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To: OMA Retreat Attendees, November 11-15, 2018
From: Barry LeNoir and Jenna Stacy at Camp Bethel

Hello Friends!

Thank you for registering for our OMA Retreat at Camp Bethel! We are excited to learn and share together with you!

We're making the final additions to our planned Schedule, which is enclosed in this packet. Participant feedback from previous Retreats has shown a desire for BOTH increased content *AND* more free/rest time. In response, we have planned a very full schedule, BUT EVERYTHING IS OPTIONAL. Just like summer camp, you take a rest break when your campers need a rest break.

Our Retreat theme is "*Waters of Grace: The waters that change, heal, and sustain our Outdoor Ministries.*" Remember to ship or bring a quart bottle of water from your camp. This will not be for drinking, but try to bring clean water (example: spring water, creek water, lake water). Also, come ready to "define your watershed" from which you brought your water sample. *Example: "Camp Bethel is located in the "Upper James River Watershed." This water sample springs up in our aptly named "Big Spring" which flows into Wilson Creek, north to Back Creek, north to Looney Creek, east to the James River, east to the Chesapeake Bay, south to the Atlantic Ocean."* Locate your watershed using <https://txpub.usgs.gov/DSS/streamer/web/>.

Some of the best content of our Retreat is learning from each other! Check our schedule and workshop topics, then prepare and bring your ideas, questions, lessons-learned, and solutions to SHARE with everyone! Sharing and Roundtable topics include: Camper Recruitment; Staff Recruitment; General Marketing; Group Games; Food Service Ideas; Program Ideas; Administrative Ideas; Facility & Maintenance Ideas.

Come prepared to share the highlights/updates from your camp or organization in 4 minutes or less. These sharing times will occur after every meal, and you will sign up for a time slot. Oral presentations only (no videos), but you CAN bring a USB flash drive with up to 5 photos to provide projected visuals during your (less than) 4 minute sharing. And, of course, we always appreciate your creativity, even when you bend the rules just a little bit.

See the enclosed "What to Bring" list for more requests (Snacks to share! Arts & crafts supplies! Spending money?). Read the enclosed *tentative* Retreat Schedule to help you prepare questions, solutions, and ideas.

YES, we have Wi-Fi available in limited spots in main campus! *Is this a good thing or a bad thing?*

Let us know of any travel needs, odd arrival times, ultra-individualized requests, or questions you have as you prepare for our time together "*In the hills of our Virginia... where the crystal springs are flowing, at our Camp Bethel.*"

Together, in Christ our hope,

Barry LeNoir & Jenna Stacy

ENCL: payment info; pack list; driving directions; retreat schedule

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Please bring your payment if you have not yet paid. We take credit cards (via PayPal Here point-of-sale), OR cash, OR make checks payable to CAMP BETHEL. OMA Member discount is on a "your honor" system. Contact Barry LeNoir at CampBethelOffice@gmail.com if you need a reminder of what fee/lodging level for which you registered. For Scholarships from the Four Horsemen Fund for Continuing Education, contact OMA Chair Linetta Ballew at BrethrenOMA@gmail.com.

WHAT TO BRING/PACK:

