

# *The Virginia Christian*

**August, 2025**

[www.ccinva.org/virginia-christian](http://www.ccinva.org/virginia-christian)

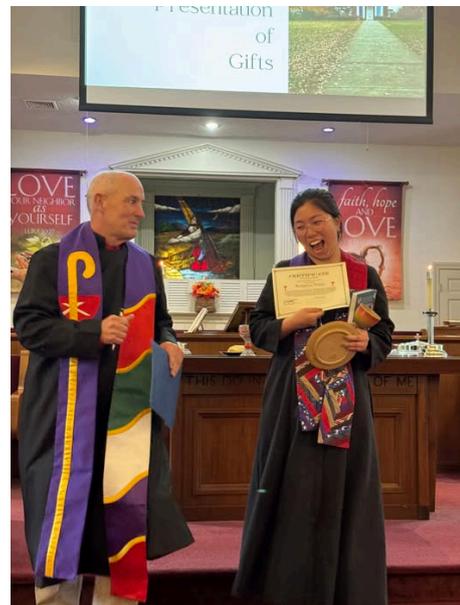


## Clergy/Congregation Happenings

**Reverend Barbara Weddle** was commissioned at Rocky Mount Christian Church on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.



**Reverend Morganne Talley** was ordained at Timberlake Christian Church on July 26, 2025.



It is so amazing to see the way God is working in this region. We will have three more ordinations/commissions coming up in the near future. It is a good sign that so many are continuing to discern a call to ministry and even better that this region has a strong commission on ministry and a well organized program to come alongside.

BSD



## Open Ministry Positions

**Bethany Christian Church,** 3115 Fleming Ave., Roanoke, VA is seeking a part-time bi-vocational minister.

**Craig Healing Springs Christian Church,** New Castle, VA is seeking a minister.

**Doe Run Christian Church,** 3536 Doe Run Rd., Rocky Mount, VA is seeking a minister. If you are interested contact me at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com)

**Hillsville Christian Church,** 120 Edgewood Drive, Hillsville, VA is seeking an interim minister and will soon begin the process of searching for a full-time minister. Reach out to me if you are interested at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com).

**Loudon Avenue Christian Church,** 730 Loudon Ave., NW, Roanoke, VA 24016 is seeking a full-time minister.

**Philippi Christian Church,** 17276 General Puller Hwy., Deltaville, VA is seeking an interim pastor. Contact me for more information at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com)

**Poole Christian Church,** 7521 Trinity Church Road., Church Road, VA 23833 seeks a part-time minister (mostly pulpit supply). Contact me for further information at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com)

**Saumsville Christian Church,** Saumsville, VA is seeking a part-time minister. Contact me for more information at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com)

**Slash Christian Church,** located at 11353 Mt. Hermon Rd., Ashland, VA 23005 is looking for a part-time youth minister. Contact Michael Weeks at [pastormichael@slashcc.org](mailto:pastormichael@slashcc.org) for more information.



**Bedford Christian Church** is fulfilling a twenty-year-old dream by constructing a dedicated sanctuary at its current location. When the congregation moved to its "new" site twenty years ago, a multi-purpose room, office space and classrooms were constructed. The church's dedicated sanctuary was to be built as part of a "Phase Two" construction process. Twenty years later, phase two has begun.

The construction was made possible by two large bequests that were received by the church in recent years. That, along with the generosity of the church's current congregation, means that the construction should be will be with little or no debt. The new building will not only contain a sanctuary, but also a large greeting all, a conference room/gathering space, an Audio/Visual hub as well as a mechanical room and storage areas. In addition to building the new sanctuary, the church has created a Visioning Committee to find new and creative uses for it's current spaces.

The church already houses a Headstart Early Learning Center, and its "God's Garden" ministry has seen hundreds of pounds of local produce donated to area food banks.

The congregation of Bedford Christian Church covets your prayers, that our new space will be a blessing to our community and may God's kingdom be served through it's use.



The beam supporting the entrance to the new sanctuary bears the words of Joshua 24:15: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."



# Dream Seed Grant

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

## 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

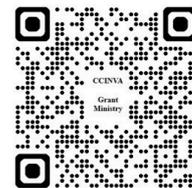
### Criteria for Awarding Funds 2 & 3

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>



## Craig Springs – Kitchen Renovation Project:

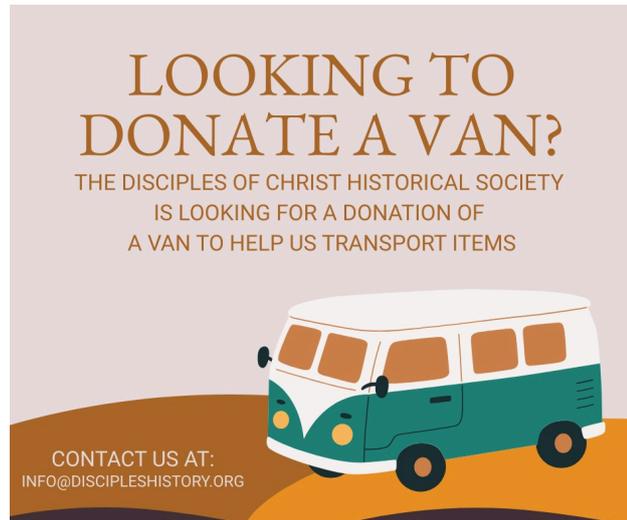
Camp numbers are growing across the region and more groups are booking the facility. We are excited to be on the way to renovating the kitchen at Craig Springs. We need your help to raise money to support this project. It was a dream of over 42 years ago and now it is becoming a reality.

