

WINTER / SPRING 2018

THE CHRISTMOUNT VOICE

#campmatters

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THE CHRISTMOUNT VOICE

222 Fern Way
Black Mountain, NC 28711

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*Cover photo: Thursday morning
Garden Crew (see article p. 4)*

#campmatters

Rev. Rob Morris, Executive Director



What is a hashtag (#) and why is it so popular? According to Urban Dictionary, a hashtag is a word or phrase preceded by the symbol # that classifies or categorizes the accompanying text (such as a tweet). Make sense? In everyday terms, a hashtag is used on social media sites (like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, to name a few) to help people put things into groups or categories. So, if I hopped on Instagram and did a quick search for all the people who have posted pictures and have used the label “#campmatters,” I would find nearly 3,100 posts with this hashtag!

There are posts and pictures about Camp Lakey Gap. There are some from Jolin McElroy (First Christian Church, Charlotte, NC) and some from Chris Furr (Covenant Christian Church in Cary, NC) and some from Camp Caroline in Arapahoe, NC and Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX (Amen!). They're not all about Christmount. And that's the beauty of it. Hashtags have a special way of transcending time and space, bringing together memories you love with folks you've never met. Hashtags remind you that you're not alone, that the world is a big place ... and a small place all at the same time.

I think #campmatters shows us that we're a part of something amazing, something much bigger than ourselves.

And that's what this edition of *The Christmount Voice* is all about. Camp matters to the kids who spend a week together singing songs, playing games, and listening for whispers of the holy in the midst of an otherwise chaotic world. Camp matters to the young adult with autism who volunteers at Christmount every Thursday. Camp matters to the families who laugh together during their annual reunion. Camp matters to the volunteers who help with the projects and daily tasks around these sacred grounds.

You will find stories like this sprinkled throughout the pages of this edition of *The Voice*. We hope you will enjoy these stories and articles. But most of all,

we hope you will find your way to a camp near you and discover for yourself how much #campmatters.

And in today's world, #campmatters now more than ever.

#campmatters Story Contest

Calling all campers young and old! We are holding a #campmatters Story Contest! In 365 words or less, tell us why camp matters. You might choose to write about why camp matters to you personally. Or you could tell us why camp matters to kids in general. Or why camp matters to our churches or to our denomination. Or you could go big and tell us why camp matters to the world today! However way you choose to approach it, your story will be amazing, we're sure!

Send your story to:

Christmount

ATTN: #campmatters

or email to rob@christmount.org.

Limit one entry per person.

Submission deadline: Dec. 1, 2017.

Winners will be selected from the following categories:

- Elementary Age (grades 2-5)
- Middle School Age (grades 6-8)
- High School Age (grades 9-12)
- College Age (ages 18-22)
- Young Adult (ages 23-30)
- Adult (ages 31+).

Winners will receive a \$50 scholarship to any Christmount event in 2018. Winning entries will be announced Dec. 15, 2017.

Camp Lakey Gap Matters

Jon Blalock
Camp Lakey Gap Director



For campers like Shelby, Camp Lakey Gap is an experience of love, acceptance, and achievement. Her mother, Tiffany, wrote us shortly after Shelby came home:

“She is still talking about camp...and telling us that she is ‘smart, kind and strong and important.’”

I delivered this message to her counselor, Melody, who cried tears of joy upon reading it and who, according to the same card, was on Shelby’s mind every day since leaving Camp Lakey Gap.

Consider, too, the experience of parents when sending their children to stay with us. “The respite care it provides my wife and I enhances our marriage,” writes Matthew Hackworth, “and Noah enjoys feeling independent at camp.”

To Shelby, Tiffany, Melody, and Matthew, camp matters.

These people are reasons why the Christmount Board voted unanimously to adopt Camp

Lakey Gap when its funding was dropped by the Autism Society of North Carolina. It was not seen as a matter of “if” this camp could go on; it was a matter of “how.” Since then, Christmount has invested in this program which it sees as an expression of faith in action.



