

CCNC REGIONAL UPDATE – 7



April 6, 2020

Dear Regional Family,

Here we are walking right up to the most important event in the life of the Church, Resurrection Sunday. Doesn't it give you a rush? Just think about it, our wholeness was made possible because of the saving acts and presence of Christ. Even amid a pandemic, there seems to be a holy hush, something remarkable is happening. Maybe there is a different kind of resurrection arising!

Wonder what type of transformation a 21st Century resurrection might bring? Could there be resilience in our local churches because we have embraced the change demanded of us by the times in which we live? Could the transformation be not about changing the message of the gospel, rather about leaving behind the grave clothes of obsolete methods? Is it conceivable that the Church is emerging through new platforms floating on a fresh wind of the Holy Spirit? Either way, you look at it; something is happening. I am humbled and honored to see the Church being ushered into something new.

Let's eagerly engage Holy Week and all of the platforms for ministry our churches have utilized to see just where this resurrection idea will take us.

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

+Valerie J. Melvin
Regional Minister

CCNC Medical Response Team Update

Our Urgent Advice: Stay home. No groups should be gathering, and no churches should be bringing groups together to record services. No meetings or gatherings should occur in person. Please use your telephone and internet resources.

- ⇒ **MASKS:** It is now suggested by the CDC that masks be worn in public. These masks should be homemade masks **A CDC (Center for Disease Prevention and Control) detailed guide on masks and a video "how to" guide is attached.** Please leave medical grade masks for our healthcare providers. These homemade masks can also be donated to public servants like EMTs who are not getting the same supplies as those inside the hospital.
- ⇒ **TELEMEDICINE:** Please utilize your telemedicine visits (via phone or video) and visits to doctors that might come out to your car.
- ⇒ **HOLY WEEK PRAYER GUIDE: (see attached)** CCNC Medical Response team (medical personnel and chaplains) seeks to aid in providing health for the body and soul. Use this guide as you are led.

Camps (Luke Miles, Regional Youth Director & Technology Services)

Your Regional Staff has been working, meeting, discussing, and praying endlessly as we determine what camp looks like in this new normal. Most importantly, we have been praying for you - our camp-

ers - and your families!

As of today, we have decided to keep camp registrations open with the following covenantal commitments:

1. If we should need to cancel camp due to COVID-19 concerns at some point in the future, we will refund all registrations in full even if you paid already prior to the concern.
2. If we are able to continue with our camping ministry at Camp Caroline this summer and a registrant and/or their parent decides that they are not comfortable attending camp, we will honor that concern and will refund the registration cost in full.
3. To further assist and encourage registrations, you may register for summer camp right now without paying. If we have camp as scheduled, we would then ask each family to submit payment for their week of camp. This will allow you to secure your spot as well as help us handle refunds easier if the need arises.

Please know that it is our deepest hope to have camp this summer to allow us to celebrate together in our sacred space with all of you! We hope these new procedures will allow more people to register for camp with the trust that if we should need to change plans, we will return in full those needed resources. **We will provide an additional update on camp by May 1 (earlier if need be).** We are in this together as Church and ask in this challenging time that you offer prayers, grace, and love to each other – all things experienced in abundance at camp!

Commission on Ministry (Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson, Chair)

The Commission on Ministry continues to interact via email and telephone with ministers and candidates. Please feel free to be in touch with us if you have questions and concerns. We can have email votes and ad hoc conferences regarding individual situations as we certainly are not idle and do not want to appear to be so—let us know how we can help you specifically. We are also receiving new applicant materials as the Lord Jesus continues to beckon servants to the Way of this movement.

The COM leadership is in transition as Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson, who has been Chair for a number of years, steps away from this role and Rev. David Mallory, who is currently the Vice-Chair becomes the new Chair. The COM members will elect their own Vice-Chair at a future time. Dr. Johnson, Rev. Mallory, and Bishop Melvin are communicating and sharing incoming candidate and minister materials so that the flow of documents and emails will not cause any interruption or confusion. Currently, the new COM email address com@ncdisciples.org is forwarding to Dr. Johnson's email address, but after the transition is complete will forward to Rev. Mallory's email address. Please use com@ncdisciples.org, as well as valerie@ncdisciples.org when submitting inquiries and materials.

