

August 2020

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North Carolina

A Message from the General Church

Dear Church:

We write to you in unprecedented times to share some unprecedented news: In a special called meeting of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) via Zoom on Sunday, July 19, 2020, the board voted to cancel the 2021 General Assembly originally scheduled for July 31-Aug. 4, 2021, in Louisville, KY.

This was not a decision that was made lightly. After many weeks of prayer, investigation and long discussion, it became obvious to us that we needed to act in the best interests of the Church going forward. The COVID-19 pandemic has made travel and large gatherings ill-advised until the situation becomes more stable.

We have worked closely with staff to explore all our options. Regional ministers and presidents of the general ministries were consulted as well. All of us were united in our desire to keep our members safe. When we took the situation to the Administrative Committee, they, too, were in agreement it would be best to not gather in person next summer. The health and safety of our church family is far too important to risk meeting in an environment when we can't be sure that everyone will be safe.

Deciding now to cancel the event, even as we don't know yet know what next summer will bring, is also an act of stewardship for the Church. There will be financial implications to cancelling, but had we proceeded in planning an event which needed to be cancelled at a later date, or one which was only sparsely attended, we might have incurred even greater expense.

We join you in grieving the loss of this beloved event. While w have some mourning to do before we can begin to find a way forward, we also see this as an opportunity: an opportunity to take a collective deep breath, an opportunity to listen courageously to the Holy Spirit, an opportunity to imagine new ways of gathering and doing business together as a church.

We know you may have many questions and thoughts about this situation, and so we invite you to register for a live conversation Wednesday evening, Aug. 19, via Zoom and also streamed to Facebook and YouTube. In that conversation, we will share more about the process by which we arrived at this decision and reflect on the opportunities this change offers us. If you aren't able to join us, the recording of the session will be available on the General Assembly website. You are also welcome to send your questions to news@disciples.org. We'll be gathering up the most common questions and sharing responses later this week on the General Assembly website.

Even in these difficult days, and maybe more so in these difficult days, we are united in our conviction that God is with us. Over these past several months, we have often prayed together using the words of Romans 8:38-39, which would have been our theme scripture at the General nothing can Assembly: There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

We know this to be true.

With gratitude.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President

Rev. Belva Brown Jordan, Moderator

Regional Website: ncdisciples.org

Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CCinNC/

separate us

PACTO · ENGAGEMENT · KONTRA · 계약

COVENANT

Christian Church in NC									
Operating Fund					J	an - Jul	J	an - Jul	
Income and Expense	Ju	June 2020		July 2020		2020		2019	
General & Program:									
Income	\$	23,685	\$	17,472	\$	132,447	\$	139,531	
Expenses		18,356		16,886		133,606		138,731	
Net General & Program	\$	5,329	\$	586	\$	(1,159)	\$	800	
Camp Caroline:									
Income	\$	3,200	\$	14,795	\$	77,577	\$	172,886	
Expenses		19,578		12,202		134,861		193,013	
Net Camp Caroline	\$	(16,378)	\$	2,593	\$	(57,284)	\$	(20,127)	
General & Program + Camp =									
Total Operating Net	\$	(11,049)	\$	3,179	\$	(58,443)	\$	(19,327)	
PPP LOAN TO BE FORGIVEN					\$	56,100			
NET					\$	(6,262)			

FINANCIAL UPDATE

From Rev. Kathy Smith Regional Treasurer

The numbers tell the story. We continue to struggle financially due to the pandemic, but the region's ministries continue. For the month of July, operating income exceeded operating expenses by \$3,179. God never ceases to bless this region and those who serve in it!

Income and expenses for the general and program side of operations are very close to where they were in 2019 – essentially at break-even

point. However, with the normal camp season cancelled, camp income is down \$95K for the first seven months of the year while camp expenses, though down \$58K, could not make up for that large reduction in income. The camp has a \$57K deficit at the end of July.

Addressing the decline in expenses first, note that with no campers, costs are naturally down; there are no food costs, no counselors, no cooks, etc. But the camp has costs which do not go away even when the camp is closed. As of July 31, utilities are at \$28K and insurance is at \$36K. These are expenses which must be paid year-round, including times the facilities are not in use. Our camp staff work to hold utilities down, but mold and mildew become problems in the humid environment of the camp, and utilities must be kept at a level which will prevent expensive problems later. Your Executive Committee met with our insurance agent and looked at ways to reduce insurance costs. We were able to approve some "tweaks," including a raise in our deductible, but our insurance agent watches out for us and already had the costs down as much as possible.

Looking at the camp income, I am reminded of the disappointment of many young people – and parents counselors, directors, etc.– disappointment when they learned that the usual 5 or 6 weeks of camp had to be shut down. It was a major loss of opportunity to minister to the children and youth of the region. (NOTE: That disappointment was mitigated to a great degree by the efforts of a team headed by Luke Miles and Casey Perry, who designed and implemented a "virtual" camp experience. Check out the Facebook posts from the summer if you want more information.) The impact on camp income, unfortunately, could not be fully mitigated, as camper fees were budgeted at \$105K, and another \$17K was budgeted in the form of scholarships funds.

Fortunately, the loan from the Paycheck Protection Program which we received in May offsets most of the operating deficit through July. We are waiting on our bank to start accepting applications for the loan to be forgiven. They, in turn, are waiting on congress to clarify some of the requirements for applying. These things do not happen quickly! For now, you can see that the net effect of the loan being forgiven will be to wipe out most of the current deficit.

Remember that the camp is open for you to bring your family or to book a meeting for a small group. Our camp manager, Casey Perry, will work with you to familiarize you with the opportunities available and to help you understand your responsibilities for COVID-19 prevention.

Last but not least, we remain very grateful to all who have donated to the region in this difficult and uncertain time. As you will see over the next few pages, it is the generosity of congregations and individuals which sustains the ministry of your region and camp.

For your continued support of the work we do together, we offer our deepest appreciation. This list reflects gifts to the Region/Camp operations, ARPR, Pentecost, Thanksgiving, the Spring, Fall, and Remaining Generous Appeals, and Christmas Offering between July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.

Shank YOU VERY MUCH

Martha Cargo Ruth Hollowell
Abby C. Catoe Celila Holton

Charles & Gilda Cauley Jeremy & Suzanne Hopkins

Christopher Chesnutt Michelle Hopkins

Christmount Christian Assembly

Rex & Carol Horne

Frederick Clarke

John & Emma House

Robert & Judy Ipock

Larry & Phyllic Collins

Wayne & Sandra Jakon

Larry & Phyllis Collins

Peggy Pittman Collins

Jacqueline Dean Jenkins

Julian & Portia Copeland

Cassie Mae Coppage

Marlene Johnson

Tim & Cindy Creech Wanda Johnson

Betty Curtis Carroll & Fay Jones

Morgan & Kathy Daughety

Charles & Hazel Jones

Doris Davis

Keith & Sheila Jones

Eunice Davis Phil & Cathy Cralle Jones

Seth Jones

William & Jean Dozier Elizabeth M. Keeney

Samuel Dozier Karen Kelly

Dr. & Mrs. Paul Deaton

Marjorie Dunn Robert & Leslie Kendall Jr.

