

Comprehensive  
Retreat Planner

*Twin  
Lakes*

Camp and Conference Center  
A Ministry of First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, MS.

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## About Twin Lakes

Twin Lakes is a ministry of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS. As such we hold to the Reformed Faith as outlined in the Westminster Confession of Faith.

We believe the Bible is the revelation of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.

## Twin Lakes' Purpose

To be a place of beauty where people find spiritual nourishment and physical relaxation to the glory of God and the advancement of his kingdom.

Crafted on March 2003  
based on Twin Lakes' official  
Philosophy Statement and Long-Range Ministry Goals

## Planning a Successful Retreat

Organizing a retreat is something many people jump straight into without thinking about what they are doing. Some are only working out a retreat for a few people, and some are doing the logistics for a few hundred. Whatever the size of your group, there are a few things to know that can make your retreat a huge success. Summarized quickly: you must plan, pray, promote, and prepare.

This guide is meant to help you do these things and squeeze every ounce out of the opportunity that is set before you. This guide is full of good advice in general about planning any retreat; however information in this guide is specifically targeted at planning a retreat at Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center. We hope that you will read through this and benefit from it and that God will bless you and your event.

# Twin Lakes' Facilities and Regulations

## Twin Lakes Booking Procedures:

### Explanation of the Twin Lakes Booking Procedure:

Twin Lakes hosts over 15,000 guests in a year. That is a large number to keep up with logistically. While we try to keep the process as easy and pain free as possible for you, our guest, we also must make sure that the booking procedures we have in place are adequate for scheduling so many guest groups. We feel that the procedures we have in place are adequate for that purpose while remaining as simple as possible.

When you first contact Twin Lakes, we will look at the calendar and the nature of your retreat to determine which available dates and facilities will work best for your event. When you choose a date, we will reserve it in the calendar and send out an application packet, as well as a Twin Lakes Retreat Planner and the appropriate information that you might need to schedule your event. You will then have fifteen days to send back your Application, Retreat Planner, and a guarantee (*discussed in the Guarantees schedule*). If you do not do so, your retreat will be removed from the calendar.

Once we receive your Application and guarantee, we will confirm the dates of your retreat, and we will then put your retreat on the calendar.

From this point on, we simply need to reconfirm the number of people that will be attending your retreat at the appropriate times. We will also be available to help you if you need to confirm or change any aspects of your retreat, conference, or camp.

### Guarantees:

A guarantee per **Overnight Guest** is due with the application. For each overnight guest attending the event, one guarantee will be credited to the final bill, up to the original number guaranteed. Excess guarantees are forfeit. All guarantees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

### Cancellations:

Cancellation within sixty days of a confirmed retreat will result in forfeiture of the guarantee plus fifty percent (50%) of the total retreat cost. The reason for this policy is not to be harsh, but prevents a loss of income for us due to turning away other group on your behalf if you cancel so late in the process.

## Rules and Expectations:

1. The center is to be left in the same or better condition than it was found.
2. All guests are expected to be considerate of others. Cooperation with the staff is required.
3. The following are not allowed: alcohol, illegal drugs, pets, firearms, ATVs, flammable liquids, explosives, poisonous substances, and hand or power tools.
4. Campfires and bonfires are allowed only in designated areas and must be approved in advance.
5. The speed limit is 15 mph. Vehicles should be operated on prepared road surfaces only and parked in designated areas.
6. Swimwear is to be modest. Two-piece swimwear is not allowed.
7. Wading and swimming are not allowed in the lakes. Only electric motors are allowed. Life jackets must be worn at all times.
8. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a chaperone at all times. At least one adult must stay in each room or cabin used for lodging. At least one adult must be present for every ten youth during use of the grounds.
9. Quiet hours are 11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. The lakes close to use at dark. All other recreational areas close at 11:00 p.m. All other areas of campus close at 12:00 a.m.
10. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings.
11. Certified lifeguards are required when using the Pool or Waterfront.

\*When in doubt about the appropriateness of an activity, please refer to the staff.

