



The NC Disciples of Christ met at Barton College, Wilson, NC for its 171st Regional Assembly on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Not only was the attendance the best it has been in many years, but Bethany had a great representation with 9 members in attendance. The theme for the Assembly was “Back to the Basics”.

The day started out with registration followed by our morning worship in Howard Chapel with music led by the Revs. Jason and Joanie Williams. Our Regional Minister, Bishop Valerie Melvin gave us an update/reflection on happenings during the year. We were introduced to The E.G. Purcell, Jr. Bible Conference Lecturer, Dr. Matthias Henze, a Professor of Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism at Rice University in Houston, Texas and founder of a Program in Jewish Studies, of which he continues to serve as director. He provided our lecture referencing information he has gathered using his areas of interest including the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Jewish literature and thought at the time of the Second Temple, apocalyptic literature, and the Qumran fragments. He also focuses on early texts that never became part of the Jewish Bible.

After a brief break, we reconvened for the Business Session with Jane Allgood serving as Moderator. A financial report was given by Treasurer, Rev. Kathy Smith. We, the Christian Church in North Carolina, continue to have a deficit in our operating fund. Many measures have been taken to relieve some of this deficit since Bishop Melvin has been our Regional Minister. However, at December 31, 2018 the Net Operating Fund Deficit was (\$45,176). Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II made a contribution of \$2,000 toward this deficit and challenged others to do the same. Staff reports were offered by Casey Perry for Camp Caroline and Luke Miles for Regional Youth. Board reports were given by the following committees: Endowment, Regional Elders, Nominations Committee, and the Commission of Ministry. Emergency Resolution 119 was presented and approved/adopted by the voting delegates in attendance. Resolution 119 clarifies the scope of background checks for those in vocational ministry and calls for congregations to “budget financial resources to implement GA-1122’s background check policy with the expectation that congregations who have clergy on staff cover this expense for their existing clergy and upon hiring new clergy”. An announcement was made regarding the 2020 Regional Assembly being held at Camp Caroline. The business session was adjourned and a bag lunch was provided.

At approximately 1:45 pm, an introduction was given for The Thedford G. & Woodrow W. Sprinkle Lecture. Dr. Anna Carter Florence was our guest lecturer for the afternoon and is the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary located in Decatur, Georgia. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church and holds degrees from Yale University and Princeton Theological Seminary (M. Div. and Ph.D). She offers creative strategies for engaging and encountering biblical text. She also gave our sermon/homily – *Midwives and Ministry* – for the day.

Four members of New Generation Christian Church provided a lively praise and worship session and offered a gospel medley later in the service. While the offering was received, B. J. Lawrence sang *God Has Work for Us to Do*. It reminds us that our offering provides the means for us to actually do the work that God has for us.

An invitation to communion by intinction was given by Regional Minister, Bishop Valerie Melvin followed by prayers for the bread and wine. There were several stations set up in different areas of the Chapel to partake of communion. While congregants were partaking of communion, B. J. Lawrence sang *For Everyone Born*. Following communion, recognitions were provided and then our Regional Minister sent us forth to get “Back to the Basics” by being a prayer-driven, spirit led movement providing opportunities for Missions, Ministry & Outreach, Stewardship, and Biblical Foundation.



Christian Church in North Carolina 2019 Camp Schedule

Camp Caroline - 3398 Janiero Road, Arapahoe, NC 28510

Date	Camp	Fee	Director
June 14-16	Uno Camp Grades K-2	250	Carrie Ragland
June 16-21	CYF Conf. Grades 9-12	390	Catherine Campbell & Marci Fisher
June 23-28	SAS Camp Grades 4-7	390	Suzanne Davis/Jeremy Hopkins
July 1-5	Rainbow (mentally challenged)	300	Rock Holliday
July 14-20	Created to be Me Grade 8	465	Tena Perry/Courtney Cartwright
July 21-26	Delta Camp Grades 6-7	390	Lynne McHaney/Lauren Perry
July 28-Aug 2	Alpha Camp Grades 1-2	390	Chrystal Butler/Finley Baldwin
July 28-Aug 2	Beta Camp Grades 3-5	390	Courtney Hickman

Christmount -222 Fern Way, Black Mountain, NC 28711

Date	Camp	Fee	Director
June 17-22	Jr Camp Grades 3-5	395	Frank Robinson
June 17-22	Jr Hi Camp Grades 6-7	395	Frank Robinson
June 24-29	CYF Conf. Grades 9-12	395	Kevin Toth

Luke Miles, Regional Youth, asked for members of various churches to make sure to get Camp registrations in soon.