Judge & Mrs. Sidney S. Eagles Claude & Vicki Kennedy

James & Charlotte Elks Robert & Elaine Kennel

Franklin C. Ellington George & Julia Keville

Mary Evans Kristin Lamond

Thomas Faulkner Elsworth & Ginger Lee
David & Leigh Finnegan-Hosey Jimmy & Brenda Lewis
Paul and Judy Gillespie Laurence & Claudia Lilley
Stephen & Sharon Ginn David & Amy Mallory

John & Annette Glover Eleanor Manning
R. Michael & Cindy Goff Susan Manning
Delana Gray Coleman Markham
Mary Louise Gray Virginia Marshall

Susan Gray John & Jeannie May

Will & Renee Griffin

R. H. Gurkin

Sekinah Hamlin

Kirby & Mary Hardy

Brad McDowell

The Magnitude of the Sekinah Magni

Kirby & Mary Hardy

Julia Harper

Bob & Kay Harton

Mamie Hilliard

Gary & Maria Holliday

Brad McDowell

Thomas McElroy

Michael McHarg

Donna McLawhorn

Joan McLawhorn

INDIVIDUALS

Stephanie Adelman Michael & Jane Alligood Dr Maurice Ankrom W. Prentiss & Joan Baker Kevin Baker-Rooks

Darla & Brad Baldwin Ralph & Melba Banks

J. Closs Barker

John & Kathryn Barnes D. H. (Penny) Barr Shirley Barrett

R. Douglas & Cindy Barrow

Lois Bayer

James & Sun Cha Beasley Andrejs & Trudi Bedelis John & Christine Beeman

Mitzi Benfield

Bill & Martha Boswell Melvin & Myra Bowen Mike & Betty Bowen

V. R. Brantley Audrey Bray

William C. & Anne Brewer Jr.

Albert & Thresa Brinn

Sandra Britt Robert Brooks Jane Brown

John L. & Cynthia Browning

John & Jan Browning

Julie Burch Jerry Burton

Marty & Beth Burton-Williams

James & Hilda Bussell

Robbie Butler Carol Campbell

Our Mission

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth."

Weldon "Skipper" McLawhorn Janet Sellers

Cecil & Marlene Windley Lora McPhail Jerry & Jennifer Shavers Alvin & Claretta Witherspoon Shirley Meeks Rebecca Shipton

Lewis & Sandra Woodruff Valerie Melvin Andrew & Kasey Shue

Mary P Wright Luke & Caroline Miles Lee Roy & Juliette Singleton

Charles & Martha Wyatt Gerald & Sharon Miller Christina Small Gwendolyn Young Hannah Moore Jennifer Small Rick & Dian Young John & Judith Moore E. Kathy Smith

Carey & Penny Ziemer Robert & Judy Mooring Robert L. & Janet C. Smith

Kenny & Vicki Morris Bert Smith III

Mike and Mary Alice Murphy Diana Spangler-Crawford

Matthew Murray Nancy Stahl Airy Grove CC, Kinston Patrick Muston John & Joyce Stevenson Albemarle District CMF

CONGREGATIONS

Concord CC, Merritt

Susan Namowicz Doug & Ellen Stokes Albemarle District Churches Dave & Sandy Netting Reginald & Maidred Stroud

Armenia CC, Kinson Janice Ruth Nickell William M. & Necia Swain

Armenia CC-CWF, Kinston Carol Nobles Troy Tatum Arthur Christian Church Karen Nolan Ann Taylor

Ayden, CC Chester Ray & Beth Norville Lisa Tedder

Bath CC Maxine Pate Garland & Edna C. Thomas Bath CC-CWF

Sylvia Pate William Tilghman Bethany CC, Arapahoe W. Norman Vincel Evelyn Paul

Bethany CC-CWF, Arapahoe Robbie & Lauren Peele **Emily Viverette** Body of Christ CC, High Point

Pamela Pelletier Clay Wagner Broad Street CC, New Bern Peggy Pelletier Gary & Linda Walling

Broad Street CC-CWF, New Bern Anna Perry Kate Ward Cedar Point Disciples of Christ

Casey & Melissa Perry Ann Washington Church

Chapel Hill CC Lance Perry George & Kathy Waters Columbia CC Chadwick Pigott Brantley & Beverly S. Watkins

Angela Pooley Merritt & Linda Watson Jr. Myra Powell Buddy & Betsy Westbrook Covenant Christian Church

Dudley CC Michael Price Jeffrey A. White

Thomas & Jane Probst **Dudley CC-CWF** Donna T. Whitley William Everett Purvis Eden CC, Snow Hill Michael R. Wildman

Frank & Sandra Purvis Edward & Brenda Williams Eureka CC, Mt. Olive

Everetts CC Carrie Ragland J O & Ida Williams

FCC of Asheville Stephen & Karen Renner Horace & Joann Williams FCC Belhaven Gerald W. & Brenda T. Roberson Marilyn Williams

FCC Black Mountain Yolanda Robinson Mary H. & Jonah Williams FCC Charlotte James Rowntree Bruce & Debbie Williamson FCC Elizabeth City Kathy Sandifer Billy & Martha Wilson

FCC Elizabeth City CWF

FCC Farmville

FCC Farmville CWF
FCC Fayetteville
FCC Goldsboro
FCC Goldsboro
FCC Goldsboro CWF
FCC Greensboro

FCC Greensboro

FCC Greensboro

Greenleaf CC, Goldsboro
Grove Park CC, Kinston
Highland Park CC, New Bern
Hillyer Memorial CC, Raleigh

FCC Greensboro CWF Hillyer Memorial CC-CWF, Raleigh

FCC Greenville Hood Memorial CC, Dunn

FCC Greenville CWF Hood Memorial CC-CWF, Dunn

FCC Grifton Hope Community CC DoC, Greensboro FCC Grifton CMF Hooker Memorial CC, Greenville