Craig Springs and the Administrative Council of the Christian Church (DOC) in Virginia announce the launch of the Kitchen Renovation Project and Campaign! See Digital Magazine/Brochure here and See inspirational Video - <https://vimeo.com/1078484440/1fb9b918d7> - about the deeper why's of this project. If you would like a personal presentation to be made at your church about this project please let me know at [bsdinvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:bsdinvirginia@gmail.com)

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## Disciples of Christ Historical Society

The Disciples of Christ Historical Society is looking for a bus to be donated to the Society to transport historical items. If you have a bus that is in good working condition that you wish to donate, please email [info@discipleshistory.org](mailto:info@discipleshistory.org).



 **DISCIPLES** Home Missions [www.discipleshomemissions.org](http://www.discipleshomemissions.org)

[https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm\\_events/black-ministers-retreat-2025/](https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/dhm_events/black-ministers-retreat-2025/)

## Virginia Youth Council

The Virginia Youth Council is continuing this year for the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders to lead and plan events for the youth of Virginia. The VYC is designed to bring together some of the best leaders of this generation and help them become better servant leaders for the church and the world. As part of this council, members will be asked to be an active member of their Disciples of Christ home church and will be asked to assist in region wide youth planning and serving. Disciples Colleges and Universities often give large scholarships for those serving on Regional Councils; in addition, this experience will provide you with strong leadership training, connection with other leaders of your generation, and give you a strong faith foundation for the rest of your life. So if you are willing and wanting to join this adventure fill out the below application! VYC meetings will be held once a month or every other month around 8:00 pm via zoom. You're eligible to serve all of your high school career.

Applications are due by **September 15<sup>th</sup>**. VYC meetings will begin in October.

Apply Here: [VYC '25-'26 Application](#)

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-kfL2wGZzsWQ9Z8vxvY6D3I4z7yxuJgHxVCQYEV82vQ8E-g/viewform)

[kfL2wGZzsWQ9Z8vxvY6D3I4z7yxuJgHxVCQYEV82vQ8E-g/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-kfL2wGZzsWQ9Z8vxvY6D3I4z7yxuJgHxVCQYEV82vQ8E-g/viewform)



## Oreon E. Scott Clergy Conference

September 16-19, 2025- Christmount, Black Mountain, NC

**Resilience and Restoration  
in the Mountains**

Rev. Dr. Heber M. Brown, III is a Baltimore Baptist pastor who founded the Black Church Food Security Network, connecting nearly 250 Black congregations with farmers and food justice advocates to combat food apartheid. He's authored the forthcoming book "Nothing More Sacred: Radical Stories Of Black Church Faith, Food and Freedom" and served as keynote speaker for the DOC Black Ministers Retreat 2025.



Rev. Dr. Heber Brown III  
Keynote Speaker



Rev. Carol Devine  
Faith and Climate Educator



Rev. Dr. Dara Cobb Lewis  
Spiritual Director

**Register Here**



Luke Cannon  
Mountain Ecologist

Use QR code to register or contact Christmount directly at 828-669-8977 or [frontdesk@christmount.org](mailto:frontdesk@christmount.org)  
Sliding scale and scholarships available



## Virginia Regional Mission Trip-August Update

We still have a deep feeling of gratitude and accomplishment from our 3rd Annual Multi-generational Regional Mission trip in June to Western NC. We received this note from Jennifer Trippe of Bounty and Soul last week “the week that you guys were here, we served 1,654 households and over 5,000 individuals. The month of June we served 6,895 households and almost 22,000 individuals. With the loss of our state's HOP program and increasing grocery costs, our numbers are already climbing. Normally, the summer brings lower market/distribution numbers. Thanks so much for continuing to think about Bounty & Soul and our community. You guys sure help make recovery better.” Bounty and Soul provides boxes of fresh produce and fresh baked bread to hurricane survivors and others in need in the Black Mountain NC area. Several of our teams worked with them during our Mission Trip. Team Indigo led by Cathy Law did love notes to go in each box and did other work in the warehouse. Team Violet led by Suzanne Dale set up the produce market and distributed produce and Team Red led by Dwayne Martin took down the produce market. Bounty and Soul is one of 15 organizations we served on the Mission Trip.