- ✓ Bring your own linens (sleep gear; pillow; towels; etc.) Guests who fly/train may borrow a set from Camp Bethel (limited supply). Cabins, cottages, rooms are heated. Beds are singles and mostly bottom bunks with "adult-friendly" mattresses.
- ✓ Dress/pack for the weather! (Fincastle, VA 24090) Forecast is for cool weather: daily highs in the mid-40s and overnight lows in the 30s with a chance of rain Monday and Tuesday. Tuesday site tour will venture into the forests. Wednesday's outing includes lots of city walking.
- ✓ Flashlight or Headlamp! Sun sets around 5:10pm daily, so it's dark after dinner. Safety first! *Bears?*
- ✓ Spending Money! Our Wednesday outing includes ample time exploring the wonderful shops, restaurants, boutiques, brewpubs, museums, and stores of downtown Roanoke, Virginia. Camp Bethel will pay for the museums of your choice, but lunch (and shopping) is on you. We recommend a minimum of \$15 for lunch.
- ✓ Your Camp Shirt! Tuesday, November 13 is "International Wear Your Summer Camp T-Shirt Day" and we will take lots of fun photos for social media.
- ✓ Phone & device charger(s), camera.
- ✓ Camp Bethel will supply a clipboard, legal pad, pens, printed schedules and site maps.
- ✓ Stickers to SHARE: Your Camp stickers; CoB Stickers; Agency stickers; stickers from your state; etc.
- ✓ SNACKS: If possible, bring snacks to share on our "Taste of Home" snack table. Even better if these "delicacies" are specific to YOUR state or region, (ex: cheese curds from Wisconsin; buckeye candy from Ohio).
- ✓ For "Waters of Grace" theme and worships: Bring or ship 1 quart bottle of water from your camp. This will not be for drinking, but try to bring clean water (example: spring water, creek water, lake water).
- ✓ Extra copies of your brochures, promotional materials, rates/policies/rental agreements, etc.
- ✓ Much of the content of our Retreat is learning from each other! Check our schedule and workshop topics, then prepare and bring your ideas, questions, lessons-learned, and solutions to SHARE with everyone! Sharing and Roundtable topics include: Camper Recruitment; Staff Recruitment; General Marketing; Group Games; Food Service Ideas; Program Ideas; Administrative Ideas; Facility & Maintenance Ideas.
- ✓ Arts & Crafts supplies to share at our "Makers Space" tables during the Retreat (see explanation on Schedule).
- ✓ Printed lyrics (and chords, if applicable) for Songs to Share.

HOW TO PREPARE: YOUR HOMEWORK!

1. For "Waters of Grace" theme and worships: Bring or ship 1 quart bottle of water from your camp. This will not be for drinking, but try to bring clean water (example: spring water, creek water, lake water).
2. Come to the retreat ready to "define your watershed" from which you brought your water sample. Example: "Camp Bethel is located in the "Upper James River Watershed." Our water sample comes from our "Big Spring" which flows into Wilson Creek, north to Back Creek, north to Looney Creek, east to the James River, east to the Chesapeake Bay, south to the Atlantic Ocean." Use <https://cfpub.epa.gov/surf/locate/index.cfm> to locate your watershed.
3. Come prepared to Share the (less than) 4 minute highlights/updates from your camp or organization. These sharing times will occur after every meal, and you will sign up for a time slot. Oral presentations only (no videos), but you CAN bring a USB flash drive with up to 5 photos to provide projected visuals during your (less than) 4 minute sharing. AND your "Camp Sharing" can (please!) include teaching us one or more of your favorite camp songs!

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO CAMP BETHEL: Physical Address: 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, Virginia 24090.

Driving southbound on I-81: Take exit 162 and at end of ramp, turn left (south) onto Rt. 11 south toward Troutville. Drive 3.2 miles and turn left onto Route 606 Blue Ridge Turnpike. Go 1.6 miles to stop sign, turn right onto Route 640 Nace Road. Go less than 0.1 mile and turn left onto Bethel Road (again, 606). Drive under rail-road trestle, entrance to camp is 0.3 of a mile straight ahead. Check in at the Ark Dining Hall.

Driving northbound on I-81: Take exit 156 onto Route 640 Brughs Mill Road to Route 11. Follow Camp Bethel directional signs North (left) on Route 11 for 3.5 miles, then turn right onto Route 606 Blue Ridge Turnpike. . Go 1.6 miles to stop sign, turn right onto Route 640 Nace Road. Go less than 0.1 mile and turn left onto Bethel Road (again, 606). Drive under rail-road trestle, entrance to camp is 0.3 of a mile straight ahead. Check in at the Ark Dining Hall.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OMA RETREAT, Nov. 11-15, 2018

Waters of Grace: The waters that change, heal, and sustain our Outdoor Ministries

Camp Bethel in Fincastle, VA

A note about our Retreat Schedule: Participant feedback from previous Retreats has shown a desire for BOTH increased content AND more free/rest time. In response, we have planned a **very full** schedule, BUT EVERYTHING IS **OPTIONAL**. Just like summer camp, you take a rest break when your campers need a rest break.