FCC Grifton CWF Hooker Memorial CC-CWF, Greenville

FCC Jacksonville Hookerton CC

FCC Lincolnton Hookerton District Churches

FCC Lincolnton-CMF Jamesville CC

FCC Lincolnton-CWF Kitt Swamp CC, Ernul

FCC Macclesfield-CWF La Grange CC

FCC Morehead City

FCC Plymouth

FCC Plymouth CWF

FCC Reidsville CC

La Grange CC Individual

Little Bethlehem CC, Eden

Messiah CC, Winston-Salem

Middle Fork CC, Winston-Salem

FCC Reidsville CC-CWF Middle Fork CC-CWF, Winston-Salem

FCC Rocky Mt

FCC Rocky Mt CMF

FCC Smithfield

FCC Walnut Cove

Mill Creek CC, Four Oaks

Mill Creek CC CWF, Four Oaks

Missiongathering CC, Charlotte

Mt Pleasant CC, Greensboro

FCC Washington New Generation CC

FCC Washington Church School

FCC Williamston

FCC Williamston CMF

New Hope CC, New Bern

North Spray CC, Eden

North Spray CC-CWF, Eden

FCC Williamston CWF Oak City CC

FCC Wilmington Pamlico District Churches

FCC Wilmington-CWF Pantego CC

FCC Wilson

FCC Wilson-CWF

Pleasant Union CC, Newton Grove

Proctor Memorial CC, Grimesland

Proctor Memorial CC-Youth, Grimes-

FCC Winston-Salem

Front Street CC, Burlington Red Oak CC, Greenville
Gold Point CC, Robersonville Rocky Fork CC, Sanford
Gordon Street CC, Kinston Rocky Fork CC-CWF, Sanford
Gordon Street CC-CWF, Kinston Selah CC-CWF, Four Oaks



Silver Hill CC, Grantsboro Southeastern District CMF SouthPark CC, Charlotte

Southwest CC, Kinston

Southwood Memorial CC, Kinston

St Andrews Community CC, Dudley St Andrews Community CC-CWF,

Dudley

St James CC, Wilson

St James CC-CWF, Wilson

St Paul's CC, Raleigh

Stokesdale CC Stoneville CC

Stoneville CC-CWF

Sun Coast CC Timothy CC

Tyrrell County Singspiration Valdese, First Christian Church

Vanceboro CC Wake Forest CC Walstonburg CC Wendell CC

Wendell CC-CMF

Wheat Swamp CC, La Grange

Wilbanks Christian Church, Elm City

Wilson's Mills CC Winterville CC

About the 2020 Regional Assembly

Gary Walling, Chairperson - Commission on Regional Assembly

People always ask, "Do you want the good news or the bad news first?" This time, you don't get a choice – the bad news is coming your way first.

There will be no Regional Assembly on September 19th. We had hoped that we could gather safely for a day of inspiration and fellowship, but the conditions around the Covid-19 pandemic make our coming together problematic. So, the Assembly scheduled for next month is off.



172nd Regional Assembly April 17-19

The Good News is that we are planning an opportunity to gather virtually for regional worship on October 3rd.

- A service at the Lord's Table will lead us into World Communion Sunday which will be observed the following day,
- · Several excellent preaching voices will offer words of inspiration, and
- The founding of the Christian Church in North Carolina will be celebrated as we mark our 175th anniversary.

So, mark your calendars for Saturday morning, October 3rd. And look for the forthcoming details about this wonderful virtual worship experience we will share together from the safety of our many homes and churches.

Youth Ministry Announcement

Luke Miles, Regional Youth Director

With the continued Safer At Home Phase 2 issued by the Governor and many schools choosing to start the year remotely, we have decided to cancel all fall youth retreats at Camp Caroline. While we know how important these retreats are in the lives of our youth, their safety and the safety of our counselors is our top priority.

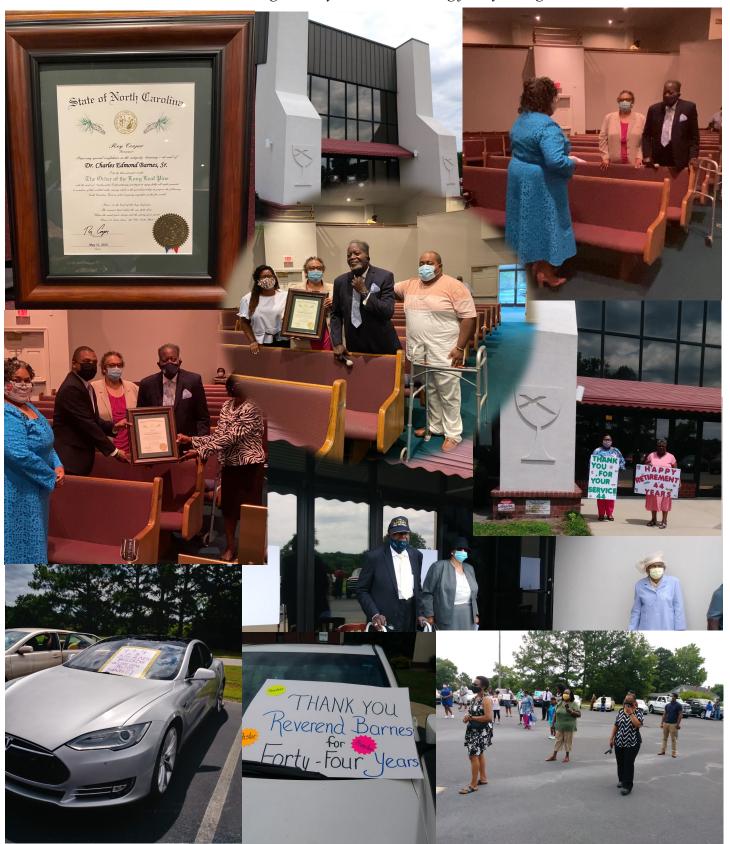
Please know that Camp Caroline is open for small groups to gather and retreat with one another, and this would be a great way for you and your family to get away for the weekend especially this coming fall.

We continue to pray for all of our campers and their families during this tough time. And we look forward to the time we can gather back at camp with each and every one of you as we sing "Little Red Wagon" from the top of our lungs, eat s'mores until we burst, and praise our Savior at one of our region's most sacred spaces.



Rev. Dr. Charles Barnes, Sr., Retires after Forty-Four Years of Pastoral Service

On Sunday, August 16, by order of Governor Roy Cooper, Senator Don Davis (District 5), presented to Dr. Barnes the coveted Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Regional Minister Melvin presented Dr. Barnes with the Honored Minister's Pin. What an amazing ministry! What an amazing family! Congratulations, Dr. Barnes!



Combined Disciples of Christ CMF/DWM Virtual Retreat Saturday, September 12, 2020 Unity and Resilience: Hallmarks of Faith

From Cane Ridge...



To the World!

Join the Retreat on our Website - ncdisciples.org
No Fees or Registration Required

A RETREAT IN THREE PARTS:

A HERITAGE OF UNITY, including the origin of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the history of Disciples in NC by our presenters Rev. Jerry Burton, Rev. Doug Stokes, Rev. Rex Horne, Rev. J. O. Williams and Rev. Marilyn Williams!

THE HORIZON OF RESILIENCE, with an emphasis on our current ministries including Camps, Youth and Woman to Woman!

THE HALLMARK OF OUR FAITH, including the Celebration of the Lord's Table, with messages from Rev. Terri Hord Owens, Rev. Dr. William Barber and Regional Minister Rev. Bishop Valerie Melvin and others!

Links to Breakout Sessions on Disciples History, DWM, CMF and much more!

