



# 2020

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
IN NORTH CAROLINA

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

COMING UP SOON...

LEADERSHIP LAUNCH 2020 - FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS  
FEBRUARY 1, 2020, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM - REGIONAL OFFICE (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

172ND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, APRIL 17-19, 2020 - CAMP CAROLINE  
THEME: "AND GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD"

VISIT US AT: [WWW.NCDISCIPLS.ORG](http://WWW.NCDISCIPLS.ORG) / FACEBOOK [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCINNC/](https://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCINNC/)



Regional Updates - January 2020

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2019

	Oct	Nov	YTD
<b>General &amp; Program:</b>			
Income	\$ 21,010	\$ 25,621	\$ 222,122
Expenses	18,070	17,845	217,483
Net General & Program	\$ 2,940	\$ 7,776	\$ 4,639
<b>Camp Caroline:</b>			
Income	\$ 6,590	\$ 25,491	\$ 247,212
Expenses	20,220	14,466	299,041
Net Camp Caroline	\$ (13,630)	\$ 11,025	\$ (51,829)
General & Program plus Camp	\$ (10,690)	\$ 18,801	\$ (47,190)
Estimated Year End Transfers*			\$ 26,896
Operating Fund after Transfers			\$ (20,294)

The Operating Fund deficit as of 11/30/2019 is \$47,190. Year end transfers from other funds are expected to bring the deficit down to slightly over \$20K.

Did you get that?? Read it again! Our deficit at 11/30/2018 was in excess of \$100K. It has taken the generosity of many congregations and individuals to bring us this far. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

But don't let up now. With 2020 finally here, there is still time to give to the Christmas offering. Our God is a God of abundance. Let's give like we really believe that!!

Submitted by Kathy Smith, Treasurer for the CCNC

### REGIONAL EVENTS

<b>January 8</b>	<b>Hookerton District Clergy Mtg.—Gordon Street CC, Kinston-10:30 am</b>
<b>January 12</b>	<b>Ordination of Helena Epstein, FCC, Greensboro - 3:00 pm</b>
<b>January 13</b>	<b>Executive Committee Mtg.— FCC, Wilson - Parlor - 1:00 pm</b>
<b>January 14</b>	<b>Commission on Ministry - Campbell University, Buies Creek- 9:00 am</b>
<b>January 19</b>	<b>172nd Regional Assembly Resolution Deadline</b>
<b>January 20</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</b>
<b>January 28</b>	<b>Albemarle District Mtg. , Columbia CC - 6:30 pm</b>
<b>February 1</b>	<b>LEADERSHIP LAUNCH 2020 FOR PASTORS</b> <b>FCC, Wilson - Fellowship Hall - 9:00 am</b>
<b>February 1</b>	<b>DWM Cabinet Mtg. - FCC, Wilson - Parlor - 9:00am</b>
<b>February 7-8</b>	<b>Racial Equity Training - Christmount</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>Regional Board Meeting - FCC, Wilson - Fellowship Hall - 9:00 am</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>172nd Regional Assembly Voting/Alternate Delegate List Deadline</b>
<b>February 26</b>	<b>LENT begins</b>

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
IN NORTH CAROLINA**

Bishop Valerie Melvin, Regional Minister  
Lisa Tedder, Administrative Assistant



January 1, 2020

Dear Regional Pastors:

I greet you with resilient hope and high expectation for a new decade! As pastors, you lead congregations with astounding strength—evidenced by a steadfast commitment to mission and witness while struggling to balance budgets and slow down decline. Each week, you gather with your community of faith for worship with a central focus on the Lord's Table. God's vision emerges during your times of worship and fellowship as a gift of God's extravagant love. Congregations are unique in the way you receive and live out God's vision. Your uniqueness is the real celebration that I have witnessed—a unified body with individual characteristics.