A Little Bit of History

In 1998, the Autism Society of North Carolina began renting facilities at Christmount to hold a camp for children and adults with autism. It was intended to be a

satellite program of their flagship camp, Camp Royall, located in the Eastern part of the state. The intention was to make the program more accessible to people in Western North Carolina, as well as to expand the service. Camp Royall had, and continues to have, a long waiting list.

For many years, “Mountain Adventure” campers came to Christmount and enjoyed programs specifically designed for them. Facing continued budget shortfalls and a lagging economy, the Autism Society announced it would no longer operate the western camp. It seemed that the program would be shuttered.

The Christmount Board recognized the importance of the camp in the lives of the campers, their families, and the staff. They saw that it gave campers a sense of acceptance and accomplishment, that it gave parents a safe and reliable place to send their autistic children to camp, and how it shaped and trained a future generation of professionals. Bolstered by a sense of purpose and faith, the

Christmount Board stepped up to the plate and agreed to shoulder the cost knowing the value it added to so many lives. This act of loving kindness has borne its fruits in the creation of “Camp Lakey Gap,” which has continued to grow and develop in the seven years since being integrated with Christmount. To the Christmount Board, camp matters.

Where are we now?

What Camp Lakey Gap has demonstrated in those years is the capability to operate a stellar camp program for people with autism. We have a high return rate, and we regularly receive correspondence from families and campers expressing their gratitude for the service we provide.

Camp Lakey Gap is a demonstration of love in action.

Through its continuous operation, Camp Lakey Gap demonstrates the power of love in action when a committed group of people unite for a common cause, turning a dream into a reality.

And here’s the thing: Camp Lakey Gap is just getting started. We have begun looking into ways we might broaden the vision.

What’s next?

In the next two years, we would like to expand the services at Christmount which are offered to people with autism. These programs will be natural extensions of Camp Lakey Gap, and will further establish the program, and Christmount, as an important community resource in our region.

During the 2017-2018 calendar year, we plan to operate social groups for children and adults with autism. This gives us an opportunity to engage year-round with local families and provides a way to reach out to families who



may not be ready to send a child to camp but who are willing to try something new. In addition, we are currently piloting a project called “The Garden Crew,” offering adults with autism an opportunity to volunteer on site once a week to develop vocational and leisure skills.

In the 2018-2019 calendar year, we would like to hold several “Respite Camps” throughout the year, offering weekend retreats that could provide activities for campers and networking opportunities for parents.

In the longer term, Camp Lakey Gap would like to find more ways to give back to Christmount through creative programming, partnerships, and community collaboration.

How?

In the business world, adding

programs and increasing revenue is usually a simple matter of raising fees. However, we know that many of our families can barely afford the cost of the program as it is, and a price-hike would exclude many people we serve. A Harvard Study from 2014 showed that it costs an additional \$17,000 per year to pay for educational and health services related to the diagnosis of autism. That is in addition to the cost typically associated with raising a child.

Fortunately, we think there is another way that is both practical and compassionate.

Through the establishment of a Camp Lakey Gap Annual Fund, we believe we can begin to develop the program and reach more people through a broader variety of services.

We have had great success with the scholarship fund, each year surpassing the previous year in the amount we are able to raise. People are eager to help these campers and their families. With the help of a growing community of campers, their families, volunteers, and supporters, Camp Lakey Gap has the potential to grow into something even greater.

Camp Matters. What happens during the summer radiates into the world, carrying love and learning into our communities at large. Through the lives of our campers, their families, our staff, and others, the love and faith that is put into action here at Christmount is living and thriving in the world.



College Retreat

January 3-6

Each day will be filled with time for deep spiritual exploration, discussion, worship, and experiencing the winter mountains. There will be free time, hiking, fireside chats, great food, and many other activities.