## Tours:

We believe that we have a fabulous place to have a full-fledged retreat or a simple weekend getaway. However, it can be difficult to describe how our facilities and grounds can work for you. It is also very difficult for us to do them justice verbally.

So we believe that a tour is in order if you have never seen our facilities face-to-face or if you have not been out in a while. We are always doing our utmost to improve the level of service and our facilities. We would love to have you come and visit us so that we can show you what we have to offer. We might even have something new since you were here last.

A personal tour at Twin Lakes can very well be the difference between a great success with your retreat and a just a good time (*it is hard not to have at least a good time here at Twin Lakes*)! Please give us a call and schedule a tour as soon as you can.

# Meeting Facilities

Twin Lakes has a variety of sizes of meeting facilities. The Lakeside Assembly Hall is our newest and state-of-the-art meeting facility with two meeting rooms and a common area. We also offer the Lakeside Conference Room and the Lodge Conference Room; both have been recently renovated and are ideal for smaller to medium-sized groups. All of our meeting facilities have fantastic views of the lakes and property. Please contact our staff for more information.

When you book a group retreat with Twin Lakes, you will be assigned a meeting room based on group size and the location of lodging. If you have a preference, be sure to mention it in the booking process. If you are early enough and it is practical for us to use it for your group, we will do our best to accommodate. We cannot guarantee you will always get the meeting room you request.

## Standard Setups:

When you reserve a meeting facility, it will come with some basic setup options that are listed on your retreat planner. One option is whether you want your room set up in a classroom (*tables and chairs*) style or auditorium style (*no tables*). Below is the list of the standard options as listed on the planner:

- ✓ Lectern
- ✓ Snack Table
- ✓ Registration Table
- ✓ Overhead Projector
- ✓ Screen (*for projector*)
- ✓ TV/VCR/DVD Combo
- ✓ Marker board/Easel (*markers included*)
- ✓ Sound System (*in rooms where it is available*)
- ✓ \* If you want more than one of any of these items, it is available for an extra charge (*see rate sheet for exact costs*).

## Other Extras:

Other options are available in your meeting room for a fee:

- ✓ Coffee Service
- ✓ Digital Projector (*DLP*)
- ✓ More than one of anything in the standard options list

## Audio/Visual Equipment:

We want to do everything possible to help you accomplish your goals in coming to visit us at Twin Lakes. If you need a sound system or visual tools, we are happy to help you. Please let us know in advance so that we can have it set up for you. With some of our more expensive equipment we will want to train a responsible person to be the sole operator of the equipment during your stay.

Particularly with sound equipment, we will reserve the right to monitor what happens to keep the environment at Twin Lakes relaxing for all our guests. If music or a live band is disturbing any other guests, we will require the sound equipment to be turned to a comfortable sound level.

Twin Lakes is dedicated to God and to the furtherance of His Kingdom here on Earth. We will require any worldview that is expressed or distributed through literature, movies, speeches, or any other medium to fall under those guidelines (*Please realize that this applies directly to music or movies that might be brought to Twin Lakes and presented to a group; anything you intend to present must be approved by an appropriate Twin Lakes employee*).

## Meeting Room Prohibitions and Rules:

We want to present our very best to you each and every time that you visit Twin Lakes. This applies to the condition of the meeting rooms as well. So we can ensure a satisfactory experience to all our groups we do prohibit some activities and decorations in some of our meeting facilities.

We want all of our tables, chairs and carpets to be as as possible. Therefore we do prohibit any Arts & Crafts activities inside our meeting rooms as well as on the tables meant to be inside those facilities. If you want to have Arts & Crafts session, we will be happy to provide you with a place and tables specifically for that purpose. Just let us know ahead of time and we can set it up for you.

We also do not allow tape to be used on the painted surfaces and floors of our facilities. We do allow decorations to be taped to rough wood surfaces and on the windows (*please do not use duct tape, only scotch tape or a similar easy to remove tape*). If you need to use a nail to hang a banner or another type of decoration please ask a staff member and we will do our best to accommodate your need. Only a Twin Lakes staff member can be the one to put a nail in the wall. Also, if you doubt the appropriateness of something just ask, we are more than happy to help you out.

