



TOUCHSTONE

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

October 2007

A busy fall at Camp Stoney

We have begun our off-season schedule and we are pleased to announce that we are booked for every weekend between September 15th to November 5th.

We are welcoming a Cursillo weekend from the northern part of the diocese, the first weekend in October. Also, a bicycle touring group based in Syracuse, NY, a Lutheran youth group, a Christian yoga retreat, and several Santa Fe high school retreats will be making use of Camp Stoney.

Are you looking for a retreat or family reunion site? Consider Camp Stoney!

More and more green

One of the goals of camps around the country, and of Camp Stoney as well, is outdoor education, specifically stewardship of the earth. During orientation, campers are advised of the rules: dispose of your trash properly, enjoy plants and flowers, but leave them behind for others to enjoy later, don't chase rabbits and squirrels because you are visiting them in their home, etc.

Now, we are taking things one-step further with a suggestion from one of our board members. During our retreats for grown up kids, we are hoping to use real cloth napkins and napkin rings. By starting this tradition, we can save on the amount of paper goods that we throw away. When used with napkin rings, the napkins can be used for more than one meal.

We are asking for your help. We are looking for mostly cotton napkins and one of a kind napkin rings. We have some in stock, so we can start this plan right away, but we could use more. If you have lightly used cloth napkins and single napkin rings (no two will be alike) that you could share with us, please contact our office or one of our parish ambassadors.

Coffee, tea or camp anyone?

We are beginning to schedule visits to parishes to talk about Camp Stoney, and we would love to hear from you.

Our idea is to have coffee klatches and tea parties around the diocese to answer questions about and raise funds for the coming summer.

In my experience, a tea party—or coffee klatch, if you prefer—is a wonderful way to get people together for fellowship and a program. I have an information packet about how to organize such an event in your parish or home that I would be happy to send along, if you think this is something you could host.

Pray early, Pray often

We are beginning to make plans for next summer and already have prayer needs for your consideration:

- Pray we will have the wisdom of the Holy Spirit as we put together this summer's schedule.
- Pray that even now, the Lord will begin preparing our staff for next summer, including counselors, nurses, lifeguards, traveling team members, deans, and music leaders.
- Pray for the Lord's leading in our finances, especially for raising scholarship funds for next summer.
- Pray that we will continue to book groups and retreats during the off-season.
- Pray for the upcoming pre-convocation golf fundraiser, that it will be fun and bring in much needed funds.
- Pray for the Camp Stoney board as they work on the budget for next year.