Winter Fun Weekend

January 12-15

Winter fun at Christmount is back for youth groups, young adult groups, and adults! Choose your fun: ski package, snow tubing, Fun Depot, or winter area tours. Spend part of the time in the area exploring, returning each evening for special activities, games, worship, and time around the fireplace.

Meditation Retreat

January 30-February 1

Join Jamie Brame, Christmount's Program Director, for a time of quiet in the winter mountains. The retreat will focus on practicing silent prayer and meditation in many forms; we will practice contemplative worship based on the Psalms, Centering Prayer, journaling, guided relaxation, and meditation.

Elders & Deacons Workshop

March 9-10

Christmount collaborates with Lexington Theological Seminary to train Disciples elders and deacons. This retreat goes beyond learning how to serve communion; it is meant to deepen your spiritual life as well as guiding these two lay ministries into a clearer understanding of all the possibilities of service.

College Alternative Spring

Break: Week 1: March 11-17

Week 2: March 18-24

Christmount offers a great place for a college fellowship group, fraternity or sorority, service club, and others to stay while doing service projects in the Asheville area. Work with Christmount, Habitat for Humanity, Asheville Youth Mission or other local service organizations.

Spring Yoga Retreat

May 4-6

Yoga teacher Beth Morris returns for a spring Yoga Retreat! Go beyond yoga as exercise and explore the spiritual understanding of this ancient practice. The event includes learning and practicing asanas, meditation, discussion, and simple, healthy meals.

Week of Wonder Adult Work Camp

May 13-19

Week of Wonder is Christmount's pre-summer preparation time. Summer is our busiest time of the year, and there is lots of work to do to prepare for the camp and conference season. Work can include trail clearing, painting, minor building repairs, office help, gardening, and landscaping.

College Canoe Trip

May 20-26

Christmount is partnering with Asheville Outdoor Center to put together an amazing camping and canoe trip along the beautiful scenery of Western North Carolina for college students! We will canoe by day and camp under the stars by night! With surprises built in along the way, it will be an experience of a lifetime.

Disciples College Chaplains'

Summit: May 29-31

Christmount is providing an opportunity for Disciples Chaplains and Campus Ministers to come together to network, share resources, and collaborate around best practices. We are hoping this event will be underwritten as a way to say "Thank You" to each of you for the important work you do.

Music Workshop

June 14-17

Those who love choral singing and/or playing handbells love this event! Join volunteer choir members and choir directors as we explore older and brand new pieces for small to medium size choirs. The event includes choral pieces, sectional rehearsals, a bell choir, and great fellowship with others who love to sing.

Summer Camps

Camp Sunshine

Week 1: June 4-8

Week 2: June 18-22

Camp Sunshine is for higher functioning adults with different abilities and needs. The Christmount Summer Camp Staff, volunteer groups, and individuals give campers personal attention and friendship during the week. Activities include singing, crafts, swimming, short walks, games, storytelling, concerts, and other special events. Contact us if you would like to be one of our dedicated volunteers for a week.

Christian Church in North Carolina Camps

Junior & Chi-Rho: June 11-16

CYF Conference: June 25-30

Junior Camp (grades 3-5), Chi-Rho Camp (grades 6-8), and CYF Conference (grades 9-12) have all impacted not just the individuals attending them, but the church itself as these young people have grown to become clergy and lay leaders throughout the Disciples of Christ. For more information on costs and registration forms, visit www.ncdisciples.org/summer-camps/

Camp Brooke: July 2-6

Camp Brooke is for girls who have completed the 6th, 7th, or 8th grades. Led by the women of the Christmount Summer Camp Staff and volunteers, Camp Brooke gives girls guidance as they begin dealing with many of the physical, emotional, ethical, and spiritual issues that arise during this time in their lives.

Christmount is grateful to the family of Rev. Brooke Schneitman, a Disciples minister and former camp staffer, and others who have contributed so that this camp can be cost-free to the campers.