Our theme for 2020 is "And God Saw That It Was Good." This phrase is repeated seven times in the first chapter of Genesis, in response to God's producing word. This initial action-response of God speaking and those words produce something calls for reflection upon God's covenant-keeping character with creation and humanity and asks us to consider our covenant-keeping character with God. The good of creation that God saw—light and stars, earth and seas, swarms of living creatures; flying and swimming, and roaming upon the earth—everything God made was very good. In light of God's profound love for us and hope in our ability to choose God above a piece of fruit (and what that fruit represents), how might we realign our commitment to creation care? This year, the Christian Church in NC, will spend time seeking out the good that God sees in our ministries, programs, gatherings, camps, conferences, and retreats, and promote their health and well-being through educational realignment. Who is the CCNC and what do we do in covenant relationship with our fellowship of churches? This is a major question we will address this year.

With anticipation of the good we will see in 2020, your Regional staff eagerly announces the first educational initiative for 2020, a Leadership Launch! This event will be held on February 1, 2020, at First Christian Church, 207 Tarboro Street, NE, Wilson, NC. We will gather over coffee at 8:00 am, and after an inspiring devotion, we will engage in-depth and hands-on learning experiences for pastors and leaders. To close our time together, we will host a 'thank you' lunch for you. It is our deepest desire that you leave with resources that benefit your work and with a renewed sense of unity among the Region of NC.

Each pastor is invited to bring up to five members of your church's leadership team with you to the Leadership Launch. This educational and inspirational event is complimentary, and there is no registration fee. Your registration form and itinerary are included. You may also register on-line at [ncdisciples.org](http://ncdisciples.org). For current information about this and other events, visit us at [ncdisciples.org](http://ncdisciples.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/CCinNC/>. We look forward to meeting you in Wilson on February 1<sup>st</sup> for what promises to be a time of strengthening for the leaders of our region.

Peace be with You!

+Valerie J. Melvin, *Regional Minister*

(252) 291 4047

P.O. Box 1568 | Wilson, NC 27894  
207 Tarboro Street NE | Wilson, NC 27893

[ncdisciples.org](http://ncdisciples.org)



**SAVE THE DATE**

# Leadership Launch 2020

**FOR DISCIPLES PASTORS & CHURCH LEADERS**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**207 Tarboro Street NE | Wilson, NC 27893**



## **WHAT TO EXPECT!**

- 8:00am - Meet and Greet / Check-in
- 8:30am - Devotion
- 9:05am - LEAD WITH ENERGY (Break Out Session)
- 9:55am - Plenary
- 10:40am - PURSUE WITH PURPOSE (Break Out Session)
- 11:45am - Plenary
- 12:30pm - LUNCH AND LAUNCH

**GO FORTH AND LEAD!**

**PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT BY**

**JANUARY 10, 2020**

Complete the Leadership Launch registration form and return it to  
PO Box 1568 | Wilson NC 27893 or  
complete the online form on [www.ncdisciples.org](http://www.ncdisciples.org) for swift processing.

Each pastor is invited to bring up to 5 church leaders for  
skill-building, innovative thinking, and resource sharing.

**THIS IS A REGIONAL EDUCATION EVENT PREPARED  
ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!**

(252) 291 4047

P.O. Box 1568 | Wilson, NC 27894  
207 Tarboro Street NE | Wilson, NC 27893

[ncdisciples.org](http://ncdisciples.org)



## REGISTRATION

# Leadership Launch 2020

**PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT BY JANUARY 20, 2020**

Complete the Leadership Launch registration form and return it to  
PO Box 1568 | Wilson, NC 27894 or  
complete the online form on [www.ncdisciples.org](http://www.ncdisciples.org) for swift processing.

Pastor's Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Minister's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions  None  Vegetarian  Vegan  Kosher  Gluten Free

Will you bring other leaders from your team?  YES  NO

If YES, please complete the sections below, if NO, please leave the sections blank.

**Please supply each Leaders Name, Title/Role, Email,  
Cell and Alternate Phone Number and Dietary Restrictions if any.**

Leader 1 Information \_\_\_\_\_

Leader 2 Information \_\_\_\_\_

Leader 3 Information \_\_\_\_\_

Leader 4 Information \_\_\_\_\_

Leader 5 Information \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**YOU ARE THE BEST.**

This year has been a huge success for our Youth Program ministries! We could not do any of this work without you! Thank you for trusting us with your children! We value each of them as well as the opportunity to teach them the AWESOME ways of our Savior and how much they are loved by our Creator. It's a special job! It's our privilege! And we thank you for it!

