



Christian Retreats Network

Your Partner in Effective Off-site Ministry

Resources for the Event Planners

Checklists & the Dos and Don'ts

*Resources to make you look
like an all-star!*

Introducing our New Recreation Guide

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for your next gathering

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A Comprehensive Checklist for Picking a Venue

Planning a conference is a big job! But somebody has to do it, right?

Here at Christian Retreats Network, we know a thing or two about planning events — we've been doing it for 25 years! While we'd love to host you at one of our locations, we don't gatekeep!

The quality of a conference truly lies in the small details. When you drill down your needs and expectations, you better understand your event's inner workings. It's not just about the when and where but also the how and why. At CRN, we specialize in mentoring and encourage all planners we meet with to think diligently about what they want to accomplish *before* they start planning.

Let's explore the details that our Conference Services Representatives use to ensure that they have everything planned for our guests. Use this checklist as a guide for planning your next conference.

- ❑ **1. LOCATION:** Choose a conveniently located venue for attendees, speakers, and sponsors. You want to be able to provide them with transportation details, which should include A) miles from the nearest metropolitan areas, B) miles from the nearest airport, C) a list of car rental companies, and D) a list of transportation options such as taxi services or whether Uber or Lyft is available in the area.

- ❑ **2. CAPACITY:** Is there enough space for your guests? A maximum capacity of 250 might mean standing room. Ask venues to provide you with maximum capacities for various seating arrangements. The number will increase or decrease depending on seating arrangements. For example, conference style will typically give you more seats than banquet style. Are you wondering what "conference-style" and "banquet-style" means?



We have a cheat sheet for you!

- ❑ **3. ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** Do any of your anticipated attendees require special accommodations? If an attendee requires a 24/7 service animal, you'll need to check with the venue on their policies. If a participant uses a wheelchair, you'll want to confirm with the venue that the margins between tables can accommodate the width of a standard wheelchair. You might assume that all venues are ADA accessible, but it's a good idea to ask for specifics: How far away are accessible parking spots from the main entrance? Are there bars for transfers in the handicap-accessible stalls?
- ❑ **4. AV EQUIPMENT:** The term "AV" can have broad definitions. What does the venue actually offer? Microphones? How many? How many people can fit comfortably on stage? Screens? What kind of adapters are required? Request a comprehensive AV list from your venue contact to get a clear idea of what is available.
- ❑ **5. INTERNET:** Most venues offer free Wi-Fi, but does that extend to your guests? Many people do not want to use their personal data plans and would like to connect with the venue's Wi-Fi. Ask for the password ahead of time and share it with your check-in information for seamless access.
- ❑ **6. SEATING TYPE:** What kind of seating does the venue offer? If your itinerary has extensive periods where people will sit in chairs, consider how comfortable the seating is. Metal chairs may only be

suitable for short periods for some individuals. As a result, you may want to consider adding more intermissions to your itinerary to ensure guests have time to get up and stretch.

- ❑ **7. FOOD AND DRINK:** Does the venue's catering meet your guests' dietary needs? Many individuals follow special diets, and it can be disappointing to attend an event with the promise of a meal only to learn there isn't anything safe to eat. You may need to survey your guests before the event to get an idea of their dietary needs and preferences, then discuss their needs with the venue. If the venue cannot accommodate, will they allow you to bring in outside food to better suit the needs of your attendees? Food for thought!
- ❑ **8. STAFFING:** How much support will you have while facilitating your event? You may have a designated contact before the event, but who will be your go-to for hiccups during the event? Also, how accessible is that person? If you have an AV problem, what is the approximate turnaround for assistance? Use your team to come up with a list of possible scenarios and put action plans in place. Be sure to distribute to your team so everyone is on the same page on who to call and what to do.
- ❑ **9. LODGING:** Will your guests be staying the night? If so, how far are the rooms from the conference area? If it is a long distance, ask whether on-site transportation or concierge services are available. It's not unexpected for people to choose style over comfort when attending events, so if they need to bring walking shoes to get to their room, it's a good idea to give them a heads-up.

Planning a large conference is a rewarding experience but requires a great deal of detail and precision. You will set yourself up for success by studying your venue and its accommodations. Ask the questions and memorize the answers to confidently field questions from guests, attendees, and staff members.

We're so proud of you for taking on this role and joining your Brothers and Sisters in Christ to advance God's Kingdom. Christian Retreats Network is here for you during your planning process. We love what we do and want to share our joyful purpose with other event planners.



NEED MORE?
We dive deeper into all these topics in our Blogs!

FACE 2 FACE IS BACK:

Why Video Calls Have Replaced Phone Calls and How They Can Improve Communication

The first-ever text was sent on December 3, 1992, by Neil Papworth, a 22-year-old software programmer from the UK. It simply said, "Merry Christmas." From there, texting grew in popularity, and by 2000, SMS (short message service) was taking over the world. (Source: <https://www.vodafone.com/news/technology/25-anniversary-text-message>)

For those born between 1980 and 1995, adolescence was a uniquely divided experience between a time of little to no technology and a time of a lot of technology. For the first half, there were only tube TVs and landlines; next, everyone had computers, dial-up Internet, and cell phones.

Those born before 1980 can genuinely attest to how much technology, the Internet, and texting have changed how we communicate. Even with the integration of emojis and reactions (e.g., heart, thumbs up, thumbs down), short quips from a keyboard lack a human touch. While texting is undoubtedly convenient, an introductory speech communication class will surely address that body language is essential to good communication!

So developers took note, and **video calling** was released.