Mission Camps

Week 1: July 8-13

Week 2: July 15-20

Christmount has joined with Asheville Youth Mission (AYM) to provide an amazing mission experience that includes work, programming, and play. Mission projects are planned and led by AYM staff, while Christmount Summer Staff help your group debrief their daily experiences and create memorable moments for your group through team-building activities, fun, and games.

Beginner's Camp: July 9-11 (completed 1st & 2nd grades)

Beginner's Camp is a short camp designed to introduce the camp experience to younger children. All the usual camp activities are included: crafts, Bible study, singing, swimming, small groups, and worship. Parents who wish to attend with their camper are welcome!

Work Camp: July 16-21

Work Camp is for middle school and high school youth groups who want to give back to Christmount in a significant way. Campers work 2½ days with a "play day" on the river to go tubing! Each evening will include program, recreation, and worship, all led by the Christmount Summer Staff.

S.O.I.L. Conference

July 23-28

Social Opportunities for Intentional Living is a new camp for churches. It's designed to be intergenerational, with church groups intentionally including both youth and adults. Churches are asked to put together a presentation describing how their church is making a positive difference in the community around them. Topics might include eco-justice, social justice, food insecurity, or anti-racism/reconciliation. The week includes guest speakers, worship and spiritual time, field trips, and lots of fun! (see article on p. 8)

Youth Leadership Camp

July 30-August 3 (grades 9-12)

Ever wonder how to be a better leader? Need skills to be a regional or local church leader? Christmount's Youth Leadership Camp will help you by teaching such skills as public speaking, leading small groups, planning worship, leading recreation, and being a song leader. Spiritual formation and all of the usual camp activities will also be part of the retreat!

Theology on Tap Camp

August 17-19 (age 21 and up)

Join us for brewery tours, worship, fellowship, beer tasting, campfire, Bible study, and discussion as we try out a new kind of camp! Be part of the inaugural event!

Registration:
christmount.org or
call (828) 669-8977



Spiritual Opportunities for Intentional Living kicked off its first intergenerational conference at Christmount with 35 participants aging from 12-80 years old from places like Bowling Green, KY, Nashville, TN and Nairobi, Kenya.

This Ecology, Spirituality, and Justice Conference explored the landscape of faith through the lens of sustainability, justice, service, and action. The conference helped groups learn about some of the most challenging environmental issues impacting our world today: hunger and food insecurity, climate change, pollution, poverty, race and reconciliation.

Participants explored complex sustainability challenges with highlights including hearing from participants how their communities were addressing these problems.

S.O.I.L. was a collaboration among Disciples Home Missions, Green Chalice, Christmount, Global Ministries, Refugee and Immigration Ministries, the Climate Listening Project, Climate Collider, MountainTrue, Creation Care Alliance, and Climate Interactive.

We heard dynamic speakers, made pizzas and learned about their ingredients, went to a film premier in partnership with the Climate Listening Project, role played a Model UN Climate Negotiation and explored racism. Worship and prayer were at the heart of our time together. We practiced silence and contemplative prayer, worshiped God under the stars and shared the Bread of Life with one another. We did not forget to play. S'mores, rafting, singing, dancing, swimming, hiking and games were all a part of the experience.

It was a powerful week of soul training and listening.

The next S.O.I.L. conference will be July 23-28, 2018. Make plans now for your group to be part of this important conversation!

Dear Rob

I can't say I've recovered from SOIL because several members of our group and I brought the spirit of SOIL home. Here's what I mean: Last night ECC had a fellowship meal where the youth group presented about SOIL. I cooked vegan organic soups for 70 people using sweet potatoes that I dug out of our church garden. We used cloth tablecloths and napkins that can be reused rather than disposable plastic ones. The paper plates used were composted along with food scraps. This past Sunday, we tried using an e-bulletin instead of a paper one for the first time. It went well enough that we plan to always use e-bulletins.

