All roads lead to Aiken the first week of October for the SC Regional Conference! It is a time for whole region fellowship, meeting new family members, catching up with familiar friends and coming together in the joy of the Lord!

The gathering will highlight the hopeful expectations of our Region and share the covenantal relationship we have as Disciples. I look forward to seeing you!

Hey! Check this out new flash out from a recent retreat with regional ministry colleagues. I’ll share more about this as I speak on Saturday at the Conference and I welcome your insights in imagining new ways of doing and sharing ministry.

SOUTHEAST REGIONS STRENGTHEN COMMITMENT TO COLLABORATION

The Regional Ministers in the photo above from left to right are:

John Richardson – North Carolina; Sotello Long – South Carolina; Greg Alexander – Kentucky; Denise Bell – Georgia; Glen Stewart – Tennessee; John Mobley – Alabama Northwest Florida; Juan Rodriguez – Florida and Lee Parker – Virginia.

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC - The Southeast Regional Fellowship (SERF) cluster gathered at Christmount for its annual fall retreat on September 9-11, 2014. The retreat and a series of conference calls and conversations focused on the common need for collaboration among the eight regions as each seeks to be faithful to God’s mission.

The SERF cluster is one of five regional clusters/fellowship groups, in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It includes the following regions: Alabama-Northwest Florida, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. In recent years, the SERF cluster has collaborated to work toward the church-wide priority of becoming an anti-racist/pro-reconciling church and to provide leadership development opportunities. Ministerial staff leaders from the eight regions gathered in hopes of building on the successful collaboration that has been achieved in the past. The staff leaders in attendance from the eight regions affirmed the following statement as an initial step in building stronger ties with one another and charting their goals for collaborative work: “We seek to develop a discipline of accompaniment, across 8 regions, that includes an exchange of ideas, resources, support, synergy, and inclusivity toward faithful, accountable and sustainable regional ministries.”

Those gathered in retreat recognized that God has blessed the church with an abundance of gifts for doing ministry. Many of those gifts, however, may not be fully utilized if entities of the church, including Regions, fail to find meaningful ways to be in relationship to address commonly shared priorities. Collaboration is required in order to be faithful stewards of all that God is giving the church to carry out God’s mission.

The Rev. Eric Brown, Pastor of Woodland Christian Church, Columbus, Ohio, and representative of the National Convocation, and the Rev. Rebecca Hale, Vice President of Mission and Ministry with the National Benevolent Association, assisted the group and provided the process for the conversations around collaboration.

The ministerial staff in SERF will meet again in two months in a conference call to continue their conversations around collaboration.

Grateful to be in ministry with you,

Pastor Long
SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST), AIKEN, SC
Theme: “…IN CHRIST! GIVE GOD THE GLORY!” TEXT: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 2, 2014
7:00 - 9:00PM Evening Worship Service @ South Aiken Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall
1711 Whiskey Rd (Hwy 19) Aiken, SC 29803
Hosted by: Commission on Ministry & Ministers Wives and Husbands Fellowship

FRIDAY - OCTOBER 3, 2014
8:00AM Registration/Exhibits/ (On Going)

8:30 - 9:15AM Gathering Devotion
Conference Welcome/ Greetings
Exhibitor & Acknowledgements

9:15 – 10:15AM Preaching - In Christ! Give God the Glory!

10:15-10:30AM Break

10:30-10:45 Praise Gathering

10:45 – 11:45 Preaching - In Christ! Give God the Glory!

11:45-12noon Reflections, Thanksgiving, Announcements & Prayer

12:00PM-2:00PM Luncheon & Presentation, Pastor Jimmy Jones,
Founder of Christ Central Ministries Inc.