**#CampMatters**

We are looking forward to 2020!

Mark 10:15-16

Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it. And he took the children up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**2020 Calendar**

**Spring Retreats**

- CYF Midwinter February 7-9 (Grades 9-12)
- Chi Rho Retreat March 6-8 (Grades 6-8)

**Summer Camp**

- Uno June 19-21 (Grades K-2)
- CYF June 21-26 (Grades 9-12)
- Created to Be Me July 5-11 (Grade 8)
- Delta July 12-17 (Grades 6-7)
- Alpha/Beta July 19-24 (Grades 1-5)

\*\*\*All events are at Camp Caroline

**GET IN TOUCH**

-  Camp Caroline      Regional Office:  
3398 Janiero Rd.      207 Tarboro Street NE  
Arapahoe, NC 28510      Wilson, NC 27894
-  (336) 202-1354
-  [Luke@ncdisciples.org](mailto:Luke@ncdisciples.org)



Merry Christmas, everyone! This year has gone by so fast! Please let me stop and thank all the NC DWM Cabinet members for their continuous support and their service to the women in North Carolina in various activities we have done, including retreats at Camp Caroline and Christmount, Regional Assembly, General Assembly, and D.E.W.S. in their local areas. Congratulations for the women in North Carolina preparing over 800 school kits for hurricane and flood victims that were given to Church World Service for distribution.

President Mary Evans and PDC President Tamar Lipscomb attended the DW Leadership Council in Las Vegas, NV in January 2019 bringing back valuable information to their groups. Thanks to all the women across the state who helped DWM reach their goal of

Crocheting/Quilting 3,000 finger labyrinths by June 1<sup>st</sup> for Saturday worship at General Assembly. President Mary Evans attended the Lenoir County Chapter of Church Women United officer's meeting on Friday, February 1, 2019 and accepted the position of Recording Secretary for this group. President Evans' office hours/Regional Office: Thursdays from 11-4 p.m. to do the work for DWM weekly except during the summer months when the Cabinet members were on call as needed.



March 8-9, 2019 DWM "A Day Apart" Camp Caroline Retreat with pottery artist and entertainer, Mrs. Pat Montgomery was well attended and a great success. Lenoir County Chapter of Church Women United met at Southwood Memorial Christian Church on Friday, May 3, 2019. May 6, 2019 several members attended a D.E.W. at Southwood Memorial Christian Church. Several Cabinet members attended General Assembly July 19-20, 2019 in Des Moines, Iowa. The men and women of North Carolina made history August 8-9, 2019 with

the first joint CMF and DWM conference held at Christmount with 99 registered. Our General Minister and President, Rev. Terri Hord Owens was a keynoter along with Rev. Andrew Shue, State President of the Christian Men's Fellowship. President Mary Evans and two other Cabinet members attended the Hookerton District Meeting on September 16, 2019 hosted by Gordon Street Christian Church. In mid-September, quilt tickets were distributed to all churches in the Region. On



Tuesday, September 17,

2019 Nancy Parker, Cabinet member, and President Mary Evans attended a women's event at First Christian Church in New Bern. President Mary Evans and Southeastern District Coordinator, Nancy Parker, attended the Southeastern District Meeting on September 18, 2019 hosted by Armenia Christian Church. President Mary Evans met with Casey Perry, Bruce Williamson, and a volunteer team at Camp Caroline for a committee meeting about an upcoming plan for renovations for the Latham House project of NC DWM. President Mary Evans became editor of NC DWM Facebook page and she helps with postings from across the state; prayers have been posted daily since August 19, 2019. In October



Chantia "Tia" Battle, our Woman-to-Woman Worldwide candidate for 2019 to Morocco successfully completed her mission and will soon be available to churches for speaking engagements. The Western District celebrated the 145<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Disciples Women's Ministries on November 16, 2019. The Cabinet is planning for

A Day Apart on March 6-7, 2020 at Camp Caroline; SERF retreat at Christmount on March 13-15, 2020; and, we are planning the DWM part of the Regional Assembly in April 17-19, 2020 at Camp Caroline. Now that this year is almost gone, we have reached as far as April 2020 and our planning is well underway; so, it looks like another successful year next year...with YOUR help and support! Blessings to you one and all!

