



Welcome to the new General Manager (Director) of Camping Ministry and Operations

Bishop Mary Ann Swenson is pleased to announce that The Rev. David Berkey has accepted the appointment of the new General Manager (Director) of Camping Ministry and Operations for Cal-Pac Conference, starting full time in January 1, 2012. He will be working on a part time contract basis until then.

Rev. Berkey said, "I am excited and humbled about the opportunity to serve with the Cal-Pac Conference camps and I am eager to begin working with the staff and volunteer leaders to help build a sustainable future for this vital ministry."

David comes to Cal-Pac with extensive experience. He has served as Executive Director of the Florida United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries since March, 2005 (www.flumcamps.org). Prior to that he served as Executive Director of Camps and Retreat Ministries of the Eastern PA Conference from 1995-2005 and as a pastor in the New York Conference from 1980-1995. He is chair of the Outdoor Ministries Committee of the National Council of Churches, a member of the National United Methodist Camp and Retreat Committee and a national board member of the American Camp Association. He is married to Melinda Trotti, currently Director of Justice and Outreach Ministries in the Florida Conference.

The Florida United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries involves the year-round programs and facilities at Centenary Camp, the Life Enrichment Center, Riverside Retreat and the Warren W. Willis Camp. It is overseen by the Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries within the Office of Connectional Ministries of the Florida Conference and has an annual budget of over \$4 million, over 4000 summer campers at four sites and 35 year-round and 140 seasonal staff.

In anticipation of working collaboratively with Rev. Berkey in the areas of Leadership and Camping, Rev. Sue D'Alessio stated, "What a privilege to welcome Rev. Berkey to this new position! His extensive experience, passion, and vision for camping will be a tremendous asset to our Cal-Pac

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