FRIDAY Evening
7:00 - 7:15PM Processional of Program Participants and Congregational Pastors/ Children/Youth/ Young Adult/ Young Adults at Heart

7:15 - 9:00PM Worship: Give God the Glory in….dance, song, poetry, mime, preaching, teaching and …!
Speaker: Pastor Jose Morales

8:00PM – 10:00PM (After worship) Reception

SATURDAY – OCTOBER 4, 2014 CASUAL ATTIRE
8:00AM Registration/Exhibits/(On Going)

8:30AM Gathering

9:00-9:50AM Morning Glory Worship – Give God the Glory with Our Regional Pastor

10:00-11:15AM Fellowship Group Time: Disciples Men, Disciples Women, Disciples Youth, Ministers’ Wives & Husbands, Ministers

11:30AM-12:15PM Regional Business & Recognitions

12:30-1:00PM Memorial Service
Communion Service

1:00- 4:00PM Cookout, Recreation and Games @ Odell Weeks Park
Featuring: Basketball Exhibition @ South Aiken Gym

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 5, 2014
Worship – All churches are invited to worship in a spirit of unity centering on the theme and text:
“…IN CHRIST! GIVE GOD THE GLORY!” 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31
First CC Aiken @ 11:00AM Pastor Jose F. Morales, Jr., Conference Speaker
“Regional Personality Profiles”

Dr. Rosemary Simmons-Brown

Rev. Dr. Rosemary Simmons-Brown is the daughter of Hermenia Robinson Crum and the late Willie Kizer Crum, Sr. She is the mother of two sons, Michael who is married to Janee Simmons and Jason Simmons. She is also the proud grandmother of Michael Emmanuel, Ethan Malachi, and Elizabeth Gabrielle Simmons. Dr. Brown’s educational attainments include a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, a Master of Education Degree in Reading, and a Doctorate of Education Degree in Educational Leadership. As a retired public school teacher, Dr. Brown completed 34 years of service, working with children and their parents to increase their literacy and numeric skills. Her most recent accomplishments include publishing two books, Primary Word Problem, Book 1 and Critical Thinking for Students, Kindergarten through Fifth Grades, Book 2. Dr. Brown answered God’s call to teach and preach His Word in season and out of season, which she does with reverence, passion, and praise. Some of her favorite Scriptures include: “Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips and is a fool” (Proverbs 19:1). “Beloved, Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God” (1 John 4:1). As a soldier of the warfare of God, Dr. Brown walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips and is a fool” (Proverbs 19:1). “Beloved, Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God” (1 John 4:1). As a soldier of the warfare of God, Dr. Brown wears the whole armor of God to work and yokes together in the Kingdom of God, with those who are committed to the cause. She is a blessed woman who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful, but her delight is the Word of the Lord; for she knows God’s Words will not wither away or die. Dr. Brown is a Co-Pastor and Fascinator of Three Mile Creek Christian Church in Ehrhardt, South Carolina, where her husband, Minister Johnny Henry Brown, is the pastor. She also works with Trident Hospital in the Stephen Ministry Program in North Charleston, SC.

Evangelist DeJona “DJ” Brown-Navarre

Evangelist DeJona Brown-Navarre affectionately known as “Evangelist DJ” was born to the parents of Leroy & Beatrice Davis. She was reared in Cross, SC by her Aunt & Uncle, Horace & the Late Susie M. Brown. She graduated from Cross High School in Cross, SC in June 1992, later she further her education at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. Dejona accepted Christ as her Lord and Savoir in July 1997. On February 23, 2002, she married Dwayne Navarre of Slidell, La. In 2005, it was evident that there was a calling upon her life.

On May 4, 2008, she brought forth her initial sermon and became a licensed Evangelist, under the leadership of Bishop Donald Howell of Solid Rock Outreach International Ministries in Holly Hill, SC. In October of 2008, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, she joined My Father’s House Ministry, D.O.C Disciplined teaching of the word of God, which helped balance the calling that God placed upon her. In January 2010 the Lord did an elevation and a shift in her ministry which opened the door for her to be appointed as the Youth Pastor at My Father’s House Ministry.

