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Christian Retreats Network

Your Partner in Effective Off-site Ministry

Faithlife

Special Section: Mystery and Controversy in Paul's Letter to Philemon

GET INTO THE WORD

Bible Study MAGAZINE

MARCH / APRIL 2020

BUILDING STRONGER FAMILIES

RUSSELL MOORE

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10 Ideas for Family Devotions 16

∞

Jesus' Death and Resurrection: A Bible Study for Families 22

∞

Bible Agent 7 Teaches Scripture to Kids 31

∞ (Formed by God's Word //

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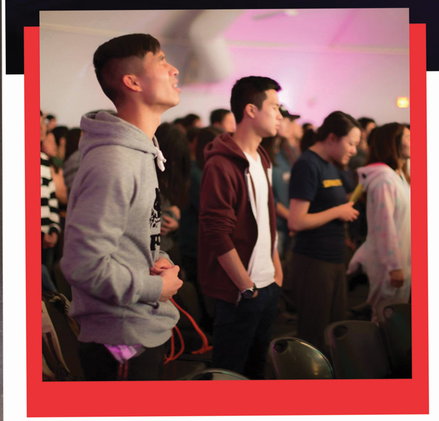
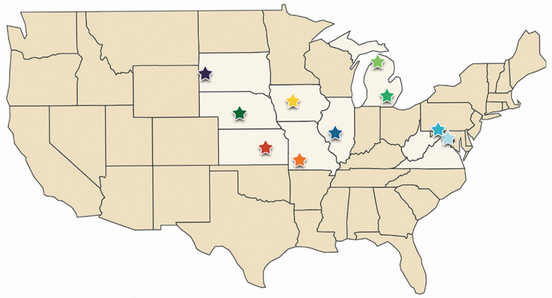
Create that life-changing moment.



Christian Retreats Network
Your Partner in Effective Off-site Ministry



10 unique facilities offering affordable off-site events in a Christian environment.
Host your next event, camp, or meeting with us!

833-877-2272 | www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org

live entertainment

St. Louis

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team building

St. Louis

Amp Up Action Park • 13901 Manchester Rd. • Ballwin • MO • 63011 • 314-439-8008 • ampupactionpark.com/

Pinot's Palette • 1641 Clarkson Rd. • Chesterfield • MO • 63017 • 636-778-2111 • www.pinotspalette.com/chesterfield

Victory Raceway St. Louis • 8800 Watson Rd. • St. Louis • MO • 63119 • 314-925-7545 • www.victoryraceway.com/

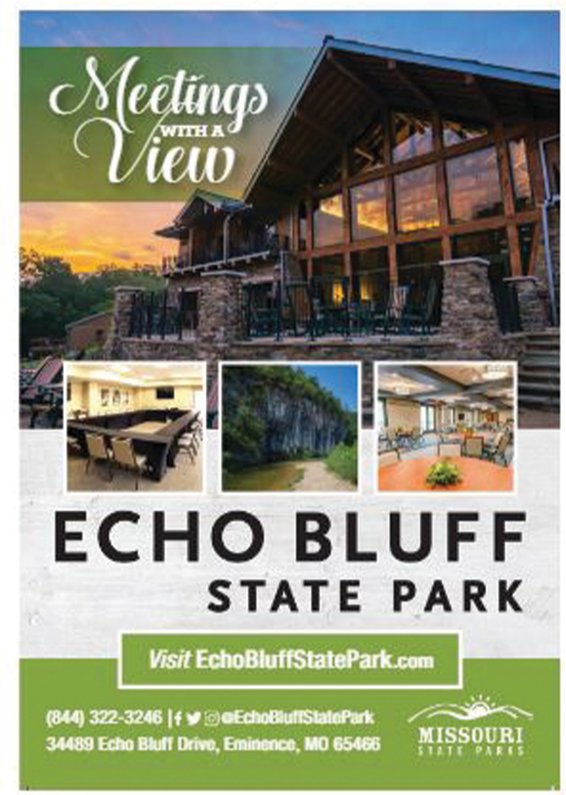
Illinois

Record-A-Hit Entertainment • 1495 Tonne Rd. • Elk Grove Village • IL • 60007 • 847-690-1100 • recordahit.com/

INFO ON THE GO!

Scan this QR code to use the interactive version of the Resource Directory on your smart phone.

To get a QR code reader on your phone, visit www.getscanlife.com and download the app for free!