I have hope that ECC can make a spiritual discipline of being in greater harmony with Earth. Christy-Jo and I are eager to find more ways to reduce our ecological footprint. Jocelyn





Durant Hall Renovations Complete

We did it! No wait, YOU did it! No wait, we were able to do it because you did it! Your generosity during the Believe in the Future capital campaign helped us to raise sufficient funds to complete all the necessary and required renovations to the Cook Guest House and Mitchell Guest House East facilities, including improvements to the Durant Assembly Hall. Assembly Hall received new flooring, new ceiling, new lighting, a new Samsung Smart TV, and a new PA Sound System! The room looks stunning and is perfect for medium-size groups (25-75 people).

The completion of the Assembly Hall renovations caps off the third

and final phase of the campaign that began with renovations in the Guest House. Renovations in the Guest House included remodeling the multi-purpose room into two large conference rooms, a small meeting room, and restrooms that are accessible to all, complete with baby changing stations. The conference rooms have a new sound system, and all three meeting rooms are equipped with Smart TVs.

A huge THANK YOU to all who contributed to the project in one way or another. Your partnership with Christmount is helping us find new and exciting ways of partnering with churches and our community.

New Woodworking Shop



A woodworking shop under construction is expected to be completed this year or early next year. The building is behind the maintenance building and across the creek from the Guastavino chimney.

Clergy Sabbaticals & Personal Retreats



We've reserved a rocker for you!

Apartment offers:
Bedroom with queen bed
Living/study area
Kitchen
Wireless internet
Affordable rates

Contact Jamie Brame,
Program Director
jamiebrame@yahoo.com
828.669.8977

christmount.org/sabbatical

Donations and Grants to Camp Lakey Gap

Anne McGuire, Outreach Director

Scholarship Fund

Our funding year for Camp Lakey Gap started with a bang when the Hawkeye Gun Club of Western North Carolina sponsored a charity event in October raising over \$11,000 for our scholarship fund. Later in the fall we received an anonymous gift of \$7,000 from a local congregation in our community to further build our scholarship fund.

Grants

We were awarded \$5,325 from the Charlotte Observer's Summer Camp Fund for camper scholarships

The Glass Family Foundation of Asheville gave \$15,750 to install a new HVAC unit in the Group Lodge where the campers sleep. Our local Walmart store approved a grant of \$1,000 as start-up funding for our camp garden project. In addition, they provided \$50 gift cards for supplies along the way.

Donations

By the beginning of 2017 local business owners were stepping up in support of our ventures.

Their support is much appreciated. Joe and Carol Tyson, owners of

Tyson Furniture Store, gave a gift of over \$2,500 to purchase new box spring and mattress sets for Davis Hall (pictured above), the primary quarters for the Camp Lakey Gap staff. Wrights Flooring supplied carpet runners for the bedrooms in Davis Hall while Christmount resident, Mamie Hilliard, and her family provided funds to have a new kitchen sink and cabinets purchased and installed in Davis Hall. Driving the short distance "down the mountain" to Old Fort we secured plant donations and a substantial season-long discount from Painter's Nursery, a family-owned business known for their generosity in support of all things green.



2017 Camp Lakey Gap Staff

Future

What is in the works for community outreach as we plan for next summer?

Grants – we would like to at least double our grant applications and think big.

We will apply for grants from community organizations and businesses that are supportive of our causes, expressing our deep appreciation for all that we receive.

Our outreach goal moving forward is to strengthen the community connections we have with our Black Mountain/Swannanoa Valley neighbors by educating them about the campers we serve and the love we have for this place. Where better to continue our efforts than in our own backyard!!

My father-in-law told me once that I should move ahead confidently with my head held high when asking friends, family, and community to support a cause that I am passionate about.

I cannot think of a single program in my life that I am more passionate about than Christmount and Camp Lakey Gap.