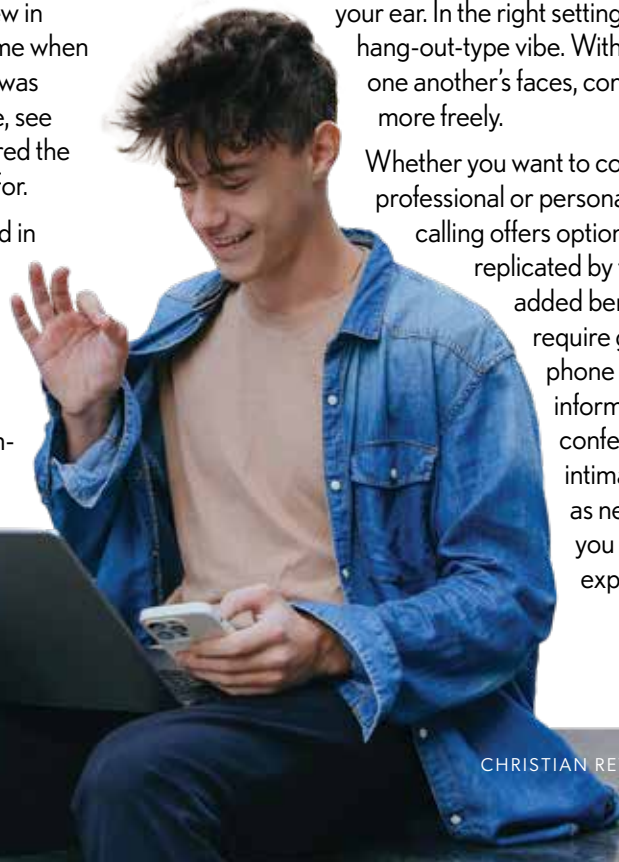
While video calling has existed for some time, it grew in popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic. At a time when people were desiring human contact, video calling was an answer. It allowed people to connect face to face, see each other smile, and hear each other laugh. It offered the human connection so many people were yearning for.

The popular video-conferencing host Zoom peaked in 2020 and was briefly the leading platform. Since then, Zoom has faced competition from other major platforms, including Google Meets and Microsoft Teams. All three giants continue to thrive and maintain steady user retention. (Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1259905/zoom-website-traffic/>)

Has video calling replaced old-fashioned texting and phone calls? It seems likely for a handful of reasons:

- 1 Video calling is more accessible.** For those who are deaf or have hearing impairments, video calling opens up significantly more social opportunities. Phone calls cannot accommodate the ability to communicate via ASL, nor do they allow for reading lips and body language.
- 2 Video calling is more personable.** If you are working with a new contact, video calling allows you to make eye contact, smile, and use your hands to talk. Seeing the person you are talking to can create a connection that cannot be emulated via phone calls or text messages.
- 3 Video calling is more intimate.** When discussing harsh or solemn topics, it is easier to convey and understand one another's emotions when you can see facial expressions. While you cannot hug over a video conference, you can express empathy and kindness through body language and talking with your hands.
- 4 Video calling is more relaxed.** Being hands-free allows you to sit comfortably without holding a phone to your ear. In the right setting, it can provide a hang-out-type vibe. With the ability to see one another's faces, conversations flow more freely.

Whether you want to connect for professional or personal reasons, video-calling offers options that cannot be replicated by text or phone. An added benefit is that it doesn't require giving out your cell phone number or personal information; video conferencing can be as intimate or impersonal as needed, providing you with a customizable experience.





OVERVIEW

Nestled amidst the tranquil beauty of West Virginia, Potomac Park Conference Center offers a serene and inspiring setting for group gatherings, retreats, and conferences. Conveniently located just two miles off I-81 on Route 11 (Williamsport Pike) in Falling Waters, West Virginia, the center welcomes guests from the Baltimore/DC region and beyond. Potomac Park Retreat and Conference Center offers a variety of retreat packages designed to cater to the specific needs of your group. Whether you're planning a spiritual retreat, a corporate team-building event, or a family reunion, our team will work closely with you to create a memorable and enriching experience.

KEY FEATURES

- Year-round accommodations for up to 400 overnight guests in motel or dorm style lodging
- Private meeting spaces with complimentary A/V equipment
- Buffet dining options
- Ample recreation facilities

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

With an array of recreational facilities and activities, Potomac Park provides ample opportunities for guests of all ages to enjoy the outdoors and engage in physical pursuits.

- Slippery slopes
- Fitness center
- Olympic-sized outdoor pool
- Basketball court
- Horseshoe pits
- Sledding hill
- Mini golf course, Pars on the Potomac
- Indoor gymnasium
- Activity hall for indoor fun
- Recreation fields
- Volleyball court
- Bonfire areas
- Walking trail





FALLING WATERS, WEST VIRGINIA

Within 1 hour and 20 minutes of the DC/
Baltimore metropolitan areas and the BWI,
Reagan, and Dulles Airports



CONTACT INFORMATION

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OVERVIEW

Nestled amidst the breathtaking scenery of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Pine Creek Retreat Center provides a tranquil setting for your next group gathering. Whether you're planning a spiritual retreat, a family reunion, or a corporate team-building event, Pine Creek offers a variety of accommodations, activities, and amenities to make your experience unforgettable. Pine Creek Retreat Center offers a variety of all-inclusive retreat packages to suit your group's needs and budget. Our packages include everything from lodging and meals to meeting space and activities. We can also customize packages to accommodate specific requests.

KEY FEATURES

- Year-round retreat opportunities
- Up to 340 overnight guests
- Spacious and comfortable lodging options
- Private meeting spaces with A/V equipment
- Delicious and nutritious buffet meals

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Pine Creek Retreat Center offers a wide range of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. Whether you're looking for a relaxing game of volleyball, a challenging hike, or an adrenaline-pumping zip line adventure, we have something for everyone.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Gymnasium | • Basketball court |
| • Volleyball court | • Human foosball |
| • Game room | • Recreation fields |
| • Outdoor pool | • Gaga ball |
| • Hayrides | • Bonfires |
| • Hiking trails | • Indoor climbing walls |





GORE, VIRGINIA

Within 1 hour and 30 minutes from Washington, D.C., while Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport are both 2 hours away



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Mentally Preparing Your Teen for Summer Camp:

Four Ways to Nix the Nerves

Is your teen nervous about going away to summer camp? Whether they are new or returning campers, deciding to go away to summer camp can be daunting for teens.

This may surprise some readers, but teens are spending more hours a day at home now than in years past, and there are a few theories as to why. (Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2019/02/20/the-way-u-s-teens-spend-their-time-is-changing-but-differences-between-boys-and-girls-persist/>) Firstly, screens provide entertainment at any hour of the day. Summer camp was often used to fill downtime during the summer, but there really isn't ever a reason to say "I'm bored" anymore; technology allows us to have endless entertainment at our fingertips. Between streaming accounts, social media, and online games, there's always something fun to do. Secondly, the pandemic shifted the world's view on time spent at home with friends and family, and there's been a surge in self-proclaimed "introverts." According to the Pew Research Institute, today's teens sleep more and spend more time on homework versus socializing or working. Texting and social media have made it possible to socialize anywhere and anytime, so while they may be socializing less outside of the home, they're still socializing, if not more than before. Regarding work, many teens postpone getting their first job until after high school graduation. Instead, they spend those four precious years focusing their time and energy on their studies and special interests.