For more information contact:
Rev. Kathy Naish, NC DWM Secretary at knaish1@gmail.com
or Rev. Dr. Penny Ziemer at pbziemer@gmail.com



Hope Station Still Answers the Calls for Shelter, Food, and Emergency Assistance

Shared by Linda Walling, FCC, Wilson

For 33 years Hope Station has faithfully been a source of HOPE in providing services to Wilson County residents in times of crisis. Today, that hope is given through a model food pantry in Eastern North Carolina, emergency financial assistance, and two shelters — one for families and one for single men. Hope Station was founded by Wilson's churches, including Disciples congregations. First Christian Church still provides substantial clergy and lay leadership, as well as in-kind and financial support, to undergird the agency's services to the community. When Westview Christian Church ceased its visible ministry in the community, a legacy gift to Hope Station supported the development of the new family shelter — Hope Station Westview House.

Hope Station, as part of the community's emergency safety net, has not closed during COVID-19. Its mission has not changed, but the ways it provides services had to quickly adapt to our new reality.



In a matter of days, for its shelters, Hope Station:

- · Increased operating hours in both shelters from overnight to 24/7 in order to provide safe sheltering during stay-at-home orders,
- Collaborated with partner agencies to provide hotel rooms for street-homeless persons when shelter beds were not available.
- Worked with partner agencies to get shelter applicants tested for COVID-19, sheltered, fed, and transported.
- More quickly moved shelter clients out of congregate shelter into their own housing.
- Prepared for virtual learning for children and youth in the family shelter until in-person schooling resumes.

For its pantry operations, Hope Station has:

Converted the pantry food distribution from "client choice" to prebagged food placed on a table for each household outside.

Provided masks hand-made by churches and partners for pantry clients who arrived without masks.

Launched home-delivered groceries for both elderly and disabled pantry clients.

Began the planning for virtual classes to support pantry clients who want to stay engaged in their healthy eating practices.

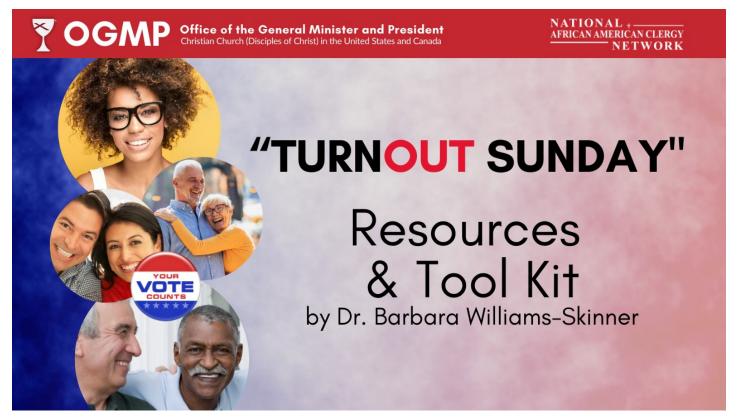
Worked with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC to receive bulk fresh foods that are needed for increasing demand.

Engaged the shelter clients to help distribute the food in the absence of at-risk volunteers.



Hope Station leadership has been grateful for the ways the community has supported its efforts during the pandemic: donations of stimulus checks, hand-made masks for clients, and meals for shelter clients; personal and individual church food drives; volunteer drivers for the new pantry food deliveries; funds for hotel rooms; and more.

Moving forward through the pandemic, Hope Station will continue to fulfill its role as a provider of essential services for a community that is hurting more than ever – offering HOPE in a time of individual and community despair.



To learn more about this resource webinar, use this link: https://disciples.org/general/turnout-sunday-resources/

October 5th | 4:00 PM ET

North Carolina Lawyers & Collars Election Protection Webinar

The National Benevolent Association will be hosting our annual SENT Seminar virtually this year. We want Disciples within our region to join us.

SENT Seminar: Equipping Social ENTrepreneurs for Leadership & Change

September 16-19, 2020 using zoom and easy class as web platforms. I know you all are very busy, it is my hope that time will allow you to be apart of this virtual gathering that we may together think about how might support faith-rooted social enterprises across regions.



Find out more and register online at:

https://www.nbacares.org/events/2020-sent-seminar

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The Office of Disciples Men will release their third new men's study by the end of August 2020. This will provide congregational leaders over sixty sessions of study material for the men of their congregations. Information on these materials can be found at https://jesuswaymen.net/

While these resources are designed to be inclusive of the racial/ethnic diversity of Disciples men, the directors of Disciples Men knew that to be truly inclusive, the development of new resources would need to come from a racially and ethnically diverse team of Disciples Men.

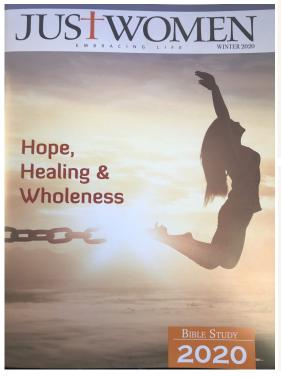
With the full support of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Disci-Men, the directors of Disciples Men submitted a grant to the Oreon E. Scott Foundation to bring together a team of writers, reflective of the racial/ethnic diverof our denomination, to begin the development of these new resources.

In early August, the Office of Disciples Men was informed they awarded the full grant request from the Oreon E. Scott Foun-

The Office of Disciples Men will work closely with tional leaders in the National Convocation, Obra to identify individuals to work on these new Men. The directors of Disciples Men and the General Conference of Disciples Men solicit new initiative.

A New Ministry with Men from Disciples Men dation. our denomina-Hispana, and NAPAD resources for Disciple **Executive Committee of the** your prayers for this important





296 Congregations On Map

The Disciples Worship Map currently contains links to almost 300 weekly virtual worship experiences offered by congregations across the United States. We would love to add more links, though, for any of our Canadian and other U.S. congregations who are not yet represented on the map. Check it out at http://www.wellfedspirit.org/virtualworship/index.html

If your congregation has a weekly virtual worship service that can somehow be viewed online, and your congregation does not yet have a link on the map, contact Warren Lynn. In the email, provide name and physical street address of the congregation, and a Web address for where your virtual worship service can be found online. We will add a link to your virtual worship services once we hear from you.

Discover the Power and Possibilities!

Just Women will begin accepting pre-orders for the 2021 Just Women Bible Study on September 1st! If you pre-order you will not be charged shipping, and your copy will be mailed as soon as it is printed in January 2021!! Please be sure to check out Disciples Women Facebook page or website for more information about pre-ordering on or after September 1st. Pre-orders end December 1, 2020.

https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/product/2020-justwomen-bible-study/



The next 2020 Boundaries Class is scheduled for September 12th at Camp Caroline beginning promptly at 9:00 a.m.

This Boundaries class is being provided by a donor this year at no cost to those who register 10 days prior to the event. MUST be IN the regional office 10 days prior (no exceptions) to receive this offer.