Camp Matters

A Volunteer Perspective

by
Joe and Judy Grubbs



When we made the decision to become Christmount RV Volunteers for Summer 2017, little did we know what serendipities awaited us. After coming to Christmount for over 35 years, we were fully anticipating the stunning beauty of the mountains, the peacefulness of the rocking chairs, the trusty, hourly chiming of the Carillon;

we were prepared to tackle a variety of volunteer jobs for a place that had given so much to us.

But it was what we had not thought about, what we had not anticipated, that proved to be the most rewarding element of our summer.

Arriving as camp season was gearing into full-swing mode, we came face to face with a rediscovery of why Camp Matters. This rediscovery came as we observed interactions between Christmount staff and summer counselors during their week of preparation and training.

There was an energy and excitement in the air.

It came in seeing the uncertainty (and some tears) in campers' faces as they arrived, followed by even more tears when it was time to say goodbye following the camp experience. It came as we witnessed the heartwarming and inspirational depth of caring between the counselors and special needs children and adults of Camp Lakey Gap and Camp Sunshine.

Our summer experience at Christmount helped us to realize how and why this special place has touched our lives in such significant ways through the years.

We thought we were here to give of our time, but instead Christmount continued to give to us. Camp (substitute Christmount) Matters because it can provide a transformative experience in a person's faith and life journey – at any age.

Joe Grubbs is a retired Disciples minister, having served churches in North Carolina, Virginia, Texas, Iowa, and Minnesota.

RV Workamper Volunteer Program

Christmount is looking for RV Volunteers for 2018! The program got off to a terrific start in 2017 with over a dozen RV Volunteers serving over 1,000 hours between June and September! Volunteers served in the kitchen, the dining hall, the office, the Gift Shop, the gardens, and other areas, helping with a multitude of special projects and making a tremendous impact on Christmount operations. We love our volunteers!

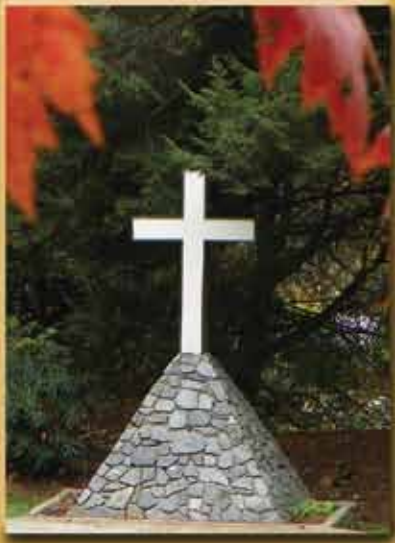
And we would love for YOU to come volunteer for a spell in 2018! The RV Workamper Program begins operating as early as March 1 and runs through late November. We are open to accepting RV Volunteers anytime during this time for a minimum of two weeks to a maximum of six months.

In return for a free RV site and free meals, each RV volunteer will agree to provide 15-20 hours per week in volunteer services around the camp facility. In 2018, the RV Volunteer Program will be organized by Volunteer Coordinators who will facilitate schedules, communicate expectations, and serve as liaisons between Christmount and the volunteers.

Interested volunteers should contact Christmount via email (rob@christmount.org) for an RV Volunteer Application.

CHRISTMOUNT'S
ANNUAL GIVING
PROGRAM

The Patrons
ASSOCIATION



A Partnership in
Ministry
Providing
Opportunities
for
Mountaintop
Experiences
Since 1967

Your
annual support
makes our
work possible.

I Believe in Camp... for All Ages

Rob Morris, Executive Director

For the want of a nail, the horseshoe was lost
For the want of a horse, the rider was lost
For the want of a rider, the message was lost
For the want of the message, the battle was lost
For the want of the battle, the kingdom was lost
All for the want of a nail.