But you know it. And we know it: Summer camp is more than a time filler!

Not only is it a time to rest and relax—it's also an opportunity to self-reflect, grow in your relationship with the Lord, and meet new people face-to-face. So, if your teen is anxious or unsure about this once-a-year opportunity, try these suggestions to gently and mentally prepare your teen for a traditional, all-American summer experience.

- 1 Visit the camp.** If it's within driving distance, schedule a day trip to drive and see the campus. Make a day of it by planning a lunch at a fun restaurant or shopping for supplies on the packing list. If it's not possible to go in person, do a virtual tour. Order pizza and spend the evening digging through the camp's website and social media accounts.
- 2 Share your own experiences and stories.** Make this a fun experience, and include your spouse for added support. Pull out some of your old camp photos and make a PowerPoint. Add popcorn and soda for a whole cinematic experience!
- 3 Schedule a Zoom call with camp staff.** This may be especially helpful if your teen has a mental health diagnosis and has specific concerns or fears that need to be addressed. Having a trusted adult at camp can provide them with a safety net in the event they begin to feel anxious, sad, or stressed while away.
- 4 Stay positive and provide continuous encouragement.** It's not uncommon for teens to have wavering confidence. You may have a conversation where you leave thinking they are on board, only to find out they are reconsidering again the next day.

Camp is a beautiful and eye-opening experience that many youth can benefit from, and while teens today may be well-entertained, there is nothing quite like a week of camp! Everyone deserves an opportunity to sing worship, share testimony, and lean into Him with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. If it's on your heart for your teen to attend summer camp, try out one of these gentle methods to help nix the nerves.

We wish you the best of luck!

Striking the Balance Between Faith and Fun at Adult Retreats



Remember that heartwarming scene from “The Santa Clause” starring Tim Allen? In a stroke of holiday magic, he surprises the school staff with the toys they longed for as children. What was a mundane Christmas party is magically transformed into a lively affair when the Rock ‘Em Sock ‘Em Robots appear. Laughter fills the room as adults rediscover the joy of playing and having fun!

Similarly, at an adult retreat, it’s crucial to strike a balance between spiritual growth and fun activities. While the main focus is on worship, small groups, and speakers, injecting some light and leisurely activities into the schedule can create a well-rounded experience. These activities offer relaxation and enjoyment and promote camaraderie and connection.

We’ve compiled a list of fun activities to consider incorporating into your schedule:

1. Hiking Adventures: Explore the scenic surroundings of your retreat location with invigorating hikes. Whether a leisurely stroll or a challenging trek, hiking allows attendees to soak in nature while engaging in healthy physical activity. Encourage attendees to connect with God through the beauty of the great outdoors.

2. Journaling Sessions: Dedicate time in your schedule for introspection and reflection through journaling sessions. Provide prompts to stimulate and encourage attendees to express their thoughts, prayers, and insights. Journaling can serve as a therapeutic outlet for processing emotions and deepening their relationship with Him!

3. Fitness Classes: Energize the body and mind with fitness classes led by experienced instructors certified in yoga, pilates, Zumba, and boot camps. Consider offering a handful of options to cater to different preferences and fitness levels. Physical exercise not only boosts mood but also promotes overall well-being.

4. Scavenger Hunts: Promote teamwork and exploration with interactive scavenger hunts around the retreat grounds. Create clues and challenges that encourage participants to collaborate and navigate the surroundings together. A scavenger hunt is a fun way to familiarize attendees with the property while promoting bonding.

5. Artistic Expression: Tap into creativity that inspires self-expression with painting, drawing, and crafting sessions. Provide the supplies and allow guests to unleash their creative talents. Art is a meaningful outlet for personal reflection.

6. Relaxation Time: Designate specific periods for rest and relaxation, allowing attendees to recharge and rejuvenate. Encourage individuals to indulge in quiet activities such as reading, napping, or relaxing by the water. Providing opportunities for relaxation promotes slowness, mental clarity, and spiritual renewal.

7. Board Game Nights: Recapture the joy of childhood with nostalgic board game nights. Set up game stations featuring classic favorites like Monopoly, Scrabble, and Chess. Encourage friendly competition and laughter as attendees bond over shared experiences.

8. Puzzle Stations: Create designated areas for attendees to work on puzzles throughout the retreat. Puzzles offer a soothing yet stimulating activity that promotes concentration and problem-solving skills. They can provide opportunities for casual interaction and collaboration among participants.

Incorporating these activities into your adult retreat schedule can enhance the overall experience, nurturing spiritual growth, community building, and personal rejuvenation. By providing opportunities for both reflection and recreation, you’ll create a memorable and enriching retreat that leaves attendees feeling refreshed and inspired.



OVERVIEW

At Lake Williamson, our goal is to “Serve one another in Love” in the spirit of Galatians 5:13. Lake Williamson has been a trusted name in Christian Hospitality for over 50 years and features year-round recreation and accommodations for up to 1,350 overnight guests. Our retreat packages include everything your group needs to have a successful ministry event: lodging, dining, meeting, and recreation.

KEY FEATURES

- 29 Meeting spaces (largest venue seats 1500)
- Multiple dining options
- Extensive indoor, outdoor, and seasonal recreation available
- All-inclusive packages bundle lodging, meeting, buffet dining and basic recreation.
- Christian Retreats Network is a ministry of Lake Williamson Christian Center. The retreat planning office for the entire network is located at Lake Williamson.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Lake Williamson offers a wide variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. Some of the most popular activities include:

- 2 Gyms
- Wallyball Court
- Hot Tub
- Human Foosball
- Disc Golf
- 9 Square
- Outdoor Mini Golf
- Rock Climbing
- Blacklight Sports
- Indoor And Outdoor Pool
- Recreation Fields
- Indoor Blacklight Mini Golf
- Bocce
- Gaga Ball
- Archery
- Beachfront Activities

ADVENTURE ADD-ONS

For an additional fee, groups can add adventure recreation activities to their retreat.

- Escape Rooms
- Low Ropes Course
- Axe Throwing
- High Ropes Course
- Zip Line
- Outdoor Education





Continued
on page 24-25



CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS

Between St. Louis, Missouri and Springfield,
Illinois — 1 hour and 20 minutes from St.
Louis Lambert International Airport.



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RESTORE. RENEW. RECONNECT.