Following your event, please do not attempt to straighten or stack tables and chairs. Leaving everything "as-is" will actually help our clean up crew with their duties. Thank you.

# Lodging Facilities

Twin Lakes offers several different styles of lodging in different areas of campus. Each has it's own distinctive advantages and feel. When you book your retreat with us we will make sure you know exactly what we have, but it is easier to understand what we have to offer if you see it for yourself (*tours are described in the Tours section*).

This brief description will let you know what you need to bring if you are staying in one of our lodgings:

## Northshore Lodges:

The four Northshore Lodges are some of the newest buildings here at Twin Lakes. They were built specifically with families and adult groups in mind. As such, we do not allow youth groups or childrens groups to stay or meet in the Northshore Lodges.

Each Northshore Lodge has four bedrooms with attached bathrooms. Each bedroom has a queen size bed and a twin bunk bed. That makes a total of twelve beds per Northshore Lodge; however families could probably fit a few more people into a lodge.

The bedrooms open to the exterior and into a two-story common area that has a kitchen, dining room table, fireplace, and sitting areas. Each lodge also has a game table and an additional sitting area on the balcony above the kitchen.

When you come to stay in these lodges we will have the beds made and the kitchen ready for you to use. We provide sheets, towels, kitchen utensils, cookware, dinnerware, etc... We also provide complimentary coffee supplies. However you will need to bring any food or drinks you would like during your stay.

## Milner Lodge:

Milner Lodge is another one of our family oriented facilities. It is the original building that was on site when the property was purchased, and is situated between the lakes with a view like no other building at Twin Lakes. The wrap-around porch is equipped with rocking chairs and porch fans so you can sit back and enjoy the view.

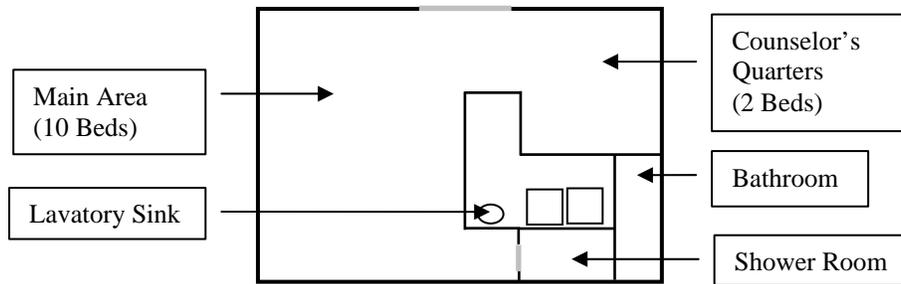
The downstairs consists of a kitchen and dining/living room with a fireplace. Upstairs there are four bedrooms with a total of thirteen beds, and a bathroom.

Like the Northshore Lodges, the kitchen is fully equipped and there are linens on the bed when you arrive. So all you need to do is bring the food you need. We can even provide you with a BBQ grill.

## Woodside Cabins:

We have twenty Woodside Cabins and are the closest lodgings we have to most of the activity sites. These cabins are divided into two loops of ten cabins. Cabins one through ten are on one side of the Woodside Dining Hall hill, and Woodside Cabins eleven through twelve are located on the other (*look at the map, it is easy to see*).

There is enough room for a total of twelve people to sleep in each Woodside Cabin. All of the beds are twin size. There is a small "counselor's quarters" separate from the rest of the bunks so that two chaperones can sleep in a semi-private area. Each cabin has a bathroom that has two showers and a small toilet room. There is also a lavatory sink in the cabin. If you are staying in the Woodside Cabins you need to bring your own sheets, towels, and toiletries.