Sunday, November 11 - Arrival any time after 3:00pm

<i>Sunset at 5:12pm</i>		
3-5:30	Check-in, packet pick-up, move in	Ark Dining Hall
5:30	Dinner and Singing. Welcome and intros, OMA orientation, explaining the "Wednesday Outing Sign-Up Board", explaining the "Makers' Space" tables, etc.	Ark Dining Hall
6:30	Get to know you mixers and games w/ Jenna, Adam, Barry.	Ark Dining Hall
7:30	Opening worship: Waters of Grace <i>Water sample placement onto map of USA.</i>	Ark Conf Room/Gym
8:30	Options: A. Game Night: Farkle, Joker Poker, Golf. B. Makers Space: A corner of the Ark Dining Room will have tables with lots of varied art/craft supplies. You can create whatever you wish, OR you can create your interpretation of the OMA Logo in whatever medium you choose (watercolor; collage; woodburn; nature items; etc.). OMA can then use photos of your artsy logo for promotions, web site, displays, etc. Maybe even a future auction?	Ark Dining Hall
<i>Please be quiet when returning to your overnight lodging. Some persons might already be asleep.</i>		

Monday, November 12: Turbulent Waters of Change

<i>Sunrise at 6:56am; Sunset at 5:11pm</i>		
7:45	Morning Watch w/ _____: Turbulent Waters	Ark Dining Hall
8:00	Breakfast and Camp Sharing	
8:30	Crisis Management Workshop attendees begin arriving & checking in.	
9:00	Crisis Management Workshop begins. Welcome and Introductions. Brainstorming topics for themed lunch tables.	Ark Dining Room
9:15	KEYNOTE: Trauma-Informed Child & Youth Development <i>Even though we front-load our camper families with behavioral expectations and the social nature of summer camp, our counselors are often under-equipped for managing difficult child and teen (and staff) behaviors. This vital keynote session will teach us the impact of trauma on the neurobiology of the developing brain and its impact on the emotional, social, and academic development of the child. We will gain discipline and parenting strategies, look at treatment models, and develop practical applications for training our counselors. ~ Brandy Smith, MAEd, LPSC, LPC from Connected Child Consulting</i>	Ark Dining Room
11:25	Session 1 Workshops A. Child Sexual Abuse Prevention at Camp: Teaching and holding boundaries in community. Preventing abuse is possible. Creating safe spaces for campers takes commitment, training, and a child-centered community of intentional programming. ~ Meredith Stewart of The Redwoods Group B. Camp Safety, Security, & Risk Management: Good Stewardship From An Insurance Standpoint: Good stewardship principles may be applied to every aspect of your camp operation, which can lead to greater peace of mind. ~ Mark Hoover, Brethren Mutual Aid Association	Ark Conference Room Ark Dining Room
12:45	LUNCH and Summer Emergencies Roundtable: Sharing lessons learned by table themes.	Ark
1:25-2:50	Session 2 Workshops A. Camp Staff and the #MeToo Movement: Sexual harassment at Camp. Do you talk about sex and boundaries with your camp staff? How does the prevention of child sexual abuse and the prevention of sexual harassment of staff overlap? Creating boundaries and expectations for how staff interact and treat one another is foundational to how they will treat the children they serve. ~ Meredith Stewart of The Redwoods Group B. Cyber Threats at Camp: Practical steps to identify and mitigate the threats. ~ Corey Seymour, National Camp Group Insurance	Ark Conference Room Ark Dining Room
2:55-4:20	Session 3 Workshops A. When Becker Lodge Burned: The story, aftermath, and lessons learned by Camp Alexander Mack (Milford, IN) when their main lodge (dining hall/kitchen, offices, camp store, staff housing, all in one) burned... the DAY BEFORE summer camp began. At Camp Mack, staff awoke to a fire in the main building on July 11, 2010. The first emergency call went out at 3:36 A.M., and from that point the decisions made by management, the board, staff, and the community set the future. Look at the timeline of a crisis, share in a decision-making process, and hear the lessons learned from a camp that emerged from a crisis continuing to serve. ~ Gene Hollenberg & Jessie Kreider from Camp Alexander Mack	Ark Dining Room