Mary Evans, President  
NCDWM Cabinet

**CINDY GOFF**

**AYDEN COMMISSIONER**

Pictured here is the swearing-in ceremony for Cindy Goff, as she assumes her four-year term as Ayden Town Commissioner. Cindy is the wife of Rev. Mike Goff, a retired minister, and they are members of FCC, Greenville.

***Congratulations Cindy!***



**Executive Assistant to the General Minister and President**

The Office of the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is in search of an Executive Assistant. Interested candidates should begin the application process at <https://secure.talentsorter.com/fit/initial.jsp?PositionTypeID=102169>

Position: Executive Assistant to the General Minister and President

The primary responsibility of this position is to serve as the Executive Assistant to the General Minister and President (GMP) of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). All duties must be carried out in a prompt and timely manner. The Executive Assistant to the GMP must be a highly motivated, self-directed and organized professional who works to provide the highest level of professional and administrative support to the GMP. The Executive Assistant ensures that communication on behalf of the GMP reflects a commitment of service and commitment to the wider Church.

The Executive Assistant needs to be able to take initiative and work independently, while also taking direction when needed. Some nights and evenings are required, as is some travel. For more information about this posting, please visit [disciples.org](http://disciples.org)





# CAMP CAROLINE 2019

Camp, Conference, and Retreat Center owned and operated by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North Carolina

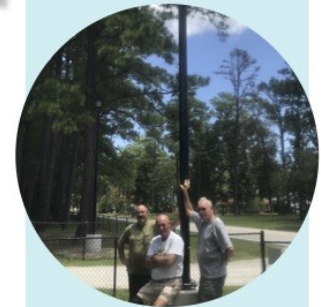


## VOLUNTEER CORE CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN

VOLUNTEER WORK-DAYS are CRITICAL to the NURTURE of OUR REGIONAL CAMP. Please Pray and Plan for 2020 with us.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM CAMP CAROLINE

We have had a magnificent year filled with challenge and triumph, with recovery, and the uplifting of people and facilities. Of special record is the involvement of volunteers and mission teams. Volunteers for 65 years have been helping achieve and celebrate amazing summer camp and youth experiences. The camp's mission of raising up youth and minister the like, has grown ever stronger this year. While continuing to grow the camp's year-round accessibility with staff and leadership, the special thread that weaves through our camp involves a giving and graceful spirit of servanthood and cheer. 2019 logged over 14,000 volunteer hours on-site. It may be one for the record book! The staff and volunteers of Camp Caroline wish you all a glorious Holiday season.



## OUTDOOR LIGHTING PROJECT COMPLETE

Additional lighting through the camp ground, the installation of the same LED lights, and new entrance lights provide a much more safe and inviting camp experience for all our visitors.

### DOCK REPAIR COMPLETE

Hurricane Dorian dealt a severe blow to our pier. New mitigation efforts and new technology = very secure and sound dock for generations to come.

### SUMMER CAMP AND YOUTH RETREATS CONTINUE TO GROW AND STRENGTHEN

Check the web-site for registration details.

### REGIONAL ASSEMBLY APRIL 17-19, 2020

Get ready with us for RA 2020! We are honored and excited for our FELLOWSHIP and CREATION-CARE FOCUS as a REGIONAL CAMP.

## CAMP CAROLINE

We had a wonderful year hosting several mission teams from all over the county. We are honored to be a Disciples Volunteering hospitality site now. Following Hurricanes Florence and Dorian, Camp Caroline has hosted groups of various size and lengths of stays with joy. We have been very blessed to help develop collaborative relationships with Disciples Home Missions, Week of Compassion, World Renew, Church of the Brethren, and many



Rev. Bob Mooty with Timberlake CC mission team. One of 15 mission teams in 2019...THANK YOU ALL!

church and school organizations in order to bring care and recovery efforts to Pamlico County residents.



