



TOUCHSTONE

Providing Christian hospitality, camping, and retreat programs to serve, nurture, and equip the people of God for God's work in the world.

August 2008

Women's Retreat August 8-10

Are you feeling like you're spiritually dry? Trapped or imprisoned? Facing difficult choices or frightening circumstances? Whatever your current condition, '...God is good; his love endures forever.'

Our annual Women's Retreat, scheduled for August 8-10 at Camp Stoney, will be led by the Rev. Libbie Weber, and will help you focus on God's love and forgiveness – through praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession. Based on beautiful Psalm 107, we will learn more together about praying the Psalms, the prayer book of the Bible.

We'll also enjoy a Reader's Theater version of Flannery O'Connor's short story 'Revelation.'

The cost of the retreat is \$140, and this includes two nights lodging in Camp Stoney cabins or retreat house, four meals, and use of the grounds and swimming pool.

Registration forms are on our website, or available from your parish office.

"Camp Stoney is my Church"

Perhaps the most difficult and rewarding week of the summer is Grace Camp. Grace Camp, 100% subsidized by our supporters, is for children whose family members are incarcerated.

To prepare for Grace Camp this summer, I visited PB&J, a social service agency in the south valley that refers some of their clients to our camp. As we sat around a conference table, I was gratified to hear the social workers say that the kids they send to Camp Stoney look forward to camp all year. It is an important part of their lives. It is a place where they get plenty to eat, lots of loving attention, and hear the message of God's love for them.

Of course we hope we have an impact on the lives of the campers God sends our way, but seeing them only once a year, we sometimes wonder: What happens to our kids the other 51 weeks of the year? Do they have regular contact with other Christians? So, we asked them: "Do you attend church?"

One boy' answered, "Yes, Camp Stoney is my Church!"



Prayer & Praise

- We thank God for the more than 250 campers that found a spiritual home at Camp Stoney this summer, and we pray for their continued growth in Christ.
- We thank God for the great summer staff we had this year, and we pray for them as they travel home and prepare for another school year.
- We thank God for the two completed bathrooms in cabins C & D and all the volunteers who helped make this possible; we pray for God's provision this fall as we add bathrooms to two more cabins.
- We thank God for the off-season bookings He has brought us for the fall, and we ask for His continued provision.
- We thank God for the friends of Camp Stoney that have given generously of their time, treasure, and talent making this a great summer; we ask for your continued support.
- We thank God for the Grace and Arthritis campers, and the Camp Corazones families who were our special guests this summer, and ask God to continue to touch them with his love.

The Bishop Stoney Camp & Conference Center

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