3 WAYS TO **INCREASE OUTREACH**

FINDING TRUTH IN FICTION

EMBRACE **YOUR LIMITATIONS**

EXILES ON MISSION

OUTREACH

EVANGELISM • DISCIPLESHIP • SERVICE

MARCH/APRIL 2020

JAY Y. KIM
ANALOG CHURCH IN A DIGITAL AGE

NEXT-GEN BIBLE ENGAGEMENT
FROM HIP-HOP TO ANIMATION

GOSPELIZING YOUTH MINISTRY
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN STUDENTS SHARE THEIR FAITH?

EYES WIDE OPEN
PRAYER AS AN AVENUE TO EVANGELISM

plus *OUTREACH RESOURCES OF THE YEAR*

OUTREACHMAGAZINE.COM $6.95

Retreats are a Necessity

Retreats are consistently cut from the church budget and schedule because they are immediately thought of as a luxury. All of the time and money involved in holding an event can just be too much. Therefore, we scrap the retreat and instead get new choir robes. But churches have come to find that they need retreats in order to survive and flourish. Here's four reasons why:

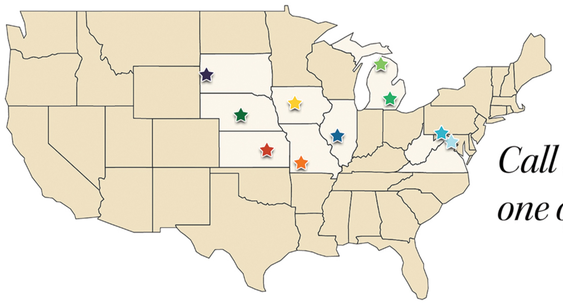
1. Retreats grow the church.
Retreats provide the ideal opportunity to invite guests, who may then show up again on Sunday morning. Christian Retreats Network's retreat centers provide fun and relaxation in a more comfortable environment. In addition to worship facilities, there are also recreation facilities that your group is sure to love. This is another great way for your guests and church members to break the ice and bond. I mean, how many churches have zip lines or a rock climbing wall? Even if physical tasks are not your thing, there are other activities that you could choose from, like an escape room or a bonfire.

2. Retreats build the church.
Focusing on the needs of church members provides a solid foundation that will keep them in the church family and continue to make it stronger. People that feel disconnected are more likely to leave. Retreats build those long-term, Christ-centered relationships that every church needs to survive.

3. Retreats revive people.
Some people are in need of a little rekindling for their relationship with God. Some people are in need of a break from the pressure and stress of their daily lives. Some people are in need of a change of scenery. No matter the need, you can be guaranteed that guests will come back renewed from the experience. And to paraphrase here, "Happy congregation, happy church".

4. Retreats provide opportunities.
As previously stated, retreats can provide the opportunity to grow the church by discipling to those who are not in regular attendance on Sunday mornings. But it can also provide leadership opportunities, service projects and connections. It provides a place where people can be inspired. Inspired to get baptized. Inspired to go into ministry. Inspired to restart their lives.

Fun things are often considered a luxury, that are only done when there is extra money in the budget. The statement preceding the decision is always, "Do we really need this?". The body of the church is the people. Therefore, the church cannot survive without them, just as people cannot survive without food or water. Retreats are a prime way to support those within the congregation. Don't let it become a luxury. Take care of the need now.



Call us at 877-833-2272 to learn how a retreat at one of our 10 properties can help your church.

Retreats Grow the Church
by providing an opportunity to invite guests

Retreats Build the Church
by renewing Christ-centered relationships

Retreats Revive People
by restoring the motivation to serve

Retreats Provide Opportunities
for leadership, baptism, and ministry callings

www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org

Christian Retreats Network

Pastor resources
Helping Ministry Churches
JAN 2020

FREE BOOK!

CHIP INGRAM

MARRIAGE THAT WORKS

God's Way of Becoming Spiritual Soul Mates, Best Friends, and Passionate Lovers

*see offer details inside

MINISTRY SUPPORTING MINISTRY

Christian Retreats Network

A network of 10 properties here to host your next off-site event!

We understand what it takes to execute a successful off-site event and look forward to providing you with the highest level of professional service in a Christ centered atmosphere.

Our goal is to provide excellent facilities and guest services at all properties while maintaining affordable rates for our guests.