	B. What Bears Do (?) in the Woods: Public Relations Emergency or Not? <i>Unbeknownst to you, it's 4:00am and three police cars are spotlighting throughout your campus searching for a group of summer campers "in danger from a black bear." Fortunately, the local news media did NOT pick up this false alarm... THIS time. Hear how the bear scat could have hit the fan (texting!), and discuss how to handle bad PR when (not if) it happens. ~ Barry LeNoir, Camp Bethel</i>	Ark Conference Room
4:20	Drawings and Evaluations – End of "Crisis Management Workshop" and coffee to go!	
4:30	OPTIONS: Free time, rest time, OR A. How to make a short promotional video for your camp using basic Microsoft programs. ~ Barry's office. B. 45 minute "easy walk" with Jenna and her dog, Rein. ~ meet Jenna in Ark Parking Lot.	
5:30	Dinner and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	Ark Dining Hall
6:30	OMA Business Meeting – Linetta Ballew, OMA Chair. <i>This meeting is open for everyone to attend, regardless of OMA membership status. Voting, however, is for current OMA Members.</i>	Ark Dining Hall
8:00	Worship w/ _____: Turbulent Waters	Ark Conference Room
8:45	Options: Game Night: Farkle, Joker Poker, Golf. Makers Space.	Ark Dining Hall
	<i>Please be quiet when returning to your overnight lodging. Some persons might already be asleep.</i>	

Tuesday, November 13: Cleansing and Healing Waters

Wear your Camp Shirt! November 13 is "International Wear Your Summer Camp T-Shirt Day" and we will take lots of fun photos for social media.

<i>Sunrise at 6:57am; Sunset at 5:10pm</i>		
7:45	Morning Watch w/ Linetta Ballew – Cleansing and Healing Waters	
8:00	Breakfast and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song. <i>Group Photo wearing our Camp Shirts!</i>	Ark Dining Hall
9:00	Camp Bethel Site Tour ~ Barry LeNoir. <i>Meet in Ark Parking Lot at 9:00 (or the appointed time).</i>	
10:30	Session 4: Position Roundtable Discussions & Sharing A. Administration & Office Staff B. Program Staff C. Facilities & Maintenance Staff	
12:30	Lunch and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	
1:30	Session 5 Workshops A. Marketing Roundtable: Camper Recruitment, Staff Recruitment, Marketing your Events, Fundraisers, and Facility Rentals. B. Sawmilling Hands-On Demonstration ~ with Mickey Nichols, Camp Bethel Facilities Manager	Ark Dining Hall Maint. Yard
3:00	Session 6 Workshops A. Re-Start with Why 2.0: Overcoming Existential Threats to Church and Camp. <i>A rapidly changing reality calls for focused mission, creativity, transformational leadership, and encouraging "smart failure." Using videos and shared experiences we will explore "starting with WHY," and together we will brainstorm how to build our 'WHY 2.0'.</i> ~ Barry LeNoir, Camp Bethel Director B. Camp Bethel's "Your Outdoor Classroom" K-12 Outdoor Ed System: ~ Beth Wiegandt	
4:15	OPTIONS: Free time, rest time, OR A. 2019 Summer Curriculum: "Peace Works: Empowering the Next Generation of Peacemakers" ~ Jerri Heiser Wenger & Karen Neff B. How to take (and use!) good camp photos. ~ Jenna Stacy & Marcus Harden	
5:30	Dinner and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	Ark Dining Hall
6:30	Songs Share	Ark Dining Hall
7:30	Worship w/ Linetta Ballew – Cleansing and Healing Waters	Ark Conf Room
8:30	Options: A. Group Games Share in the Gym. B. Makers Space in the Ark.	Gym/Ark
	<i>Please be quiet when returning to your overnight lodging. Some persons might already be asleep.</i>	

Wednesday, November 14: Living and Sustaining Waters

<i>Sunrise at 6:58am; Sunset at 5:09pm</i>		
7:45	Morning Watch w/ _____	Ark Dining Hall
8:00	Breakfast and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	
8:45	Session 9 Workshops A. Partnering with District and Other ministries: <i>Youth ministry always works better when camps work in conjunction with other ministries across the district instead of competing with them. How can we most effectively combine/share our resources and ideas to benefit everyone, despite our ministries looking differently? We will discuss how your camp has collaborated with district ministry, youth and church groups, or even non-Brethren ministries in the area, and dream of future connections. Amanda will bring her experience from this year working as both camp staff and the district youth coordinator. Come share what has worked for you and leave with new ideas to implement when you go home!</i> ~ Amanda Helfrich, Camp Blue Diamond B. Food Services Roundtable: <i>Vegan menus, dietary restrictions, and ideas share</i> ~ Wes Shrader	
10:15	Depart for Outing to Roanoke, VA: Prior to Wednesday, you will have time to plan and choose your outing options on our "Wednesday Outing Board" in the Ark Dining Hall.	Ark Parking Lot