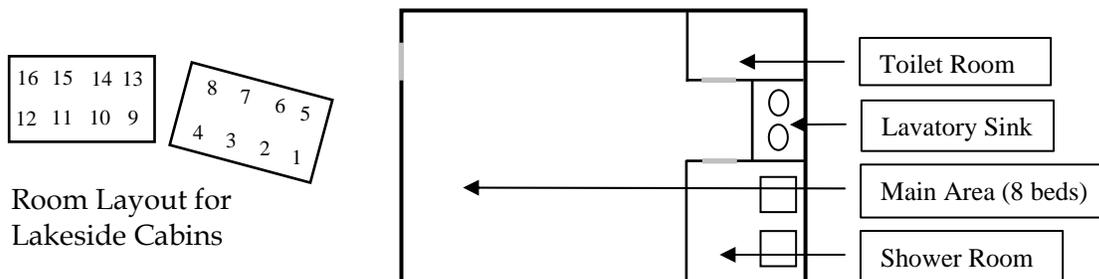


(Drawing is not to scale)

## Lakeside Cabins:

There are sixteen Lakeside Cabins. These cabins are close together and contained in two large buildings. Eight cabins are contained in each building. These cabins are close to the majority of the meeting halls and are located right on the north lake.

Each Lakeside Cabin has four bunk beds; one of the bottom bunks is full size, the rest are twin size. Each cabin has its own bathroom containing two showers and a toilet in each room as well. If you are staying in the Lakeside Cabins you need to bring your own sheets, towels, and toiletries.



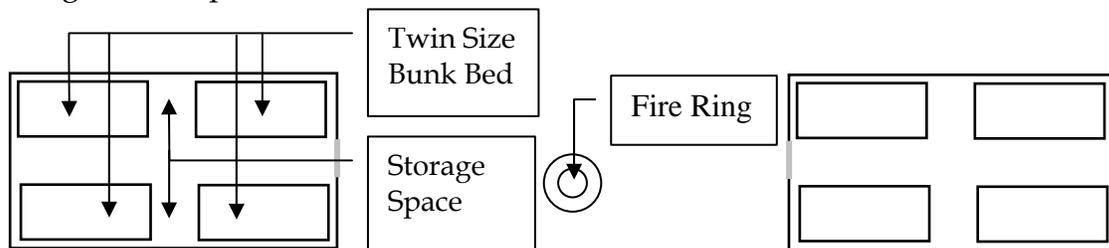
(Drawing is not to scale)

## Outback Cabins and Tent Camping:

For those looking for a more secluded or primitive setting, we can offer either the Outback Cabins or tent camping (bring your own tent).

The four Outback Cabins were our very first camper cabins, and now we have moved them to what we call the Outback. If you lodge in the Outback Cabins you will have access to the Outback Bathhouse, a restroom and showering facility. There is also some room for tent camping in the Outback if you wish to do so.

Each cabin has eight built in bunks and space to hang clothes and put a suitcase or two. These cabins are the only lodgings on campus that are not air conditioned or heated. However, there are outlets in the cabins if you need to bring a small space heater.



Outback Cabin Setup (there are also benches and picnic tables at the cabins)  
(Drawing is not to scale)

## Decorating Lodging Facilities:

The same decorating rules apply all facilities. You are welcome to decorate the cabins before your group arrives or even when they arrive; it can increase the impact of your retreat on your attendees if done right. So please feel free to be imaginative and creative about decorating. Just heed these easy to follow rules and you will be fine:

- Please do not use tape or adhesive putty on painted surfaces, smooth wood surfaces, or the floor. You can use easy to peel tape on glass and rough wood surfaces, but please **do not** use duct tape on any surface in our facilities.
- Please do not use nails or tacks in any walls. If you cannot think of a way to accomplish your idea, please let us know and we will see what we can do. **There might be times when we do allow nails in the walls, but only a Twin Lakes staff person can do so.**
- Please be considerate of other guests when decorating and be aware of which spaces are common areas. Common areas such as dining halls are always open to all Twin Lakes guests.

# Dining Facilities

## Standard Services:

Twin Lakes is equipped with two dining facilities, our Lakeside and Woodside Dining Halls. Both offer Southern-style meals prepared by our cheerful foodservice staff. Dining rooms are common areas for all on site groups where tables are designated for each group. Coffee service is complimentary during meals. Drink machines are also stationed at each dining room.

Foodservice is available for groups of fifteen or more, or groups that are willing to pay for a minimum of fifteen people. Foodservice is normally provided on weekends. For families, foodservice can be added with a minimum of fifteen or if foodservice is already being provided for other groups (*please see rate sheet for meal costs*).