This year we spent most of the winter and spring rebuilding after Hurricane Florence all over the property. The Director's Cabin Renovation was completed in the spring of 2019, following great planning and support of its church and volunteer teams to mitigate future storms. Pictured above is some of the volunteer core team shoring it up before Hurricane Dorian.

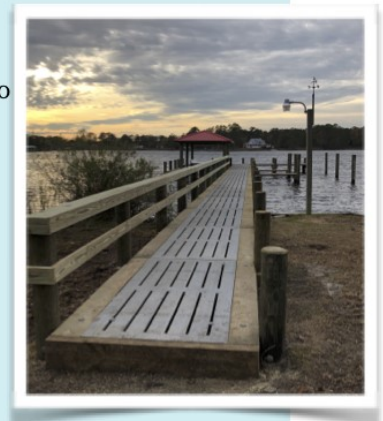
## Commitment to Eco-Stewardship

We are so very thankful that four of our Rustic Cabins' church adoptees have made the switch to mini-split technology for their heating and air conditioner systems. Mini-Split technology reportedly uses 1/12 of the energy draw compared to the older PTAC technology. As we look toward 2020, we hope that the remaining cabins can be converted to this more eco-friendly technology.



**HURRICANE DORIAN DEVASTATED OUR PIER**

Thank you to all of the churches and donors who assisted in getting our pier professionally repaired. We are very thankful to have a safe pier again! We are seeking additional donations to finish paying for this project.



## IMPROVEMENTS ON CAMP

The waterfront continues to be a hub of enjoyment, personal and spiritual growth, and safe recreation. The staff and volunteers celebrated a special camaraderie as a team. They interchanged roles when needed to assist more campers than ever embrace a “team” culture. Those campers and staffers will have fond memories always. We can all be very proud of the waterfront routines we have developed over the years regarding ease of use and our safety. Camp added a new canoe and kayak rack this year. Due to Hurricane Florence, and mitigation steps that FCC Farmville facilitated,



the boathouse got an overhaul and upgrades. The camp continued to develop its use of the perimeter trail and a new gazebo was added in the woodlands area as well as the summer campers were the first ever campers to initiate the new archery range. Camp Caroline Archery is Safe and Fun with the training of NASP (National Archery in Schools Program) guiding us.



DWM hosted its largest ever “Women’s Day Apart” retreat weekend and we are so excited about the upcoming retreat. Latham House began its renovations of the restrooms this year and promises to be a wonderful of improvement. Thanks to DWM for their continued commitment to Latham House.



2020 Invitation to ALL: We have weekly volunteer needs every Wednesday from 9-4 and lunch is provided. If your church/youth group/civic organization would like to get involved and just can’t make a work-day or a Wednesday, the staff is always excited and honored to work along side of you. Please contact the camp office at 252-249-0848, and get your retreat planned for 2020. Come be a vital part of this growing regional ministry. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

## Personal notes from your camp manager.

This year has brought newness and joy of love into my life by being honored to get marry Melissa and Liam McCarthy this year. We shared the joy of getting married in Richmond, VA on June 2, by two DOC ministers. Rev. Dan Netting of VA discipleship and Rev. Bishop Valerie Melvin officiated the marriage. We will be forever honored by all of the prayers and love and blessings our family and friends brought together for us and I am overjoyed to celebrate this with you all from 2019.

