

Merry Christmas from the Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association!

It has been an incredible year for the association that supports the Presbyterian camps and conference centers in the United States and Canada. As our membership continues to grow in record numbers, we are forging new relationships with organizations that can help the ministries of our sites. Let me give you examples of some of the new partnerships created in 2010:

- The Office of Christian Vocation in the Presbyterian Church (USA) worked with PCCCA to produce a curriculum for senior high leadership programs at our summer camps. The resource, which focuses on call to ministry, is being made available to all of our sites.
- PCCCA is currently working with the camp and conference leaders of the United Methodist Church to plan a fund development event for the staff and board/committee members at our sites. This important program will help participants seek new ways to fund their vital ministries.
- The Office of Environmental Ministries in the Presbyterian Church (USA) worked with PCCCA to create the Green Leaf Seal program. Camps and conference centers that earn this seal have shown their care for God's earth by practicing sustainability and educating guests about environmental stewardship

This is not an easy time for our camps and conference centers. The church needs the ministry these sites provide, but funding from the governing bodies is limited. PCCCA is working harder than ever to equip our camp and conference professionals so that their ministries might expand and be more sustainable.

On the national level, many denominations are now cutting the staff that serve their camps and conference centers. PCCCA has not received support from a denomination in many years. With your help, this association that supports all of our sites can move closer to self-sufficiency.

During this critical time, the PCCCA Board of Directors outlined three areas that they believe are important to the future of our camps and conference centers. An anonymous donor stepped forward and expressed a willingness to contribute a \$15,000 matching gift to the Annual Fund for all donations made to these three areas. These important efforts are as follows:

The PCCCA-CTS Certification Program

In 2008, PCCCA established an official relationship with Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Among other projects, the seminary is working with our association to establish a new certification program for leaders in camp and conference ministry. The joint PCCCA-CTS task force is close to completing their work. Your gift will fund their planning meetings and the resources that are produced for this important program.

The PCCCA Annual Fund

The Annual Fund supports important facets of our association's ministry. This includes the summer itineration when we visit our camps and conference centers in a particular region. It also funds our representation on the Council of Religiously-Affiliated Camps of the American Camp Association and on the Committee on Outdoor Ministry of the National Council of Churches in Christ. The Annual Fund also supports my work as the PCCCA Executive Director, including my travels to visit our camps and to represent our sites at national events.

The Fund for Camp

This fund, which was created in memory of Don Hostetter, aids Presbyterian camps and conference centers by providing financial support to the resources that strengthen them. A goal of \$3.3 million has been set in order to create an endowment for PCCCA, the PCCCA

Consultants Network and the Office for Camps and Conferences of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Your gift can endow the support systems that undergird our Presbyterian camps and conference centers. You can learn more about the Fund for Camp by going to www.fundforcamp.org.

It was just last month when members of the PCCCA family gathered at Highlands Camp and Retreat Center (Allenspark, Colorado) for the Annual Conference. On the last night of that event, the participants were given the opportunity to donate to these three important areas. When the evening was over, \$7,420 in cash and pledges had been contributed by the participants at the conference! This will be matched dollar for dollar by a gift to the PCCCA Annual Fund. We are extremely grateful for these gifts and for the ministry that can be accomplished with this funding.

We are now asking for your help as we work towards our goal of \$15,000. Your gift to these worthy efforts will be matched by a contribution to the PCCCA Annual Fund. For example, a donation of \$500 to the PCCCA-CTS Certification Program will be matched by a contribution of \$500 to the Annual Fund.

Please consider a tax-deductible gift which will allow PCCCA to continue to respond to the growing needs of our camps, conference and retreat ministries. You can make your gift by sending a check with the included pledge card to Michelle Brobston, PCCCA Treasurer at 88 SE 75th Street, Starke, FL 32091. You can also use your credit card and make a gift at www.fundforcamp.org. Until the end of February, donations made on this website will benefit the Fund for Camp as well as the other two efforts in this matching gift drive.

We have an incredible opportunity to fund the future of Presbyterian camp and conference ministry like never before. We are asking that you prayerfully consider a gift to these three important efforts. We thank you for your prayers and for your support of this vital ministry. Take care and have a wonderful new year.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel".

Joel Winchip
Executive Director

PCCCA MATCHING GIFT DRIVE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I (we) make the following gift to the matching fund drive:

\$1000 \$500 \$250

\$100 \$50 \$25

Other \$ _____

Please mail this form with a check (payable to PCCCA) to Michelle Brobston, PCCCA Treasurer, 88 SE 75th Street, Starke, FL 32091. You can also pay by credit card at www.fundforcamp.org. Your gift is tax-deductible and greatly appreciated!

I (we) would like our contribution to be distributed between the following areas:

\$ _____ **PCCCA Annual Fund**

For the general fund that supports the annual iteration, our NCC and RAC representation, the PCCCA website and the work of our Executive Director

\$ _____ **PCCCA-CTS Certification Program**

For the work of this task force as they create a new certification program for camp and conference professionals and volunteers

\$ _____ **Fund for Camp**

The endowment that funds the ministry of PCCCA and its Consultants Network

The first \$15,000 donated to these efforts will be matched with a gift to the PCCCA Annual Fund.