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*Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference*  
 “Boldly Making Disciples of Jesus Christ-  
 Vitalizing the Church, Transforming the World”





Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit!

This booklet will introduce you to *Time to Grow*, our Annual Conference capital campaign. Through *Time to Grow* we will be better equipped to fulfill our mission of **“Boldly Making Disciples of Jesus Christ, Vitalizing the Church, Transforming the World.”**

I invite you to prayerfully consider how you will be a partner in *Time to Grow* helping to plant new seeds of faith with your financial and prayerful participation.

I give thanks for the abundance of God which I experience in the beauty of the earth and all creation. I am appreciative of resources that I have to share in a ministry of stewardship of God’s gifts as we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. NOW is our *Time to Grow!*

In Christ’s shalom,

Robert T. Hoshibata  
Resident Bishop  
Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference  
The United Methodist Church





Camp and Retreat Ministries is one of our most effective strategies to engage people in experiences of Christian community and learning. Through outdoor ministry people of all ages, across racial, ethnic and social boundaries will

- Be invited to explore faith together.
- Practice their faith both personally and socially.
- Experience excellence in leadership as a model for themselves; and, as an invitation to become leaders.

“I had no idea the impact camp could have on a young soul, but it has had a life-changing effect in our whole family.”

-Susan, parent

*Time to Grow* is the major gifts campaign of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference.

- Provide opportunities for growing disciples here at home and in mission settings, through Camp & Retreat Ministries.
- Grow and sustain future ministries through the Oregon-Idaho Foundation.

“I’ve never been to church, but a friend of mine insisted that I come to camp. People accepted me and I felt I belonged there, and it really seems true that God loves me. Awesome!”

-Taylor, camper



## *New Space for New People: More Capacity and Flexibility*

Through your generous giving more families will experience camp *together*. More young adults with young children, and more older adults, will be able to participate in life-changing programs in places away from a busy and distracted world.

“There is a wonderful spirit in the air at camp – an innocence and sense of joy. My daughter told us that it was one of the top five things she had ever done in her life. The people, the setting, and the state of mind it puts you in – it opens you up to possibilities.”

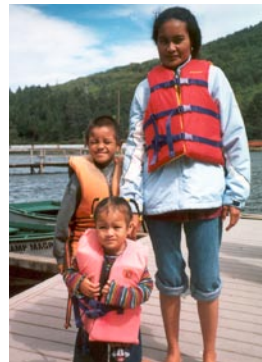
-Tanya, Spiritlife Family Camp



“His first year, one of the campers in my cabin barely participated and said the best thing about the week was when he could go home. He participated a bit more his second year. This year, his fellow campers elected him to leadership for next year! He told us, ‘I want to give back to camp some of the things that have been given to me during the last three years.’”

Camp changes people. They grow as a result of the love shared, the acceptance of who they are and the caring that staff and campers have for each other. They practice reaching out to others, praying, singing, studying Scripture and bringing the stories of faith to life for a new generation.”

-Lew, volunteer counselor



Your support of *Time to Grow* will enhance Camp and Retreat site facilities. The focus is on flexible and functional space so that we will be able to:

- Serve families as they experience camp together.
- Enable groups that require one-on-one volunteers to offer the gift of this experience to children and adults who are restricted in their physical abilities.
- Bring diverse groups together as they share the camp or retreat setting.



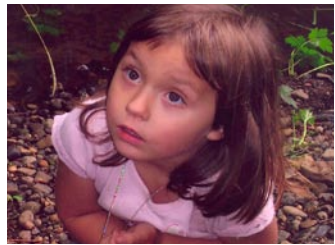
## Changing Lives

The most effective camp and retreat processes always include specific opportunities for people to reflect on their relationship with God and what they learned and discovered during the camp or retreat. Participants are intentionally asked to make decisions about how they will be different or what new practices, priorities, or ways of relating they plan to nurture and incorporate upon their return. This helps create dynamic bridges between “mountaintop” experiences and an ongoing walk with God.