Covid-19 Guidelines – all participants will be required to wear masks. Bottled water and a bag lunch will be provided, however you will need to bring your own snacks. Training capacity is limited to 20.

The registration form is attached or you may register online with this link:

https://wmt.suran.com/tool/event_registration_v2/attendees?guid=16fb0456-54d0-11ea-991f-18943e0ef0f5

NC Regional Clergy Zoom Meetings Resume Under the direction of the Regional Minis-

Under the direction of the Regional Minister, NC regional clergy began meeting

online each Tuesday night to support one another very early during the pandemic. Bishop Melvin asked Rev. Andrew Shue, Senior Pastor of FCC Greenville, Rev. Jolin McElroy, Senior Pastor of FCC Charlotte, and Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson to be the group's co-conveners. They assist with prearranging discussion topics and guest discussion leaders and guiding the conversation on Tuesday evenings. As clergy began asking about when and how to conduct alternative worship, this group provided some information and support to one another. Then, as clergy asked about when and how to return to inperson worship, Bishop Melvin and co-convener Jolin McElroy compiled researched, scientific data and presented this information to the group. The group also invited other field leaders to inform the topic of safely reopening and has collected data on what several of our churches were deciding at a point in time.

Each meeting includes a time of welcome, discussion, and prayer. In addition to the recurring topic of COVID-19 and worship, the clergy group discusses racial justice. Several sub-themes have emerged in relation to these major topics. To name a few examples, guests have included NC Disciples pastors, CCNC Historical Task Force, Poor People's Campaign National Social Justice Organizer, NC State Prison Chaplains, Barton College staff, Disciples Home Mission Minister of Family and Children Ministries, Minister of Green Chalice, National Benevolent Association Mental Health Initiative Manager, Quality Enhancement Coordinator of Craven Smart Start/Child Care Resource and Referral, and CCNC Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation Team.

The clergy group took the month of July off from the Zoom meetings, and in the month of August decided to meet on the first and third Tuesday evenings at 7 pm. The August 18th meeting will be a general roundtable discussion.

Note: If you do not have Internet access, you can join by dialing the telephone number provided on the invitation sheet (yes, even on a plain telephone). If you need this telephone number, please contact the regional office. The people on the Zoom call will see your telephone number listed instead of your name, so please say, "Hello" and announce your name to the group when you connect. You press *6 to mute and unmute yourself each time that you want to speak or go silent. When Zoom and telephone participants remain on mute, it helps us not to hear feedback.

All clergy are welcome to participate in our Zoom clergy check-in meetings.

Starting this fall, all Disciples of Christ congregations will have access to *Alex*, a database that will be shared by the whole Church. General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens set this as an objective early in her tenure, knowing from her earlier experience in corporate settings that business intelligence (data) is key to making informed decisions. *Alex* will position Disciples to finally have a real-time directory and picture of churchwide trends that has been impossible with the current year book system.



But there's more! The goal is that as we build out the system there will be an opportunity to have more church intelligence. Together congregations, regions, and general ministries will be able to analyze trends in geographical areas, see changes in staffing models, look for ways to combine strengths, and more. We will eventually have all our historical data in the system to get a firm grasp on the past as we chart our future together.

This work is only possible if we have good data. The Alex database will draw in select data from our current year book legacy system, from the financial database maintained by Treasury Services, and from the ministerial directory housed in Disciples Home Missions. Congregations will be able to update their contact and staff information in real time for submission to the regions for verification before pushing it out to the existing databases housed in general ministries.

We are gathering initial contact names and e-mail addresses now for the fall introduction. PLEASE SEND THE FULL NAME AND E-MAIL ADDRESS OF THOSE YOU WANT TO HAVE ACCESS TO THIS DATABASE TO ALEX@NCDISCIPLES.ORG Later this summer or fall you will receive an e-mail invitation from alex@disciples.org to initiate your account. A single e-mail and password will be shared among your congregation's attendance, financial or other leaders. Each congregation will have just one e-mail address/password combination that is shared among the pastor, administrative assistant and whomever is designated to enter attendance and/or financial data. The warehouse can be accessed on the web via computer or mobile device.

Once a year, a snapshot of all data will be taken for historical records (like the year book does now). *Alex*, however, will allow for an online interface that will be updated in real time.

An added benefit of *Alex* (the database) is that your giving to Disciples Mission Fund and the special offerings will be updated as soon as it is received so you will have accurate records of your tithing to the whole Church. (No more digging for the Easter and Week of Compassion totals in January the next year!)

Your congregation's data will be rolled up into region-wide totals that your regional staff will be able to see for a real-time picture of activity. As your data accumulates, you will be able to easily see trends and patterns in the previous months and, eventually, for several years. Other congregations will not have access to your data until the year book "snapshot" but congregations and regional ministers will be able to download individual congregations' data for study, profiles, and more.

Training video and instructions will be available this fall so you will want to make sure the regional office has accurate contact information.



The ARPR Commission commends all of you who are engaging in the Regional Call to Action for Racial Equity and Justice for All!

Many of you have participated in the Morning Call to Prayer with Bishop Melvin and leaders from across our Region. Thank you! Hundreds of you gathered for the Juneteenth Virtual Vigil for Freedom & Resilience. Thank you! Tens of thousands – including folks from Christian Churches in NC - gathered online for the Mass Poor People's Assembly & Moral March on Washington. Praise God! Church leaders are working on proposals for CCNC Reconciliation Grants to engage their local community in ministry that nurtures and promotes racial equity. Praise God! Districts and churches are moving towards strengthened conversations and congregational training around racial equity and reconciliation ministry. To God be the Glory! And God continues to call each member, clergy, congregation, and organization across the NC Region to the ministry of reconciliation – to become an Anti-Racist/Pro-Reconciling Church. Hallelujah!

Our latest venture includes rolling out the **Racial Equity Orientation Workshop** on *Building a Common Language*. On August 4, we hosted 25 clergy and on August 15, we hosted 26 members. This workshop has spent time cultivating a language around race and culture that will enhance the ability for successful conversations. There is one final workshop planned for this topic on Thursday, August 27 from 7:00 - 8:30pm, members of the Region are invited to participate.

Again, thanks to each and everyone of you for your commitment to racial equity in your churches, communities and across our region.

In the Strong Name of Christ, Dr. Jackie McHenry & Rev. Jason Williams



Racial Equity Training

for Clergy and Church Leaders

October 23-24, 2020 Camp Caroline, Arapahoe, N.C.

3398 Janiero Road, Arapahoe, NC 28513 252-249-0848

Race: From Brokenness & Fragmentation to Wholeness

Resolution 116, passed at the 2016 Regional Assembly held in Greenville, NC, requires all commissioned and ordained ministers who desire to maintain their standing to complete this training, evey five years.

Registration Deadline: October 15, 2020

Training begins promptly at 10:00 am Friday, October 23rd ending at 6:00 pm. It resumes at 8:30 am Saturday, October 24th concluding at approximately 4:30 pm. **You will need to acquire your own lodging.**Camp Caroline may have limited lodging availability.