Evangelist Navarre completed an 18 month Ministerial Course at Bold Church in Charlotte, NC. In May 2014 and is currently enrolled at Limestone College in pursuit of her B.A. Degree. As a bi-vocational minister, she is employed as Government contractor for the Department of Defence. She is the mother of four beautiful, gifted children, Xavier, Damond, Angel and Damien and she is also blessed to rear her niece, Ariana. Evangelist Navarre has worked in many facets of ministry and it is her heart’s desire to see families restored, unified, walking, living and applying the Word of God into their lives so that they many receive the blessings of God. Evangelist Navarre is aware that her footsteps have been ordered by God; therefore she is grateful for every platform and door that God has granted upon her. Minister Navarre is currently serving as interim Pastor at Rhett Avenue Christian Church, Charleston.
News from Around the Region:

**District #1:** Quarterly meeting will be held October 25, 2014, 7:00 PM @ Camp Christian Hampton

**District Union #1:** Quarterly Union will be held November 29-30, 2014, hosted by Pastor Thomas Doctor and the congregation @ United Love Christian Church 8529 Augusta Hwy. Fairfax, SC 29827

**District Union #2:** Quarterly union will be held November 27-29, 2014; the place to be announce at a later.

**Commission on Ministry:** Preparation Sessions will be held: September 27, 2014, and final session and Commissioning Review/Make-up Sessions on October 25, 2014. All COM Sessions is held at Bethany Youth Center 2100 Coach Rd, Holly Hill, SC 29059 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

**2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*September 27:* Commission on Ministry Sessions
*September 28:* Reconciliation Special Mission Offering
*October 5:* Reconciliation Special Mission Offering
*October 2-5:* 11th SC Regional Conference @ First Christian Church, Aiken (South Aiken Presbyterian Church)
*October 5:* World Communion Sunday
*October 17 & 18:* Disciples Women Fall Retreat
*October 25:* Commission on Ministry Commissioning or Makeup Sessions
*November 1:* Regional Leadership/Board Meeting @ Zion Pilgrim CC, Ridgeville
*November 1:* Daylight Saving Time Ends (Clocks “Fall” Back to Standard Time)
*November 9:* Thanksgiving Special Day Offering
*November 16:* Thanksgiving Special Day Offering

**On Sunday ....pray in Jesus= authority for**

*September 28:* Reconciliation Ministry and SERF Reconciliation & Anti-Racism Minister Sekinah Hamlin Sullivan and Kentucky
*October 5:* New Grove Hall, Summerville
*October 12:* Rhett Avenue, North Charleston & South Idaho
*October 19:* All Clergy Ministry & Southwest
*October 26:* St. Stephen, St. Stephen & Virginia
*November 2:* Rock Hill, Sycamore; Christian Board of Publication and Northeastern
*November 9:* Capital Area & West Virginia
*November 10:* The Church House of Ministries, Ladson & Council on Christian Unity
*November 16:* Higher Education and Leadership Ministries and Nebraska

**Reconciliation Ministry:**
Special offering is received in most Congregation on the following

**Sundays September 28 and October 4, 2014**

**Purpose:** Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) celebrates the Gospel teaching that God’s children come from all places and that the power of love at God’s table is able to bring together all races, languages, cultures and traditions. (Revelation 5: 9 -10) We recognize that there have been forces within our Church and society that have misshapen our self-understanding and promoted division. Acknowledging God’s call to be faithful to the witness of unity and justice, we confess that we are sinful and that racism is a result of our sinfulness. Yet, God heals us and calls us to be reconciled one to another and all to God.

**Vision:** It is the vision of Reconciliation Ministry to build just communities by breaking down the walls within our church which separate us. We claim a new reality in which we live into God’s realm by celebrating our unity, affirming the cultural traditions of each member of the body of Christ and working together for justice to ensure radical welcome and access to God’s abundant resources. We envision a Church in which all communities are accountable to one another and God.

**Mission:** Reconciliation Ministry advances the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) journey toward wholeness by empowering each expression of the Church to implement structural change to address historic fractures caused by racism and the systems that perpetuate it. It is the goal of our shared work to foster life-giving community within our church and in relationship with the whole family of God. We accomplish this mission through intentional dialogue, inclusive worship and experiential education.

**2014 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**
Date for submitting items for newsletter November-December November 10
NOTE! NOTE! NOTE!

For the November –December Newsletter

The due date for articles is November 10, 2014

Please submit any articles, church activities, church Anniversaries, etc. to the Regional Church Office at:

roccsc@aol.com

We rejoice in sharing the news of God at work from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth and from the ends of the earth to our doorsteps.

The South Carolina Christian
P O Box 80536
Charleston, SC 29416-2064