



Snow Creek Christian Church

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Martinsville Virginia, 24112

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September 2024

Reflections

Normally I use this newsletter to talk about what is going on in the church. I want to do that for this month's newsletter, but I want everyone to expand their understanding of the church. The church is more than the brick and mortar of our building. The church is more than just the hour of worship that we gather for on Sunday. The church is more than just the people of Snow Creek Christian Church. The church is all those who confess to believe in and strive to follow Christ. It is the Holy Spirit of God at work amongst those people.

With that view of church in mind, I want to invite everyone to come to the District IV Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 21st. Nothing earth-shattering will be happening that day. It is simply an attempt to bring 'the church' together on a larger scale than we can on a typical Sunday. There will be food. We are planning to grill hot dogs and churches are asked to provide additional sides. There will be fellowship. There will be prayer. There will be an opportunity to simply spend time with our neighbors.

For those who are unaware, District IV is our little slice of the Disciples church. It is District IV of the Virginia Region and it is the 15-20 Disciples congregations here in Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties. If you didn't know that, you can be excused, because ever

since Covid hit we haven't done much. But there are some great people out there in several congregations who are trying to change that. Their feeling is that it is usually a good thing when the church can come together. We can communicate with each other. We can help each other. We can learn from each other. We can praise God with each other. We can start to figure out how God is calling us all together to be the church in this particular time and this particular place. Those are uncharted waters and it helps when you can get more people rowing in the same direction.

So come on out and join the conversation. You won't have to go far. The event is being held at the Franklin County Recreation Park on Sontag Rd., just 10 miles down the road from the church. Keep in mind too that the next time we get together will be at our place. On December 29th, the last Sunday of the year, Snow Creek Christian Church will be hosting the District in a meal and Christmas hymn-sing to close out the year and ring in the new one. Before we get into planning for Christmas and for next year, though, come out and just enjoy yourself September 21st at the Franklin County Recreation Park as we see how the Spirit is moving the church in our little corner of the world.

God be with you. Scott.

September Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

September 1st (15th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Song of Solomon 2:8-13
- Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
- James 1:17-27
- *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

September 8th (16th Sunday after Pentecost)

- *Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23*
- Psalm 125
- James 2:1-17
- Mark 7:24-37

September 15th (17th Sunday after Pentecost)

- *Proverbs 1:20-33*
- Psalm 19
- James 3:1-12
- Mark 8:27-38

September 22nd (18th Sunday after Pentecost)

- *Proverbs 31:10-31*
- Psalm 1
- James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
- Mark 9:30-37

September 29th (19th Sunday after Pentecost)

- *Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22*
- Psalm 124
- James 5:13-20
- Mark 9:38-50

Board Minutes

Board Meeting – June 09, 2024

G.B. Washburn called the meeting to order. Pastor Scott had our opening prayer. The May meeting minutes were reviewed. Joyce Ingram made a motion to approve the minutes, Linda Hippisley seconded, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Bud Hippisley reported for May; May was a big month for expenses due to paying half of the roof cost, \$32,800; the balance will be paid in June. Disposition of the steeple remains to be determined. General donations were good, the net on the breakfast was about \$750, and we had the Pentecost Offering and Memorial Donations for Kay Boyd. Other than the roof, there were typical expenses in all categories. Insurance cost will go up 38% starting next month. Under services, we had the fire extinguisher inspection. This cost doubled last year due to some extinguishers needing replacement. The invoice doubled again this year. Bud checked with the company, who said there was a problem with their software and adjusted the bill down appropriately. Vivian Doyle volunteered to contact the Fire Marshall to see if there is a more economical way to maintain and inspect our fire extinguishers. Janet Purdue made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Joyce Ingram seconded, the motion carried.