877-833-2272 | ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org

Pastor resources

MARCH 2020

Helping Pastors Gr[illegible]y Churches

*free book!**

DAVE HARVEY

I STILL DO

Building a **lasting marriage** one defining moment at a time

*see inside for offer details

your students want to be here!

There is so much fun to be had this summer at Lake Williamson: 20-acre lake, the blob, waterslide, basketball, gaga ball, nine square, obstacle course, human foosball, indoor and outdoor pools, volleyball, rock climbing wall, ropes course, blacklight sports and so much more!

Lake Williamson is part of Christian Retreats Network

800-500-LWCC

www.LakeWilliamson.org

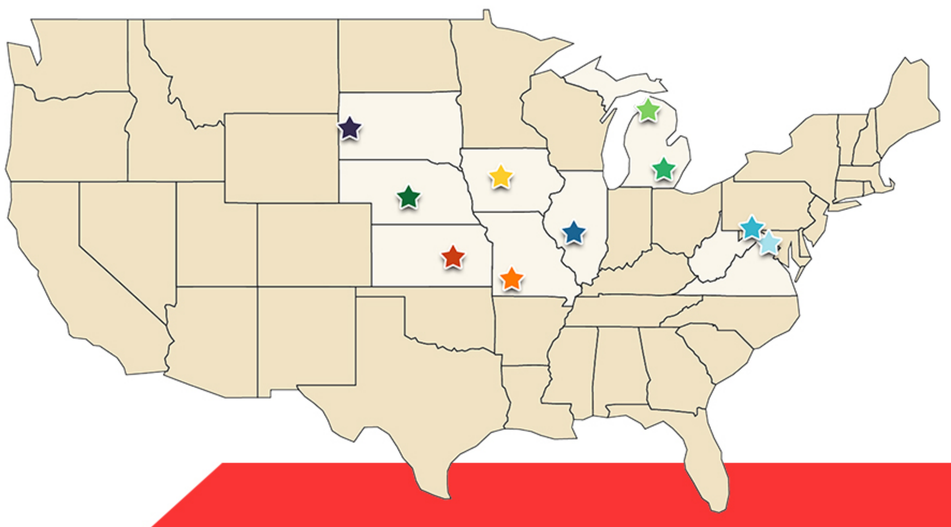
SO WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU OFFER?

Unique facilities & a Christian environment to host your next church event, summer camp, or leadership meeting.

We keep prices affordable and easy to budget by offering all-inclusive packages.

Plus we offer countless planning tools, resources, how-to videos, blogs, and our team's expertise.

We want you to succeed as a planner!



WHERE ARE YOU?

Blacks Hills
Great Plains
Grasslands
Des Moines Region
Ozark Mountains
St Louis Region
Central Illinois
Detroit Region
Baltimore & DC Outskirts
Appalachian Mountains

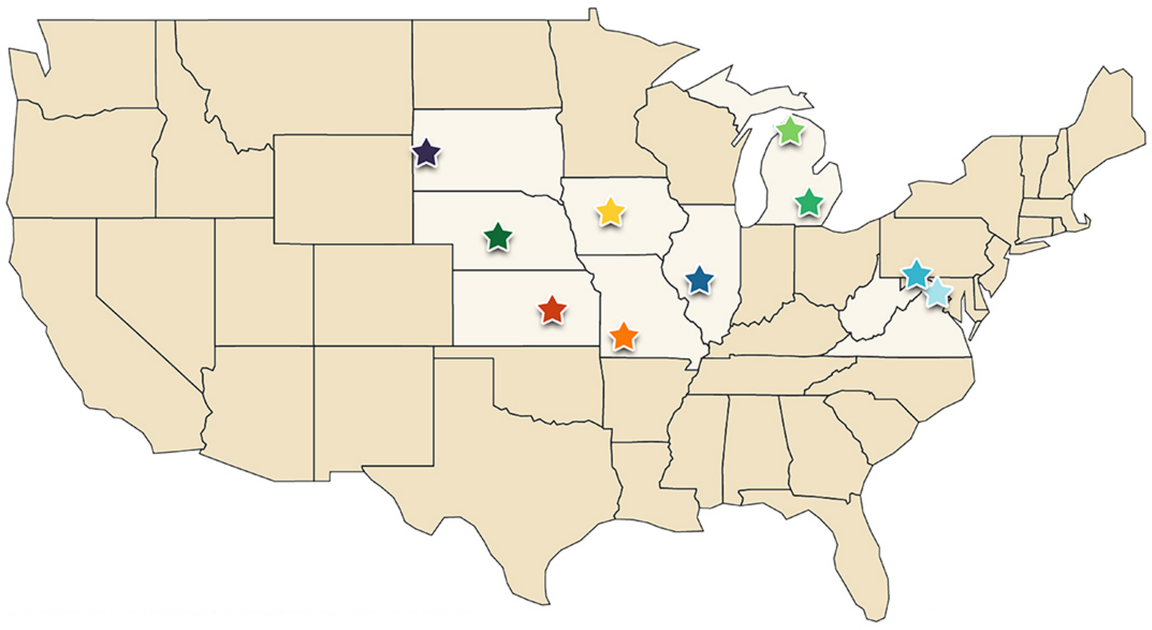
www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org | info@ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org | 877.833.2272