Our foodservice staff takes pride in the meals they provide and want you to enjoy every meal you are served while at Twin Lakes. We recommend that your group be prompt to meals to ensure that your food is served at the highest quality. Our standard meal times are 8:00 am for breakfast, 12:00 noon for lunch, 6:00 pm for supper, and 7:30 am for Sunday breakfast. Please plan your schedule to accommodate and make every effort to eat at the designated times.

Food is held on the serving line up to 15 minutes following every guest being served. If you have any members of your group arriving late to a meal, please let a Twin Lakes host know so that a plate can be held for them until their arrival.

Following your meal, all we ask you to do is drop off your tray at our window. We will take care of the rest.

## Requesting a Menu:

We occasionally have groups ask if they can request their menu for their event. Due to the fact that multiple groups are eating in the dining rooms, we reserve the right to choose a menu that will be satisfying to all groups eating on site. If choosing a menu is an interest of yours, please indicate this with your application. We will confirm with you whether this will be a possibility or not.

## Dietary Concerns:

With the application, please indicate any dietary concerns for persons in your group. Specifically, we need to know if anyone in your group has any serious food allergies (*i.e. peanut allergies are commonplace...*).

## Altered Meal Times:

On occasion, groups request to change the standard meal times. Though it is not our normal practice to change the time of meals, we will strive to accommodate your needs if necessary. Please notify our staff as far ahead of time as possible in order for appropriate changes to be made for you. If at all possible, plan your schedule around the given times for meals.

## Steak Dinners:

Some groups want to enjoy a special meal while here at Twin Lakes, and we offer a steak dinner to fit the bill. Please call the office staff or look at the appropriate rate sheet to find out the current rates on steak dinners.

## Snacks & Continental Breakfast:

If your group is coming in during the morning and you want to have a snack or continental breakfast waiting when they get here, let us know. We can have food ready when you arrive.

Also, we are able to provide snacks for your group during your stay. Just let us know what you would like, as well as when and where you would like it delivered. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.

It is important that you let us know exactly what you want for a snack or continental breakfast. Spur of the moment requests are not normally able to be furnished, so it is important to plan well ahead and let us know exactly what you are thinking so there are no surprises for anyone.

Please see the rate sheet for current prices.

## Dining Facilities as Meeting Rooms:

There are a few weekends during the year when we have a full house and meeting rooms are in short supply. During those times it might be possible to use a dining facility as a meeting room as well. If you prefer to use one of the dining rooms to meet in, please communicate that to us and we will see what is possible to work out.

We cannot guarantee that we will be able to place you in a dining room as your primary meeting room, but we will strive to meet your needs. If you do use a dining hall as your primary meeting room as well, you will need to take into consideration the time needed to prepare and clean up before and after meals. We suggest a thirty-minute buffer-time before and after each meal during which you are not using the dining hall (*see normal meal times in the Standard Services section on the previous page*).

## Recreational Facilities

Twin Lakes is located on four hundred and seventy acres of rolling hills, beautiful woods, our twin lakes, and many areas filled with fun activities. Here are some of the fun things you can do when you come visit us at Twin Lakes:

### Shared & Free Activities:

- ✓ Take a dip in the pool
- ✓ Enjoy our tennis courts
- ✓ Play a round of disc golf
- ✓ Canoe or fish in the lakes
- ✓ Shoot hoops at the Pavilion
- ✓ Or take a quiet walk around campus
- ✓ Climb the firetower to get a bird's eye view of the camp
- ✓ Play on the Activity Field (we have a soccer goals, a volleyball net, and more...)
- ✓ Play at the Treehouse area (we have a 3 story Treehouse, a gigantic tube slide, some huge swings, and much more besides...)