Contact Melissa Perry at the number above for Camp Caroline for reservations.

To request a scholarship, please call Bishop Valerie Melvin at the Regional Office. 252-291-4047 ext. 202

Cost: \$120 per person

(plus housing if needed- you will need to acquire your own lodging)

Cost includes 2-day faith-based anti-racism/pro-reconciliation training plus lunch each day and continental breakfast on Saturday. Supper is on your own and not included.

Covid-19 Guidelines – all participants will be required to wear masks. Bottled water and lunch both days will be provided, however you will need to bring your own snacks. Training capacity is limited to 20.

Name:				
Address:	City/State:	Zip:		
Email:	Phone:			
Congregation:				
Race:	Gender:			
Special Dietary Needs:				
	Mail this form and check made payable to: Christian Church in North Carolina PO Box 1568			

Race: From Brokenness and Fragmentation to Wholeness - This 16-hour anti-racism/pro-reconciliation training is an interactive experience that explores the myths, the mystery, and the making of race in the United States. Based upon core concepts from national anti-racism training models, this training is specifically designed with biblical and theological foundations for people of faith. Practical tools for pastors and lay leaders are offered through cultural analysis, bible study and reflection. Emphasis is given towards the way churches can integrate anti-racism/pro-reconciliation concepts in missions and ministry.

Wilson, NC 27894 Registration is also available online at: ncdisciples.org



2020 Boundaries Classes

All commissioned, ordained, active retired, and pulpit supply ministers serving in congregational, institutional or regional ministries are required take a training class every 5 years.

Name:
Mailing Address:
City/State/Zip:
Phone:
Email:
Congregation you are serving:
(If you are not serving a congregation, put congregation you are a member of)
Other ministry employer:
All classes will begin promptly at 9 am and typically ends by 3 pm . Check which class you plan to attend. Cost* is \$35 and includes workbook and lunch. The training will feature the new Boundaries curriculum.
Saturday, March 28 - First Christian Church, 207 Tarboro Street NE, Wilson, NC
Bishop Valerie Melvin, Trainer (Register by March 18th for no cost) CANCELLED
Saturday, June 27 First Christian Church, 1900 W Market Street, Greensboro, NC
Rev. David Mallory, Trainer (Register by June 17th for no cost) CANCELLED
Saturday, September 12 – Camp Caroline, 3398 Janiero Road, Arapahoe, NC
Rev. David Mallory, Trainer (Register by September 2nd for no cost) - LIMITED SEATING (20)

*Boundaries classes are being provided by a donor this year at no cost to those who register 10 days prior to the event. MUST be IN the regional office 10 days prior (no exceptions) to receive this offer.

<u>Covid-19 Guidelines – all participants will be required to wear masks. Bottled water and a bag lunch will be provided, however you will need to bring your own snacks. Training capacity is limited to 20.</u>

Register online at www.ncdisciples.org or

Make check payable and mail with this completed form with fees to:

Christian Church in N.C.

PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC 27894



TIME TO ORDER THE 2020 YEAR BOOK & DIRECTORY

The annual Year Book & Directory is all about connections between expressions of the Church. Congregations and clergy, general and regional ministries, and General Assembly reports and resolutions are contained in each issue. The Year Book serves as an invaluable resource for church staff and members, as well as the official record of a year in the life of our Church so if you haven't ordered yours, please do so soon! You can also purchase electronic access to the material. Order online or download a PDF to mail with a check. Use this link:

https://disciples.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-YEAR-BOOK-ORDER-FORM.pdf

For order and billing questions, please call (317) 713-2656. For other questions, please e-mail yearbook@disciples.org

YEAR BOOK OPTION & PRICE

Paper cover – includes shipping	\$42.00
Download/Online	\$25.00
Paner cover & download/online – includes shinning	\$52.00



Submitting Disciples Mission Fund and All Other Giving

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops. **Proverbs 3:9**



- All DMF, Blessing Box, Special Offerings (Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving, Christmas), Reconciliation, and Week of
 Compassion monies should be remitted to the Office of the General Minister & President in Indianapolis. You have
 the option to send them online or make checks payable to Disciples Mission Fund and mail along with a remittance form to: OGMP-Treasury Services, PO Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206.
- Your gifts to the Christian Church in North Carolina, including Camp Caroline, should be mailed to the regional
 office with the CCNC Remittance Form with checks made payable to: Christian Church in North Carolina (CCNC),
 PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC 27894.
- Gifts to Barton College, Lexington Theological Seminary, Christmount, Church World Service (blanket & tools), district dues, etc., should be mailed directly to them. Their address is on the CCNC Remittance Form.

Both of the remittance forms can be found on our website: ncdisciples.org > About Us > Resources > CCNC Remittance Form > DMF Remittance Form

Your congregation's core support to the <u>Disciples Mission Fund</u> helps not only our region, but also the work of the Church across the world - from <u>Global Ministries</u> to <u>Disciples Home Missions</u> and <u>Council on Christian Unity</u> to <u>Higher Education and Leadership Ministries</u>. The health and social services work of <u>National Benevolent Association</u> are made possible as well as the preservation of our stories by <u>Disciples of Christ Historical Society</u>. The work of <u>National Convocation</u>, <u>North American Pacific/Asian Disciples</u> and <u>Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries</u> is undergirded by your core support. Even the upkeep of <u>disciples.org</u> and other communication is dependent on your core support day in and day out. Thank you for your gifts and your congregation's ongoing support of the whole Church.



Interim Ministry Network Offers Holy Currencies For Interim Ministry Program NEW SERIES STARTING SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

From this series, you will understand, develop and use the six Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries. The series of

programs will move you to be a church that interacts with the wider community by maximizing the flow of spiritual, human, and economic resources.

Utilizing Dr. Eric Law's book, *Holy Currencies*, you will be guided through, and engage, the material by Eric and by Kaleidoscope Associates, Bill Cruse and John Beck. Between them, Bill and John have served 7 interim congregations and will bring the perspective of applying *Holy Currencies* in those particular times.

For more information, click on the button below or go online here: https://imnedu.org/holy-currencies-webinar-series/

In a virtual business session on Aug. 15, 2020, the 26th Biennial Session of the **National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)** presented the Rev. Yvonne Gilmore as the interim administrative secretary. Gilmore follows the 17-year tenure of Rev. Dr. Timothy James who is retiring in December.

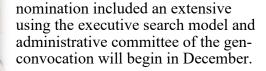
Gilmore is currently the associate dean of the Disciples Divinity House of the University of Chicago Divinity School and a co-teacher at the school. She is also a core trainer for Reconciliation Ministry and project director for the Constructive Theologies project, a group of young adult theological

thought leaders within the Chrismore has also been a church pastor. She holds a BA in Interna-University, and an MDiv from School. She was ordained at Washington, DC.

