

DISCOVER 2019: STORY

“God so loved the world that God gave us the gift of story- not a rule book nor a ‘how-to’ manual nor a systematic theology, but storybook. We all know the experience of getting lost in a good story, and then emerging from it somehow ‘found.’”

-Dennis Dewey



Stories are powerful. In her last book, Rachel Held Evans identified one of the reasons stories are so powerful in our lives: we are made in the image of a "Storytelling God." Rachel recently passed away, leaving many friends and followers wrestling with their grief in the wake of her senseless death. But as she illustrated through her life and work, our theme this summer, "Story," has powerful implications for a divided and tense society. We each have a story to tell, but we also all have biases, assumptions, and perspectives that we often take for granted. We can isolate and dismiss others when we label them, but it is harder when we get close enough to hear their story. At Discover: "Story" we will explore tools to share our stories and have opportunities to hear the stories of others, all the while **considering how God is calling us to be a part of a Greater Story.** This Ultimate Story of grace, redemption, justice, and peace continues on, and we get to play a role and explore what our unique calling within it might be. As Rachel wrote, "Jesus invites us into a story that is bigger than ourselves, bigger than our culture, bigger than even our imaginations, and yet we get to tell the story with scandalous particularity of our particular moment and place in time. We are storytelling creatures because we are fashioned in the image of a storytelling God."

Keep telling the story, friends! I can't wait to see you and hear your stories of life and faith this summer and beyond!



Grace and Peace,
Shannon Axtell Martin, Director

Shannon joined in Worship with Mt. Zion UCC in June. They are sending a record number of youth from their church to Discover in July! Thank you, Mt. Zion!

JOIN US THIS SUMMER

Black Lake Retreat Center

Senior High: July 7-12
July 14-19

Junior High: July 21-26

Be a part of the

Story

CATAWBA COLLEGE YOUTH THEOLOGY INSTITUTE

FOLLOW ALONG:

Check out our 2019 Staff intros on Facebook and Instagram at @catawbatheologyinstitute

“Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.”
1 Thessalonians 2:8

A FANTASTIC GROUP OF FACULTY, STAFF, AND JUNIOR COUNSELORS COMING IN 2019!



We are excited to welcome our first group of Junior Counselors to Discover July 21-26!

We also have two new positions this summer, Worship Director and Program Director, filled by recent Catawba Grads, Weston Henderson and Emily Hoffler. They will be working closely with our Director Shannon and our staff of Teaching Fellows.



BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

We've included a few teasers here, but there is so much more in store for you at Discover this summer! We can't wait!

And, we still have spaces available. Help us by inviting your friends and families to make sure as many people as possible have this experience! The application is available at the link below.

Bonus: We're giving away an end to the person who brings the most people with them!

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING

We are excited to welcome the Rev. Dr. William Green and his wife Polly Green to Discover 2019! They will be leading a session on Biblical Storytelling, the practice of learning scripture by heart. Dr. Green retired in July of 2018, after 41 years of pastoral ministry in the United Methodist Church. He served churches throughout NC, in Hamlet, Rich Square, Laurinburg, and Cary. He also served as Campus Pastor at Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC. Bill is currently serving as Director of Development for Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries, a nationwide prison ministry. As a member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers,

Bill enjoys sharing with others his passion for biblical storytelling. Bill played football and majored in Religion while a student at Catawba. He received his M.Div. from Duke Divinity School in 1977 and his D. Min. from Emory University in 1993. Bill and his wife, Polly, live in Cary, NC. Polly is a mixed media artist and leads retreats and theological reflection through art. We are thrilled they will be joining us this summer!

William and Polly look forward to introducing you to the awesome power of biblical storytelling. They will be telling some biblical stories for you to enjoy and experience. Come ready to tell and hear God's word in a way that is personal, convincing, and life transforming!

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