



Your Invitation

Dear Friend of Camp & Retreat Ministry,
You can “*change lives*” as an advocate for camp and retreat ministries in your congregation.

The role of the “*Local Church*” Camp & Retreat Advocate is to:

- 1) promote camp and retreat ministry opportunities
- 2) identify and utilize resources within your congregation

As a “*Local Church*” Camp & Retreat Advocate you will be the essential link between your congregation and the “*life changing*” opportunities available through camp and retreat ministry.

You will be supported in this endeavor by the *Board of Camping, Outdoor and Retreat Ministry*, the *BCORM*. Training and orientation workshops will be available along with printed resources to support you. The *BCORM* will provide you with opportunities to network with other *Camp and Retreat Advocates* in your area and across the annual conference.

Your advocacy will “*enhance*” current and “*develop*” new programming. It will identify resources to improve our campsite facilities that will better meet the needs of your congregation and the community you serve.

Is this your “*time*” to join hundreds of others in “*changing lives*” through camp and retreat ministry? You can make a difference in someone’s life!



The Role of the “*Local Church*” Camp & Retreat Advocate

Promotion

- Inform your congregation of camp & retreat opportunities and needs
- Distribute event brochures and registration forms
- Promote congregational financial support (camperships) to assist participants with camp & retreat registration fees
- Receive and distribute information regarding resources available to your congregation for local church camping and retreating
- Receive and distribute information for inclusion in your church newsletter & bulletins
- Provide feedback to appropriate persons regarding programming and facilities



Identifying Resources

Camp and Retreat Ministry uses hundreds of volunteers in a variety of roles. The Board of Camping, Outdoor, and Retreat Ministries and District Camp Committees depend on “*Local Church*” Camp and Retreat Advocates to be mindful of volunteer needs and help identify persons to meet the needs.

Ongoing volunteer needs include:

- Volunteer summer camp staff including nurses, cabin leaders and specialized program leaders (*i.e. music, arts & crafts, recreation, naturalists, etc.*)
- Leadership for District Camp Committees, Site Committees and project specific task forces
- Camp and Retreat Leaders
- Grant researchers and writers
- Writers, photographers, videographers, video editors and web masters to help tell the story of camp



The Ministry

United Methodist camp and retreat ministries create environments of intentional Christian hospitality and learning within natural settings designed specifically to help persons and groups:

- Affirm and expand their faith in God.
- Learn and practice Christian discipleship.
- Grow in wisdom and in healthy self-esteem.
- Establish relationships and lifestyles of loving interdependence with one another and all creation.
- Develop as skilled spiritual leaders who move out to inspire faith communities and society at large to “seek God and to do justice.”
- Find renewal, encouragement, and support as leaders and participants from a host of religiously affiliated and non-profit organizations, so that they might more effectively fulfill their purposes of bettering the world and transforming countless lives.



Awareness & Skill Set Helpful for a “Local Church” Camp and Retreat Advocate

- Familiarity or willingness to learn about the work experiences, interests, skills and resources of church members
- Familiarity with local church programs, groups, and church communications
- Familiarity or willingness to learn about United Methodist camp and retreat ministry
- A good communicator able to write and speak in church settings
- Access to an email address



Getting Started

Your camp and retreat ministry begins with a phone call or email to the camp program secretary, Frances Jones. You can reach Frances at:

(800) 244-8622, ext. 360
(626) 568-7360
or
fjones@cal-pac.org

Local Church

Camp & Retreat Advocate



Working to establish and nurture a vital relationship between local congregations and the Board of Camping, Outdoor and Retreat Ministries.

Church Camp Changes Lives

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