This was truly an effort of the whole region, through prayers and your financial support everyone was part of the trip. We are so grateful for the Dream Grant we received from the region for the trip. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of Rappahannock Christian Church, Bon Air Christian Church, Olive Branch Christian Church (in honor of their pastor Rev. Richard Cline, who was reared in Western NC), Cathy Law, and Liz Lambert for their financial support of the help build hope home. All 81 of us participated in building the home that went to a hurricane survivor family. This would have not have been possible without these very generous donations from churches and individuals. We also received generous donations from First Christian Church., Hopewell and Unity Christian Church to support our trip. Strasburg Christian Church paid for electrical hookups and installed ceiling fans in Aldridge Hall at Christmount. This provided some much needing cooling for our group as we worshiped and met each evening and will be appreciated by Christmount participants for many years. Unity Christian Church's Becky Moore was one of the participants and submitted a grant request to her employer. The Hubbell Incorporated Foundation gave a very generous grant to Christmount for continued Hurricane Recovery.

We look forward to returning to Western NC in 2026. The dates of next year's trip are June 14-19 and registration will start on January 15 on the regional website. We hope you can be part of this trip either through participation or financial support. We know each of you will be praying for the participants and the work we will be doing.



## **Disciples Church Extension Fund**

Searching for a career that empowers congregations by providing financial resources and expertise? If so, then join Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF)! It is looking to fill three positions:

- President and CEO – Reviews ministry’s vision, mission, and priorities. Successful candidate is authentic, courageous, innovative, and curious. Applications due October 1.
- Marketing Production Coordinator – Assists in evaluating, establishing, and implementing annual marketing strategy plan. Develops and executes marketing projects.
- Contract Assessors and Facilitator-Coaches – Experienced clergy and lay leaders invited to collaborate with New Beginnings team. DCEF offers faith communities a process of conversations that results in a Future Story — a map for sustainability and relevance. Applications due August 29.

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](http://disciplescef.org) | [newwaysdcef.org](http://newwaysdcef.org) | [newchurchministry.org](http://newchurchministry.org)



**WE'RE HIRING** 

**Open Positions:**

- President and CEO
- Marketing Production Coordinator
- New Beginnings Assessors and Facilitators/Coaches

Disciple Women of Virginia

# 2025 FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT PUTTING DOWN ROOTS



*Galatians 6:9 ESV*

***And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.***

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Disciple Women's retreat, where we aim to make a significant difference.

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Three Keynotes!

Rev. Wendy Wilson of Unity Christian Church and Rev. Laticia Lee of the Ministry Church will help us dig deep as we learn how to plant hope for women in our communities during three sessions.

### Entertainment

Open Mic, Line, and Liturgical Dance

### Learning Opportunities

Rev. Dr. Joy Brittan: What did Paul really say about Women?  
Drawing from Paul's letters

Rev. Carolyn Garnes Reproductive Justice

Rev. Catina Martin-"Blossoming" -Art

Becky Hill-St. Ignatius Spiritual Practices

Dr. Evonne Wimbush, Woman to Woman Presentation

Cathy Law- North Carolina Mission Trip

### Special Luncheon

Cabinet presentations

Rev. Joyce Harville, Guest

### Activities OR free time

Tiffanie Hairston-Zumba

Gentle Yoga

Lisa French-Wixed

"I Received a Cricut Machine!  
Now, How Do I Use It? - Rocky  
Mount CC, Betty Handy, Leader.  
**BRING YOUR CRICUT MACHINE!**

Crochet and Knitting Circles  
Bring your yarn and needles

Tiffanie Hairston- Liturgical Dance Instruction

Clergy Panel: Is God Calling Me? Panel on Discernment

### WORSHIP

Early morning worship  
Memorial service

### More Information

 [www.discipleswomenva.org](http://www.discipleswomenva.org)



OCTOBER  
10-  
12TH

**SKELTON 4-H  
CENTER -SMITH  
MOUNTAIN LAKE**

775 HERMITAGE RD,  
WIRTZ, VA



Virginia Disciples Women/DWF  
 2025 Fall Disciples Women's Retreat  
 at the Skelton 4-H Center, October 10-12, 2025  
 Smith Mountain Lake



**THEME: PUTTING DOWN ROOTS**

Retreat Leaders

Rev. Wendy Wilson, Pastor, Unity Christian Church, Radford  
 Leticia Lee, Pastor, Ministry Church, Richmond

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. on Friday with dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Program begins at 7:00 p.m. The retreat ends after morning worship with lunch to-go.

**FULL REGISTRATION COST** (Based on occupancy)

Includes housing, meals, linens, and registration

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| _____ \$338 (single)             | _____ \$313 (Single-First Timer Discount) |
| _____ \$253 (Double, per person) | _____ \$228 (Double-First Timer Discount) |
| _____ \$225 (Triple, per person) | _____ \$200 (Triple-First Timer Discount) |

**COMMUTER COST**

**#1 Commuter Cost per person \$115**

(Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner, no housing)

**#2 Commuter Cost per person \$91**

(Sat lunch and dinner, no housing)

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS SEPTEMBER 19, 2025**

We will once again have a "Talents for Mission" Market.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I will make something to sell for Mission.

Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have difficulty walking? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Special diet: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Christian Church in Virginia, 1290 Enterprise Drive,  
 Lynchburg, VA 24501 or Register On-Line and pay by credit or debit card [here](#)  
 or visit [www.discipleswomenva.org](http://www.discipleswomenva.org)