO!
- ⇒ We will be leaving camp after our evening meal on Saturday.
- ⇒ Normal Camp Caroline rules and policies apply.
- ⇒ Contact Rev. Craig Kirby-Grove if you have any questions. (252-281-3721 or ckirbygrove@yahoo.com)



FMI Contact: valerie@ncdisciples.org or call 252.291.4047 ext. 204

website: ncdisciples.org

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) in NC

proudly welcomes

The Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Sumney (left)

Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington KY

The E. S. Purcell, Jr., Bible Lecturer

and

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II (right)

The Theodor G. and Woodrow W. Sprinkle Lecturer

Host Church: First Christian, Wilson, NC

Saturday, April 29, 2017 8:00am-4:30pm

Save The Date!

**The 169th Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in NC
Assembly to Include: Workshops, Business Session, and All-Assembly Lunch**

ADDITIONAL DATES TO REMEMBER...

- ⇒ 1/26/17-6:00pm (Dinner) 7:00pm Hookerton District Meeting at LaGrange CC
- ⇒ 2/4/17-9:30am - DWM Cabinet Meeting at FCC, Goldsboro
- ⇒ 2/4/17-12:00pm - Women's Gathering at FCC, Goldsboro (registration form inside)
- ⇒ 2/9/17-10:00am - Commission on Ministry at Regional Office
- ⇒ 2/10/17-10am-Executvie Committee Meeting at Regional Office
- ⇒ 2/15/17-Regional Board Reports due
- ⇒ 2/15/17-10:00am-Regional Board Meeting at Regional Office

If you have regional or district news to share, please submit it to valerie@ncdisciples.org no later than close of business each Thursday.