Pastor's Report

- During the June 1st Virginia Regional Assembly, Scott attended worship services and two workshops: one on the role of elders and one on having a vision for the church
- There will be a Disciples Women's Retreat at the 4-H Center at Smith Mountain Lake, October 11-13
- Father's Day – We will have chocolates for all fathers and a candy bar for special recognitions: oldest father, youngest father, and father with the most children and grandchildren in attendance.
- Attendance plans have changed and Scott will be here during all the Sundays in June, but I will be out of the office during the week following June 23rd
- Laurynn Ballinger is planning to attend Nature Camp at Craig Springs in June. The Church policy is to sponsor 50% of the camp fee of any child that wants to attend the Craig Springs Camp and Retreat Center, which is owned and operated by the Disciples of Christ in Virginia. Bud made a motion to pay 50% of Laurynn's camp fee, Doug Purdue seconded, the motion carried.
- Homecoming – July 14th
 - Clean up Day – Saturday, July 13th
 - Service will be at 10:00 with Spiritualaires and potluck following
 - Pastor Scott will invite Bill Oliver to be the guest speaker
- VBS – Sunday July 14 – 20
 - Friday 19 – Saturday 20 the church will be open for teachers to set up
 - Looking for large refrigerator/washer & dryer boxes for VBS projects
 - Looking for volunteers to serve as crew leaders and to prepare meals
- Due to the special events in July, Bud made a motion to cancel the July Board meeting, Vivian seconded, the motion carried

Committee Reports

- Property

- There is a board rotting out next to the playground the bottom board and needs to be replaced.
- The door downstairs looks like it's pulling the frame out. Adam Eller said he will look at the door and see if he can repair it.
- Mulch should be delivered tomorrow and will be billed to the church.

Old business

- VBS – See Pastor's Report
- Roof – The final cost was \$1,000 more than the estimate, which was less than the \$5,000 we anticipated. This was for additional plywood and repair of the drop ceiling where materials had fallen through in the vestibule by the Fellowship Hall.

New Business

- Parsonage Rent – We've been charging \$900/month for the past five years. With the insurance increase, it's time to consider increasing the rent. It's difficult to find comparable rents in the Snow Creek area. The average rent in the Roanoke area is \$1,700/month, and in Martinsville and Rocky Mounts it is \$1,200/month. Bud made a motion to increase the parsonage rent by \$100, from \$900 to \$1,000 per month, Vivian seconded, the motion passed.
- Kitchen Supplies and Cleaning Supplies – Joyce will email GB with what is needed and GB will coordinate with Veronica Doyle and Debbie Haynes to order the supplies.
- Steeple - To replace the steeple with a new one will cost between \$10,000-15,000. If we can find someone who can wet sand the old steeple, and then prime and paint it, it may be possible to return the old steeple to the church. Regardless of which option for replacing the steeple, we'll need a crane and bucket truck and Davis Construction here to make sure it's properly secured to the roof. Bud made a motion to determine if it is feasible to refurbish the old steeple, Vivian seconded, the motion carried.
- Internet service for the church –
 - B2X – is the current service, downtime has improved, but video calls, upload and downloads are not possible
 - Starlink – is an option that can be installed without damaging the roof since they use a saddle mount. \$700 installation cost / \$120 monthly cost
 - River Street –Fiber internet connection is coming to the area from this group, but it is three-four years out. Part of this time frame is related to the railroads granting ISPs the right to cross their tracks.

Calendar of Events

- Father's Day – June 16
- Pastor Scott out of town - June 24-28
- Church Clean-up Day - July 13
- Homecoming - July 14
- VBS – July 14 – 20

Pastor Scott said a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanda Damon, Secretary

Disciples
Mission
Fund



Save the Date

September 12, 2024

DMF DAY

"Make room for more"

Luke 6:38

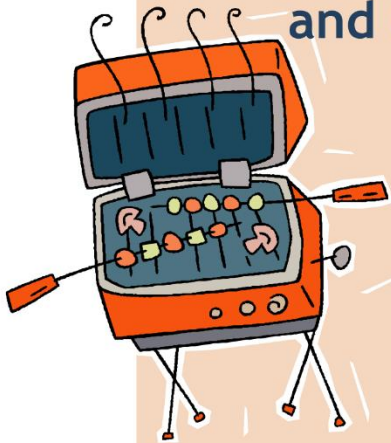
DMF Day 2024, a one day giving event to support Disciples Mission Fund is coming up on **September 12th**, the 236th birthday of Alexander Campbell. On DMF Day we will share stories and resources, and have a worshipful time of prayer in gratitude for the difference that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is making. Stay tuned for the full schedule.



