

The Virginia Christian

February, 2026

www.ccinva.org/virginia-christian



As a Church Member do you want to have Emails from the Regional Minister?

Are you a church member who wants to have emails and blogs from the Regional Minister? If you do, fill out this Google Form and we will add you to the contact list so you can keep up to date on what is happening in the region.

<https://forms.gle/P2wLakzBPv6UZXAs9>

DISCIPLES YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB

Join us!

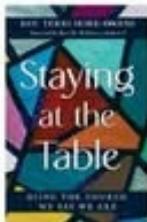
Meet the young adult leaders guiding conversations for the Disciples Young Adult Book Club with General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens, featuring her book *Staying at The Table*. These emerging leaders will help create meaningful space for dialogue, reflection, and connection as participants engage the reading together.

Join us to explore ideas, deepen relationships, and share in faithful conversation with Young Adult Disciples from across the church.

 February 24
March 3, 10, & 17

 7:00-8:15 PM EST

 Zoom



Register Today!



Chrys



Ella



Tristan



Hayden



Katee



Fiyori



Kathleen



Kalea



Grace



Ruthie



Maria-Isabelle



Kyston

Balanced Boundary Training

**Register here for Saturday, April 25 - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Craig Springs Camp and Conference Center**

<https://www.ccinva.org/boundarytraining>

Balanced Boundary Training is a ministry of Revs Amy and Bill Spangler-Dunning. This is a new take and approach to boundary training for clergy and laity. At the core of the training/experience is the belief that boundary violations occur as a direct relationship to our life being out of balance. As human beings, we constantly adjust to keep our life going and “balanced.” The ways in which we make these adjustments can either be healthy or not so healthy. This boundary training seeks to provide tools and skills to help everyone make solid healthy choices to keep our lives in healthy balance. It is hoped that this proactive approach will reduce the need or frequency of unhealthy boundary behaviors. We accomplish this through a mixture of presentations and interactive activities. This experience is more spiritual retreat than simply a training lecture. We hope that this new approach will enrich the God-Created wholeness of who people are while improving the overall safety and health of clergy and laity throughout the church.

Rev. Amy Spangler-Dunning, LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor) & M.Div (Ordained Minister) brings together the mental health and ministry worlds to provide awareness and tools for maintaining our balance and boundaries in this world. Rev. Bill Spangler-Dunning, M.Div (Ordained Minister) brings his 25 years in regional ministry to connect the “what” with “why” for boundaries for clergy and laity.



Join the Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF) Team

Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF) empowers communities of faith to build places of worship by providing financial resources and expertise. Join its team and make a tangible difference in the lives of faith communities across the U.S. and Canada. DCEF is hiring a full-time, remote Development Coordinator.

This position will be a linchpin in helping the ministry achieve its fundraising goals. Reporting to the Director of Development, it will be the champion of donor relationships, supporting the Development Team by supplementing relationship-building initiatives, ensuring accurate data management, and assisting with donor activities. This role offers an opportunity to combine development expertise, administrative acumen, and a passion for ministry.

Thanks for your support,

Nadine (“nuh-deen”) A. Compton (She/Elle/Ella)
Creative Writer/Digital Media Specialist - Disciples Church Extension Fund
o: 317.713.2523 | c: 317.225.2986
disciplescef.org | newwaysdcef.org | newchurchministry.org

First Christian Church
Salem, VA

Music Director

First Christian Church is seeking an energetic person to work part-time in providing beautiful music for our spirited church. This person will coordinate with the Pastors and Worship Committee to provide music that enhances and supports our worship experience.

Qualifications

- Music background/experience in churches or other music settings
- Familiarity with directing or directing experience
- Comfortable/experience with public speaking

Duties and Responsibilities

- Coordinate music for all worship services including selecting congregational hymns
- Provide for special music as needed
- Direct the adult Chancel Choir
- Participate in worship services
- Provides necessary information weekly to church office for bulletin
- Support the mission of First Christian Church

Anticipated weekly hours are **17 hours per month**. Salary range is **\$400-\$500** per month commensurate with ability and experience.