	<p>10:15: All van into Roanoke and up to the Mill Mountain Star overlook; photo op. Meet at vans at agreed upon time, probably 11:30.</p> <p>11:30 Drive to Roanoke City Market Building for LUNCH: Bring about \$15 (citymarketbuilding.com/dining) Caribbica Soul (Caribbean); Blue Ridge Burrito (craft burritos); Der Frankfurter Bistro (specialty hot dogs); Fork in the Market (brick oven pub fare w/ a twist); Hong Kong Restaurant (Chinese; Thai; Pho); Scrambled (fast-casual breakfast combos); Wall Street Tavern (American grill classics); ZeeZee's Vegan; PLUS dozens of others directly in the downtown market area. Great coffee too!</p> <p>1:00 Two hours of exploration options: (A) Center in the Square Museums (paid by Camp Bethel) including: Roanoke Pinball Museum & Harrison Museum of African American Culture. Can include Taubman Museum of Art (free). (B) Shopping the stores & boutiques of Market Square (gifts, candies, clothing, art galleries, Walkabout Outfitters outdoor gear, Fret Mill Music, Roanoke Natural Foods Co-op, Virginia products, Orvis, several brewpubs/tasting rooms. Can include Taubman Museum of Art (free).</p> <p>3:00 Final Stop Options: Go to the van of your pre-chosen Final Option. (A) Visit the Virginia Museum of Transportation (www.vmt.org) for open and fun tour with Virginia District Executive Minister (and train guru) David Shumate (paid by Camp Bethel). A train-lovers paradise. (B) Visit Black Dog Salvage (www.blackdogssalvage.com), home of the DIY Network series Salvage Dawgs (free). Easily spend 1.5 hours inside OR (weather-permitting) OR walk or rent a Zagster bike (\$3) and hit the Roanoke River Greenway to Roanoke Mountain Adventures (gear/outfitters), River Rock climbing gym, Wasena Tap Room, and more.</p> <p>4:30(ish) Load vans for return to Camp Bethel.</p>	
5:30	Dinner and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	Ark Dining Hall
6:15	<p>Compelling Vision Process with Kevin Daggatt (brethren.org/ac/compelling-vision) <i>Guiding Statement: "Confessing Jesus Christ as Teacher, Redeemer, and Lord, we desire to serve Him by proclaiming, professing, and walking in His way together bringing His peace to our broken world. Join us in reclaiming a new passion for Christ and helping set a course for our future as the Church of the Brethren serving Him in our communities and in the world!"</i> As we embark on this journey together, it is our prayer that: our relationships with one another will be strengthened and deepened, transcending points of disagreement; we will be able to celebrate the ongoing presence and activity of God's Spirit at work among us; we will be open to what God is calling us to do together as Christ's disciples; the vision ultimately articulated will lay claim to our hearts and our minds, our imaginations and our spirits, shaping our identity and inspiring our ministry at the congregational level, the district level, and the denominational level; and we will wholeheartedly embrace the challenge set before us by that vision, affirming contextual creativity as we actively seek to embody that vision.</p>	Ark Dining Hall
8:30	Worship w/ _____	Ark Conf Room
	Options: Game Night: Farkle, Joker Poker, Golf. Makers Space.	
	Please be quiet when returning to your overnight lodging. Some persons might already be asleep.	

Thursday, November 15: Waters of Grace

<i>Sunrise at 6:59am; Sunset at 5:09pm</i>		
7:45	Morning Watch w/ _____	Ark Dining Hall
8:00	Breakfast and Camp Sharing & Share-a-Song	
8:45	Closing Worship	Ark Dining Hall
10:00	Dismissal	
11:00	Optional post-event workshop: Using Postal One's online bulk mailing system for your camp. ~ Barry LeNoir	Ark Dining Hall
12:15-1:15	<p>Optional post-post-event Webinar: Social Media Management Tools for Small Business While social technologies have been around for decades, Small Business has only embraced Social Media in the past decade. Notwithstanding, Social Media continues to take much work to manage it. From content production to editing content (writing, images and video) to timing and scheduling posts, Social Media can take a full workday per week to do it properly and effectively for some small businesses. That said, with the right tools in place you can be a Social Media rock star while saving on time, energy, money and other resources.</p>	Ark Dining Hall