Eagle Crest Adventures offers a variety of quality program options for groups of all ages and abilities. Their professionally facilitated programs are designed to help groups improve communication, build trust, and develop leadership skills.

- High ropes
- Zipline
- Axe throwing
- Group initiatives
- Climbing gym
- Outdoor education
- Escape the rooms

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SIX

Silly & Fun

Faith-Based Family Camp Themes

A good theme is the bread and butter of an event. While the location, speakers, and activities are crucial to planning a camp or retreat, a fun theme gives that extra charm that creates an unforgettable experience.

We've compiled a list of seven silly and fun faith-based themes for your next family camp or retreat. Read on for ideas and inspiration!

1. UP, UP, & AWAY: HEAVENLY ADVENTURES

This theme celebrates the wonders of the sky and the beauty of heaven's promises. For a biblical approach to decor, include:

- Puffy clouds
- Greenery (a reference to green pastures).
- Pearls (a reference to gates of pearls).
- Gold (a reference to gold pavement).

For activities and studies, we suggest biblical discussions around the Tree of Life, Water of Life, Angels, and the house with many rooms. Carve out time in your schedule for outdoor activities such as stargazing, cloud watching, and outdoor exploration.

*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day, they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.*
—Psalms 19:1-2

The Heavenly Adventures theme will bring a peaceful yet exciting vibe to your retreat. Families will be reminded of the brilliance of God's handiwork on earth and in heaven, as well as the awe-inspiring beauty of the sky and nature.

2. HAPPY DAYS: JOYFUL CELEBRATIONS

This theme is all about rejoicing and spreading happiness to all!

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
—Philippians 4:4

For decor inspiration, think: smiley faces, thumbs up, and happy emojis against a backdrop of bright colors, sunshine, and rainbows.

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth, and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind.

—Genesis 9:12-15

The Joyful Celebrations camp theme is guaranteed to put a smile on everyone's face. For activities, include silly games to keep energy levels high. For game ideas, download our free Recreation and Game Guide. There is a specific section dedicated to just SILLY games!

With a steady stream of uplifting activities planned, every moment will be filled with joy and laughter.

3. JESUS OLYMPICS: RUNNING THE RACE OF FAITH OR POWER LIFTERS: BUILDING STRENGTH IN BODY AND SPIRIT

These two themes are easily interchangeable, so you can choose which one you like best for your group. They challenge families to run the good race with Faith, Perseverance, and Determination. As Christians, we know that heaven is the ultimate destination, and like athletes competing in the

Olympics, we must push ourselves to win the ultimate prize—a crown that will last forever!

Do you not know that in a race, all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

—1 Corinthians 9:24-25 (NIV)

These themes combine and compare athleticism with Faith, reminding families that Faith takes perseverance, determination, and practice! With a focus on building physical and spiritual strength, thematic games, competitions, and team challenges will inspire everyone to give their all for the glory of God and empower them to reach new heights and confidently overcome obstacles.

For decor, use a mix of faux gold crowns and gold medals as focal points. Add in references to marathons, weightlifting, and training for extra variation.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

—2 Timothy 4:7-8

4. FAITHCRAFT: BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

This theme will appeal to your Minecraft fans and parents of Minecraft fans! Minecraft is a popular adventure video game that uses blocks to build and pave the way to defeat the Ender Dragon! With this theme, you will prepare a memorable camp or retreat focusing on creativity, teamwork, and Faith. Campers can explore the block world in real life through Minecraft-esque games, activities, and creations:

- Build epic structures to showcase ingenuity using MagnaCraft building blocks. You can buy sets at www.magnacraft.co (yes, .co, not a typo!)
- Embark on thrilling “quests” (e.g., scavenger hunts)
- Express creativity through cool Minecraft-themed crafts. Check out this cool Pinterest board at pinterest.com/krysanthe/minecraft-crafts for craft inspiration.

Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

—Matthew 7:24-27

This popular theme emphasizes building a strong and solid foundation of faith while keeping a smile on your face! Keep everyone laughing with fun and silly games. We recommend Here Comes the Bride and Spaghetti Scavengers, which can be found on page 7 of our Recreation and Game Guide.

5. KICKIN' IT WITH JESUS: RETRO AEROBICS

Transport your family camp back to the 1980s with this retro-themed retreat inspired by the nostalgia of the outlandish aerobics craze that swept the nation! This theme is excellent for fall and winter retreats when you'll spend most of your time inside. Some fun activities might include:

- Aerobics Class: designate a youth pastor to be the aerobics instructor, complete with an authentic 1980s get-up
- BIG HAIR Contest: Purchase bottles of hairspray, teasing combs, and curling irons and let 'em go! The biggest and best hair wins the contest. These pictures will make great social media content!
- P.E. Pacman: This is a fun P.E. version of the popular Pacman video game. Find instruction here: www.physedgames.com/pacman.

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

—Romans 12:9-13

Get ready to sweat to the oldies (recognizing this reference may be telling of your age) as you kick, step, and dance your way to fitness, fun, and FAITH! Be sure to incorporate loads of neon colors, leg warmers, and upbeat music into your decor. This retreat theme will get everyone moving and grooving as they praise Jesus!

6. MAY THE FAITH BE WITH YOU: GALACTIC ADVENTURE

Journey to a galaxy far, far away with this galactic-themed outer space retreat that celebrates Faith and salvation. Inspired by the timeless message of the Force, this retreat will challenge participants to embrace their inner Jedi and fight for what is right. With lightsaber duels, space-themed games, and intergalactic missions (scavenger hunts, riddles, and other mental training games), this retreat will ignite imaginations and inspire everyone to let their Faith guide them on their epic adventure to salvation!

But you, man of God, flee from all this and pursue righteousness, godliness, Faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the Faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

—1 Timothy 6:11-12

If you plan to show the movie, make sure you go through the appropriate channels. Church Video Licensing can help you with obtaining licenses. Visit them at www.us.cvli.com.

Whether you're exploring the wonders of the cosmos or battling the bad guys in a galaxy far, far away, these eight family retreat themes will elevate the experience and create lasting memories for years to come. Families will leave family camp thriving after experiencing a week of faith, fellowship, and fun.

FIND YOUR Destination

CHRISTIAN RETREATS NETWORK HAS
PROPERTIES COUNTRY WIDE TO MAKE
TRAVEL CONVENIENT



CRN PROPERTIES



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LostValleyRetreat.org



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Faholo.org



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PotomacParkRetreat.org



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How to Pre-plan for

Last Minute Cancellations

Imagine...