“Camp made a huge difference in my children’s and family’s lives. Now what a treat to introduce camp to our grandchildren!”  
-Larry, grandfather, Grand Camp

## Developing Leaders

At camp hundreds of people have heard and responded to God’s call in their lives and are now serving in Christian ministry. Some are teaching, some preaching, some serve through music ministry or small group development. Some



start new congregations or organize new faith communities, some minister in health care fields or social services, some are missionaries. All are leaders nurtured through camp and retreat ministries.

A time came when I began to realize the connection between stewardship and the outdoors. The message and life I lived in my local church became vividly connected with my experience of faith in nature.

I credit the leadership of many camps and the influence of key camp leaders with shaping how I have experienced my call into ministry. Camp and retreat experiences are at the foundation of my faith.

Now as a candidate for ministry it is in my heart to extend the invitation and encouragement of camp to the people in the local church I serve. People open up and grow when they connect service and stewardship, working and sharing in camp settings with people they love and trust. Vitalization is mutual for the camp and the local church.

-Eric, local church leader



## Beyond Ourselves

**Guatemala** – Continue our mission partnership with the National Methodist Church of Guatemala at Camp Bob Buescher in Lemoa. Time to Grow will help to endow camp scholarships for children of the Mayan Highlands, lay pastor training, and material to send with Volunteers in Mission.

**Gulfside Assembly** – Support the redevelopment of Gulfside Assembly, the historic African-American camp and retreat site in Waveland, Mississippi which was completely destroyed by hurricane Katrina.

## For the Next Generation

*Time to Grow* will provide resources to strengthen the Oregon-Idaho Foundation as it assists with the transfer of abundance between generous persons and life-changing ministries across The Annual Conference. The campaign will:

- Provide resources that help local churches to create and manage endowment programs.
- Provide below-market-rate loans to more local churches and ministries.
- Provide effective resources to help local churches with their annual stewardship and capital campaigns.
- Offer a broader spectrum of planned-giving tools, providing professional management, tax advantages and income for the donor.
- Support the Bishop's Campaign for Boldness to assist special needs in the Annual Conference.

These goals will be the task of the newly created development position through the Oregon-Idaho Foundation. This expanded ministry will work in collaboration with the United Methodist Foundation of the Northwest in the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference.

## Time to Grow Projects

### *Alton L. Collins Retreat Center - Sandy, Oregon*

- Build additional overnight rooms and meeting space for our adult conference center to better accommodate multiple groups.
- Estimated cost: \$1 million

### *Camp Magruder - Rockaway Beach, Oregon*

- Construct a new lodge and remodel existing lodges to support family and multigenerational camps.
- Estimated cost: \$1 million

### *Sawtooth Camp - Fairfield, Idaho*

- Construct welcome center/office and multipurpose building for crafts, mountain bikes & adventure program, and camp store and meeting space.
  - Site enhancements to support church family camping.
- Estimated cost: \$250,000

### *Suttle Lake Camp and Retreat Center - Sisters, Oregon*

- Construct a new shower house for the year-round youth camp cabin circle.
  - Build new office/entry center to improve safety and welcome of campers.
- Estimated cost: \$500,000

### *Wallowa Lake Camp - Joseph, Oregon*

- Construct meeting building with flexible space.
  - Build seven more yurt/cabins for family use.
  - Build an office/welcome center, and a maintenance garage/shop.
- Estimated cost: \$750,000

### *Southern Oregon Fund to strengthen camp/retreat ministry*

- Strengthen camp/retreat ministry through programming at multiple sites in southern Oregon, adding to the existing fund for this purpose.
- Estimated cost: \$500,000

### *Mission Initiatives beyond Oregon-Idaho Conference*

- Support Camp Bob Buescher (Lemoa, Guatemala)
  - Gulfside Assembly (Waveland, MS).
- Estimated cost: \$100,000

### *Oregon-Idaho Foundation*

- Secure future support for all ministries of the Annual Conference.
- Estimated cost: \$500,000