Your partner in effective off-site ministry.

Auditorium at Lake Williamson

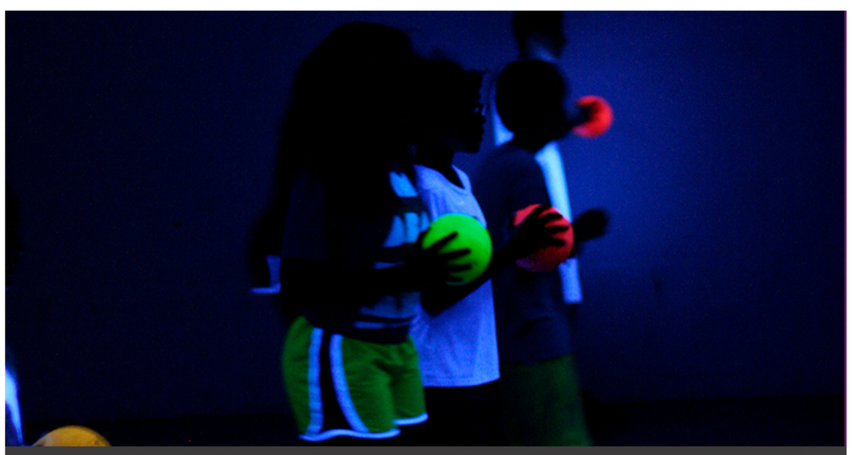
Where are you located?

Christian Retreat Network has 10 retreat centers located throughout the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions spanning 9 states.



High Ropes Course at Faholo

Mini Golf at Potomac Park



Blacklight Sports at Sunstream

All-inclusive packages bundle:

- motel/dorm style lodging
- meeting space with A/V/L
- buffet dining
- basic recreation activities

Start planning your next event at
www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org

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Email Blasts

Christian Retreats Network

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PASTOR to PASTOR

Brought to you by Christian Retreats

Image Management

*Image management.*There's nothing particularly wrong with those two words, but when you put them together and give them to a ministry leader, it is a deadly cocktail. Image management is what we begin to do when our inner world becomes separated from our outer world.

If the outward and inward are not integrated, we literally come apart. And we have seen plenty of examples in recent years of leaders whose lives have dis-integrated.

Because Jesus knew the dangers of disintegration, he had zero tolerance for duplicity. He railed more against image management than anything else he talked about and didn't pull any punches when talking about the image management of the Pharisees.

Read Now »

This edition of Pastor to Pastor was brought to you by

Off-site Events are key to Church Growth

The trend of camps and conferences has been rapidly growing, and it's only continuing. The power of camp, the impact of a retreat, the renewal that comes from a leadership getaway. Those are priceless, life-change moments that we want to help create for your ministry. Our network of properties wants to host your next off-site event!

Learn More »

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2020 is for tech!

Everybody is looking to amp up their events this year. But the rising costs of A/V/L (audio/visual/lighting) equipment at venues can put a damper on things. At Christian Retreats Network, we are dedicated to helping you make your meeting the best it can be. That's why all A/V/L equipment is included in retreat packages for no additional cost. We will even set it up for you before you arrive!

We also know that things don't always go as planned... If you find yourself at your event with some A/V/L issues, here are some things you can do about it.

Read Article

"The A/V equipment is phenomenal - I was so impressed by what is provided at no additional cost."

- Event Planner, Land of Lincoln Legal Aid

"The AV system is exactly what we use at church. Easy to use and a great system."