It's finally the day of your retreat. After months of planning, you're ecstatic to share the day with attendees. You've lined up an excellent guest speaker and an energetic worship band. Everything is perfect, and you feel accomplished. That is, until someone cancels.

At this moment, you may feel anxious, stressed, or even angry, and it's OK to feel disappointed that things are off balance! Humans plan and attend events, meaning cancellations are bound to happen!

Stop, breathe, and pray before letting your emotions get the best of you, and refrain from allowing last-minute cancellations to throw you off balance. Remember, you are an accomplished Event Planner with a solid Plan B, C, and D ready to roll at a moment's notice.

Read on for our recommendations on planning for last-minute cancellations from your Guest Speaker or Worship Band so that you are prepared for the unexpected.

Guest Speaker:

Plan B (Your speaker cannot attend in person): In today's technology-driven world, pivoting to a virtual option is relatively easy. Discuss a backup plan with your speaker early in the planning stage if something occurs and they cannot attend in person. Decide on a video conferencing software such as Zoom, Teams, Skype, or even Facebook Messenger, and have a link scheduled and shared with your team that can be quickly accessed. Additionally, you can request your speaker pre-record their sermon or speech to be streamed during the time slot.

Plan C (Your speaker cannot attend, but you have an alternate speaker): Confer with your team and ask if anyone is willing to volunteer as an alternate speaker if your Guest Speaker cannot attend. If you are firm on the topic, encourage your alternate to watch your Guest Speaker's pre-recorded speech and speak alongside it, or, if the Guest Speaker is willing, have them write a speech

for your backup. This creates a more dynamic experience than watching the standalone pre-recorded video.

Plan D (You do not have a single soul available to speak): Identify a movie, documentary, or pre-recorded sermon related to your event theme and stream it during the time slot. SermonCentral.com is an excellent resource for sermons and sermon series. If you plan to use a movie as a backup option, take the appropriate steps to ensure you follow copyright law. Church Video License (<https://us.cvli.com>) has tiered pricing dependent on your church or organization's size.

Worship Band:

Plan B: Designate an alternate worship leader. Is anyone on your team musically talented? Do you have anyone from your home church worship band who could step in during a time of need?

Plan C: Use backing tracks! Many companies, such as WorshipHouse Media (<https://www.worshiphousemedia.com>), provide beautifully curated backing tracks and lyrics for commercial use. Before purchasing, check with your home church to see if you can borrow anything from their media library.

Plan D: Check out YouTube. There are so many creators out there who make fantastic free content using worship songs from the public domain. The account <Top Worship Songs> has 10-hour videos with lyrics. (<https://www.youtube.com/@topworshipsongs813>)

A last-minute cancellation will be stressful, no matter what, but it will be easier to handle with a soundproof backup plan. With technology at our fingertips, we can always consult the internet for comparable alternatives to what we originally planned. Plus, fantastic Christian organizations and content creators online make and release new resources daily.

Ultimately, when we plan for the unexpected, we set ourselves up for success.

The Dos and Don'ts of Planning a Singles Retreat

Are you organizing a Christian singles retreat and looking for ways to make it truly special? Planning a retreat for singles requires thoughtful consideration and attention to detail. Whether hosting an all-inclusive singles retreat or focusing on a specific theme, here are some dos and don'ts to ensure a memorable and meaningful experience for all attendees.

DO PRIORITIZE SPIRITUAL GROWTH

At the heart of any Christian singles retreat is the desire for spiritual renewal. Fill a majority of your schedule with meaningful activities like prayer sessions, worship gatherings, Bible studies, and devotional times to help participants deepen their relationship with God. Choose speakers and leaders who align with your mission to provide valuable resources and guidance.

DON'T NEGLECT DIVERSITY

When planning your retreat, create an inclusive environment that welcomes people from diverse backgrounds, ages, and walks of life. Welcome diversity within the Christian community and ensure all attendees feel valued and respected. Avoid programming or language that may exclude or marginalize certain groups, and strive to promote inclusivity.

DO FOSTER COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

One of the primary goals of a singles retreat is to provide opportunities for meaningful connections and friendships to flourish. Plan activities and icebreakers that encourage interaction and facilitate authentic conversations. Designate time and space for attendees to share their stories, struggles, and joys, and be sure to provide ample time in your schedule for organic fellowship.

Need ice breaker inspo? Check out our free recreation guide on page 35.

DON'T FOCUS SOLELY ON FINDING ROMANTIC PARTNERS

While it's natural for singles to desire companionship, avoid making romantic relationships the sole focus of the retreat. Instead, emphasize personal growth, spiritual development, and building healthy friendships. Avoid using romantic imagery in your marketing and opt for friendly colors and images. Aim to create an atmosphere where individuals feel affirmed and valued for where they are, whether actively seeking a romantic relationship or content with their single status.

DO PLAN FUN AND ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

Balance the spiritual aspects of the retreat with opportunities for fun and relaxation. Being at a singles event can make people feel vulnerable, so be sure to organize recreational activities, group games, and outings that promote laughter and light-hearted socialization. Consider the interests and preferences of your attendees and tailor the activities to suit their needs.

DON'T OVER-SCHEDULE

Be mindful not to pack the retreat schedule too tightly, leaving little room for rest. Allow for downtime and flexibility in the itinerary to prevent attendees from feeling overwhelmed, exhausted, or overextended. Create a balance between structured programming and free time for individuals to recharge and reflect. A good ratio to follow is 3:1. For every three hours of programming, offer an hour of casual time.

DO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Offer workshops, seminars, or discussion groups on topics relevant to Christian singles, such as relationships, personal growth, and navigating singleness with faith. Provide practical tools and insights that empower attendees to thrive in their single journey and live out their faith with purpose and intentionality.

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW UP

After the retreat, continue nurturing the relationships and spiritual growth that began during the event. A great way to do this is to offer a monthly hangout, either in person or online. There are so many ways to stay connected online to keep friendships alive: through emails, social media, groups, or monthly video calls. Make it a priority to celebrate milestones and victories together and journey alongside one another in the ups and downs of life.

Planning a Christian singles retreat is an opportunity to create a space where individuals can grow spiritually, connect with others, and experience the love and grace of God in a tangible way. By prioritizing spiritual growth, fostering community and connection, and providing opportunities for personal development, you can ensure that your retreat is a transformative and unforgettable experience.





