



## 2007 National Camp and Retreat Leaders Conference

January 26-30, 2007

Camp Sumatanga  
Gallant, AL

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***"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." (Psalm 46:10, NRSV)***

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### Workshops

Workshop leaders will present concepts, programs, and/or resources that they are implementing with success in their own settings. Workshops provide strong peer-to peer learning, given as a gift to colleagues.

Please select one workshop for Saturday and one workshop for Sunday when you [register](#) for the event.

**Saturday, January 27, 2007  
10:30-11:50 a.m.**

### **Nurturing Stillness, Silence, and Sabbath in Retreat Experiences**

**Leader: Judy Stephens**

"A retreat is, more than anything else, a time and space set apart in which to be very intentional about one's relationship with God" (Jeanette Angell). This workshop will explore how to create more contemplative retreats, using labyrinths, imagery, meditation, reflection, storytelling, and nature. Participants will delve deeper into the wellsprings of the Spirit and nourish their interior landscapes.

### **Camp and Retreat Ministry Music**

**Leader: Mike White**

This workshop will focus on sharing sources of music that work well



in the camp and retreat setting. Participants will learn how to incorporate music into Christian formation. The workshop will emphasize emerging music and how to engage people more in the music experience. A discussion about the advantages and limitations of electronic media and technology will be included.

### **Taking It to the Trees**

**Leaders: Angela Blair Wallick and Trent Meyer**

Learn how two camps have safely incorporated recreational tree climbing into their programming. Learn about what a tree-climbing program needs to be safe, meaningful, fun, and successful. Explore tree climbing as a natural adventure that offers many of the reflective learnings inherent to experiential learning.

### **Having Reservations?**

**Leader: Paul Cogger**

Paul Cogger will demonstrate a site reservation program in Microsoft Access that was developed by the California Pacific Annual Conference. Employing an internet module, a centralized database at the conference center allows interactive reservations for eight camp and retreat centers. Center managers and directors can book reservations, monitor real-time reservation status, enter internal tracking notes and requests, print invoices, check payments, and generate reports. Come check it out

### **Women in Camp and Retreat Ministry Leadership**

**Leader: Jackie Cordon**

Being a woman serving in key leadership roles within camp and retreat ministry has its own dynamics. Come, gather with other women to talk about the challenges and blessings. This will be a time for mutual support and conversations about issues for women in leadership.

### **Introducing *On the Way***

**Leader: Nancy Ferguson**

*On the Way* is the 2007 Christian camp curriculum published by New Earth. God has called and continues to call all God's people on a journey of faith. This workshop provides an introduction to the curriculum for 2007 and the daily themes. Come and see why so many use this summer camp curriculum.

### **Preventing "Nature Deficit Disorder"**

**Leader: Lisa Jean Hoefner**

Richard Louv's book, *The Last Child in the Woods*, draws attention to what many of us know intuitively: a child's experience with nature matters immensely to his/her development, spirituality, and overall well-being. How can we preserve times to "play in the woods" and articulate the power of our program choices as Christian camp and retreat ministries to parents and churches?

### **Grant Writing**

**Leader: Anne Horton**

Join the Sumatanga Camp and Conference Center Director for an introduction on how to request grant money. Anne Horton will share the principles that have worked for Sumatanga and will point to resources that list opportunities that match participants' needs. She will help workshop participants understand how to state their needs in ways that will greatly increase the chance of being selected for grants.

### **Maintenance Tour and Dialogue**

**Leader: Matt Johnson**

Travel the grounds with the experienced Sumatanga maintenance team, who will share insightful ideas they have implemented. This is a time to gain ideas and learn from those who know what it is like to be in your shoes.

### **Camp and Retreat Ministry Certification**

**Leader: Jenny Phillips**

Whether you're an old-timer in camp and retreat ministries or just discovering your sense of calling toward leadership in camp and retreat ministries, you will find that certification in camp and retreat ministries is an exciting, beneficial, educational and faith forming opportunity that is available through The United Methodist Church and Drew University Theological School. Learn more about the courses and how certification works.

**The Art of Storytelling**

**Leader: Nina Reeves**

Spend time with a master storyteller! You might even find out who Wicked John is and how he got to meet the devil himself. Participate in a delightful time with a person who has a long and rich history within United Methodist camp and retreat ministry. Nina is one who knows and can teach the power of storytelling in transforming and enriching people's lives and spirits.

**Inspiring Guests and Guest Groups to Love and Justice**

**Leader: Pete Simpson**

Through our camp and retreat ministries of hospitality, we have the opportunity to inspire guests and guest groups to love and service. What can we do in our welcome, orientation, day-to-day operations, guest and staff relations, facilities and grounds, publications, communications, and training to enhance faithful living? We'll explore tested methods and uncover creative new ideas that will inspire our guests.

**The Pros and Cons of Running Multiple Kitchen Services**

**Leader: Laura Woodard**

Camps and retreat centers that have guest capacities requiring multiple kitchens or shifts for meals to serve everyone have special challenges. Come and learn about how the Sumatanga staff organize to provide Christian hospitality and food service. Come; learn more; ask questions; see how it's done!

**Rec Lab**

**Leader: Bart Styes**

This participation-filled recreation workshop will focus on games for a variety of situations. Learn techniques adapted to the physical environment, group size, purpose of the event, and participant demographics. Also get ready to play!

