



## **JOHNS RIVER VALLEY CAMP PLANS DAY OF CELEBRATION FOR RETIRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

COLLETTSVILLE - ALL are invited to a *Celebration* honoring the Rev. C. L. "Curly" Stumb and the impact of his 31 years of ministry by the waters of the Johns River. Event is planned for Saturday, September 23, 2017, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at Johns River Valley Camp, 6211 Hwy 90, Collettsville, NC 28611. [Download invitation](#). [Register on-line now](#).

"This land is your land," *Curly* says, as he sits by the poplar tree and reflects on his 31 years at Johns River Valley Camp, with a reading of *The Giving Tree*, by Shel Silverstein. "The tree is the real story," he says. "It's also my story, of living at Johns River Valley Camp, teaching respect for trees and for campers, along with respect for your neighbors and mine. It's my story, because I have lived in tension with the trees, and their growth and my life. It's my story, because I have lived the life of the boy in the story, jumping into piles of leaves, playing in wooded forests, climbing trees big and small, eating tart apples from a backyard tree, swinging from branches and imagining towering fortresses. It's my story, a story of seeking peace and joy among neighbors, cousins, church folk, family and friends. It's my story, one of sharing my life with *Ms. Curly*, and breathing life into three incredible boys. It's my story because, in the end, I'm there as a 'stump' -- still giving -- if only a resting place for others. [Sorry, I didn't mean to give away the ending.] And, it's my story, to help unveil -- in each camper -- a giving story. I too have taken from the life of the trees, but have worked tirelessly to give back to the forest."

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