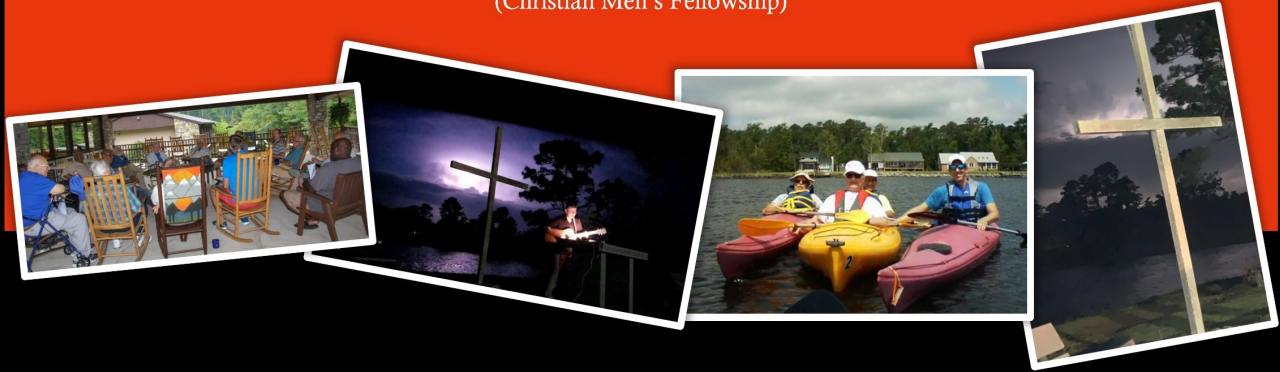


This year has been one of personal tribulations and grief with how my parents have been each battling very different and yet very difficult illnesses and transitions. I am overwhelmed by the prayers and support that me and my family have received during this year and feel blessed and honored. I honor my father and mother to say, just as my father does so lovingly as he applauds and repeats, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU....always in a succession of three-four retreats and always from his heart. Praise be to God for all the volunteer and staff support folks and their countless hours to care for the camp as I have had to travel this year to Richmond. That when I did have to leave the camp, Camp Caroline has been tended with diligent care and loving hands.



# Disciples Men of North Carolina

(Christian Men's Fellowship)



## Greetings North Carolina Disciples!

What a wonderful year it has been for the Disciples Men of North Carolina! We had a wonderful retreat at Camp Caroline led by Rev. Brad McDowell of FCC Wilmington. We followed with a combined retreat with DWM led by our General Minister and President, Rev. Terri Hord Owens. If you missed on our retreats this year, do not fret! We will be gathering at Camp Caroline again for our Men's retreat in June. We also have something special planned again for our Christmount Retreat.



*Disciples Men at Christmount in August of 2019*

## Calling on our Men of NC!

Please see your district Disciples Men president to nominate! It is time for nominations for the Regional Executive Committee. We need your ideas and your help so that 2020 can be as successful as possible!



*Disciples Men at Camp Caroline in June of 2019*



## CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORM

Include term dates (month and year) and all email addresses as email is our primary source of correspondence.  
These leaders of the church will be added to our regional monthly newsletter.

Mail form to: CCNC, PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC 27894 or scan and email to [lisa@ncdisciples.org](mailto:lisa@ncdisciples.org)

### CURRENT CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

(Please **print** and write **legibly** and **send this in annually.**)

**CHURCH NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Church Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church Location Address (if different from mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

### CHURCH BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a cell number? \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date Term **Begins** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Term **Ends** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of outgoing Church Board Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

### DISCIPLES MEN/CMF PRESIDENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a cell number? \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date Term **Begins** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Term **Ends** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of outgoing President \_\_\_\_\_

### DISCIPLES WOMEN/CWF PRESIDENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

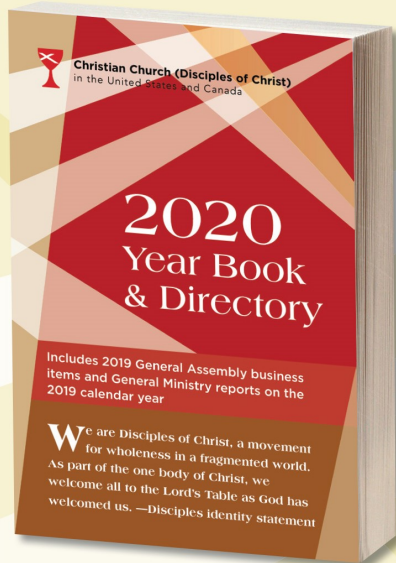
Primary Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a cell number? \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date Term **Begins** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Term **Ends** (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of outgoing President \_\_\_\_\_