**Creating Vibrant Family and Personal Balance:  
Where Camp/Professional Hospitality Meets Personal Boundaries**

**Leader: Donna Stemler**

Camping and retreat ministries provide both opportunities and challenges for camp staff and their families. Hear about experiences and practices that can help you and your family thrive – not just survive. Donna has been there, living many years as part of a camp family. She brings her expertise in this area to help all of us who live the camp and retreat center life.

**Sunday, January 28, 2007**

**10:30-11:50 a.m.**

**Strategic Partnerships with Local Churches**

**Leader: Nick Yarde**

How can partnerships with local churches be strategic? This workshop will detail a framework for effective partnerships, highlight the essentials for ministry, and give case studies of dynamic partnerships that meet the mission and needs of both ministries. This workshop will include details on stewardship partnerships, creating teams of churches, and large-church initiatives. Programs and participation can grow substantially if we reach out in new ways.

**Servant Leadership**

**Leaders: Byron Pegram and Greg Loudon**

Jesus provides an example of how to lead our own lives and how to lead others effectively. In this workshop, participants will review contemporary servant leadership writings and – with Jesus as the example – explore how to be better leaders. Resources include *Servant Leadership* by Robert Greenleaf, *The Eighth Habit* by Steven Covey, and *Lead like Jesus* by Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges.

### **Camp and Retreat Ministry with Hispanic Communities**

**Leaders: Noel and Dana Morfin**

Participants will learn key factors in establishing camp and retreat experiences with people from Latino/Hispanic families and communities. Noel and Dana Morphin have successfully implemented partnerships, programs, and relationships that really work. You, too, can serve the growing Hispanic/Latino population. This workshop will be a great time of learning and discussion.

### **Green Practices and Technologies for Camp and Retreat Ministries**

**Leader: Brian White**

Our camps and retreat centers provide opportunities to practice earth care and to model stewardship of creation. From simple projects to new construction, Brian White will share strategies that your center can implement to be at the leading-edge of making a faithful response to environmental justice issues as part of The United Methodist Church's witness.

### **Training Local Church Leaders to Lead Retreats**

**Leader: Nancy Ferguson**

Using *The Retreat Leader's Manual* (Discipleship Resources 2006), which she coauthored with Kevin Witt, Nancy Ferguson will introduce a workshop process for teaching congregational leaders how to develop effective retreats. The book explores the biblical foundations of retreats, retreat program models, and a step-by-step "how to" process.

### **Team Building Toolbox**

**Leader: Paul Harcey**

Spaghetti, gumdrops, marshmallows, toothpicks, bandannas? ....sounds like lunch to me. But really it's a recipe for fun. Come and play games designed to help form groups and teams by using "office junk" for props. This is a great session for those without a ropes course or when rain hinders outdoor activity. Come ready to play.

### **Don't Laugh at Me**

**Leader: Lisa Jean Hoefner**

This workshop will introduce camp curriculum created through a collaborative effort of ACA and Peter, Paul and Mary. It uses the theme song "Don't Laugh at Me" as a way for each person to embrace diversity and to teach tolerance and empathy. In this workshop, participants will experience some of the recommended activities, explore resources from the Teaching Tolerance project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and discuss other ways to confront racism.

### **Are You Considering a Career in Camp and Retreat Ministry?**

**Leader: Mike Huber**

Come talk with an experienced United Methodist camp and retreat director about the varieties of opportunities to serve in camp and retreat ministries. Learn about how to get your foot in the door, pursue needed training and education, and how to find open positions within camp and retreat ministry. This will also be a time to explore the realities - both joy and challenges - of this way of life.

### **It Seemed to Be a Good Idea at the Time**

**Leader: Gregg Kernes**

Why didn't our project or program work out as we expected? What can we learn from our failures, or how can we see them as successes? What does Hershey's Chocolate have to do with all this? This workshop will help participants use past experiences to build a practical and well-thought-out vision for the future of camp and retreat ministries.

### **Camp and Retreat Center Directors as Reluctant Business People**

**Leader: Randy McGuire**

Many of those who enter camp and retreat ministry as directors or managers do so out of a passion for changing lives and developing experiences for those they serve. The director has another essential role, however. Directors are to make sure that the ministry is financially and operationally sound; otherwise, the viability of ministry may be jeopardized.

**History of United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministries**

**Leader: Doug Osgood**

This overview of the development of camping in the twentieth century will include: significant transitions and people who brought about change in our denomination; the African American camp experience and the impact of the former Central Jurisdiction on outdoor ministry; denominational ties to other religiously affiliated camp and retreat ministries. ***This workshop is required for all those seeking Certification in United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministry.***

**Partnering with Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Leaders**

**Leader: Victor Perez**

Walk to Emmaus and the corresponding Chrysalis retreats for youth are very powerful faith-forming experiences. Come and learn how to effectively host and assist those planning these popular discipleship retreats.

**Christian Education Through the Eyes of John Wesley**

**Leader: Mary Jane Pierce Norton**

What would our Christian education and experiential learning formation programs be like if we took seriously the teachings of John Wesley? This workshop will focus primarily on the importance of spiritual disciplines for growth as faithful Christian disciples. Participants will explore ways to incorporate these practices into what they offer for children, youth, and adults.

**Questions About Workshops or Seminars?**

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