The process leading to Gilmore's search by an advisory committee her unanimous election by the eral board. Her work with the

President of the National Convomittee tasked with the search, "She is deeply invested in build-

tian Church (Disciples of Christ). Gilplanter, staff chaplain, and interim tional Relations from The American the University of Chicago Divinity Michigan Park Christian Church in



cation and head of the advisory com-Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, II, said, ing on the strategic momentum of the

National Convocation and the National Christian Missionary Convention to further the exceptional work of the Black Church, and earnestly excited about the unique opportunities afforded by this interim period to assess future possibilities for ministry and to advance operational resources for engagement in the wider ecology of ministry, vision, and service in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) across the United States and Canada.

"The advisory committee is excited to bring forth Rev. Yvonne Gilmore who is a magnetic personality, connecting with people in ways that enables the Church to grow and transform into the truest reflection of God. It was evidenced that she possesses the wit, pragmatic skills and visionary skills needed to enable the National Convocation to become stronger and more relevant in our present church culture."

Pastoral Changes and Celebrations

Ordained to Christian Ministry - FCC, Wilson

Revs. David and Leigh Finnegan-Hosey
Called to Pastor - Southwest CC, Kinston

Rev. Chad Penhorwood
Called to Pastor - LaGrange CC

Rev. Kimberly Holley
Called to Interim Ministry - Ayden CC

Rev. Susan Addams
Retired with 44 years in Ordained Ministry - St. James CC, Wilson

Rev. Dr. Charles Barnes, Sr.

If you are interested in more information about opportunities for ministry, please contact the Regional Minister. We kindly ask that churches and clergy respect the boundaries and ethical guidelines regarding the Search process.





Congratulations!

Revs. David and Leigh Finnegan-Hosey were ordained to Christian Ministry on August 2, at FCC, Wilson.

This was our Region's first virtual ordination. The ritual of ordination was celebrated during the FCC worship service and broadcasted on the church's website at

https://www.fccwilson.org/

David and Leigh offer their gratitude to the Commission on Ministry, the Regional church, and their beloved FCC family, for your faithful support of their journey.













Occasionally folks will ride through camp. I always try and greet them - invite them to stay awhile and check-out the camp. Most of the time, I try to encourage folks to take a tour with me so I can show them some of the camp they recall, as well as some of the new facilities and retreat areas we are helping to nurture. Two weeks ago, we were graced with two such pairs of folks: Annette and John Glover, and Gail West Thompson and Tim Thompson. Annette had contacted us through Facebook - sharing



comments on camp's history, and I encouraged her to please share more with us. When she and her husband decided to visit, she came bearing gifts like these photos, and even an original document of the Raleigh *News and Observer* from July 11, 1954, highlighting the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the beginning of our Region's Camp to foster young people's Christian ministerial growth and the whole church's unity in Christ.

The most impressive qualities of both couple's visits were the brightness that came over them when sharing about the lifelong friendships that were forged here. Both couples spoke lovingly about the positive lessons and the Christ-focused learning that impacts their lives even now as they continue to care for their communities

and churches.

One of my favorite things to witness at camp is when cabin groups take their pictures at the end of their week with their cabin mates. I look forward to seeing cabin groups taking photos again as soon as possible. Thank you to both the Glover and Thompson families for stopping-in and sharing your love with Camp Caroline.



It is with blessed assurance that we can witness to the legacy of friend-ships in ministry here at Camp Caroline. Crucial sets of life-long lessons are shared with every camper, minister, family, church, and community who is blessed by camp and retreating here on these sacred grounds.











WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE WITH US!

- -We invite you to share your history of Camp Days with us and consider forging new friendships with small family and church retreats during this time when we are minimizing our indoor facility usage and maximizing our outdoor facility and sacred space provisions.
- -We are very blessed to have five housing options, each of which has a full kitchen to help you and your family or church group retreat with us (several pictures to show the six bedroom/six bath adult/family cottages). Plus, we have renovated the Director's Cabin following Florence and upgraded the Slaymaker Retreat House.
- -Volunteers Needed! I am requesting that if your church has an active adoption here at the camp, please have a representative contact me at casey@ncdisples.org. With smaller groups utilizing the camp this fall and winter, I hope to coordinate some camp nurture days with each adoptee church. If your church would like to get involved, we have several needs all year-long and need your assistance with the TLC nurture of our camp.
- -Lastly...ARE YOU A PERSON WHO LOVES TO FISH???? Call the Camp office at 252-249-0848 to find out about a special camp offering for Fisher's Haven Accommodations from late August through Late January when the fishing off Dawson Creek and the Neuse River is SUPERB!!!!!!
- -Connect with us at www.campcaroline.org/stay/ and follow us on Facebook and Instagram (CampCarolineNC) for more information and updates.

Regional Calendar

August

8/18	7 pm - 0	Clergy C	Check-In	(Virtual)
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7 pm - ARPR Building a Common Language Workshop (Virtual)

September

9/1	9 am - Commission on Ministry, FCC, Winston-Salem (Social Distance will be observed)
9/2	Healthy Boundaries Training for Clergy registration deadline
9/7	Labor Day Holiday - Regional Office Closed
9/11	Regional Board Reports due in office
9/12	9 am - Healthy Boundaries Training for Clergy, Camp Caroline, Arapahoe
	10 am - Camp Caroline Committee mtg., Camp Caroline, Arapahoe
	Combined DWM/CMF Retreat (Virtual)
	Time - TBA
9/19	10 am—Regional Board mtg. (Virtual)

October

10/3	175th Birthday Regional Worship Experience (Virtual)	١
10/5	1/3 th Bh that y Regional Worship Experience (Virtual)	,

Time-TBA

10/15 Racial Equity Training for Clergy registration deadline

Job Posting - Executive for Resource Development



Global Ministries, a common witness in mission of the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ is seeking to hire an Executive for Resource Development. The executive will work with Global Ministries' Co-Executives, the development staff, and other colleagues in cultivating and soliciting financial gifts to support operations, endowments, projects, and to respond to congregations, regions, and conferences desiring to provide financial support and other resources to support the work of Global Ministries. Job require-

ments include but are not limited to the following: minimum of an undergraduate degree with further education work in fund raising and an understanding of and commitment to the work, mission, and giving covenants of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ.

Resumes and inquiries may be sent to Toi Davis at <u>tdavis@dom.disciples.org</u>. The application process will close on Friday, September 18, 2020.

Global Ministries provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.

Lexington Theological Seminary Certificate in African American Ministry (CAAM) provides theological, biblical, spiritual, and leadership training for women and men as pastoral leaders with attention to the twenty-first century African American congregational context. It supports those enrolled in the program to pursue excellence in core areas of ministerial practice. The program is a partnership of Lexington Theological Seminary, The Office of African American Clergy Leadership Development, and the National Convocation. It is funded in part by the Thriving in Ministry Project at LTS with a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc.