Due to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, the May meeting will move to June and become a member-only meeting to orient new COM members, if they are duly elected. The next candidate meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 7 would be wonderful if the pandemic subsides and the COM can meet in person, but otherwise acceptable to proceed virtually. Rev. Mallory will contact the appearing candidates and ministers in May so they can begin to prepare for this meeting. Obviously, the number of people being seen will be limited. If you anticipated being seen in May or July and have an urgent need to appear on July 7, please contact Rev. David Mallory at davidtmallory@gmail.com and also copy com@ncdisciples.org and valerie@ncdisciples.org.

In early March, Bishop Melvin and Rev. Mallory flew to Chicago to receive additional boundary training certification and materials from Faith Institute. They were preparing to teach the new materials. However, we are unable to do this until possibly September. As has been previously mentioned, the standing of clergy will not be in jeopardy if Boundaries or Racial Equity training is not met on time in 2020.

Previously, the deadline for all clergy (commissioned and ordained) to complete the required criminal background check to maintain standing was set for May 20, 2020. The Commission on Ministry will extend this deadline to December 31, 2020. The cost is \$160, which we hope churches will reimburse. Please contact com@ncdisciples.org if you need the instructions for completing the CBC that must be done through the region, if you do not have one in circulation with or have recently completed one through the general church's Search and Call office.

We are holding each of you in the Light and look forward to being able again to lay hands on ordnands and commissioned ministers and say prayers for those receiving standing as we have a few now who are in waiting of these special holy worship services. These will be joyous moments in the land like they have never been before. The day will come and all will be whole and well, we pray.

DWM/CWF (Mary Evans, President)

Annual Quilt Ticket Raffle: Ticket stubs and monies need to be mailed to: Regional Office, Christian Church in NC, Attn: DWM Quilt Tickets, PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC. 27894. The drawing for the quilt will be on **Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 11 a.m. on Facebook Live**. Please share this information.

NC DWM Takes on Mask Project - In an effort to help with the demand for cloth masks as a result of COVID-19, the NC DWM/CWF, in conjunction with the Medical Response Team, is promoting a **Mask Sewing Project**. Please stay tuned for details from Mary Evans, DWM President.



Camp Caroline (Casey Perry, Manager)

Even though Camp Caroline is terribly quiet during the state mandated stay at home order, we are working hard on the day-to-day operations: cleaning and sanitizing cabins and common areas, conserving energy, maintaining the grounds and facilities, preparing the pool and waterfront area for use, planning for the future, and praying. Stay safe and healthy.

Work is nearing completion on The Jack and Kate Brinson Cottage (Cottage #3)! Finishing work is being done at this time. Electrical wiring is being installed today. Fixtures and floors remain on the shortening list. The drain field hasn't been installed yet by the contractor due to overly-wet conditions, but he checks regularly to see when it can begin.

Speaking of the Brinson Cottage, on Wednesday, April 1, we received the shipment of mattresses and frames. The box springs are on the way!

Ward Hall Updates! The wall separating the dining hall from the Assembly Room has been removed. The plan is for a sliding door system to be installed by Shane Harris Construction before summer camp. We are excited about the opportunities this versatility will provide.



Prayer Labyrinth and Nurture of the Southern Edge: with the help of foresters and volunteers, for the last month, we have been clearing out the underbrush around the prayer labyrinth to expand our view to the Neuse River.

The renovations on the Latham House bathrooms are more than halfway complete. Pictured here is a widened doorway and finished plumbing rough-in, as well as the freshly poured floor. We are looking forward to seeing this complete as funding allows. Thank you DWM for your constant nurture of Camp Caroline.



As you are aware, Hurricane Dorian caused significant damage to our beloved pier. Through generous donations and lots of hard work, all but the benches were rebuilt. After a unanimous vote by the Southeastern District, lumber that was reclaimed from a fallen oak from Hurricane Florence, and benches were built by our loving volunteers. One additional bench will be installed.

This is an amazing mediation for us at Camp: we may have been broken by storms, but we have been re-made into something stronger and more beautiful.