DISTRICT IV GATHERING

**JOIN US AT THE FRANKLIN
COUNTY RECREATIONAL PARK ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2024, AT 11AM-
4PM.**

- **WE ARE ASKING EACH
CONGREGATION OF DISTRICT IV
TO BRING 2 COVERED DISHES
and a DESSERT.**



**2150 SONTAG ROAD
ROCKY MOUNT, VA 24151**
If you have any questions,
please contact Marilyn Whittaker
at mwhittaker59@icloud.com

Upcoming Events

Sept 3, 7:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sept 8 Board Meeting-After service

Oct 7, 7-10:00 am Country Breakfast Buffet Details below

October 27 Trunk
5:30 to 7:30 pm Trunk or Treat at the Church

**Those who trust
in the **LORD**
Are as Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved
but abides forever.**

Psalms-125:1





Country Breakfast



Date Oct 5, 2024

Time: 7AM til 10AM

Price: adults \$10 children 5 yrs. and under \$5

Menu

Ham, Sausage, Eggs, Gravy, Pancakes, Rolls

Eat in or take out

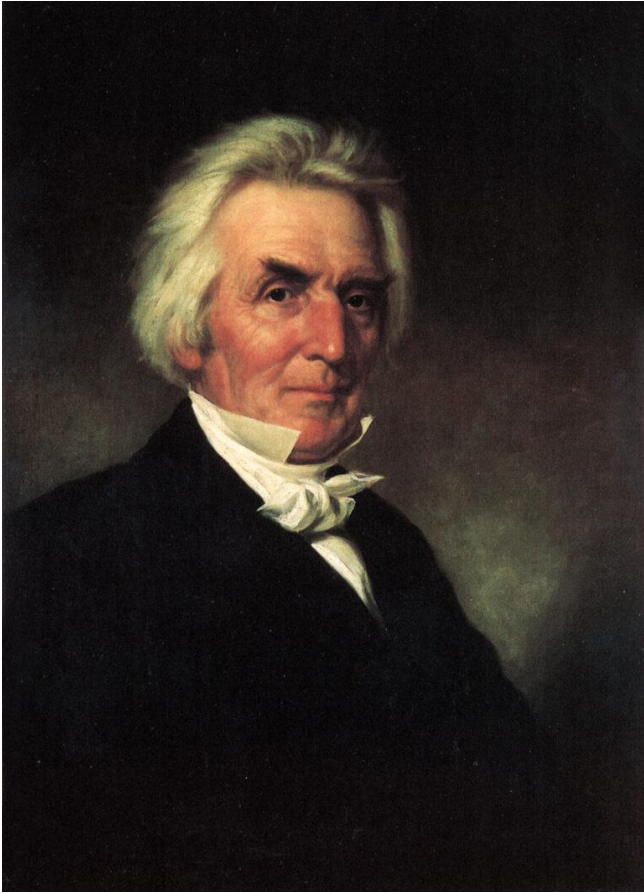
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Martinsville VA 24112

Disciples History

Exerts from website <https://disciples.org/>



The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada grew out of two movements seeking Christian unity that sprang up almost simultaneously in western Pennsylvania and Kentucky – movements that were backlashes against the rigid denominationalism of the early 1800s.