Interested applicants may mail a cover letter and resume to:

First Christian Church
ATTN: Admin Committee - Choir Director
712 Front Ave
Salem, VA 24153

Or send a cover letter and resume as an attachment by email to:
fccsalemva@gmail.com with subject line: Choir Director application

Sheila Arnold - Teaching Artist and Story Teller

BibleTelling Training Workshop, Sat., Apr. 11, 9 am - 12 noon

First Christian Church, Fellowship Hall, 3109 Rivermont Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24503

BibleTelling is an effective method of sharing the Bible in a variety of settings, including, but not limited to Evangelism, Mission Work, Preaching, Bible Studies for adults and youth, as well as community and personal growth. This in-person training shares why BibleTelling works and how to utilize it in your church and/or community. This workshop is conducted by nationally-known Storyteller and BibleTelling Facilitator/Preacher (www.mssheila.org), who will also share her experiences with using Bible stories to create community and enliven church. This Training Workshop is free, and open to anyone who wants to learn BibleTelling - clergy, lay persons, teachers, youth leaders and folks that just want to learn how to be more like Jesus - one of the greatest storytellers!

Early Folk Artist of Monticello: Storytelling and Music

Performed by David McCormick and Sheila Arnold

Sat., Apr. 11, starts 3 pm

First Christian Church, Fellowship Hall, 3109 Rivermont Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24503

\$15 General Admission ADULTS

\$8 General Admission STUDENTS

Purchase tickets here: Early Folk Artists of Monticello Tickets, Saturday, Apr 11 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm |

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/early-folk-artists-of-monticello-tickets-1974954994553?aff=oddtcreator>

Limited FREE VCA-VDH WIC Passport tickets: Tickets are available to persons showing a WIC Card. For more information, call 434-989-3215 or click on link below:

<https://www.amherstglebeartsresponse.org/vca-passport.html>

More information: Early Folk Artist of Monticello - Amherst Glebe Arts Response

BibleTelling Community Experience

"TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD" - PSALM 34:8



EVERY TUESDAY: 2 class times

12:30 - 2 pm ET

6:30-8pm ET

NO CHARGE. Registration required.

Lead BibleTelling Facilitator: Sheila Arnold

12:30pm Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/AfternoonBT>

6:30pm Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/btevening>

BibleTelling Sessions (March - July 2026)

Mar. 10 - May 5 - "Women's History Month: Esther"

May 12 - June 23 - "Convicts with Convictions"

June 30 - July 28 - "Traveling Stories"

**stories from the past
connecting to today**

WHAT IS THIS EXPERIENCE?

This is not a theological class but a storytelling through the Bible class that shares about God, Jesus and the good and bad of people. Yes, we can change the world through stories. This class is not converting anyone. It is about sharing the Word of God through story.



Sheila Arnold

Unique. Engaging. Expect Amazing.

Join Sheila Arnold for an online fun-learning online BibleTelling Experience. The sessions are independent and progressive, therefore, making it easy to come to all of them one. Sheila would love for you to be at all, but she knows life happens.

More info: sheilaarnold39@aol.com

Challenge Class #4

online class taught by

Professional StorySpeaker

Sheila Arnold

Mondays, March 30 - May 18, 2026

6-8 pm ET / 5-7 pm CT / 4-6 pm MT / 3-5 pm PT

\$450 (minimum 4 people; maximum 8 people)

I CHALLENGE you to take your storytelling further...and I will walk with you in that challenge. Join me, Sheila Arnold, internationally and nationally known storyteller for 22 years, for online "Challenge Class". This is for anyone who has (a) taken another class with me and/or (b) 5 years of more of active storytelling. Learn more about marketing & pricing, and how you can meet your goals in storytelling. Are you ready for THE CHALLENGE?



Register at

<https://forms.gle/qqT8mYchf4HoZH037>



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSer8wza4J84352_FYsWqIOTkEVQ5WPwlUB4CqYPbk_-Vwv1MQ/viewform

Craig Springs Kitchen Renovation project begins to receive gifts:

Our Goal is 1.2 million. Over the last months I have learned of individuals, churches, past campers & counselors who have given \$10, \$50, \$1000, \$5000, \$8000 and more to support this project. This is more than a building funding project, it is an affirmation of a ministry by congregations and individuals across the whole region. I have received word that congregations of all sizes are having bake sales while others are putting a set amount in their next year's budget. Blacksburg Christian Church voted unanimously to send \$100,000 to support the kitchen renovation project to help enhance and protect the ministry we do at Craig Springs. We give thanks for this gift and all the gifts that have and will come in to help make this long awaited kitchen renovation happen.