### Year-round Reserved Activities:

- ✓ Have a bonfire or even a Hayless Hayride (*additional fee*).
- ✓ Challenge your group with the Junior Team Challenge (*additional fee*).
  - The Junior Team Challenge (*5 to 12*) is oriented toward younger participants. It consists of a lot of games and initiatives chose specifically to suit the strengths and attention levels of the younger age groups. It is similar in its purpose to the traditional Low Challenge Course, but lots more fun for younger groups.
- ✓ Challenge your group with our Low Challenge Course (*additional fee*).
  - The Low Challenge Course (*13 and up*) consists of a lot of initiatives and team oriented games and challenges. The intent is to foster good teamwork, communication, and even communicate biblical principles through experience.
- ✓ Challenge yourselves on the Rock Climbing Tower, Basic High, or Advanced High Ropes Courses (*additional fee*).
  - The Rock Climbing Tower (*5 and up*), Basic High (*5 and up*), and Advanced High Ropes Courses (*8 and up*) are centered on personal development and challenge rather than team or group challenges. They are very time consuming and staff intensive recreational activities; so be sure to plan and let us know well ahead of time.

## Special Season Reserved Activities:

During the special season, we open areas of camp that are not available for usage the rest of the year. If you visit Twin Lakes during the special season you can enjoy these extra activities (*you are responsible for enforcing our rules*):

- ✓ Your group can have fun in the sun on the giant slip-and-slide located on the activity field (*no additional fee*).

### Slip-and-Slide rules:

- No one is allowed to walk on the slip-and-slide at the top of the hill.
- To get on the slip-and-slide participants must sit down on the edge and slide to the middle.
- No more than four people can go down the slide at a time.
- The next four must wait until the previous group has gotten off of the slip-and-slide.
- When walking back to the top of the hill, participants are not to walk on the slip-and-slide.
- No running starts are allowed.

- ✓ You can reserve the Waterfront area for 2 hour sessions. This includes use of the swimming area, aquajump (water trampoline), canoes, zip line into the lake, and also our giant waterslide (*additional fee*).

### General Rules:

- **All groups will be required to provide lifeguards during their Waterfront Session.**
- Everyone in the water or canoes must have a lifejacket on.
- No one should play on the lifeguard stand; only the lifeguards should use it.
- Please put everything back on the racks when you are done.
- Swimming is only allowed inside the roped off swimming area.

### Aquajump Rules:

- There must be at least one lifeguard on the aquajump whenever it is in use.
- If a lifeguard is helping with the mini- blob, there must be another lifeguard on the aquajump.
- Aquajump participants must wear vest-type lifejackets.
- Only ten people are ever allowed on the Aquajump at one time.
- Diving is not allowed.
- Jumping is not allowed on the tube.
- Participants are not allowed to jump from the trampoline to the water.
- Participants should be launched from a sitting position.
- Boats should stay clear of the Aquajump. The launch may not be used unless the area is clear.
- Only one person may climb a ladder at a time.

### Canoeing Rules:

- Participants must wear lifejackets.
- Try to make sure that someone in each canoe knows how to canoe by experience.
- Canoes are not allowed near the bottom of the slide.

### Giant Waterslide Rules:

- There must be two lifeguards stationed and ready before any participants ascend the tower.
- Waterslide participants must wear vest-type lifejackets.
- Participants must go down the slide feet first with their arms crossed over their chest.
- No more than five people are allowed on the tower at a time, and participants must wait at the bottom.

# How to Plan a Successful Retreat at Twin Lakes

We are excited to partner with you to make your retreat a success. You are off to the right start by making the decision to have your retreat at Twin Lakes; we are committed to provide you with as many resources as possible.

“Proper planning prevents poor performance.” This axiom holds true for most things in life. The same holds true for planning a retreat or retreat at Twin Lakes, or any other camp for that matter. We hope that this retreat planner and all the information we have provided you can help you plan a successful retreat and that you will be pleased with the outcome of your event.

## Plan

Good planning is vital to having a successful retreat. The most basic steps are to make sure you have reserved a time for your retreat and have filled out the Application packet that was sent to you. The Application is designed to help you understand all the essentials of planning a stay at Twin Lakes, and to help us understand what you want to happen. These essentials include the size of your group, lodging, meals, meeting room needs, and recreational activity needs.