- Event Planner, Chicago Christian Fellowship

Christian Retreats Network

info@christianretreatsnetwork.org

www.christianretreatsnetwork.org

877-833-2272

One of the first things many people reach for in the morning, whether at home or work, is their coffee. The same rings true at ministry events. Plus, guests need additional cups to keep them going all day. But some planners struggle to incorporate coffee into the agenda.

Why go through all the trouble for a beverage? A study by the Journal of Psychopharmacology found that groups were more engaged and productive when drinking coffee together during a meeting. Just imagine how your event could be if all guests were energetic and attentive.

Start Brewing

Christian Retreats Network

a network of 10 Christian conference centers

www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org	877-833-2272	info@ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org

Christian Retreats Network

Request Information | Our Locations | Resources | Blog

We make planning simple and affordable

Planning is easy with Christian Retreats Network. Our retreat packages include everything your group needs to have a successful ministry event, all bundled at one price per person.

10 locations to choose from

While each property is unique in its location, size and amenities, all 10 offer exceptional guest service in a Christian atmosphere.

Lake Williamson
Carlinville, IL
1350 guest capacity

The Crossing
Lexington, NE
520 guest capacity

Faholo
Grass Lake, MI
500 guest capacity

Potomac Park
Falling Waters, WV
400 guest capacity

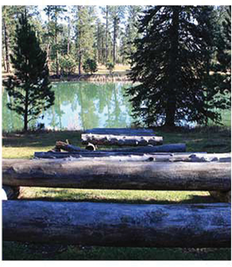
Wheat State
Augusta, KS
400 guest capacity

Sunstream
Ogden, IA
350 guest capacity

Pine Creek
Gore, VA
330 guest capacity

Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO
250 guest capacity

Lost Valley
Gaylord, MI
250 guest capacity



Black Hills
Deadwood, SD
250 guest capacity

86 meeting spaces

668 guest rooms

1 ministry

Christian Retreats Network
Your Partner in Effective Off-site Ministry

Start Planning Your Next Event

www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org
info@ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org
877-833-2272

Tomorrow is Summer.
It's practically here!

Okay, not really. But if you are an event planner, then it probably feels like it. Whether you are looking to host a summer camp, conference or retreat, the time to start planning is now. Luckily, there are two retreat centers in your area; Potomac Park and Pine Creek.

But which one should you choose????

Potomac Park is ideal for group sizes 15-400. The Conference Center boasts the nicest rooms in the Network, perfect for adult groups. The suburban neighborhood and nearby attractions make Potomac Park a prime spot for those not wanting a remote location. The 9 meeting spaces are great for conferences and trainings. For fun, groups can hit the greens on the deluxe mini golf course or take a ride on the slippery slopes.

Pine Creek hosts groups of 15-330. The 48 dorm rooms in Mountain View Lodge work perfectly for camps, as well as the off-the-highway location. Groups looking for team building and adventure recreation are sure to find what they need on our low ropes course and zip lines.

Both properties offer all-inclusive packages that make planning simple and affordable, bundling everything your group needs to have a successful ministry event:

- **Lodging** (motel and dorm styles available)
- **Meeting** (free A/V/L equipment)
- **Dining** (buffet style)
- **Recreation** (indoor and outdoor)

Explore Retreat Packages

Potomac Park
Retreat and Conference Center

Falling Waters, WV
855-929-7722
info@PotomacParkRetreat.org

Pine Creek Retreat Center

Gore, VA
855-929-7463
info@PineCreekRetreat.org

Potomac Park and Pine Creek are properties in the Christian Retreats Network.

Christian Retreats Network

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Lost Valley
Gaylord, MI
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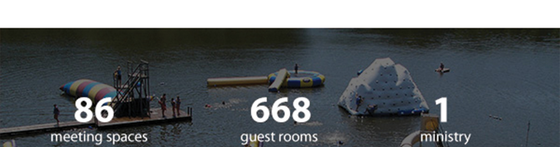
Black Hills
Deadwood, SD
250 guest capacity



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Start Planning Your Next Event