I believe in the connectivity of all things. I believe the actions of one life have the potential to influence and impact the lives of many. I believe that small things can lead to great things. I believe that a single step can reveal amazing paths. I believe that a single "yes" can soon erupt into a stadium of cheers. I believe that one voice with a positive message has the power to become a chorus of song calling for change.

I believe in camp.

I believe camp has the potential to have a positive impact on the life of each person – young and old and every age in between.

I believe strong camping programs lead to strong churches which lead to stronger Regions which ultimately result in a stronger, healthier denomination.

I believe that you make a difference. Whether you are a kid and you come to camp, or you're an adult and you attend an event at a camp, or you're a church member and you celebrate camp in your congregation, or you're a Regional

Office and you promote camp, or you're on staff with a General Church organization and you collaborate with camp ... you make camp better!

Or maybe you support camp financially. Whether you give once a year, once a month, or once in a while; or you give to a scholarship fund, an endowment fund, or you leave a legacy gift in your will; or you give volunteer hours, gifts of resources, or the gift of positive encouragement ... you make camp possible!

Whoever you are, however you give, one thing I know:

**when you give to camp,
you are making this
world a better place.**

We often see images of people living in a world of hurt. Camp offers a world of hope. Maybe the world seems lost in a fog of despair all because of the want of camp.

**Come to camp.
Give to camp.
Your gift matters.
Your presence matters.
Camp matters.**

Camp Matters...

Forever

**Bob and
Ida-Anne Clarke**



Durant Legacy Society charter members Bob and Ida-Anne Clarke want more people to experience Christmount both now and for many years to come. In addition to being annual Patrons donors, they have also chosen to leave a legacy to help provide for Christmount's future.

They were delighted to find there was a way to make a legacy gift that would pay them an annual income for life with the remainder coming to Christmount upon their passing.

Their payment percentage rate was determined by their ages, and is a much higher payout rate than a CD would provide. Furthermore, they are providing another legacy gift in their last will and testament.

Bob, a retired Disciples Minister of Music, and Ida-Anne, an accomplished pianist, are long-time annual attendees of the Christmount Music Workshop. Bob has directed various workshops and Ida-Anne serves as accompanist as requested.

Bob has served Christmount in multiple capacities including Board Moderator, and as a Life Member of the Board, all the while continuing to serve on the Choral Music Workshop committee. The Clarkes have enjoyed several family reunions at Christmount and are always encouraging friends that may be interested to "Come to Christmount, And Do Your Soul Some Good."

There are several types of Life Income Gifts. The gift the Clarkes chose is called a Charitable Gift Annuity. CGAs are established with a simple contract between the donor(s) and Christmount. The donor transfers cash or property to Christmount in exchange for a partial tax deduction and a lifetime stream of annual income from Christmount. When the donor dies, the remainder of the gift is transferred to Christmount. The amount of the income stream is determined by factors such as the age of the donor and Christmount's policy of determining payout rates as defined by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

A table of gift annuity rates may be found at www.acga-web.org/gift-annuity-rates#SingleLife.

The Durant Legacy Society

Christmount's Planned Giving Program

*Securing
Christmount's
Ministry for
Future Generations*

Create Your Legacy

Through Wills
Beneficiary Designations
Named Funds &
Life Income Gifts

Contact
Rob Morris,
Executive Director
(828) 669-8977
rob@christmount.org



Aldridge Restrooms Renovated

Well, it doesn't take much to get us excited around here! The restrooms behind Aldridge Hall received a complete makeover in anticipation of a wedding reception that was held in Aldridge Hall at the end of May. New floors, new walls, new paint, and new fixtures!

Aldridge Hall Transforming

The inside of Aldridge Hall is beginning to receive some cosmetic updates. The old bleacher seats were replaced with a new stage. A mural was installed on the end-wall (see photo above) and string-lights and swag material were hung from

the rafters from one end to the other. This year, we plan to install a new sound system – speakers and mixing amp – along with other cosmetic changes.