OVERVIEW

Faholo Christian Center is a welcoming retreat center located in Grass Lake, Michigan that provides a tranquil setting for guests to reconnect with their faith, recharge their spirits, and experience the beauty of nature. With year-round accommodations and activities for up to 500 overnight guests, Faholo offers a variety of options for groups seeking spiritual refreshment and fellowship. Faholo's all-inclusive retreat packages take the guesswork out of planning your next ministry event.

KEY FEATURES

- Year-round accommodations for up to 500 overnight guests
- Choice of motel-style or dorm-style accommodations
- Delicious and nutritious meals served buffet-style in the dining hall
- Spacious meeting spaces with complimentary A/V equipment
- Dedicated staff committed to providing exceptional service

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Faholo offers a diverse range of recreation opportunities to suit all ages and interests. Whether you're seeking physical activity, team-building challenges, or quiet moments of reflection, our center has something for everyone.

- Gym
- Volleyball
- Indoor and outdoor pool
- Game room
- Recreation fields
- Wagon Ride
- Beachfront with activities
- Indoor climbing wall and more!
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Hot tub
- Fitness room
- Bonfires
- Go karts
- Disc golf

ADVENTURE ADD-ONS

For an additional fee, groups can add adventure recreation activities to their retreat.

- High Ropes Course with 2 Levels
- Zip line
- Giant Swing
- Group Initiatives Programs





GRASS LAKE, MICHIGAN

30 mins from Ann Arbor and 1 hour from Detroit and Wayne County Airport



CONTACT INFORMATION

888-532-4656
faholo.org
info@faholo.org



OVERVIEW

Lost Valley Retreat Center is a seasonal retreat center located in Gaylord, Michigan. It is open annually from May to Mid-October and can accommodate up to 250 overnight guests. The center offers a variety of amenities, including recreation facilities, lodging, and dining. Lost Valley is also the perfect place to host a ministry event, with all-inclusive packages that make planning easy and affordable. Lost Valley Retreat Center offers a variety of retreat packages to suit your group's needs. All packages include lodging, dining, meeting space, and recreation.

KEY FEATURES

- Modern amenities in a setting close to nature
- All-inclusive retreat packages
- Facilities to accommodate up to 250 overnight guests
- Choice of lodging style
- Complimentary meeting space
- Buffet dining
- Basic recreation
- Discounts available

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Lost Valley Retreat Center offers a variety of recreation opportunities, including:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gym • Disc golf • Basketball • Bonfires • Indoor and outdoor climbing walls • Team building and more! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go karts • Recreation fields • Volleyball • Trails • Beachfront with several activities |
|--|---|

ADVENTURE ADD-ONS

For an additional fee, groups can add adventure recreation activities to their retreat.

- High ropes course
- Climbing tower





GAYLORD, MICHIGAN

1 hour east of North Platte, 2.5 hours west of Lincoln, 3.5 hours west of Omaha, and 5 hours from Kansas City



CONTACT INFORMATION

888.532.4656
lostvalleyretreat.org
info@lostvalleyretreat.org




5 SOCIAL MEDIA MISTAKES AND HOW TO FIX THEM

Social media is a quick, easy, and free way to advertise your event. However, there is a difference between using it and using it well. Here are five common social media mistakes planners make—and how to fix them:

MISTAKE #1: NOT HAVING A SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE AT ALL

According to a Pew Research study done in 2024, approximately 7 in 10 adults reported using Facebook, and 8 in 10 reported using YouTube. With these statistics, it's highly probable your target audience is using social media.

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2024/01/31/americans-social-media-use>

 **HOW TO FIX IT:** Firstly, we recommend you designate or hire someone to run your social media account(s). While it is quick and easy, the strategy and prep to posting takes time. Secondly, choose


which social media accounts you will use and base your choice on your target audience. Sprout Social did a great job of digesting current social media demographics. You can read their takeaway here, but generally speaking:

- the younger generation is using Snapchat, TikTok, and Instagram;
- the middle-aged generation is using Facebook, LinkedIn, and X; and
- the older generation is using Facebook, LinkedIn, and Pinterest.

Source: <https://sproutsocial.com/insights/new-social-media-demographics>


MISTAKE #2: NOT LINKING YOUR TICKET AND REGISTRATION PAGE

Your social media presence aims to get people to register for your event. Making it difficult or hard to reach the registration page via the social media page may deter people from registering, as it can be a red flag for disorganization or unclear information.

 **HOW TO FIX IT:** Include the link to your registration page in as many places as possible. A great place to start is your profile bio. Your bio will often be the first thing social media users see when visiting your page. Another place to include your registration link is at the top of your feed. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and X all allow users to pin top posts. This means whatever else you post goes below the pinned post, keeping that registration link at the top no matter what.


MISTAKE #3: IGNORING INTERACTIONS AND MESSAGES

While event planners and businesses often use social media to advertise or share information, users use it to obtain information and ask questions. Ignoring social exchanges can make potential attendees feel discouraged.

 **HOW TO FIX IT:** Best practice is to check your notifications daily to see if any users have attempted to contact you. Then respond as soon as possible within 24 hours. Remember that users are not only sending you messages; they may also be commenting on your posts or tagging you in posts. Keep tabs on interactions and stay actively engaged in all conversations involving your organization, team, and events. Social media is a great way to network, so use it to your advantage!

MISTAKE #4: NOT POSTING CONSISTENTLY

A common social media misconception is that you need to post on your social media page multiple times a day. While this is a worthwhile tactic if you are trying to grow a large following because you are an aspiring influencer or musician, most brands and organizations can get away with a once-a-day or a few times a week. Posting minor updates or irrelevant content may result in users unfollowing or “snoozing” you.

 **HOW TO FIX IT:** Post quality and strategic content by sharing a mix of videos, pictures, memes, gifs, and infographics. If your event occurs annually, post Throwback Thursday photos from years past. If this is a first-time event, test posting pictures of your team working, meeting, and preparing. Social

media users love to see the smiling faces behind the account. Your feed should be a balanced mix of entertaining content and informational content. For every few “fun” posts, throw in an infographic or advertisement that includes links to online registration, FAQs, and the venue website.


Some guiding questions to ask yourself before hitting post:

1. “Will this benefit my following?”
2. “Would I want to see this on my social media page?”
3. “Will this post deter or offend anyone?”

