

PCCCA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAMP
AND CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION



The mission of PCCCA is to equip leaders for ministries of discipleship, community building and the care of Creation.

What is PCCCA?

Since 1964, Presbyterian camp and conference professionals have gathered for fellowship, education and the mutual support of their ministries. This group is called the Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association. We bring together people who represent camps and conference centers of all shapes and sizes from across the United States and Canada. The programs and fellowship of PCCCA allow these individuals to hone their skills and to bring knowledge and resources back to their ministries. Many find the PCCCA “family” to be an incredible source of professional and personal support.



Who does PCCCA serve?

Camps and conference centers are institutions within our church that cross all mission and programmatic lines— they are places for retreat, leadership development, evangelism, education, disaster relief, missionary training, vocational discernment and so much more. They are adaptive resources that serve to support all of the goals of the church. They are “sacred spaces” in a world that desperately needs these ministries.



There are over 150 Presbyterian camps and conference centers in the United States and Canada. Some of these sites are small or summer-only programs, while others are full-service camps and conference centers that serve thousands of guests and participants each year. These places are spread across our continent and most are located far away from one another. PCCCA brings them together and helps these ministries by supporting their staff, programs and facilities.



Church budgets are tight, so camps and conference centers must find better ways to run programs and maintain their sites. They must learn how to support their ministries through a variety of sources. PCCCA seeks to provide education, fellowship and resources that will help these “sacred spaces” today and for years to come.

What does PCCCA provide?

Here are some of the resources and services provided by the association in support of Presbyterian camp and conference ministry:

- An online directory of Presbyterian camps and conference centers that allows retreat leaders to search for sites based on location and lodging needs
- A seasonal enewsletter that includes articles, announcements and resources
- An Annual Conference each fall that invites all of the sites to come for keynote speakers, workshops, worship and networking
- Connection events that bring together groups for education and fellowship-
 - Program Connection for program directors and staff
 - Maintenance Connection for maintenance directors and staff
 - Kitchen Connection for food service staff
 - Focus Event for those who are considering a career in outdoor ministries
- A Consultants Network that provides affordable and resourceful consulting services to Presbyterian camps and conference centers
- An online repository of resources like brochures, forms and building plans
- Representation at the Council of Religiously-Affiliated Camps of the American Camp Association and at the Committee on Outdoor Ministries of the National Council of Churches in Christ
- Joel Winchip, our Executive Director, is a resource to our association as he provides the vital link of connection between our sites and programs

What is new for PCCCA?

PCCCA is endorsed as the recognized international association for the camps and conference centres of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. We welcome the Presbyterian sites and programmes in Canada to their place around the PCCCA campfire. All of these sites have free membership in the association through 2011 and receive a program scholarship to an Annual Conference or Program Connection.



PCCCA has an official relationship with Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. This Presbyterian school is committed to offering a consistent schedule of courses in camp and conference ministry. The seminary is also working with our association to create a certification program. This agreement creates a new resource for programs and continuing education for camp and conference professionals and volunteers.

How is PCCCA supported?

PCCCA is supported by the annual dues contributed by the Presbyterian camps and conference centers that are members of the association. The organization does not receive funding from a denomination. PCCCA also receives contributions from two sources:



- The PCCCA Annual Fund is a special effort that seeks contributions each year from those connected to Presbyterian camp and conference ministry. There is an auction at each PCCCA Annual Conference that supports this fund. Gifts are also received through special appeals to PCCCA supporters by mail, email and through Facebook.
- The Fund for Camp aids Presbyterian camp and conference centers by providing financial support to the resources that strengthen them. A \$3.3 million capital campaign has been launched in order to create an endowment for PCCCA, the Consultants Network and the new Associate for Camps and Conferences position in the national office of the Presbyterian Church (USA). More information on the fund is available at www.fundforcamp.org.

Camp and conference ministry has been an important part of the Presbyterian church for over 100 years. Who will support these camps and conference centers in the United States and Canada for the next hundred years? If you believe in these ministries, we ask that you consider a gift to the association that supports these "sacred spaces." Your gift to PCCCA is important and will be truly appreciated. Please let us know if we can be helpful in determining how to ensure that a gift supports your interests, and the tax advantages that might be realized for both you and your heirs.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF PCCCA.

PCCCA



For more information on PCCCA, please go to www.pccca.net or contact Joel Winchip, Executive Director, at 191 Diane Road · York, South Carolina 29745-9740 803.322.0232 · joel@pccca.net