GA-1724

In collaboration with Green Chalice Ministries, Christmount co-authored Resolution 1724 which passed at the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indianapolis, IN this past summer. The resolution encourages our denomination to become carbon-neutral by 2030 and climate-positive by 2035.

Davis Hall Perkin' Up

Davis Hall has received new mattresses and box springs, new artwork, a new kitchen sink, a new kitchen bar, a new porch, and a new bench! Thanks to all who have donated and worked to make these wonderful improvements!



Nationally Known Singer/Song Writer Conducts Retreat

Andra Moran pastor, singer, songwriter from Woodmont Christian Church, Nashville, TN, was the leader of Women's Discovery Retreat September 8-10 at Christmount. The theme for the weekend was "Love [in] Deed". Songs, Bible readings, discussions, and hands on crafting were a part of the weekend. The women also participated in an outreach project of collecting feminine products and an offering for the Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries. Thirty-five women from six different



Cool Cabin!

Many thanks to Devin Lancaster, recent UNCA graduate, for the amazing mural on Cabins 5 and 6. Devin was an art student at UNCA and is a member of Hillyer Memorial Christian Church in Raleigh, NC.

states attended the retreat. The women were spiritually enriched as well as mentally refreshed from their time and activities at Christmount.

Women's Discovery Retreat is held each fall and is open to women of all ages and from all denominations.

New Summer Intern Program – Seeking College / Seminary Students and Disciples Organizations!

Christmount's newest work opportunity is a collaboration between college / seminary students, Disciples organizations, and Christmount: the Disciples Summer Intern Program!

This program was rolled out in early 2017 and resulted in two internships for the 2017 summer camp season. Will Compton represented Eureka College and Disciples Refugee and Immigration Ministries. Dani Lee represented Chapman University and NAPAD. Both interns represented their respective organizations at Christmount camps, summer events, and attended the General Assembly.

To be an intern at Christmount, there are just a few requirements:

1. Identify a Disciples of Christ organization as a sponsor – college, general unit, or both.
2. Apply to Christmount for a summer staff position.
3. Attend Summer Intern Training in the Spring.
4. Work at Christmount from May 26 to August 5.

During the summer, you will have the opportunity to educate

groups about your sponsoring organization. Additional opportunities might include speaking at churches, attending community events, or organizing special workshops for the community!

If there are organizations in the area doing similar ministries, you could reach out to them to volunteer as well as invite them to speak at a Christmount summer program!

If you are a college student, seminary student, Disciples institution of higher education, or an organization affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), contact Christmount

for more information on this new collaboration!

Bon Appetit!

Welcome to Chef Keith Haynes, our new Food Services Director, who started his duties mid-July this summer. Under two hours into his first day on the job, the health inspector showed up! Welcome to Christmount, Keith!



Rembrandt Prints for Sale



Through the generosity of a Christmount Patron, we have been given a set of eight Rembrandt prints for display in the Guest House conference rooms. The prints are available for purchase as a set for a minimum bid of \$54,990 with 20% of the proceeds being donated back to Christmount. Call Rob Morris at (828) 669-8977 for more information.





Christmount Christian Assembly

222 Fern Way

Black Mountain, NC 28711-9771

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 44
Black Mountain, NC

Christmount's Camp Lakey Gap

A camp for people with autism



2018 Camp Dates

June 17-22	Ages 18 & up
June 24-29	Ages 4-11
July 8-13	Ages 4-11*
July 15-20	Ages 12-17
July 22-27	Ages 12-17*
July 29-Aug. 3	Ages 18 & up

* Denotes high functioning week

Our Mission

Camp Lakey Gap strives to nurture individuals on the autism spectrum with an enriching camp experience & provide guardians with a time of respite.

We welcome anyone on the autism spectrum to come enjoy a summer camp experience.

Jon Blalock, Director
(828) 669-8977 camplakeygap@gmail.com camplakeygap.org