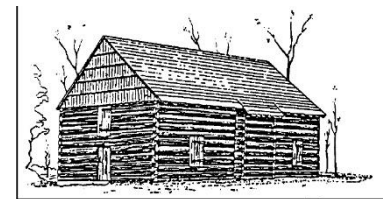
Thomas and Alexander Campbell, a Presbyterian Scotch-Irish immigrant father and son in Pennsylvania, rebelled against the dogmatic sectarianism that kept members of different denominations – and even factions within the same denomination – from partaking of the Lord’s Supper together. Walter Scott, an immigrant from Scotland, was a successful evangelist of the resulting Campbell movement as it separated from the Baptists.

Barton Stone

Barton W. Stone, a fifth-generation American in Kentucky and also a Presbyterian, objected to the use of creeds as tests of “fellowship” within the church, which were a cause of disunity, especially at the Lord’s table. He was a key participant in the **Restoration Move-**

ment following the **Cane Ridge Revival** of 1801 near Paris, KY.

“Christians,” the name adopted by Stone’s movement, represented what he felt to be a shedding of denominational labels in favor of a scriptural and inclusive term. Campbell had similar reasons for settling on “Disciples of Christ” but he felt the term “Disciples” less presumptuous than “Christians.” (For an introduction to some of their ideas, see the Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery – 1804 or the Declaration and Address – 1809.)



Cane Ridge Meeting House

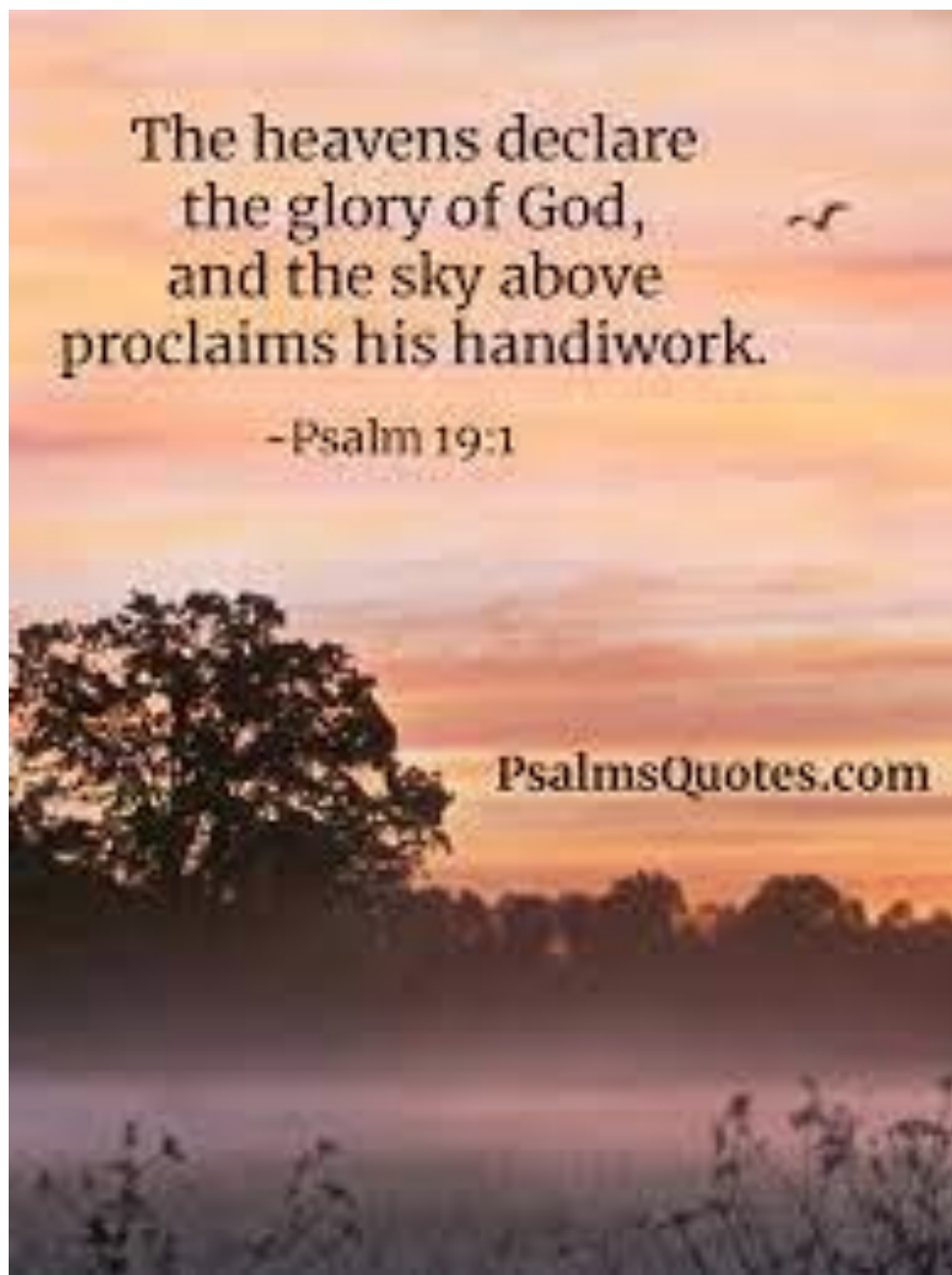
The aims and practices of the two groups were similar, and the Campbell and Stone movements united in 1832 in Lexington, KY after about a quarter of a century of separate development. (For key dates and more detail, go to the Disciples of Christ Historical Society website.)