We still have a ways to go but the energy and spirit are heading in the right direction. If you or your church would like to contribute/pledge toward this ministry project see the resources below. If it would be helpful to have myself and a small group come and talk about the details and deeper purpose of this project, please reach out to me and I can arrange a presentation. Again, I thank you for all the amazing things God and the people of this region are beginning to experience together. We really are stronger together!

Here is a video that expresses the WHY it matters: <https://vimeo.com/1078484440/1fb9b918d7>

Downloadable version of brochure:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CJL71maLEb52elGgSv1zP8OZgBkaeLQy/view>

or online version: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/fce928e4-5ca7-44af-84d6-4e9b3a47b33b>

You can make this happen!

It is amazing how a few moments with faith mentors on the Holy Ground of a church camp can stick with us our whole lives! For those who have experienced such Holy moments at Craig Springs, you know how much it changed your life and still lives in you. Now, its time for us to give back to the place that formed our foundations so that the next generations can find faith, hope and the love of our God at Craig Springs.



In the last few years, we have renovated and improved the facilities. We have secured stronger and more skilled staff to help maintain the facility and provide hospitality for all. Our Summer camp numbers have finally begun to rise again.



Because of all this work and energy, new outside groups are finding us and choosing to hold their own camps and church retreats at Craig Springs. The next step in the journey to ensure that Craig Springs is preserved for the next generations, is to renovate the kitchen. I am asking you, as one whose life was

changed by Holy Ground moments, to give a gift to the Kitchen fund so ensure that Craig Springs can continue to be the place where lives are changed and faith leaders are raised up to change the church and the world!

Return the pledge card or send a check to The Christian Church in Virginia – Kitchen Fund, 1290 Enterprise Dr. Lynchburg VA 24502. OR scan the QR code to see promo videos, plans and give a gift online. It is going to take all of us, but with God and YOU, we can make this happen!



VA Camping Ministry | CCINVA

<https://www.ccinva.org/virginiacampingministry>

NATURE CAMP 2026
COUNSLOR APPLICATION HERE:
<https://www.ccinva.org/virginiacampingministry>



VIRGINIA CAMPING MINISTRY - 2026 Held at Craig Springs Camp



- 6/20 - 6/26: Nature Camp
- 6/28 - 7/3: Special Camp
- 7/5 - 7/10: Triple 1 Camp
- 7/12 - 7/16: New Covenant Camp
- 7/13 - 7/18: CAMPDD
- 7/19 - 7/24: Triple 2 Camp
- 7/24 - 7/26: Family Camp

VIRGINIA CAMPING MINISTRY - 2026 camps held at other Virginia venues

- 6/13 - 6/20: TREC Camp
- 6/14 - 6/19: Intergenerational Mission Trip
- 8/3 - 8/7: Adult Hiking camp

In Partnership with

Piedmont District Camp
Radford University
June 16 - 19, 2026
(More Information To Follow)

Created To Be Me Camp
June 21 - 27, 2026
Camp Caroline, NC

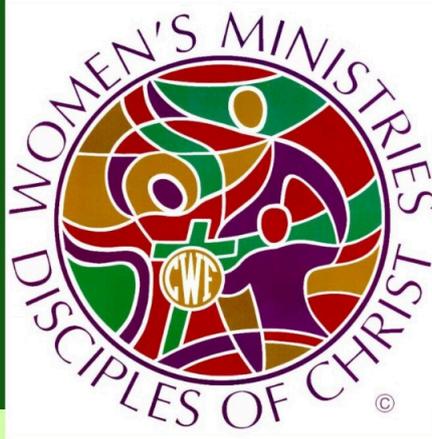


VA region Multi-generational Mission trip

The registration for this year's mission trip filled up in a few days. 75 Virginia Disciples will be going to Western NC to help with Hurricane Recovery and to serve those in need the week of June 14. Our youngest participants are 11 years old and are oldest is 79 years old. We will be partnering with Week of Compassion to serve over 15 different organizations. We will build homes with Habitat Humanity, Repair homes with Rutherford Housing Partnership, Distribute Fresh Vegetables with Bounty and Soul and do farm work at Veteran's Healing farm. We will break up into teams of 8 to 10 volunteers each day and then each evening will include team reports, Worship and other activities. We will stay at our Disciples National Retreat and Conference Center-Christmount and also help them in their continued hurricane recovery efforts. On Wednesday June 17, All of our Volunteers will frame a home "Help Build Hope" in the parking lot of Christmount and we will gift that home to a family who lost their home in the flooding.