One of the essentials elements during the planning process is the size of your group. Numbers will determine which meeting room you will be using and the lodging setup that is required. For us it is also vital to have an accurate number for planning recreational activities (*how many staff we hire, etc...*) and determining which dining facilities we will use. So it is important to have accurate numbers throughout planning your retreat.

Scheduling your retreat is also vital to having a successful retreat. To do that you must know what we have to offer and you should have a clear purpose and goal in having your retreat. A retreat schedule can be very loose or very detailed, depending on your goal.

If your group’s goal is to come out and just relax, make sure that there is time in the schedule. Your schedule should also include some proactive elements to accomplish the goal. Make sure there is recreation time scheduled so no one spends the whole weekend working on his or her laptop.

Most of the events hosted at Twin Lakes have a purpose in addition to relaxing. Be sure to utilize all of the resources and opportunities that are available to you while you are here at Twin Lakes. If you have questions about how to do this please give us a call and ask. Whatever your goal is, make sure that you schedule time for bonding and just plain old fun; your participants enjoying themselves will go a long way toward accomplishing you goals.

Also, we provide all group leaders with a Group Leader To-Do List. Be sure and meet all the deadlines and pay attention to all of those guidelines and all of your planning will be easy and most importantly, fruitful.

## Promote

The second important part of planning a successful retreat is promoting your event. Promotion is obviously tied in with planning. Particularly, the promotion efforts you put forth will have a direct impact on the number of people that attend your event.

We send out brochures or flyers to groups that are planning a retreat at Twin Lakes. You should put that in the hands of any possible participants.

We also send a DVD with our literature. Schedule a time when you have a large audience to view the DVD, or you could even show it to small groups. Whatever you do, use the DVD to generate a buzz and enthusiasm about the retreat at Twin Lakes.

Any newsletters, bulletins, emails, announcements, posters, or publicity you produce and hand out about the retreat will help you get the number of people you want.

We suggest that you have a registration deadline and require a deposit from you participants. This is a simple way to make sure that all your participants have invested something in the event. Also you should be aware (*if you are not already*) that people are usually late in respect to registration deadlines; it is wise to give yourself a little buffer time with your deadline. Following this suggestion will also help you give us an accurate count. It may sound like more trouble than it is worth, but in the end it will save you many headaches and make the planning much easier.

## Prepare

In the planning stage you should have figured out everything and put it on paper. You need to take a few more steps to make sure everyone else knows what to do.

Since you have taken the time to create a schedule, let everyone know what it is. Send out a flyer or a simple handout that has the schedule of your retreat and anything that your attendees will need to know. This will help them be ready, which makes a retreat much less complicated and more effective if done correctly.

Some of the things they will need to know are: what they need to bring, how to get to Twin Lakes, when to arrive, which meals they will eat here, what to expect in the schedule, and any other group specific items that you can think of.

One of the most important parts of final preparations is communicating your schedule and final numbers to us here at Twin Lakes. When you get here you will want to be able to get rolling, not hash out details with the Lead Host for an hour before you can do anything. So please let us know everything you can as soon as possible

# Pray

We believe in a God that always acts intentionally and never does anything by accident. Nothing is ever on a whim with God; God is always purposeful. "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world ... according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved." (Ephesians 1:4-6) Our salvation was thought out before Adam walked in Eden, with the purpose that we might be trophies of His kindness and grace.

God through Christ has redeemed us, and we are to be conformed to Christ's image, in whose image we were originally created. We are called to be intentional and to give glory to God in everything we do, like Christ.

In the first chapter of Ephesians you will notice all the things that have happened, to the glory of God. All of it came about because **God** has accomplished it. The only human accomplishment in the whole chapter is that Paul prayed that God would will to do more.

Paul realized that God is the initiator, and that he needed to pray that God would accomplish the things he was working toward. We encourage you to work hard, like Paul, while realizing that God is the one that actually gives power to our works. So whether your retreat's purpose is physical relaxation or spiritual nourishment, pray that God will help you fulfill your purpose and that he will receive all the glory.

We will be praying for you throughout your planning stages and while you are here. Please feel free to let us know any specific ways in which we might be able to pray for you.

We look forward to seeing you at Twin Lakes soon!