MISTAKE #5: NOT USING IT DURING THE EVENT

You need to post pictures of your speakers, the food, the decoration, and the attendees during the event to ensure you get all the benefits of 1) marketing for next year and 2) providing value to your attendees. Have you ever heard someone say, “I’m having FOMO.” This popular term stands for “fear of missing out,” and there is some solid marketing psychology behind this slang. When users scroll past the photos of your event and see how fantastic it is, for a short moment, they may think, “Hmm. I wish I were there!” This marketing phenomenon plants a seed in their memory to RSVP next year and continue following your page for updates. Photos also benefit your attendees who want to look back and see how much fun they had, especially if they were too busy having fun to take pictures themselves!

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/councils/forbescommunicationscouncil/2022/09/26/why-fomo-is-the-key-to-good-marketing/>

 **HOW TO FIX IT:** Remember that designated social media person we mentioned earlier? They need to work the event in real-time! Pictures and videos taken should be uploaded ASAP for attendees. Tag speakers and other VIPs to ramp up engagement. You may also consider going live by streaming parts of your event to your feed. Be sure to respond to comments and messages on the fly. That 24-hour window recommended earlier gets shortened to 15 minutes or less on event day. Use this as an opportunity to have a party on your page!

Social media is a fun and friendly way to market your event. At the end of the day, just have FUN with it, and you’ll be A-OK!

WHEAT STATE

get away from everything, get alone with God

OVERVIEW

Wheat State Retreat Center is a haven for spiritual rejuvenation, offering a diverse range of retreats, camps, conferences, and other enriching experiences. With its picturesque setting, well-equipped facilities, and welcoming atmosphere, Wheat State Retreat Center provides an ideal backdrop for personal and group growth. Wheat State Retreat Center's all-inclusive retreat packages simplify planning and budgeting, ensuring a seamless and memorable experience for individuals and groups.

KEY FEATURES

- Year-round retreat opportunities accommodating up to 400 overnight guests
- Variety of indoor and outdoor recreational facilities catering to diverse interests and preferences

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Wheat State Retreat Center provides a plethora of recreational activities catering to diverse interests and preferences, encouraging physical activity, relaxation, and social interaction:

- Indoor recreation space with blacklight option
- Indoor pickleball courts with blacklight option
- Hangout area with snack shop and table games
- Outdoor pavilion
- Basketball courts
- Recreation fields
- Professional grade sand volleyball courts
- 9 square
- Gaga ball
- Disc golf
- Bonfires and more!

ADVENTURE ADD-ONS

For an additional fee, groups can add adventure recreation activities to their retreat.

- Paintball courses
- Beachfront with swimming activities
- Slide and boating
- Indoor Climbing Wall





AUGUSTA, KANSAS

30 minutes from Wichita, KS and under 3 hours from Kansas City International Airport



CONTACT INFORMATION

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wheatstateretreat.org
info@wheatstateretreat.org



Seven Deadly Sins OF EVENT PLANNING MEETINGS

Have you ever been to a meeting where you found yourself counting down the minutes until it was over? It's a terrible feeling to have, especially when it's for an event you are really excited about!

Event planning takes a team, and teams perform best when everyone is on the same page. Whether you are the chair of an event or a member of a steering committee, this article is for you. We've come up with "seven sins" of event planning meetings and seven solutions to help you and your team have successful meetings.

Sin #1: Not having an agenda at meetings. An agenda provides a specific outline of topics and decisions to be covered. A meeting without an agenda can be quickly riddled with off-topic conversations that derail the decision-making process. Additionally, agendas help keep meetings to the agreed-upon time limit, respecting everyone's schedules.

Solution: Create an agenda template and use it consistently for all meetings. Set reminders in your calendar to create, finalize, and distribute the agenda before the meeting. A good rule of thumb is to send the agenda out three days before the meeting during work hours but no later than 24 hours. This informs attendees of what will be covered and gives them ample time to review and develop talking points, questions, and concerns. Secondly, stick to your agenda! If the topic of conversation is related to another agenda item, remind the meeting member that it will be discussed later in the meeting. If the topic is not on the agenda, move it to the end of the meeting if time allows. Otherwise, put the topic on the agenda for the next meeting to ensure that members feel respected and valued.

Sin #2: Not taking meeting minutes. Have you ever rehashed a conversation with another person only to realize you remembered the conversation entirely differently? Hearing another perspective of the same conversation can be baffling, but it happens constantly

in and after meetings. Everyone has a different perspective, and minutes help solidify the information and decisions discussed in your meeting, which is essential.

Solution: Designate a person to take minutes. Ideally, this should be the same person at every meeting for the sake of consistency in information. Taking minutes might seem outdated, but they help eliminate confusion and disagreements. Minutes should be sent out relatively quickly after the meeting while everyone's memory is fresh. At the next meeting, the minutes should be read aloud or summarized and then agreed upon. A vote to confirm minutes signifies that the group agrees unanimously on the information and should help avoid any future discrepancies in perspective or memory.

Sin #3: Being late. People are busier than ever, so carving out meeting time can be a real sacrifice for some individuals. Lateness causes delays and can feel disrespectful to those on time.

Solution: Aim to always start the meeting on time. If the meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., then start the meeting at 4:00 p.m. sharp. If some members are not there yet, giving them a 5-minute window is OK, but avoid doing this consistently. When people realize the meeting will start without them, they tend to be timelier.

Sin #4: Bulldozing. Bulldozing occurs when a group member talks over others and monopolizes the conversation. While it may come off as aggressive, this behavior is often unintentional and the result of excitability! Nevertheless, bulldozing should be addressed early on to avoid hurt feelings and animosity in the group.

Solution: If you think you may be a bulldozer, try recording a meeting.

This is an excellent way to check yourself. After the meeting, listen to the recording and evaluate your behavior. If you spoke more than 75% of the time, it's quite possible you aren't giving group members enough opportunity to speak and share. If it's another member, the best practice is to address the issue 1:1. Schedule a time to talk about the concern in person or over the phone. Avoid having these conversations via text or email, as it's more difficult to convey tone than in person. A gentle way to discuss bulldozing is to share "best meeting practices" with your group and be candid about expectations. This doesn't single anyone out but instead serves as a reminder to everyone.

Sin #5: Pessimism Sometimes, well-intentioned people get stuck in the "Land of No." What is the Land of No? It's a mindset that nothing new is ever going to work. While general cautiousness is a safeguard that keeps us from making impulsive decisions, chronic pessimism is a silent killer of progress.