# GET CONNECTED!



The reporting window for the 2020 Year Book & Directory is open! Go to [disciples.org/yearbook](https://disciples.org/yearbook) to find resources to help you get organized and a link to start your report. You will need the PIN number below.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** The Disciples are joining the Faith Communities Today 2020 Census so there are some additional questions that may seem unfamiliar. The answers to these questions are confidential and results will only be shared in aggregate form. Thanks in advance for your help in getting a clearer picture of both Disciples and communities of faith across the U.S. and Canada.

The Year Book and Directory is full of connections between expressions of our Church, by providing an annual snapshot of congregational, regional, and general ministry life. Listing in the Year Book also fulfills congregations' reporting requirements to maintain 501(c)(3) status.

## Your congregation's PIN:

*You will need this number to fill out the form.*

Contact us at [yearbook@disciples.org](mailto:yearbook@disciples.org) with any questions about the reporting process.

## A WORD FROM OUR COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Bible provides many examples of the call. Fascinatingly, both professionally trained temple servants receive the call, as well as farmers, tradespeople, midwives, business owners, and sisters. Children hear the call, as well as the elderly and people of all ages in between. Some of the characters in the Bible who serve as our ministerial forebears are bi-vocational, whereas others become fully dedicated to the church or mission for the remainder of their lives.

The NC Commission on Ministry can bear witness that the Spirit of God continues to call in this same manner—using a wide, deep, high, and broad sweep of humanity to gather unexpected people who have dedicated themselves to the Lord and asking them to step forward for a greater level of commitment and service. They are young, not so young, and all kind of folk with a variety of life, educational backgrounds, and work histories. You might be hearing Jesus' invitation to surrender your life to ministry, and we are available to discern this calling with you. It's possible that you are a wise elder or an astute deacon in your congregation who can see the call of God upon the life of another and can encourage that one to speak with the regional COM.

Since we are all called to be ministers as baptized believers, may we each deepen our commitment to be more like our Christ in 2020 and open ourselves to the Spirit's bidding. Prayers that the new year draws us all closer to the one who calls.

Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson, Chair  
Commission on Ministry



## DISCIPLES PEACE FELLOWSHIP

You can find the Application Form at [disciplespeace.org/apply](https://disciplespeace.org/apply). Please share the news widely within in your networks and especially with any young people that have a passion for justice, a love for Church Camp, and want to live out their faith in life-transforming ways! The announcement has also been shared on social media. You can find (and like/share!) the posts at [facebook.com/disciplespeace](https://facebook.com/disciplespeace) and [Instagram.com/disciplespeace](https://Instagram.com/disciplespeace).



Lexington Theological Seminary invites applications for the **Donald and Lillian Nunnely Chair in Pastoral Leadership**. Its incumbent will hold a terminal degree in Congregational Studies, Pastoral Leadership, or Practical Theology, with proven experience in congregational leadership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) or in the United Church of Christ, with deep and significant experience of congregational life and pastoral leadership.

For a fuller job description, please contact [lmartell@lextheo.edu](mailto:lmartell@lextheo.edu). Lexington Theological Seminary, the oldest seminary of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), offers a congregation-centered, competency-based M.Div. curriculum with two thirds of required and elective courses taught online. Online courses are offered year-round in short formats so that students may begin study in any month. The school is committed to building a multi-racial, multi-cultural, and an open and inclusive community.

Lexington Theological Seminary opens search for **Director of Admissions**

Under the supervision of the President, this position supports the mission by overseeing the creation and implementation of strategies for achieving annual student recruitment goals for all degree and certificate programs including but not limited to the Master of Divinity, Master in Pastoral Studies, Master of Theological Studies, and Doctor of Ministry. This individual will also lead the general operations of the Admissions Office as they apply to recruiting, admitting and enrolling prospective students and marketing programs for the seminary. The director of admissions is the primary contact for those interested in receiving information about the seminary's academic programs, admissions requirements, and learning community. The director is responsible for managing the overall admission process to support enrollment goals. The director works collaboratively with the admissions associate, the dean, director of financial aid, assistant to the president, alumni affairs, congregations, pastors and other church-related partners.

