

**169<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly** of the  
**Christian Church** (Disciples of Christ) in **North Carolina**

**First Christian Church, 207 N. Tarboro Street, Wilson, NC**

Saturday, April 29, 2017

**Registration \$35.00 (includes lunch)**

**Deadline: April 21st**

**Check ONE Workshop that you would like to attend:**

- Cultivating Cultural Awareness - Facilitator: Chris Furr
- Mental Health Survival Guide - Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Zenobia Fennell
- Envisioning a Future for the Region of North Carolina - Facilitator: Bishop Valerie Melvin
- Navigating the Commission on Ministry - Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson, Chair, N.C. Commission on Ministry



The E.G. Purcell, Jr.  
Bible Conference  
Lecture

Dr. Jerry L. Sumney,  
Ph.D., Professor of  
Biblical Studies, LTS,  
Lexington, KY



The Thedford G. &  
Woodrow W. Sprinkle  
Lecture

Rev. Dr. William J.  
Barber II, Moderator,  
CCNC; Pastor,  
Greenleaf Christian  
Church, Goldsboro, NC

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable & return form to:  
Christian Church in NC, PO Box 1568, Wilson, NC 27894**

**169th Regional Assembly** of the  
**Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in North Carolina**

**First Christian Church, 207 N. Tarboro Street, Wilson, NC**

**Saturday, April 29, 2017**

**Schedule**

8:00am.....	Registration Opens
8:30am.....	A Call to Prayer
9:00am.....	Opening Worship
9:45am.....	Plenary Session I
	The E.G. Purcell, Jr. Bible Conference Dr. Jerry L. Sumney, Ph.D., Professor of Biblical Studies, LTS
11:00am .....	Break
11:15am - 12:15am.....	Workshops
12:30pm.....	Lunch
1:30pm.....	Plenary Session II
	The Thedford G. & Woodrow W. Sprinkle Lectures Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, Moderator, CCNC, President, NC Branch NAACP
2:45pm.....	Break
3:00pm.....	Business Session
3:45pm.....	Closing Worship with Communion
	Bishop Valerie J. Melvin & Interim Regional Minister

**Workshop Descriptions**

**Cultivating Cultural Awareness: facilitator: Chris Furr**

If God created us in all our diverse expressions of humanity, how do we untangle these on-going divisions? This workshop seeks to create a sacred space for dialogue where we learn about ourselves and others, where risks may be taken, relationships may be deepened and myths untangled! If you're interested in genuine, positive dialogue that recognizes and values differences in grace-filled ways, sign up and join the conversation!

**Mental Health Survival Guide: facilitator: Rev. Dr. Zenobia Fennell**

In this climate of chaos, division, uncertainty and high stress levels, our churches are facing an overwhelming increase in mental health disorders from the pulpit to the door. What is depression? Mood swings? How do I understand the everyday emotional ups and downs that I feel? What do they mean "bi-polar" and what can I do about it? This workshop is highly recommended if you want clarity, clinical definitions and a survival guide that will help navigate through mental and emotional behaviors that try to keep us from living healthy, balanced lives!

**Envisioning a Future for the Region of North Carolina: facilitator: Bishop Valerie Melvin**

During this time of transition and adjustments, our region needs focus and unity! Imagine...what we can be if we work together! Where are we headed? What are our needs, strengths and growing edges? What is God calling us to do as we move forward? Register for this workshop and be a part of the vision!

**Navigating through the Commission on Ministry: facilitator: Rev. Dr. Laura Johnson**

Who are they and what do they do? What is the difference between commissioning and ordination? What are the mechanics of the call that lead to the vocation of Christian ministry? If you are feeling that tug in your spirit or if you simply want information, this is the workshop for you!

## About the Purcell & Sprinkle Barton College Annual Lectures

The E. G. Purcell, Jr. Bible Conference lecture was established in honor of the Rev. Purcell following his retirement from Barton College (ACC).

Thedford Sprinkle and Woodrow Sprinkle were members of Salem Fork CC, Dobson and this lecture was established by Dr. Steve Sprinkle in their memory.

These lectures are sponsored by Barton College and offer to the church opportunities to learn the latest biblical scholarship and ways to use this knowledge for spreading the good news.

## The E.G. Purcell, Jr. Bible Conference Lecture

**Dr. Jerry L. Sumney** is the Professor of Biblical Studies, Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, KY. Dr Sumney received his B.A. at David Lipscomb University; M.A. from Harding University; and Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University.

He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and is past president for the Southeastern Region of the Society. At the national level, he also served as the chair of the steering committee for the Theology of the Disputed Paulines Group and as the chair of the steering committee for the Disputed Paulines Section. He also chaired the Pauline Epistles and Literature Section of the International Meeting of the SBL. He was elected to membership in the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas (SNTS) in 2005.

Dr. Sumney has written seven books and is currently working on a book on Paul's use of tradition, a commentary on 1 Corinthians, and the Bible study section of an issue of the *New International Sunday School Lesson Annual*. Sumney has presented papers at regional, national, and international academic conferences. He has also led numerous workshops for elders and deacons, and Bible study workshops and series, including in the Lay School of Theology at LTS and in the school for licensed ministers sponsored by the Kentucky region of the Christian Church. Dr. Sumney and his wife, Diane, have three daughters.

## The Thedford G. & Woodrow W. Sprinkle Lecture

**The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II** is the Pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Goldsboro, NC. Dr. Barber received his bachelor's degree in political science from NCCU, cum laude; Master of Divinity degree from Duke University; and a doctorate from Drew University with a concentration in policy and pastoral care.

A highly sought after speaker, he has keynoted hundreds of national and state conferences, including the 2016 Democratic National Convention. He has spoken to a wide variety of audiences including national unions, fraternities and sororities, motorcycle organizations, drug dealer conferences, women's groups, economic policy voting rights, LGBTQ groups, environmental and criminal justice groups, small organizing committees of domestic workers, fast food workers, Christians, Muslims, Jews, atheists and others.

He has served as president of the North Carolina NAACP, the largest state conference in the South, since 2006 and sits on the National NAACP Board of Directors.