The founders of the Christian Church hoped to restore Christian unity by returning to New Testament faith and practices. But the church found that even this led to division. One group which opposed practices not specifically authorized by the New Testament, such as instrumental music in the church and organized missionary activity, gradually pulled away. That group finally was listed separately in the 1906 federal religious census as the “Churches of Christ.”

Another group began a separation in 1926 over what it felt were too-liberal policies on the mission field in the practice of baptism. More than 40 years later (1967-69) some 3,000 of those congregations formally withdrew at the time of Disciples restructure. They refer to themselves as the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ.

The tapestry of today

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a *North American* denomination. North America has long been racially and culturally diverse but church life is not always integrated. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) participates in the racial and cultural diversity of North America, including in its membership European Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans and Pacific Island/Asian Americans. Disciples are working to become a pro-reconciling anti-racist church. We also have brothers and sisters in Canada who joined our movement with a slightly different history.





LET'S CELEBRATE



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Jimmy Doyle
- 7 Susan Norton
- 8 Nancy Plybon
- 9 Betty Lou Mitchell
- 9 Susan Doyle
- 9 William Stowe
- 10 Jimmy Martin
- 12 Kevin Doyle
- 14 Phillip Coppins
- 17 Michele Turner
- 24 Morgan Washburn
- 25 Leon Washburn
- 26 Jacob Washburn
- 26 Bill Oliver
- 27 Andrew "Drew" Oliver

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

- 3 Trey Washburn
- 4 Donald Belcher
- 5 Kia Beall
- 10 Lucas Pedue
- 13 Ricky Doyle
- 16 Brian Doyle
- 17 Ken Beall
- 18 Jeannie Plybon
- 22 Jennifer Brown
- 25 Mike Doyle
- 25 Max Mitchell
- 28 Janet Perdue
- 29 Taylor Biggs

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Terry & Tressi Mitchell
- 19 Lee & Molly Mitchell
- 23 Dean & Jane Arrington
- 27 Eddie & Jennifer Brown

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 Adam & Jeannie Eller
- 24 Jimmie & Vivian Doyle
- 28 Ryan & Melissa Haynes

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family, please email me at barb-smith@b2xonline.com or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.

If you are currently not receiving a Newsletter by email and would like to receive one, please email me to add you to the email mailing list at barbsmith@b2xonline.com.