To accommodate busy schedules, students attend synchronous courses online (via Zoom) as well as four-day, in-person intensive courses* at Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, KY, in the summer (these in -person gatherings are dependent upon changing circumstances pertaining to the COVID 19 pandemic). Upon successful completion of all 12 courses, students earn the Certificate in African American Ministry or they may apply them as continuing education (CEU) credits.

Leadership

Rev. Dr. William Lee Office of African American Clergy Leadership Development Director



Rev. Dr. Charisse L. Gillett
President
Lexington Theological Seminary
Executive Director,
Lilly Projects at LTS



Rev. Dr. Loida Martell
Vice President of Academic Affairs
and Dean
Lexington Theological Seminary



Rev. Dr. Kristen P. Bentley

Thriving in Ministry

Project Director

Lexington Theological Seminary



For more information, and to apply, go online to: https://www.lextheo.edu/certificate-in-african-american-ministry/

Did You Know...

- ⇒ the Historical Task Force is collecting local church histories for a collective work. To share your church's history, email Rev. Doug Stokes at dls081556@yahoo.com.
- ⇒ that the Camp Caroline Connects videos from virtual camp is a great resource for your church youth? Here is the link to check it out.

Implementing the Clergy Criminal Background Check

By Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson, NC Commission on Ministry Chair

The Commission on Ministry (COM) thanks the 2019 NC Regional Assembly representatives for recognizing the importance of protecting vulnerable people within our churches and community and your own church's liability by voting to pass Resolution 119. While the NC COM Ordering of Ministry document already emphasized the COM requirement for a criminal background check (CBC) of clergy and COM candidates, and Search and Call (S&C) requires a CBC, Resolution 119 further clarified that all active NC DOC clergy will submit to the prescribed CBC, which is the same CBC used by Disciples Search and Call (S&C), currently through Oxford Document Management (ODM). This resolution also clarified that the COM anticipates churches will cover the cost of the CBC (currently \$160) for their employed clergy and/or reimburse newly called clergy for a completed CBC (if it remains active with the Region or with S&C at time of hire).

The COM has implemented the CBC online launch form and provides this information so all NC Disciples clergy (Commissioned/Licensed and Ordained) can initiate his or her CBC to maintain standing through the NC CC (DOC).

Despite many previous and recent background checks (including S&C, as well as military- and police-fingerprinted ones due to my chaplaincy and community volunteerism), in good faith I submitted my information through the NC CC (DOC) region's CBC process to be the first to comply with our new policy. It's that important!

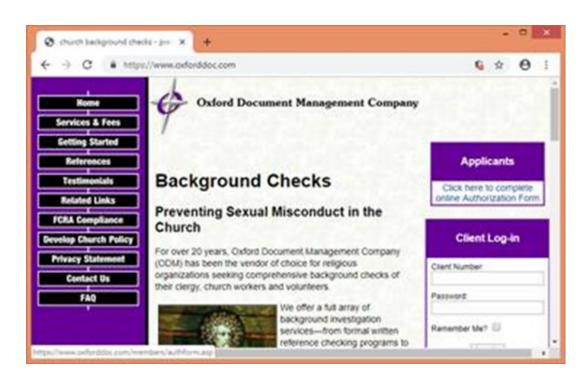
Completing the Online Authorization Form

This online CBC authorization process will only take a few moments to complete. Clergy, please follow these steps:

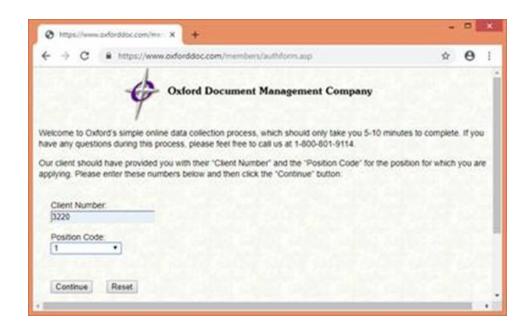
1. Prior to beginning, remind yourself of dates when you might have changed names throughout your lifetime, your addresses for the previous seven years, and names and addresses of employers for the previous seven years. Have your credit card on hand.

Note: If you do not have access to a credit card, I can make an arrangement for you to complete the CBC in the Regional office and write a check/pay cash to reimburse the region.

2. To authorize the regionally managed CBC, go to https://www.oxforddoc.com/



3. On the Background Checks page, inside the top right Applicants box, click the "Click here to complete online Authorization Form" visible above.



- 4. Then, on the Welcome screen, type 3220 in the Client Number field and select Position Code 1, as shown above. Then, click Continue.
- 5. Complete the personal history questions on subsequent screens, which involve names, SSN, DOB, residential addresses and employment addresses, following each panel's instructions.
- 6. Verify the accuracy of your input on the verification screen.
- 7. Enter your credit card information to agree to the \$160 charge when requested and complete any other required fields.
- After 7-10 business days, the Regional Minister (RM) will receive the CBC result via regular mail to the regional office PO Box. The regional office will mail you a complimentary copy.

Coordinating the Region CBC with the Search and Call (S&C) CBC

If a clergy person is already in S&C or plans to complete a S&C profile, then that clergy member should not use the regional CBC process. Instead, use the S&C MinPro system to authorize the S&C CBC. The RM will receive a copy of this ODM CBC directly from the S&C office. You can email the RM to ensure that she has a copy of your active S&C CBC.

<u>Note</u>: If a clergy profile is active and circulating through S&C or begins circulating before one year after the S&C CBC authorization, then the minister's CBC remains active with S&C for three years. However, if a minister is not circulating a profile via S&C but does the CBC through the S&C MinPro system, then the minister's CBC expires in one year.

If a clergy person submits his or her CBC through the NC regional method, but later decides to enter S&C, then he or she must contact the RM to complete a release form giving permission for the Region to send a digital copy of the CBC via NC directly to S&C. S&C will accept the CBC from the region if it is less than one year old. To obtain the release form, please contact the RM.

<u>Important</u>: Neither the NC region nor the S&C office will accept copies of CBCs from clergy, churches, other employers, or insurance boards—even if the CBC is from ODM.

Imposing a Deadline

The COM will require all clergy with standing who want to keep NC standing to complete the CBC by May 30, 2020. This will be a little more than one year after the passing of the resolution. This deadline will also provide churches an opportunity to budget for the expense for their employed clergy (\$160 each), as well as provide time for under-employed or under-paid clergy to save a few dollars per month toward the \$160 expense.

Making Exceptions

The COM continues to reflect upon the question of "Who is exempted from 'all clergy", particularly for our completely "inactive retired" clergy. Even retired clergy sometimes perform weddings, serve on regional teams, bear their title in community activism, teach Sunday School, etc. At the time of newsletter publication, the COM has not reached our decision about any exemptions. We hope that all clergy will voluntarily begin to comply. If you are hoping to be exempted, please allow us time to listen, consider, and consult about possible exceptions. As always, your input is valuable and welcome.