This trip is not just 75 Disciples going to help, it is the Virginia Region being the hands and feet of Christ, it is each of us being a movement of wholeness in a broken and fragmented world. We are asking each of our congregations and all Virginia Disciples to keep the trip in your prayers. Also, we are asking you to prayerfully consider donating to our Help Build Home to purchase the lumber and other necessary expenses. You can mail checks to the regional office and put June Mission trip in the memo section. Thank you for your prayers and support.





Virginia
Disciples Women
Regional Retreat

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2026

W.E. SKELTON 4-H CENTER
SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA

SAVE THE DATE!

MORE INFO TO COME!

*IF YOU ARE A DISCIPLES AND A WOMAN,
THEN YOU ARE A DISCIPLES WOMAN!*

Dream Seed Grant

<https://www.ccinva.org/grantministry>

Fill out the form here: <https://forms.gle/Y2dBctdwN8WnhapJ6>

How the Dream Came to be?

(A Tale of Two Stories that form the underlying purpose and focus for the Virginia Regional Dream/Seed Grant Funds)

The Elsie Tease Principle:

Elsie Tease was a member of Battery Park Christian Church in Richmond. She asked for permission and the blessing of her minister and congregational board to take up "above and beyond" offerings from her church to create a fund that would be used to help people move into and/or live at The Summit. A few months later a check was received for \$124.86. It began with an idea and a few small gifts of change (coins mostly) that inspired something beyond the size of those nickels and dimes. This gift became the Seed money for the Care Fund to come alongside people moving into the Summit. **The Elsie Tease Principle is that sometimes a small gift of funds can help a small idea/ministry grow into something larger.**

The Carrie Burwell Principle:

Carrie Burwell was a member at Rocky Mount Christian Church in Rocky Mount. She went to her minister with the nearly unbelievable idea that "We need to build a Home for the Aging in Virginia." Her minister replied to her with words often spoken when ideas are seemingly too large to fully comprehend how they could ever come true, "Well, we will need money for that to happen." So, Carrie Burwell left her house to the Region in her will. This gift became the seed money for The Summit. **The Carrie Burwell Principle is that sometimes ideas for new ways of ministry are so huge and unimaginable that they need a significant starter gift to allow others to believe it is possible.**

The Three Grant Funds and what they are intended to support:

Each year the interest from the designated endowment will be received and utilized with the following purpose:

1. CARE FUND: 40% will be designated for the Care Fund. The Care fund is intended to provide solidarity grants to individuals wishing to move into The Summit. These grants and selection of recipients shall be the ministry and responsibility of the Retirement Center Board.
2. Congregational Dream/Seed Fund: 40% will be designated for seed money to the Region for offering grants to congregations and other organizations of the Region with a priority given for ministries to or with Seniors, but other ministries may also be given consideration. *
3. Region & Beyond Dream/Seed Fund: 20% will be designated for other Regional or General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). *

- Grant Funds 2 & 3 shall be the ministry and responsibility of the Administrative Council of the Region

Criteria for Awarding Funds 2 & 3

1. The grant requestor must hold membership in an organization that has membership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
2. The requested ministry must have the approval and support of the leadership of that congregation or ministry.
3. The ministry must meet the "Spirit" of being a New or innovated ministry. These funds are not meant to support ongoing budgets.
4. It meets either the "Elsie Tease or Carrie Burwell Principle"
5. Priority will be given to grant requests that address issues related to seniors and/or involve more than one Disciples congregation or ministry.

How to apply for a Dream/Seed Grant:

1. Simply follow this link or use the QR Code to fill out the short but important grant request form.
2. Develop a strong narrative to help the Administrative Committee understand your ministry idea.
3. Get feedback and support from your congregational leaders.
4. Be available to join the Ad-Council meeting to answer questions.
5. Plan to share your work/idea/story with the wider church.

<https://www.ccinva.org/grantministry>