Details and instructions about applying for both positions are available on the LTS website <https://www.lextheo.edu/>



## **CELEBRATING OUR CLERGY COVENANT PARTNERSHIPS!**

Ministry can be a very lonely and isolating vocation prompting many clergypersons to leave their calling. In an effort to counteract this trend, in 2018, the Commission on Ministry of North Carolina instituted Covenant Partners. This program matches ministerial candidates with experienced clergypersons who can help with the transition into vocational ministry. Currently, there are fourteen approved covenant mentors and we have seven active Covenant Partnerships. If you know of someone who could benefit from having a Covenant Partner, please contact David Mallory at davidtmallory@gmail.com.

### **WHAT IS THE CLERGY COVENANT PARTNERSHIP**

In this context, partnership is defined as a friendly, formal arrangement between an individual under care with the NCCOM and a covenant mentor approved and assigned by the NCCOM to work together to fulfill the agreement specified below. The intent of this arrangement is not to supplant any existing clergy relationships that the ministerial candidate might have. It is only to enhance and build new relationships which might aid in the successful transition of candidates into the office of ministry. The program is intended for those persons serving in a congregational setting, however, it is not limited to such persons.

Covenant Mentors agree to:

- ◇ serve as a Covenant Mentor for a candidate for a minimum of two years with an option to renew the covenant partnership annually.
- ◇ talk via telephone with the Covenant Mentor Partner at least once a month
- ◇ personally visit the Covenant Mentor Partner's site of ministry once each year (some exceptions will be made for out of state candidates)
- ◇ be in prayer for the Covenant Mentor Partner
- ◇ help monitor the self-care and spiritual nurture of the Covenant Mentor Partner
- ◇ encourage the Covenant Mentor Partner regarding goals, mission and calling
- ◇ direct the Covenant Mentor Partner to resources he or she might need in their ministry
- ◇ help the Covenant Mentor Partner navigate the ordination/licensing process (with the assistance of the COM)
- ◇ keep confidential any communication that the Covenant Mentor Partner might offer
- ◇ provide reporting to the North Carolina Commission on Ministry documenting the monthly conversations

Covenant Mentor Partners agree to:

- ◇ be open and receptive to conversation with the Covenant Mentor
- ◇ discuss any problems or challenges that the Covenant Mentor Partner might be facing
- ◇ be in prayer for the Covenant Mentor
- ◇ provide feedback to the Commission on Ministry as to how the Covenant Partnership is supporting his or her ministry

Covenant Mentors will be selected, approved, assigned and/or reassigned by the Commission on Ministry. Covenant Mentor Partners have to come under the care of the Commission on Ministry and then request a Covenant Partnership before they are assigned. Every effort will be made to partner Mentors and Mentor Partners in the closest geographic proximity possible.



# Poor People's Campaign

## A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

We are Committed to  
**Mobilization  
Organization  
Registration  
Education**

To Address

- Systemic Racism
- Systemic Poverty
- Ecological Devastation
- War Economy and Militarism
- Distorted Moral Narrative of Religious Nationalism

*Join directly impacted people, state coordinating committees, moral leaders and hundreds of supporting organizations as we challenge the nation.*



**The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II**  
**The Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis**

National Co-Chairs, Poor People's Campaign:  
A National Call for Moral Revival



During the 2017 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US and Canada received and adopted Resolution #1740, A Call to Support the Poor People's Campaign. With this understanding, we share this announcement with our region, particularly for those whose passion for justice stirs them to responsible action. As we enter a new decade, continue in prayer for our nation.

## MASS POOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY & MORAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON

**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**Saturday, June 20, 2020**

The National Mall, Washington DC



Twitter: @UniteThePoor

Facebook: @anewppc

Website: [poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://poorpeoplescampaign.org)