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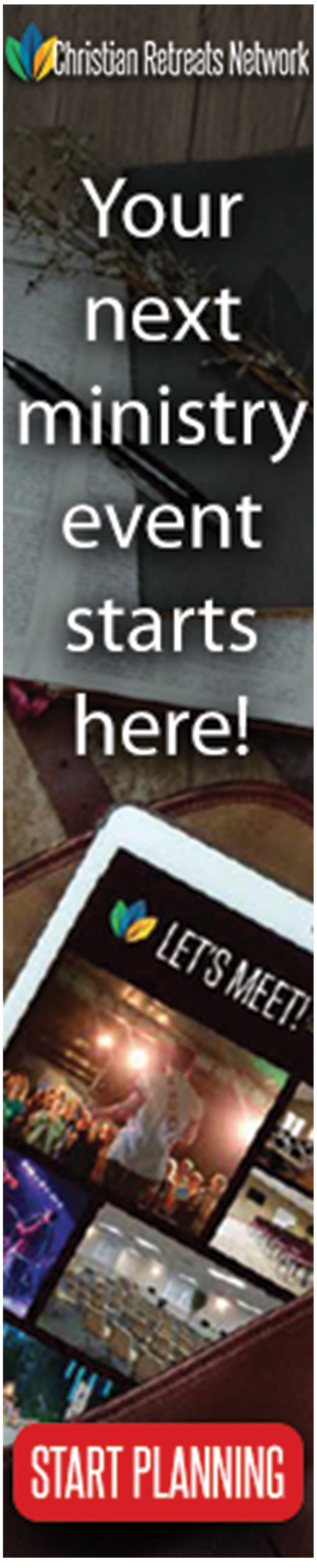
Online Banners

Christian Retreats Network

Your Partner in Effective Off-site Ministry

Mission Ad Group January

120x600



Hover Banner

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Faith Life January Banners

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300x250

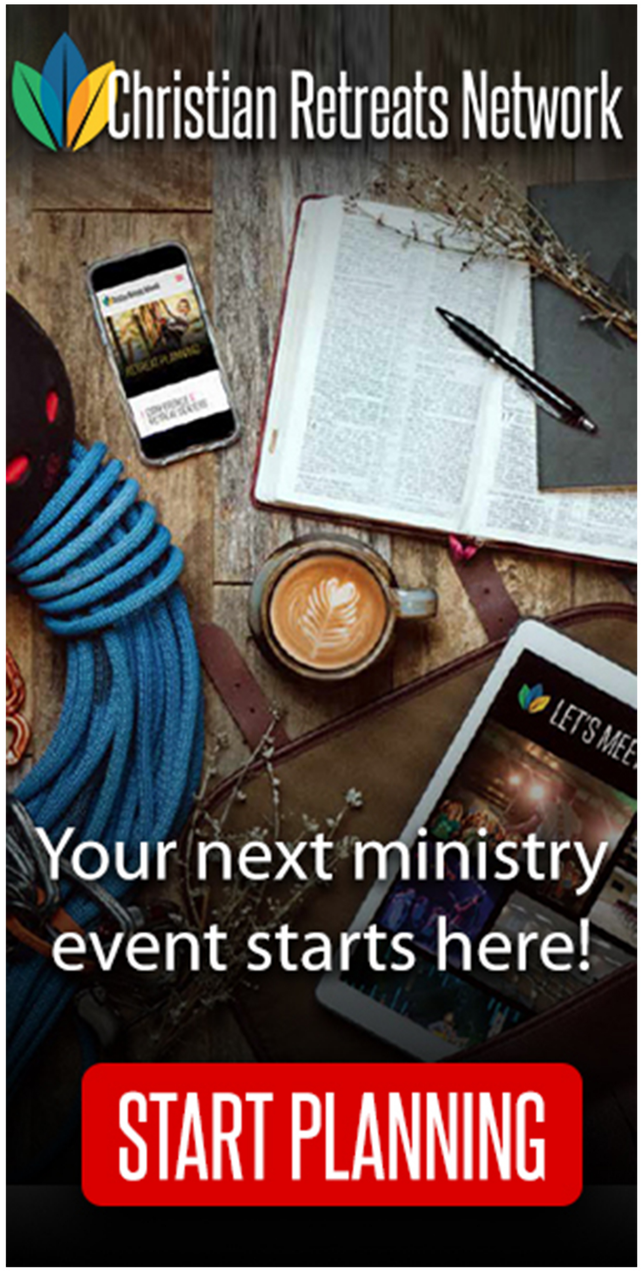
Group Travel Leader January Enews

700x100

300x250

Outreach January Banners

300x600



300x250

mobile 320x100

970x250

Outreach February Banners

300x600

300x250

mobile 320x100

970x250