

Retreat Theme:

#dwconnect: Building Relationships Woman to Woman

- + Feel connected to sisters across Georgia, Biblical women, and women around the world.
- + Receive tools for making and deepening relationships.
- + Discover ways to enrich your church's ministry with women.
- + Worship, learn, play, pray, and fellowship.

Retreat Leaders



The Rev. Dr. Patricia Donahoo is the Executive Director of Disciples Women for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US and Canada. She answered God's call to ministry by

serving in her local congregation, district youth leadership, the regional church, pastoral ministry, and now in her role with the Office of Disciples Women. Pat's ministry is marked by community building and a common sense of belonging where all are invited to the table.

She received her D.Min. in Ministerial Leadership at Drew University, her MDiv from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and her B.A. from California University of PA. Pat's family includes twin daughters (Erin and Hannah), a son (George III) and his wife (Erica), two grandsons (Lazarus and Aaron) and a granddaughter (Myka). Pat finds joy in many things some of which are her family and friends, scrapbooking, and quilting.



The Rev. Chesla T. Nickelson is the Program Director for Disciples Women. Born and raised in Newport News, Virginia, Chesla received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Religion from Spelman College in 2005. She became a Disciple when she joined Ray of Hope Christian Church in Decatur in 2001. Since that time, Chesla has been immersed in various aspects of the Christian Church.

In 2013 Chesla received both a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana. As a member of Light of the World Christian Church (Indianapolis, IN), Chesla has served as the Assistant Youth Minister and serves with the Young Adult Ministry. She is a fan of the Justice League, loves roller coasters and is the reigning Game Night Champion of Taboo. As Chesla strives to live out her purpose and calling in a way that pleases God, she lives by a two word command: Love unconditionally.

Ms. Marilyn Williams is President of International Disciples Women's Ministries. Georgia women may remember her as our 2015 Retreat Keynote. She is a past president of the National Convocation Disciples Women and a former moderator of the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

A mother and grandmother, Marilyn lives in Raleigh, North Carolina and attends Covenant Christian Church in Cary. She is a



registered dental hygienist. She is on an educational track toward ordained ministry through the Christian Church in North Carolina. Marilyn is full of energy and filled with the Spirit.



Rev. Ann Haines, Retreat Music Leader, has served as musician and worship leader at events throughout the Southeast and Capitol area. She is a frequent preacher and musician at St. Andrew Christian Church in Macon and assists in evening worship at local community churches. She plays piano, guitar, French horn, and drums.

Rev. Haines has served in multiple capacities on the DW Ministries Commission, including President. She has a heart for ministry, and she leads with faith-filled enthusiasm and joy. She is retired from 25 years of work with the Georgia Farm Bureau.



Ms. Teresa Bensch, Disciples Girls' Program leader for retreat, is a member of Sandy Springs Christian Church where she enjoys working with Children Worship and Wonder as well as participating in the youth Mexico Mission Trips. She recently co-directed Junior I Camp at Camp Christian. She is dedicated to the spiritual growth of children and youth.

A seminary student at Lexington Theological Seminary, Teresa anticipates working in Women's and transitional ministry.

What You Need to Know

Schedule: Check-in begins at 4:00 pm on Friday. Dinner is at 6:00; music in the chapel begins at 7:15. Saturday morning program begins at 9 am. Retreat ends “officially” with Sunday worship; but lunch is available at noon. Bring casual, comfortable clothing! Bed and bath linens are provided. (One towel change will be provided during the weekend.)

Disciples Girls' Program: We have a special program for 8-13 year-olds! They'll attend some large group sessions but will also have activities planned just for them.

Memorial Names and Pictures: Deadline is Sept. 5 for submitting names of women in your church family who passed away since 2016 Retreat. Email women's names and church name to betty@gadisciples.org. You may also call the Regional office with names.

Snacks: We're going healthy this year! Each church is asked to bring a 24-pack of bottled water to share. Food will be provided. The conference center snack shop will be open for folks needing caffeinated beverages!

Cost

Includes \$40 retreat registration fee and materials, housing for 2 nights, and 6 meals:

1 adult in a Single room: \$258
2 adults in a Double room: \$208 per person
3 adults in a Triple room: \$188 per person
4 adults in a Quad room: \$168 per person

Girls (8-13 years): \$88 (rate based on 2 adults in room; this special rate is made possible through scholarship funds and our retreat budget)

RV Hook-Up with Meals: \$134
RV Hook-Up without Meals: \$86

(Direct contact with GA Baptist recommended to ensure your RV will fit in the camping area.)

Saturday Commuter Rate: \$68 including 2 meals, retreat center commuter fee and prorated registration fee

Giving Opportunities

Please see separate flyer for information about giving opportunities – offerings, boutique, scholarship needs, and retreat service project.

Parking Request

For women staying in the Griffith Hotel (the majority of retreat attendees), unless you need regular transport down the hill, please unload and then park in the lower parking lot. We are sharing the campus, and the lot cannot accommodate all of our cars.

Retreat Location

GA Baptist Conference Center
462 Sunrise Way, Toccoa GA, 30577
GPS address: 8496 Lake Louise Rd
(706) 886-3133

For More Information

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in GA
2370 Vineville Avenue
Macon GA 31204 (478) 743-8649
office@gadisciples.org
Register at dw.gadisciples.org

Georgia Disciples
Women's Retreat
September 22-24, 2017

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Building Relationships
Woman to Woman



Keynoters:

Rev. Patricia Donahoo
Rev. Chesla Nickelson
Ms. Marilyn Williams

Rev. Ann Haines, Music Leader
Ms. Teresa Bensch, Disciples Girls'
Program Leader

GA Baptist Conference Center at Toccoa