



S'more Camp and Retreat News

Volume 3, Issue 1

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15% discount at Mount Asbury

**Mount Asbury offering
15% discount for January
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Dear Anne,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"Listen" is not only the theme for Camp & Retreat Ministry this year but it's what we need to be about in 2009. Listening and being aware of the hope that God has given to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. This is what we have been celebrating with Christmas.

The Camping program offers to children, youth, and adults many benefits that can provide direction, renewal, and hope for the days ahead. Here is my list, what would you add to the list? I look forward to hearing your thoughts!

The benefits of the camping experience:

- To have fun.
- Time away from parents or families to get renewed or re-energized.
- To meet new people.
- To gain appreciation of nature,
- To explore who you are, as a child of God.
- To hear about Christ maybe for the first time or the 100th time.
- To deepen your relationship with Christ, without the distractions of the world there is more openness to hear God.
- To receive unqualified acceptance in the community that is created during the week.
- To develop tools for dealing with life situations.
- For children & youth to be with adults who live out their faith and Christian lifestyle 24 - 7.

We are projecting to have 1750 campers this year through the camping program. It is my hope that as you receive your Camp Brochure or check the web site for the brochure (which is already up), that you will make every effort with folks in your church or your community has the opportunity to attend. We have a mission of helping to touch a life and make a difference in the lives of the people we serve. May it be that way for you, too!

Look forward to hearing from you in this New Year!

Grace and peace,

Anne Horton, Director

We are so excited to host your event at our new retreat facility that we are offering a 15% discount on lodging or day use rates for the Asbury Lodge during January 2009. Schedule a January weekend, weekday, or day use event to take advantage of this deal.

This discount is in addition to the 10% for churches and agencies with their full shares of ministry paid. This discount applies only to facility rental, and not to meal charges.

Now is the time to call!
717-766-7441.

camps@cpcumc.org

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To Share Jesus with the Kids of York City!!

York City Day Camp.....by MichelleSchwartzman

"To share Jesus with the kids of York City!" This is the mission that the York City Camping Team is setting out to do. When Jesus was in the garden he prayed. He prayed for himself, for his disciples and specifically for you and me! Jesus' prayer was that we take the relationship we have built with him and share it with others.

With the sale of Bethlehem Farm, we are able to launch a ministry for the children of York City. We look back on the years of ministry at Bethlehem Farm and rejoice for the lives that were forever changed. We praise God for all the leaders and countless volunteers that gave to the children of York through this ministry. Although this ministry came to a close a few years ago and the site was sold this fall, we are taking Jesus' prayer seriously by reconstructing an outreach to York.

My name is Michelle Schwartzman and I am the new Director of the York City Day Camp. For most of my life I have been involved in the Conference camps as a camper, counselor and dean. I love Jesus and kids and can't wait to see what happens on this journey!

We are in an exciting time. Please pray with us as we listen to God's calling on this ministry. How will the creator shape this?

"Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." - Isaiah 64:8 How will the Father shape the lives of the leaders? The kids? The parents?

In God's Hands,
Michelle

Mount Asbury Open House

Mount Asbury.....by Daphne Orr

The time has finally arrived. I think the best thing that Santa brought me this year for Christmas is a completed lodge and a chance to embark on a new and exciting ministry with this facility.

We extend an invitation to everyone to come and see this facility on Sunday, January 4th from 2-4 pm. At 3 o'clock, Bishop Jane Allen Middleton will be holding a consecration service for this new facility. This is such an exciting event for our conference camping and retreat ministry, and we want everyone to be a part of it.

Please plan on attending the open house this Sunday. If you can't make it, be sure to call the camp at 717-486-3827 and schedule your own personal tour of this magnificent facility.



Holy Grounds Project Update!

An update of the "Building Bridges to People on Holy Grounds" campaign can be found on the Camping Website.

www.cpcumcamps.org

The Sounds of Silence

Wesley Forest.....by Pat Sullivan

A while back someone had told me of an upcoming "Silent Retreat" for women that was going to be held at Wesley Forest. The participants were to spend a weekend at Wesley Forest in silence with, as much as possible, no talking or conversation to occur among those present. I'm not sure I understood the reasoning behind the theme for the intentional silence but I found the idea of a bunch of ladies gathered together and not talking at an overnight retreat fascinating, if not downright impossible.

Even the kitchen crew did their best to keep things quiet in the dining hall when others were present. I remember walking into the kitchen one morning for my cup of coffee and Linda signed a hand spoken "Good morning!" greeting to me. I quickly retorted and signed back an appropriate response. We both knew exactly what each other was saying although I'm sure even the best of interpreters would have been able to get nothing more than meaningless babble from our hand motions.

The retreat did happen and all those who attended did very well and I could tell most were able to get personally and spiritually recharged from the event. Yet, I still remained just a bit skeptical as to why someone would want to spend much of their valuable time away from their normal routine in a totally silent environment.

Each November I spend several days hunting in the remote Clinton County wilderness. The deer population is scarce so most of the time I find myself sitting alone in silence with only the wind and a few cruising ravens calling out an eerie squawk now and then to keep

me company. But I kind of enjoy the solitude and whether or not I harvest some venison is of minor importance to me. For some reason this year as I sat in the woods I recalled the Silent Retreat and once again wondered why someone would want to intentionally experience silence in their life. I was still unable to come up with an answer when a gust of wind pulled me back into my wooded little world and I never gave it another thought.

If you're one of those strange people that could use a little break from the everyday noise in your life, you may want to try out a Silent Retreat. If that's not your bag, come on up to Wesley Forest on a regular retreat and take a walk in the woods or spend some time sitting by the lake shore. You just might be one of those abnormal folks that could use a little silence in your life now and then. Go figure.

Pat Sullivan
Wesley Forest Site Director

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