Solution: Considering everyone's suggestions and providing ample time to mull over decisions is important. If a group member is passionately pessimistic about a single topic, table it and push it to the next agenda. It's possible that their reaction may change by the next meeting. Another tried-and-true tactic is a traditional pros and cons list. Find a whiteboard and address the concern head-on. However, if pessimism does turn chronic, the group leader should speak with the member 1:1

Sin #6: Consistent Interruptions. Most everyone has a cell phone anymore, and while they can come in handy during meetings for quick calls, text, and Internet searches, they can also be wildly disruptive. The pings, dings, and tunes from

devices can interrupt the meeting flow, and those short interruptions add up.

Solution: Remind group members to silence their phones before the meeting and place them screen-side down. This simple request will help eliminate a lot of tech interruptions.

Sin #7: Nothing happens. This might be the deadliest sin of them all! A quality meeting should begin with an agenda and end with a solution. The infamous and well-known phrase "I motion" means "I propose we take this decision and move forward." If a meeting comes and goes without and movement, then it's likely the meeting could have been an email or text.

Solution: Include "action" on your agenda to hold you and your group accountable. For example, your agenda item may look like this:

AGENDA ITEM 1:
TABLE DECOR

Agenda Item 1 Action: _____

AGENDA ITEM 2:
CATERING SUBCOMMITTEE

Agenda Item 2 Action: _____

This agenda model requires that the agenda item be addressed and that action be taken, whether it be a specific direction or "tabled."

We hope our solutions help you avoid committing these "seven deadly sins" of event planning meetings. Our wishes for you and your team are to have fruitful meetings and successful events that share the love and goodness of our Lord and Savior.



OVERVIEW

The Crossing Retreat Center is a Christian retreat center located in Lexington, Nebraska. The center provides a place for guests to refocus, recharge, and renew. The Crossing offers a variety of year-round recreation and accommodations for up to 500 overnight guests. The Crossing's all-inclusive retreat packages make planning easy and affordable, providing everything your group needs for a successful ministry event, including lodging, dining, meeting space, and recreation.

KEY FEATURES

- Year-round recreation and accommodations for up to 500 overnight guests
- All-inclusive retreat packages that make planning easy and affordable
- Variety of lodging options, including motel and dorm-style accommodations
- Delicious and healthy meals served buffet-style in the dining hall
- Spacious meeting spaces with complimentary A/V equipment

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

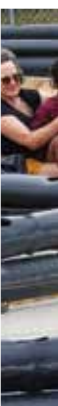
The Crossing Retreat Center offers a wide variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. Some of the most popular activities include:

- Basketball courts
- Recreation fields
- Mini golf
- Gaga ball
- Activities center with games
- Indoor pool
- Sand volleyball
- Archery tag
- Disc golf
- 9 square

ADVENTURE ADD-ONS

For an additional fee, groups can add adventure recreation activities to their retreat.

- Go karts
- Inflatable activity rentals





LEXINGTON, NEBRASKA

1 hour east of North Platte, 2.5 hours west of Lincoln, 3.5 hours west of Omaha, and 5 hours from Kansas City



CONTACT INFORMATION

833-345-8272
crossingretreat.org
info@crossingretreat.org



Easy Planning & Affordable Rates

WITH THE PROPERTIES IN THE CHRISTIAN RETREATS NETWORK

Our retreat packages include everything your group needs to have a successful ministry event: choice of lodging style, meeting space set up to your specifications, buffet dining, and basic recreation! All of these elements are bundled at one price per person to keep planning and registration simple for event planners.

WHETHER YOU'RE AN EXPERIENCED PLANNER OR NEW TO THE PROFESSION...

We've got the tools you need!

- Registration Forms
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Scan for more information!



www.ChristianRetreatsNetwork.org/Resources



8 REASONS TO DOWNLOAD

Our Newly Released Recreation Guide

At Christian Retreats Network, we do all we can to make event planning easy and affordable, so we are excited to share that our newly released Recreation Guide is available for download from our website.

This guide is the ultimate tool for event planners! It's packed with exciting features and is designed to cater to all your recreational needs. Here are eight reasons why our guide is a must-have for every organizer and leader on your team:

- 1 28 Exciting Games:** Our guide includes a variety of games to choose from, each designed to foster friendship and provide entertainment. With twenty-eight games to choose from, you'll never need to sleuth the internet again. Everything you need is right here: supplies, instructions, and tips. Plus, instructions are written in script form so you can read instructions to your group directly from the guide.
- 2 Categorized by Type:** To simplify your life, we've categorized all twenty-eight games by type, ensuring an effortless approach to finding an activity. Whether you're looking for icebreakers, creative games, or just pure fun, you can quickly and efficiently find the perfect game to suit your needs.
- 3 Hashtag Index:** Besides our well-organized Table of Contents, we included an index with additional categories to make finding games and activities a breeze. Flip to the back of the guide to search for games by page number. The hashtag index includes categories such as #outside, #water, #food, #nosupplies, and more.
- 4 Four #nosupplies Games:** For those moments when you need a game but lack the necessary supplies, our guide has you covered with four #nosupplies games. These games are easy to do anywhere and require no special equipment, making them perfect for spontaneous fun or situations where resources are limited.
- 5 Seven #icebreakers:** Breaking the ice can sometimes be challenging, but with our seven carefully selected #icebreakers, you'll get your group moving and interacting in no time. These games promote connections, break down barriers, and create a lively and inclusive environment.
- 6 Printable Coordinating Documents:** To ensure smooth planning and execution, we included printable coordinating documents. These resources include icebreaker topics, get-to-know-you questions, and necessary game addendums. This bonus feature streamlines the organization process, allowing you to focus on relationships instead of administration.
- 7 12 New Ways to Divide Groups:** Dividing groups can sometimes be a logistical challenge, but our guide offers 12 innovative and fun ways to divide large and small groups fairly. From creative methods to random selections, these strategies make group division light-hearted and efficient, ensuring that teams are balanced and ready to compete or collaborate.
- 8 Colorful Printable PDF Package:** Our Recreation Guide is packaged in a colorful, attractive, and user-friendly PDF file. This digital format allows you to access the guide on any device and even gift it to your team members.

Our Recreation Guide is a complete toolkit for creating memorable and engaging experiences with your group. With its diverse selection of games and practical features, this guide is an invaluable asset for any event planner or team leader. **DON'T MISS OUT** on this **FREE** resource. Download your copy today courtesy of Christian Retreats Network.

HAPPY PLANNING!





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